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Paralog Contents



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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 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?



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

Greetings one and all, I hope all is well with you and yours. Here at the Chapter office everything is moving right along other than a few bumps in the road. You will notice in this newsletter that Bryan Gwinner is no longer with us and Tom Hurt has replaced him as Development Coordinator.

Elections are coming up and nominations for all positions on the Board of Directors and Officers are open. So, if you would like to get more involved with the chapter, serving on the BOD or as an Officer (President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer) this would be a worthy The requirements that endeavor. need to be met in order to serve in any of these positions can be found on page 36 of this newsletter.

The budget for next year is also in the works now that we are six months into the current budget. Anything you would like to see changed or added to the budget can be submitted in writing any time in the next couple of months. The Chapter still needs a Government Relations Director and members will get first priority if applying.

I just recently had a couple of kidney stones removed and finally got that drainage tube removed. Now I only have one more surgery on my bladder and I should be good to go for a couple more years. The only other health issue that will take a lifetime to overcome would be weight control. There are plenty of theories and programs on the subject with a diet plan here and an exercise program there which is fine with me. Except, 95% of them will not do me any good as a C-4, 5 Quadriplegic. Exercise, I would love to, but I only have partial use of one arm and if I were to get out of my power chair I would be nothing more than a 98% water bag with a few bones mixed in.

Watching what I eat and portion control seem to be the most beneficial for me and my needs. Believe it or not there is such a program and it was designed for people with limited mobility and I stumbled upon it one day as I was searching the web. http://www.uab.edu/medicine/sci will

take you to the UAB Spinal Cord Injury Model System. Click on the "Health" tab to go to that page and then go to Nutrition and read up on their "EatRight," program. was impressed and excited so much so, that I actually called and got it cleared by my doctor! Now, I am not 100% committed to it, but it has opened my eyes to making better choices and pushing away from the table in consideration of portion control. My goal is to get my weight down below 200lbs first, which should be the easy part, then shoot for something like 185-175lbs. That, along with the weight of my wheelchair, will get me

down to the 600lb limit for the lifts on the Amtrak Cascades train. Then I can take a round trip run up to Seattle to watch the Mariners and not have stress over driving in all that traffic. Now that sounds like a great plan doesn't it?

OPVA Birthday List

Delilah Sieglitz	5/3	Justin Larson	6/01
George Gratzer	5/5	Joshua Taggart	6/02
Clifford Maxwell	5/6	Rex Stevens	6/03
Alexander Smith	5/6	Gene Stuart	6/03
Thomas Geary	5/7	Kelly Jordan	6/06
Anne Wyatt	5/7	Michael Cowan	6/07
Donald Linwood	5/9	Russell Goffin	6/09
Corwin Wunn	5/11	Larry Whitmire	6/10
Donald Hofford	5/15	Leslie Fleming	6/12
Edward Curtis	5/18	Miguel Vera	6/12
William Russo	5/21	Chris Studwell	6/13
Dale Collins	5/21	Patrick Rivelli	6/13
Douglas Hostetler	5/22	Daniel Chytka	6/13
Lonnie Morgan	5/22	Kevin Parker	6/13
Melinda Cohen-Huntley	5/23	Frederick Parker	6/14
Donald Lambert	5/24	Borden ("Butch") Hessel	6/14
Toby Newton	5/24	Gerald Sandlin	6/15
Thomas Hartzell	5/25	Fritz VonAllmen	6/16
Michael O'Connor	5/25	Kenneth Swiderski	6/16
John Solomonson	5/26	Terry Ogan	6/17
Steve Hubley	5/26	Neal Chamberlain	6/17
Michael Miner	5/26	William Gray	6/19
Susan Hruza	5/28	Gary Tucker	6/21
Matthew Allmaras	5/28	Michael Lavelle	6/22
Michael McAlvage	5/31	Peter Parsons	6/23
Carl Jensen	6/01	Michelle Morris	6/25
Nels Hadden	6/01	Joel Satoris	6/27

Mark Your Calendar

Don't sit on the sidelines...Get involved!



Vice President's Greeting

Bill Blake—Vice President

We have begun the busy time of year. From car shows to planning our Golf Tournament on June 6th, we have a lot to do and time flies. Be sure to check the calender and schedule of upcoming events. One of the new car shows we will be in is on June 20th at Spirit Mountain Casino. There will be lots to see, with a band, food booths and other entertainment. Be sure to stop by our booth and buy a raffle ticket for the 64 ½ Ford Mustang.

Our wheelchair basketball team was rated nationally in the top 25 and was able to attend the National Wheelchair Basketball Tournament in Louisville, Kentucky in mid April. This is the first year we have teamed up with Oregon Disability Sports team, the Portland Wheel Blazers. It has been an exciting year.

Thanks to a nice grant of 45 cases of shotgun shells, the National Rifle Association is helping our trap team get off to a good start in the shooting season. If anyone is interested in learning how to shoot trap let us

know and you can come to practice and try your hand.

Our Golf Tournament is on June 6th at McNary Golf Course in Keizer. It is a beautiful setting and there should be lots of golfers participating. Come out to watch and help us with the after golf banquet and auction. Call the office at 503-362-7998 for more information. We are trying to do a better job with our website www.OregonPVA.org. Watch for the changes.

Mark our calendar for the events of the summer. Our summer picnic is at Cascade Gateway Park just off of highway 22 in Salem. It is a great area, and the food is good, too. We have three Deep Sea Fishing trips scheduled out of Depoe Bay: June 8th, July 13th, and August 10th. It is a great opportunity. Call the office to RSVP and get registered. There will also be our second annual car rally and poker run set up by the Eugene Granges on August 8th. Mark your calenders today.







YOUR FUTURE AWAITS

Paralyzed Veterans' scholarship program now accepting applications

Paralyzed Veterans of America invests in our members and their families.

Our Educational Scholarship Program assists members and their immediate family members by providing scholarship funds to help with a post-secondary education.

We will award scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 to full-time students and \$500 to part-time students for an academic year.

APPLICANT MUST BE:

- A Paralyzed Veterans of America member, spouse of a member, or an unmarried child (under 24 years of age) who is dependent (as defined by the IRS) on the member for principal support
- A United States citizen
- · Accepted and enrolled as a full- or part-time student in an accredited U.S. college or university

Previous award recipients may apply.

Download an application at pva.org, or for more information contact Christi Hillman at (800) 424-8200, ext. 776; christih@pva.org. Applications must be completed in full and postmarked no later than June 17, 2015.

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OPVA Members

Please update your information: (Please Print)

Name:	
Address:	
Home 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

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 or visit our website to set up a payment or reacurring payment.

Name:____

Program requested to support:

- ☐ Legislation ☐ Reci
 - ☐ Recreation
- ☐ Parking Enforcment

☐ Sports

Address:

- ☐ Community Outreach
- ☐ Membership

- ☐ Hospital Liaison
- ☐ Advocacy



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













August 8th, 2015

Street Legal Motorized Vehicles to participate in the 2nd Annual

Cruise-N-Ride-Benefit
In Support of the

Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America

Poker Run-Raffles-Bingo

Early Registration before July 31st is only \$10.00 per vehicle

www.Cruise-N-Ride-Benefit.org

Prize Donations are much appreciated!

OPVA is a 501(c)3=Donations are tax deductable. Email: info@www.Cruise-N-Ride-Benefit.org



Paralyzed Veterans of America

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





Event Begins & Ends at Crow Grange Eugene, Oregon





Sports Updates

Jack Howell—Sports Director

Golden Age Games

The National Veterans Golden Age Games are in Omaha Nebraska August 8th -12th. You can register on line. The registration deadline is May 14th.

Our annual golf tournament is just around the corner on June 6th at McNary Golf Club in Keizer, OR. Come out to enjoy the day visiting or playing golf. We have a few adaptive golf carts, so those who sign up first will get to use one.

Our first of three deep sea fishing trips is Monday, June 8th, out of Depot Bay. The next one is Monday July 13th and Monday August 10th. Call the office 503-362-7998 to secure a spot. The first 16 get to go. We are going out with Dockside Charters. Their office is in the backside of the parking lot down by the docks. Check in is at 6:30 am and the boat leaves the dock at 7:00 am sharp.

DIAPSIA FISHINGTRIP

June 8, 2015 July 13, 2015 August 10, 2015

Cost: \$40.00

Boards at 6:30, Departs at 7:00 AM

Location:

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

Paralyzed Veterans of America Oregon Chapter







National Championship

Bill Loyd—Basketball Coordinator

The first time in the history of the organization, the Wheel Blazers attended the 67th National Wheelchair Basketball Championships in Louisville, Kentucky April 15th-19th. The Wheel Blazers ended the season with a 12-1 record and with that finished with a national ranking



of 23rd. The team went into the tournament with an opening game at 8am against the #10 ranked Memphis Rollin' Grizzlies. The game was a battle

from the tip off. At the end of the first half the game was tied. The game continued with the Wheel Blazers trading basket for basket with the Grizzlies. But in the end the Grizzlies pulled ahead to win by 13. Though it was a loss, the Wheel Blazers proved they could hang with the best. The next game was 8am the next morning against the #8 ranked London Forest City Flyers "Canada". The Flyers proved to be a very fast and cohesive team. The Wheel Blazers struggled with turnovers and missed shots as the Flyers easily went on to win. The final game of the tournament was against the #16

ranked Music City Lightning. Again from the tip off the Wheel Blazers struggled to get the ball to drop in their favor and started with a 10 point deficit. The Wheel Blazers dug deep and started finding their rhythm. Basket by basket they chipped away and brought the score within 3 points. Back and forth it went right up to the end. With time winding down the Blazers had to foul to stop the clock. With that, the Lightning were able to capitalize on the free throws in the last few minutes. They clinched the win by 10 points. Even though the Wheel Blazers didn't win they were still satisfied that they came in ranked 23rd and stayed point for point with much higher ranked teams that should have beaten them hands down. The team had a great time and played against some intense competition. They may not have come away with a win but they did earn the respect of the other teams they played against. The Wheel Blazers would like to thank Oregon Paralyzed Veterans and Oregon Disability Sports for making the season possible. Without your support we would not have been able to compete at the local and national level. This was the team's first year at the National Championships, those teams better be prepared for a more determined Wheel Blazer team in the 2016 season.



Event Location:

Albany Gun Club 35305 HWY 20 SE, Albany, Oregon 97322 www.albanygunclub.com

Time:

Registration Checkin is at 9:00 A.M. Trap Event starts at 10:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.

Event Type:

Games Pepperoni Fun Shoot

Details:

- Raffle prizes from Cabelas
- · Spectators encouraged
- New Shooters encouraged

Cost:

\$4.00 each game









Paralyzed Veterans of America

Oregon Chapter

Have you ever considered including Oregon PVA in your Will or Trust?

Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America • 3700 Silverton Rd., Salem, OR 97305 • 503-362-7998

www.oregonpva.org • oregonpva@oregonpva.org



Mission:

Veteran Tickets Foundation (Vet Tix) provides FREE event tickets to family members of troops Killed In Action (K.I.A.), our Military and Veterans to sporting events, concerts, performing arts and family activities.

Attending these events reduces stress through entertainment, strengthens family bonds, builds life long memories and encourages service members to stay engaged with American life and local communities.

Giving free event tickets is an expression of appreciation, acknowledgment and an enduring symbol that we, as a nation, honor the service of our troops today and long after their tour of duty has passed. Helping our veterans attend events provides positive family and life experiences after their years of service to our country.

To find out more about Vet Tix view the website at:

http://www.vettix.org/









It's more than just a car.

It's a difference you can make by donating your vehicle to Paralyzed Veterans of America. Scheduling a pickup is FREE. Regardless of the condition, all donated vehicles will be sold at auction and proceeds will benefit Paralyzed Veterans of America.

Through your vehicle donation, you'll make a difference to veterans suffering from spinal cord injury or disease.

You may even earn a tax break, too!

Donate today!

Call or visit us online to donate your vehicle today:

855-744-0782

wheelshelpingwarriors.org





DALLAS, TX * JUNE 21 – 26, 2015

CO-PRESENTED BY:





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)

Department of Veterans Affairs National Veterans Sports Programs and Special Events (206) 582-3603 Host PVA Chapter Lone Star PVA Glen Bentley (912) 276-5252

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



Tualatin Riverkeepers Is Sponsoring a

Disabled Paddle Trip

August 22, 2015 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Cook Park, Tigard



The event is open to people with disabilities who have the ability to sit in a kayak or canoe with minimal support. Disabled veterans are encouraged to attend.

To register for the event, contact Margot Fervia-Neamtzu at 503-218-2580. Please **arrive by 10 a.m.** to allow for any needed assistance into the boats.

Tualatin Riverkeepers is a community-based organization working to protect and restore Oregon's Tualatin River system. TRK builds watershed stewardship through education, public restoration, access to nature and advocacy.







OPVA's New Development Coordinator

Tom Hurt—Development Coordinator

Good day Ladies and Gentlemen.

I would like to introduce myself to you, my name is Tom Hurt, I am your new Development Coordinator. Here is a brief history of my experience:

I have spent the majority of my career in the green industry, i.e. Landscape/irrigation/nursery, in retail/wholesale / distribution / and self-employed. As your new Development Coordinator I am very focused on creating and supporting the existing projects and events that Oregon PVA has done in the past as well as bring on new projects and sponsors to keep the organization active.

As I write this introduction, I am at day nine with the organization. We are hitting the ground running as you may know our annual Gold Cup Golf Tournament is right around the corner "June 6th". I look forward to meeting as many members as possible at the tournament. Please know that I am here for you and the chapter.

Other events coming up to put on your calendar are:

- May 16th "Take a Soldier Fishing"
- June 8th "Deep Sea Fishing"
- June 20 "Spirit Mountain Casino Car Show

- July 13th "Deep Sea Fishing"
- August 8th "Cruise-N-Ride"
- August 9th "Annual Members Picnic"
- August 10th "Deep Sea Fishing"
- August 15th "Car Raffle Drawing"
- September 19th "Annual Members Banquet"
- November 11th "Albany Parade" If you have an idea of or an interest in an event or activity that we are currently not active in, please let us know and we will do what we can to put one together. My contact email is development@oregonpva.org.

development office the appreciate all of our current and past sponsors, and please note that we are always on the hunt for new industries and opportunities to bring on additional partners. It has been so refreshing that in these days of skepticism, and self-involvement, I have found so many people with such appreciation and support for our causes. I have received such positive feedback from companies and individuals regarding the OPVA, I see great things in our future as far as additional events and opportunities for our members.



DOWN RANGE GOLF PROGRAM
CHALLENGE YOURSELF TODAY FOR A MORE
ACTIVE LIFE TOMORROW
May 22, 2015

Pumpkin Ridge Golf Club

Register today!
Registration deadline: May 12, 2015
Get Involved. Get Inspired. Get Active.

For more information contact:

Marcella or Jerry

Program Specialist
360-696-4061 ext 33357

Hosted By:









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



Vegas Basketball Tournament

Bill Loyd—Basketball Coordinator

The tournament went well. We ended up 2-2. The first game we played Tuscon Lobos and won by 19.

The next game we played Phoenix Suns and lost by 10. We were tied up until 2 minutes to go then we got into foul trouble.

The third we played the Las Vegas Yuccas and won by 30.

The fourth game we played North Ridge California and lost by 1 point with 1.2 seconds left.

The competition was great and helped to prepare us for the National Championships, on April 16-18 in Louisville, KY.





Letter from the National Director

Paul Dahlke-National Director

Hello Oregon PVA members, I hope you are all getting out and enjoying this nice spring weather we have been fortunate to have lately. Your chapter Board of Directors has been working hard to keep chapter operations running smoothly, and attending many events to raise funds for the chapter's programs. Our 64 1/2 Mustang will be given away to a lucky winner in August. We would like to see our members attend the drawing, so if you have the time and are able I urge you to attend. We will be at many events during the spring and summer, and if you have the time, this is a perfect opportunity for you to get involved with your chapter. We had our first draw for the Elk hunt in Prineville, Oregon. For those of you that applied for the hunt, thank you. To the winners I wish you good luck! This is an excellent opportunity to hunt on private land, and you will have a great time for sure.

Recently I received word referring to the "Veterans Choice Card" program eligibility. The VA has changed the driving distance criteria from straight line distance to actual driving distance. The 40 mile limit still applies to any VA medical facility. If you were sent a "choice card" you will be receiving a letter explaining the current change. If you have any questions concerning the use of this card I urge you to contact the chapter office, or our NSO Ken Fink at 503-412-4762.Or go to the VA choice website at http://www.va.gov/opa/choiceact/.

Early last month PVA conducted its Advocacy and Legislation seminar in Washington, DC. Unfortunately I was unable to attend, however two board members stepped up and were able to attend. Their report is included in this issue of the Paralog.

In February, the administration released its budget request for 2016. Requested are revised funding recommendations for health care accounts for the Department of Veterans Affairs fiscal year 2016, and advance appropriations recommendations for health care for 2017. The PVA and other Veterans service organizations co-authored the recommendations. You can download the report at http://www.independantbudget.org. The

PVA attended a round table discussion on veterans' disability benefits appeals within the Department of Veterans Affairs and the judicial system. Several subcommittee members, as well as representatives from the VA, members of the Board of Veterans' appeals and many members of the VSO community, including PVA were in attendance. The committee discussed the current issues surrounding roughly 400,000 appeals in the benefits system and what possible solutions may be available to fix the problem. The discussion focused on what could be done within current regulations to increase the speed at which appeals could be adjudicated. Recommendations focused on ensuring that any changes served veterans. One key point, raised by PVA, regarded a new program called the "fully developed appeal". This program would reduce the time to complete and adjudicate an appeal, but

would also reduce some ability of a veteran to add additional information to his or her claim. The program would permit a veteran to verify that there is no more information available to submit with a claim appeal. This would allow the claim to be considered and decided more quickly.

The Department of Health and Human Services' Administration on community living held a meeting to discuss the 2015 White House Conference on Aging, the conference will be held in July 2015. This is the sixth conference on aging, the last one was held in 2005. This year's conference coincides many important anniversaries. The 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the 50th anniversary of Medicare, Medicaid and the Older Americans Act, also the 80th anniversary of Social Security. Previous oriented conferences were around legislative requirements outlined in the Older Americans Act. Congress has not yet reauthorized the act, but the White House is committed to ensuring that the conference moves forward. The issues to be addressed include: healthy aging, long-term services and supports, retirement security and elder justice. Prior to the conference a series of forums will be held. April 2nd there will be a forum held in Seattle. More information can be available at http:/www. whitehouseconferenceonaging.gov.

I will close for now and urge you to get involved with the chapter by attending or volunteering for an event. check the events calendar for dates. Don't forget about vour recreation fund. It's there for you to use, \$250 a year just send us a receipt and a brief description of what you used the money for is all you have to do. Thank you all, chapter members.

April is PVA Awareness Month

Spring begins and April started Gillums. Paralyzed Veterans of America Awareness Month. I encourage the Oregon chapter membership to thank all supporters of the PVA and urge others to get involved. I encourage you to talk to others about the PVA and the hard work we do to receive and maintain the benefits you earned and truly deserve. The PVA has made some great achievements this year, here are a few outlined by Deputy Executive Director Sherman

- Our service officers garnered over 297 million in VA awards for veterans, dependents and survivors, as well as the highest monthly average VA award among the big 6 veteran's service organizations.
- Our medical services team submitted over 620 recommendations for improving health care at all 25 VA Spinal Cord Injury/disease centers, with 520 taken for action.
- Our annual health summit helped educate over 800 clinicians, therapists, researchers, and persons with disabilities on the latest in spinal cord injury/disease research and medicine.
- Our Sports and recreation department introduced three new adaptive sports opportunities to PVA members and disabled athletes: Lacrosse, Bocce and water sports. The department also continues to

see higher participation rates at the National Veterans Wheelchair Games, the world's largest competitive wheelchair sports event, which included athletes from Great Britain and South Korea.

- The PVA education foundation funds made possible the first prototype of an innovative standing wheelchair at the Minneapolis VA.
- Our Government Relations Department led the charge to stop reductions in Social Security for 9.4 million veterans, improving air travel for all persons with disabilities, promote civil rights for persons with disabilities around the world, and open benefits to caregivers.
- PVA Architecture played a key role in removing barriers to access at the Daytona Motor Speedway and the Minnesota Vikings Stadium.

These are just a few things that the PVA has done to enhance the lives of paralyzed veterans and the disabled community. Please use this time to ensure that the public knows who we are and what we do for veterans, and the disabled community.

The 2015-2016 PVA scholarship program application process is now open. This scholarship program has been funded since 1986, and since has awarded over \$300,000 in scholarships. Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Must be either a PVA member, the spouse of a PVA member, or an unmarried child[under 24 years of age] who is a dependent {as defined by the IRS} of the member for principle support.
- Must be a citizen of the United States of America.
- Must be accepted and enrolled as a full-time or part-time student in an accredited US College or University. *Previous award recipients may apply.
- For more information on the application go to www.pva.org . Applications must be postmarked no later than June 17, 2015.

I encourage you apply if you are going to school. This great opportunity to get money for school, take advantage if you are eligible.

Thank you Paul Dahlke National Director

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



Membership & Government Relations



Membership

Roger Robinson – Membership Director

As of this date in April, we have 372 members. This is a little less than average. I suppose this is because we have fewer new injuries and more members have passed away. Already this fiscal year 11 have passed away. We need you, our members to take pride in your chapter and volunteer and/or run for office in the upcoming election.

We need new people with new ideas, also to keep the chapter appealing to the young. Our average board member's age is in the 60s.

Please keep in mind the Member Picnic is August 9, 2015. We would love to have everybody attend. Free Fish Day is coming up the first weekend in June. See you then.

Trip to Washington D.C.

Roger Robinson—Government Relations

It was a beautiful Saturday February 28 when we left for the east coast. As you all know when loading a plane you have to rely on an isle chair. In this instance I wouldn't fit through the first class to sit in coach. So I was moved forward both to and from. The new 800-737 was made wider and makes it difficult for us big guys. We landed in DC it was weather shock. 20 degrees that day and no relief for the weekend. Same cold and snow and ice the entire week. Our seminar went without a hitch.

We had various speakers, starting with National Disability Rights Network (NDRN).

Later Social Security. Representatives were present to provide some rules for that administration. How to receive help processing act.

Department of Transportation (Air Access) some new rules relating to wheelchair storage. They are proposing hanging manual chairs against the bulk heads to help eliminate some of the current problems of damage.

Lee Page gave us an update on the Department of Justice.

Update on prosthetics, Fred Downs and Sherman Gillums. Questions and answers brought us aware of the nightmare of paper work and prosthetics longer period time filling veteran's request. This is one of PVAs priorities. As for our chapter members we are all experiencing long wait for items. In my case over 8 weeks to receive a new joy stick. In other cases for a simple cushion 3 weeks and a lot of phone calls following up. If you have been experiencing the same long wait. Please advise

Veterans Point Papers (not finalized). Expand eligibility for VA Caregiver Support Services.

Reinstate Capacity Reporting Requirement for SCI Service.

Provide Beneficiary Travel to Priority Group 4 Catastrophically Disabled.

Provide for Additional Automobile Grants.

Procreative Services for Catastrophically Disabled Veterans.

Protection of Specialized Services.

Medical Services Update Lana McKenzie FAC. Same old stuff. Always notifying Spinal Cord Units when they are coming. I think it's time to change the policy, possibly sending someone ahead of time to assess the unit a few days ahead without announcing their presents. I served on this committee for years and the report was always changed, and sometimes sent to the VA without the committee's comments beforehand.

We started our visits on Wednesday; Bill Gray had

Senator Crappy Idaho. I had Suzanne Bonamici, Greg Walden and Kurt Schrader. Each was left a booklet of our point papers.

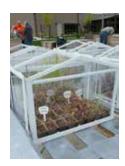
We did discuss some problems at Seattle many nurses leaving. Prosthetics in Seattle and Portland taking up to 12 weeks to receive request.

Thursday testimony was canceled and not rescheduled. All visits were canceled because of snow storm and ice, 5 inches.

A reception was held Thursday evening and travel the next day. It was good to be home with rainy weather.

THE HOME DEPOT PROJECT

Photos by Angie Tunnissen















Veterans Home in Lebanon, OR

Notes: Home Depot filled up two great big planters about 8 x 4 ft tall, and a couple smaller ones.

Hay was put on the ground level. They ran low and went to grab another load. Once the filled boxes were filled they took the patients green house plants and planted them! It was kinda chilly out for patients. Later on Home Depot

(HD) brought out beautiful flowers for the boxes too! HD is also going to build more boxes for between the other 2 pods, all good stuff! The rain started when all done!



M.S. News

Sue Holt-M.S. Liaison

OPVA Deep Sea Fishing & Piscatorial Therapy-Fishing for Mental Relaxation

Article by Scott E. Moser, Journal of Family Practice; Jul2001, Vol. 50 Issue 7, p632

"On the coasts, they call it Piscatorial therapy. West of the Appalachians and east of the Sierra, it's often referred to as angling therapy. South of the Red River, folks just say they've gone fishin'. By whatever name, it's the hottest trend in alternative medicine. What is this new phenomenon? It's based on the old wisdom about taking a friend fishing but is practiced by trained professionals. This is not your grandfather's cane pole; it is a thoroughly innovative and scientifically proven method of therapy for a wide variety of ailments and general health promotion. As a piscatorial therapist, I would like to introduce the philosophy, practice,

and possible future applications of this very important medical breakthrough.

Rather than delving too deeply into the technical aspects of piscatology, I will pose a simple question to convince you of the virtues of this as anxious fisherman? I thought not. if you have, you are the exception that proves the rule. The point is that fishing is a tremendous anxiolytic. This is presumed to be because the activity integrates low-impact physical exercise (as long as your 're not catching marlin) with mental relaxation and camaraderie.

Piscatorial therapy encompasses aspects of many other disciplines. Besides the obvious relationships to sports medicine, piscatology borrows heavily from spiritual tradition. The periods of solitude when the fish aren't biting provide for contemplation in the search for Inner Peace. This quiet is intermittently interrupted by the natural stimulant effect of a fish's sudden strike and the resulting adrenalin rush. Piscatology even borrows from aromatherapy: What could clear your sinuses better than a sort of fresh fish slime? Piscatorial therapy can be adapted by combining it with other therapies. For example, it can be combined with electroconvulsive therapy by sending the subject out during a thunderstormin an aluminum boat with an extra-long graphite fishing rod. Some researchers have raised concerns about the unpredictable nature of this combination, so most therapists are not yet advocating this approach.

Finally, there has been some discussion about whether primary care providers will have to undergo specific credentialing in piscatology or even obtain a certificate of added qualification. The only similar precedent is that established for golf therapy. The assumption has been made by all major insurance companies that any graduated of an accredited medical school should be qualified to

practice golfology.

In spite of these current controversies and scientific questions, many health care providers are adding this popular technique to their therapeutic arsenal. Before deciding whether to invest in the training and instruments necessary, physicians should schedule an appointment with a respected piscatologist in their area. Such specialists can be contacted through local fishing dubs."





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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.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					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

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5/10	Mother's Day
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5/16 Take a Soldier Fishing

5/25 Memorial Day 5/28 Board Meeting

JUNE Paralyzed Veterans of America Oregon Chapter

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2		4	5	6
	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Mark Your Calendar

6/6 OPVA Gold Cup

6/8 Deep Sea Fishing Trip

6/21-26 35th National Veteran's

Wheelchair Games

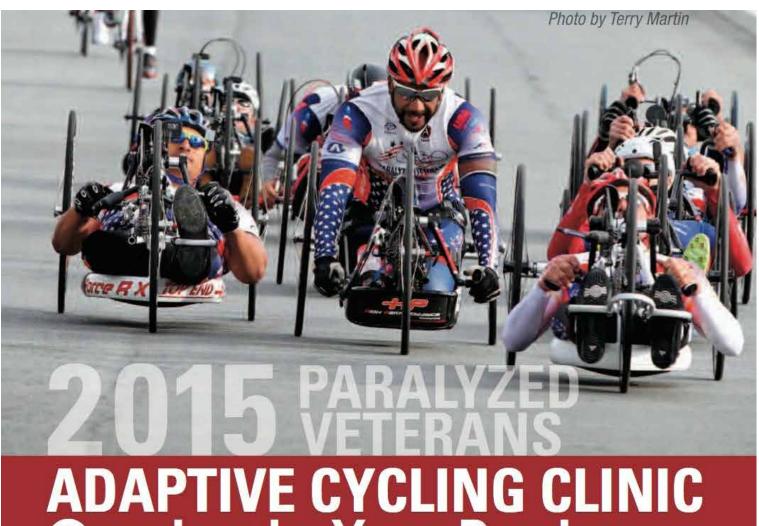
6/21 Father's Day

6/25 Board Meeting

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers needed for all events. Please contact the office for how you can volunteer

Office: (503)362-7998



Coming to Your Region

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

San Diego – April 13

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

Pittsburgh - May 2

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

Salt Lake City - October 3

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

Palo Alto - November 6

Andy Duprey 650-444-8714 Andy.Duprey@va.gov





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.

OREGON PARALYZED VETERAN'S GOLD CUP

Gold Cup Sponsorship Levels





June 6th, 2015 McNary Golf Course, Keizer, OR



Golf Tournament Registration Form

Oregon Chapter

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Date:	Saturday, June 6, 2	015							
Registration:	10:30 A.M.								
Warm-up:	11:30 A.M.								
Tee Time:	12:30 P.M. Introduction/1:00 P.M. shotgun								
Location:	155 McNary Estates Drive N								
	Keizer, Oregon 973	03							
Format:	Four-Person Team Scramble								
Cost:	\$100 per golfer. Includes green fees, golf cart, snack and awards BBQ. Preregister and pay								
	by May 1, 2015. Teams receive a \$50 discount and individuals will receive a \$10 discount.								
Awards BBQ:	Begins at 4:40 P.M., included with players fee for tournament participants. Guests are								
	invited to join us fo	r the BBQ with a reserv	ration at a cost of \$25 per person.						
×									
Tournament	Registration								
Team Captain									
Captain's Name:									
Address:									
City:	State:_	Zip:	Phone:						
Additional Golfers	i								
Name:									
Name:									
Name:									
Check All that Ap	oply:								
☐ Team Fee	\$400.00	18 holes of golf, cart,	box lunch, and awards BBQ for	4 golfers					
	-\$50.00	Preregister and pay by	May 1, 2015 to receive a team dis	count.					
☐ Individual Gol	fer \$100.00	18 holes of golf, cart,	box lunch, and awards dinner						
	-\$10.00	Preregister and pay by	May 1, 2015 to receive an individ	ual discount.					
		Don't have a team? Sig	gn up anyway as a chance to netwo	ork					
☐ Awards BBQ O	only \$25.00	Per Guest							
Number of BBQ G	uests:								
Total Amount Enc	losed: \$								

Mail registration and payment to: OPVA, 3700 Silverton Rd. NE, Salem, OR 97305 Email to: oregonpva@oregonpva.org - To pay with credit card call: 503-362-7998 Please make checks payable to: OPVA - Federal ID # 93-0713859



The Seattle V.A.

Mike Rosenbalm—Hospital Liaison

The Seattle VA is still building the new parking structure which will have plenty of designated SCI parking. In addition, the Seattle VA is still in the process of doing a seismic upgrade project which includes the SCI unit. The SCI unit has relocated some clinic staff and offices as well as some patient rooms to the 5th floor. Therefore, if you have an appointment you may want to arrive a little early until you become familiar with the changes.

The 2015-2016 Paralyzed Veterans of America scholarship application process is now open.

Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) originally founded the scholarship program in 1986. This program was originally devised to provide some financial reprieve for PVA members and their families so that they may achieve their goals in the academic arena. The result of this competitive process is a monetary scholarship to assist them in reaching their post-secondary educational goals

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Applicant must be either a PVA member, the spouse of a PVA member, or an unmarried child (under 24 years of age) who is dependent (as defined by the IRS) on the member for principal support.
- Applicant must be a citizen of the United States.
- Applicant must be accepted and enrolled as a full-time or part-time student in an accredited US college or university.

You may download the scholarship application at www.pva.org.

All applications must be post marked no later than June 17, 2015.

For more information regarding The PVA Educational Scholarship Program, e-mail: christih@pya.org.

I would also like to take a minute and remind our members, if they feel as if they're not getting appropriate medical care including prosthetics or benefits from the VA to contact PVA-Oregon chapter's office and let us know. You can call the office at 1-800-333-0782 or 503-362-7998.

Requirements for Becoming a Member or Officer on the Board of Directors

Certification

As required by PVA national headquarters, all officers and members of the Board of Directors are required to have their membership eligibility certified by the National Secretary prior to being sworn into the appropriate office. It is the policy of Oregon PVA that no person shall be accepted in nomination for any elected or appointed position without completion of membership certification.

In order to certify membership eligibility, the individual must submit to the chapter Secretary copies of documentation which verifies; their medical condition (spinal cord injury or dysfunction), their military service, and proof of American citizenship (birth certificate). Once the chapter secretary has verified that the individual is eligible for membership in PVA, the documentation shall be forwarded to the PVA National Secretary for certification at that level.

All documentation concerning membership certification shall be handled with strictest confidence. A person at the chapter level other than the chapter secretary shall have access to that documentation.

Elections

General. As prescribed in the Bylaws, the officers of the chapter shall be elected annually by general mail ballot. "Election Day" shall be construed as he first (lst) Board meeting day in September, although balloting may take place prior to that date. No elected officer shall serve in more than one such position at any one time. The officers must be members in good standing of the Corporation. Nominations for annual elections shall close on the last day of July of each year.

Election Procedures

Unless otherwise specified in the Bylaws, all regular voting members in good standing are eligible to be nominated for any office and may vote on any issue which comes before the general membership for vote.

To accept nomination for election or to be considered for appointment to any office or to the Board of Directors, the members shall undergo a certification process in which membership eligibility shall be documented at the chapter and national levels. To certify membership eligibility, the member must submit documentation proving honorable service in the Armed Forces of the United States and medical verification of their spinal cord injury or disease. No person shall be officially installed in any elected office of the chapter until the certification process has been completed through the National Secretary of PVA.

The opening of nominations for all elected positions shall be announced to the general membership by mail no later than the first day of July each year. Those nominations shall open on the date of that mailing and shall close at midnight on the last day of July. All names placed in nomination for any office must be accompanied by a written or verbal acceptance from the nominee.

Ballots shall be mailed to all voting members no later than the fifteenth of August for the general mail ballot. The ballot shall reflect the names of all eligible nominees who have expressed an acceptance of their nomination. The polls shall close upon receipt of mail in the chapter office on the fifteenth day September.



Unknown

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.

Chapter Name:	Oregon					800-42	4-8200	• www.pva.org		
First Name: Middle Initial:					Mi	l:	Last Name:			
Date of Birth:/ Last 4 Digits of Market Digits of Last 4 Digits 6 Digits of Last 4 Digits 6 Dig					_ Las	of Soc	ial Security Number:			
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DATE(S) OF TYPE OF				OF			BRANCH OF SERVICE			
	MILITARY SERVICE SEPARATION Copy					Copy of I	opy of DD214 showing type of discharge or VA Medical Services Card Required (attach a copy to application)			
Start Date End Date month/date/year month/date/year				iremen		Still	Still on Active Duty Copy of Military ID Required (DD214 Not Required)			
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•	•		•			<i>(</i>)		•		
Date of Injury:////							te of diagnosis/onset of condition:			
Injury Level: ☐ C1-C08 Cervical ☐ T01-T12 Thoracic ☐ L01-L05 Lumbar ☐ S01-S05 Sacral							//			
Cause of SCI:							ecific disease:			
Vehicular (auto, motorcycle, aircraft, bicycle, etc.)					le, etc.		Multiple Sclerosis (involving spinal cord) Poliomyelitis			
Violence (gunshot, stabbing, explosion, etc.)							Amyotrophic diseases (lateral sclerosis, transverse myeltis			
Pedestrian (h								Syringomyelia		
^	reation (swimmin	ıg, d	livi	ng, etc	.)			Other (specify)		
Flying or fal		me								
☐ Medical-surgical complications ☐ Other traumatic injury										

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) **MARITAL STATUS TYPE OF RESIDENCE** Less than high school graduate ☐ Divorced ☐ Apartment ☐ High school graduate/GED ☐ Married Assisted living facility ☐ Some college or trade school ☐ Never Married ☐ Single-family home/condominium ☐ Associate's degree ☐ Separated ☐ State/veterans retirement home ☐ Bachelor's degree ☐ Widowed ☐ Nursing home ☐ Attended graduate school ☐ VA hospital ☐ Graduate degree ☐ VA nursing home Other Other _____ **CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATUS** RACE/ETHNICITY SOURCE(S) OF INCOME ☐ Employed full time ☐ Asian or Pacific Islander (check all that apply) ☐ Employed part time ☐ Black, not Hispanic/Latino origin **□** Employment ☐ Self-employed ☐ Hispanic/Latino ☐ Gifts/Other ☐ Unemployed ☐ Native American or Alaskan Native ☐ Private pension ☐ White, not Hispanic/Latino origin ☐ Unemployed due to disability ☐ Social Security Other Retired ☐ VA compensation ☐ Other ☐ 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? \(\subseteq \text{Yes} \subseteq \text{No} \) 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. Office Use Only Date Received: ___ Member ID#: Applicant's Signature

Processed Date:

38 | May/June 2015

2/18/14

Date

TAKE A SOLDIER FISHING

Volunteers with boats and fishing equipment will take

Veterans and Active Duty members and their families for a day of fishing!



OPVA is Sponsoring Fishing Event at:

Henry Hagg Lake: Near Forest Grove Oregon

(Pre-Registration is Required)

Saturday, May 16, 2015, 7:00 to 4:00pm

Lunch 11:30 12:45

Paralyzed Veterans of America

Oregon Chapter

Day fishing Licenses provided to those who need them.

To Sign Up: either as a Soldier or Volunteer

OR for more information go to: www.takeasoldierfishing.org

or call OPVA at 503-362-7998

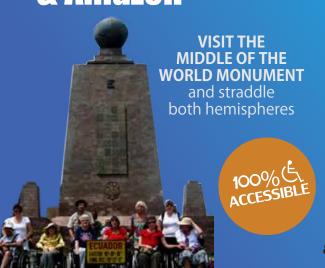
"Take A Soldier Fishing is a non-profit organization providing fishing opportunities to veterans and active duty military personnel and their immediate family members as a thank you for your service to our nation."

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