

## THE ELECTION ISSUE

In this issue you will find the bio's of those members who are running for election to our Board of Directors. Please take the time to read through them.

In December we will be mailing out ballots. Please return your ballot to our office in the self-addressed stamped envelope that will be provided. All ballots must be returned by January 15th in order to be counted.



## **Paralyzed Veterans of America, Nevada Chapter**

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### **Nevada PVA Officers**

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Le'Toi Adams, Vice President

Michael Taday, Treasurer

Lawrence Brown, Secretary

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Tom Hudson

L.E. Curtis

Jason Kelley

Michael Romanowski

Cedric Delong

Darnell Calahan

Kurt Redinbaugh

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### **Executive Director**

Julie Johnson

### **Office Manager**

Ann Perelman

### **MS Point of Contact**

Jason Kelley

### **Sports Director**

Jason Kelley

L.E. Curtis, Bowling Director

### **Legislative/Advocacy Directors**

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Mike Romanowski

### **Hospital Liaison**

Dominic Cirino

### **NSO**

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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*



Hello Everyone!

We're excited to share some highlights from this month! We recently had the privilege of Attending the Vegas Golden Knights (VGK) check presentation awards luncheon at their training facility. Their generosity and commitment to our community was truly inspiring!

Mark your calendars for the Northern Nevada PVA Reno Takeover happening from September 13-15. We hope to see many of our members there for a fantastic time of camaraderie and celebration.

Additionally, we have a special event coming up on November 8th, as the Gentlemen's League will be sponsoring a BBQ at Henderson Harley Davidson. We would love to see all of our members, donors and volunteers join us for some great food and fun!

Lastly, if anyone is interested in holding a canned food drive we are always in need of donations. Your support makes a huge difference in our community,

Thank you for being part of our family. We look forward to seeing you at these events and appreciate your continued support! For more upcoming events, see page 10 of this newsletter.

Lastly, a huge thanks to First National Group for sponsoring our Nevada team for the National Veterans Wheelchair Games.



# Sports Director's Report

by Jason Kelley



Thank you First Nation Group for sponsoring our team!!!



The 44th National Veterans Wheelchair Games were held in Minneapolis, MN from July 14th-22nd!!! All 33 PVA chapters were represented at the games. Our local team, the Las Vegas Road Runners, killed it AGAIN this year with a team of eight (8) athletes. The team members were, Le'Toi Adams, Darnell Calahan, Alan Marsh, Brad Whiting, Teresa Zamora, Taylor Bocclair, Mark Christianson and myself. Our amazing Therapist, Everett Lowry, along with Emma Dickinson were amazing! Thank you for all your help team. Without your help and guidance we would sive.

We participated in the following events:

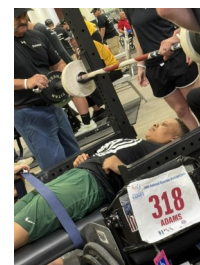
|                   |                   |         |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------|
| Nine Ball:        | Taylor Bocclair   | Silver  |
| Adaptive Fitness: | Jason Kelley      | Gold    |
| Air Pistol:       | Teresa Zamora     | Gold    |
| Air Rifle:        | Mark Christianson | Silver  |
|                   | Teresa Zamora     | Silver  |
| Archery:          | Mark Christianson | Silver: |
| Bass Fishing:     | Alan Marsh        | Bronze  |
| Boccia Ball       | Jason Kelley      | Silver  |
|                   | Le'Toi Adams      | Bronze  |
| Bowling:          | Brad Whiting      | Gold    |
|                   | Teresa Zamora     | Gold    |
| Deadlifting:      | Le'Toi Adams      | Gold    |
|                   | Jason Kelley      | Silver  |
| Discus:           | Jason Kelley      | Gold    |
|                   | Le'Toi Adams      | Silver  |
| Javelin:          | Jason Kelley      | Gold    |
|                   | Darnell Calahan   | Silver  |
|                   | Le'Toi Adams      | Silver  |
| Motor Slalom:     | Taylor Bocclair   | Gold    |
|                   | Brad Whiting      | Silver  |
| Powerlifting:     | Le'Toi Adams      | Gold    |
| Shot Put:         | Jason Kelley      | Gold    |
|                   | Le'Toi Adams      | Gold    |
|                   | Darnell Calahan   | Silver  |
| Slalom:           | Darnell Calahan   | Gold    |
|                   | Le'Toi Adams      | Gold    |
| Super G:          | Darnell Calahan   | Trophy  |
| Swimming:         | Mark Christianson | Gold    |
|                   | Teresa Zamora     | Gold    |



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Recreational  
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As a team we brought home 28 medals!!! We were one of the very few teams that every team athlete won a medal and/or event. Special congratulations to Darnell for winning 1st Place overall for Slalom, but also 1st for the specialty course Super G!! No medal was given for winning Super G—but a trophy!!! Also another huge shout out to Alan Marsh for winning the biggest caught fish and he won two fishing poles.



## MEET THE CANDIDATES



Dominic Cirino



Le'Toi Adams



Darnell Calahan



Michael Taday



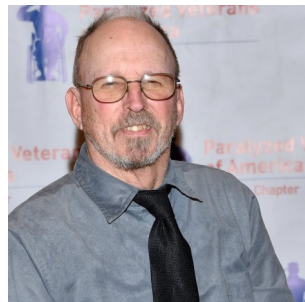
Lawrence Brown



L.E. Curtis



Cedric Delong



Tom Hudson



Alan Marsh



Jason Kelley



Kurt Redinbaugh



Michael Romanowski

# ELECTION BIO'S

## **Dominic Cirino**

Candidate for: President

I was born in Detroit and raised in the city and enlisted in the Air Force in June of 1967. I was a Morse Intercept Operator and cross trained as a Cryptographer.

I was honorably discharged in 1971. Got married in 1972 to my wife Judy and had two children. Graduated from the University of Michigan and was regional manager for a courier company. We moved to Las Vegas in 2005. I am currently retired and my wife and I volunteer at the VA Hospital..

I am running for a second term as President.

## **Le'Toi Adams**

Candidate for: Vice President

My name is Le'Toi Adams, I am from Los Angeles, California. After suffering a spinal cord injury, in 2011 I was paralyzed from the waist down due to non-Hodgkin's, after the process of chemotherapy, radiation and the fact that I would never walk again, I began dealing with depression and insecurities. I stayed in the house 24/7 as I was uncomfortable around other people. I was dependent on my family to get me through the day.

In 2015 I joined the VA health care program. I was offered physical therapy, group therapy and individual therapy. I took advantage of these opportunities that were offered to me. By 2016 I found the Triumph Foundation which is a non-profit organization whose mission is to help children, adults, and Veterans with Spinal Cord Injury/Disorder (SCI) to triumph over their disability and to inspire them to keep moving forward with their lives by pushing themselves to get better every day. Triumph Foundation works to minimize the obstacles that one faces after suffering traumatic injury. Triumph Foundation is a family community with mobility impairments in Southern California. I found comfort in going to the support groups for people with spinal cord injuries. I could see my life slowly looking up. Through this foundation I was introduced to adaptive sports, and I quickly found a passion for wheelchair basketball. I have attended the Veterans wheelchair games where, again, I found myself surrounded by disabled individuals such as myself with the same drive I have when it comes to sports. I felt at home, comfortable and more secure about myself during these events. I wanted my body to get stronger so I could continue to participate in adaptive sports. I went back to school and received my bachelor's degree in physical education, health, human performance Recreation. I played wheelchair basketball for the University of Whitewater for four years.

In Wisconsin I joined the PVA in 2020 because I felt I could bring a positive attitude and outcome to the program that has given me so much. As a board member I was able to have a cooking show on YouTube called "Cooking with LeToi" the goal was to make others in a wheelchair aware that you can still do things you enjoy, it just may look different. I have attended the National Veterans Wheelchair games since 2016 in Salt Lake City.

## **Darnell Calahan**

Candidate for: Secretary

Joined the Army in 2017 as a human resources specialist and proudly served with the 75th Ranger Regiment. After a permanent spinal cord injury in 2019, became dedicated to inspiring others—whether they have a disability or not—to live joyful, fulfilling lives. Passionate about the outdoors, wheelchair sports, and the Paralyzed Veterans of America's mission. Has a personal mission to build a happier, healthier, and more connected community.

## **Michael Taday**

Candidate for: Treasurer

I was a US Navy Hospital Corpsman. I trained at Bethesda Naval Hospital and Camp LeJeune. I was in Vietnam with Lima 3/5 Marines. I have a BA in economics and a minor in finance which I received from Cleveland State University. I worked at Union Carbide for seven years in inventory accounting. Then as an investment analyst at Economic Plans, Inc. and Cycle-Tech where I was President. I eventually worked for the DOD in the Defense Finance Accounting Department where I eventually retired.

After retirement we moved to St. George, Utah and then finally to Mesquite, Nevada to be closer to the VA Medical Center due to my ALS diagnosis.

## **Election Bios—continued**

### **Lawrence Brown**

Candidate for: Director

I served in the Armed Forces in the Vietnam War. I'm a T3 spinal cord vet. I've been a spinal cord patient for 40 years. I've been a life member of PVA since 1982. Worked with the Texas PVA chapter for five years before I moved to Las Vegas, I was one of the founding members of the Nevada Chapter. I have degrees in Mid Management, Finance Management, Human Relations and PRN. I look forward to working with the board members as well as with the President and Vice President.

### **L.E. Curtis**

Candidate for: Director

I served in the US Navy during the early stages of the Vietnam War. I was honorably discharged in 1966 as an HM2, hospital corpsman 2nd class. I studied at San Diego State University where I earned a BS in Health Science and at San Jose State University where I earned a Masters in Public Health. From 1985-2003 I served the Bay Area and Western PVA chapter as a member of the board of directors, sports director and filled in as secretary/treasurer.

### **Cedric Delong**

Candidate for: Director

I am a retired Navy Veteran and have been married for 33 years. I have an AS degree in psychology from Liberty University in Virginia. I am a volunteer biblical guidance counselor at LV Reach, a non-profit community outreach center and have been there for the past few years. I have been a missionary/pastor for 25 years.

### **Tom Hudson**

Candidate for: Director

I am a SCI Clinic user due to MS. In his words, "A lifetime ago, I was a Naval Hospital Corpsman, and then I specialized as an Operating Room Technician. Following my discharge 1976, I worked as a Psych Tech at the VA in Sheridan, WY.

Later I attended Sheridan College starting in pre-Civil Engineering and became the college's 504 Compliance Engineer & Video Production Department (two ½ time positions). After doing this for three years, I moved to Reno to finish up at UNR; this was the start of the recession of '81. I was lucky enough to secure a position as an Engineer and assisted in the set up, wiring and electronic engineering of KAMETV. I have worked for several armored car companies in positions ranging from running crews to Firearms and Driving Instructor. When I was able to return to school, I completed an AAS/ADT (Architectural Design Technology) degree, beyond that I was working on my LSIT (Land Surveyor in Training). Things were going smoothly when MS reared its head, followed by a cancer diagnosis, both just in time for my 50th birthday. While undergoing treatment, for the cancer, the MS necessitated a change in direction.

Again I returned to school at Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC) where I received an AAS-Paralegal Law from the only ABA My leadership experience has been ongoing. I've served as Secretary in the Nevada Civil War Volunteers for a number of years. I have also served as Secretary for WADG, now WA7DG, Amateur Radio a repeater group and 501c Corporation. Currently, I am a member of the Paralegal Advisory Board at TMCC, prior to that I served on the TMCC Law Clinic Advisory Board which was retired once the Family Law Clinic was in operation.

My accomplishments to date since doing so are several. I have gotten the PVA to expand its definitions in the Entertainment Reimbursement Program, have got a number of N. NV businesses to give PVA members discounted services

### **Jason Kelley**

Candidate for: Director

My name is Jason Kelley and I am proud to have served in the United States Marine Corp from 1999 through 2008. I was sent overseas for 9/11 and served honorably. I am most proud of opening the brand new mess hall on Camp Courtney, Okinawa, Japan in 2003.

Since my departure from the Marines I have held positions for cooking and fire alarm inspector in Las Vegas. Unfortunately, Multiple Sclerosis took me away from my fire alarm career in 2017.

My most important role in life is to be the best father even with my limitations. My wife of 20 years and my two children (19 & 14) are my world. My latest and greatest achievement is being a part of the best organization of the Paralyzed Veterans of

## **Election Bio's—continued**

America. I am proud to be the Las Vegas Sports Director for Nevada PVA and have so many ideas to get more vets involved and out in the community. I am already a big activist for the adaptive cycling program (City of Las Vegas) and adaptive scuba diving (Big Thank You to DIVE PIRATES and Waterworld scuba!!). I look forward to learning the other programs so I can help other Veterans get out and have fun.

### **Alan Marsh**

Candidate for: Director

My name is Alan Marsh and I'm proud to say I served in 3 branches of the Military. I served in the United States Marine Corps ( 1988 - 1995 ), NV Army National Guard ( 1995 - 2000 ) and United States Coast Guard Reserves ( 2000 - 2009 ) Retired. My entire Military career I served in Law Enforcement.

When I left active duty I moved to Las Vegas Nevada and worked in construction for a few years. In 1997 I took a job with the State of Nevada Department of Prisons and worked at Indian Springs. In 1999 I was hired on to the Las Vegas Metro. Police Department working as a Corrections Officer. I worked in a few different positions while being with them, mostly in the Field Services Division and the Radio Bureau. When I was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis in 2010 is when I was moved to the Radio Bureau. I retired from LVMPD in 2014 due to my disease. When I retired I started my volunteering at Red Rock National Conservation Area in the visitor center talking to visitors about Red Rock and about all the different hiking trails ( from 2014 - 2024 ). I also started volunteering with the VA at the West Information Desk and still there to this day.

I have 2 kids, one boy 32 years old and one girl 28 years old. I'm also a PAPA to 5 grandkids, 4 boys and 1 girl.

### **Kurt Redinbaugh**

Candidate for: Director

Live in Reno, NV with my wife Margaret

Served in the United States Air Force 1966-1970. Served in South East Asia 1968. Graduate of The Ohio State University.

Retired from JCPenney as Industrial Engineering Manager after 31 year career.

Two sons, Erik, who is Chief Master Sergeant (E-9) with the full time Nevada Air National Guard, and Ian, who works for the City of Reno, assisting homeless get back on their feet. (VERY proud of both). Step daughter Linda, who works for an international mineral exploration company, and step son Jeff, who is a master guitar instructor. (VERY proud of both of THEM also)

I volunteer with the Reno Police Department SAVE (Senior Auxiliary Volunteer Effort).`

Active member of the Experimental Aircraft Association, The Soaring Society of America, the Vintage Soaring Society, and the UFO's (United Flying Octogenarians). I have restored two 50-year old aircraft to better-than-new condition (and flew each for several years!)

### **Michael Romanowski**

Candidate for: Director

I was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan and enlisted in the Air Force in March of 1994. I was a Security Policeman and honorably discharged in 1998 after being stationed at Kadena AB in Okinawa, Japan and Hanscom AFB in Lexington, MA. I left the military with an AA Degree in Criminal Justice from the Community College of the Air Force.

After my time in the Air Force, I spent twelve years working as a Logistics Analyst at FedEx. During my time at FedEx, I earned my MBA from Northwood University. My family and I moved to Henderson, NV in 2014 where we still live today.

I have two adult children, Jordan and Abigail with my wife Stacy. I am currently retired, and I spend my time playing wheelchair rugby for the Las Vegas High Rollers and advocating for my Veteran brothers and sisters.





## October

Scott Alderman  
Jon Arnesen  
Hannah Bartolo  
Barbara Chackel  
Brian Chan  
Cedric DeLong  
Jane Diamond

Yvonne Enriquez  
William Emery  
Luther Estes  
Jeffrey Futter  
Jeffrey Gurney  
Jason Halliwell  
John Hansen

Shawn Johnson  
Douglas Jones  
Jason Kelley  
Allen Kennard  
Daniel Matern  
Jim Rice  
Robert Yee

## November

Jeffrey Alcorn  
Bryan Bedoy  
Linda Bennett  
Ray Berni  
Joseph Blicharz  
Lawrence Cabrera

Raymond Daigle  
Craig Downey  
Kenneth Harrop  
Greg Hughes  
Bonnie McDaniel  
Patricia Meints

Nikko Olalia  
James Oliver  
Ann Perelman  
Wade Reckinger  
Jaime Segarra  
John Simmons

## December

Ella Brewer  
Judy Cirino  
Lawrence Cook  
Mark Dietrich  
Ina Edwards  
Dawn Eggstaff  
Karen Estabrook

Wendell Foy  
Brad Hardinger  
Tom Hudson  
Shane Irwin  
John Kennedy  
John King

Joe Kingsbury  
Donald McCrory  
Carl McMillen  
Kenneth Sandoval  
Steven Simmons  
Robert Stilz

### Follow us on:

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X.com/[PVANevada](#)

Instagram: [pvanevada](#)

# Upcoming events

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>Sept 6</b>     | <b>Volunteer Fair</b><br>Durango HS<br>10-12                              |
| <b>Sept 11</b>    | <b>Corrections Academy Graduation</b><br>Orleans Hotel<br>9 am            |
| <b>Sept 8-12</b>  | <b>Reno Military Sports Camp*</b>   |
| <b>Sept 13-15</b> | <b>Reno Takeover</b>  |
| <b>Oct 4</b>      | <b>Toys for Tots Golf Tournament</b>                                      |
| <b>Oct 4</b>      | <b>Military Appreciation Day</b><br>Craig Ranch                           |
| <b>Oct 18</b>     | <b>Nevada PVA Awards Banquet</b><br>Aliante Casino<br>5:30 pm             |
| <b>Oct. 25-26</b> | <b>MCON</b><br>World Market Center  |
| <b>Nov 8</b>      | <b>BBQ at Henderson Harley Davidson</b>                                   |
| <b>Nov 11</b>     | <b>Veterans Day Parade</b>  |
| <b>Dec 4</b>      | <b>Up Down Bowl Fundraiser*</b><br>Sunset Station<br>5 pm                 |
| <b>Dec 4-7</b>    | <b>L.E. Curtis Invitational Bowling Tournament*</b><br>Sunset Station     |
| <b>Dec 13</b>     | <b>PVA Christmas Party</b><br>Lieburn Senior Center<br>12 Noon            |
| <b>Dec 17</b>     | <b>Paralympic Kids Christmas Party</b><br>J D Smith Middle School<br>6 pm |

\*Prior registration required

**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?

## 2026 EVENTS

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>April 18</b>  | <b>5K Walk, Run and Roll</b><br>Bunker Park    |
| <b>May 11-16</b> | <b>National Convention</b><br>Planet Hollywood |

# Thank You!

## Donor List

America's Charities  
Doris Balducci  
Benevity  
Mr. & Mr. Bosnar  
Christopher Burk  
William Burlew  
Canarelli Family Foundation  
Cheslock Family  
Beatrice Cordell  
Wanda Corry  
Tobey Cummings  
Cyber Grants  
Paul Davis  
James Dillon  
Enterprise Holdings  
Caesar's Entertainment

Mr. & Mrs. Estabrook  
Michael Feigler  
Fidelity Charitable  
Harold McVey Family Fund  
Matthew Irwin  
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Jewish War Veterans  
Kroger  
Lonnie Stephens Trust  
Clyde MacElrath  
Mighty Cause  
Robert Norton  
NV Energy Foundation  
Raiders Foundation  
Renaissance Charitable Foundation  
Dominic Cirino

Bob Richard  
Kathleen Richens  
James Salata  
Jonathan Schilling  
Schwab Charitable  
SIOR  
Maria Smith  
David Sonenstein  
Southwest Gas Corp Foundation  
Charles H Stout Foundation  
Michael Taday  
Aileen E Renkel Trust  
Si Redd & Tamara Redd Charitable  
Foundation  
VFW Aux Post 12093  
NFCU  
Wolzing Family Foundation

## Community Partners

MGM Resorts Foundation  
Elks Lodge #1468  
Burk Injury Lawyers  
City of Las Vegas Parks & Recreation  
Help Genesis Apartments  
Paralympic Sports Club  
Raiders Foundation  
SIOR  
Rapid Cash  
Smart N Final  
The Jus One Project

Smith's  
Southwest Gas Foundation  
NV Energy Foundation  
United Way of Southern Nevada  
Vegas Golden Knights  
Vegas Geek  
Benson & Bingham Accident/Injury Lawyers  
Navy Federal Credit Union  
4 Every Hero  
Las Vegas Desert Dogs  
Harley Davidson, Henderson

Gina Corena & Associates  
Adobe  
Ladah Injury & Car Accident Lawyers  
Mitchell Rogers Injury Law  
Wooldridge Law  
Zen Business  
Sahara Hotel  
Walmart  
Buck Bedard Outdoor Foundation  
Rapid Cash  
Chicken N Pickle

### 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](http://www.nevadapva.org) or call 702-646-0040.

**Nevada Paralyzed Veterans of America**

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**Toll Free: 1-866-638-3837**

**[www.nevadapva.org](http://www.nevadapva.org)**



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THE **NEVADA PARALYZED VETERANS** OF AMERICA

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