

PARALOG

Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America

July/August 2016
Volume 20, Issue 4

4TH OF JULY

INDEPENDENCE DAY



Paralyzed Veterans
of America

Oregon Chapter

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

After Hours Number
(888) 233-8305

**Portland VA Contact
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Do you need assistance with your claims or benefits?



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**
Oregon Chapter

Board of Directors

Front Row (left to right): Dave Parker, Jack Howell, Bill Blake, Toby Newton and Bill Gray.
Second Row: Dan Service, Mike Rosenbalm and Louie Grimmer. Back Row: Larry Gardner and Roger Robinson



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.



Fishing Trip 2016



Dockside Charters.
270 Coast Guard Dr., Depoe Bay, OR 97341



Cost: \$50 members
nonmembers \$65



Mon Jul 11	Board 5:30 am - 11:00 am
Mon Aug 8	Board 5:30 am - 11:00 am
Mon Sep 12	Board 6:30 am - 12:00 pm
Mon Oct 10	Board 6:30 am - 12:00 pm

Complementary Coffee is provided. Bring your own lunch, snack or drinks



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**

Oregon Chapter

3700 Silverton Rd., NE Salem, OR 97305

Tel: 503-362-7998

www.oregonpva.org



Crater Lake. Photo by Travel Oregon



President's Greeting

Bill Blake—President

The wonderful summer months are here. Hope you are all doing well and planning your new adventures in the great Pacific Northwest. We have quite a few events scheduled and hope to see you participate.

We are planing some events for fall, including bowling nights. We are always looking for ideas. How about to putting together a group to go to a college basketball game in Corvallis, or Eugene??? I think we could get some court side wheelchair seats. Let me know.

Upcoming Events

July

- 7th - 10th Marion County Fair
- 9th Veteran's Car Show Beaverton
- 11th 1st Deep Sea Fishing out of Depoe Bay
- 16th Grange to Grange Car Rally Eugene
- 23th Fun Trapshoot in Albany-Learn to shoot

August

- 8th 2nd Deep Sea Fishing out of Depoe Bay
- 13th OPVA Car Show at Salem Home Depot
- 26th State Fair Begins in Salem



Believe it or not our fiscal year is 2/3rds finished, so nominations for next year's Officers and Board of Directors will be due on 7/31. We are mailing information out to you.

You should have received your invitation to the Annual Member's Banquet to be held at Spirit Mountain on 9/25, so make sure you RSVP and mark your calendars.

You have until the end of September to request your recreation fund reimbursement. Available to each member is \$250 to do something outside of the home. We have done this program for quite a few years, and it is NOT ending this year. We will do whatever it takes to keep this benefit going.

So, enjoy the summer and we hope to see you several times, especially at our events. Feel free to stop by the office, or to even come to a Board Meeting. They are the last Thursday of the month.



Two locations to serve you:

Ability Center of Portland

9770 SW Wilsonville Rd.

Ste. 440

Wilsonville, OR 97070

(971) 224-5895

Ability Center of Eugene:

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Vice President's Report

Mike Rosenblam—Vice President

For this issue of the Paralog I wanted to touch on the Oregon Chapter Annual Election and some recent Chapter activities.

Annual Election

The time of year for the Oregon Chapter Officer and Board of Directors elections have arrived. Elected positions include: President; Vice President; Secretary; Treasurer and 5 Board Members.

If you know someone you would like to nominate, including yourself please make sure your nomination reaches the office before the last day of July.

In addition, if you are considering running for one of these Offices or a position on the Board of Directors, you must be a certified member of OPVA.

If not a certified member you must successfully complete the Paralyzed Veterans of America certification process. The certification process is very simple, and the forms are available at the Chapter Office.

Certification requires three items of proof: (here are samples of items in each category)

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

I encourage all members to consider running for office or nominating another member

Once the nomination process is completed, the election ballots will be mailed to the Oregon Chapter voting membership for their selections. Ballots will be counted and the winners will be sworn in at the Annual Banquet in September.

I encourage all members to consider running for office or nominating another member. It would be nice to have a full ballot this year, rather than an uncontested election.

Annual Members Picnic



On June 11, 2016, Paralyzed Veterans of America Oregon Chapter held its Annual Members Picnic at Cascade Gateway Park in Salem. The rain held off making it a nice day for everyone that attended to socialize and eat BBQ. Hope to see those who were not able to attend next year.




Social Worker, Ruth Jones Retirement

On May 10, 2016, the Seattle VA Spinal Cord Injury unit hosted a retirement party for social worker Ruth Jones. Ruth will be missed by many patients and staff that worked with her over 16 years at the Seattle VA.

PVA Awareness Month Celebration

On April 17, 2016, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Oregon and Northwest chapters celebrated PVA awareness month with chapter members, SCI staff, and patients at the Seattle VA SCI unit. The PVA chapters provided cake, fresh food, and miscellaneous beverages.



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**

Oregon Chapter

**No One
Left
Behind**

**We continue fulfilling
our mission.
Are you participating?**

**Our chapter will succeed if
members come forward to
participate in the activities.**

Support your Chapter!

Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America
3700 Silverton Rd., Salem, OR 97305
Office: 503-362-7998
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Pants-Wheelchair or Sitting Pants

Hospital Liaison Report

Mike Rosenblam – Hospital Liaison

In this issue of the Paralog I wanted to readdress wheelchair clothing. For our members that don't already know that just because we might have ALS, MS or SCI fashionable clothing is still an option if you choose.

There are several companies that sell fashionable clothing designed specifically with wheelchair users in mind. Most of the companies at a minimum design/sell pants for disabled customers who use a wheelchair and call their pants, wheelchair or sitting pants. These pants typically have a tailored seat and offer the following:

- Flat seams, no back pockets, rivets or studs in seating area to prevent pressure issues.
- Higher back than front so when you sit the waistband is level at both the front and back.
- Waistband expandable for comfort and assist pants stay in place during transfers.

- Belt loops extra strong and located in just the right areas to assist in dressing.
- Hook fastener typically hidden under false button providing easy open and close.
- Zippers have extra long zip down to the crotch seam allowing an extra wide opening for easier dressing and bladder management.

Many of the companies that offer wheelchair/sitting pants also sell other types of adaptive clothing i.e. shirts, jackets, shoes, etc., as well as other medical supplies and/or equipment. Some of the most popular companies are located in Germany and United Kingdom.

If needed, currency and size conversion charts can be found on the internet or by contacting the companies.

The following is a list of known accessible clothing companies that have websites:

USA Jeans - <http://wheelchairjeans.com/>

Rollitex - <http://www.rollitex.co.uk/>

Rolli-Moden - <http://www.rollimoden.de/> (Click British flag top right of page for English)

Rolling Elephants Limited - <http://www.rollinglephants.com/>

Endless Ability - <http://www.endlessability.com/>

Adaptations by Adrian - <http://www.adaptationsbyadrian.com/>

Able2 Wear - <http://www.able2wear.co.uk/>

*Note the above list is not all inclusive and members can find more options by doing a web search for disabled or wheelchair clothing.



Paralyzed Veterans
of America

Oregon Chapter

Show & Shine

Car Show

August 13, 2016



Trophies



**Drawings
& 50-50 Raffle**



**Food
Vendor**



Location: Home Depot

3795 Hagers Grove Rd SE Salem, OR 97317

Vehicle Registration: \$15.00

Gates Open at 9:00 AM

Show begins at 10:00 AM

Presentation of Raffle at 2:00 PM

Free Admission

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at

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Hotel Rooms is 4:00 pm

BANQUET



Banquet Check in 1 pm
Social Time, 2 - 3 pm
Appetizers served at 2 pm
Dinner served promptly at 3 pm

Make Dinner Reservations by **September 15th**

email: fparker426@aol.com

or call 503-990-7900



Wheelchair Adventures

Louie Grimmer – Board Member

Well I seemed to have exhausted my attempt to pass along tip's that have made my life a bit easier and possibly you the reader too.

I have an idea to present a totally different topic that may put a smile on your face and give you other options in life. I will give you a little background on how I stumbled into this new era of my life. When raising 5 kids one often wonders how they will deal with life as they get older.

I was taught hard work and having responsibility was a good foundation. The opportunity my kids had was to be involved in a paper route, which turned into 2 routes that needed to be staffed so my wife got involved and our family had them for 14 years.

One early morning my oldest son and I were delivering papers and in the scant light at 4:45 AM I saw a 6 point set of Elk antlers on the front

of a Chevrolet Pickup and in the headlights it was very impressive.

Here is how it all started as recorded in my journal.

It all started in 1984 when Chuck bagged a 6 point bull elk and mounted the head on the front of his pickup. I was helping my kids with an early morning paper route when we saw this massive trophy head. We were doing the route pretty fast and didn't have time to stop and look. I returned that morning to get a better look when I first met Chuck.

The first thing he asked me was, "Do you hunt"? I answered, "NO, I can't hunt from a WHEELCHAIR!" Then he offered to take me deer hunting the next weekend to show me I really could hunt, he said it might be difficult at first but it can be done. A few years earlier I figured hunting was not in the cards for poor little old

me so I sold my 30.06. I told Chuck that I didn't have anything to shoot with.

He said, "NO PROBLEM, PILGRIM, you can use one of mine." Well, I was excited to go with him, but I had forgotten most of the hunting abilities I had as a teenage kid.

I had to re-acclimate my eyes, ears and all the senses that are needed to become a hunter again. Chuck sold his 4X4 truck to fly back to Boston because his wife's mother was ill and that is the only way he could get some money fast. Ol' Green was an ideal huntin' rig and now it was gone and the last we heard it was someplace in Stayton, Oregon.

I remember we headed for a place toward Tom Rock Road (in a 2-wheel drive Datsun pickup) that was level and not very exciting. However, when we came around the corner and the road went down a very muddy, rutted (10" to 24" deep) incline we were COMMITTED (that word is not my favorite). The rear wheels had NO traction. Well, we went to the bottom on purpose to look for a way out. The road got worse and Chuck

said, "Stay here and I will walk it out." I was not going anywhere because my wheels were in the back of the pickup.

Chuck came back in a few minutes saying that Rock Creek was just below us and I'd better hang on because it might be rough getting through. Let me tell you the ride to the bottom of the hill was more exciting than a ride at the State Fair. We went sideways through deep ruts, a large pool of water and finally the road below was in sight. There was one problem, a huge barricade (pile of dirt pushed up by a bulldozer) we had to JUMP before we were out of the predicament and home free.

Those who brave the unknown roads in the woods learn what areas to use and what areas to avoid. There are easier ways to get around, and that road was not an easy one.

By the way Chuck is 1/8th Cherokee Indian.

That is a sample of the direction this article will be going, so stay tuned for more "Wheelchair" adventures.



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- 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.



Greetings from the Development Department

Tom Hurt – Development Coordinator

June started off with a BANG!! Already getting to 100 degrees.

Our weekends have been full. On May 20th your chapter participated in the Keizer Iris Golf Tournament. This was a good event for us, we were able to sell some raffle tickets and get people signed up for the OPVA Golf Tourney. The next weekend we went down to the Willamette Speedway. The manager of the track allowed us to have a table in the lobby as well as take part in the 50/50 raffle. Hats off to Dave Parker for arranging to have the Young Marines out of Albany assist us with the 50/50 Raffle, thank you Mr. Parker.



June has not missed a beat as far as full weekends are concerned. On June 4th OPVA held our 7th Annual Gold Cup Golf Tournament, at the same time the Robinson Crew were up at Detroit Lake hosting Free Fish Day. Even with the heat of the day all had a good time.



On June 11th was OPVA Members Picnic, please remember these events are put together for you to be able to connect with fellow members. The weather has been a bit unpredictable this year, but that is nothing new for true Northwester's.

We just finished the month of June with the Spirit Mt. Roll the Dice Car Show. Even though the weather did not completely cooperate, everyone had a good time. We are estimating that there were around 450 vehicles on display.

Your Chapter has Arranged for Conceal Carry Classes to be available, please see page 43 in this Paralog for more information.

Mark Your Calendars

Summer is HERE!!! It's time to come out and participate in the events that we are at. If there is something going on in your area that you would like to participate in or have your Chapter support let us know and we will see if we can get it on the calendar. In the meantime visit the website often to stay up to date on all of the events that we are either attending or hosting for you to attend.

FYI we do have the Chapter's Facebook page up and running, and we will be posting our events there as well.

Next month on **July 5th** we will be out at Sublimity's First Tuesday event, held at Church Park. There will be live music, and a variety of local vendors, this is a great small town summer event.

Then on July 7th through July 10th we will be at the Marion County Fair. We will have our booth with this year's raffle car. Also during that week on July 9th we will have a table at the 5th Annual Veterans & Family Center Cruise In, this will be in Beaverton at Valley Catholic School, 4275 SW 148th Ave, Beaverton, 97007 (Murray Blvd / TV Hwy) starting at 11:00 am, Free Admission.

On July 16th we will be traveling south for the Annual Cruise – N – Ride Benefit sponsored by the Lane County Granges. The event starts at 10:00am and ends at 3:00pm. It starts and ends at Crow Grange 85994 Territorial Hwy, Eugene (Crow) OR. There will be: Poker Run; Raffles; Food; and Fun!

July 23rd your OPVA Chapter will be holding the annual Pepperoni Fun Shoot at the Albany Gun Club, if you would like to try your hand at trap shooting or just want to come out and watch some of the seasoned shooters, all are welcome. Along with the shooting games there will be raffles. The lady's from the club will have the kitchen open for business. The fun gets started at 9:00am with registration and the games start at 10:00am. We are expecting a wide range of shooters from beginners to the more seasoned.

**So as you can see there is a lot to do in July...
But wait, there is still more what about August**

On August 13th the OPVA Show and Shine Car Show, will be held at 3795 Hagers Grove Rd SE, Salem, Gates open at 9:00am and the Show begins at 10:00am. We will have Food Vendors, Trophies for the Show Cars, Drawings, 50/50 raffle, and last but NOT least we will be drawing the WINNER of this year's Raffle Car the 2006 Pontiac Solstice. So, if you haven't got your tickets for the car don't

wait get your tickets now while you still can. We will then unveil our next Raffle Vehicle, all I can say about it is WOW!!



As I mentioned earlier on August 18th we will hold CHL Classes at our office in Salem. Starting on August 19th through the 21st we will be hosting the National Del Martin Annual Trap Shoot at the Hillsboro Gun Club, this has been a well-attended event, you can find a registration form on our website www.oregonpva.org then click on the events tab to find the shoot.



Last but not least the State Fair starts on August 26th and runs through September 5th. We will have our booth there again this year. So PLEASE stop by the booth and say hi.

As always, for any of the events to be a success I am asking for your assistance, the most successful events we have or participate in are the ones where the members are attending and or volunteering at. So as you read through the Paralog and you see something we are doing or attending, check your schedule, hope to see you there.



Sports NEWS Alert

Larry Gardner—Sports Director

The first day of summer is just around the corner, but it just seems like it goes so fast, so we need to get out and do all the outdoor activities we can. July is one of our busiest months, July 1st through the 4th we have the 4th of July Shoot at the Hillsboro Trap and Skeet Club, there is camping and RV spaces available with water and electric hookups, so come on out and join the fun. We also have several other trap shoots coming up if anyone needs more information on these events give me a call at: 503-930-9589.



July 11th is our first Deep Sea Fishing Trip out of Depoe Bay, the boat is wheelchair accessible, with help available, the first trip still has space available. We also have Deep Sea Fishing Trips in August, September, and October, all you have to do is call the office at 503-362-7998 and get signed up for the trip that works for you. Remember you can use your Rec Fund for the Deep Sea fishing trips.

Then July 23rd at the Albany Gun Club, the OREGON PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA is putting on a trap shoot fund-raiser event to raise money to help our members.

We would really like to see all members that can, come out and enjoy the day with us whether you want to shoot or not, come and just enjoy the day with us. This event is open to everyone, so bring a friend. We will also have guns

available for the ones that want to shoot but do not have a gun.

We are always needing volunteers

There will be shooting games set up and prizes of pepperoni and jerky, also there will be lots of raffle items, food and drinks available. If you have never shot before and want to try, we will be more than happy to help you out.

I am also working on getting some bowling and tennis teams together in different areas. If anyone would like to help me out or have any ideas call me so we can move forward and make it happen. Don't forget we are always needing volunteers, even if all you do is attend, it all helps the organization promote our goals. If you're not sure what events to volunteer for call the office anytime for information.



Thank you everyone and let's get out there and enjoy the outdoors.

Your Sports Director
Larry Gardner. Office 503-362-7998
Cell 503-930-9589



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**
Oregon Chapter

Trapshoot Fundraiser July 23, 2016

All proceeds support
OPVA Trap Team

Raffle prizes from Cabelas
Spectators welcome
New Shooters encouraged



Location: Albany Gun Club
35305 Hwy 20 SE, Albany, OR 97322

Time: Registration is at 9:00 a.m.
Trap Event 10:00 a.m.-4 p.m.

Event Type: Games
Pepperoni Fun Shoot

Cost: \$4.00 each game

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

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July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 Independence Day	5 ★ First Tuesday in Sublimity	6	7	8	9 Veterans Car show in Beaverton
10	11 Deep Sea Fishing	12	13	14	15	16 ★ Cruise-n-Ride Benefit
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 Fun Shoot Albany
24 31	25	26	27	28 BOD 10:00 a.m.	29	30

 Office closed

 PITA Shoot

 Marion County Fair

Save the Date

7/1-4 4th of July Shoot
7/4 4th of July - Office Closed
7/7-10 Marion County Fair
7/11 Deep Sea Fishing

7/16 Cruise -n- Ride-Benefit
7/23 Fun Shoot in Albany
7/28 BOD Meeting (10:00 a.m.)
8/2 First Tuesday



Happy 4th of July

August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 First Tuesday in Sublimity	3	4	5	6
7	8 Deep Sea Fishing	9	10	11	12	13 OPVA Show & Shine Car Show
14	15	16	17	18 CHL Class	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 BOD 10:00 a.m.	26	27
28	29	30	31			

 Del Martin Memorial Trapshoot

 Oregon State Fair

Save the Date

- | | |
|---|---|
| 8/8 Deep Sea Fishing | 9/11 Harvest Festival on Sublimity |
| 8/13 OPVA Show & Shine Car Show | 9/12 Deep Sea Fishing |
| 8/18 CHL Class | 9/16 St. Helens Stand Down |
| 8/19-21 National PVA Trapshoot | 9/25 Members Banquet |
| 8/25 BOD Meeting (10:00 a.m.) | 10/10 Deep Sea Fishing |
| 8/26-9/5 State Fair | 10/27 BOD Meeting (10:00 a.m.) |
| 8/26-28 Pacific NW Sectional
Wheelchair Tennis Championship | 11/11 Albany Vets Day Parade |
| 9/5 Labor Day - Office Closed | 11/17 BOD Meeting (10:00 a.m.) |
| 9/10-11 Nut Shoot | 11/24 Thanksgiving |
| | 12/25 Christmas |



John McClaran – Member

The Northwest Wheelchair Tennis Association (NWTA) will be holding its Annual Tennis Tournament; The Pacific Northwest Sectional Wheelchair Tennis Championships, August 26-28 at the South Salem Tennis and Swim Club. The club is located at 4318 Lone Oak Road SE in Salem. Whether you want to play or watch we invite everyone to come out and see some great wheelchair tennis action.

The NWTA is a group of wheelchair tennis players, coaches and supporters and we are very interested in getting anyone with a mobility impairment to come out and play wheelchair tennis. As a group we represent a wide variety of skill levels from beginners to advanced and our tournament attracts some of the best players in the country.

Since 1988, the NWTA has been devoted to growing our sport in the Pacific Northwest. Our mission is to promote an active lifestyle and supportive community for adult and junior players.

Through our various programs and activities, we offer competitive and recreational opportunities for people of all ages and skill levels. We try to offer

something for everyone and no matter your skill level our focus is on having fun.

Whether playing with able-bodied opponents or another wheelchair player, this is a life-long sport that can provide a healthy lifestyle and years of enjoyment. Wheelchair athletes play the same game as standing players.

The only difference with wheelchair tennis is that we get up to two bounces, all the other rules of tennis are the same. This enables you to play with able-bodied friends and family as well as other wheelchair players.

We have a number of different programs including free weekly lessons every Monday night in Salem and most Saturdays in Portland.

We are fortunate to have two of the leading wheelchair coaches in the world teaching us. We put on an Annual Kids Camp, a Three Days Adult Camp and the 27th Annual Pacific Northwest Sectional Championship Tournament August 26 – 28 at the South Salem Tennis and Swim Club. Our tournament attracts some of the best players in the

country with some forty players competing this year. Everyone is invited to come play and or watch this exciting event.

To find out more about the NwTA please visit our website at www.nwwheelchairtennis.org there you can see a list of classes and events.



You can also find news stories related to the world of wheelchair

tennis, instructional videos, photos, tournament information and much more. We've been changing lives one swing at a time since 1988. All you have to do is show up and we'll take care of the rest, so come on out.

You will make a lot of new friends and have a really good time!



Free Donated Items



OPVA has many items that have been donated to us for our Veterans.
Check with us before you buy.

If you, a family member or someone you know, needs one of these items,
contact us at 503-362-7998

- Power Wheel Chairs
- Manual Wheel Chairs
- Rollators
- Electric Scooter
- Shower Chairs
- Electric Hospital Beds and Rails
- Hoyer Lifts

Remember this is used equipment, As Is. No - Warrantee.
All these items are **Free** of charge. If it wears out you dispose of it.

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503-362-7998 • www.oregonpva.org • oregonpva@oregonpva.org

Recreation Fund Reports

Thanks to Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America I was able to attend the Desert Challenge in Phoenix, Arizona.

I competed in archery for the first time this season. Registration began on Thursday the May 12th with the day's high hitting 104°. We were hoping it was going to cool off by the time Sunday's competition rolled around.

The start time for the event was moved to 7:30 a.m. to help beat the heat of the day which turned out to be a great idea. By Sunday's competition start time the projected High had cooled down to 98°.

We had a 15-minute site in period during which I was able to bring my rose inside the 9 ring. By 7:30 a.m. we were starting the competition on time and my first flight of arrows scored a 54 out of 60. The next three flights were pretty similar and they were all just a little to the right at this point I made a huge mistake. I tried to adjust my sights to bring the groupings towards the left and unfortunately ended up letting a whole flight of 6 hit outside the four ring.



I ended the first flight with a score of 270 out of a possible 360. Now it's time to begin the second flight of 36 this time I had my bow dialed in and my first six scored a 57. I was able to pretty much stay in the fifties for the whole 36 and finish my second round with a score of 317 out of a possible 360. That score was good enough for 2nd Place and to encourage me to sign up for the Endeavor games in Edmond Oklahoma.

Jeff De Leon

I would like to use the remaining portion of my Rec Fund for a boat rental I rented for a fishing trip at Odell Lake. I might add that if anyone is interested that the pontoon boat is easy to access and load by wheelchair. A piece of 3/4" plywood, 32" square is all you need. I used a power chair

Thanks
Charles DeMoss



Dear OPVA

On June 1st, 2016 my wife (Jan) and I drove our 2002 white Corvette Convertible on a road trip, with 12 other Corvettes ranging from a classic 1959 C1 to three new 2016 Stingray C7s.

Beginning our eight day adventure in Albany, Oregon on a sunny, but not hot day, with the top up for comfort, it didn't take long before the top was down as we caravanned through the scenic Cascade Mountains of Central Oregon, making stops to see the John Day Fossil Beds and the Oregon Interpretive Center near Baker City, we spent the night at John Day.

The next day was a beautiful drive through the Wallowa Mountain Range, past Wallowa Lake. The Cascade Corvette club spent the night in Enterprise which is a part of my Oregon that I have never seen before.

We joined about 300 Corvettes in Pasco, Washington, June 3rd and 4th, for "Corvettes On The Columbia." This is a fun event that features, among other things, live oldies rock music & dancing, great catered food, fund-raiser for "Make a Wish", and an all Corvette Show & Shine in the park.

Jan and I extended our trip with a couple days in beautiful Lake Chelan, and one night at Leavenworth, Washington, a pretty little town built like an old German Village. Next month Jan and I are planning another trip in that direction to see things and ride some roads on our Harley trike that we didn't hit on this trip.

Thank you OPVA for helping us finance some of this trip with the Recreation Fund. We appreciate you more than I can express.

Respectfully
Joey Heidrick



Thank you so much for this Rec Fund. Because of it I will be able to take my son on a charter fishing boat when we are in Florida. Our son graduated from USF and we spend 2 wonderful weeks together. Poor kid was sick the whole time out fishing. Here is a picture of our last sunset at Indian Rocks Beach, Florida. This Rec Fund helps to take the sting out of our time in Florida. Thank you so much OPVA!

Julie Pollard



Heroes in Summer is a weekend adventure sports retreat for injured and disabled Veterans and their families. It is one of OAS' largest and most popular events of the season and a great opportunity to meet and have fellowship with fellow Veterans, try a new sport or improve a current skill. The purpose of this event is to honor Pacific Northwest veterans with permanent physical disabilities and their families. OAS hopes to show you what you can do regardless of your injuries.

HEROES IN SUMMER

KAYAKING CYCLING GOLF HIKING



SEPTEMBER 9, 10, 11 2016

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Information: 541.306.4774 info@oregonadaptivesports.org



Membership and More

Roger C. Robinson – Membership Director



Free Fish day was Saturday June 4th and was very exciting this year, we had almost a full lake and water was down 10 feet. Most everyone limited out with 5 trout. The mini pond for young anglers was very good, some catching 3 pounders. As you can see in the pictures (below) a little guy awaits his turn to fish the pond and his sister holds a large trout. Everyone of the children received a T-shirt, provided by OPVA and US Fish and Wildlife, and a free fishing rod compliments of Cabela's. Lunch was served: hot dogs; mac salad; potato salad; chips and water. What an enjoyable day!



I attended the Memorial Service at the Willamette Veterans Cemetery in Portland. There were thousands of people honoring our fallen warriors. Traffic was heavy and backed up, the wait time was 45 minutes or more. It was a delightful ceremony and worth the wait.



I remind you fishing trips start next month out of Depot Bay call the office for details. State Fair and the OPVA Show & Shine Car Show at Home Depot in Salem are in August.

Now is the time to use your Rec Fund benefit of \$250. Just need receipts, a paragraph and pictures are great too!

Our member ship is at 356.

OPVA Birthday List

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





Paralyzed Veterans
of America

70th Annual Convention

May 17-21, 2016 [Jacksonville, FL]



Photo by Alex Quijano with Art & Alex Photography



Bill Gray – National Director

Hi, Maybe you do not know me, but I'm the National Director for the Oregon Paralyzed Veterans Chapter in Salem. This last month I had the pleasure of attending the 70th Annual Convention of PVA, which was held in Jacksonville, Florida.

I've never been to the East Coast, so for me this was a great opportunity to put my feet in the Atlantic Ocean. My wife accompanied me, we left a day early, because we are three time zones difference.

Since Monday was a free day for me, we decided to take a taxi from the hotel to Jacksonville Beach to see the ocean. The weather was in the 80's and it was sunny.

At the beach there is a life guard station that for free, has wheelchairs designed to go out on the beach, so I jumped into one and they pushed me down to the water. I pleasantly enjoyed sitting on the beach, the sites and sounds and dipped my hand in the Atlantic Ocean.



Photo by Alex Quijano with Art & Alex Photography



Photo by Alex Quijano with Art & Alex Photography

On with the meeting, besides the Opening Ceremonies, reports from the Executive Committee; the Executive Director, there were Keynote Speakers, Resolutions, FY 2017 Budget, Election of Officers and prestigious awards.

We passed the amended budget with a projected saving of \$61,000 with a vote of 94% supporting and 6% opposing

We worked through 22 Resolutions. Elections nominations for Al Kovac as President were made and passed by acclimation. Senior Vice is Dave Zurfluh, Vice Presidents are Joe Fox, Charles Brown, Hack Albertson and Ken Weas. Sherman Gillum, was voted in to the position of Executive Director. Tom Wheaton was also voted in as Treasure and Larry Dodson as Secretary.

Resolution #	Description	Status
16-M-1	PVA Administrative Guide Proposed Revision	Pulled to be rewritten
16-M-2	National Assignment of Membership	Pulled
16-M-3(S)	PN Magazine Editor Status	Passed
16-M-4	President as a Member of Judicial Committee	Passed (Consent Agenda)
16-M-5(S)	Clarification of Special Rule of Order #5	Pulled
16-M-6	PVA Medical Requirements of Membership	Passed
16-M-7	Remove ACED & ACGRD from PVA Admin Guide	Referred to Committee
16-M-8	Discontinuing PVA Leadership Program	Passed (Consent Agenda)
16-M-9	Awards Cover Page in the PVA Admin Guide	Passed (Consent Agenda)
16-M-10	Increasing Land Travel Mileage Rates	Passed
16-M-11	Adjusting Travel Reporting Procedures	Passed (Consent Agenda)
16-M-12	Updating Key Statements in PVA Admin Guide	Referred to Committee
16-M-13	Membership Certification Application	Passed
16-M-14(S)	VA NVWG Host Chapter Responsibilities	Passed
16-M-15	Local Composition of the Site Visit Team Motion to Postpone Indefinitely	Passed
16-M-16	Unresolved Site Visit Recommendation	Failed
16-M-17	More Effective Use of NSO Services	Pulled
16-M-18(S)	Recruitment of Potential Chapter Members	Passed
16-M-19	Reinstatement of Bed Capacity Reporting of P.L. 104 262	Passed (Consent Agenda)
16-M-20	G.I.V.E. Program	Pulled
16-M-21	Site Visit Team Leaders	Chair Ruled Out of Order
16-M-22	Revision of SCI/D Site Visit Procedures Manual	Chair Ruled Out of Order
16-M-0-1	Chapter Hospital Liaison Program	Failed (needed a 2/3 majority vote)



Paralyzed Veterans
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Oregon Chapter

“Serving Those Who Served”
Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America



Creating your Family Emergency Communication Plan

Daniel Service – Treasurer

Creating your Family Emergency Communication Plan starts with one simple question: **“What if?”**

“What if something happens and I’m not with my family?” “Will I be able to reach them?” “How will I know they are safe?” “How can I let them know I’m OK?” During a disaster, you will need to send and receive information from your family.



Communication networks, such as mobile phones and computers, could be unreliable during disasters, and electricity could be disrupted. Planning in advance will help ensure that all the members of your household—including children and people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs, as well as outside caregivers—know how to reach each other and where to meet up in an emergency.

Planning starts with three easy steps:

1. **COLLECT.** Create a paper copy of the contact information for your family and other important people/offices, such as medical facilities, doctors, schools, or service providers.

2. **SHARE.** Make sure everyone carries a copy in his or her backpack, purse, or wallet. If you complete your Family Emergency Communication Plan online at ready.gov/make-a-plan, you can print it onto a wallet-sized card. You should also post a copy in a central location in your home, such as your refrigerator or family bulletin board.

3. **PRACTICE.** Have regular household meetings to review and practice your plan. If you are using a mobile phone, a text message may get through when a phone call will not. This is because a text message requires far less bandwidth than a phone call. Text messages also save and send automatically as soon as capacity becomes available.



TEXT IS BEST! The following sections will guide you through the process to create and practice your Family Emergency Communication Plan.

COLLECT INFORMATION HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

Write down phone numbers and email addresses for everyone in your household. Having this important information written down will help you reconnect with others in case you don't have your mobile device or computer with you or if the battery runs down. If you have a household member(s) who is Deaf or hard of hearing, or who has a speech disability and uses traditional or video relay service (VRS), include information on how to connect through relay services on a landline phone, mobile device, or computer.



SCHOOL, CHILDCARE, CAREGIVER, AND WORKPLACE EMERGENCY PLANS

Because a disaster can strike during school or work hours, you need to know their emergency response plans and how to stay informed. Discuss these plans with children, and let them know who could pick them up in an emergency. Make sure your household members with phones are signed up for alerts and warnings from their school, workplace, and/or local government. To find out more about how to sign up, search “Be Smart. Know Your Alerts and Warnings” for more information go to www.ready.gov/prepare and www.ready.gov/alerts. For children without mobile phones, make sure they know to follow instructions from a responsible adult, such as a teacher or principal.

OUT-OF-TOWN CONTACT

It is also important to identify someone outside of your community or State who can act as a central point of contact to help your household reconnect. In a disaster, it may be easier to make a long-distance phone call than to call across town because local phone lines can be jammed.

EMERGENCY MEETING PLACES

Decide on safe, familiar places where your family can go for protection or to reunite. Make sure these locations are accessible for household members with disabilities or access and functional needs. If you have pets or service animals, think about animal-friendly locations. Identify the following places:

- **Indoor:** If you live in an area where tornadoes, hurricanes, or other high-wind storms can happen, make sure everyone knows where to go for protection. This could be a small, interior, windowless room, such as a closet or bathroom, on the lowest level of a sturdy building, or a tornado safe room or storm shelter.
- **In your neighborhood:** This is a place in your neighborhood where your household members will meet if there is a fire or other emergency and you need to leave your home. The meeting place could be a big tree, a mailbox at the end of the driveway, or a neighbor's house.
- **Outside of your neighborhood:** This is a place where your family will meet if a disaster happens when you're not at home and you can't get back to your home. This could be a library, community center, house of worship, or family friend's home.
- **Outside of your town or city:** Having an out-of-town meeting place can help you reunite if a disaster happens and: You cannot get home or to your out-of-neighborhood meeting place; or your family is not together and your community is instructed to evacuate the area. This meeting place could be the home of a relative or family friend. Make sure everyone knows the address of the meeting place and discuss ways you would get there.

OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS AND INFORMATION

You should also write down phone numbers for emergency services, utilities, service providers, medical providers, veterinarians, insurance companies, and other services.

SHARE - MAKE SURE EVERYONE HAS THE INFORMATION

- Make copies of your Family Emergency Communication Plan for each member of the household to carry in his or her wallet, backpack, or purse. Post a copy in a central place at home. Regularly check to make sure your household members are carrying their plan with them.
- Enter household and emergency contact information into all household members' mobile phones or devices.
- Store at least one emergency contact under the name "In Case of Emergency" or "ICE" for all mobile phones and devices. This will help someone identify your emergency contact if needed. Inform your emergency contact of any medical issues or other requirements you may have.
- Create a group list on all mobile phones and devices of the people you would need to communicate with if there was an emergency or disaster.
- Make sure all household members and your out-of-town contact know how to text if they have a mobile phone or device, or know alternative ways to communicate if they are unable to text.
- Read *Be Smart. Know Your Alerts and Warnings* go to www.ready.gov/prepare and www.ready.gov/alerts
- Sign up to receive emergency information/alerts.

NOW IT'S TIME TO PRACTICE!

Once you have completed your Family Emergency Communication Plan, made copies for all the members of your household, and discussed it, it's time to practice! Here are some ideas for practicing your plan:

- Practice texting and calling. Have each person practice sending a text message or calling your out-of-town contact and sending a group text to your mobile phone group list.
- Discuss what information you should send by text. You will want to let others know you are safe and where you are. Short messages like "I'm OK. At library" are good.
- Talk about who will be the lead person to send out information about the designated meeting place for the household.
- Practice gathering all household members at your indoor and neighborhood emergency meeting places. Talk about how each person would get to the identified out-of-neighborhood and out-of-town meeting places. Discuss all modes of transportation, such as public transportation, rail, and para-transit for all family members, including people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs.
- Regularly have conversations with household members and friends about the plan, such as whom and how to text or call, and where to go.
- To show why it's important to keep phone numbers written down, challenge your household members to recite important phone numbers from memory— now ask them to think about doing this in the event of an emergency.
- Make sure everyone, including children, knows how and when to call 911 for help. You should only call 911 when there is a life-threatening emergency.
- Review, update, and practice your Family Emergency Communication Plan at least once a year, or whenever any of your information changes.

To help start the conversation or remind your family why you are taking steps to prepare and practice, you may want to watch the 4-minute video, "It Started Like Any Other Day", about families who have experienced disaster, at www.youtube.com search: *It Started Like Any Other Day*. Click on the closed captioning (CC) icon on the lower right to turn on the captioning.

After you practice, talk about how it went. What worked well? What can be improved? What information, if any, needs to be updated? If you make updates, remember to print new copies of the plan for everyone.

OTHER IMPORTANT TIPS FOR COMMUNICATING IN DISASTERS

- Text is best when using a mobile phone, but if you make a phone call, keep it brief and convey only vital information to emergency personnel and/or family or household members. This will minimize network congestion, free up space on the network for emergency communications, and conserve battery power. Wait 10 seconds before redialing a number. If you redial too quickly, the data from the handset to the cell sites do not have enough time to clear before you've re-sent the same data. This contributes to a clogged network.
- Conserve your mobile phone battery by reducing the brightness of your screen, placing your phone in airplane mode, and closing apps you do not need. Limit watching videos and playing video games to help reduce network congestion.
- Keep charged batteries, a car phone charger, and a solar charger available for backup power for your mobile phone, teletypewriters (TTYs), amplified phones, and caption phones. If you charge your phone in your car, be sure the car is in a well-ventilated area (e.g., not in a closed garage) to avoid life-threatening carbon monoxide poisoning.
- If driving, do not text, read texts, or make a call without a hands-free device.
- Maintain a household landline and analog phone (with battery backup if it has a cordless receiver) that can be used when mobile phone service is unavailable. Those who are Deaf or hard of hearing, or who have speech disabilities



and use devices and services that depend on digital technology (e.g., VRS, Internet Protocol [IP] Relay, or captioning) should have an analog phone (e.g., TTY, amplified phone, or caption phone) with battery backup in case Internet or mobile service is down.

- If you evacuate and have a call-forwarding feature on your home phone, forward your home phone number to your mobile phone number.
- Use the Internet to communicate by email, Twitter, Facebook, and other social media networks. These communication channels allow you to share information quickly with a widespread audience or to find out if loved ones are OK. The Internet can also be used for telephone calls through Voice over Internet Protocol. For those who are Deaf or hard of hearing, or who have speech disabilities, you can make calls through your IP Relay provider.
- If you do not have a mobile phone, keep a prepaid phone card to use if needed during or after a disaster.
- Use a pay phone if available. It may have less congestion because these phones don't rely on electricity or mobile networks. In some public places, you may be able to find a TTY that can be used by those who are Deaf or hard of hearing, or who have speech disabilities.

To make copies of the Family Emergency Communication Plan forms or if you would like to read more, on your own, go to www.ready.gov/prepare and www.ready.gov/alerts



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.

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

No later than September 30th



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





**Paralyzed Veterans
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Oregon Chapter



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The event starts 10-11 am and ends 3 pm at Crow Grange

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Paralyzed Veterans
of America

Produced by the Paralyzed Veterans of America • Government Relations Department

Washington UPDATE

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

June 14, 2016

Volume 22, No 6

PRIORITY

The Government Relations staff is still looking for stories about problems that our members have experienced during air travel. Please visit www.AirAccess30.org and share your story.

Senate VA Committee Conducts Legislative Hearing

On May 24, 2016, the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs conducted a hearing to consider several health care and benefits legislative proposals. PVA Associate Executive Director of Government Relations Carl Blake testified at the hearing. The key bills considered during the hearing included S. 2896, the "Care Veterans Deserve Act of 2016," a bill introduced by Senator John McCain (R-AZ), that would make permanent the VA Choice Program; the "Veterans Mobility Safety Act of 2016" (the companion to H.R. 3471); and, appeals reform legislation.

PVA's comments were principally focused on S. 2896 and on the draft appeals reform bill. Our historical experience and extensive interaction with veterans around the country leads us to confidently conclude that veterans prefer to receive their care from the VA. This point was affirmed from a recent survey of our members gauging their experience with VA health care. Our testimony emphasized that VA's specialized services, particularly spinal cord injury care, cannot be adequately duplicated in the private sector. We also explained that we believe that reform of veterans' health care is based on the false assumption that the Choice Program as currently implemented is the best way forward for VA health care (the underlying plan of S. 2896).

We explained that the consolidation plan that the VA unveiled late last year sets a better benchmark for the appropriate path forward. Additionally, PVA, along with our partners in The Independent Budget—DAV and VFW—previously presented to the Committee a framework for VA health care reform that builds on the VA's own plan. It includes a comprehensive set of policy ideas that will make an immediate impact on the delivery of care, while laying out a long-term vision for a sustainable, high-quality, veteran-centered health care system.

Our comments also highlighted the significant work done in the last couple of months to reform VA's benefits appeals process. In March, the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), the Board of Veterans Appeals, and major VSO's partnered to form a working group with the goal of reforming the appeals process. Currently, the number of pending appeals has surpassed 440,000. If the process is not reformed, VA projects that the appeals inventory will climb to over two million over the course of the next decade. Ten years from now, if the system remains unchanged, veterans will expect to wait six years for a decision.

PVA is encouraged by VA's ambitious efforts to achieve reform. VA has recognized that VSO's have specific concerns and has worked with us to find solutions that move us forward without diluting veterans' rights in the process. With

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this in mind, we support the general framework of this legislation. However, we offered a few specific recommendations that we believe could improve the draft bill. Additionally, that before a reform plan can be implemented it is imperative that VA answers the question of how to deal with the current appeals inventory. Congress must also provide adequate resources to carry out this reform plan and support efforts to reduce the current backlog.

The full PVA statement is available at www.pva.org.

Senate Appropriations Bill Includes Funding for IVF for Veterans, Capacity Reporting Provisions; House Bill Does Not

On May 19, 2016, the Senate approved H.R. 2577, an appropriations omnibus bill that included the “Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act for FY 2017.” This bill included two important provisions. First, it provides direct funding for the provision of procreative services, specifically in vitro fertilization (IVF). Second, it includes a provision to permanently reinstate the annual capacity reporting requirement for VA’s specialized services (the number one legislative priority for PVA). These issues reflect two of the highest priorities for PVA.

Our work on reinstatement of the capacity reporting requirement for VA’s specialized services has been bolstered by the recent introduction of S. 2883 and H.R. 5091, the “Appropriate Care for Disabled Veterans Act.” Sarah Dean, PVA Associate Legislative Director, has been leading the effort to build bipartisan support for these two bills.

Similarly, PVA has worked tirelessly to make procreative services, particularly IVF, available to veterans with service-connected catastrophic disabilities that preclude their ability to conceive children.

This provision received strong bipartisan support when it was considered by the full Senate Appropriations Committee. We have joined with a broad coalition of veterans’ service organizations to fight to retain the procreative services provisions in the final appropriations bill.

The House approved its appropriations bill the same day that the Senate complete its work. Unfortunately, the House version does not include these two important provisions. We will be reaching out to our members for support as these two bills are considered in conference.

Rep. McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) Introduces Veterans Proposal Based on CVA Plan

On June 7, 2016, Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA), Republican Conference Chair, introduced the “Care for Our Heroes for the 21st Century Act.” This bill essentially puts into legislative form the proposal released by Concerned Veterans for America, a political front group, that would essentially undermine the existing VA and ultimately push veterans to seek care in the private sector.

PVA expressed serious concerns about the draft bill in a press release. Specifically, the premium support model offered in Congresswoman McMorris Rodgers bill would clearly disadvantage catastrophically disabled and low-income veterans who currently have little to no cost share to receive care in the VA. Additionally, the bill provides no mechanism to ensure veterans care is properly coordinated and that they receive the most appropriate care they need. The proposal forces veterans to fend for themselves in the private sector health care system and leaves them with the responsibility of being the stewards of taxpayers’ money. Perhaps worst of all, the bill does not contemplate the fact that the private sector is not better positioned to provide the care veterans need, and in many cases is substantially

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worse, particularly for veterans with catastrophic disabilities like spinal cord injury and disease.

Subsequent to our press release, the proponents of this plan—Concerned Veterans of America (CVA)—released a statement criticizing PVA’s views on the bill. To be clear, CVA misrepresents itself as a veterans’ service organization when in fact it is a political activist organization whose underlying goal is to decrease the size of the federal government.

PVA responded to CVA by outlining a long list of questions that we originally raised when they were promoting this proposal nearly two years ago. Unfortunately, they have yet to properly address any of the specific concerns that were raised.

To read PVA’s press releases, please visit www.pva.org.

PVA Participates in Veterans Jobs Caucus Briefing

On May 24, 2016, Shelly Stewart, PVA’s Director of PAVE (Paving Access to Veterans Employment), participated in a congressional briefing with the Veterans Jobs Caucus. The Caucus is co-chaired by Rep. Jeff Denham (R-CA), Rep. Tim Walz (D-MN), Senator Mark Kirk (R-IL), and Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV). The discussion focused on issues being faced by military families and caregivers in the employment market place. Shelly was able to distinguish PVA as an organization that is providing direct employment services not only to veterans but to their caregivers as well.

House May Punt on Passage of FAA Reauthorization Bill

As previously reported, the Senate approved an amended version of H.R. 636, the “Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Reauthorization

Act of 2016,” in April. This bill reflects a number of key provisions related to the Air Carrier Access Act (ACAA). The Senate-approved bill includes:

1. Study on airport accessibility best practices.
2. Study on in-cabin wheelchair restraint systems.
3. Report on training policies regarding assistance for persons with disabilities.
4. Establishment of an advisory committee for the air travel needs of passengers with disabilities.

Inclusion of these provisions in the final bill would be a major legislative accomplishment for PVA. Unfortunately, it appears that the House may seek to pass an extension pushing the FAA reauthorization to the next Congress.

Airline Consumer Protection Bill Includes Disability Provisions

While the debate over the FAA Reauthorization remains unclear, Rep. Mike Thompson (D-CA) has introduced an airline consumer protection bill that includes the disability provisions from the Senate’s version of the FAA. This legislation, the “Airline Consumer Protection Act” (H.R. 5291), includes a variety of consumer protection provisions such as increased transparency on fees and improved access to broad consumer protection information. The bill also includes the PVA-supported disability provisions that are currently being considered in the FAA Reauthorization.

Access Committee Begins Negotiations

The Department of Transportation (DOT) Regulations Negotiation (Reg-Neg) Access Committee held its first meeting in Washington, DC on May 17 and 18. The first day was dedicated to understanding and agreeing to the rules governing how the 25-member Access Committee will operate. Subcommittees were formed to address whether or not to change the definition

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of a service animal, including emotional support animal; how to provide in-flight entertainment or communication; and whether it is feasible for new single aisle aircraft to provide an accessible lavatory.

Each subcommittee has formed working groups made up of Access Committee members and other interested parties to begin addressing the complex issues from the point of view of the airlines, airplane manufacturers, and disability rights activists. Each working group has 3 co-chairs representing the three points of view. Lee Page, PVA Senior Associate Advocacy Director, was named co-chair of the working group discussing accessible lavatories. They are currently working on a brief survey of stakeholders and passengers with disabilities to help the Access Committee develop the definition of what would properly reflect an “accessible lavatory” for a single aisle aircraft. All of the working groups will meet by conference calls over the next six months and report back to the Access Committee during each monthly meeting through October 2016.

After the “rules of procedure” were established, the Committee received presentations on each of the three main focus areas. The Department of Justice (DOJ) discussed definition of a service animal under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), versus the definition considered under the Air Carrier Access Act (ACAA). DOJ defines a service animal as a “dog or in some cases a small horse,” and it does not recognize emotional support animals. Boeing and Airbus provided presentations on what is currently available on the market for an accessible lavatory on board aircraft. Accessible lavatories are mainly used in twin aisle (wide body) aircraft, as required by the ACAA. Finally, the National Center for Accessible Media discussed in-flight entertainment and communications for people with disabilities.

PVA Defends Fair Housing Rule

In May, during Senate consideration of the FY 2017 appropriations bill for the Departments of Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, Senator Mike Lee (R-UT) and others introduced an amendment to prohibit HUD from implementing or enforcing its “Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing” (AFFH) rule. Issued last year, this rule contained long-awaited guidance and data intended to help state and local governments connect housing and community development dollars to neighborhood opportunities for people with housing challenges, including people with disabilities. Each year, over 50% of all reported complaints of housing discrimination are initiated by people with disabilities. HUD’s AFFH rule aims to assist state and local governments in identifying strategies and solutions to expand accessible and supportive housing choices for veterans and other individuals with disabilities.

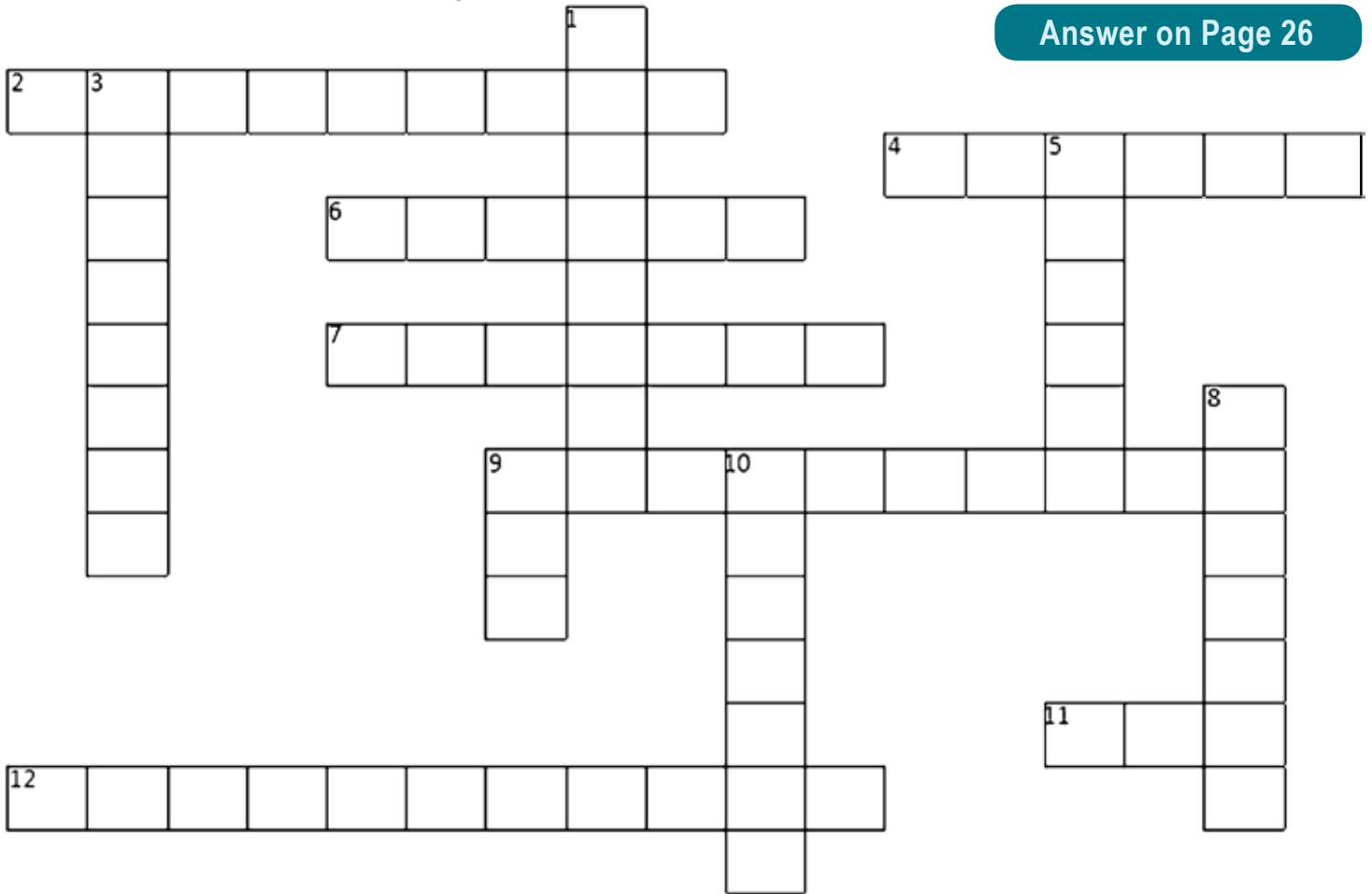
PVA was among numerous organizations supporting fair housing to send a letter to all members of the Senate urging the defeat of the Lee amendment. Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) spoke against the amendment citing PVA’s letter and entering it into the record. Although the Lee amendment was ultimately defeated, concerns remain that a substitute provision could still impede the AFFH rule in matters related to zoning if it were to be included in a final appropriations bill. Action in the House on this funding bill is not expected to happen anytime soon and it may eventually wind up in a continuing resolution. However, PVA and its allies in the fair housing community will continue to monitor the evolution of the T-HUD appropriations to warn against efforts to undermine fair housing.



M.S. Crossword

Sue Holt - M.S. Liaison

Answer on Page 26



Across

- 2 Replacement of Lost Myelin Around CNS
Never Cells
- 4 Area of Inflamed or Demyelinated
- 6 Fatty White Coating of Nerve
- 7 Perceived Problem or Complaint
- 9 WBC with a Scavenger Characteristic
- 11 Records Muscle Electrical Potentials
- 12 Doctors Who Specialize in the Rehab
of Physical Impairments

Down

- 1 Double Vision
- 3 Larger, Upper Part of the Brain Which Acts
as a Master Control System in the brain
- 5 Failure to Regulate Posture
- 8 Dizzying Sensation
- 9 Standardized Method for Quantifying
the Clinical Status of a Person with MS
- 10 Attack, Flare Up or Exacerbation

Definitions from:
[Multiple Sclerosis](#)
[A Guide for The Newly Diagnosed Fourth Edition](#)

T. Jock Murray, MD
Carol S. Saunders, BA, BSN, MSCN
Nancy J. Holland, EdD, RN, MSCN



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**

Oregon Chapter

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**CHL Classes being scheduled
Class to be held at the OPVA Office
On August 18th**

**Call for sign-up and Registration
Limited space so sign-up early**

**OREGON CHL Class - \$40.00
UTAH CFP (Multi-State) Carry Permit - \$55.00**

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Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America, 3700 Silverton Rd. NE, Salem, OR 97305. Tel: (503) 362-7998





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) 202.416.1250. Providing the requested information is entirely voluntary but required for membership with Paralyzed Veterans of America.

Chapter Name: Oregon Chapter

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: _____

Date Received: ___ / ___ / _____ **Date Acted Upon:** ___ / ___ / _____

Member ID Number: _____

Date Received: ___ / ___ / _____ **Date Processed:** ___ / ___ / _____



Paralyzed Veterans
of America

Oregon Chapter

Show & Shine

Car Show

August 13, 2016



Location: Home Depot. 3795 Hagers Grove Rd SE, Salem, OR 97317

Information: 3700 Silvertown Rd NE, Salem OR 97305

503-362-7998



Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America
3700 Silverton Rd. NE
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