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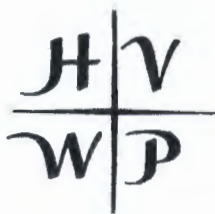
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JAN 18 1982



Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project

A NATIONAL SERVICE • VOLUNTEER • INCORPORATED NOT FOR PROFIT • FOUNDED 1946

5920 NALL, ROOM 117

MISSION, KANSAS 66202

January 4, 1982

Dear Mr. President:

A member of your staff working under Elizabeth Dole has been more than cooperative in helping us with a request that we have made for an award to be given to an outstanding lady in New York City, Elizabeth Fontaine, for work she has done with the hospitalized veterans.

The culmination of this effort was a letter written and signed by you. We are having it treated with a bronze background and giving it as a plaque to Elizabeth Fontaine in New York City. We cannot thank you sufficiently for taking the time to send the letter knowing the tremendous responsibilities that are always yours.

Our best wishes and prayers are with you for everything in 1982.

Sincerely,

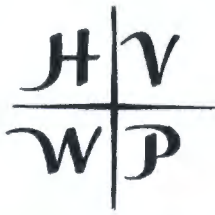
EHD	<i>[Signature]</i>
RC	<i>[Signature]</i>
JB	
DL	<i>[Signature]</i>
MB	<i>[Signature]</i>

Margaret Sally Keach
Margaret Sally Keach, President
Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project
Founder & Publisher, Veterans' Voices

MSK:jl

please pass along nice to!

31
E. Dole
(FYI)



Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project

A NATIONAL SERVICE • VOLUNTEER • INCORPORATED NOT FOR PROFIT • FOUNDED 1946

5920 NALL, ROOM 117

MISSION, KANSAS 66202

December 29, 1981

Kathy Christiansen
Office of Public Liaison
Room 191
Old Executive Office
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Kathy Christiansen:

We want to wish you everything good for the New Year and to thank you for your kind cooperation in our request for recognition to be given to the founder of our project, Elizabeth Fontaine, of New York City.

We were more than pleased with the President's letter and are planning a nice event in New York City at which time James Cantrall will present the award and our editor, Margaret Clark, will attend from Kansas City. Mrs. Fontaine is rather frail and will not have to journey to Washington D.C. I do not have the details here but this event will be held in a lovely room in a hotel in New York City with flowers, tea and a number of photographs which will be important to us. We have had the letter mounted on bronze and will give it to her in the form of a plaque.

We also want to thank you for the letter concerning The President's Volunteer Action Awards. We want to participate in this and would you kindly send us about ten of the official nomination forms. Our project would come under a number of the categories - health, education, recreation and the arts and humanities. If you cannot send the form to us, we will order them through the address given on the press release.

Thank you again for your kindness and we appreciate your sending us the pictures of President Reagan so promptly.

Sincerely,

Margaret Sally Keach, President
Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project
Founder & Publisher, Veterans' Voices

MSK:jl

cc: Sharon L. Smith

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 1, 1981

TO: Karen Draper Veterans Administration
Room 1127 D VA
389-2831

FROM: Kathy Christiansen
Office of Public Liaison
Old Executive Office Building
Room 191 456-2657

Attached are copies of the major correspondence regarding the Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project, including a list of participants to be invited to an awards ceremony.

I spoke with the office that handles Presidential messages, and they will let me know within a few days whether the President will send a message to this group.

Thanks to the VA for taking over this awards ceremony. I am sorry that the First Lady and the Vice-President have declined this event.



OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

November 25, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: ELIZABETH H. DOLE

FROM: JENNIFER A. FITZGERALD JAF

SUBJECT: Schedule Proposal dated November 19, 1981

Unfortunately, the Vice President's schedule is such that regrettably he will be unable to meet with the Board of Directors of the Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project to present an award to the founder of this group.

*file
Hospitalized
Veterans
Writing
Project*

*R. F. 1-
+ 2: 2:11*

4

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

DATE: November 19, 1981

FROM: Elizabeth H. Dole

MEETING: The Vice-President with the Board of Directors of the Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project to present an award to the founder of this group.

DATE: Open; before December 10, 1981

PURPOSE: To give recognition to this worthwhile group of volunteers who work with hospitalized veterans.

FORMAT: The Vice-President's office or the Indian Treaty Room
See attached list for participants.
15 minute duration.

FIRST LADY PARTICIPATION: Her scheduling office rejected this event.

SPEECH MATERIAL: Brief remarks concerning voluntary activity.

PRESS COVERAGE: White House photographer.
The Vice-President will greet the participants, present the award from the organization to their founder, and pose for pictures.

STAFF: Morton C. Blackwell

RECOMMEND: Elizabeth H. Dole, Senator Robert Dole, Congresswoman Millicent Fenwick, VA Administrator Robert Nimmo

OPPOSED:

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: The Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project has received commendations from former Presidents and First Ladies.

BACKGROUND: This is the 35th year anniversary of this group. They are asking for a short ceremony for this founder. The organization is all-volunteer. According to the Veterans Administration, they do very beneficial work with patients in VA hospitals nationwide. The organization also provides scholarships to send veterans to college. They are supported by a large number of patriotic organizations.

APPROVE _____

DISAPPROVE _____

—11/24

VP declined.

Formal note to
follow.

AKB
Morton

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

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APPROVE _____

DISAPPROVE _____

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

List of participants for the Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project:

Mrs. Elizabeth Fontaine, founder of this group

Mrs. Margaret Sally Keach, President of this group

Mr. and Mrs. William Anderes, Mrs. Fontaine's daughter and
son-in-law

Betty Hall, National Commander, Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary

Sherman Roodzant, National Commander, Disabled American Veterans

Mrs. Richard Denny Shelby, President General, Daughters of the
American Revolution

Miss Mary C. Burnham, National President, Women's Overseas
Service League

Mrs. Dorothy Janek, President, Women's Army Corps Veterans Assn.

Members of the Board of Directors and other volunteer workers
with the Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project:

Miss Mary Kay Dunlap

Mrs. Jeanne Reinert Graves

Mrs. Shirley de Leon

Miss Sharon L. Smith

Mrs. Margaret Clark

Mrs. Nancy Ann Poland

Mrs. C. Richard Hughes

Mr. and Mrs. V. Groves

Mrs. Joan Sanger

Members of Congress:

Senator Robert Dole

Senator Nancy Kassebaum

Congresswoman Millicent Fenwick

Administration participants:

James R. Cantrall, Assistant National Director, Recreation
Service, Veterans Administration

Elizabeth Dole

Morton Blackwell

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

October 16, 1981

TO: Jennifer Fitzgerald
Vice-Presidential Appointments and Scheduling

FROM: Elizabeth H. Dole

REQUEST: To secure an award ceremony to present a plaque from the Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project to the founder of this organization, Elizabeth Fontaine.

PURPOSE: To give recognition to this worthwhile group of volunteers who work with hospitalized veterans.

BACKGROUND: This is the 35th year anniversary of this group. They are asking for a short ceremony for their founder. The organization is all-volunteer. According to the Veterans Administration, they do very beneficial work with patients in VA hospitals nationwide. The organization also provides scholarships to send veterans to college. They are supported by a large number of patriotic organizations.

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: The Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project has received commendations from former Presidents and First Ladies, including Mamie Eisenhower, Lady Bird Johnson, and President Ford.

DATE: Open, but they request sometime around Veterans Day in November; before November 10 and after November 14.

LOCATION: The Vice-President's office or the Indian Treaty Room

DURATION: 15 minutes

PARTICIPANTS: See attached list

OUTLINE OF EVENTS: The Vice-President will greet the participants, present the award from the organization, and pose for pictures.

REMARKS REQUIRED: Brief remarks concerning voluntary activity.

MEDIA COVERAGE: White House photographer

RECOMMENDED BY: Elizabeth Dole, Senator Robert Dole, Congresswoman Millicent Fenwick, VA Administrator Robert Nimmo

OPPOSED BY:

PROJECT OFFICER: Morton Blackwell

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Red

Please note - came back
REJECTED from the First Lady's
office.

Attached is the schedule
proposal we were holding for
the VP -- in case you want
to initial it.

Nancy

redo for V.P.
+ get dates
current

Nancy
redone in new schedule proposal
format - Kathy

NOV 17 1981

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 17, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR ELIZABETH DOLE

FROM: NINA WORMSER **NCW**

RE: Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project Scheduling Request

Peter McCoy and Ann Wroblewski have forwarded to my attention your scheduling proposal concerning the Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project.

Because the Christmas Schedule is rapidly approaching and there will be no time to schedule this event prior to Thanksgiving, I am afraid that Mrs. Reagan's participation will not be possible.

Thank you very much for your suggestion. Please keep the First Lady in mind for future proposals.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

NOV 0 6 1981

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

November 5, 1981

TO: Peter McCoy
Chief of Staff to the First Lady

FROM: Elizabeth H. Dole

REQUEST: To secure an award ceremony to present a plaque from the Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project to the founder of this organization, Elizabeth Fontaine.

PURPOSE: To give recognition to this worthwhile group of volunteers who work with hospitalized veterans.

BACKGROUND: This is the 35th year anniversary of this group. They are asking for a short ceremony for their founder. The organization is all-volunteer. According to the Veterans Administration, they do very beneficial work with patients in VA hospitals nationwide. The organization also provides scholarships to send veterans to college. They are supported by a large number of patriotic organizations.

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: The Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project has received commendations from former Presidents and First Ladies, including Mamie Eisenhower, Lady Bird Johnson, and President Ford.

DATE: Open, but they request sometime around Veterans Day in November; before November 10 and after November 14.

LOCATION: The Family Theater - WC 12/10

DURATION: 15 minutes

PARTICIPANTS: See attached list

OUTLINE OF EVENTS: The First Lady will greet the participants, present the award from the organization, and pose for pictures.

REMARKS REQUIRED: Brief remarks concerning voluntary activity.

MEDIA COVERAGE: White House photographer

RECOMMENDED BH: Elizabeth Dole, Senator Robert Dole, Congresswoman Millicent Fenwick, VA Administrator Robert Nimmo

OPPOSED BY:

PROJECT OFFICER: Morton Blackwell

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

List of participants for the Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project:

Mrs. Elizabeth Fontaine, founder of this group

Mrs. Margaret Sally Keach, President of this group

Mr. and Mrs. William Anderes, Mrs. Fontaine's daughter and
son-in-law

Betty Hall, National Commander, Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary

Sherman Roodzant, National Commander, Disabled American Veterans

Mrs. Richard Denny Shelby, President General, Daughters of the
American Revolution

Miss Mary C. Burnham, National President, Women's Overseas
Service League

Mrs. Dorothy Janek, President, Women's Army Corps Veterans Assn.

Members of the Board of Directors and other volunteer workers
with the Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project:

Miss Mary Kay Dunlap

Mrs. Jeanne Reinert Graves

Mrs. Shirley de Leon

Miss Sharon L. Smith

Mrs. Margaret Clark

Mrs. Nancy Ann Poland

Mrs. C. Richard Hughes

Mr. and Mrs. V. Groves

Mrs. Joan Sanger

Members of Congress:

Senator Robert Dole

Senator Nancy Kassebaum

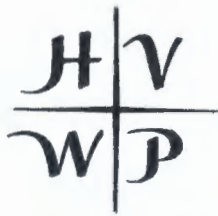
Congresswoman Millicent Fenwick

Administration participants:

James R. Cantrall, Assistant National Director, Recreation
Service, Veterans Administration

Elizabeth Dole

Morton Blackwell



Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project

A NATIONAL SERVICE • VOLUNTEER • INCORPORATED NOT FOR PROFIT • FOUNDED 1946

5920 NALL, ROOM 117

MISSION, KANSAS 66202

September 17, 1981

Kathy Christiansen
Special Assistant to Morton Blackwell
Office of Public Liaison
Room 191
Old Executive Office
Washington, D.C. 20500



Dear Kathy Christinsten:

I was more than pleased to have your telephone call last week and I apologize for not answering sooner. Our secretary who had been on vacation returned and received word that her mother had died and she had to spend another week away from the office so we had no one to type.

Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project will be more than pleased to buy the plaque and have it engraved with the proper inscription and you there, Vice President Bush or Mrs. Reagan present it. We would be most appreciative of anything you could work out. We are wondering if our award might be prepared by the Veterans Administration since we have been working for the hospitalized veteran all of these 35 years. If this is agreeable with you and those whom you consult, please let me know. We think it would be extremely appropriate to have the Veterans Administration prepare the award which would be given by whomever you designate.

It is important that you realize that we are keeping this effort on our part to give an award to Elizabeth Fontaine an absolute secret until a few weeks before the full plan is resolved.

The list will be as follows with two exceptions. I do not have at this time the address of Elizabeth Fontaine's daughter and the congresswoman from New Jersey. We will have these names and addresses in your hands very shortly:

Senator Robert Dole
Washington, D.C.

Elizabeth Dole
Director of Liaison to President Reagan
Washington, D.C.

Senator Nancy Kassebaum
Washington, D.C.

before
Nov. 10
or
after
Nov. 14
or
until
Dec.
15

Kathy Christinsten
Page Two
September 17, 1981

James R. Cantrall
Asst. National Director
Recreation Service (132)
Veterans Administration
810 Vermont Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20420

X Mrs. Elizabeth Fontaine (See Paragraph 3)
116 Pinehurst Ave.
New York, N.Y. 10033

Miss Mary Kay Dunlap
590 Centre St., Apt. 3
Oradell, NJ 07649

} contact
201-262-3030 x2593

Mrs. Jeanne Reinert Graves
80 Hemlock Road
Short Hills, NJ 07078

Mrs. Shirley de Leon
434 W. 260th St.
New York, N.Y. 10471

Mrs. Margaret Sally Keach
5934 Lockton Lane
Shawnee Mission, KS 66205

President

Miss Sharon L. Smith
1933 N. 73rd Terr., Apt. 10
Kansas City, KS 66112

Mrs. Margaret Clark
412 West 62nd St.
Kansas City, MO 64113

Mrs. Nancy Ann Poland
7403 Honeywell Lane
Washington, D.C. 20014

X Betty Hall
National Commander
Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary
5919 Elm St.
Houston, TX 77081

X Stan Pealer
National Commander
Disabled American Veterans
P.O. Box 14301
Cincinnati, OH 45214

Kathy Christinsten
Page Three
September 17, 1981

X Mrs. Richard Denny Shelby
President General
Daughters of the American Revolution
1776 D Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

X Miss Mary C. Burnham
National President
Women's Overseas Service League
1961 N. Summit Ave.
Shorecrest Hotel #814
Milwaukee, WI 43202

X Mrs. Dorothy Janek, President
Women's Army Corps Veterans Assn.
1409 E. Euclid
Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Sincerely,

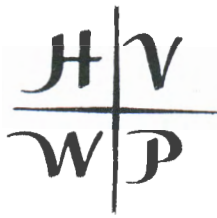
Margaret Sally Keach

Margaret Sally Keach, President
Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project
Founder & Publisher, Veterans' Voices

MSK:jl

cc: James Cantrall
Mary Kay Dunlap
Shirley de Leon
Jeanne Graves
Joan Sanger
Margaret Clark
Sharon L. Smith

P.S. Also, please add to this list: Mrs. Joan Sanger
P.O. Box 1062
Frederick, MD 21701



Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project

A NATIONAL SERVICE • VOLUNTEER • INCORPORATED NOT FOR PROFIT • FOUNDED 1946

5920 NALL, ROOM 117

MISSION, KANSAS 66202

September 18, 1981

Kathy Christiansen
Special Assistant to Morton Blackwell
Office of Public Liaison
Room 191
Old Executive Office
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Kathy Christiansen:

Regarding the award which might be given to Elizabeth Fontaine at the White House, we have another two names which should be added to the list we sent you on September 17th. We are not sure they would be able to attend but would feel much better if they were invited:

Mrs. C. Richard Hughes
35 Old Mill Road
Lake Forest, IL 60045

Mrs. Ruth V. Groves
834 16th St.
Wilmette, IL 60091

We are sorry we neglected to place these names on our original list.
Thank you.

Sincerely,

Margaret Sally Keach
Margaret Sally Keach, President
Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project
Founder & Publisher, Veterans' Voices

MSK:jl

names
added
9/28/81

[Congresswoman Millicent Fenwick (N.J.)
Mr. + Mrs. William Andrees
143 Elmwood Pl.
Wyckoff, N.J. 07481] Mrs. Fontaine's daughter

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

July 28, 1981

Kathy Christiansen
Office of Public Liaison
Room 191
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Kathy:

As per our phone conversation today, I am enclosing materials from the Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project. Mrs. Maragaret Keach has contacted our office in Kansas City to request Senator Dole's assistance in securing an award ceremony with President Reagan for Elizabeth Fontaine, founder of the organization.

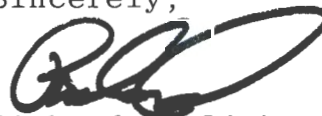
Knowing of the President's busy schedule, Mrs. Keach has told me that an award ceremony with Mrs. Reagan or with Vice President Bush would also suit her purposes. I believe that the information enclosed will explain the rest of her request. Mrs. Keach can be reached at the address on her letterhead, or at one of two phone numbers: (913) 236-8836 or (913) 432-1414. My address and phone are as follows:

Senator Bob Dole
Attn: Richard English
Franklin Savings Building
4655 State Avenue
Kansas City, Kansas 66102
(913) 287-4545

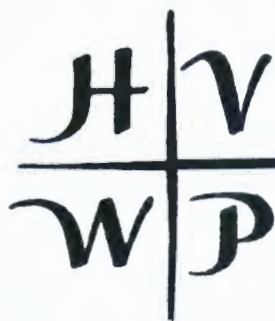
I will, however, be ending my work with the Senator on August 14 of this year. Any communications regarding this issue after that date should be sent to John Palmer at the same address. We will appreciate your keeping us apprised of any developments in Mrs. Keach's request.

Again, thanks so much for your help.

Sincerely,



Richard English
Staff of Senator Dole



PRESERVATION COPY

HOSPITALIZED VETERANS WRITING PROJECT, INC.

5920 Nall — Room 117 — Mission, Kansas 66202

We are celebrating our 35th Anniversary!



Elizabeth Fontaine, Founder

We are extremely proud that we have reached our 35th anniversary and are asking you to give us a bit of your means and encouragement to enable us to go forward toward our **Golden Anniversary!**

Let's begin by trying to place ourselves as a patient in a Veterans Administration Medical Center. Perhaps we will be treated for a short period; or the doctors may say our troubles indicate close medical attention for several months; again, we may be told that we will need medical care for the remainder of our lifetime.

Surely we would find satisfaction and gratification in the fact that a group of volunteers was thinking of us, urging us to forget pain, boredom, disappointment, drug and alcohol problems, and begin to write some thoughts on paper; then to swell with pride when some of these writings are published and we receive a check.

This is where the person is changed from "we" to "you." **YOU**, the understanding, compassionate people over the country, enter the picture at this point. The HVWP effort to help the veteran must be supported financially if it is to survive and grow, and this support has been forthcoming from you during these 35 years.

Contributions from you replenish our treasury, boost our morale and we manage, somehow, to continue our volunteer work. This realization, combined with the knowledge of the therapeutic help our project provides the hospitalized veteran, keeps our spirits high. We can never thank you sufficiently.

NIGHT

By Gillis Pounds, Jr.

When night falls,
Sadness comes with the shadows,
And loneliness
Peers back at the moon.

Stars flicker like lonely fires
And nightmares spoil sleep
That actually is half awareness
Relieved only
By the searing glare
Of the broiling sun.

*VA Medical Center
Dallas, Texas*



**Gillis Pounds, Jr., Poetry Winner
Anne B. Buechley, Writing Aide**

Every organization that has stability, potential for the future and a program that fulfills a need for the truly deserving, must have some financial security.

HVWP's "Fund to Perpetuate" was planned and begun by its National President, Margaret Sally Keach, about five years ago, with the small sum of \$75.00. The fund, described on other side, has grown steadily. Friends, now deceased, have made HVWP beneficiary of small insurance policies; organizations and individuals have made gifts — some as perpetual prizes in memory or honor of some person.

(Details on other side)

A FUND OR TRUST TO PERPETUATE THE HOSPITALIZED VETERANS WRITING PROJECT, INC.



There are approximately 20 million veterans living in the United States today. Many will be in our Veterans Administration facilities in the next few decades.

Since writing has proved to be an excellent therapeutic treatment and one of the few existing programs designed to challenge the thinking processes of our hospitalized men and women, we are providing a fund to perpetuate our work and hope you will consider a financial addition to it.

This "Fund to Perpetuate HVWP, Inc." is **entirely separate** from our general operating treasury. The **interest** from it is used for general purposes. In dire financial emergencies, one-tenth (1/10th) of the principal can be used with a vote by a special committee. Our treasurer is bonded and we guard this trust with care.

The official name of the plan is "Fund to Perpetuate the Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project, Inc." For **deductible** contributions or information, write to:

HVWP
5920 Nall - Room 117
Mission, Kansas 66202

PRIZE AND PAGE CONTRIBUTIONS

Annual Prizes for "Good Poetry": \$30.00 sent by donor to HVWP before January 1st; \$10.00 given for each of three issues. This can carry donor's name and be "in honor of" or "in memory of" any person. The donor should plan to make this contribution for several years.

Annual Prize for "Good Prose": \$45.00 sent by donor to HVWP before January 1st. This also can carry donor's name and be listed "in honor of" or "in memory of" any person. The donor should expect to do this for several years.

Page Donors: Page donors for individuals or organizations at cost which is \$100.00 per page. This should be sent to HVWP three months prior to publication and will be accepted on a one-time basis, but three pages - one for each issue annually - is more desirable.

Yes, I want to contribute _____ for prizes.

My selection is: ☐ Poetry ☐ Prose

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Please use the following credit:

1. Donor's Name _____

2. In Memory of _____

3. In Honor of _____

Yes, I (or organization) _____ wish to underwrite _____ pages of printing
Veterans' Voices at \$100.00 per page.

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Please give this page contribution the following credit:

1. Donor's Name _____

2. Organization _____

3. Other _____

Yes! I Want to Contribute to HOSPITALIZED VETERANS WRITING PROJECT, INC.

(Tax-Deductible Under IRS Code 501 (c) (3))

☐ Associate Membership, \$10 to \$15

☐ Contributing Membership, \$25 to \$50

☐ Mini-Membership, \$5 to \$8

☐ Family Membership, \$15 to \$25

☐ Sponsoring Membership, \$50 to \$500

(Entitles member to one edition of *VETERANS' VOICES* and HVWP in Action.)

(Above memberships include three issues of *VETERANS' VOICES* and two issues of HVWP in Action.)

Larger Gifts From Individuals, Organizations, Corporations and Small Foundations (acknowledged in *VETERANS' VOICES* with donor's permission). ☐ \$100 and over (Entitles donor to three issues of *VETERANS' VOICES* and HVWP in Action.)

Gifts of any amount are welcome . . .

in honor of (Name) _____

in memory of (Name) _____

(Address) _____

(Name of person to be notified) _____

(City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____

(Address) _____

(City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____

* * * * *

Name of Donor _____

Permission to Print Donor's Name ☐ Yes ☐ No

Address _____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____ (Telephone) _____

Make check or money order payable to:

HOSPITALIZED VETERANS WRITING PROJECT, INC.

Mail to:

5920 Nall, Mission, Kansas 66102

December 11, 1981

Nancy and I are delighted to extend our congratulations to members of the Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project as you celebrate the 35th anniversary of your organization.

With the inspiration and leadership of your founder, Elizabeth Fontaine, you have helped our veterans to lead richer lives and to discover and expand their writing skills. Your volunteer efforts reflect the best in the American tradition of people helping people, and I commend you.

You have my best wishes for continued success and effectiveness in the important work you do.

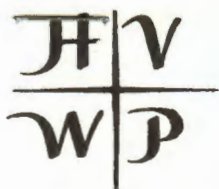
NOV 11 1981

SENT SPECIAL DELIVERY TO: Mrs. Margaret Keach
President
Hospitalized Veterans
Writing Project
37 Coventry Court
Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66208

RR:LIVINGSTON:--

cc: K. Osborne/D. Livingston/E. Dole/P. McCoy/M. Blackwell/
A. Locke/CF

EVENT: (No specific date)



Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project

A NATIONAL SERVICE · VOLUNTEER · INCORPORATED NOT FOR PROFIT · FOUNDED 1946

5920 NALL, ROOM 117

MISSION, KANSAS 66202

National Board Members of Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project:

Kansas City area -	26 members
New York area -	5 members
Columbus, Ohio, area	3 members
Chicago area	3 members
Oklahoma	2 members
Texas	5 members
Denver	1 member
Indiana	2 members
Washington, D.C.	1 member
California	1 member
Arizona	3 members

We are supported officially by a number of patriotic organizations.

11/22/82

Morton Saltwell —

FYI — enclosed

Hope to have lunch w
you the next time clin
in Washington.

VB

From the desk of

VICTOR BRAREN, M.D.

Group wary on VA hospital due to Meharry affiliation

file
Meharry

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A veteran's group has asked that its members not be forced to go to the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Murfreesboro because of its newly expanded affiliation with Meharry Medical College.

In a resolution unanimously approved last Saturday by the Third Tennessee District of the American Legion, the veterans charged that Meharry "apparently is inferior to the Vanderbilt University in management and training."

The Nashville VA hospital is affiliated with Vanderbilt Medical School.

Veterans who are "forced" to use the VA center in Murfreesboro "will not receive the special medical treatment that the VA hospital, Nashville, can give them," the resolution stated.

The third district comprises 11 counties in Tennessee, northern

Georgia and northern Alabama.

Robert Pepiot, administrator of the Murfreesboro hospital, said, however, that the care provided by doctors at his hospital is "second to none."

"Although Meharry is not a Vanderbilt, I feel they are second to none in preparing their physicians for care of the individual," Pepiot said.

Barney Greene, chief administrative officer for the American Legion in Tennessee, presented the resolution for information to the Veterans Affairs Committee of the state Legislature Wednesday.

He said he also plans to contact Tennessee's congressional delegation.

"As long as we get quality, I could care less who gives it," Greene said. The veterans groups, however, "have seen too much in the media about the accreditation

of Meharry. They're apprehensive," he said.

A federal task force set up by President Reagan last June recommended that the VA hospital in Murfreesboro be renovated as a teaching hospital for Meharry to help solve the college's pressing financial and academic problems.

The plan is to convert 200 beds at the long-term and psychiatric care facility for acute medical and surgical care by 1985. Half of the beds are due to open early next year. The beds will be staffed by Meharry faculty and resident physicians.

Last month, Reagan signed into law a \$1.7 million appropriation to begin architectural and engineering work on the renovation. The House of Representatives has approved a total of \$17 million needed to complete the project, and the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee currently is considering the appropriation.