



Paralyzed Veterans of America

Nevada Chapter



Elections

It's once again time to start thinking about elections. We are approaching the time for electing a new President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and five (5) members of the Board of Directors for our chapter. You can make a difference in what your chapter accomplishes by being on the board and making your voice heard.

Please get involved and run for office. If you would like to run, please submit your biography to our office, along with a letter of intent advising us of which position you are interested in running for. We will be publishing biographies of all members interested in running for office in our November/December newsletter. Bio's will be due **no later than** October 1, 2019. Ballots will be sent out in December and due back to our office **no later than** January 10th, 2020.

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

Nevada PVA Officers

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Dan Kaminski

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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/ED Report *by Dan Kaminski and Julie Johnson*



This is a sad time for our organization and our hearts go out to our Office Manager, Ann Perelman and her family. Her husband of 44 years, David Perelman, passed away. Nevada PVA has lost a good friend, longtime volunteer, photographer and fellow veteran. Dave will be laid to rest in California. God Speed My Friend!



The Nevada PVA chapter won the President's Award this year. This award is given to the chapter with the most outstanding program. We received this award for our Adopt-A-Vet program where we supply low income veterans with basic needs such as food, hygiene products and clothing on a monthly basis, delivered to their homes.

The Home Depot Foundation revamped our food pantry last year for this program and they are back this year to revamp our office inside and out, so stay tuned for pictures.

Summertime is here and it's HOT! We tend to stay low key during this time regarding events.

Nevada PVA is still looking for a place to do air guns, so if you have any suggestions, please let us know.

Our annual bowling tournament is coming up in December so make sure you get out there and start practicing. Nevada PVA/VA league bowling starts back up in August, please let us know if you would like to come out and bowl.

Geneva Perez, the S. Nevada VA SCI nurse is leaving to join the private sector and we wish her the best in her future endeavors.

We hope to see some of you at the National Veterans Wheelchair Games in Louisville, Kentucky.

Everyone please have a safe summer and stay hydrated.

National Director's Report

by Dan Kaminski

I attended the National PVA Convention in Denver, Colorado. The main focus of the meeting was to make some tough decisions and pass a balanced budget.

Congratulations to Dave Zurfluh for being re-elected as National PVA President.

A huge thank you to Larry Dodson for all his hard work as PVA secretary and we wish him well in his future endeavors.

Advocacy/Legislation Report

The House Veterans' Affairs Committee has launched a new bipartisan Women Veterans Task Force to promote equitable access to VA resources, benefits and health care for women veterans. Women are the fastest growing subpopulation within the military and veterans' communities and comprise 16% of active duty military forces, 19% of National Guard and Reserves and 10% of all veterans.

Women are now taking active roles in combat and other positions that expose them to the violence of war and environmental injuries which is likely to increase their utilization of VA's specialized services and rehab programs such as those for post-traumatic stress and other post-deployment behavioral health conditions, traumatic brain injury and polytrauma, amputation, spinal cord injury and blindness.

The VA has added a text messaging feature to the Women Veterans Call Center. Women veterans can now send a text message to **855-829-6636** to receive answers and guidance about VA services.

Congress recently held hearing on Veteran suicide. Every day 20 veterans, service members, reservists, and members of the National Guard die by suicide. This seems to have VA officials stumped. During the hearing, Dr. Richard Stone, Executive in Charge of the Veterans Health Administration and Dr. Keita Franklin, VA's National Director of Suicide Prevention, outline some recent incentives to help curb suicide:

- ◆ Screening every veteran who receives VA services anywhere for suicide risk;
- ◆ Training all employees to recognize veterans in crisis and get them the care they need;
- ◆ Hiring hundreds more suicide prevention coordinators; and
- ◆ Creating a system to flag veteran health records, if they are found to be a suicide risk.

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

Total and Permanent Discharge (TPD) is a program offered by the Department of Education (DOE) that allows persons who are totally disabled to have their student loans forgiven. Currently, VA and DOE estimate that there are more than 42,000 veterans with severe disabilities who may be eligible for student loan forgiveness. The two departments have joined forces to notify severely disabled veterans who have student loans that they may be eligible to have their loans forgiven tax-free. To be eligible for this program, veterans must be 100 percent disabled or considered totally disabled due to Individual Unemployability (IU). There are two ways to apply for this program: veterans may apply online at www.disabilitydischarge.com or by phone at (888) 303-7818.

The Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019 was recently signed into law.

Background: Agent Orange was an herbicide used during the Vietnam era that has been known to be associated with certain health issues in people who have been exposed to it. The Agent Orange Act of 1991 stipulated that, if a veteran served in Vietnam between 1962 and 1975 had a disease that has been associated with exposure to Agent Orange, they are automatically presumed to have been exposed and, therefore qualify for VA disability compensation. The Blue Water Navy Veterans Act of 2019 would extend presumption of exposure to Agent Orange to veterans who served on the offshore waters of Vietnam. The law also makes several improvements to V's Home Loan Guarantee Program.

NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICER REPORT

By Jason McDonald

VA Phishing Scams

Scams! Scams! Scams! They are nothing new in today's society. Scams come in many forms either via email, advertisements or phone calls just to name the few most popular ways. Whenever someone thinks they can profit from someone else, there will be a scam for it. The Department of Veterans Affairs is no exception and there has been an increase in recent years of phishing attempts that specifically targets Veterans and their benefits. You might ask yourself what is phishing. Phishing is the practice of sending emails that purport to be from a reputable company in order to induce individuals to reveal personal information, such as passwords, credit card numbers, banking details and other personally identifiable information. My goal is to help you identify possible phishing attempts by using a real world example that has happened to a Veteran in the Northern California area.

If you look at the email excerpt included with this article you will see that it looks official and that it is indeed being sent by the U S Department of Veterans Affairs but in fact it is not. All the logo's look correct and even the 800 number is a valid VA phone number. The first thing to look at when determining if an email is valid or not would be the email address that it is being sent from. In this case, while not included in the excerpt, the email address that it is coming from is Veterans Benefits Administration <Veteransbenefits@public.govdelivery.com>. If this were coming from a legit Department of Veterans Affairs source the email would end in @va.gov. As you continue to read the email it provides multiple sources of links for you to click on all looking very official. This is where the phishing comes into play. If you hover your mouse pointer over the link, depending on your email provider, it will show you the link at the bottom of the page before you click on it. In this email excerpt they have already typed out for you the identity theft website but when you hover over the link it shows something different. So on the surface you think you are going to a legit Department of Veterans Affairs website but you are being redirected to the scammer's website. The scammers then ask you for personal information that you are now unknowingly giving up to them. In this particular instance you might end up giving the scammer your full social security number, bank account number, routing number, date of birth and other personally identifiable information thinking you are having the Department of Veterans Affairs fix the error of your direct deposit being changed. Before you do anything remember that you are being represented by Paralyzed Veterans of America and give your local National Service Office a call and ask them to verify the information for you or you can contact the VA identity Theft Help Line at 1-855-578-5492 or the VA identity theft website at <https://www.va.gov/identitytheft/>.



Dear Veteran,

This is to notify you that there was a change to your direct deposit information on 02/08/2019 at 11:54:13 AM.

If you did not make this change and believe your account has been updated without your knowledge, please call the National Call Center at 1-800-827-1000 to ensure you receive your regularly scheduled benefit payment.

For more comprehensive information on how to protect your identity, go to VA's website at: <https://www.va.gov/identitytheft/protect.asp>.

Sincerely,
Veterans Benefits Administration

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Sports News

We held our Trapshoot June 7-9 at the Clark County Shooting Park. As this was a last minute event, we did not have a lot of shooters but we had a great time with those who did come out to support our chapter.



Our newest member, Cedric Delong, recently participated in the Golden Age Games in Alaska. He won Gold and Silver in Table Tennis and Horseshoes respectively. Congratulations, Cedric! You make us proud.



SAVE THE DATES
Nevada PVA Bowling Tournament

December 5-8, 2019
Sunset Station Bowling Venue



Up/Down Bowl on Friday, December 6th

9 Pin No Tap

This special event is for all levels

- ♦ Prizes
- ♦ Raffle
- ♦ 50/50 Tickets

Nevada PVA is in need of sponsors, raffle prizes or items for raffle baskets. If you have any ideas or items you'd like to donate, please give us a call.



July

Patricia A. Lechuga	03	Mary L. Cunningham-Irwin	18	Bill L. Sharkey	24
William H. Taylor, Sr.	05	Ashley Varndell	18	Yokiko Knowlton	24
Anthony Del Fante	10	Roy A. Warren	19	Richard E. Squires	26
Ronald L. Castro	11	James W. Dickson	21	John W. Schaefer	26
Linville E. Hinch	16	Mariza A. Shaffa	22	Larry Rogers	28
L.E. Curtis, Jr.	16	James W. Leinberger	24		
Jaime Johnson	17				

August

Sandra Qualls	03	James H. Hoban	09	Robert J. Priante	18
Joe R. Ybanez	04	Susumu S. Arishita	11	Fletcher F. Hantke	22
Larry D. Everett	06	Brandon M. Jones	11	Lester E. Wood	23
Lyndon R. Ruddell	06	Michael C. Stern	12	Timothy Manchego	23
David M. Fivecoats	08	Donald W. Pollard	13	Robert S. Butterfield	25
George L. Daniels	08	John D. Lowther	16	Daniel A. Kaminski	28
				Yusuf Ali	30

Membership—157

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.

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A hero is no braver than an ordinary man, but he is braver five minutes longer. *Ralph Waldo Emerson*

Membership—157

Spinal Cord Injury/Disease



11:30AM
— TO —
1:00PM

3RD WEDNESDAY
EVERY MONTH

RYELYN MOUNT NORTHEAST COMMUNITY CENTER
1301 VALLEY RD, RENO NV 89512

Please join City of Reno, VA Sierra Nevada Healthcare System, Renown Health, and High Fives Foundation for Spinal Cord Injury/Disease specific resources, topics, and guest speakers during our monthly community-based luncheons.



Renown
REHABILITATION
HOSPITAL



554 INFO | Reno.Gov/Accessibility | @CityofReno



PARALYMPIC RENO SPORT CLUB

The City of Reno with the generous support of its presenting sponsors, and local adaptive sports programs plan to host 15 disabled veterans and injured service members and their spouse/guest for a multi-day Military Sports Camp. All skill levels are welcome.

This program is not just about sports; it's also about attitude, camaraderie and promoting healthy, active lifestyles. There is no cost to Military Service Men or Women and their guest. Registration preference will be given to Nevada Service Members and Residents.



DAY 1 SEPT. 9

- 1:00PM
Transportation from Reno-Tahoe International Airport to Host Hotel
- 2:00PM
Hotel Check-in
- 6:00PM
Welcome dinner and Top Golf



DAY 2 SEPT. 10

- 8:00AM
Breakfast at the Host Hotel
- 9:30AM
Water skiing, paddle boarding and archery (Lunch provided)
- 3:30PM
Sled hockey
- 6:00PM
Tahoe axe throwing (Dinner provided)



DAY 3 SEPT. 11

- 7:30AM
Breakfast at the Host Hotel
- 9:00AM
Wheelchair rugby (Lunch provided)
- 2:00PM
Mountain biking and rock climbing
- 6:00PM
Dinner



DAY 4 SEPT. 12

- 8:00AM
Breakfast at the Host Hotel
- 10:00AM
VIP guest at Air Races (Lunch provided)
- 6:00PM
Closing dinner at Tamarack Junction Casino



DAY 5 SEPT. 13

- 7:45AM
Breakfast at the Host Hotel
- Transportation to the Reno-Tahoe International Airport



VA



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Our organization number is **YY152**



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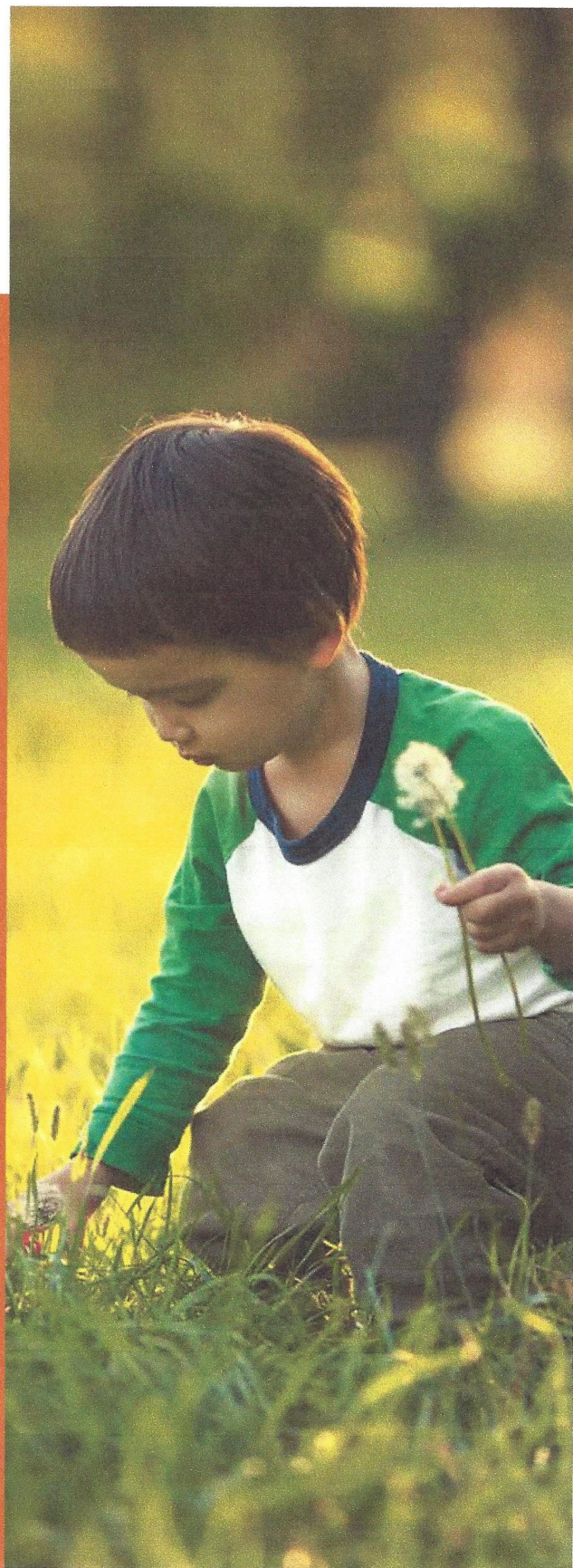
Helpful Information

What purchases qualify?

Just about everything you purchase during your regular shopping trips! The only exclusions are alcohol, tobacco, postage stamps, Smith's Gift Cards, re-loadable Gift Cards and debit cards, lottery and promotional tickets, Western Union, fuel and sales tax.

Remember, there's no cost to participate in this program, and you'll still earn fuel points on eligible purchases every time you shop.

*0.5% based on eligible purchases.
See Helpful Information for exclusions.



Thank You!

Donor Spotlight **MGM Resorts Foundation**

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

Donor List

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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

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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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