

PARALOG

Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America

January/February 2015
Volume 19, Issue 1



Paralyzed Veterans
of America

Oregon Chapter

"Serving Those Who Served"

Proudly Serving Veterans Since 1979

R&J MOBILITY SERVICE INC.

Specializing in
Vehicle & Home Accessibility



- New & Pre-Owned Vehicles
- Wheelchair Van Rentals
- Adaptive Driving Equipment
- Stair Lifts & Ramps for the Home

24-Hour Emergency Service



CCB# 187428

www.RJ-MS.com



Two Locations to Serve You:
Medford: 541.245.4846
Independence: 503.838.5520

MPJ mobility

*Providing Freedom
Through Vehicles*



BraunAbility
Driving Freedom™

Springfield and Wilsonville

1.888.239.4041
www.mpjmobility.com



PARALOG CONTENTS

A man in a military uniform is shown from the back, sitting in a wheelchair on a baseball field. He is wearing a white officer's cap with a cross emblem and a dark uniform jacket. He has his right hand raised to his forehead in a salute. The background shows a green baseball field with a brown dirt base path under bright sunlight.

5	President's Greeting	17	Outreach Coordinator Greetings
7	Vice President's Greeting	21	8th Annual International Wheelchair Bonspiel
8	Basketball Team Representative	23	This is Your Chapter
10	Elk Hunt in Prinville	28	M.S. News
12	Sports Update	29	Membership
14	Vocational News		

OFFICERS

Terry Brown
President

Bill Blake
Vice President

Dave Parker
Secretary/Treasurer

BOARD MEMBERS

Larry Gardner

Jack Howell

Susan "Sue" Holt

Roger Robinson

Michael Rosenbalm

Bill Gray

Paul Dahlke

PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Jack Howell
Sports Director

Clyde Harmon
Parking Enforcement

Mike Rosenbalm
Hospital Liaison

Roger Robinson
Membership

NATIONAL DIRECTOR

Paul Dahlke

Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America

3700 Silverton Road NE
Salem, OR 97305
(503) 362-7998
(800) 333-0782
oregonpva.org

THE OREGON PVA OFFICE STAFF

BRYAN GWINNER
Outreach Coordinator

MARCIE CEJA
Office Manager

JULIE PRESTON
Graphic Designer

BERNADETTE CASTRO
VA Workstudy

SCOTT BELLIARD
VA Workstudy

PARALOG PRODUCERS

Julie Preston
Publisher

Dave Parker
Chief Editor

OPVA Mission

Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America is committed to taking those actions necessary to improve the quality of life and to protect the rights of spinal cord injured or neurologically impaired veterans through: veterans benefits protection; advocacy; legislation; sports and recreation; hospital liaison and spinal cord research.

Vancouver VA
Primary Care Contact
Phone Numbers

(360) 696-4061 ext. 31665
(503) 220-8262 ext. 31665
(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

National Service Officer

Ken Fink

(800) 795-3627
Fax: (503) 412-4763

Do you need assistance with your claims
or benefits?



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**

Photography Credits:
Cover Photo: Foto Fine Photography by Ben Ritter

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



President's Greeting

Terry Brown—President



The last bell has rung on 2014 and 2015 has come rushing in to take its place. I do hope all is well with everybody and this past holiday season went better than expected. Now is the time we all usually start looking back on the previous year and asses how it went and what we can do this year to make it better. Of course, finances always come first because more than likely you used a credit card to buy a few things for Christmas. Which is all fine and well until you miss a payment or your payment is late, then you pay for it with a higher interest rate. That is why budgeting is so important with the ultimate goal of getting debt free. This must be more than a wish

or a dream, otherwise, why bother. (Not to mention taxes are coming up among other bills that need to be paid just to provide for your basic needs.) Ok, that is enough of that.

Our first quarter is up and my transition from Vice-President to President is done and the office staff seems to be working well together along with our VA work studies from Chemeketa. There are some computer upgrades and expanded access all in an effort to give our program directors what they need to be better at accomplishing the tasks in front of them. Before long, well actually now, is a good time to get the word out that we are looking to fill some very important positions at the OPVA Chapter.

Our Government Relations and Advocacy needs cannot come at a more critical time with the Oregon Legislative session starting in January and a trip to Washington D.C. a few months later should get someone excited about our Nations great political process. If you have any Political Science training and enjoy building a team with a goal to maintain and uphold our mission statement, join us. The time to replace our National Director who represents our chapter at the national level is coming to an end. The three year

commitment may seem like we are asking a lot of someone, but this is a great position to be in when you consider how important it is for our Chapter to have a voice and a vote in Paralyzed Veterans of America at a national level. There are many chapters who send their presidents to hold this position but I believe the membership has a few good men and women capable of filling these shoes. January, February and March will be the coldest part of the year and a lot of indoor activities are on the schedule. So make it a point to come

out and join us. We also have some outdoor events for the hardier bunch where a little bit of effort goes a long way. There is a "little red rocket," hanging around the office just waiting for all the raffle tickets to be sold (only 5,000 tickets). Come August 15, 2015 at 2pm, some lucky person will become the proud owner of Ford Motor Company's iconic little pony car. I look forward to another great quarter and hope to meet a few of those brave souls venturing out and seeing what the world has to offer.



OPVA Members

Please update your information:
(Please Print)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Please Return to:

Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America, 3700 Silverton Rd. NE, Salem, OR 97305
or email the information to oregonpva@oregonpva.org



Vice President's Greeting

Bill Blake—Vice President



What to expect for the New Year??? Not much snow in the mountains, but a lot of rain. Hope you had a wonderful Christmas. Welcoming a new year is always exciting for me. There will be many events to attend, many new to me, and the opportunity to join the group at OPVA to assist veterans and to increase our life's adventures. There will be wheelchair basketball games you can attend, a wheelchair rugby tournament Jan 16th thru the 18th at Reynolds High School in Fairview, lots of car shows and other events to keep you busy. We would like to see more of you this year. As you see events offered in the Paralog, mark your calendar and try to attend. Getting out and about

sometimes is a struggle, but well worth it. Meet new friends and maybe even increase your skill level. Don't forget about the Recreation Fund. Wouldn't it surprise your wife or caregiver to take them out to dinner, or even just get a pizza delivered for a night in. You are all eligible for a \$250 reimbursement to do something fun. All you have to do is mail in the receipts and a brief description of what happened. Try it, you will like it. Hope you all have a great New Year. Get involved with Oregon Paralyzed Veterans and make each day special. See you soon!!

Bill Blake, Vice President



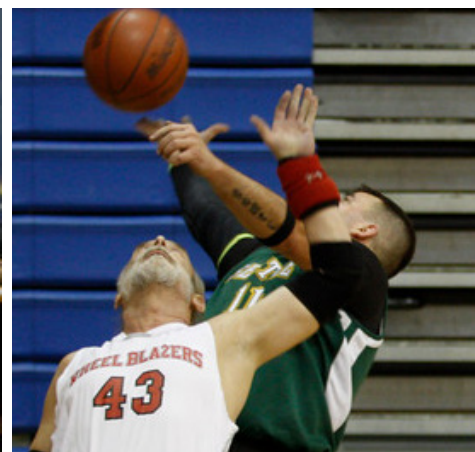
Basketball Team Representative

Bill Loyd—Basketball Team Representative



The Wheelblazers attended the Seattle Jam Wheelchair Basketball Tournament on December 6-7th. The tournament covered Championship, DIII, Women's and JR divisions. It was a very fun and competitive weekend. The Wheelblazers finished with a 3-1 record

falling only to the University of Arizona by 5 points. After their return home they quickly got back on the court to play the halftime show at the Moda Center. Where the Trail Blazers quickly dispatched the defending World Champion San Antonio Spurs.



Donation Form

Support your local

Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America

Oregon PVA is a 501 (c)(3) Non-profit
Federal Tax I.D. #93-0713859

To Mail in your donation, fill out this form and make checks payable to: Oregon PVA

Name: _____

Address: _____

Program requested to support:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legislation | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Parking Enforcement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sports | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Outreach | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital Liaison | <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy | |



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





Dale & Wendy Ackles Property

Elk Hunt in Prineville

Toby Newton—Immediate Past President



This was the second year that our members have had the opportunity to hunt an Elk on Dale and Wendy Acklers property over in Prineville. Even though nobody has been fortunate enough to harvest an animal the accommodations and atmosphere are awesome.

For those that do not know Dale and Wendy they have been gracious enough to have selected our organization's members to be the only Elk hunters on their property during both the first and second season hunts in the Grizzly Unit. They have great facilities for two hunters, a nice warm cabin and a very accessible outhouse for their guests to use. The hunting area is right at 4000 feet so you will need to think about the possibility of

snow and take clothes for all kinds of weather as we experienced all the different weather conditions you can think of, rain, wind, freezing temperatures down to -12, and oh did I mention that the last 3 days we had approximately 21 inches of snow.

The cabin is approximately 7 miles from the home ranch house so you are basically on your own. Cell service was not a problem if you took time to get up out of the canyon otherwise it was great no one could call you and cause you to miss shooting an animal due to your phone ringing and scaring the wildlife at that perfect moment.

I and my brother Bobby applied for an were successful in drawing the Grizzly unit tags for the second

season, this gave us 8 days to hunt and attempt to harvest an elk, that's correct either a cow or a bull. Though we had several opportunities to attempt to harvest an elk they were all just outside of either of our comfortable shooting distance. We are what I would consider above average hunters and our own personal ethics just kept us from taking a shot that was anywhere from 750 to 1000 yards away according to our laser range finders.

Though we were unsuccessful in taking an animal we so enjoyed the hospitality of Dale and Wendy, they both strived to provide us any help that they could. Dale knows his property, and was able to send us different places where he has seen animals in the past and we might be lucky enough to take one home.

My brother and I would like to thank Dale and Wendy for the opportunity of hunting on their ranch;

we hope that the chapter will continue to foster this relationship that has been started over the last two hunting seasons. It was a great time and I would do it again without any hesitation.

I am including a few pictures that I took, didn't get too many as we were hunting not taking pictures but I hope they will give you a peak at how beautiful the ranch they live really is.





Sports Updates

Jack Howell—Sports Director



Its time again for the 8th annual Heroes in Sisters weekend that will held Saturday January 24 at Hoodoo Ski area with an optional ski day at Mt Bachelor on Sunday Januray 25th depending on snow conditions. This event is a ski and ride opportunity for veterans with physical disabilities requiring adaptive equipment and or techniques and their families. This event includes lodging for Friday and Saturday night in Sister OR as well as many meals.

Go online to Oregon Adaptive Sports upcoming events and there will be registration form Hero at Sisters.

Annual Rabbit hunt with Marys Peak Hound Club is the first Saturday in

Feburay at EE Wilson Game preserve very changling and a lot of fun.

We have three deep sea fishing trip schedule with Dock Side Charters in Depot Bay June 8th and July 13 and August 10th.

The wheel chair games are in Dallas, Texas this year on June 21st-26th.

Golden Age games are in Omaha Nebraska August 8th-12th. Anyone wanting to go to any of these events please call the office. 1-800-333-0782



Adult DIII Only

Date: January 24-25 2015

Location: Carlos Houck Middle School
1155 Connecticut SE
Salem, OR 97317

Tournament Registration: Coming Soon

Any Questions Please Contact: Bill Loyd @ (503) 851-1035
wheelblazerbasketball@gmail.com



Joan Haskins
*M.A., CRC Vocational
Rehabilitation Counselor,
Paralyzed Veterans
of America*

Vocational News

Program Report

OPERATION PAVE: PVA's Vocational Program!

[www.bbb.org/us/article/4580:](http://www.bbb.org/us/article/4580)

It is always a good idea to talk to other franchise owners in the field.

Franchises

Talk to more than one.

Do you want to buy an established business which you can run and with support?

Talk to more than one outside the field you are considering too.

There are a lot of existing franchises to consider.

Ask smart questions such as when did you start the business, and what are pitfalls to consider?

Do check out these sites:
www.franchiseopportunities.com
www.franchisedirect.com
www.franchisegenius.com

What is the typical franchise fee and the continuing fee (known as a royalty) for the use of the trade name and operating methods.

Franchises can be risky, costly and do know the failure rate is high. Be careful and do your research.

Location? Will a good brand do well or not in a location you have in mind?

You can check out the best franchises in 2013:

Again the failure rate can be high especially in hard economic times. You have to gauge the amount of risk you want to take, and whether the product or service you have in mind

[http://tinyurl.com/bv83cxu:](http://tinyurl.com/bv83cxu)
www.franchisematch.com

will not take a toll due to the economic times.

Some examples of franchises that veterans may be interested in include:

Wendy's
UPS Store
Quicken Loans
Papa Murphy's Pizza
Ace Hardware Store
Maid Pro
Taco Bell

Financing?

Veterans can consider:
Veterans Transition
Franchise Initiative
(VetFran).

This voluntary program allows franchise companies to offer financial incentives to honorably discharged veterans who are purchasing franchises. These incentives are presented by almost 200 companies that are members of the International Franchise Association (IFA). The idea is to lower startup costs for veterans who may not have much money as they leave the service. Some companies waive or reduce initial or training fees in order to assist the veterans in getting started. Veterans with Spinal Cord Injury or Spinal Cord Disease who may be receiving SSDI or SSI and wish to work

might consider calling a Paralyzed Veterans of America Certified Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor.

Contact information:
Joan Haskins, M.A., CRC
Rehabilitation Counselor

Office:
562-826-8000 Ext: 4607

Toll-Free:
1-888-771-8387 Ext: 4607

Email:
joanh@pva.org

Website:
www.OperationPAVE.org

Remember to Use Your Recreation Fund

Oregon PVA members are eligible to receive **\$250 each year** through the Member Recreation Reimbursement Fund. It begins October 1st and runs through September 30th each year.

Simply send in your receipts along with a one to two paragraph description of what you did to have fun with your friends and family. We like pictures too, they may make it into the Paralog . Receipts must be dated within the current fiscal year and received in the Oregon PVA office located at 3700 Silverton Road NE Salem, OR 97305 no later than September 29th.

Please contact the office at 503-362-7998 or 1-800-333-0782 if you have any questions or require additional information.



35TH NATIONAL VETERANS WHEELCHAIR GAMES



CITY WHEELS HEARTS

DALLAS, TX ★ JUNE 21 – 26, 2015

CO-PRESENTED BY:



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**



VA | U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
AND REGISTRATION MATERIALS CONTACT:**

www.wheelchairgames.org

Paralyzed Veterans of America
Sports and Recreation Program
(800) 424-8200 ext. 752 or 657
(800) 795-4327 (tty)

Host PVA Chapter
Lone Star PVA
Glen Bentley
(912) 276-5252

Department of Veterans Affairs
National Veterans Sports Programs
and Special Events
(206) 582-3603

Host VA Medical Center
VA North Texas
Health Care System
Dan Higgins
(214) 857-1175



Outreach Coordinator Greetings

Bryan Gwinner—Outreach Coordinator



As November ended my office looked like something out of the movie Apollo 13, with a bank of computers set up: I was ready for 1970 NASA's support crew to move in and begin operations. I felt like I had to order up some very black Folders from a metal coffee tin, get a flattop, put on a white dress shirt, very thin tie, pair of horn-rimmed glasses and start chain-smoking Winstons. Every moment I could just barely hear Tom Hanks uttering those immoral words, "Houston, we have a problem." Although none of that happened; there were no calls from a space capsule unfortunately lost in space; orbiting the earth the crew losing breathable air.

Everything else is moving along in the world of Outreach; I have been out representing OPVA at Salem and Keizer COC lunches and morning greeter events. I have been working with several organizations to get better representation at our already established fundraisers – the Gold Cup and our 1964 ½ Mustang raffle.

I have also been working to develop new fundraisers; including Armed Forces day; a Car & Motorcycle Show to kick off the drawing of our raffle car and other events I cannot disclose at this time.

Also, in the upcoming year; Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America will be hosting Keizer greeter events, one will be here at the office – several others will be with McNary Golf Club. We will also be hosting one of the luncheons; again with the help of McNary GC.

With all these outreach opportunities; I believe that our Paralog will become a great advertising mecca. In the months to come there should be more ads and campaigns in the Paralog. In addition; after the New Year; we are planning on updating the website making it more useful for everyone – from us here at the Chapter office, to you our members and to outside resources and community members.



Paralyzed Veterans
of America

Oregon Chapter

1964 1/2 Mustang

OPVA Raffle Car



Tickets \$10 or 5/\$40

Drawing on August 15, 2015, 2:00 pm at
Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America
3700 Silverton Rd NE, Salem, OR 97301

Winner is responsible for all applicable taxes.

All Proceeds stay in Oregon and support OPVA programs.

www.oregonpva.org - 503-362-7998

Oregonpva@oregonpva.org



Paralyzed Veterans of America

Paralyzed Veterans Sports & Recreation Schedule

For more information contact PVA Sports at 800-424-8200 or www.pva.org/sports



Annual PVA/AWBA Bowling Tournament Series Schedule

Mountain States PVA Tournament
August 21–24, 2014
Colorado Springs, CO

Cal-Diego PVA Tournament
September 12–14, 2014
Fountain Valley, CA

Nevada PVA Tournament
December 4–7, 2014
Las Vegas, NV

Florida Gulf Coast PVA Tournament
April 24–26, 2015
Tampa, FL

AWBA National Event
National Event
June 8–13, 2015
Tampa, FL

New England PVA Tournament
Date TBD
Location TBD



PVA Handcycling Schedule

Melbourne Marathon
February 1, 2015
Melbourne, FL

Gasparilla Criterium
March 21–22, 2015
Tampa, FL

Redlands Classic
April 9–13, 2015
Redlands, CA

Clocktower Classic
April 23–26, 2015
Rome, GA

Pittsburgh Marathon
May 3, 2015
Pittsburgh, PA

Paracycling Nationals
May 23–25, 2015
Chattanooga, TN

Wichita Omnium
May 28–31, 2015
Wichita, KS

Run for the Dream
May 30–31, 2015
Williamsburg, VA



Annual PVA/NWPA Billiards Tournament Series Schedule

Mid-South PVA Tournament
October 17–19, 2014
Memphis, TN

Mid-Atlantic PVA Tournament
March 20–22, 2015
Midlothian, VA

Mid-America PVA Tournament
April 10–12, 2015
Oklahoma City, OK

Mountain States PVA Tournament
May 16–18, 2015
Fountain, CO

Buckeye PVA Tournament
June 19–20, 2015
(Not a NWPA event)
Independence, OH



Shooting Sports

Paralyzed Veterans of America

PVA National Shooting Sports Circuit

Keystone PVA Tournament
August 29–31, 2014
Jefferson Hills, PA

North Central PVA Tournament
September 6–7, 2014
Sioux Falls, SD

Lone Star PVA Tournament
October 17–19, 2014
Fort Worth, TX
Pistol & Rifle Shoot
October 17, 2014
Fort Worth, TX

Arizona PVA Tournament
October 25–26, 2014
Tucson, AZ
Pistol & Rifle Shoot
October 25, 2014
Tucson, AZ

Mid-Atlantic PVA Tournament
November 7–9, 2014
Richmond, VA

Florida Gulf Coast PVA Tournament
March 12–14, 2015
Odessa, FL

Nevada PVA Tournament
March 20–22, 2015
Las Vegas, NV

Cal-Diego PVA Tournament
March 27–29, 2015
Redlands, CA
Pistol & Rifle Shoot
March 27, 2015
Lytle Creek, CA

Iowa PVA Tournament
May 15–17, 2015
Cedar Rapids, IA

Mid-America PVA Tournament
May 22–24, 2015
Sedgwick, KS

Colonial PVA Tournament
June 5–7, 2015
Baltimore, MD

New England PVA Tournament
Date TBD
Location TBD

Vaughan/National PVA Tournament Circuit Year-End
July 10–12, 2015
Edwardsville, IL

Annual PVA Air Rifle & Air Pistol Program Schedule

Cal-Diego PVA Tournament
January 26–27, 2015
Point Loma, CA

Mid-Atlantic PVA Tournament
March 12, 2015
Richmond, VA

Buckeye PVA Tournament
May 15–16, 2015
Geneva, OH

Camp Pendleton
Date TBD
Camp Pendleton, CA



Bass Tour

Paralyzed Veterans of America

2014–15 Paralyzed Veterans of America Bass Tour

Mid-America PVA Tournament
September 26–28, 2014
Eufaula, OK – Lake Eufaula

Southeastern PVA Tournament
October 10–12, 2014
Appling, GA – Clarks Hill Lake

Vaughan/National PVA Tournament
October 24–26, 2014
Mt. Vernon, IL – Rend Lake

Florida Gulf Coast PVA Tournament
March 27–29, 2015
Kissimmee, FL – Lake Toho

Kentucky-Indiana PVA Tournament
April 17–19, 2015
Gilbertsville, KY – Kentucky Lake

Mid-Atlantic PVA Tournament
May 29–31, 2015
Richmond, VA – James River

National PVA Tournament
June 5–7, 2015
LaPlata, MD – Potomac River

Lone Star PVA Tournament
June 26–28, 2015
Garland, TX – Lake Ray Hubbard



35TH NATIONAL VETERANS WHEELCHAIR GAMES
June 21–26, 2015
Dallas, TX



2015 PARALYZED VETERANS

ADAPTIVE CYCLING CLINIC Coming to Your Region

Open to veterans and the public, for novice to experienced riders.
Register today by calling the site coordinators listed below.

Miami – January 30

William Rios
305-244-4455 ext. 3050
William.Rios2@va.gov

CANCELLED

Pittsburgh – May 2

Ashli Molinero
412-383-6705
ashli@pitt.edu

San Diego – April 13

Kelli Kaliszewski
858-642-3163
Kelli.Kaliszewski@va.gov

Salt Lake City – October 3

Curtis A. Ivins
801-582-1565, ext. 1576
Curtis.Ivins@va.gov



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**



The grant funding for this program is awarded by The Department of Veterans Affairs. The grants are provided to facilitate the growth of sport programming for disabled veterans and disabled members of the Armed Forces. The opinions, findings and conclusions stated herein are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.



8th Annual International Wheelchair Bonspiel

Bill Gray—Board Member

Have you ever considered Wheelchair Curling? You should, it is quite an interesting sport. Pushing a 42 pound rock down a sheet of ice and being able to put it into play, taking out the opponents' rocks, or promoting your own rock, even setting up a guard rock to protect you're rock and being able to read the ice are just a few techniques that are used.

I was fortunate enough to be able to attend the 2014 Canadian Open which ran from November 19-23, 2014. It was held in Richmond BC. I drove up the day before as we, the Oregon Evergreen Curling Club team had a draw which is a term used for a game at 6:45 Wednesday and I wanted to be rested if at all possible.

There were ten teams that came to

participate. Alberta, BC, Canada; Edmonton, Kuchelyma-Edmonton; Oregon; Petrie-Canadian; Russia; Korea; and Scotland. Teams Canada, Russia, and Scotland placed Gold, Silver and Bronze in the 2014 Paralympics' Games. So, to be able to play against the world's top curling teams was quite a privilege and challenge. Guess who we played first? Canada and boy were they were on top of their game! In this game we play 8 ends, each player gets two shots per end. An end is when you shoot all sixteen rocks (eight each team) to the opposite end of the sheet. Some of the games we only completed 7 ends. Games usually last 2-1/2 hours.

So did we win against Canada? No, but we scored 3 points to their 13. Then Thursday morning at 9:00 A.M. we played Alberta,

and we wanted a win. We played well and were able to hold their scoring opportunities down and we won 6 - 3. Our third game was at 1pm and we were to play Russia. We had trouble holding them back, because we missed some shots, they of course made most of theirs. We did score a couple shots at the end but, lost 9-2. Our fourth game was Saturday at 8am and we played the Scorpions (Korea). Again we played pretty well, although the two other Oregon teammates had some physical issues, one from falling and the other was physical exhaustion. One of them was from Russia and other was a native of Richmond. Even though we could not speak any Russian we were still able to communicate pretty well. In this game fortunately we use hand signals a lot and they are just about the same. At any rate we played a little better and in the end lost 5-7. The fifth game against Edmonton went even better, we used only one substitute and ended up winning big

12-4. Our sixth game which was at 6:00 P.M. and we played Scotland. They were a very serious competitor and they beat up on us 12-2. We then played our seventh game at 8:00 A.M. on Saturday and faced off with team BC. They played well and we came up short on a lot of our shots.

Although we made a few good shots we still lost this one big 19-2. The eighth game was at 12:30pm and we played Petrie (Canadian). Again we started well but, came up short in the end and lost this one 4-6. In our ninth game we played Kuchelyma-Edmonton, we again played the first four ends well, but again missed some take-out shots and lost to them 5-8 the final game we played Kuchelyma-Edmonton again and as sad as I'm to say it, we lost to them again. Well, we won two games and we had to our credit a best shot to the button, which was taken at the end of the first game by one player from each team. By the way, I was the one who made that shot and that makes me

feel pretty good. Especially since it's been a year since I last played at Evergreen on a winter league. So in the end, as far as standings go, Team Oregon finished 8th overall. We ended up with \$100.00 for our winnings and Team Russia gave us a bottle of Vodka. Not to worry, the Team coach took the Vodka with him and maybe we will bring it back for the next Canadian Bonspiel. My shot to the Button helped otherwise it would be Ninth place. We all came away with the satisfaction that if we just spent more time on the ice, we would and are capable of playing very well against the world's best. This was the third time I personal have played at the Canadian Wheelchair Bonspiel and it is always a great experience. I would encourage anyone who is interested to get involved with the Evergreen Curling Club in Beaverton to visit their website. If you have question call me, Bill Gray (541)-671-2258 and I'll try and help you out. Again, I want to thank to the OPVA for their support,

Consider adding **Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America** to your Will or Trust.



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**

Oregon Chapter



This is Your Chapter

Paul Daulke—National Director

VA Choice Card and Washington Update

As of now most all PVA members should have received a letter pertaining to the new VA card. On November 5th, 2014 the Veterans Access, Choice and Accountability Act [VACAA], took effect. This law was passed in response to the number of veterans that were denied timely access to health care through the VA due to unreasonable wait times for appointments or a long distance to a VA healthcare facility. If you have registered to receive care prior to August 1, 2014, and meet the criteria, you are eligible to exercise choice “under the new law. The PVA’s belief is that all care should be given to you by

VA SCI trained experts at VA healthcare facilities. Although this legislation does allow for the veteran to be seen by a medical professional in a timely manner, there is no system set in place for any monitoring of the quality of care received, or any follow up once the care is received. Many of these health care facilities, don’t have the expertise in caring for patients with SCI, therefore you may not even receive the proper care to begin with. If you are eligible to receive and use this card, and need to use it. I urge you to take the letter you received and consider the questions on the letter and any others you may have, you can also contact the chapter office, or our NSO at his office: 503-412-4262. The PVA is committed to

ensure that all of our members receive the quality of health care you deserve, and we want to help, so please call with any questions or concerns.

On the political front, the PVA has made it official; Mr. William “Carl” Blake has been selected as the new Associate Executive Director of Government Relations. Mr. Blake has worked for the PVA for more than thirteen years, most recently as Acting AED of Government relations. He has also served as Associate and Senior Legislative director and seven years as National Legislative Director. Mr. Blake is a graduate of the United States Military Academy [West Point] and served in the United States Army. Carl was instrumental in the Congressional hearings held pertaining to all the problems we are experiencing with the VA.

On November 12th, Congress returned to Washington to complete the 113th second session. The house was scheduled for eight days in November and potentially eight more days in December.

As a result of the recent election, the Republicans regained control of the Senate. This will also add seats in the house, and give the party unified control of the Senate. Senator Johnny Isakson[R-GA] is projected to be the Chairman of the Senate committee on Veterans Affairs and Senator Bernie Sanders [I-VT] assumes the

position as ranking minority member. Senator Richard Burr[R-NC], the current ranking member of the Senate VA committee, is projected to take over as Chairman of the intelligence committee. Rep. John Boehner[R-OH] was selected to remain the speaker of the house. Rep. Jeff Miller[R-FL] is expected to remain the Chairman of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs.

The House committee on Veterans Affairs held a hearing titled, Assessing the implementation of the Veterans, Choice, and Accountability act of 2014. The purpose of this hearing was to grade the Department of Veterans Affairs implementation of the new choice law. The focus was largely on the slow pace which VA leadership has moved to fire senior executives responsible for lying about medical appointment wait times.

Deputy Secretary Sloan Gibson explained to the committee that the new law does shorten the time to resolve an appeal, but the law does not give VA leaders the authority to terminate senior executives at will. Any removal must meet stringent standards of evidence and provide due process. It does not remove the appeal process. The Deputy Secretaries concern, and that of other VA officials and government attorneys, is that disciplinary actions and terminations be in such a manner that they

stand up to an appeal. He emphasized that the VA would send the wrong message to veterans if an appeals board orders a bad employee to be reinstated because the VA failed to make a proper evidentiary based case against them. The Deputy Secretary did report VA achievements in reducing wait times for veterans seeking medical appointments. From May to September the VA’s electronic wait list dropped from 57,000 appointments to less than 24,000, a 60 percent reduction. The appointment request list for newly enrolled patients dropped from 64,000 to 2000, a near 97 percent decrease. The VA completed over 19 million appointments during that time period. Sloan stated, “We will use all authorities we have to continue to get veterans off wait lists and into clinics.”

So ladies and gentleman this is what’s currently being done for you in Washington now, if you have any questions or concerns about the VA access card, please contact the chapter or NSO, they are ready to help you.





**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**

Oregon Chapter

OPVA

Currently In-Stock

Here at the OPVA we accept donations of medical equipment from a variety of different sources. Here is a current list of some of the items we currently have available to our members for no charge at all.

(Qualification for items decided by OPVA staff.)

- ◆ Power Wheel-Chairs
- ◆ Manual Chairs
- ◆ Walkers
- ◆ Canes
- ◆ Manual Hoyer Lifts
- ◆ Electric Hoyer Lifts



If you have any questions or wish to inquire about piece of equipment you are in need of , please call us at **(503)362-7998**.

Interested in **Basketball**??

We even have a few Basketball wheel-chair frames in stock!!



**Have extra medical equipment?
We are always taking donations
here at OPVA.**

- ◆ Air Seat Cushions
- ◆ Toilet Chairs
- ◆ Breathing/PAP Machines
- ◆ Complete Electric Rail System
- ◆ Hospital Beds
- ◆ Wheel-Chair Frames

Are you currently in need of Medical equipment?



If you or Someone you know is in need of an assisted mobility device please don't hesitate to call!



- ◆ Power Wheel-Chairs
- ◆ Manual Chairs
- ◆ Walkers
- ◆ Canes
- ◆ Manual Hoyer Lifts



Have extra medical equipment?
We are always taking donations
here at OPVA.



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**

Oregon Chapter

3700 Silverton Rd NE
Salem, OE 97305

Please Visit our
Website!

OregonPVA.org

Call Today:

(503)362-7998

PVA Tour:

12-Day Accessible Adventure to

ECUADOR Andean Highlands & Amazon

VISIT THE MIDDLE OF THE
WORLD MONUMENT
and straddle both hemispheres



May 22, 2015 - June 2, 2015



**STAY AT HUASQUILA
AMAZON LODGE,**
the only accessible
destination in the
Ecuadorian Amazon



AMAZON JUNGLE HIKE
using our off-road
wheelchairs.
Engage, dance, and eat
with a **KICHWA
COMMUNITY**



**TOUR QUITO'S
COLONIAL CENTER,**
an UNESCO World
Culture Heritage site.

www.southamericaforall.com
info@southamericaforall.com



southamericaforall
accessible tourism



**Just 4 hours
from Miami!**



M.S. News

Sue Holt—M.S. Liaison

As we start January here at OPVA I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year! For me it's exciting to look forward to the possibility of what might happen versus what might



Photo by Tradewind Charter

have been. I'd want to say thank you to the people who have gone before me with Multiple Sclerosis and those who will follow me. For anyone newly diagnosed in 2015 I urge you to take a deep breath and look around you before making any major decisions in your life.

You may be surprised. In the last thirty five years when I started hearing about MS (my husband's sister was diagnosed with

MS) to my own diagnosis 6 years ago and now it's been an adventure. Yes my life has changed but in many ways for the better. One of the first things I reached out for was the find out what in the heck multiple sclerosis meant for me. I went to the book store and grabbed the first book I came across "Multiple Sclerosis for Dummies." It is a "Bestselling Book Series for Beginners" put out by Wiley Publishing. Many books later I am still learning. The following is an excerpt from their cheat sheet.

"Partnering with Your Neurologist"
-Call the National MS Society (1-800-FIGHT-MS or 1-800-344-4867) for a list of MS specialists in your area.

For each visit to the neurologist, do

the following:

- Be prepared to describe and prioritize problems and symptoms.
- Bring a list of questions
- To catch everything the doc says, bring your partner or a friend or a tape recorder.
- If you don't understand

something ask, (the goal is to know more rather than less when you leave the doctor's office)

- If you need a long consultation (to discuss family planning decisions, employment decisions, sexual Dysfunction, and

so on), schedule a separate appointment or phone call.

- Don't wait for a crisis, see your MS doctor on a regular basis.
- If you feel you need or want a second opinion, don't hesitate to get one."



Membership

Roger Robinson—Membership

Total membership to date is 383 counting service connected and non-service connected. There were 11 deceased in 2014.

I'd like to take a moment and urge you all to take advantage of our generous recreation fund that could run out the end of this fiscal year. What are you waiting for?

Home Depot has received a large grant to help veterans with home repairs, inside and outside. If you need repairs or modifications call the office. Marcie is the administrator, give her a call.

Some of our members are not aware

of OPVA's mission statement. Please read the following.

MISSION: The mission of the Oregon Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America is to oversee the advise spinal cord injured and diseased veterans in the delivery and health care. Of primary concern is the rehabilitation and reintegration of those who are mobility impaired as the result of injury or disease, whether incurred while on active duty or following release from service.

Bottom line is to see that our members are given every opportunity to live a life as near normal as possible in spite of their physical limitations.

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Mark Your Calendar

- 01/03 Night of Fire, Albany
- 01/10 Albany Swap Meet
- 01/19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 01/24-01/25 Basketball Tournament

FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Mark Your Calendar

02/02

Ground Hog Day

02/14

Valentines Day

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers needed for all events.
Please contact the office for how
you can volunteer
Office: (503)362-7998



YOU CAN HELP



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**

Oregon Chapter

EARN DONATIONS

JUST BY SHOPPING WITH YOUR FRED MEYER REWARDS CARD!

Fred Meyer is donating \$2.5 million per year to non-profits in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington, based on where their customers tell them to give. Here's how the program works:

- Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to (**Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America**) at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards. You can search for us by our name or by our non-profit number (**94989**).
- Then, every time you shop and use your Rewards Card, you are helping (non-profit) earn a donation!
- You still earn your Rewards Points, Fuel Points, and Rebates, just as you do today.
- If you do not have a Rewards Card, they are available at the Customer Service desk of any Fred Meyer store.
- For more information, please visit www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards.



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**

PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA MEMBERSHIP 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, and was accepted for or on active duty, in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Coast Guard of the United States or an ally of the United States; (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 mail the application to: PVA Membership Department, 801 18th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006 or to the chapter of choice. Providing the requested information is entirely voluntary but required for membership with PVA.

800-424-8200 • www.pva.org

Chapter Name: Oregon

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

Date of Birth: _____ / _____ / _____ Last 4 Digits of Social Security Number: _____
month date year

Male Female

Are you a United States citizen? Yes No

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Other Phone: _____

Email: _____

VETERAN STATUS INFORMATION

DATE(S) OF MILITARY SERVICE		TYPE OF SEPARATION Discharge (D) or Retirement (R)	BRANCH OF SERVICE	
Start Date <small>month/date/year</small>	End Date <small>month/date/year</small>		Copy of DD214 showing type of discharge or VA Medical Services Card Required (attach a <u>copy</u> to application)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> or <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Still on Active Duty Copy of Military ID Required (DD214 Not Required)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> or <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Army <input type="checkbox"/> Air Force <input type="checkbox"/> Navy <input type="checkbox"/> Marine Corps <input type="checkbox"/> Coast Guard	
		<input type="checkbox"/> or <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Army <input type="checkbox"/> Air Force <input type="checkbox"/> Navy <input type="checkbox"/> Marine Corps <input type="checkbox"/> Coast Guard	

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

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

DISABILITY CLASSIFICATION

SPINAL CORD INJURY

(Complete ONLY if you have a traumatic spinal cord injury)

Date of Injury: _____ / _____ / _____

Injury Level: C1-C08 Cervical T01-T12 Thoracic
 L01-L05 Lumbar S01-S05 Sacral

Cause of SCI:

- Vehicular (auto, motorcycle, aircraft, bicycle, etc.)
- Violence (gunshot, stabbing, explosion, etc.)
- Pedestrian (hit by car, etc.)
- Sport or recreation (swimming, diving, etc.)
- Flying or falling object
- Medical-surgical complications
- Other traumatic injury _____
- Unknown

SPINAL CORD DISORDER

(Complete ONLY if you have non-traumatic spinal cord disorder)

Date of diagnosis/onset of condition:

_____ / _____ / _____

Specific disease:

- Multiple Sclerosis (involving spinal cord)
- Poliomyelitis
- Amyotrophic diseases (lateral sclerosis, transverse myelitis)
- Syringomyelia
- Other (specify) _____

LEVEL OF FUNCTION

Indicate your level of function:

- Paraplegia Tetraplegia (Quad) Hemiplegia No paralysis at this time

GENERAL INFORMATION (Optional, not required)

Please check the appropriate box or fill in the blank of each of the categories that best describes your present status. This important information enables the PVA to compile data for the effective implementation and support of our programs.

EDUCATION (highest level)

- Less than high school graduate
 High school graduate/GED
 Some college or trade school
 Associate's degree
 Bachelor's degree
 Attended graduate school
 Graduate degree
 Other _____

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATUS

- Employed full time
 Employed part time
 Self-employed
 Unemployed
 Unemployed due to disability
 Retired
 Other _____

MARITAL STATUS

- Divorced
 Married
 Never Married
 Separated
 Widowed

RACE/ETHNICITY

- Asian or Pacific Islander
 Black, not Hispanic/Latino origin
 Hispanic/Latino
 Native American or Alaskan Native
 White, not Hispanic/Latino origin
 Other _____

TYPE OF RESIDENCE

- Apartment
 Assisted living facility
 Single-family home/condominium
 State/veterans retirement home
 Nursing home
 VA hospital
 VA nursing home
 Other _____

SOURCE(S) OF INCOME

(check all that apply)

- Employment
 Gifts/Other
 Private pension
 Social Security
 VA compensation
 VA pension
 Worker's compensation

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 PVA presently your benefits representative? Yes No

If yes, I have no objection and hereby permit PVA Service Officers to provide information to the PVA National Membership Department that pertains to my qualifications for membership.

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

Applicant's Signature

2/18/14

Date

Office Use Only

Date Received: _____

Member ID#: _____

Processed Date: _____

Birthday List



Richard Dinges.....	01/02	Steven Fairin.....	01/28
John Dixon.....	01/03	Steven Neumeyer.....	01/29
Robert Batson.....	01/03	Gaetano Amico.....	02/05
Robert Forson.....	01/04	Susan Holt.....	02/05
Larry Ricklefs.....	01/07	Kevin Airrington.....	02/05
Thomas Shimon.....	01/08	Joseph Bilbao.....	02/07
Karen Starratt.....	01/08	Patricia Godwin.....	02/07
Robin Krakow.....	01/08	Richard Elliott.....	02/09
Terry Brown.....	01/09	Floyd Freemyer.....	02/10
Michael Breshears.....	01/10	Gerald Schroeder.....	02/10
John Haber.....	01/11	Cathy Roff.....	02/10
Carolyn Hamstreet Shores..	01/11	Steven Lakin.....	02/13
Wendell Robb.....	01/12	Charles Wilcox.....	02/14
Gary Wright.....	01/12	Christopher Hulse.....	02/15
Theodore Geck.....	01/15	Roger Robinson.....	02/17
George McCart.....	01/15	Tommy Stratemeyer.....	02/18
Janice Crews.....	01/15	Kevin O'Reilly.....	02/18
Louis Hall.....	01/16	William Morgan.....	02/19
Boyd Hixson.....	01/17	Barry Brandt.....	02/20
Donald Wyatt.....	01/21	Robert Van Buren.....	02/21
John Buss.....	01/21	Lee Presley C/O Mathews...	02/23
David Landis.....	01/22	Lowell Higley.....	02/24
Connie Paulsen.....	01/24	Thomas Tucholke.....	02/26
John Wilmot.....	01/24	Margaret Walker.....	02/26
John Phillips.....	01/25	David Magee.....	02/27
Merle Cutler.....	01/26	Dewey Johnson.....	02/27
Ronald Coffman.....	01/28	Ronald Weisenberger.....	02/27
Kenneth Cornelius.....	01/28		

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

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Salem, OR
Permit #779

Proudly Serving Our Veterans.



Wheelchair Accessible Vans • Sales • Rental • 24 Hour Emergency Line

Toll Free: 888-707-0456
PerformanceMobility.com

Portland West | Portland East | Eugene



AUTHORIZED DEALER OF: • BraunAbility Minivans & Wheelchair Lifts • VMI Minivans • Hand Controls • Bruno Scooter Lifters • Vision Rear Entry Vans • Full Size Vans