

July/August 2018
Volume 22, Issue 4



Paralyzed Veterans
of America

Oregon Chapter

PARALOG

Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America



"Serving Those Who Served"

www.oregonpva.org



Paralyzed Veterans of America

Oregon Chapter

Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America

3700 Silverton Rd. NE,
Salem, OR 97305
503-362-7998

www.oregonpva.org

Email - oregonpva@oregonpva.org

OPVA is a 501(c)(3)
Tax ID# 93-0713859

OFFICERS

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Larry Gardner Vice President

Bill Gray Secretary

Roger Robinson Treasurer

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Francisco J. Navarro Graphic Designer

Gary Atwood Donation Coordinator

PARALOG

Marcie Ceja Editor in Chief

Francisco J. Navarro Graphic Designer

NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICER

Ken Fink
800-795-3627
Fax: 503-412-4763

VANCOUVER VA PRIMARY

Care Contact Phone Numbers

360-696-4061
503-220-8262 ext. 31665 (Portland)
800-949-1004 ext. 31665

After Hours Number

888-233-8305

Portland VA Contact Phone Number

503-273-5308

Patient Advocates

Katina Collins, Trish Hafer
Kelly Williams

OPVA Mission Statement

Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America (OPVA), incorporated in 1976, is a chapter of Paralyzed Veterans of America. OPVA serves the needs of its Members – U.S. military veterans with spinal cord injury or disease (SCI/D) – and helps them enjoy the highest possible quality of life.

OPVA, Members, Associate Members, Family Members, Volunteers, and allied organizations work to provide leadership and advocacy in

- Improving health care and SCI/D research and education
- Protecting veterans rights and benefits
- Improving awareness of disability rights
- Offering sports and health-promotion activities
- Increasing accessibility and removing architectural barriers in Oregon, Southwest Washington, and Idaho.

A 501(c)(3) charity, OPVA relies on grants and donations from members of the public.

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Thank you to all our Sponsors!

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<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/pp.print> Pk., 4th of July celebration, 7/4/22

The views and opinions expressed in the Paralog are not necessarily a direct representation of the views or ideas of Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America who hereby disclaims any responsibility for opinions expressed by contributors and printed in the Paralog.

Parking Enforcement



Daniel Service – President

Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America has been involved in helping different municipalities within the state of Oregon in establishing volunteer Parking Enforcement programs.

We've had discussions of problems many of us have encountered due to not fully understanding the rules involving Disabled Parking. One of our members had a dark blue placard hanging from his interior mirror and parked in a "Van Accessible & Wheelchair User Only" parking spot. He owns a van, uses a wheelchair, and thought it was alright,

but was approached by an officer, given a warning, and told he needed to get the proper placard to park in that spot.

In the Oregon Driver Manual, page 51, we read, "It is illegal to park in a space marked for persons with disabilities unless you have a valid disabled parking permit."

When a person is issued a Placard, they receive NO information on how to use it. Contact your local DMV office for more information.



Q: May my spouse/friend use my permit if they are disabled?

A: **NO**

Q: If I am disabled, may I use the permit of another disabled person?

A: **NO**

Q: Can I park in a disabled space without a permit for just a minute while I run into the building?

A: **NO**

Q: Is there any limitation for parking in a disabled space?

A: **NO**

Q: May I park in a wheelchair only parking spot if I have a regular disabled Permit?

A: **NO**

DISABLED SIGNS AND PERMITS



International Symbol & Standard Text: —
 These spaces are designated for all persons with disabilities. All persons that have a valid disabled person parking permit may park in these spaces.



Van Accessible: —
 These spaces are designed with a wider access aisle for special transport vehicles equipped with a lift. Although all persons holding a valid disabled person parking permit may park in van accessible spaces, permit holders are asked to use a regular disabled parking space if they do not require the additional room.



Van Accessible & Wheelchair User Only: —
 Some spaces may display both “van accessible” and “wheelchair user only” signs. Anytime a “wheelchair user only” sign is posted, a person is required to have a valid “wheelchair user only” permit to park in the space.



Wheelchair User Only: —
 These spaces are designated for persons with disabilities who use wheelchairs or similar low-powered devices. Only persons that have a valid wheelchair user permit (placard includes “Wheelchair User” and a large white “W”) can park in these spaces.

VICE PRESIDENT NEWS



Larry Gardner—Vice President

Board Members and volunteers here at OPVA are going to assist our Membership Director in making phone calls to all members of the chapter. We want to update your phone numbers, address, email and other information you might be concerned about. We want to know what sports you are interested in participating in, let you know what volunteer opportunities, are available or any helpful information you can share with the chapter to help us better serve your needs. We will then have a better understanding of what your interests and needs are.

We recently started a bowling league for all members and their families to participate in no matter where you live. If you like to bowl without any pressure and bowl where you live this league is for you! If you are interested and would like to know more please feel free to call 503-362-7998 and we will be more than happy to answer any questions. There is a registration form on page 12 for you and your family to complete and enjoy this league together!



We try our best to post our events far enough ahead so everyone is aware of what's coming up. The Paralog magazine has most of our events listed bi-monthly also check out our

website www.oregonpva.org for more information and updates. It is a very helpful resource, and don't forget you can call us here at the office for any concerns you may have.

Keep in mind that currently our sports programs include bowling, trap shooting and deep sea fishing trips. We want to expand our sports programs to include your interests.

The OPVA Show and Shine Car Show is coming up August 4th stop by to check out all the cool cars (free to the public).

Our gun raffle fundraiser for the trap team is for a Glock 19 Gen5 are \$5 each. The 1959 Chev Pu raffle truck are \$10 or 5/\$40.

The Marion County Fair, and the Oregon State Fair are coming up in Salem, along with the Deschutes County Fair and the Crook County Fair. Our members/volunteers who sign up for these events receive free admission for volunteering at our table and will be able to enjoy the fair while you're there. We have already had some very successful events this year and are looking forward to a very fun and exciting summer, which also includes our OPVA chapter picnic on July 28th with all the information here in the Paralog.

Well that's about all for now, but remember we are here for all of you the OPVA members and family, without you we would not have a purpose, that's why we are continually working to help in any way possible. Thank you so much

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Wilsonville, OR 97070
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Springfield, OR 97477
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OF
ACCESSIBLE
VEHICLES!**



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT



Tom Hurt – Executive Director



Greeting from your chapter office, the months of May and June have been busy here at your chapter office. We finished up our MS Walks on May 5th, we had a great turn out from the membership at the Salem Walk.

For the past few years our very own Larry Gardner goes down to the Willamette Speedway and sets up an awareness table for OPVA and hold a 50/50 raffle at the races, for those of you who don't know Larry (OPVA Vice President) not only is he a race car enthusiast he used to be one of the guys out on the dirt track racing.



Larry makes this a great event for the chapter, he brings in the Linn-Benton Young Marines to sell the 50/50 raffle tickets, and has his army of volunteers working our information

table making people aware about OPVA and the different programs we have for you our members. They also are there promoting and selling our Truck raffle tickets as well as Gun tickets and military hats.

For those of you who had not heard Salem and surrounding Water shed area had some issues right after Memorial Day, the water reservoir had been contaminated with a toxic algae bloom and the water was not safe to drink, if that was not bad enough, our annual Kids Free Fish Day was June 2nd, although by Saturday the 2nd the water was clear of toxins it really hurt our turn out this year, typically we have between 120 and 150 kids at this event, this year we only had around 20 come out.

Every year OPVA hosts a hot dog feed at both of the Veteran Homes in Oregon. The Lebanon Veterans Home's Hot Dog feed was on June 8th. Joel Satoris is not only a resident at the home in Lebanon, he is also an OPVA member, and is our liaison with the staff at the home. Joel does a great job making that event come together, Joel was instrumental in



OPVA Gold Cup Golf Tournament is our largest one day event fundraiser

As we come into July and August we have a lot going on for you to participate in, either to come and enjoy or volunteer at one of our tables.

- Sublimity First Tuesday in the Park on July 3rd
- Volcanoes Stadium OPVA Day July 5th
- Marion County Fair July 12th through the 15th
- Members Picnic July 28th (See the flyer in this Paralog - remember to RSVP)
- Deschutes County Fair August 1st through the 5th
- OPVA Show and Shine Car Show August 4th (See the flyer in this Paralog)
- Sublimity First Tuesday in the Park on August 7th
- Crook County Fair August 8th through the 11th
- Salute to Veterans Car & Motorcycle Show on Aug 11th - Washington County Fair Grounds
- Oregon State Fair August 24th through September 3rd

starting these hot dog feeds at The Dalles Veteran Home originally and when he moved into the Lebanon Home started the program there. The Dalles hot dog feed is tentatively scheduled for Sept 7th.

As I write this article we are putting the final touches to the 9th Annual OPVA Gold Cup Golf Tournament, this is OPVA's largest one day event fundraiser we do each year. We start the planning process about 10 months in advance for this project to happen. We are looking at having a full tournament this year with 72 golfers.

WOW THAT'S A LOT OF EVENTS... Looking forward to seeing you at these.

"Live Your Life With No Limits."





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Bowling League



2018 Bowling League Summary

Spring League

Name	Number of Games	Total Score	High Score	Low Score	Average Score
1. Wayne Howell	27	4,160	210	113	154
2. Jack Howell	27	2,618	148	75	97
3. Ray Thompson	21	2,376	168	78	113
4. Dan Service	24	2,374	181	53	99
5. Gloribel Casalduc	23	2,343	127	74	102
6. Sue Holt	18	1,804	118	81	100
7. Brad Gardner	13	1,359	135	61	105
8. Bill Gray	12	1,026	118	60	86
9. Naomia Gardner	10	952	125	63	95
10. Jerry Ryan	6	469	94	67	78
11. Marcy Ryan	6	364	75	53	61

**If you are not already participating register now
for the Summer League, July 2nd through August 31st**

Dear Board,

This documents is to serve as a report on my scores for the Spring league so far and as a written request for the bowling league reimbursement to Oregon PVA members. The fee is \$2.00 per week for Senior Bowl, no shoe charges needed.

I don't know how the league is set up but I thought I'd let you know that I'm an a C-6 quad, using a bowling ramp with no bumpers up on the lanes. We are bowling every Friday at Kellogg Bowl in Milwaukie. It's been a blast and we've gotten my 78-year-old mother bowling with us! She had never gone bowling in her life but always wanted to. She's having a great time and it's a nice rehab following her heart surgery earlier this year.

Thank you for supplying a great reason for putting together a family outing.

Sincerely,
Jerry D. Ryan



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2018 OPVA BOWLING LEAGUE REGISTRATION

NAME _____ PHONE # _____

ADDRESS _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____

Bowling Alley Preference: _____

Summer League July 2nd thru Aug 31st



STATUS

Member

Associate Member (I will have my Volunteer hours by the 1st of the month or I will pay my own expenses)

Non Member (I am responsible for my own Expenses)

Here is how it works, you will be bowling at an alley of your choice. Each bowler will be bowling a maximum of 3 games per week, by the end of each month you will submit your scores as well as your bowling fees for reimbursement, be sure to save your receipts.

You can submit your scores weekly but will be reimbursed monthly.
(This does not effect your Recreation Fund)

There will be awards and trophies presented at the Annual Members Banquet in September.
This year we will have the Spring League and then a short Summer League. the Winter League will start Jan 1, 2019.

I agree to the Terms and Conditions of the Bowling League

Signature _____

Date _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Name

Phone Number

Relationship



Paralyzed Veterans
of America

Oregon Chapter

SHOW & SHINE
AUGUST 4, 2018

Car Show



FREE ADMISSION



Location: Home Depot - 3795 Hagers Grove Rd. SE Salem, OR 97317
Show begins at 10 AM. Vehicle Raffle at 2:00 PM

Information: 3700 Silverton Rd. NE, Salem, OR 97305 Tel: 503.362.7998 • www.oregonpva.org

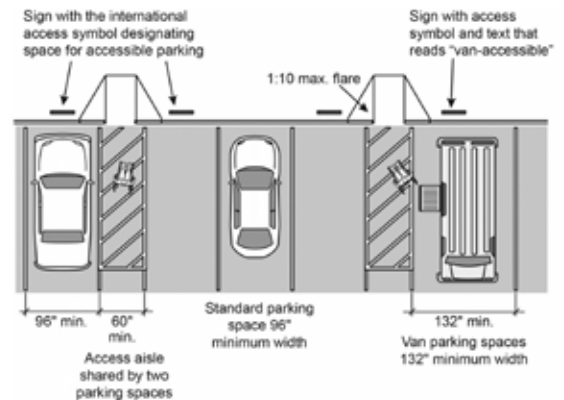
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS



Roger C. Robinson – Government Relations

We are focusing on parking permits this month. There are three kinds of placards issued in Oregon. Light blue, is for wheelchair user only parking in the wheelchair marked spaces. The next is dark blue designed for all persons with disabilities but not for wheelchair user spaces.

The third is red for temporary use only and has the same rights as dark blue. There is a fourth placard that will be light blue and have “Wounded Warrior” on it to allow folks in Portland parking anywhere downtown without being fined..



To obtain an application, visit your local DMV or visit our website: <http://www.oregonpva.org/government-relations.html> and download and print the application.

If you have any questions, contact me at 503-362-7998.



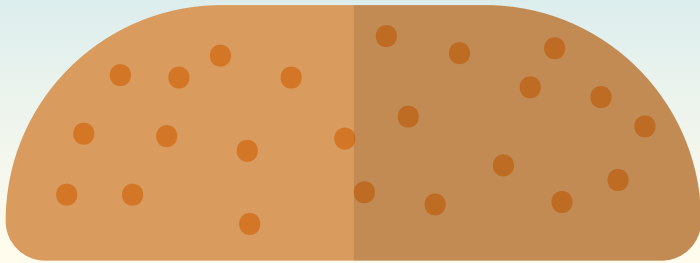
FREE
GA & Pit Tickets
September 12-16, 2018

At the OPVA office.
First come, first served
Call 503-362-7998
to request you tickets!



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**

Oregon Chapter



Members

Picnic

July 28, 2018

Saturday 9am - 3pm

**17415 NW Panther Creek Rd
Carlton, OR 97111**

Bring the FAMILY



Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America
3700 Silverton Rd. NE
Salem, OR 97305
www.oregonpva.org
503-362-7998





RECREATION FUND REPORTS



Dear OPVA

Just want to thank you again for your program. Because of it my wife Cindy and I were able to add a little fun to my annual trip to the Seattle VA SCI. We got to go to the Rhein Haus, a German restaurant on 12th St. It was great. We had a blast! The food was outstanding and the service was too. Very easy with my wheelchair as well, which is not always easy to find. We recommend it for everyone. Thanks again.

Chris Weatherby

Dear OPVA

Enclosed are receipts for a necessary trip to Arizona to move my wife's parents into assisted living. Thanks to the recreation fund the sting of most of the fuel cost is covered. This fund is like an insurance policy to fall back on and is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,
Charles Wilcox



Model Railroad (HO Scale) and Military (1/35) Model supplies.

Neil N. Tooze



Dear OPVA

On May 23rd, my wife (Jan) and I joined seven other Corvettes from the Cascade Corvette Club for a 1,700 mile caravan to the “Big Sky Corvette Event” in Helena Montana. We were joined in Washington by three Corvettes from a different club. Traveling the fun back roads, as much as possible. We drove into Helena three days later.

Caravanning with eleven cars has it's positives and negatives. On the positive side we were traveling with some of our closest friends, stopping for meals and break times and staying at motels and resorts along the way. We consumed a few adult beverages in the evenings as we enjoyed the conversation and light hearted fun.

The negative part of caravanning is trying to keep eleven cars together going through towns with traffic and spotlights, making turns and road changes, and trying to maintain a speed that is acceptable to all drivers is just about impossible. With just a few minor exceptions we made it in good spirits.

I did get a crack in my windshield somewhere in Idaho and we had to turn around a couple of times when we got lost, but it was all taken in good stride.

There were about 150 Corvettes for the Show and Shine on the streets of old town Helena ranging from a 1954 C1 to several 2018 C7s. Each night of the three day event we were treated to a banquet dinner, live music and an awards presentation on Sunday night. Each day we could participate in different sight seeing and driving events.

Taking some back roads home through some of God's beautiful country, we got home on May 30th. Now all I have to do is get the windshield replaced and wash the bugs and road grime off our 2002 white roadster, and it will be ready for more Corvette adventures this summer.

Thank you OPVA for helping us out on this trip. We appreciate you more than I can express.

Joe & Jan Heidrick

After the devastation of Hurricanes Irma and María in Puerto Rico, my brother, Master Sergeant Casaldue, US Airforce and I have been supporting our family financially and it has been very stressful for us in many ways. We really needed to get together and visit after years apart and if it wasn't for OPVA's recreation fund, it would not have been possible. Very thankful for this wonderful gift! We went fishing and RV camping and had a wonderful time.

Gloribel Casaldue



Please apply these to my recreation fun. This was a trip that I took to Yakima last month for a Marine Corps League function. I am the Paymaster for the State of Washington Marine Corps League and spend much of my time doing volunteer work for veterans.

Bill Hauser

My husband and I were so excited to travel to NY to see our sweet granddaughter turn 2. It is very hard living so far away but soon we will be closer. Thank you OPVA!

Paula Fox



Remember to Use Your Recreation Fund

Oregon PVA voting members are eligible to **receive \$250 each fiscal year** through the Member Recreation Reimbursement Fund.

It begins October 1st and runs through September 30th each year.

Simply send in your receipts any time during the year along with a short description of what you did to have fun with your friends and family. We like pictures too, they may make it into the Paralog.

- ◆ **Eating Out** ◆ **Movies** ◆ **Games** ◆ **Hobby Supplies** ◆ **Motel** ◆ **Sports**
- ◆ **Event Tickets** ◆ **OPVA Events** ◆ **Guns** ◆ **Trips** ◆ **Vacation Expenses, etc.**

All receipts must be dated within this current fiscal year and used within this current fiscal year (10/1/17 - 9/30/18).

Mail to: **Oregon PVA, 3700 Silverton Rd. NE, Salem, OR 97305**

Your request must be received in the office no later than September 30th



Please contact the office at 503-362-7998 if you have any questions or require additional information about the Recreation Fund.

ALBANY FUNSHOOT



Location: Albany Gun Club

35305 Hwy 20 SE,
Albany, OR 97322

Date & Time: September 29, 2018
Registration is at 9 a.m.
Trap Event 10 am - 4 pm

Event Type: Games
Pepperoni Fun Shoot

Cost: \$4.00 each game



**Paralyzed Veterans
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NRA



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ALBANY GUN CLUB

Raffle & Prizes

Spectators welcome

New Shooters encouraged



Cabela's

Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America 3700 Silverton Rd. NE, Salem, OR 97305

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MEMBERSHIP NEWS



Gloribel Casalduc—Membership Director

Hello OPVA members and friends! I'm Glori, coming from Puerto Rico PVA and now here at OPVA as your Membership Director at your service.

Since a diagnosis of MS in 1999, I have been with PVA, and giving back to our organization anytime and anywhere my health allows ever since.

I absolutely love fishing and always looking for fishing buddies, so if you're interested, I'm your girl!

I'm also enjoying bowling with the new OPVA league and really interested in getting to know more of you, especially in person, so come out and join us!!!

The membership team will be calling you very soon to update your membership info and to introduce ourselves.

Looking forward to meeting all of you! Here's a picture taken at Take A Soldier Fishing at Henry Hagg Lake sponsored in part by Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America.

I was a luck winner of a fishing rod at that event! Thanks to all the volunteers, veterans, active duty service members and sponsors.



RECREATION FUND REPORTS

To whom it may concern,
We spent a late Easter with our children this year and had an awesome time together.
Jeff Watkins





**Paralyzed Veterans
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Oregon Chapter

**DOCKSIDE
CHARTERS** 

270 Coast Guard Dr, Depoe Bay, OR
(541) 765-2545

Dates & Times

Tus Aug 14th-5:30 am

Wed Sep 19th-7:00 am

Thu Oct 18th-7:30 am

5 Hours Trip

Fishing and shell license required,
may be purchased at Dockside Charters
Complementary coffee is provided.
Bring your own lunch, snack or drinks

**Voting Members
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Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America
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Tel: 503-362-7998 | www.oregonpva.org



DONATED ITEMS

Gary Atwood—Donation Coordinator

The inventory went out pretty fast on some of the items we listed in May but we still have quite a bit. Look at the pictures of the items we are featuring this time.

I have found that some Vets who need power chairs from the VA are waiting and some have waited over a year, we have some to give out free. Some may need batteries which can be purchased at North West Batteries for \$150.00 each, at least you will have a chair till the VA gives you one. Then you can use it as a backup to your new one.

A number of various Rollators, some Walkers, and a few Iris 70 degree tilt Manual Wheel Chairs, the Joerns Bed and 2 chair lifts.

DONATED ITEMS TESTIMONY

Thank you for the fantastic wheelchair and cushion. The chair is in great shape, it is ten times better than the chair Ron was currently using. It's light weight, which is an epic improvement. It's easy to fold making it possible for Ron's caregivers to get it into the car.

Thanks for thinking of us when the chair came in, and for saving until we could get to Salem.

All the Best,
Ron and Deb Simcox



Bruno Joey VSL-4000HW Lifts



Joerns UltraCare XT Bed



**Quantum
Power Chair**



**Permobil
M300**



**Jazzy 600
Power Chair**



Hospital Bed



**Paralyzed Veterans
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Good News!

Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America has partnered with the Salem-Keizer Volcanoes and the Volcanoes Care initiative to benefit OPVA!

OPVA will have a special night at Volcanoes Stadium this summer to spotlight this amazing organization's influence in Salem-Keizer. You can help this organization raise significant funds by purchasing your Volcanoes tickets online, and here's how:

Thursday, July 5th is Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America night! Login to <http://bit.ly/ParalyzedVets> and enter Password: 7052018. Fifty (50%) percent of the ticket price purchased through this portal (prior to the day of game) will be donated to OPVA!

Such a great way to make a substantial difference in an amazing, local organization PLEASE SHARE THIS WITH YOUR FRIENDS and help us celebrate on this night!



Honor Day at the Marion County Fair

Coming together to honor Veterans & their families

Thursday, July 12, 2018—5:30 p.m. - Oregon State Fairgrounds

Live Music—Sponsored by *Bonaventure*

Guest Speaker Retired Colonel Kevin Dial

POW / MIA Presentation

Color Guard

Special Presentation to Honor Veterans Service Organizations

Family activity—kids art activities

Sponsored by:



Free admission all day for Veterans and Service Personnel

Free admission for Family members from 3:30—8:30

SPECIAL ENTRY AT GREEN GATE OFF 17th

www.marioncountyfair.net



Wheelchair user only parking!

A few years ago they came out with wheelchair user only parking spots. For every 50 parking spots, they had to make one wheelchair user only parking. This was to be implemented when the parking lot was resurfaced & restriped. The purpose of these spots, are to allow us room to use our ramps & lifts. To get this placard you had to go to DMV & get a special handicap parking form for wheelchair user.

Recently DMV changed the Handicap placard form (735-265) to let the doctor check one of two boxes. The first box is wheelchair & the 2nd box is non wheelchair.

I live in Roseburg and so far I have seen 3 vehicles that have the wheelchair user placard. There is no way they are wheelchair users, with the kind of step up they have to do to enter the type of vehicles they have.

I brought this to the attention of one of my local traffic enforcement police officers & they said there is nothing they can do because they have the placard. I contacted my local DMV and then the Salem DMV. Both of them gave me the same response, if the doctor checks the wheelchair user box then there is nothing they can do but issue them the wheelchair placard. The Salem DMV also informed me that this change came down through legislation & I needed to contact my Senator and Congressperson to get this changed back to 2 separate forms.

I contacted both of my local representatives.

My senator's aid contacted me. They informed me they contacted DMV to see what was going on with this form. While they understand the issue there is nothing that can be done at this time, because I'm the only one that had brought this error to their attention. The aid informed me that if more people bring up this problem. Then it can be brought up in legislation and change it back to the way it was, with two separate forms.

I informed the aid that I'm a member of the Oregon PVA. They said that is the perfect organization to get this fixed. As members of OPVA we need to contact our local state representatives to let them know about this issue we are facing as wheelchair users so it can be fixed. Even after the form is fixed, the placards that are out there will be valid till the next renewal.

If we do nothing, than we are back to taking up two parking spots and getting out of our vehicles in the oil & other fluid spots from cars. Not to mention getting notes on our vehicles letting us know that we park like an "A" hole.

Ronald J. Weisenberger
USAF Retired

Oregon Representatives Contacts

District: 22 Representative Teresa Alonso Leon. 503-986-1422
Rep.TeresaAlonsoLeon@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 28 Representative Jeff Barker 503-986-1428
Rep.JeffBarker@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 11 Representative Phil Barnhart 503-986-1411
Rep.PhilBarnhart@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 58 Representative Greg Barreto 503-986-1458
Rep.GregBarreto@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 19 Representative Denyc Boles 503-986-1419
Rep.DenycBoles@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 59 Representative Daniel Bonham 503-986-1459
Rep.DanielBonham@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 32 Representative Deborah Boone 503-986-1432
Rep.DeborahBoone@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 54 Representative Knute Buehler 503-986-1454
Rep.KnuteBuehler@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 51 Representative Janelle Bynum 503-986-1451
Rep.JanelleBynum@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 21 Representative Brian Clem 503-986-1421
Rep.BrianClem@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 35 Representative Margaret Doherty 503-986-1435
Rep.MargaretDoherty@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 6 Representative Sal Esquivel 503-986-1406
Rep.SalEsquivel@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 20 Representative Paul Evans 503-986-1420
Rep.PaulEvans@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 14 Representative Julie Fahey 503-986-1414
Rep.JulieFahey@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 60 Representative Lynn Findley 503-986-1460
Rep.LynnFindley@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 10 Representative David Gomberg 503-986-1410
Rep.DavidGomberg@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 49 Representative Chris Gorsek 503-986-1449
Rep.ChrisGorsek@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 33 Representative Mitch Greenlick 503-986-1433
Rep.MitchGreenlick@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 7 Representative Cedric Hayden 503-986-1407
Rep.CedricHayden@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 52 Representative Jeff Helfrich 503-986-1452
Rep.JeffHelfrich@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 34 Representative Ken Helm 503-986-1434
Rep.KenHelm@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 47 Representative Diego Hernandez 503-986-1447
Rep.DiegoHernandez@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 8 Representative Paul Holvey 503-986-1408
Rep.PaulHolvey@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 39 Representative Bill Kennemer 503-986-1439
Rep.BillKennemer@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 46 Representative Alissa Keny-Guyer 503-986-1446
Rep.AlissaKenyGuyer@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 44 Representative Tina Kotek 503-986-1200
Rep.TinaKotek@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 2 Representative Gary Leif 503-986-1402
Rep.GaryLeif@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 18 Representative Rick Lewis 503-986-1418
Rep.RickLewis@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 12 Representative John Lively 503-986-1412
Rep.JohnLively@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 27 Representative Sheri Malstrom 503-986-1427
Rep.SheriMalstrom@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 5 Representative Pam Marsh 503-986-1405
Rep.PamMarsh@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 9 Representative Caddy McKeown 503-986-1409
Rep.CaddyMcKeown@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 29 Representative Susan McLain 503-986-1429
Rep.SusanMcLain@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 55 Representative Mike McLane 503-986-1455
Rep.MikeMcLane@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 40 Representative Mark W. Meek 503-986-1440
Rep.MarkMeek@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 13 Representative Nancy Nathanson 503-986-1413
Rep.NancyNathanson@oregonlegislature.gov

For more information visit: <https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/house/Pages/RepresentativesAll.aspx>

District: 23 Representative Mike Nearman 503-986-1423
Rep.MikeNearman@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 24 Representative Ron Noble 503-986-1424
Rep.RonNoble@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 42 Representative Rob Nosse 503-986-1442
Rep.RobNosse@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 15 Representative Andy Olson 503-986-1415
Rep.AndyOlson@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 37 Representative Julie Parrish 503-986-1437
Rep.JulieParrish@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 50 Representative Carla Piluso 503-986-1450
Rep.CarlaPiluso@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 25 Representative Bill Post 503-986-1425
Rep.BillPost@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 41 Representative Karin A. Power 503-986-1441
Rep.KarinPower@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 16 Representative Dan Rayfield 503-986-1416
Rep.DanRayfield@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 48 Representative Jeff Reardon 503-986-1448
Rep.JeffReardon@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 56 Representative E. Werner Reschke 503-986-1456
Rep.EWernerReschke@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 38 Representative Andrea Salinas 503-986-1438
Rep.AndreaSalinas@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 43 Representative Tawna D. Sanchez 503-986-1443
Rep.TawnaSanchez@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 57 Representative Greg Smith 503-986-1457
Rep.GregSmith@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 45 Representative Barbara Smith Warner 503-986-1445
Rep.BarbaraSmithWarner@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 1 Representative David Brock Smith 503-986-1401
Rep.DavidBrockSmith@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 30 Representative Janeen A. Sollman 503-986-1430
Rep.JaneenSollman@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 17 Representative Sherrie Sprenger 503-986-1417
Rep.SherrieSprenger@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 4 Representative Duane Stark 503-986-1404
Rep.SherrieSprenger@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 26 Representative A. Richard Vial 503-986-1426
Rep.RichVial@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 53 Representative Gene Whisnant 503-986-1453
Rep.GeneWhisnant@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 36 Representative Jennifer Williamson 503-986-1436
Rep.JenniferWilliamson@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 3 Representative Carl Wilson 503-986-1403
Rep.CarlWilson@oregonlegislature.gov

District: 31 Representative Brad Witt 503-986-1431
Rep.BradWitt@oregonlegislature.gov



David Palmer Photography



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Happy Birthday

Curtis Ketchum	7/2	William R.C. Hobbs	7/24	Bob Mahler	8/16
John Schwartzkopf	7/2	Samuel Hennon	7/26	Richard Rayas	8/16
Michael Gardner	7/3	Terry Dean	7/26	Gerald Caldwell	8/17
Roger Watson	7/3	Randle Reddett	7/27	Randy Black	8/17
Richard Forza	7/3	Leon Wheeldon	7/28	Katheren Picaso	8/17
Kenneth Woodward	7/4	Neal Tooze	7/29	Elmer Childress	8/18
Kirk Parkhurst	7/4	Robert La Favor	7/29	Renee Langston	8/18
Daniel Gifford	7/5	Gary O'Donnell	7/29	Leo Espinoza	8/19
Douglas Powell	7/6	Virginia Facer	7/30	Richard Weaver	8/21
Christina Fairin	7/6	William Shields	8/1	Keith Miller	8/21
Charles Younglove	7/6	Bruce Dunbar	8/1	Joy Sheraden	8/21
Robert Huffman	7/9	Douglas Carr	8/2	Michael Hebert	8/22
William Loyd	7/9	Jeff De Leon	8/2	Daniel Fairchild	8/23
Steven Hickam	7/11	Clarel Cunningham	8/3	Robert Blackman	8/24
Craig Colerick	7/12	Stephen Bergseng	8/3	Diane Grady	8/25
Louis Di Croce	7/13	David Vincent	8/4	Scott Hall	8/25
Dale Neely	7/14	Gregory Schouweiler	8/5	Cheryl Newton	8/26
Matthew Lexow	7/17	Daniel Musloff	8/10	Craig Ackerson	8/27
Daniel Umbriaco	7/17	Marc Stump	8/11	Troy Allender	8/27
Thomas Morgan	7/19	Lisa Travis	8/11	Casey Jones	8/28
Vern Spaur	7/20	Eric Johnson	8/12	Joseph Heidrick	8/29
George Faust	7/21	Dinah Wells	8/13	Hosie Stadamire	8/30
Donald Darland	7/21	Mary May	8/13	Timothy Vixay	8/30
Carl Griffith	7/22	Lawrence Rathbun	8/14	Karl Nuse	8/31
Charles Wheeler	7/23	John Brasch	8/15	Timothy Walusiak	8/31



MS NEWS

Sue Holt – MS Liaison



Photo courtesy U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Summer and growing up has always meant activities. A chance to get involved. Today looking over things to write about I came across the Office of National Veterans Sports Programs and Special Events (NVSP&SE).

They direct six national programs enhancing rehabilitation and is authorized under the Authority of 38 United States Code 322. One program I know is rarely mentioned is the National Veterans Creative Arts Competition and Festival. (NVCAF). It is a program that was established in 1989. It is a chance for Veterans to show their creativity through competitions in art, music, dance, and drama.

For further details such as eligibility, contact: www.creativeartsfestival.va.gov.

The 2018 Creative National Veterans Creative Arts Festival will be in Des Moines, Iowa Oct 29 - Nov 4, 2018. It will be hosted By the VA Central Iowa Health Care System. Let me know if anyone might be interested for next years competition.



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July

- 3** 1st Tuesday-Sublimity
- 4** 4th of July
- 5** Volcanoes Stadium -
OPVA Day at the Park
- 12** Marion Co Fair (12 - 15)
- 20** Office Closed
- 26** BOD
- 28** Members Picnic

August

- 1** Deschutes Co Fair (1 - 5)
- 4** OPVA Show & Shine
Car Show & Car Raffle
- 7** 1st Tuesday-Sublimity
- 8** Crook Co Fair(8 - 11)
- 11** Annual Salute to Veterans
Car & Motorcycle Show
- 14** Deep Sea Fishing
- 23** BOD
- 24** Sate Fair (8/24 - 9/3)

September

- 3** Labor Day - Closed
- 8** Nut Shoot-Hillsboro
- 11** Patriot Day
- 16** Members Banquet
- 19** Deep Sea Fishing
- 22** Salem Elk Lodge
Porker Tournament
- 27** BOD
- 28** Celebration of Honor
Chinook Winds (28 - 29)
- 29** Fun Shoot - Albany



**Paralyzed Veterans
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Oregon Chapter

4th of July

October

8 Columbus Day - Closed

18 Deep Sea Fishing

25 BOD

November

11 Veterans Day Parade

12 Veterans Day - Closed

19 Raffle-Glock 19 Gen 5

22 Thanksgiving (22 - 23)

29 BOD

December

7 Pearl Harbor Day

15 Closed (12/15 - 1/1)

25 Christmas

31 New Year's Eve





Paralyzed Veterans
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Oregon Chapter

WASHINGTON UPDATE

Recent news regarding legislation and regulatory actions affecting veterans and people with disabilities.

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June 15, 2018

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VA MISSION ACT BECOMES LAW

On June 6th, President Trump signed into law the VA MISSION Act. This historic, bipartisan legislation will reform care in the community, assess VA's infrastructure, and finally, allow pre-9/11 veterans access to the VA Caregiver Program.

Since the wait time crisis in Phoenix in 2014, Congress, VA, and VSOs have been working to correct the systems that allowed for it to happen, and at the same time make sure those reformed systems are dynamic enough to meet the needs of a changing veteran population. While the VA MISSION Act is not a perfect solution, it is a monumental step forward to ensure veterans are never without options. All seven VA community care programs, including the Choice program, will be consolidated in to a single program within a year. The bill provides \$5.2 billion to hold the Choice program over until the new program is implemented. Under this program, VA will remain responsible for the coordination and timely scheduling of veterans care. A veteran will be referred to care in the community if VA does not have the necessary service; if the veteran had been using the Choice program under the 40 mile rule; if VA cannot meet its own access standards; or if his or her VA clinician determines community care is in the best medical interest of the veteran.

The infrastructure provision requires review and realignment of VA's health care infrastructure. This process will take place over the course of eight years. Beginning this year, VA will complete a local capacity and commercial market assessment of VA infrastructure. As part of that assessment, VA is to consider the unique role VA plays in rural areas where commercial providers may not exist and if deficiencies can be filled by expanding VA internal capacity in that area. By 2021, VA will publish the criteria for making recommendations to modernize VA facilities and the President will nominate nine commissioners, three of which must be from major VSOs, to a commission. Through 2023, the commission will hold public

hearings on VA's recommendations, after which the President will inform Congress of his/her approval or disapproval of the commission's report. If the President disapproves, the asset review terminates. If the President approves, and Congress does not, Congress may enact a joint resolution of disapproval, terminating the asset review. Assuming it is approved, then in March of 2026 VA will begin to implement the commission's recommendations for asset realignment of VA properties.

The passage of the VA MISSION Act was largely due to the efforts of Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman Johnny Isakson (R-GA) and Ranking Member Jon Tester (D-MT), as well as House Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman Phil Roe (R-TN). The advancement and ultimate inclusion of the caregiver expansion in the final version of the bill was due to the persistence of Senator Patty Murray (D-WA). Without these efforts, this legislation would not have made it across the finish line.

HOW TO PAY FOR THE VA MISSION ACT

Although the VA MISSION Act was signed into law on June 6th, the White House and members of Congress continue to battle over how to pay for it. Specifically, the \$5.2 billion intended to fund the Choice Program for one year, until the MISSION Act's new community care program is implemented, is causing particular distress for appropriators. They either have to find room under the budgetary spending caps, or place the \$5.2 billion in an "emergency" account to exempt it from the caps. House and Senate appropriators are proposing that the Choice funds not count against the caps in a third, rarely used account. However, House Republicans, particularly House Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman Phil Roe (R-TN), do not see the need to place Choice outside the budget caps, arguing there is enough room under the caps, but noting that appropriations are outside of his committee's jurisdiction.

This week the White House sent a memo to congressional staff to oppose the Senate Appropriations Committee's plan to raise non-defense spending caps in the coming years in order to pay for VA care. Rather, the Administration prefers appropriators find the room within the caps by cutting spending in other domestic areas, potentially within VA. The Senate will take up the issue as early as next week.

PRE-9/11 VETERANS NOW ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR CAREGIVER PROGRAM

Included in the VA MISSION Act was a provision to expand the VA's Program of Comprehensive Assistance to Family Caregivers to those veterans who were catastrophically injured before September 11, 2001. However, veterans and their caregivers will not have immediate access to the program. As part of the negotiations for the VA MISSION Act, members of Congress agreed to expand the Caregiver Program only if it was done over a period of time so as to stem costs.

Before any pre-9/11 veteran can participate, the VA secretary must submit to Congress certification that VA has fully implemented the necessary IT system. We expect this to be completed by May 2019. Then, only those veterans seriously injured on or before May 7, 1975, will be eligible for the program. Two years from that date, eligibility will expand to those injured on or after May 8, 1975. Eligibility for post-9/11 veterans remains the same throughout the expansion process.

NEW ACTING HEAD OF VA INSTALLED IN LIGHT OF NOMINATION OF ROBERT WILKIE TO SERVE AS SECRETARY

On May 30th, President Trump announced that VA Chief of Staff Peter O'Rourke would serve as Acting VA Secretary. The President made the announcement following his decision on May 18th to nominate then Acting VA Secretary Robert Wilkie to serve as permanent head of the agency. In response to the President's decision to nominate Wilkie, Executive Director Carl Blake released the following statement: Paralyzed Veterans of America has appreciated the opportunity in recent weeks to work with Acting Secretary Wilkie. He stepped in during a time when VA needed leadership and has worked to move VA forward, including taking a major step toward

modernizing VA's electronic health records system. Acting Secretary Wilkie also has shown leadership in urging Congress to reform VA's community care and expand the comprehensive caregiver program to veterans injured prior to 9/11. We look forward to continuing to understand more about his vision for the VA and its provision of services and benefits to veterans with catastrophic disabilities.

The Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee has indicated that it will schedule a confirmation hearing as early as this month on Wilkie's nomination. In the meantime, PVA will continue to work with Acting Secretary O'Rourke as VA embarks on implementation of the recently enacted VA MISSION Act.

RANKING MEMBER TIM WALZ ADDRESSES PVA ANNUAL CONVENTION

On May 25th, House Veterans' Affairs Committee Ranking Member Tim Walz (D-MN) gave the keynote address at PVA's Annual Convention in Minneapolis. Rep. Walz spoke about a number of topics of interest to PVA members, including his reasons for not supporting the recently signed VA MISSION Act. His concerns with the Act primarily involved funding shortfalls in paying for the legislation's provisions. During his speech, Rep. Walz expressed his appreciation for PVA and touted our influence on Capitol Hill. Rep. Walz will be leaving Congress at the end of his term as he is running to be the next governor of Minnesota.

ADVOCATES CONSIDER DISABILITY INCLUSION AT DISASTER STRATEGIES CONFERENCE

The Getting It Right National Inclusive Disaster Strategies Conference took place in mid-May. The event featured speakers from government and the private and nonprofit sectors who discussed what went wrong and what went right during the hurricane season of 2017. These discussions included release of an after-action report on emergency preparedness and response systems affecting people with disabilities. The conference attendees also received a draft outline of proposed legislation aimed at correcting many of the problems identified in the report.

Representatives from the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) reported

that over \$130 billion had been spent in 2017 on disaster relief and another \$1.1 billion in FY 2018 dollars had been issued by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for grants in emergency preparedness. Officials from the DHS Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties reminded attendees that all of these funds come with obligations on the part of the grant recipients to assure compliance with all disability rights and access laws and regulations.

In a discussion on public health, mass care, and disability rights, FEMA and Red Cross spokespersons acknowledged the problems in 2017 with accessibility and accommodations at many shelters and difficulties in managing evacuation of those with acute medical conditions, especially in rural areas. FEMA is tasked with contracting for personal care attendants (PCA), but PCA services must be ordered by the state government. Background checks caused delays in providing this assistance in many hurricane affected areas. According to the presenters, these circumstances have been exacerbated by decreases in funding for public health at all levels of government.

The Director of the FEMA Office of Disability Integration, Linda Mastandrea, outlined several steps that her agency and DHS are taking to improve the system's attention to disability inclusion. They want to invest in more training of emergency managers to understand their obligations under the Rehabilitation Act and ensure that Disability Integration Advisors are deployed alongside Disaster Survivor Assistants earlier in the immediate aftermath of disasters. At the same time, Mastandrea indicated FEMA wants to encourage a "culture of preparedness" at the local and state levels through investments in mitigation and preparation for emergencies so that the federal government can focus more on coordination among departments at the national level.

Staffers for Senator Bob Casey (D-PA), Ranking Member of the Senate Aging Committee, and Congressman Benny Thompson (D-MS), Ranking Member of the Homeland Security and Government

Affairs Committee, described their plans to introduce later in the summer or early fall the Getting It Right Act. Based on recommendations contained in the Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies After Action Report, which can be found on line at:

www.disasterstrategies.org, the legislation is expected to include provisions to strengthen compliance with disability rights laws and regulations, fund disability inclusive emergency preparedness initiatives, examine the effectiveness of emergency response systems in serving people with disabilities, and improve recovery and mitigation programs to advance accessibility.

PVA will be working with the Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies and the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities to ensure that the needs of veterans with disabilities are taken into account in these and other disaster preparation and response programs and measures.

HOUSE VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE HEARING ON PENDING LEGISLATION

On June 13th, the House Veterans' Affairs Committee's Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on pending legislation. This was the inaugural hearing for Subcommittee Chairman Neal Dunn (R-FL). The afternoon saw discussion on a host of bills. Of particular interest to PVA, and the testifying VSOs, VFW, DAV, and the American Legion, was H.R. 5693, the "Long-Term Care Veterans Choice Act." This bill would allow VA to contract with non-VA adult foster homes for certain veterans who would otherwise require institutional care. Sponsored by Congressman Clay Higgins (R-LA), the bill was lauded by both sides of the aisle as well as VA.

Another bill of note was H.R. 5974, the "Department of Veterans Affairs Creation of On-Site Treatment Systems Affording Veterans Improvements and Numerous General Safety Enhancements Act." This legislation would require VA to use on-site regulated medical waste treatment systems at VA facilities. Currently, most VA facilities dispose of hazardous waste by contracting for removal by truck. This is both costly and potentially dangerous. On site systems would mitigate such factors.

Also important was the "VA Hiring Enhancement Act," H.R. 5521. The bill would authorize the Veterans Health Administration to begin the recruitment and hiring process of physicians up to two years prior to the completion of their required

training. PVA agrees Congress should explore every means to ensure VA does not lose out on young professionals due to inefficient hiring practices. We will continue to monitor the status of this and the other discussed bills and provide updates as they progress.

PVA PARTICIPATES IN RESNA MEETING ON WHEELCHAIR DAMAGE IN AIR TRAVEL

On May 21st, Heather Ansley, Acting Associate Executive Director of Government Relations, and Lee Page, Senior Associate Advocacy Director, participated in the second in-person meeting of the RESNA Standards Committee on Air Travel. The meeting was hosted by Delta Airlines at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport. The purpose of the committee is to create air travel standards and guidelines for mobility devices, to include design, labeling, information cards, and airport personnel handling and training procedures. RESNA is a standards developing organization accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

As part of the meeting, attendees had the opportunity to view Delta loading and unloading procedures for wheelchairs and scooters on a Boeing 717, which has a small cargo opening. Attendees also had the opportunity to view from the terminal the unloading of National Vice President-Elect, Tammy Jones' wheelchair. Ms. Jones also took time to speak with airlines and wheelchair manufacturers following her arrival to discuss the issues she has faced in air travel and how she prepares her chair for transport.

In addition, PVA presented recommendations to the committee following a survey conducted by PVA and other disability organizations regarding concerns about the stowage of and damage to wheelchairs during air travel. Recommendations included the need for trained personnel to load and unload wheelchairs and take direction, as appropriate, from passengers, and improved communications between airlines and passengers about their respective rights and responsibilities. These recommendations, along with other presented data from airlines and wheelchair manufactures, will be used in the development of standards and guidelines.

H.R. 299 “BLUE WATER NAVY VIETNAM VETERANS ACT OF 2017”

On January 5, 2017, legislation was introduced in the House to include “Blue Water” veterans as being eligible for benefits based on presumptive exposure to Agent Orange. Blue Water veterans are defined as those who served on naval vessels in the territorial seas of Vietnam but never came ashore from January 9, 1962, to May 7, 1975. The bill quickly gained bipartisan support and currently has 330 co-sponsors.

VA has recognized certain cancers and other health problems as presumptive diseases associated with exposure to Agent Orange or other herbicides to include:

- AL Amyloidosis
- Chronic B-cell Leukemia
- Chloracne
- Diabetes Mellitus Type 2
- Hodgkin’s Disease
- Ischemic Heart Disease
- Multiple Myeloma
- Non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma
- Parkinson’s Disease
- Peripheral Neuropathy, early onset
- Porphria Cutanea Tarda
- Prostate Cancer
- Respiratory Cancer
- Soft Tissue Sarcomas

Currently, only veterans who served on ships located on inland waterways, veterans who came ashore, and veterans who were “boots on the ground,” are considered to be presumptively exposed to Agent Orange and other herbicides.

The legislation recently passed out of committee and is now ready for House floor action.



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MEMBERSHIP/CERTIFICATION APPLICATION

An individual is eligible for membership by meeting the following criteria: (1) is a citizen of the United States; (2) was regularly enlisted, inducted or commissioned for active duty service in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Coast Guard of the United States, or our allies as evidenced by other-than-dishonorable character of service documented by a verifiable DD-214 or DD-215 (entry-level separation not acceptable); (3A) was separated from the service in the Armed Forces under conditions other than dishonorable; or (3B) is on active duty or must continue to serve after the cessation of hostilities; and (4) has suffered a spinal cord injury or disease (such as MS, ALS), whether or not service connected in origin. Membership is free. **Complete and return application to the chapter or by mail, email, or fax to:** Paralyzed Veterans of America Membership Department, 801 Eighteenth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006; (E) ChristiH@pva.org; (F) 202.466.6549. Providing the requested information is entirely voluntary but required for membership with Paralyzed Veterans of America.

Chapter Name: Oregon PVA, 3700 Silverton Rd NE, Salem, OR 97305

First Name: _____ **Middle Initial:** _____ **Last Name:** _____

Date of Birth: ___ / ___ / _____ **Social Security Number:** _____ Male Female

Race/Ethnicity:

- Asian/Pacific Islander African American/Descent Hispanic/Latino
- Native American/Alaskan Native Caucasian

Address: _____ **City:** _____

State: _____ **Zip:** _____ **Email:** _____

Home Phone: _____ **Other Phone:** _____

VETERAN STATUS INFORMATION

Please submit the following with application:

- Proof of U.S. or U.S. Territorial Citizenship (Birth Certificate, Passport, INS Form, or Voter’s Registration Form).
- DD214 showing character of discharge.
- Medical evidence of spinal cord injury or involvement (medical records or physician’s statement).

Proof of active duty status must be verified prior to membership approval.

Have you been discharged under conditions that are less than honorable? Yes No

If yes, please explain: _____

Is your spinal cord injury or spinal cord disease service connected? Yes No

DISABILITY CLASSIFICATION

Injury or diseases involving the brain but not the spinal cord do not qualify.

SPINAL CORD INJURY

Complete only if you have a traumatic spinal cord injury.

Date of Injury: ___ / ___ / _____

Cause of Spinal Cord Injury:

- Vehicular (car, motorcycle, aircraft, etc.)
- Violence (gunshot, explosion, etc.)
- Flying/Falling object
- Sport/Recreation (swimming, diving, etc.)
- Pedestrian (car accident, etc.)
- Unknown
- Other traumatic injury: _____

SPINAL CORD DISEASE

Complete only if there is no spinal cord injury.

Date of Diagnosis/Onset of Condition: ___ / ___ / _____

Specific Disease Involving Spinal Cord:

- Multiple Sclerosis (involving bowel & bladder)
- Poliomyelitis
- Syringomyelia
- Amyotrophic diseases
(lateral sclerosis, transverse myelitis)
- Other: _____



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**

MEMBERSHIP/CERTIFICATION APPLICATION

The Veterans Benefits Department advocates for quality health care for our members and can assist you to obtain the appropriate benefits available as a result of your military service.

Is Paralyzed Veterans of America presently your accredited representative? Yes No

If yes, I hereby request that my eligibility for membership in the Paralyzed Veterans of America be certified. I consent to process my submitted medical documentation to a confidential review by a member of the Paralyzed Veterans of America National Medical Staff, to validate that my condition presents as having spinal cord involvement and to allow official Certification by the Paralyzed Veterans of America National Secretary. I have no objection and hereby permit Paralyzed Veterans of America Service Officers to provide information to the Paralyzed Veterans of America National Membership Department that pertains to my qualifications for membership/certification.

I declare that I have read and meet the qualifications. I understand that my membership/certification could be denied or revoked if any information provided is inaccurate.

Applicant Signature: _____ **Date:** ___ / ___ / _____

I do not wish to become a certified member

OFFICE USE ONLY

CAUTION TO ANYONE HAVING ACCESS TO THESE DOCUMENTS

The documents provided by the requester are personal in nature and are for membership eligibility and certification only. Information contained within these documents shall be treated with extreme confidentiality and released only to those employees of Paralyzed Veterans of America authorized to access.

I certify that I have personally examined the documents provided by the requester and find him/her to be eligible for membership/certification.

National Secretary's Signature: _____

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