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Paralyzed Veterans of America, Nevada Chapter

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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 and Executive Director's Report

by Dominic Cirino & Julie Johnson



Exciting Events and Opportunities for Our Members in 2026

Join Us for a Year of Connection, Activities, and Support

Hi Everyone,

As we welcome the new year, we are thrilled to share some of the fantastic events and activities planned for our members. This year promises to be filled with opportunities to connect, have fun, and support one another. Whether you're in Northern Nevada, Southern Nevada, or Southern Utah, there's something for everyone!

Northern Nevada: 3-Day Event in September

Our Northern Nevada members can look forward to our annual 3-day event this September. You're invited to join us for the entire experience or pick and choose from the many activities we've organized. Some highlights include:

- Movie Outings
- Dinners
- Adaptive Sports Clinic
- SCI/D Meeting with VA SCI/D Teams
- Day at the Baseball Game

This is a wonderful opportunity to try something new, meet fellow members, and engage with the community. Stay tuned for more details as we get closer to the date!

Southern Nevada & Southern Utah: Upcoming Events

We're excited to connect with our Southern Nevada and Southern Utah members at several upcoming events. Look for our booth at the following:

- March 4: US VETS Standdown
- April 11: MS Walk at Sunset Park
- May 2: SNVCC Event at Downtown Summerlin
- May 23: Henderson Harley Davidson
- June 6: Day of Gratitude

We hope you'll stop by, say hello, and learn more about the resources and programs available to you.

Range Day Fundraiser: April 25

Mark your calendars! On April 25, we'll be hosting a Range Day Fundraiser featuring a pistol shoot at the Clark County Shooting Park. This is a great way to support our organization and enjoy a day of camaraderie and friendly competition. More information on registration and participation will be coming soon.

Get Involved or Reach Out for Support

If you're interested in attending any of these events, have questions, or want to get involved, please don't hesitate to contact us. You can call the office or email us at pvanevada@gmail.com.

If you are in need of food assistance, please reach out so we can discuss our Adopt-A-Vet Program. We're here to support you and ensure that all members have access to the help and resources they need.

We look forward to seeing you at our events and working together to make 2026 a memorable year for our community!

Warm regards,

The Team at PVA Nevada

Sports Director's Report

by Jason Kelley



The Las Vegas Roadrunner team is getting ready for the 2026 National Veteran Wheelchair Games!! This year the games will be held in Detroit from July 9 - 14th. We just had a meeting and we will be setting up team training soon! Training for softball, basketball, weightlifting, adaptive deadlift, adaptive fitness, bowling, pool, pickleball, bocce and other sports.

Our current team count is 11 for this year. Once the team is finalized we will announce the team members.

Last year our team was at 8 athletes and brought home 29 medals!! Let's bring home more this year!!!

We are also looking for sponsors to help pay for our growing team to go to the games. If you know of business or anyone who could help support our efforts, please let us know.



PVA.org



PVA was founded by a band of service members who came home from World War II with spinal cord injuries. These wounded heroes made a decision not just to live, but to live with dignity as contributors to society.

Since 1946, Paralyzed Veterans of America has been on a mission to change lives and build brighter futures for our seriously injured heroes. We've had a single-minded mission—to empower our brave men and women to regain what they fought for: their freedom and independence.

We are so proud to be part of Paralyzed Veterans of America as we celebrate 80 years since its founding. This remarkable milestone reflects decades of dedication, hard work, and commitment from everyone involved. Together, we honor our shared history and look forward to many more years of success and growth.

Service Officer's Report

by Jason McDonald, NSO



2026 VA Ancillary Benefits Increased and VA Disability Compensation Rates

Effective October 1, 2025 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: \$126,526.00

Special Housing Adaptation (SHA) Grant: \$25,350.00

SAH Temporary Residence Adaptation (TRA) Grant: \$50,961.00

SHA Temporary Residence Adaptation (TRA) Grant: \$9,100.00

Auto and Adaptive Equipment Grant: \$27,074.99

Clothing Allowance: \$1,053.19

Medal of Honor pension: \$1,760.90

In addition, effective December 1, 2025 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/>.

PROGRAM REMINDERS

Just want to remind everyone of these two great programs that are available to you!!

Adopt-A-Vet Program

We will send you a \$50 Kroger gift card every month to be used for groceries or hygiene products. Just contact the office via phone 702-646-0040 or email pvanevada@gmail.com to sign up.

Step Outside Program

This is a great opportunity for you to get out and about in the community.

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. Not covered are receipts for fast food nor will we cover food via delivery service such as Uber Eats, Door Dash, etc.

The amount of 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.**

L.E. Curtis Invitational Bowling Tournament



CONGRATULATIONS to our big winners:

Dave Nelson—1st place Scratch Division

Bill Burns, 1st place A Division

Brent Patterson—1st place B Division

A big thank you to all who participated. We look forward to seeing you at our 2026 Tournament.

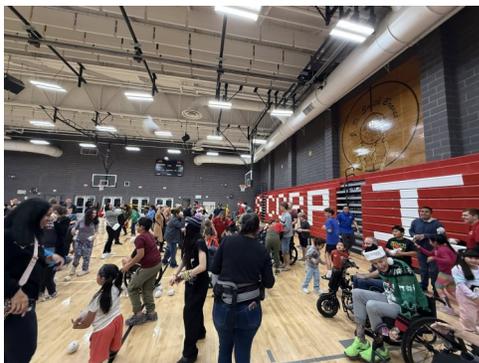




PVA Christmas Party



Paralympic Kids Christmas Party



Advocacy/Legislative News

As we embark on the second session of the 119th Congress, PVA's priorities for 2026 are once again focused on ensuring access to the care and benefits PVA members have earned and the civil rights protections they deserve.

Our priorities for 2026 are as follows:

- Strengthen the Foundations of VA's Specialized Health Care Services
- Maximize VA Long-Term Services and Supports for Veterans with SCI/D
- Fortify the Financial Security of Veterans with SCI/D, their Families, and Survivors
- Increase SCI/D Veterans' Access to Health Care Services

STAND ACT INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE

In late December, legislation was introduced in the House aimed at improving the care of veterans with SCI/D. The Veterans Spinal Trauma Access to New

Devices Act, also known as the STAND Act, (H.R. 6835) requires the VA to offer annual preventative health evaluations for veterans with SCI/D through in-person visits, referrals, or telehealth. These evaluations would assess health risks, chronic pain, nutrition, prosthetic needs, and opportunities to use new assistive technologies.

Other provisions in the bill would help ensure veterans are evaluated for advanced assistive technologies and require the VA to report to Congress on the utilization and outcomes of assistive technologies and how these evaluations have been integrated into VA performance metrics to strengthen accountability and oversight. Finally, the bill directs VA to consult with spinal cord specialists, clinicians, veterans organizations, and medical device manufacturers to ensure the department's policies reflect the latest advancements in SCI/D care. PVA supports this legislation.

Stories Requested: Competitive Bidding and Why It Matters to Disabled Veterans

Medicare has recently moved forward with including urology, ostomy, and tracheostomy supplies in its competitive bidding program for the first time in more than 20 years. While disabled veterans typically receive these supplies through the VA—not Medicare, this policy could have significant downstream consequences for veterans who rely on specialized, high-quality medical supplies every day because it reshapes the entire medical supply marketplace.

As product choice narrows across the broader health care system, fewer options remain available to all payers, including the VA. Over time, this can reduce access to the specific brands, features, and configurations that veterans rely on to prevent infections, protect skin integrity, maintain kidney health, and preserve independence. Advocates are urgently collecting personal stories from disabled veterans to help policymakers understand these real-world impacts.

If you are interested in providing an interview, please contact Ali Ingersoll, Ms. Wheelchair America 2023 and Disability Advocate, at 919-395-1491 or Ali.Ingersoll@gmail.com. Participants will receive \$100.



January

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Rickey Altimus-Carrauthers | Samuel Hagaman | Kenneth Thompson |
| Sandra Bradford Graves | Mervyn Kaya | Tx P Vogler |
| Derek Curtis | Robert Nolan | Samuel Whitt |
| Joseph Cypher | Francisco Navarro | Paul Winter |
| Lauretta Graham | Stephen Pipkin | Norman Woods |
| David Gray | Kurt Redinbaugh | Tereasa Zamora |

February

- | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Billy Andre | Anita Lawson-McGlynn | Samuel Owens |
| Thomas Brittingham | James Lewis | David Schneider |
| Melinda Brooks | Kamron Lopez | Michael Schulz |
| Eric Cagle | Jacob Mau | Randall Schwartz |
| Jason Casey | James McCollem | Roland Teal |
| William Frankel | Michael McDonald | James Troy |
| Armando Guajardo | Randall McKee | James Washington |
| Darwin Holmes | | |

March

- | | | |
|----------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Jerry Bench | Jose Gonzalez | Darrin Newland |
| William Burns | Tyler Jefferies | Timothy Prophet |
| Larry Caroon | Robert (Wes) Jensen | Armando Rivas |
| Michael Cole | Been Keechler | Mike Romanowski |
| Janice Collins | Alan Marsh | |

Follow us on:
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Upcoming events

2026 EVENTS

March 4	Veterans Stand Down @ World Market
April 11	MS Walk @ Sunset Park
April 25	Pistol Shot, Clark County Shooting Park
April 27	PopStroke Fundraiser
May 2	Lester Lombard SNVCC Event Downtown Sumnerlin
May 11-16	National Convention Planet Hollywood
May 11	Paralympic Kids Pizza Party @ Gold Coast
May 23	Harley Davidson Henderson Event
June 5	Paralympic Kids BBQ @ JD Smith Middle School
June 6	Day of Gratitude @ Allegiant Stadium
June 12	Paralympic Kids BBQ @ JD Smith Middle School
July 8-15	NVWG Detroit, MI
Sept 14-18	Reno Military Sports Camp
Sept 16	Paralympic Kids Event
Sept 19-21	Reno Takeover
Oct 3	Military Appreciation Day
Oct 3	Toys for Tots Golf Tournament
Oct 17	General Membership Meeting @ Aliante
Oct 19	NVF Golf Tournament
Oct 23-25	MCON & World Market Center
Nov 11	Veterans Day Parade
Dec 3	Up/Down Bowl @ Sunset Station
Dec 3-6	Annual Bowling Tournament @ Sunset Station
Dec 12	PVA Christmas Party @ Lieburn Senior Center
Dec 16	Paralympic Kids Christmas Party @ JD Smith Middle School

Volunteers Needed: We are looking for individuals knowledgeable in CANVA to help us create flyers and newsletters.

Ways You Can Support Our Programs

- * **Donate Your Vehicle**
- * **Become an Event Sponsor**
- * **Organize a Canned Food Drive**
- * **Host a Sock Drive**
- * **Explore Community Grant Opportunities:**
Does your workplace offer community grants or donate items for raffles?

Thank You!

Donor List

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America's Charities
Doris Balducci
Benevity
Mr. & Mrs. Bosnar
William Burlew
Jennifer Cad
Canarelli Family Trust
Dominic Cirino
Barbara Chambers
Beatrice Cordell
Wanda Curry
Marcela/Steve Custer
Dillon Family Trust
JD Dillon

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Karen Estabrook
Fidelity Charitable
Robert Gee
Richard Hanke
Jewish War Veterans
Jerry Johnson
K of C Our Lady of Sierras Assembly
Kroger
Darryl LeBouef
Judith Malcolm
Duane Martin
Toni Medina
Peter Milohnic

Mighty Cause
Delbert Mitchell
Carmela Monohan
Tony Piccirilli
Robert Richard
Richens Family
James Salata
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Foundation
Sueyboyz
Vegas Golden Knights
Foundation
Gertrude Williams
Linda Zobrist

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Paralympic Sports Club
Adam Plumer Law
Raiders Foundation

Si & Taara Redd Foundation
Resorts World
Sahara Hotel & Casino
SIOR
Smart & Final
Titos Vodka
Southwest Gas Foundation
United Way of Southern Nevada
Vegas Geek
VFW Aux Post 12093
Walmart Store 4974
Walmart Store 3655
Wynn Foundation

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.

Nevada Paralyzed Veterans of America

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