

Paralyzed Veterans of America

Nevada Chapter

Nevada PVA 704 S. Jones Blvd. Las Vegas, NV 89107 (702) 646-0040 1-866-638-3837 www.nevadapva.org pvanevada@gmail.com

Dan Kaminski, President Lester Wood, Vice President Marc Fenn, Treasurer Kenny Rogers, Secretary Roger Dauffenbach, Director Tom Hudson, Director Lester Wood, National Director

> Julie Johnson Executive Director

Ann Perelman Office Manager

Follow us on: Website: Nevadapva.org Facebook: www.facebook.com./ParalyzedVeterans ofAmericaNevadaChapter Twitter: Twitter: Twitter: Twitter: Instagram: Instagram: Instagram.com/pvanevada YouTube:

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Nevada Paralyzed Veterans of America, Inc., is a 501(c) (3)charitable organization dedicated to improving and ensuring the quality of life for veterans who have suffered spinal cord injury or disease through:

> Advocacy and Legislation Research and Development Barrier Free Architecture Sports and Recreation Help with VA Benefits and Claims

OFFICERS

Daniel Kaminski Lester Wood Kenny Rogers Marc Fenn President Vice President Secretary Treasurer

BOARD MEMBRS

Roger Dauffenbach

Tom Hudson

COMMITTEES & CHAIRIPERSONS

Advocacy Finance Fund Raising Hospital Rogers Dauffenbach Marc Fenn Julie Johnson Dan Kaminski Legislative Membership Sports Roger Dauffenbach Ann Perelman Kenny Rogers/Marc Fenn

BENEFITS OFFICE

Patti Matysiak, VLO Las Vegas VAMC, 6900 N. Pecos Road, Las Vegas, NV 8908 702/791-9000 ext. 14458

OFFICE STAFF

Julie Fabian-Johnson Ann Perelman Executive Director Office Manager

NEVADA PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA

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President's Report

By Dan Kaminski

We had a great 2013 with lots of events. We started off with the pencil raffle that started in November 2012 and sold tickets through February when we had our General Membership Meeting. This meeting was the best one yet and we had a lot of attendees. At the end of the evening we raffled off the pencil dispenser and it was won by Jesus Gutierrez of Amarillo, TX who bought 10 tickets the first week of the raffle back in November, he won with ticket 069. Jesus traveled to Vegas in March to pick up the dispenser and he got to meet Rick and Kelly Dale and got a VIP tour of Rick's Restoration. He tells me that it sits on his desk in his office at work.

In March we had our annual Pistol/Trap Shoot and had a good turnout; the weather was great and the awards ceremony topped off a great BBQ lunch.

We celebrated Public Awareness Month by hosting an Open House at the office and had a great turnout, members, friends, family and representatives of our congressional offices all came to show their support and have a great BBQ lunch. We also hosted information tables at the Southern Nevada VA, the Clark County Shooting Park and at the Art Institute. We set up a slalom/obstacle course at Rick's Restoration where their employees and visitors sat in manual chairs to go through the course. They also transferred from the wheelchair to the driver's seat of my van using a sliding board and not their legs. Everyone said they learned a new appreciation for what people with paralysis go through. Bill Lawson, National President was in town and came by to join us at this event.

Unfortunately in April we lost founding member, Roy Odekirk, to whose memory we dedicated our inaugural Walk, Run and Roll, fundraiser. We had a good turnout being that it was our first one and took place on the same weekend as the Susan G. Komen run, weather was great so everyone enjoyed being outdoors.

We again, as in years past, had a booth at the San Gennaro Feast in May and September. This is an bi-annual fundraiser in which we participate We also, throughout the year sponsored BBQ's and ice cream socials for our City of Las Vegas Adaptive Recreation Paralympic Kids. We all thoroughly enjoy these events as the kids are great and so grateful for our participation in their events.

In July it was our great honor to be chosen as one of 17 non-profits to attend the Las Vegas Give Camp. This camp was sponsored by volunteers who helped the non-profits build or improve their websites and we were lucky enough to also be chosen to receive training in social media and how to apply it to our business. John Hawkins from 9seeds and his team did an outstanding job building our website and Nicole Villa from Focish was great in helping us understand all aspects of social media. During July, I also was the sole member of Nevada PVA to attend the National Wheelchair Games in Pittsburgh. July ended on a sad note though, our SCI doctor, Jeffrey Brookman transferred to the Long Beach VA hospital due to family obligations. He was a big supporter of Nevada PVA and will be greatly missed.

As summer wound down, I attended the National Convention in Long Beach along with our Executive Director, Julie Johnson, and National Director, Lester Wood where National PVA adopted our new logo.

October once again saw us participating in the Veterans Stand Down, we handed out prepackaged hygiene kits donated to us by Operation Gratitude.

Throughout the year I attended the Commanders monthly meeting at the VA which keeps all the organizations up to date on veteran's issues related to our community. Isabelle Duff was named our new VA Director, she comes to us from the Long Beach VA and we look forward to working closely with her.

Finally the year finished off with our annual Bowling Tournament at Texas Station, they always have a great turnout and great prizes. We held our annual Christmas Party at Better Life Mobility who was kind enough to offer the use of their facility to host this party and it turned out great, we had a wonderful holiday dinner, held a raffle and enjoyed spending time with members, family and friends.

Purpose

The purpose of Paralyzed Veterans of America, Nevada Chapter (NVPVA) is to help our members and their families, veterans, and all people with disabilities with accessibility issues, civil rights, VA benefits, transportation issues, and new laws to enhance the lives of people with disabilities. NVPVA also advocates for veterans and individuals suffering from spinal cord injury or disease in order to assist them in integrating into mainstream society and to open all possible avenues towards living life to its fullest.

One of the ways NVPVA accomplishes its purpose is to promote health and well-being of the disabled person. Nevada PVA provides information and equipment access to potential wheelchair athletes. Handcycling, basketball, boating, football, sit-skiing, racquetball, rugby, swimming, tennis, track and field and weightlifting are among the many sports, recreation and wellness activities in which our members participate.

Administration

The chapter's office hours are 8:00 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. on Friday We are in compliance with all the reporting requirements as mandated by PVA's governing documents. We receive an annual audit of our financial statement and file all required documents with the IRS, state, and other entities as required.

Our Board of Directors meets monthly, and we hold an annual general membership meeting. The Nevada Chapter has two employees, Executive Director, Julie Johnson and Office Manager, Ann Perelman, who both work to ensure the chapter is successful.

Fundraising

We hold various fundraising events to help support the programs and services we provide to our members. Fundraising activities include, Grant writing, CFC, Vehicle Donation Program, United Way, MGM Foundation, raffles, etc.. In 2013 we added a 5K Walk, Run and Roll and are continuously looking for new ideas for fundraising activities.

Hospital Liaison

The Chapter Service Office, Chapter staff and Chapter representatives have regular meeting with the VA staff and the Director of the medical center to discuss and address issues that require attention. We also have a representative attend quarterly VAVS meetings. We keep an active working relationship with the VA Directors and staff at both the Southern Nevada VA Medical Center and the Reno VA Medical Center. It is our goal to maintain a presence at both facilities to ensure the highest quality of care for our members and the veterans community at large.

SCI Clinic

The Chapter works with the VA Medical Center staff at the Southern Nevada VA Medical Center as well as the VA Medical Center in Reno to ensure that our members are receiving the services they require. Staffing at both hospitals consists of a Physician, Nurse, Social Worker and various other therapists on staff which ensures that our members receive the best care possible. The planning stages of a wellness program to include Kinesiotherapy, SCI Nursing, Social Work and Recreation Therapy began and should be on board early next year.

Advocacy/Legislation

Our Chapter Advocacy/Legislative Director attended the PVA Advocacy and Legislation seminar in Washington, DC and meet with all Nevada Congressional Representatives to outline PVA's stand on important issues. He also monitors Nevada State Legislation for any issues that may pertain to disabled veterans. The Chapter also works closely with both state and federal representatives to support legislation to benefit veterans and the disabled community at large.

Service

Our Chapter VLO works closely with our National Service Officer to obtain benefits for our members in both Northern and Southern Nevada. Our Service Officer in Las Vegas, is Enrique Chavez and Northern Nevada is covered by our VLO in conjunction with various NSO's who travel to Reno on a bimonthly basis, as that position is currently vacant. Last year we obtained a total of 62 new POA's to bring the total of POA's held in 2013 to 454; total interviews conducted were 305; total dollar amount of benefits obtained \$2,190,046 with 238 unresolved claims still pending.

Communication

Nevada PVA produces a bi-monthly newsletter designed to keep members updated on current events taking place in the chapter. We also provide direct mailings of upcoming events that we invite members to participate in; we update our website weekly as needed and post on Facebook daily advising of events happening in the chapter as well as information on veterans issues that we feel our members would find pertinent. We also use Twitter and Instagram as a means of communication.

Membership/Volunteer Program

Last year the Nevada Chapter had a total membership of 162; 78 service connected and 86 non-service connected. We also have 83 Associate Members who support our chapter and programs. Our membership director updates the database weekly and submits reports to National on a monthly basis.

The Nevada Chapter's dedicated group of volunteers logged in 2,733 hours for 2013. Volunteers receive Certificates of Appreciation from the Chapter as well as from our Congressional Representatives at our Annual General Membership and Awards Banquet. For the second year in a row, Jeanette Miller was named Volunteer of the Year for her dedication and support of our chapter. Our Volunteer Coordinator updates volunteer hours weekly and submits a report to National on a monthly basis. We are grateful to our volunteers for all the work they do, we could not do our job without them.

Community Involvement

The Chapter works closely with other veterans organizations to guarantee that all veterans in our State receive the maximum support and benefits due them. Annually we participate in the Veterans Stand Down, we sponsor a Pizza Party at the State Veterans Home in Boulder City as well as help sponsor their Annual Olympics and Super Bowl Party. We also work closely with the City of Las Vegas Adaptive Recreation Department by sponsoring basketball, handcycling, and tennis events; as well as work with the Paralympic Children's Program by sponsoring BBQ's throughout the year, their annual summer camp and their Christmas Party.

We also work with the City of Reno's Adaptive Recreation Department sponsoring their Annual Military Sports Camp as well as numerous other events all year long.

During Public Awareness Month we sponsored an information table at various locations around town. We held our Annual Open House during April and we sponsored a Slalom course at Rick's Restoration.

Northern Nevada

Northern Nevada continued to expand its membership as well as work with the Adaptive Recreation Departments in Reno and Sacramento to sponsor and participate in various sporting events. Our Annual Picnic and Christmas Party were both well attended and Julie Johnson, our Executive Director, once again made the trip to Reno to meet with members during our picnic. The Northern Nevada tab on the website is going strong with lots of sporting events being advertised. Hopefully, we can get more members to participate in these events.

2013 marked the City of Reno's Fit but not Forgotten program for veterans of all eras. The Reno VA has a PT tasked specifically to this program. Nevada PVA has been urged to participate in this program as it provides training in proper work out techniques in a supervised environment.

Honor Flight 2013—during the Sequester of 2013, a Northern Nevada PVA member (Tom Hudson) was asked to help with securing transportation of 20+ wheelchairs for WWII vets on the Reno Honor Flight from Washington DC to a Virginia airport and then help with their returns

Members of the PVA in Northern Nevada continue to interact with returning vets to assist with who to see at the VA to deal with certain issues, or get seen in a timely manner.





Sports

Well sports fans, our hope here at Nevada PVA is that you have included us in your New Year's Resolutions and plan to stop by an see us or attend one of our events. We have things happening all year long. Take a minute and call our office for information on upcoming fun things we have planned for this year.

I am happy to report that our Nevada Chapter had a very successful 2013.

We started off the year sponsoring a BBQ for our wheelchair basketball friends at the City of Las Vegas Adaptive Sports.

In April, which is Public Awareness Month for Paralyzed Veterans of America, we had our inaugural Walk, Run and Roll 5K. Even though this was our first attempt, we had a good turnout and everyone had a great time. Ms. Wheelchair Nevada won the raffle for airline tickets, which was great as she used them to travel to the National Ms. Wheelchair contest. This program will help further our adaptive sports programs which enhance the quality of life through health and fitness. Also as part of Public Awareness Month, we sponsored an Open House at our office which members, volunteers, community leaders, and members of other veterans organizations are invited to come have a BBQ lunch and meet and greet our board and office staff. We also had a slalom course set up at Rick's Restoration where the employees and others ran through the course in wheelchairs. It was a lot of fun and everyone who went through the course appreciated some of the challenges our members face every day. Sports-continued

Once again this year we were on the PVA Trapshoot Circuit and had a great turnout. As we've done for the past few years we sponsored various events for the Paralympic Kids. We always have such a great time at these events, it's been great to watch the kids grow over the past few years, this is one of our favorite events.

We sponsored various handcycling, tennis, basketball events as well as the military sports camp in Reno.

We participated in both San Gennaro Feasts once again this year and raised money in our donation booth by selling ice cold water for \$1. It's the best bargain at the Feast.

As always we finished up the year with our annual Bowling Tournament, this is always a big event with a big turnout and lots of fun and prizes.



Our GREAT TEAM at Las Vegas Gives Camp



2013 Donors

We want to thank all of those who donated to us this year. Without them, we could not support some of the programs we offer to our members.

Bronze Donor\$25 or moreSilver Donor\$50 or moreGold Donor\$100 or more

Bronze Donors

Mr. & Mrs. Mercado Karolyn K. Sapp Carolyn Wake Adrienne Leins Silver Donors Lana E. Jacobs Douglas Nagoshi Dawn Marberry Riva Rice

Titanium Donor\$250 or morePlatinum Donor\$500 or more

Platinum Donors Jerry & Sheena Washington Lee O'Brien United Way of Southern Nevada Southwest Airlines

Walk, Run and Roll



Open House



Nevada PVA Trap Shoot







General Membership Meeting

Pizza Party at the Veterans Home in Boulder



Dr. Brookman's Going Away Party



San Gennaro







PAM Event at Rick's Restoration





PAM Event at the Art Institute



Open House

Nevada Paralyzed Veterans of America Statement of Financial Position Year Ended December 31, 2013

ASSETS:

| Current Assets: Cash and cash equivalents Cash and cash equivalents restricted Interest Receivable Investments Prepaid Expenses Total Current Assets | \$ | 662,060 12,671 280 55,388 5,292 735,691 |
|--|-----------|---|
| Property and Equipment, net | | 423,326 |
| Other Assets: Investments Total Assets | <u>\$</u> | <u>417,502</u> 1,576,519 |
| LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS | | |
| Current Liabilities: Accounts payable Accrued expenses Total current liabilities | \$ | 3,120 3,429 6,549 |
| Net Assets: Unrestricted: Undesignated Board designated Temporarily restricted Total net assets Total Liabilities and Net Assets | \$ | 1,508,332 <u>48,967</u> 1,557,299 <u>12,671</u> <u>1,569,970</u> 1,576,519 |

Nevada Paralyzed Veterans of America Statement of Activities Year Ended December 31, 2013

| Unrestricted Net Assets: Unrestricted revenue and other support PVA grant Fundraising Contributions Special events, net of expenses of \$365 Interest income Net assets released from restrictions | \$ | 159,409 47,031 37,996 1,573 5,245 <u>1,871</u> |
|---|-----------|---|
| | | 253,125 |
| Expenses: | | |
| Program services Supporting services: | | 277,279 |
| Management and general | | 37,829 |
| Fundraising | | 7,464 |
| | | 322,572 |
| Other expense: | | |
| Net realized and unrealized loss on investments | | 4,471 |
| | | 327,043 |
| Decrease in unrestricted net assets | | (73,918) |
| Temporarily Restricted Net Assets | | |
| Contributions | | 1,500 |
| Net assets released from donor restrictions | | (1,871) |
| Decrease in temporarily restricted net assets | | (371) |
| Decrease in Net Assets | | (74,289) |
| Net Assets, Beginning of Year | | 1,644,259 |
| Net Assets, End of Year | <u>\$</u> | 1,569,970 |

Nevada Paralyzed Veterans of America Statement of Cash Flows Year Ended December 31, 2013

Cash Flows from Operating Activities

| Decrease in net assets | \$ | (74,289) |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Adjustments to reconcile decrease in net assets | | |
| To net cash used in operating activities: | | |
| Depreciation | | 54,987 |
| Net realized and unrealized loss on investments | | 4,471 |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities: | | |
| (Increase) decrease in interest receivable | | (280) |
| (Increase) decrease in prepaid expenses | | (473) |
| Increase (decrease) in accounts payable | | 3,120 |
| Increase (decrease) in accrued expenses | _ | 1,684 |
| Net cash used in operating activities | | (10,780) |
| | | |
| Cash Flows from Investing Activities | | |
| Purchase of investments | | (138,929) |
| Purchase of property and equipment | | (2,883) |
| Net cash use in investing activities | | (141,812) |
| Net Decrease in Cash and Cash Equivalents | | (152,592) |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Year | _ | 827,323 |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Year | <u>\$</u> | 674,731 |
| Cash and cash equivalents, unrestricted | \$ | 662,060 |
| Cash ad cash equivalents, restricted | * | 12,671 |
| i , | \$ | 674,731 |
| | | |

NEVADA PVA CONTACTS

OFFICE HOURS AND STAFF

704 S. Jones Blvd.

Las Vegas, NV 89107

Office Hours 8:00-4:00 Monday-Thursday

8:30-3:00 Friday

702/646-0040

Executive Director, Julie Johnson

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE)

President, Daniel Kaminski

Vice-President, Lester Wood

Treasurer Marc Fenn

Secretary, Kenny Rogers

National Director, Lester Wood

BOARD MEMBERS

Roger Dauffenbach

Tom Hudson

COMMITTEES & CHAIRPERSONS

Advocacy– Roger Dauffenbach

Finance—Marc Fenn

Legislative—Roger Dauffenbach

Membership—Ann Perelman

Co-Sports Director—Marc Fenn

Co-Sports Director-Kenny Rogers

Want to be on a committee?

Or

Become a Board Member?

Call the office at 646-0040 for information

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SCI Fax: 702/791-9384

Prosthetics

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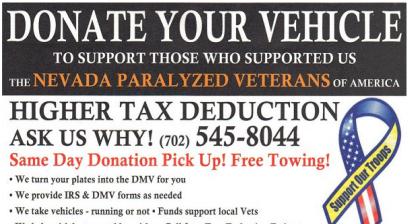
The Nevada Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America is a non-profit organization. We do not ask for or receive any money from any federal or state agencies. All of our funds are received mainly from donations. All members of the Paralyzed Veterans of America have sustained a spinal cord injury or disease. If you have any questions or would like to make a donation to our organization, write to the address or call the numbers listed on this page. Any articles that appear in this newsletter are the opinion of the author of said article and not necessarily those of this organizations or members of the Board of Directors. Any advertising appearing in this newsletter is paid for by the business or organization placing the advertisement. Nevada PVA does not endorse and shall not be held liable for any claims of any kind against said business or organization. The Nevada PVA's newsletter if published six times a year. All articles and advertisements must be in the office by the 1st of the month preceding the month of publication. The editor has the right to edit all articles for space, punctuation, clarity and the addition of necessary graphs or graphics.

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