

January/February 2020
Volume 1 Issue 1



Paralyzed Veterans of America

Nevada Chapter



Our Scratch Bowling Winners:

George Holscher
Johnnie Baylark
Dan Formento

Paralyzed Veterans of Nevada, 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*



Hope everyone had a good holiday

Another successful year, but sorry to say we lost many friends at Nevada PVA this past year. Looking forward to a better year in 2020.

We had a very successful poker tournament in conjunction with Gentlemen's League to support Paralympic kids sports. Over \$9,000 was raised.

For upcoming events in the New Year, see our calendar of events below.

Attended the corrections academy graduations, proud that they are our sponsors and always participate in our annual 5K and we go to their graduation ceremonies every year.

Getting in shape for the NVWG that will be held in Portland, OR. If you are one of our members and interested in attending, contact the office.

Hope you all returned ballots for the election of officers and board members.

Prosperous year for our vehicle donation program, thank you to Marv and Jay. If you would like to donate a vehicle, please call 702/545-8044. The money we raise helps us serve our community.

Thank you to all of our volunteers this year. Bank of America, Home Depot Foundation, Store #3314, NV Energy Foundation, United Way of Southern Nevada and Jim Dillon and his crew, including Deborah Boyns, LuAnn Leavitt, Barbara Chakel, Paige Livingston and Keith Lane and, of course, Jeanette Miller and her crew.

We had a very successful year with supporting KT wellness, at the VA Monday's at 11 am. All members are welcome as are spouses. This is in an informal setting with a group of your peers to discuss different issues with SCI/D and MS, ALS. We will be starting back up end of February if you'd like more info contact office. This group also goes on outings periodically. In 2019 we went to Madame Tussauds Wax Museum, the Mob Museum, Carl Shelby Museum, and the Atomic Energy Museum. We are planning in the Spring an evening outing to the Neon Museum and Springs Preserve.

We purchased new equipment that will be available in KT/PT. We were able to purchase the Galileo equipment with the help of other Veterans Service Organizations. This equipment will be ready to use soon, VA employees will be receiving a thorough training on the equipment and then they will be able to assist us. Here is the link if you would like more information on www.stimdesigns.com.

Looking forward to a Joyful and Prosperous New Year for all of our members as well as our chapter.

Upcoming Events

January 11-12
February 1-2
March 13--15
April 4
April 18

Wheelchair Basketball Tournament
Wheelchair Basketball Tournament
Annual Trapshoot
General Membership Meeting
Walk, Run and Roll

Sports News

Our Annual Bowling Tournament was held the first weekend in December. We saw a lot of our old friends and made some new ones. The top winners were:

1st Place, Scratch Division
1st Place A Division
1st Place B Division

George Holscher
Johnnie Baylark
Dan Formento

1st Place Doubles
2nd Place Doubles

Marc Fenn/Jamie R. Burgos
Bill Burns/Dominic Cirino

Up/Down Bowl

1st Place Team:

Kevin Schaeffer/Tess Li/Michael Li/Marilyn Bisnal

2nd Place Team

George Holscher/Patty Harris/Reggie Harris/George Marquez

3rd Place Team

Marc Fenn/Ron Huddelston/Brian Bock/Sharon Balboa



Advocacy/Legislation Report

Helping the Survivors of ALS Veterans

Senators Chris Coons (D-DE) and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) along with Representatives Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr. (D-CA) and Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) recently introduced legislation to help ensure surviving spouses and families of veterans who die from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) receive the full benefits they are due.

S. 3091 and H.R. 4747, the Justice for ALS Veterans Act of 2019, would entitle Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) eligible survivors of veterans who died of service-connected ALS to an additional \$246 per month in DIC. The extra payment is commonly referred to in the veterans community as the “DIC kicker.”

Under current law, the higher rate of DIC is only payable if the veteran was rated totally disabled for a continuous period of at least eight years immediately preceding death. VA regulations recognize ALS as a presumptive service-connected disease and, due to its aggressive nature, it is automatically rated at 100 percent once service connected. However, because the average life expectancy for a person with ALS is two to five years, many spouses of deceased veterans with ALS rarely qualify for the additional DIC benefit given the eight-year requirement.

PVA Chapters and members are encouraged to contact their elected officials during the holidays and ask them to support this important legislation.

2020 VA Disability Cost-of-Living Adjustment and Ancillary Benefits

By Jason McDonald, NSO

Most years the VA Disability rates increase due to the Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) that is announced by the Social Security Administration. This year the 2020 VA Disability rates will be increased by 1.6% cost-of-living increase. These new rates are effective December 1, 2019. Please remember that your VA Disability pay is paid in arrears which means that the first time you see the new amounts deposited into your bank account will be on January 1, 2020.

For more information on what your new pay scale will be please visit: https://www.benefits.va.gov/COMPENSATION/resources_comp01.asp and for those receiving

Special Monthly Compensation: https://www.benefits.va.gov/COMPENSATION/resources_comp02.asp

For those that are entitled to ancillary benefits below is the new amounts that are effective as of October 1, 2019.

Specially Adaptive Housing (SAH) Grant: \$90,364.00

Special Housing Adaptation (SHA) Grant: \$18,074.00

Temporary Residence Adaptation (TRA) Grant: \$39,669.00 or \$7,083.00

Auto and Adaptive Equipment Grant: \$21,488.29

If you are interested in returning to school, UNLV is offering full scholarships to veterans with spinal cord injuries. For further information, go to: www.unlv.edu/drc/scholarships.

**NATIONAL CRISIS HOTLINE 1/800-273-8255
VETERANS PRESS 1**

Benefits that are available for veterans:

If you are 10% disabled or more, you are eligible for a free lifetime pass to the National Parks. The pass admits the owner and any other passengers in a single private vehicle (non-commercial) at per vehicle entrance and day use fee areas; for the pass owner plus three additional adults where per person fees are charged. Reduced rates on camping also. Go to www.blogs.va.gov for more info.

For veterans going to Casinos on the strip in Las Vegas, Go to Players club for MGM properties or Caesars properties. Show them proof that you are a veteran. They will give you a player's card that is the top tier. This will allow you to park for free at their properties.

VetTix.org is another benefit available for veterans. Free tickets for shows, sporting events, concerts, etc. Register with them and you will start receiving emails notifying you of tickets that are available to you. You may have to pay a nominal fee of \$14.95 per order of tickets. You designate what area you are interested in, and even what type of shows you would like to see.





January

Mervyn H. Kaya	02
Julie Johnson	04
Tx P.D. Vogler	08
Norman B. Woods	13
Joseph R. Cypher	14
Ali Jahanfard	15
Paul M. Winter	18
Rubert D. Nolan	19
Matthew S. Kelly	20
Samuel P. Whitt	22
Lauretta A. Graham	24
Derek Curtis	28
David E. Gray	28
Francisco C. Novero	30

February

Melinda G. Brooks	01
Randall C. McKee	03
Eric W. Cagle	06
Randall R. Schwartz	07
Billy R. Andre	08
James Troy	08
Arnold R. Aldana	11
Anita J. Lawson McGlynn	11
Michael C. McDonald	11
Kamron S. Lopez	13
William C. Frankell	15
Cheryl A. Yorkey	16
Darwin E. Holmes	17
Zachery R. Miller	17
David M. Schneider	19
Armando Guajardo, Sr.	22
Samuel Owens, Jr.	23
Lowell H. Higley	24
Jaime Anderson-Perelman	24
Michael F. Schulz	26
Jerry L. Myles, Jr.	28

"You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have." *Maya Angelou*



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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.

Help Support Nevada Paralyzed Veterans of America

Our organization number is **YY152**



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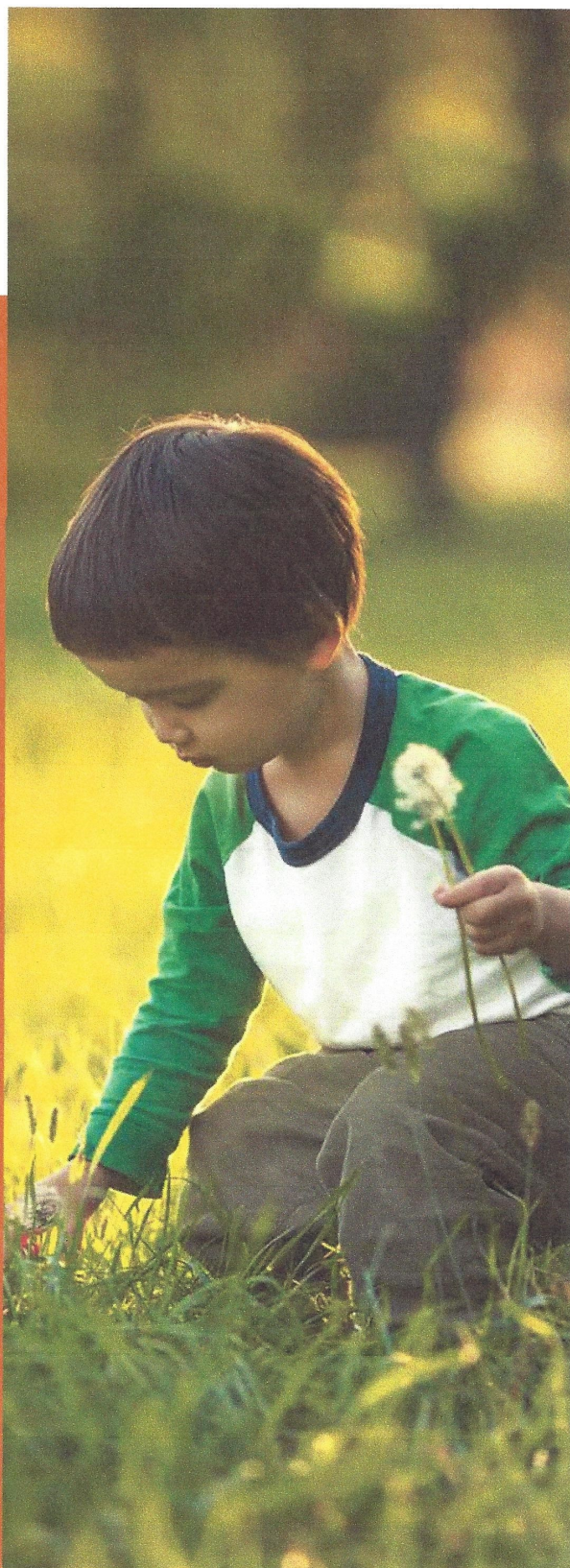
Helpful Information

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See Helpful Information for exclusions.



Thank You!

Donor Spotlight **MGM Resorts Foundation**

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

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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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The Siegel Group

Smith's

Race 2 Erase 22

The Dana and Christopher Reeve Foundation

The Grand Canyon Tour Company

The NV Energy Foundation

Total Wine & More

United Way of Southern Nevada

Walmart Foundation



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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