



From the Executive Director

Happy fall! As the weather turns cooler, thoughts turn to finding that favorite pattern and making your next best QOV. You can find 16 patterns in the new book, *Quilts of Valor—a 50 State Salute*.



*Ann Rehbein,
Executive Director*

It is a beautiful book with more than 160 pages featuring a quilt made from each state, QOVF history, patterns, and beautiful photography. Marianne Fons wrote the foreword. Sue Reich, Renelda Peldunas-Harter, and Ann Parson Holte are all contributing authors. Order your copy [here](#).

You can also pick up a copy of the book if you're attending International Quilt Festival in Houston, TX, November 8-12, 2018. QOVF will have an exhibit booth where you can meet the QOVF Board President Sue Reich and members of your executive staff. Stop by and pick up an autographed copy! Also featured during Quilt Festival will be a QOV Award Ceremony. QOVF will be awarding its 200,000th QOV sometime during November, and this symbolic award ceremony in Houston will include a NASA astronaut.

Later this month, it will be my privilege and honor to award QOVs to several Medal of Honor recipients at a weekend tribute sponsored by Cendera in a [Tribute to Valor](#) weekend. My sincere thanks to all that provided the quilts for this occasion.

It's not too soon to start thinking about QOVF National Sew Day, traditionally held the 1st Saturday in February. Reserve a spot to meet and start planning your activities. This event provides an ideal opportunity to recruit new members and welcome them to your groups.

You've probably heard the expression, "all good things must come to an end." My time as your executive director is drawing to a close and my successor will be chosen soon. I'm not saying goodbye yet, as this process will take several months for a smooth transition. See page 5 for more information about submitting an application.

Until next time, quilt in peace and happiness, knowing you are making a difference.

Family of 13 Veterans Awarded QOVs

Information provided by Rita Hergott.

Rita (Hergott) Luongo is a veteran who wanted to honor and celebrate the service of her siblings who are also veterans with QOVs. Thirteen of the sixteen Hergott family's children have served in the military for a combined total of over 137 years of service. To complete the quilts, Rita recruited two of her sisters, a sister-in-law, and a niece. They spent nine months creating twelve QOVs. Susan Hottovy with Forest Acres Custom Quilting (Adams, NE) and Barb Blincow (Hebron, NE) did the longarming.

At the ceremony, held by the Piecemakers QOV group (Hebron, NE) the siblings



Hergott siblings with their QOVs surround their mother, Patricia Hergott, with the special quilt made to honor her. (Photo courtesy of Phyllis Schoenholz.)

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were completely surprised when wrapped in their QOVs. Secretly, one of Rita's sisters also created a QOV for Rita, who was even more surprised by the award than her siblings.

Additionally, Rita and her siblings decided to honor their mother, Patricia Hergott, with a quilt. The Hergotts' father, Paul, had served in the Navy during WWII. Although Patricia did not serve in the military, she encouraged her children to devote themselves to service and country, traveling abroad and around the country to support them while they were serving.

What follows is an abbreviated history of the service records of the Hergott siblings.

Rita (Hergott) Luongo enlisted in the Army Reserve in 1981. Following basic training, she decided to volunteer for active duty in the Army as a Military Intelligence Analyst. Rita was deployed to Desert Storm in 1991. In 1997, she retired as a Sergeant First Class.

Six other Hergott siblings also served in the Army Reserve, one of which is still actively serving. **Cheryl (Hergott) Dougherty** enlisted in the Army Reserve in 1976 and served for 12 years. She became an Army Reserve Retention NCO and earned the Army Retention NCO of the year. Michael Hergott enlisted in the Army Reserve in 1983. He served for six years as a Medical Supply Specialist and was discharged as a Sergeant. **Steven Hergott** enlisted in the Army Reserve in 1983. After college, he was commissioned as a Lieutenant in the Medical Services Corp in the Army Reserve and served for seven years and was discharged as a Captain. While in high school, Brian Hergott



Featuring photos of her children who are military veterans, Patricia Hergott is wrapped in a quilt made especially to honor her. Her husband, Paul Hergott, is pictured at the top center and photos of thirteen of her children surround the center medallion.

enlisted in the Army Reserve in 1983 and served for 15 years, discharged as a Sergeant First Class. **Jan (Hergott) Behn** enlisted in the Army Reserve in 1987 and is still serving as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Army National Guard. Jan has served in multiple combat deployments. She has been selected for promotion to the rank of Colonel. She has been awarded the Bronze Star, Medal of St. Christopher, and been recognized as an outstanding leader. **Janelle (Hergott) Coady** enlisted in the Army Reserve and served from 1988 to 1998. She was recognized as the Honor Grad at all five of her leadership training courses and was nominated as the Soldier of the Year for the Army Reserve in 1993.

Five Hergott siblings enlisted directly in the Army after high school. **Barbara (Hergott) Arner** served from 1969 to 1975 as a Medical Aid. **Robert Hergott**

enlisted in 1972 and served overseas. He was discharged in 1975. **Richard Hergott** enlisted in 1973. He deployed to South Korea, among other postings, and served for three years. **Herbert Hergott** enlisted in 1973. He was stationed at Ft. Knox, KY, and Ft. Carson, CO. He served for three years. **Margaret (Hergott) Kobel** enlisted in 1974. She served in San Francisco, CA, and Fitz Simmons, CO. She served for six years.

Jeffrey Hergott enlisted in the Army National Guard in 1986 while in high school, retiring in 2007 after 20 years of service. He volunteered to come out of retirement in October of 2013 and is currently serving as a Sergeant First Class in the Army National Guard. Jeff was deployed to Kabul, Afghanistan in 2006.

2019 QOVF ANNUAL CONFERENCE

'Leaf' 🍃 your worries behind and join friends and colleagues for an exciting and fun-filled conference!

Your input from the conference questionnaire is being used to bring you what you need and want. There will be activities in and around Grand Rapids to enjoy, so come early and stay afterwards.

Pre-registering now (no cost) will also help plan the best conference for you. Remember to reserve your room at the Amway Grand Plaza (no charge to reserve). Rooms at the reduced rate go fast!

Click [here](#) to do both.

So, 'leaf' you worries behind and 'fall' into planning to attend the 2019 QOVF National Conference!

Questions? Email Conference2019@QOVF.org



DUAL AWARDS FOR HEARTY HEARTS

Information provided by Nancy Thomson, NJ State Coordinator

Several New Jersey QOVF members recently awarded Vietnam veterans Paul Vico and Joe Doll QOVs at the Mancuso Quiltfest in Edison, NJ.

Paul Vico had nominated Joe Doll for a QOV award several months previously. According to New Jersey SC Nancy Thomson, "Paul also served in Vietnam, so we surprised him with a QOV, too." At the awards ceremony, guests learned how these two veterans met and became close friends.

Paul and Joe served in the military at the same time, but never met until both underwent heart transplants at Beth Israel Hospital in Newark, NJ. As young men around the age of 40, both became very ill with cardiac issues attributed to the effects of Agent Orange. After recuperating from their transplants, they participated in and met at a support group called "Hearty Hearts" and have been friends since.

One day when Paul and Joe were making their rounds at Beth Israel Hospital to visit and support transplant patients, Paul reports he ran up the steps a little too fast and collapsed. Medical staff responded emergently. When the doctor arrived, he announced that everyone could leave the



Vietnam War veterans and recent QOV recipients Joe Doll (left) and Paul Vico (right) continue to serve our country and fellow veterans in many ways.

scene. Joe Doll immediately responded with "I never leave a brother behind." Therefore, Paul nominated Joe to be awarded a QOV.

Both veterans are proud to continue to serve their country in many ways. In addition to their former military service and participation in "Hearty Hearts," both are members of the "Sharing Network," a company that procures organs for possible transplant. Paul

also belongs to "Team Liberty" which is an Olympic-style games for transplant patients. This year, the Transplant Games will be in Salt Lake City, UT, where Paul and his wife will travel as volunteers and support crew. He will also participate in five events himself.

Joe is Jr. Vice Commander of Disabled American Veterans Chapter 16 in Somerville, NJ. They support veterans at two NJ VA hospitals.

JUNE MOORE EMERITUS ANNOUNCEMENT

By Sue Reich, Chair, QOVF Board of Directors

Washington State's June Moore retired as a QOVF Board member this past summer. June served at many levels of QOVF, spending the majority of her volunteer years as Executive Director and Secretary of the board. As one of QOVF's very early members, June also provided valuable historic perspective as our organization continued to grow.

In 2005, June began her volunteerism with QOVF as a longarm and quickly assumed the role of Longarm Coordinator. In 2012, at the urging of founder Catherine Roberts, June accepted the role of QOVF Executive Director. Catherine would later state, "Without June, QOVF would not be here today. June guided QOVF through a growth

spurt that has amazed us all. During her tenure, we transitioned from a small team to a true national non-profit. June's get'er done personality has literally kept QOVF going."

June retired from QOVF in 2013 only to be recruited to return as Board Secretary in 2015. On her second retirement, and after 10 years of selfless service to QOVF, the QOVF Board of Directors voted to award Board Member Emeritus status to June Moore. She joins the prestigious ranks of Catherine Roberts, Eric McCarty, Marianne Fons, and Walt Davis, all of whom previously received this same honor.

As we go forward, QOVF will miss June's contribution at the board level. Most likely, we will find her busily quilting with her longarm machine, finishing patriotic quilts for our nation's veterans. Please join us in sending June our best wishes in her 2nd retirement from QOVF.

Did you know?

The words "Quilt of Valor," "Quilts of Valor," QOV, and Under Our Wings are registered trademarks at the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Examples of correct use of trademark symbols are: Quilts of Valor® Foundation, Quilt of Valor®, QOV® and Under Our Wings®.

QOVF's leadership is charged with protecting the foundation's registered trademarks from infringement and closely monitoring their use. More information may be found in the Policies and Procedures [Manual](#).

DONOR'S GENEROSITY FUNDS MORE QOVs

*Information from the
QOVF Board of Directors,
Funds Distribution Committee*

The QOVF recently announced the inaugural Funds Distribution Program. This new program provides direct financial support to qualified QOVF groups to cover service members and veterans of the armed forces touched by war with comforting and healing QOVs.

The inception of this fund was made possible by a generous donation from a deceased QOVF member through a will. The donor specifically stipulated that the funds were to be distributed to groups to support creating QOVs. The Foundation is indebted to our member who embodied QOVF's core value—Valuing service over self—QOV recipients come first.

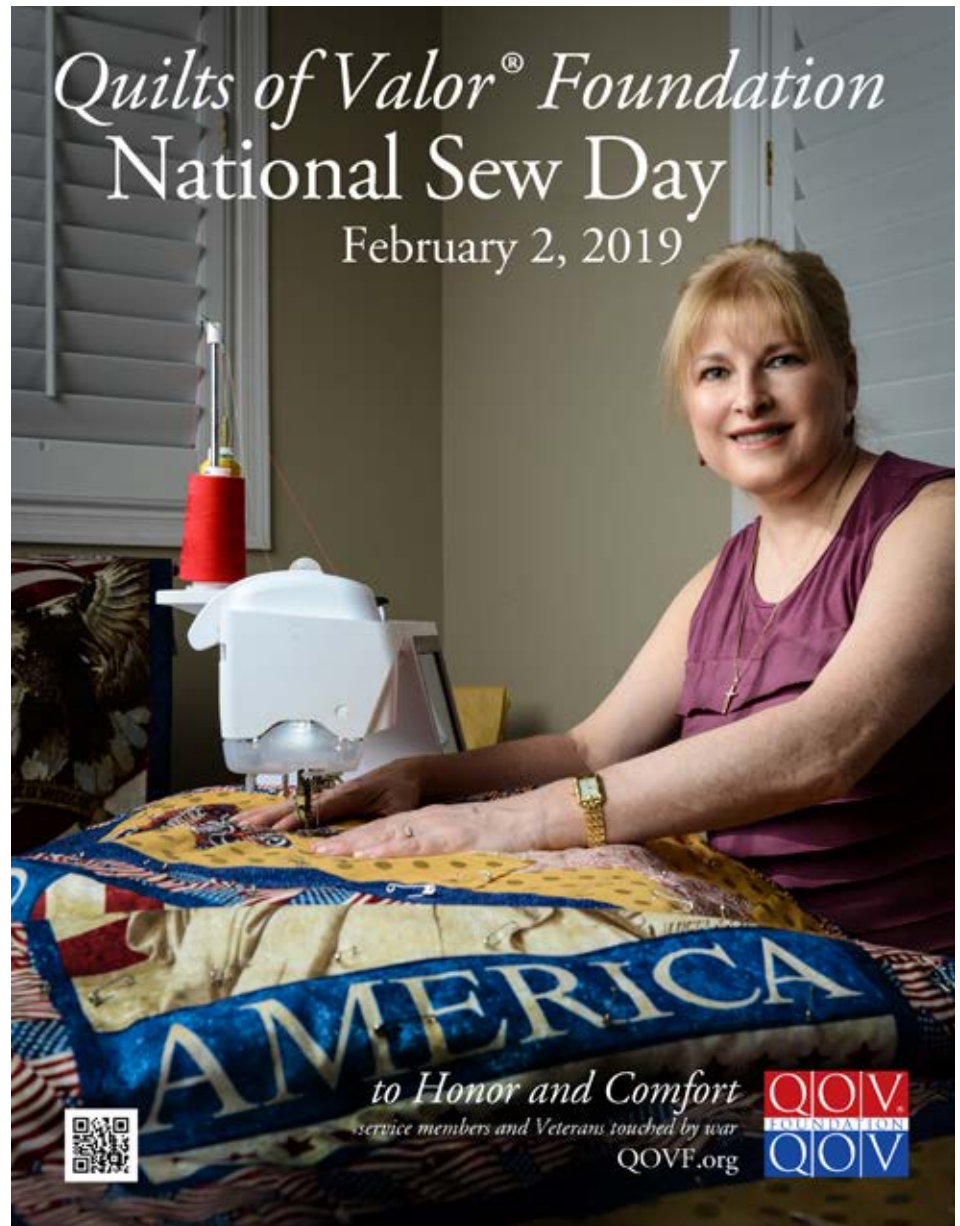
Donors to QOVF may request that their contributions be designated for specific purposes such as this general group fund, a specific group, or other programs or activities. The group fund account will also be supported by contributions from other QOVF fundraising programs and initiatives. A designated account within the Foundation is used to manage and distribute these funds.

Groups that are registered with QOVF and are in good standing may apply for funding support. State Coordinators may also apply. See the Group Funds Distribution Policy and Procedure for more information. [Click here to read or download the policy.](#)

Applications must be submitted to the Funds Distribution Committee using the online form available [here](#).

The deadline for submitting application is November 1, 2018 and successful applicants will be notified December 15, 2018. By December 31, 2018, funds will be distributed to the successful applicants' QOVF-managed accounts.

Questions may be directed to the Funds Distribution Committee at fundsdistribution@qovf.org.



NATIONAL SEW DAY

FEBRUARY 2, 2019

Information provided by Sandra Chambers, Under Our Wings Coordinator and Special Events Coordinator.

What do February 2, 2019, quilting friends, new quilt patterns, and lots of prizes have in common? QOVF National Sew Day! Time to start planning your 2019 National Sew Day events. Registration will open in December 2018! Mark your calendars and watch for more information to come soon.

MEET JEANNE LeBRON QOVF BOARD SECRETARY

By Sue Reich, Chair,
QOVF Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of QOVF introduces our new Board Secretary, Jeanne LeBron of Omaha, NE. Recently retired from employment in the business field with a strong background in marketing, strategic planning, and accounting, Jeanne traveled widely. Since 1996, Jeanne served with the Society of American Military Engineers, both in Omaha and at the national level. During her tenure with that group, she earned the distinction of becoming the first woman president of the post in its 100-year history.

Upon retirement, Jeanne desired to expand on her previous volunteer activities. Fortunately for us, she chose QOVF to focus on. Jeanne is very active within her local group organizing fabric and cutting kits.

Please join us in welcoming Jeanne Lebron to QOVF.

REQUESTING A QOV FOR A VETERAN

By Janice Lewis,
Request Coordinator

Anyone can request a QOV for a veteran. It can be for themselves, a loved one, coworker, relative, or friend. The form is found on our website www.qovf.org under the tab Take Action, Request an Award (Quilt).

When requesting an award, the following is needed when you're entering information online:

1. Name of prospective QOV recipient
2. Recipient's address and contact information
3. Branch of military served in and years of service
4. Accurate contact information for person submitting nomination
5. Any other pertinent information we would need to know about the recipient (see following)

In the notes, add any important information such as special conditions of

recipient (medical condition, age, etc.). You may also enter information about the quilt if you or someone you know will be making/has made the quilt and you need only assistance getting the quilt awarded.

Be aware that the production of a quilt from request to award can take up to 12+ months. The time frame varies by state/region, and the number of requests being processed in that area affect the time it takes to get a quilt awarded.

If you need to update or change information on a request, please use the number originally assigned to the initial request in all correspondence. Please do not enter a new request when an initial number has been previously assigned. Doing so slows down processing and causes unnecessary duplication of work. Rather, enter a [Help Desk](#) ticket to get answers or make changes using the number issued on the initial request.

Please be patient with the process and the award will happen!

New QOVF Executive Director Search is On

After four years of service to QOVF, Ann Rehbein, will be leaving her position as Executive Director in March of 2019. Over the next couple of months the board of directors will be interviewing to fill the Executive Director position.

If you are interested in applying for the position or know of someone who would like to, please click [here](#) to find out the qualifications we are looking for in the position and what the position includes. Also look for an eblast which will be sent out to the entire membership. Applications are due by October 28, 2018.



QOVF Certified Quilt Shop Program

By Myra Coddens

Welcome aboard to the newest members of the Certified Quilt Shop Program. The following shops completed certification since the last newsletter:

Beyond Fabric	Kingsland, GA
Love It Sew	Danville, IN
Sewing Connection	Milan, OH
Bernina Sew N Quilt Studio	Chattanooga, TN

Many thanks to the shops who are participating in the program. We appreciate your support. And I hope to hear from more of you soon! If you need help or have any comments or questions, please contact Myra Coddens at (847)848-5885 or email at myra.coddens@qovf.org. I look forward to hearing from you!

(Myra Coddens is the QOVF Certified Quilt Shop Program Coordinator. Contact Myra at myra.coddens@qovf.org.)

Quilts Reported

2012: 6,169

2013: 12,314

2014: 17,373

2015: 18,772

2016: 19,051

2017: 24,009

2018: 18,784

Total: 197,635

(from date of first award through
30 September 2018)

The mission of the Quilts of Valor Foundation is to cover service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor.

QOVF Core Values

Treating people with respect • Promoting excellence • Valuing service over self • Being accountable

**QOVF Founder and
Board Member Emeritus**
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Board Member Emeritus
Walt Davis
Marianne Fons
Eric McCarty
June Moore

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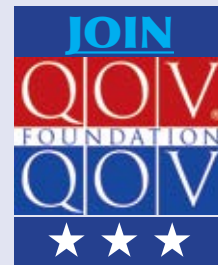
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For more information about QOVF, see
www.QOVF.org

For more information about the BOD,
the QOVF staff, and how to contact your
State Coordinator (SCs) go to
www.qovf.org/meet-us/

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Newsletter

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