In December our chapter went Christmas shopping for three veteran families that were in need. We had helping us two young girls and their mother helping us. The two girls and their parents helped us during our annual Orange Blossom Drive for a school project. They wanted to follow up with the project shopping, wrapping of the gifts and delivering them to one of the families that they shopped for. Some of our members helped to deliver the gifts to the veteran families.

Some of the other donations the we make for our Christmas projects are the following: The Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Center, Bella Medial Clinic, Day By Day Warming Shelter for the homeless, Homeless Veterans at King, Salvation Army, Community Food Bank in Omro, Food Bank in Winneconne, VA Voluntary Services at Tomah, and to the Camo Quilt for veterans and active military personal by Pat Mason.

In January we had our Christmas party with a little over 40 members and their guest attending. Our president, Duane Canon went around Oshkosh to get donations for our door prizes. Everyone had a great time.

Also, in January we attended a funeral of Dorothy Hintz-Hammer. Her son, Richard Hentz is still listed as MIA from the Vietnam War. She would always attend our POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony in September. Last year she was sick and couldn’t attend. She was 98 years old.

At our February meeting we got the theme for the 4th of July parade this year. It is “Oshkosh Honoring it’s Hero’s”. Every month our AVVA provides a meal for the Day by Day Warming Shelter for the homeless once a month from Nov. to April. Some of our VVA members help to serve the food.

In July, our chapter and the AMVETS have a concession tent for Sawdust Days event. The city of Oshkosh canceled this event so we need to look to see where we can raise more money to operate. All we have for income is our Orange Blossom Drives. During Sawdust Days we collect donations for the Old Glory Honor Flight and now we need to get donations another way.

Duane T. Canon, President
Chapter 437, Oshkosh, Wi.