



Paralyzed Veterans of America

Nevada Chapter

Be thankful with the present. Never forget the past.

*Trust the future. Let the spirit of Christmas be your guide this
Holiday season.*



Paralyzed Veterans of Nevada, Nevada Chapter

www.nevadapva.org

704 S. Jones Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89131
702/646-0040 fax: 702/646-3712 866/638-3837

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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.

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 your appointment time.



President/ED Report

by Dan Kaminski and Julie Johnson



We are wishing everyone a happy holiday season. Please remember your veterans and those less fortunate

Reflecting on this past year and some of our accomplishments; our expectations on donations have been surpassed and our Adopt- A- Vet program has grown to more than double. We served over 500 veterans this year with basic needs. So if you or someone you know is a disabled veteran and in need of food and hygiene products please let us know and we can get them signed up to our monthly program.

Throughout the year we mentor and sponsor several disabled children's events. These moments are very special to us. We have also helped several families with basic needs as well.

Our thoughts are with our loved ones and those we have lost this year. We are still praying for those who were hurt and in harm's way in our military and throughout our country.

We are wishing you all an Amazing New Year!!!!

Hope to see you next year at our many events including Fishing, 5k, Banquet, Open House, Bowling, etc..

#NVPVA#VegasStrong

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National Director's Report

By Lester Wood

I would like to give a big thank you to all those that called the office and members with your prayers and concerns during and after our shooting tragedy here in Las Vegas, We are starting to heal and get back to normal. We ask that you continue to keep us in your prayers.

Recently our Chapter President, ED and I attended the fall board meeting held in San Antonio, Texas. The meetings went very smoothly with David Zurfluh as our new president. We had about ten resolutions to go over and pass. Most of them were housekeeping resolutions of verbiage changes., one being sent back to the resolution committee. We were able to also solve a couple of budget problems.

While at the meeting we learned that Executive Director, Sherman Gillum's had stepped down as our PVA ED. We wish him well in his future endeavors.

With the holidays fast approaching, we at the Nevada Chapter wish you all a safe and happy holidays.

At the end of hardship comes happiness.

**NATIONAL CRISIS HOT-
LINE 1/800-273-8255
VETERANS PRESS 1**

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 13	Paralympic Kids Christmas Party
December 16	Christmas Party
January 26-27	Boccia Ball Tournament



Sports Report

by Marc Fenn, Sports Director

We just completed another successful Bowling Tournament. We had bowlers from all over the country compete in this annual event. We also held our annual Up/Down Bowl which once again raised money for our programs.

Big winners of our tournament were:

Al Uttecht 1st Place A Division
Grant Buehler 1st Place B Division
George Holscher 1st Place Scratch

Jim Rice 2nd Place A Division
Toodie Perry 2nd Place B Division
Mark Shepherd 2nd Place Scratch

Dave Nelson 3rd Place A Division
Henry Walters 3rd Place B Division
Shawn Beam 3rd Place Scratch

“There is only one way to avoid criticism: do nothing,
say nothing and be nothing.” *Aristotle*

Step Outside Program

The grandkids and kids all came up for a visit and the last meal together before they depart was at the Little Reno Nugget home of the *Awful, Awful Burger*. This is one of those burgers that one has to experience in their lifetime. You get a 1/2 lb. burger cooked as specified, on a decent sized bun that doesn't fall apart like most larger ones, and comes with as many condiments as one could want. Either on the side or on the burger. My grandson (age 4) had the *Awesome Dog*, a larger 1/4 lb. beast that he processed about the only description of how he devoured it/. My oldest granddaughter had a *White Cheddar Grilled Cheese* that was devoured with the same gusto, but more refined than her brother. My wife had the *Fish and Fires* which were mildly seasoned. Naturally, everything disappeared rapidly, especially as we had all been outdoors the previous four hours. There wasn't much in the way of leftovers *Tom Hudson*.

I rode my handcycle from Pahrump to Billings, MT and spent the night and resupplied. Met the rest of my group then on to Yellowstone. I spent seven day in Yellowstone fishing,. Sightseeing, canoeing and camping.

It was the first time in over 65 years that I had been there. I had a great time and it is all thanks to the Nevada Chapter of PVA. *R Chris W Christensen*

Al Uttecht, George Holscher, Grant Buehler



1st Place Winners in the Up/Down Bowl



Decision Ready Claims—New VA Initiative

By Ian Kenner, National Service Officer

.Most Veterans I come in contact with tell me about years past, when claims would take one to two years to complete. I could not fathom the frustration our Veterans had to experience in that instance, especially if the claim was denied!

The VA has worked diligently to look for new ways to decrease the time of claims. A new initiative in this regard is called the DRC process, aka the Decision Ready Claim process.

What is this, you might ask? This is a way of a National Service Officer or Accredited Secretary to file for an increase of an already service connected condition. There are some contingencies in this regard, but overall this program looks promising:

A thirty day completion window: This is massively misleading, as it is thirty days from the completion of evidence gathering. If there is an increase in condition/s, then either a disability questionnaire (DBQ) needs to be submitted showing the increase from a medical provider, or, an exam would have to take place BEFORE the exam for evidence. (This is massively foreign to me that an exam would take place pre-exam)

How this process is started: If no evidence is in place, a VA Form 21-22 (if no power of attorney is on file), VA Form 21-0966 (intent to file), and a VA Form 21-4138 (statement in support of claim) would have to be uploaded into the VA system to establish a claim. The VA Form 21-4138 would detail what conditions would need to be examined for increase so as to have the compensation and pension examiner review and render an opinion as to whether an increase is warranted or not. If all evidence is in place, then a VA Form 21-526EZ, Claim application, and disability questionnaire (DBQ) would be uploaded for immediate rating.

Claims that cannot be filed in this process: There are many limitations as to what can actually be filed through the DRC process: Initial claims, secondary claims, incarcerated Veterans, pension, claims signed by service officers, individual unemployability, etc. are not acceptable through this process.

Compensation and Pension Examiners are contractors: These examiners would not be VA employees. I would definitely make the Veteran aware, as many Veterans – especially in the Reno/Tahoe area, prefer the Reno VA Medical examinations versus a contracted doctor examining.

This is just a brief overview of the system. For simple claims, such as an increase to hearing loss, headaches, etc. this might save time in the claim process. To see the actual timeline once a claim has been processed will dictate whether this route is faster and more effective or not.

Always feel free to reach out to your National Service Officer if you have any questions with this new concept or any other issues that arise. We are here to help you through this process!

Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering to help out at any of our events, please contact the office. We are always looking for committed volunteers.



December

Shane W Irwin	04	Robert E. Stilz	11	Carol CeCe Davy	24
Richard S. Chadwell	04	Steven R. Simmons	15	Jan P. Thomas	25
John E. Kennedy	09	Donald G. McCrory	18	Lawrence L. Cook	26
Alan D. Britton	10	Kenneth J. Sandoval	21	Lillian Curtis	27
Tom H. Hudson	10	John E. King	22	Ina R. Edwards	30
David M. Perelman	11				

January

Jane Kaiser	02	Ali Jahanfard	15	Lauretta A. Graham	24
Mervyn H. Kaya	02	Robert Phelps	18	David Meiklejohn	25
Julie Johnson	04	Paul M. Winter	18	Jody Rodarmel	27
Louis N. Rocco	08	Robert J. Grand, Jr.	18	Derek Curtis	28
Tx. P.D. Vogler	08	Lola J. Smith	19	David E. Gray	28
Norman B. Woods	13	Robert D. Nolan	19	Francisco C. Novero	30
Joseph R. Cypher	14	Samuel P. Whitt	22		



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Mention us and get a 10% discount



Paralyzed Veterans of America

ANNUAL AIR RIFLE & AIR PISTOL PROGRAM

**Arizona Air Rifle/Archery
& Boccia Tournament***
Sept. 6-8, 2017
Phoenix, AZ

**West Virginia Air Rifle
& Boccia***
Oct. 28-29, 2017
Martinsburg, WV

Cal-Diego Air Rifle Tournament
Jan. 22-23, 2018
San Diego, CA

**Mid-Atlantic
Air Rifle Tournament**
March 7-8, 2018
Richmond, VA

Wisconsin Air Rifle Tournament
March 23-25, 2018
Milwaukee, WI

Buckeye Air Rifle Tournament
April 21-22, 2018
Geneva, OH

**KY-IN Air Rifle &
Boccia Tournament***
Date - TBD
Louisville, KY

**indicates combined events*

PARALYZED VETERANS NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS CIRCUIT

**Wisconsin Shooting
Sports Tournament
& Pistol Tournament**
Aug. 4-6, 2017
**Pistol & Rifle Tournament -
Aug. 4**
Green Bay, WI

**North Central Shooting
Sports Tournament**
Sept. 8-10, 2017
Pistol Tournament - Sept. 8
Sioux Falls, SD

**Keystone Shooting
Sports Tournament**
Sept. 22-24, 2017
Pistol Tournament - Sept. 22
Clairton, PA

**Arizona Shooting
Sports Tournament**
Nov. 3-5, 2017
Pistol Tournament - Nov. 3
Phoenix, AZ

**Mid-Atlantic Shooting
Sports Tournament**
Nov. 10-12, 2017
Charles City, VA

**Florida Gulf Coast
Shooting Sports
Tournament**
March 1-3, 2018
Odessa, FL

**Nevada Shooting
Sports Tournament**
March 16-18, 2018
Pistol Tournament - March 16
Las Vegas, NV

**Cal-Diego Shooting
Sports Tournament
& Cal-Diego Air Rifle/Pistol**
March 23-25, 2018
**Pistol & Rifle Tournament -
March 23**
Redlands, CA

**Vaughan Shooting
Sports Tournament**
April 20-22, 2018
Edwardsville, IL

**Minnesota Shooting
Sports Tournament**
May 18-20, 2018
Minneapolis, MN

**Lone Star Shooting
Sports Tournament**
June 22-24, 2018
Waxahachie, TX

**Iowa Shooting
Sports Tournament
& Pistol Tournament**
June 15-17, 2018
Pistol Event - June 15, 2018
Cedar Rapids, IA

PARALYZED VETERANS BASS TOUR

**Mid-America
Bass Tournament**
Sept. 22-24, 2017
Eufaula, OK

Lone Star Bass Tournament
Sept. 29—Oct. 1, 2017
Garland, TX

**Southeastern
Bass Tournament**
Oct. 13-15, 2017
Evans, GA

Vaughan Bass Tournament
Oct. 27-29, 2017
Mt. Vernon, IL

**Florida Gulf Coast
Bass Tournament**
March 30-April 1, 2018
Kissimmee, FL

KY-IN Bass Tournament
May 4-6, 2018
Gilbertsville, KY

National Bass Tournament
June 1-3, 2018
Marbury, MD

Mid-Atlantic Bass Tournament
June 8-10, 2018
Richmond, VA

ANNUAL PARALYZED VETERANS/NWPA BILLIARDS TOURNAMENT SERIES

**Mid-Atlantic
Billiards Tournament**
Sept. 15-17, 2017
Virginia Beach, VA

**Mid-South Billiards
Tournament**
Oct. 13-14, 2017
Memphis, TN

**Mid-Atlantic
Billiards Tournament**
March 23-25, 2018
Midlothian, VA

**Mid-America
Billiards Tournament**
April 20-22, 2018
Oklahoma City, OK

**Mountain States
Billiards Tournament**
May 4-5, 2018
Fountain, CO

**Buckeye
Billiards Tournament****
June 22-23, 2018
Wickliffe, OH

***non-sanctioned events*

ANNUAL PARALYZED VETERANS/AWBA BOWLING TOURNAMENT SERIES

**Great Plains
Bowling Tournament**
July 6-9, 2017
Council Bluffs, IA

**Mountain States
Bowling Tournament**
Aug. 24-27, 2017
Colorado Springs, CO

**Mid-Atlantic
Bowling Tournament**
Sept. 22-24, 2017
Glen Allen, VA

Nevada Bowling Tournament
Nov. 30-December 3, 2017
Las Vegas, NV

**Florida Gulf Coast
Bowling Tournament**
Feb. 23-25, 2018
Tampa, FL

**Mid-America
Bowling Tournament**
March 29-April 1, 2018
Shawnee, OK

Vaughan Bowling Tournament
May 3-6, 2018
Romeoville, IL

BOCCIA

Nevada Boccia Tournament
Jan. 26-27, 2018
Las Vegas, NV

Cal-Diego Boccia Tournament
Feb. 20-21, 2018
San Diego, CA

PARALYZED VETERANS RACING

**Off-Road Handcycling
Championships**
Aug. 18-20, 2017
Crested Butte, CO

Pensacola Cycling
Sept. 16-17, 2017
Pensacola, FL

Air Force Marathon
Sept. 16, 2017
Dayton, OH

**Pocahontas State Park
Off-Road Ride**
Sept. 30, 2017
Richmond, VA

38TH NVWG

July 30-Aug. 4, 2018
Orlando, FL

For more information, visit: pva.org/sports

Thank You!

Donor Spotlight

Bank of America

Thank you for your generous grant for our Adopt-A-Vet Program

Donor List

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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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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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Being there makes a difference

Recently the Better Life Mobility team joined forces with MobilityWorks so that we could provide our veterans with the largest selection of mobility solutions that best fit their physical capabilities and lifestyle. Veterans have unique needs, so we treat each of them as individuals. First of all, we listen. Then, we work together to find the best solution. Collectively, Better Life Mobility and MobilityWorks will continue to build on our mission to help veterans connect with who and what matters most.

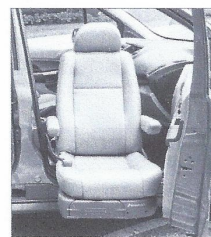
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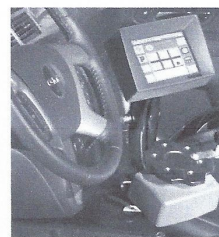
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