



## News Release

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Susan Poff, Public Affairs Officer  
Dallas VA Medical Center  
4500 South Lancaster Road, Dallas, TX 75216  
214 857-1158 (daytime)  
214 300-5074 (after hours)  
susan.poff@va.gov

**May 9, 2008**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **VA NORTH TEXAS HEALTH CARE SYSTEM HONORS ITS VOLUNTEERS**

DALLAS — VA facilities in Dallas, Fort Worth and Bonham celebrated National Volunteer Week April 27-May 3, 2008. This year's theme, "1950s Fun, Fun, Fun" was a great success!

"Volunteers are a huge part of the health care team at VA North Texas Health Care System (VANTHCS)," said Bobbie Scoggins, chief of voluntary service. During the past year, approximately 1,650 volunteers logged over 144,945 hours. This year, volunteer hours combined with monetary donations put a total value of VANTHCS volunteer services at approximately \$4.2 million.

Volunteers from Dallas/Fort Worth gathered for a 1950s banquet at Cedar Canyon Ranch in Lancaster where Theresa Hill of Dallas was named volunteer of the year. Hill is a member of the American Legion Auxiliary Post 424 and has volunteered for over nine years, accumulating over 1,440 hours during her tenure. She also provides and coordinates many patient events, including lunches for the Day Treatment program, special needs of veterans from the on-going global war on terror, and donations for recreation.

Receiving this year's Alan G. Harper special events award was the Korean War Veterans Association, Sam Johnson Chapter 270. This annual award recognizes a volunteer or veteran service organization for any extra project or event on the local as well as national level. The Korean War Veterans Association has been assembling and stenciling new wheelchairs that were donated from the Knights of Columbus and the Lewis Foundation and have removed bars from older wheelchairs, adding new anti-theft devices to each chair at Dallas VA Medical Center.

- more -

/ADD ONE/ Volunteer Recognition

Volunteers at Sam Rayburn Memorial Veterans Center in Bonham were treated to a recognition celebration held at VFW Post 4852 where Offard Hubbard of Sherman was named volunteer of the year. Better known as "O.H." Mr. Hubbard has volunteered for six years and logged over 1,500 hours last year, assisting with veteran needs at Bonham VA as well as in the community.

"Volunteers are special people who give their time and energy to organizations they feel passionate about," Scoggins said. "Many volunteers at VANTHCS are veterans themselves and can support our patients in ways other volunteers can't. Their caring heart and listening ear is a morale boost no amount of money could buy."

If you are interested in volunteer opportunities at Dallas VA Medical Center, Fort Worth Outpatient Clinic or Sam Rayburn Memorial Veterans Center in Bonham, please contact Bobbie Scoggins at 214 857-0428.

**###**