



Paralyzed Veterans of America

Nevada Chapter

First Quarter 2024
Volume 1 Issue 1

Happy 2024

Hope everyone has a great 2024. We are looking forward to having a great year with more outings and programs to get more of our membership involved in the chapter.

If anyone has any ideas on what they want to see our chapter doing this year, don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Paralyzed Veterans of America, Nevada Chapter

www.nevadapva.org

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Mission Statement

The mission of Nevada PVA is to improve the quality of life of U.S. military veterans and others who have spinal cord dysfunction through the use of adaptive sports, recreation, wellness programs, outreach, education, research and support.

Disclaimer

The Nevada Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America is a non-profit organization. We do not ask for or receive any money from any federal or state agencies. All of our funds are received mainly from donations. All members of the Paralyzed Veterans of America have sustained a spinal cord injury or disease. This newsletter is a publication of the Nevada chapter and is meant to inform its readers of Chapter activities, legislation, and other matters of concern to veterans and/or members of the disabled community. The opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of Nevada PVA, its officers, board members, the editor or production staff.

President's Report

by Bill Burns



Looking back on our chapter, we had a great year. While I was absent for a large portion of the year, other board members along with Julie and Ann stepped up to keep the chapter running smoothly. They all have my deepest thanks.

Our last quarter was busy with members participating in various sporting events. This year our bowling tournament was extra special as it will now be known as the L.E. Curtis Las Vegas Invitational Bowling Tournament. L.E. is an inspiration to all of us and I am proud to call him a friend. During the last quarter we hosted the Paralympic Kids Christmas Party. They love the spaghetti dinner every year and of course, we also have gifts for all the kids and their siblings and grocery bags for their family. We also hosted our annual PVA Christmas Party and had a great turnout with members and volunteers.

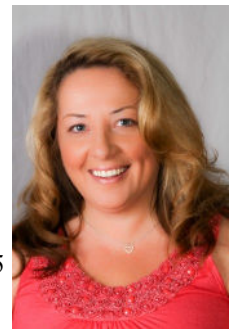
I would ask all members to get out and get involved with the chapter activities. Our chapter has so much to offer our membership so get out and get involved this year.

Finally, I want to say thank you for letting me serve you as Chapter President. It has been one of the best times of my life serving the Nevada Chapter of PVA with all the great people. I look forward to serving as the Immediate Past President.

Hi Everyone,

I want to congratulate everyone who ran for the board of directors for the 2024-2026 term. I look forward to working with everyone.

May 4th we will have our Annual Walk, Run & Roll at Wayne Bunker Park. It is free for our members and \$35 to the public. Please see our website or call the office for more information. If you know anyone who would like to sponsor our event have them contact the office. Thank you, Navy Federal Credit Union, for being our first sponsor and a continued community partner.



The National Veterans Wheelchair Games (NVWG) is coming up quickly. If you are thinking of going you need to get your application filled out along with the paperwork from your doctor.

WWW.WHEELCHAIRGAMES.ORG Please contact the office for more information about funding.

If you are a member of Nevada PVA and are interested in Government Relations let us know. There is also a Nevada Veterans Legislative Symposia coming up. One will be held in Reno on March 23RD and the other in Las Vegas on April 6th. If you would like to attend let us know. Seats are limited. This is an important time for veterans and veteran supporters to take part in making our voices heard to Nevada lawmakers. We get a chance as a group to identify and prioritize issues and concerns for the next Nevada Legislature.

If you are interested in our Adopt-A-Vet Basic Needs Program which helps with food and hygiene each month, Step Outside Program which gets you out of your home for dinner or entertainment, or Adaptive Sports which helps with health and fitness please reach out to us and we can get you more information.

Sports Report

by Jason Kelley

The L.E. Curtis Las Vegas Invitational was amazing. We had 23 bowlers from around the country participate in our event. Las Vegas is always a great place to go bowling, the weather is always great. Our host hotel, Sunset Station, is a beautiful locals hotel with many great choices to eat, gambling to be had, a mall across the street and a fully accessible bowling alley.

This year we honored Nevada PVA member L.E. Curtis with naming the invitational after him because of his dedication to this tournament for over 20 years.

Congratulations to all the winners:

Scratch Division

Dave Nelson Sr.
Bob Goddard
L.E. Curtis
Jim Rice
Chris Parnell

A Division

Toodie Perry
John Melvin
Kevin Schaefer
Mike Tucker
Grant Buehlar

B Division

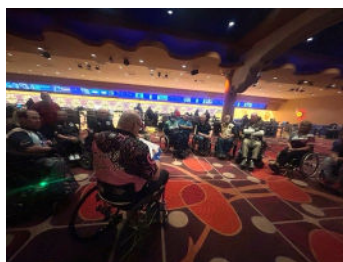
Pam Fontaine
Stephen Smith
Gina Jenkins
Rich Goebel
Bill Burns

Doubles

Pam Fontaine
Gina Jenkins

Up/Down

Grant Buehlar
Daniel Skorniak
John Potter
Zack Crossman



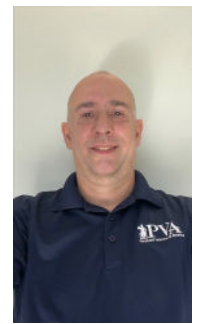
A special thanks to PVA Sports Director, Fabio Villarroel, Associate Director, Jen Purser, Bowling Director, Peter Park, WBOA Chairman, Wayne Webber, WBOA members Dan Formento, Dave Nelson, and John Melvin and Mary Habib and Terry Nelson were instrumental in making this tournament a huge success. Our sponsors PVA, WBOA, Great Plains PVA, Koda Patios and Station Casinos.

Basketball Tournament



Service Officer's Report

by Jason McDonald, NSO



2024 VA Ancillary Benefits Increased and VA Disability Compensation Rates

Effective October 1, 2023 the rates have increased for the Department of Veteran's Affairs ancillary benefits. In order to be eligible for one or more of the ancillary benefits you must have a qualifying service-connected disability. For those of you that are entitled to the ancillary benefits, the new fiscal year 2024 amounts are listed below.

Specially Adaptive Housing (SAH) Grant: \$117,014.00

Special Housing Adaptation (SHA) Grant: \$23,444.00

SAH Temporary Residence Adaptation (TRA) Grant: \$47,130.00

SHA Temporary Residence Adaptation (TRA) Grant: \$8,415.00

Auto and Adaptive Equipment Grant: \$25,603.02

Clothing Allowance: \$999.51

Medal of Honor pension: \$1671.16

In addition, Effective December 1, 2023 your monthly Veterans disability compensation rates have gone up. If you are rated at 100% or below you can look up your new monthly benefit amount on <https://www.va.gov/disability/compensation-rates/veteran-rates/>. If you are receiving 100% disability with any level of Special Monthly Compensation you can look up your new monthly benefit amount on <https://www.va.gov/disability/compensation-rates/special-monthly-compensation-rates/>.

Scholarships

Nevada PVA offers two (2) annual full-time scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each. It is open to any student attending a college or university as long as they are a member or a family member of a Nevada PVA member. Deadline for application submission is **June 30, 2024** and awards will be made in August in time for the fall semester. The money will be sent directly to the college or university. Please contact the office if you would like a scholarship application package sent to you.

Washington Update

PVA RELEASES 2024 POLICY PRIORITIES

The second session of the 118th Congress is officially underway. This year, we will continue to work with our champions on pushing forward legislation and regulations that support our priorities. Congress will be in session fewer days this year than last year because of the pending November elections. Regardless, we will work to push access forward this year and believe we will see some of our key priorities over the finish line.

Our priorities for this year are as follows:

- ♦ Protect Access to VA's Specialized Health Care Services
- ♦ Expand Access to VA Long-Term Services and Supports
- ♦ Improve VA Benefits and Health Care Services for Paralyzed Veterans and their Survivors
- ♦ Protect the Civil Rights of People with Disabilities
- ♦ Improve Access to Social Security Benefits

Annual PVA Christmas Party



STEP OUTSIDE PROGRAM

Don't forget about our Step Outside Program. This program will pay you up to \$100 per quarter for you to get out and about in the community. We are starting a new year so there is \$400 available to each of our members for participating in this Program. See details below:

Policy Title: **Step Outside Program (formerly Entertainment Reimbursement)**

Date Adopted/Revised: August 8, 2007 (updated November 2018)

The Chapter will fund the member and one (1) guest for participation in or attending Basketball, Soccer, Bowling etc., events or will reimburse the member and one (1) guest to attend shows, movies, plays or lunch/dinner, in a sit-down "full service" restaurant.

The amount of the funding will be capped at **\$100.00 per quarter, per member.**

In order to have access to these funds, the member must submit receipts and a short review of the event attended, which will be placed in the newsletter. Receipts and the review **must be** submitted within three (3) weeks of having attended the event in order to be eligible for reimbursement.

This program is designed to get our members out and about in a social setting.

ADDENDUM: You do not need to spend \$100.00 on any one event, the money is \$100.00 **per quarter** so if you pay \$10.00 ten times for movies you still get the funding. However, you must submit the receipt and the **write up** within three weeks of the event. **DO NOT SAVE YOUR RECEIPTS UNTIL YOU ACCUMULATE \$100.00, NEVADA PVA WILL KEEP TRACK OF THE FUNDS.**

Below is an example of a write up one of our members submitted in order to get his \$100.

On December 31st I had the opportunity to visit Ventanos Italian Restaurant as part of my family's annual New Year's Eve celebration dinner.

Ventanos is located in Henderson and we have been there many times before. I am always happy with the great service and accommodations as it comes to seating with me being in a wheelchair. The accessibility is very good, they have modern bathrooms that easily accommodate wheelchair users, and have ample disabled parking right out front of the entrance.

I would wholeheartedly recommend this restaurant to any member of Nevada PVA. *Jaime Segarra*



Paralympic Kids Christmas
Party





January

Rickey Altimus-Carrauthers	Samuel Hagaman	Stephen Pipkin
Derek Curtis	Julie Johnson	Tx P. Vogler
Steve Custer	Mervyn Kaya	Samuel Whitt
Joseph Cypher	Diane McQuade	Paul Winter
Lauretta Graham	Robert Nolan	Norman Woods
David Gray	Francisco Novero	

February

Jaime Anderson-Perelman	Darwin Holmes	David Pogue
Billy Andre	Anita Lawson-McGlynn	David Schneider
Robert Bradley	Kamron Lopez	Michael Schulz
Melinda Brooks	James McCollem	Randall Schwartz
Eric Cagle	Michael McDonald	John Silvestri
Lloyd Eggstaff	Randall McKee	Valerie Steele
William Frankell	Samuel Owens	Roland Teal
Armando Guajardo	David Pogue	James Troy
		James Washington

March

Kanique Adams	Marc Fenn	Darrin Newland
Jerry Bench	Jose Gonzalez	Josephine Owens
William Burns	Tyler Jefferies	Timothy Prophet
RC W Christensen	Robert (Wes) Jensen	Michael Romanowski
Michael Cole	Ben Keechler	Paul Woods
Janice Collins	Alan Marsh	

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Thank You!

Donor List

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Patti Dillion
Elks Lodge #1468
Elmer England
Terry & Karen Estabrook

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Harold a McVey Family Foundation
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Raiders Foundation
The Siegel Group
SIOR
Smith's
Southwest Gas

The NV Energy Foundation
Navy Federal Credit Union
Total Wine and More
United Way of Southern Nevada
Vegas Golden Knights

Help support veterans

Make a donation today!

Nevada Paralyzed Veterans of America is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization.

Tax ID #31-1647467. Your gift is tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

Donations can be made in any amount. They will accumulate from January 1—December 31. Donors will be printed in our monthly newsletter unless otherwise requested. To make a donation go online to www.nevadapva.org or call 702-646-0040.

Las Vegas VA Medical Center Locations

Mailing Address: VA Southern Nevada Healthcare System, 6900 North Pecos Road, North Las Vegas, NV 89086
Main Number: 702-791-9000 **Toll-Free Phone:** 1-888-633-7554 **VA Pharmacy:** 702-791-9076
Toll-Free Nurse Advice Line: 1-877-252-4866

	Northeast Primary Care Clinic 4461 East Charleston Boulevard Las Vegas, NV 89104	702-791-9050
	Northwest Primary Care Clinic 3968 North Rancho Drive North Las Vegas, NV 89130	702-791-9020
	Pahrump Community Based Outpatient Clinic 2100 East Calvada Boulevard Pahrump, NV 89048	775-727-7535
	Southeast Primary Care Clinic 1020 South Boulder Highway Henderson, NV 89015	702-791-9030
	Southwest Primary Care Clinic 7235 South Buffalo Drive Las Vegas, NV 89113	702-791-9040
	Community Resource and Referral Center 926 West Owens Avenue Las Vegas, NV 89106	702-791-9077
	Mike O'Callaghan Federal Medical Center 4700 North Las Vegas Boulevard Las Vegas, NV 89115	702-653-2227 EMERGENCY CARE ONLY
	Psychosocial Rehab Recovery Center 3525 W. Cheyenne Avenue North Las Vegas, NV 89032	702-791-9060
	Vet Center - Las Vegas 1919 South Jones Boulevard, Suite A Las Vegas, NV 89146	702-251-7873
	Vet Center - Henderson 400 North Stephanie Street, Suite 180 Henderson, NV 89014	702-791-9100
	Women's Health Center Temporarily at Northeast PCC 4461 East Charleston Boulevard Las Vegas, NV 89104	702-791-9050

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