



Nevada Chapter

2nd Quarter 2022
Volume 1 Issue 2

A big thank you to “Amazon Warriors: for putting together bags of cleaning supplies for our Adopt-A-Vet Program.



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/Executive Director Report

by Dan Kaminski and Julie Johnson



RENO/NORTHERN NEVADA MEMBERS – We will be in Reno September 26-27 to meet with our membership and do some fun outings. We would love for you to join us. You and a guest are invited to do all activities or just one. Our thoughts so far for activities are:

Monday

We will be renting out a movie theatre for just our group to see whatever fun new movie that is out at the time.

Dinner (place to be determined)

Tuesday

Adaptive sports clinic

Lunch

We will be sending invitations to each of you in September. If you live in a rural area but would still like to join us we are looking into getting some folks a hotel room so you won't have to drive far both days.

LAS VEGAS/SOUTHERN NEVADA MEMBERS – We are back to doing Wellness Group outings the past few months and would love to have more participation. Last week we took a tour of the RAIDERS Stadium. It was a lot of fun.



If you have any ideas on future outings, please let us know.

SAVE the DATE: September 10th - Annual Membership & Awards Banquet @ the Aliante Casino 6pm

National Director's Report

by Dan Kaminski

This years PVA Annual Convention was held in Atlanta, Georgia. Every year we are asked to raise funds and donate them to the PVA research, education, and clinical practices. Once again Nevada PVA donated \$25,000 to be split evenly between the three.

The National Staff, Executive Committee and Board of Directors were hard at work at helping to secure the future of our organization. A comprehensive strategic plan was presented to the board after a year of gathering information from many sources and was passed by the board. A strategic plan is often developed for a five-year timeframe or less. A comprehensive plan is a **policy instrument** for organizations to provide the **basis for future decisions** on programs, funding, and the structure of the organization. Yes, of course this means lots of debates in the future, but it gives executive staff some sort of direction to go in.

Many resolutions were made and to name a few such as the decision to accept all veterans with MS into the organization who are interested in joining PVA. This decision could extremely impact membership. There are over 58,000 veterans diagnosed with MS. We will also be accepting all veterans with ALS immediately upon PVA receiving their application.

The 2023 budget was approved and all those serving on the Executive Committee were reelected.

Service Officer's Report

by Jason McDonald, NSO

New Presumptive Service Connections

The Department of Veterans Affairs has recently announced the addition of night rare respiratory cancers to the list of conditions presumed to be service-connected due to military environmental exposure to fine particulate matter. The Department of Veteran's Affairs has determined through a focused review of scientific and medical evidence there is biological plausibility between airborne hazards and carcinogenesis of the respiratory tract.

The following is the list of rare respiratory cancers:

- Squamous cell carcinoma of the larynx.
- Squamous cell carcinoma of the trachea.
- Adenocarcinoma of the trachea.
- Salivary gland-type tumors of the trachea.
- Aden squamous carcinoma of the lung.
- Large cell carcinoma of the lung.
- Salivary gland-type tumors of the lung. S
- Sarcomatoid carcinoma of the lung. T
- Typical and atypical carcinoid of the lung.

In order to be eligible for presumptive service connection for any of the above conditions you must have served any amount of time in the Southwest Asia Theater of Operations beginning August 2, 1990 to present, or Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Syria or Djibouti beginning September 19, 2001 to present.

In accordance with 38 C.F.R 3.317 Southwest Asia Theater of Operations includes the following: Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Neutral zone between Iraq and Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, The United Arab Emirates, Oman, Gulf of Aden, Gulf of Oman, Persian Gulf, Arabian Sea, Red Sea and Airspace above these regions.

Washington Update



VA Announces PAWS Act Pilot Program

On March 30, the VA published a Federal Register notice announcing its plan for implementing the pilot program required by the Puppies Assisting Wounded Servicemembers for Veterans Therapy Act. The pilot will help the VA explore the benefits of service dog training and provide the VA with data needed to make recommendations to Congress on the way forward.

Veterans participating in the program will have the opportunity to train potential future service dogs with the goal of helping veterans manage their PTSD symptoms.

The pilot program will be offered at the following five VA medical centers:

Anchorage, Alaska

Asheville, North Carolina

Palo Alto, California

San Antonio, Texas

West Palm Beach, Florida

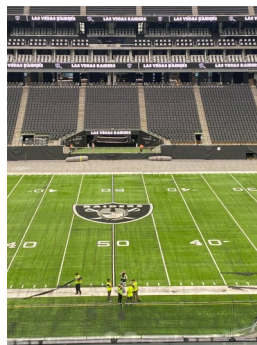
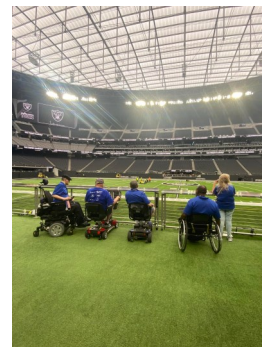
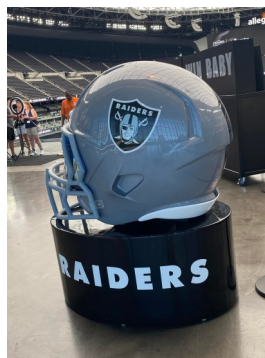
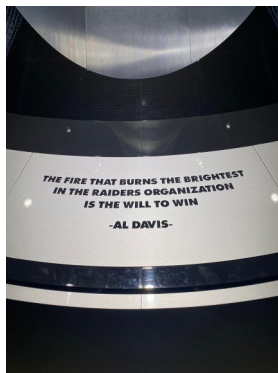
Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program Seeks Veterans

Congress created the Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program (VRRAP) to assist unemployed veterans who have lost their jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic. VRRAP provides up to 12 months of tuition and fees and a monthly housing allowance to eligible veterans training towards employment in a high-demand occupation. Visit the VA VRRAP website for more information about the program including how to apply.

PACT ACT PASSES THE SENATE

Recently, the Senate voted 84-14 to pass the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act of 2022. Now that the Senate has approved the legislation, it will go back to the House where an earlier version passed 256-174 in March. As a reminder, the PACT Act is a comprehensive legislative package that will deliver all generations of toxic-exposed veterans their long-overdue VA health care and benefits. Some of its provisions would expand VA health care eligibility, improve VA's presumptive process, bolster VA's toxic exposure resources, and strengthen toxic exposure research. Others lay the groundwork for future success by boosting VA claims processing capacity, strengthening VA's workforce, and investing in VA health care facilities.

Members and staff recently toured Allegiant Stadium, home of the Las Vegas Raiders. The tour was fantastic . We had a great tour guide and got to see some behind the scenes areas that most do not get to see.



We hosted our first BBQ of 2022 for the Paralympic Kids. It is always such a joy to see their smiling faces. We look forward to many more events this year.





April

Timothy Andring
Lawrence Brown
Edwin Colins
Roger Dauffenbach
Larry Feezor

William Geller
Barbara Johnson
Robert Jones
Jeanette Miller
Jasom Mullholland

Gary Price
Randal Slutz
Brad Whiting
Helen Wicker

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Mark Allison
Taylor Bocclair
Robert Gainer
Roy Hogsett
Brian Johnson

Lu Ann Leavitt
Delbert Mitchell
Lee O'Brien
Don Phillips
Michael Supulver

Michael Taday
William Taylor
Joseph Thorn
Paul Troche

June

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Eric Collins
Reynaldo Diaz
Andrew Evans
Tonya Fabian
Austin Fabian

Kim Johnson
Robert Kaufmann
Tina Lemus
Wayne Litzinger
Roger Long

Chuck McDivett
Anthony Piccirilli
Pender Rhynes
Michael Roy
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Thank You!

Donor Spotlight VFW 12093

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Catholic War Veterans	Total Wine & More
City of Las Vegas Parks and Recreation	United Way of Southern Nevada
Help Genesis Apartments	Raiders Foundation
Mobility Works	Southwest Gas
Nevada Council on Problem Gaming	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.

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Resources related to Afghanistan

Veterans who served in Afghanistan may be experiencing a range of challenging emotions related to the U.S. withdrawal from the country and the events unfolding now. Veterans who served during other conflicts may also be feeling strong emotions as they may be reminded of their own deployment experiences.

Here is a list of available resources, call center information, peer support, and other community services:

NVDS - [Local Vet Center groups](#)

Vet Centers – *Discuss how you feel with other Veterans in these community-based counseling centers. 70% of Vet Center staff are Veterans. Call [1-877-927-8387](tel:1-877-927-8387)*

Veterans Crisis Line – *If you are having thoughts of suicide, call [1-800-273-8255](tel:1-800-273-8255), then PRESS 1 or visit <http://www.veteranscrisisline.net/>*

For emergency mental health care, you can also go directly to [your local VA medical center](#) 24/7 regardless of your discharge status or enrollment in other VA health care.

VA Women Veterans Call Center – Call or text [1-855-829-6636](tel:1-855-829-6636) (M-F 8AM – 10PM & SAT 8AM – 6:30PM ET)

VA Caregiver Support Line – Call [1-855-260-3274](tel:1-855-260-3274) (M-F 8AM – 10PM & SAT 8AM – 5PM ET)

Download VA's self-help apps – Tools to help deal with common reactions like, stress, sadness, and anxiety. You can also track your symptoms over time.

VA Mental Health Services Guide – *This guide will help you sign up and access mental health services.*

MakeTheConnection.net – *information, resources, and Veteran to Veteran videos for challenging life events and experiences with mental health issues.*

Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) – [Tragedy Assistance Program For Survivors \(TAPS\) Is Here For You!](#) or call [800-959-TAPS \(8277\)](tel:800-959-TAPS)

If you are struggling, the worst thing you can do is nothing. Don't be afraid to lean on your Veteran community and please consider reaching out to VA if you would like to learn more about what is available.



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

Veterans Transportation Service (VTS)

Veterans can schedule transportation through their VA primary Care Provider or by calling the VTS office at 1/844-859-5074. Please schedule transportation ahead of

NATIONAL CRISIS HOTLINE
1/800-273-8255

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