

May/June 2019
Volume 23, Issue 3



Paralyzed Veterans
of America

Oregon Chapter

PARALOG

Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America



See Page 11

"Serving Those Who Served"

www.oregonpva.org



Paralyzed Veterans of America

Oregon Chapter

Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America

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

www.oregonpva.org

Email - oregonpva@oregonpva.org

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

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Francisco J. Navarro Graphic Designer

PARALOG

Marcie Ceja Editor in Chief

Francisco J. Navarro Graphic Designer

NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICER

Ken Fink

800-795-3627

Fax: 503-412-4763

VANCOUVER VA PRIMARY

Care Contact Phone Numbers

360-696-4061

503-220-8262 ext. 31665 (Portland)

800-949-1004 ext. 31665

After Hours Number

888-233-8305

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503-273-5308

Patient Advocates

Katina Collins, Trish Hafer
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OPVA Mission Statement

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

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

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

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



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Cover photo: McNary Golf Club

Thank you to all our Sponsors!

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PRESIDENT NEWS



Larry Gardner – President

ATTENTION to all members of the OREGON PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA. We are now entering into our busiest time of our fiscal year, which means we need lots of volunteers on board to help the chapter with our events.

Most all of our events are listed in the Paralog, either in the articles or on the calendar, along with lots of events that we participate in as awareness promotions.

With the additions to the Ambassador Program, our three Ambassadors are volunteering in two of the states our chapter covers. Ken Townsend covers central Oregon and lives in Prineville. Dennis Hooper lives in the Roseburg area covering southern Oregon and Don Wyatt lives in Boise and covers all of Idaho.



These Ambassadors work hard setting up at different events in their areas and always welcome volunteers to assist them. So depending on where you live, call your Ambassador or the Salem Chapter office to help out.



Paralyzed Veterans
of America
Oregon Chapter



SHOW & SHINE
Car Show
JULY 27 2019

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

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

Have fun and make new friends! Call the office at: 503-362-7998 for your Ambassador's phone number.

We are also considering an Ambassador for Portland and another for SW Washington, so if anyone would like to talk about that position please call the office and talk to myself or Tom Hurt.

September 21st is our Annual Membership Banquet at Chinook Winds Casino in Lincoln City. This event is coming up fast, so I would like to remind everyone that plans on staying for a night or two, to think about reserving your motel early. This is also the Celebration of Honor weekend for veterans and it runs September 18th - 22nd.



Don't forget if you still haven't used your recreation fund September 30th is the deadline for turning in your request for this fiscal year.

While I am thinking about it, if there is anyone out there that might know a veteran who has spinal cord injury or disease and is not yet a member of the OPVA have them give us a call so we can get them signed up as a member if they qualify.

Recently some of our members and associate members moved to other states. So our sports teams are in need of team members! Please join one or more of our current teams: trap shooting, bowling or fishing (no experience necessary). If your interests are in others sports please call and talk to us! We are always open to working with our members.

So remember we have lots of fun events ahead of us this year; car shows, state and county fairs, fishing trips, air shows, chapter picnic and lots more. Well that's all I have for now and I hope to see lots of you this summer, I am looking forward to lots of fun events. Just remember that without all of you there would not be an OPVA. Thank you all so much.

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40th Anniversary of the NVWG's are COMING to OREGON in 2020!



Tom Hurt – Executive Director

Greetings from your chapter office! We had the annual Abilities Expo on April 13th at the Portland Double Tree. This was our big Awareness event we do every year, bringing products and services under one roof for the disabled community. It was great to see the members who made it out, as well as the general public who came in to see what products and services that are available to them.



We have just finished our Bend Member Pizza meeting, I would like to thanks all that made it out. If you couldn't make it, we are planning some events in central Oregon, like the Air Show of the Cascades in Madras. I know Ken Townsend (Central Oregon

Ambassador) is looking for volunteers to work our table at the Air Show / Car Show. This is the first time doing this event, it should be a fun time for all.

Sue Holt represented the chapter at the Salem MS Walk on April 13th. Ken Townsend put together the team for the MS walk in Bend, which always has a good turnout. Just as a reminder if you know of a Veteran who has MS, they may be able to join OPVA as a member. Have them get in touch with the Chapter Office, to obtain an application for membership or go to our website www.oregonpva.org and download an application.

For those of you who like to get out on the Ocean the chapter is hosting 3



trips again this year to go out for bottom fish and crabbing. The first trip is coming right up on May 28th. There is a flyer on page 9 of this issue of the Paralog with the rest of the dates and details.

I know this is only May, however, the Annual Members Banquet is September 21st this year at Chinook Winds Casino and Resort. At the same time as the banquet, Chinook Winds will be hosting their Celebration of Honor that same weekend.

If you have not been, this is a must see. They have a 1,000 US Flag Display as well as a scaled down version of the Vietnam Wall and WWII Military Vehicles. It is just a great event honoring our Veterans. So come for the Banquet and Stay for the Weekend. **See the Save the Date Flyer on page 17 of this Paralog.**



To help fund the different programs for the membership, your chapter leadership has come up with a number of different fund raising activities. The big one every year is our Vehicle Raffle we typically unveil the raffle vehicle at the OPVA Show and Shine Car Show, this year it is July 27th at the Home Depot at 3795 Hagers Grove Rd. SE Salem OR. We will also be drawing the winner of this year's 1946 Willy's Jeep at 2pm.



As long as I am talking about raffles, to help support the chapter's Trap Team we have been raffling off a gun each year. This year it is a Ruger AR-15, the drawing for the AR-15 will be on November 25th at the chapter office.



You can purchase your tickets for any of our raffles at the chapter office or any of the different events OPVA is attending (as long as the law allows). Other ways OPVA is fund raising is through the sale of: Handmade Quilts and Quilted Hand Bags; an array of Metal Silhouettes; as well as our



Military Hats.

I would like to leave you with this thought. If there is something that you have a desire to get out and do.....there is no time like the present. If you have time available, your Chapter could always use our members to come out to some of the events we are doing.

This just in!!!!!! As you are aware the 39th annual National Veteran Wheelchair Games is taking place in Louisville KY this year in July.

I am pleased to announce that the 40th Anniversary of the NVWG's is **COMING TO OREGON IN 2020**. Keep an eye out as to ways you can help and/or participate with your Chapter or choose to be an Athlete at the Games.

What do you want to do?



Dan Service—Sports Director

Hello my fellow OPVA members. I would like to share my thoughts with you and would like you to share your thoughts with me, about what I will say. In my position, as the Sports Director, I have thought long and hard about what new programs to bring to our chapter.

We sent out a survey in 2015 and received responses from 50 members out of approximately 350. If my math is correct that was a response of 14%. This survey gave choices of different activities a member would like to participate in. Again in 2018, another survey was sent out and I was informed only 4 members responded.

What I am learning from this is we like doing what we like doing. We would like to do more, but our finances, transportation, health, abilities, or something else, does not always allow us to do it. If we live in Ontario and want to attend the OPVA Annual Members Banquet in Lincoln City in September, we have to look at all these issues to determine if we can attend.

Since Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America covers ALL OF OREGON, IDAHO, and SW WASHINGTON, it is not practical to expect every member to attend every event that is put on. Fortunately, members have stepped up as Ambassadors to assist the members in their respective areas.

What I am proposing is that if you have a desire to learn something new,

participate in an activity in your area, or get back into something you used to do, you will need to let us know what that is.



Being a disabled veteran generally helps with discounts of some type. Other organizations have offered members free activities like a weekend at Umpqua RV Park for fishing, music and food. Sometimes a week is offered free for hunting in Central Oregon.

There was an offer of a week's worth of Art lessons in Coos Bay. We have been offered an opportunity to attend a Surfing competition in Lincoln City and even learn how to surf, if your heart desires.

Remember that the OPVA Deep Sea Fishing trips are free to our members. We also have a trap team and bowling league for you to join. Competitive sports registrations maybe covered, check with the chapter

The point is, you let us know what you want to do, and we will work to help make it happen.



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**

Oregon Chapter

Deep Sea



Dates & Times

Tue May 28th - 5:30 am

Tue Aug 13th - 6:00 am

Wed Sep 11th - 6:30 am

5 Hours Trip Ling Cod & Rockfish

**Voting Members
FREE!**

All Others \$65

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

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

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

**Reserve your
place here**





By Donald Wyatt – Idaho Ambassador

The first weekend of March, I spent approximately 10 hours researching online, for information on the ADA and parking regulations for the disabled in Idaho. I've been an ID resident for almost thirteen years. I don't park in the downtown Boise area often but have wondered if persons with a disabled ID license plate or windshield sticker were required to pay at metered parking. My son is a police officer in Nampa but he couldn't answer my question but told me what to look for online. I found it.

The regulations for vehicles with handicap plates or placards is found in Title 49-410 (7). The short version, its free parking.

Any motor vehicle displaying special license plates for a person with a disability, without regard to the state of residence or displaying the special placard provided in subsections (4) and (8) of this section, shall be allowed to park for unlimited periods of time

in parking zones or areas which are otherwise restricted as to the length of time parking is permitted, to park in spaces and zones designated for persons with a disability, and to park in any public parking space with metered parking without being required to pay any parking meter fee.

The provisions of this subsection shall not be applicable to those zones or areas in which the stopping, parking, or standing of all vehicles is prohibited or which are reserved for special types of vehicles, to areas where vehicular parking is prohibited for periods in excess of forty-eight (48) hours, or to areas where parking is prohibited for certain periods of time in order to allow snow removal, street construction or maintenance or for other emergency purposes. Nothing herein shall prohibit the designation of parking spaces for use by disabled persons for unlimited periods.

I also found in my research that Gem County where I live has an ADA coordinator, Larry Robertson, who is also the county code enforcement officer. I made an appointment with him to discuss the ADA and Gem County.

Persons with a disability shall be allowed to park in any public parking space with metered parking without being required to pay any parking meter fee

I have noticed many accessibility improvements at the county court house in the last year. A new ramp for the ground floor, new ramp for the front entrance and barriers that have been removed inside. The Assessors office is now accessible to anyone in a wheelchair. My previous 12 years of complaints have finally paid off.

The county fairgrounds are not wheelchair friendly and that is what I wanted to talk to Mr. Robertson about.



Mr. Robertson told me the handicap parking at the fairgrounds had recently been upgraded and that there was now wheelchair seating in the grandstands. I didn't believe him about the parking at the fairgrounds so I stopped by on my way home to take photos. They added signs and painted some lines but there are no access aisles for most of them.

I will be getting back to Mr. Robertson with this information. I also volunteered to help in any way I could.



GIFT YOUR OLD WHEELS FOR GOOD.



Paralyzed Veterans of America

WHEELS HELPING WARRIORS

Your donated vehicle can go far in helping severely injured veterans. Donations are sold at auction with proceeds going toward programs and services for veterans and their families. You may also receive a tax break, too!



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Paralyzed Veterans of America

Oregon Chapter

Salem-Keizer Volcanoes with their Volcanoes Care Program has partnered with Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America to benefit OPVA!

OPVA will have a special night at Volcanoes Stadium this summer to spotlight our amazing organization's influence in Salem-Keizer.

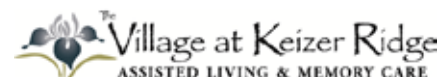
You can help us raise significant funds by purchasing your Volcanoes tickets online, and here's how:

Friday July 5th is Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America night!
Login to www.bit.ly/opva75 and enter Password: opva
Fifty (50%) percent of the ticket price purchased through this portal
(prior to the day of game) will be donated to OPVA!

Such a great way to make a substantial difference in our amazing organization
PLEASE SHARE THIS WITH YOUR FRIENDS and help us celebrate on July 5th.



Thank you to our Sponsors





**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**

Oregon Chapter

Members Picnic



July 20, 2019

Saturday 9 am - 3 pm

Bring the Family

South Salem Elks Lodge

2336 Turner Rd SE, Salem, OR 97302

Information & RSVP

Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America
3700 Silverton Rd NE, Salem, OR 97305
www.oregonpva.org • 503.362.7998



RECREATION FUND REPORTS



Hey OPVA,

Thank you very much for the great recreation fund program you have. At Christmas time a good friend of ours gave us a trip to Hawaii. It included air fare and lodging at Waikiki beach. The trip was great but the food was very expensive so to go sightseeing we had to go deep into our savings.

After we returned I remember the Rec Fund, and here I am writing to you. I am including a picture of us at the "Luau". That's me on the right, he, he. With the Rec Fund we are able to enjoy an once in a lifetime trip.

Thank you very much,
Steve and Irene Willard



Paralyzed Veterans
of America
Oregon Chapter

Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America
Please consider adding OPVA to your will or trust



A Cruise to Celebrate 50 Years of Marriage

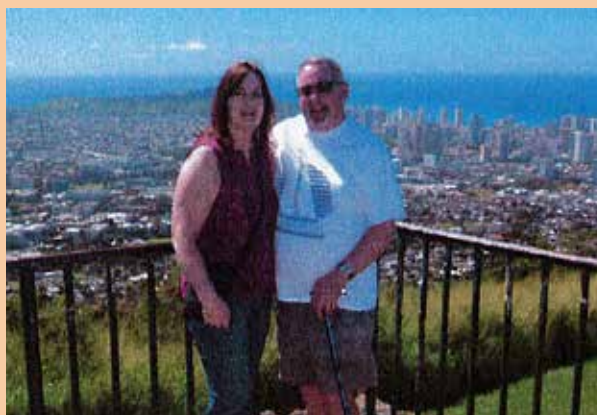
Looking out the eight story window of my hotel room at the San Diego harbor on the morning of March 9, 2019, I was face to face with the Eurodam, the Holland America cruise ship that would take my wife (Jan), her brother (Les), his wife (Elaine), and I on a 28 day adventure to Hawaii and the South Pacific Islands.

Our first 6 days were spent at sea enjoying being spoiled and waited on by the ship's staff. Basking in warm weather, swimming pools, hot tubs and all you can eat fine dining, we also enjoyed nightly entertainment from music groups to comedy shows and talented dance performers.

After two days in Hawaii (Honolulu and Hilo), two more sea days, and crossing the International Date line/Equator, we anchored off the very small primitive Fanning Island that still has no electricity or running water. After that we explored larger islands like Bora Bora, Raiatea, Mo'orea, Tahiti, (Pape'ete), Fakarava and Taioha'e Nuku Hiva, all part of the French Polynesian Islands. It took us 6 more days to cruise back to San Diego while we enjoyed more sun, great food, wonderful entertainment and a few adult beverages. Thank you OPVA Recreation fund for helping us celebrate our anniversary.

Thanks always:

Joe & Jan Heidrick





OPVA,
Receipts for hobbies: models railroads and
WWII scale models kits.

Neal N. Tooze



Remember to Use Your Recreation Fund

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

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

Include name, address, phone number, your receipts and a short description of what you did to have fun
with your friends and family. We like pictures too (digital pictures are best), 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 and used within this current fiscal year (10/1/18 - 9/30/19).

Mail or email to: **Oregon PVA, 3700 Silverton Rd. NE, Salem, OR 97305 - oregonpva@oregonpva.org**

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

Earlier is better in case of any problems.



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



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Members Banquet



Chinook Winds

CASINO RESORT

777 NW 44th St, Lincoln City, OR 97367



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**

Oregon Chapter

Save the Date

Saturday September 21, 2019. 1 pm - 6 pm
RSVP by September 9th

Hotel Reservations 877-423-2241
(limited number of rooms)
Reserve room by August 12th

Mention OPVA for special discount
Remember your Rec Fund!

Come to the banquet, stay for the weekend!!!

"Celebration of Honors" weekend at Chinook Winds

Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America 3700 Silverton Rd. NE, Salem, OR 97305
503.362.7998 • oregonpva@oregonpva.org • www.oregonpva.org

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

D. Alexandra Wolfe	5/3	Gene Stuart	6/3
George Gratzner	5/5	Kelly Jordan	6/6
Walter Hull	5/6	Russell Goffin	6/9
Alexander Smith	5/6	Larry Whitmire	6/10
Anne Wyatt	5/7	Patrick Rivelli	6/13
Donald Linwood	5/9	Daniel Chytka	6/13
Clifford Svoboda	5/10	Kevin Parker	6/13
Corwin Wunn	5/11	Frederick Parker	6/14
John Caldwell	5/13	Borden ("Butch") Hessel	6/14
Terri Gardner	5/15	Gerald Sandlin	6/15
Edward Curtis	5/18	Fritz VonAllmen	6/16
Gloribel Casalduc	5/20	Kenneth Swiderski	6/16
William Russo	5/21	Terry Ogan	6/17
Douglas Hostetler	5/22	William Gray	6/19
Lonnie Morgan	5/22	Gary Tucker	6/21
Melinda Cohen-Huntley	5/23	Michael Lavelle	6/22
Donald Lambert	5/24	Peter Parsons	6/23
Toby Newton	5/24	Michelle Morris	6/25
Thomas Hartzell	5/25	Joel Satoris	6/27
Michael O'Connor	5/25	Robert Moore	6/27
John Solomonson	5/26	Gordon Pike	6/29
Steve Hubley	5/26		
Michael Miner	5/26		
Erik Berg	5/26		
Susan Hruza	5/28		
Matthew Allmaras	5/28		
Michael McAlvage	5/31		
Carl Jensen	6/1		
Nels Hadden	6/1		
Justin Larson	6/1		
Rex Stevens	6/3		





Operation Stop Scams in Wilsonville

Operation Stop Scams sponsored by AARP Oregon, Oregon Department of Justice, Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs. Date/Time: May 20, 2019 9:00 AM. Location: World of Speed Motorsports Museum 27490 SW 95th Ave., Wilsonville. Veterans, military & their families are invited to attend a free interactive event to learn more about how con artists target veterans. The event by AARP Oregon, the Oregon Department of Justice and the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs will focus on identifying scams that target service members and retirees, and provide them with tips on how to avoid fraud. Free breakfast and lunch will be provided, and stay to enjoy a tour of the World of Speed Motorsports Museum. Contact: AARP Oregon oraarp@aarp.org 877-926-8300



- When:** Saturday, June 15, 2019
- Time:** 7:00 to 4:00 PM, Lunch between 11:30 and 12:45
- Where:** Henry Hagg Lake, Scoggins Park, Near Forest Grove Oregon. Check-in is at Area C pavilion and boat launch area. Area is ADA compatible.
- Who:** Volunteers with boats and fishing equipment will take Veterans and Active Duty Military from any branch of the armed services and their immediate family members for a day of fishing.
- What:** A fun packed filled day of fishing honoring our veterans and active duty military for their service to our nation. Snacks and beverages provided in the AM and lunch provided between 11:30 and 12:45. Door prize drawing planned at noon. Day fishing license are provided for those who cannot afford them. Donations for day licenses are welcomed for all others.
- How:** Go to www.takeasoldierfishing.org to register as a participant or as a volunteer/boater. Participants click on the participant tab, volunteers and boaters click on the volunteer tab. Everyone must register in advance to participate. Participant pre-registration closes end of day Wednesday, June 12, 2019, prior to the event.
- Contact:** Presented by Take A Soldier Fishing Portland Chapter – For more information, contact Jack Morby 503 704 1842 or morby517@aol.com.
- Contribute:** Can't participate and still want to contribute? Contact Jack Morby morby517@aol.com or Leroy Bentley, bentlev16@frontier.com or donate at www.takeasoldierfishing.org.

Advocacy Legislative Seminar



Bill Gray—National Director

Off I went to the beautiful town of Arlington, Virginia for another wild ride on the hill with Representatives and Senators.

Things went pretty well considering that the weather was cold. I spent the first day in meetings and getting up to speed with all the issues PVA was trying to bring to the hill. I had made appointments, with the help of Roger Robinson, prior to going. When I got through the first day, I was ask to visit other Representatives and Senators offices and drop off the materials. I went to a total of eleven and it was good I started a day early.



Senator Jeff Merkley

On Tuesday morning when I headed for the Metro, it was bitter cold and when I got on the Hill it registered 10 degrees! I did not have any long johns for this trip, so I just went as fast as I could to get in to the Senate buildings and out of the weather.

Fortunately, if you talk to the Representatives or Senators staff you can find ways to get to most buildings by going underground through the various tunnels and save time and stay warm. And I did.



Representative Peter Defazio

Since most of the time I had to be there early, I ate in the various cafeteria's that are in the basement of the Senate buildings. I was able to meet personally with Senator Jeff Merkley and Representative Peter Defazio.

I talked mostly with their staffers about our issues and relayed that I hoped they would read the materials I was dropping off. Thursday was my last full day going to the different offices. I finished later in the afternoon, jumped on the Metro and headed back to get packed up and head the airport by 5:00am. Thankfully we had a safe flight back and I got home by 7:00 pm.

Legislative Priorities Summary Points

AIR CARRIER ACCESS ACT

The Issue:

The Air Carrier Access Act (ACM) prohibits discrimination based on disability in air travel. Despite progress, too many passengers with disabilities regularly encounter significant barriers. Enforcement of ACM protections is limited to administrative action and civil fines. In October 2018, the President signed legislation to reauthorize the Federal Aviation Administration (Public Law 115-254). This legislation included several provisions from the Air Carrier Access Amendments Act (ACAAA), including increased civil fines for passenger injuries and wheelchair damage, development of an Airline Passengers with Disabilities Bill of Rights, and establishment of a Department of Transportation (DOT) Advisory Committee on the Air Travel Needs of Passengers with Disabilities. In the 116th Congress, PVA is supporting congressional oversight of these provisions to ensure that DOT carries out the law's requirements. PVA is also working to ensure the reintroduction of legislation addressing the remaining pieces of the ACAA not already enacted into law. Key provisions that still need to be passed by Congress include strengthening ACM enforcement through referral of certain complaints to the U.S. Attorney General and a private right of action and requiring airlines to ensure that airplanes meet broad accessibility standards such as those found on other modes of transportation used by the public.

CAREGIVER EXPANSION

The Issue:

The Department of Veterans Affairs' Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers must have the resources necessary to allow it to meet the expansion timelines provided for in the VA MISSION Act (Public Law 115-182) in order to service veterans injured before September

11, 2001. Congress must also pass legislation to allow primary caregivers to earn income credits for caring for disabled veterans, to safeguard primary caregivers' own income security. Additionally, Congress must make eligible for the comprehensive caregiver program those veterans with catastrophic illnesses that are a result of their service.

LONG-TERM SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

The Issue:

Congress must enable the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to successfully balance its long-term services and supports (L TSS) systems as well as maintain a safe margin of community living center capacity. In that vein, VA should publicly report its L TSS workload and waiting times. Likewise, Congress must conduct oversight of VA's initiative to provide home and community-based services (HCBS), as well as request GAO conduct a follow-up report on veterans' access to and availability of VA HCBS.

PROVISION OF IVF

The Issue:

Congress must make in-vitro fertilization (IVF) a permanent part of the Department of Veterans Affairs' medical care package. In addition, Congress must allow for further services to address the needs of women veterans whose injuries prevent a full-term pregnancy, as well as the needs of veterans whose injuries destroyed their ability to provide genetic material for IVF.

SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING PROGRAM

The Issue:

The Department of Veterans Affairs' Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) grant program provides home modifications for catastrophically disabled veterans with service connected disabilities to help them live barrier-free lives. PVA supports legislation that would allow VA to prioritize a veteran's SAH claim if he or she has been diagnosed with a terminal illness to include, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS). Due to the aggressive

nature of ALS, it is imperative that veterans are afforded the opportunity for an increased quality of life while they still have the ability to enjoy it. PVA also supports legislation that would increase the current amount of the SAH grant to better match the cost of construction. Finally, PVA supports legislation that would allow a veteran to utilize the grant more than one time. Veterans should not have to limit themselves from moving into a different residence due to not being able to afford making the necessary modifications, or having to shoulder the burden of paying for the modifications themselves.

REHABILITATION AND PROSTHETIC SERVICES

(Automobile Allowance and Adaptive Equipment)

The Issue:

PVA supports improvements to the Automobile Adaptive Equipment (AAE) Program and the Automobile Allowance Grant. Specifically, PVA supports legislation allowing veterans to utilize the Automobile Allowance Grant more than once for the purchase, not lease, of an adapted vehicle. Considering vehicles do not last a person's lifetime, veterans should have the ability to purchase a vehicle, with the assistance of an AAE grant, once every ten years without having to shoulder the burden of the full cost of a vehicle themselves. In addition, VA must continue to reimburse for adaptive equipment requirements as stated in statute. Veterans should not have to submit an itemized list of this equipment to qualify for the grant. Finally, PVA supports improvements in the AAE program for veterans with non-service-connected disabilities.

REAAI IN DISASTERS ACT (REAL EMERGENCY ACCESS FOR AGING AND DISABILITY INCLUSION)

The Issue:

The 2017 and 2018 natural disasters around the nation revealed numerous gaps in the ability of the emergency response and recovery system to address the needs of people with disabilities.

The REAAI In Disasters Act would create a network of centers focused on research, training and technical assistance to assist states and localities to better involve and support people with disabilities and older adults during times of disasters. It would also establish a National Commission on Disability Rights and Disasters to study the needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults and others with access and functional needs. In addition, it calls for a review of the spending of disaster funds to ensure people with disabilities and older adults have access to services and that buildings and structures reconstructed following disasters are accessible. Finally, the measure would require the Department of Justice to examine how the civil rights of people with disabilities and older adults are treated during and following disasters.

Action Items

Call Your Representative

Schedule time to call your representatives

You can call the Capitol switchboard at: 202-224-3121 to be connected to your representatives. You can use the following script to talk to the staffer you are connected with:

For Veterans:

Hello, my name is [your name] and I live in Rep./Sen. [name] district/state. My address is [your address].

I am calling to urge Rep./Sen. [name] to [discuss any PVA priority-remember to tell what the issue means to you].

Email Your Representative





10th Annual OPVA Gold Cup

Golf Tournament 2019



Paralyzed Veterans
of America

Oregon Chapter

June 22nd

Tee Off 1 pm
McNary Golf Club

Prizes

- \$10,000 Hole in 1
- Closest to the Pin
- Longest Putt
- Longests Drive
- Prizes on holes 4, 7, 8, 10, 15, 17, & 18

Awards

- Teams
Mens, Womens & Mixed

Cost

- Individual \$125
- Foursome \$400

Register Online

www.oregonpva.org

503-362-7998





Registration Form

10th Annual Gold Cup Golf Tournament



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**

Oregon Chapter

Date: Saturday, June 22, 2019
Registration: 12 p.m. and team photos
Tee Time: 12:30 p.m. Introduction/1:00 p.m. shotgun
Location: 155 McNary Estates Drive N, Keizer, Oregon 97303
Format: Four-Person Team Scramble
Cost: \$400 Team - \$125 Individual Golfer. Includes green fees, golf cart & banquet
BBQ: Begins at 5:30 p.m.
Awards: Begins at 5:45 p.m.
Silent Auction: 11:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Must to be present to win)

Tournament Registration

Team Captain

Captain's Name: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Additional Golfers

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Check All that Apply:

- | | | |
|--|-------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Team Fee | \$400 | 18 holes of golf, cart, and Banquet & Auction for 4 golfers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Golfer | \$125 | 18 holes of golf, cart, and Banquet & Auction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Banquet Only | \$45 | Banquet & Auction |

Sponsorship Opportunities

- | | | |
|--|---------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Title Sponsor | \$4,500 | Table at Registration & Business name on all OPVA golf printed material, website and link
2 months of free advertising on digital billboards.
Full Page advertisement in Paralog for one year
2 Golf teams plays for free
Swag in the bag
Staff the hole of your choice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eagle Sponsor | \$1,000 | Table at Registration & Business name on all OPVA golf printed material, website and link
1 month of free advertising on digital billboards
3 issues Full Page advertisement in Paralog
1 Foursome Team
Swag in the bag
Staff the hole of your choice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hole Sponsor | \$250 | Business name on all OPVA golf printed material, website and link
Opportunity to setup table on designated hole & green
BBQ dinner |

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ Check to receive invoice (by email only supply address above)

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

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VEHICLES!**



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May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Mother's Day	13	14	15	16	17	18 Armed Forces Day
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Save the Date



- May 4** **Jefferson Festival Car Show**
- May 16-19** **Keizer Fest**
- May 18** **Keizer Fest Parade**
- May 28** **Deep Sea Fishing Trip**
- June 1** **Free Fish Day**
- June 15** **Take a Soldier Fishing**
- June 22** **OPVA Golf Tournament**
- July 2** **First Tuesday - Sublimity**
- July 4** **Volcanoes Patriotic Day**
- July 5** **Volcanoes Care Program**
- July 20** **Members Picnic**

June

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 Father's Day	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24	25	26	27	28	29





PLEASE REGISTER: PVA HOLDING DISABILITY CIVIL RIGHTS WEBINAR ON MAY 2

On May 2 at 2:00 pm ET, PVA will be holding a webinar on the civil rights laws that provide access to housing, air travel, public accommodations, and government services for people with disabilities. This webinar will provide a broad overview of the multiple federal laws that protect the rights of Americans with disabilities - from the Architectural Barriers Act to the ADA - and is intended for audience members seeking a basic understanding of these laws, including what to do if you encounter discrimination prohibited by them.

This webinar is open to the public. To register, please visit:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_E7JS1m7OS4emEwpFyyt64w.

FEEDBACK ON VA'S CAREGIVER PROGRAM REQUESTED

VA recently postponed the expansion of the Caregiver Program, which was directed by the VA MISSION Act, until 2020 because the IT systems needed to support the expanded program will not be ready. This news was upsetting for many, and it has caught the attention of several members of Congress who are now asking questions. This heightened level of attention has given PVA many opportunities to discuss our goals with the Caregiver Program. Consequently, we need your help. We need feedback from PVA members who are in the current program.

Specifically, we need to know: how is it working; what kind of training did you receive when you started the program; and most important, what kinds of problems are you are experiencing with it? Your inputs will be greatly appreciated and you can send them to PVA's National Legislative Director, Morgan Brown, at MorganB@pva.org.

PVA TESTIFIES ON COMPREHENSIVE LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS TO ENHANCE SOCIAL SECURITY

On April 10, PVA Deputy Executive Director Shaun Castle testified before the House Ways and Means Social Security Subcommittee at a hearing exploring legislative proposals to strengthen and preserve the Social Security system. Among other witnesses were representatives from the National Taxpayers Union, National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare (NCPSSM) and Social Security Works, along with Stephen Goss, Chief Actuary of the Social Security Administration and Dianne Stone, Director of the Newington (CT) Senior and Disability Center.

In its written testimony, PVA stressed the importance of Social Security to over nine million veterans currently receiving benefits – whether retirement or disability – and noted that veterans and their families comprise over one-third of the beneficiary population. Mr. Castle relayed his personal story about the positive impact that Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) had on his life and outlined PVA's support for the Social Security 2100 Act, HR 860. Provisions that he highlighted in his statement to the Subcommittee were those that would establish a more realistic cost-of-

living-adjustment for beneficiaries, strengthen protections for low-income workers, cut taxes on benefits for nearly twelve million beneficiaries and make long overdue adjustments in the financing mechanisms for the system. Social Security actuaries have determined that this bill will ensure the long-term solvency of the trust funds without the need for cuts or changes that could harm beneficiaries.

Chief Actuary Goss reminded the Subcommittee that Social Security will be able to pay benefits in full through approximately 2034, but will begin experiencing a shortfall in revenues after that time, which must be addressed by Congress or benefits will be cut. Nancy Altman with Social Security Works and Max Richtman with NCPSSM detailed numerous polling data showing widespread, bipartisan support for improving Social Security and opposition to measures that reduce benefits or raise the retirement age. Mattie Duppler with the Taxpayers Union cautioned against proposals that would lift the cap on income [currently set at \$132,900] against which the Social Security payroll tax applies or that would phase-in slight increases in the payroll contribution rate.

During the question and answer period, there was considerable discussion around the impact that financing changes could have on the Millennial generation, which is now entering its prime working years. Some members of the Subcommittee were concerned that increasing the payroll tax by 50 cents a week over 20 years or applying that tax to earnings above \$400,000 could dampen the savings rate among younger workers. Other members of the Subcommittee countered that the survivor, disability, and inflation-protected retirement benefits of Social Security were worth those additional investments.

This hearing was the third in a series of hearings into the value, benefits, and future of Social Security. Information about the hearing and witness testimony can be found at: <https://waysandmeans.house.gov/legislation/hearings/comprehensive-legislative-proposals-enhance-social-security>.

PVA GOVERNMENT RELATIONS WELCOMES ROSCOE BUTLER TO LEGISLATIVE TEAM

On April 1, Roscoe Butler started as an Associate Legislative Director for PVA. Roscoe served three years in the United States Army from May 1974 to May 1977. After his honorable discharge, he was employed by VA in October 1977. Throughout his VA career, he worked at six VA health care facilities before transferring to VA Central Office in 1992. He is a graduate of the Veterans Health Administration Health Care Leadership Institute, Class of 2008, and the Interagency Institute for Federal Health Care Executives, Class of September 2009. Prior to his retirement, he was the Deputy Director for Policy in the Veterans Health Administration, Chief Business Office. After 37 years of service to our nation's veterans, he retired from VA in December 2011.

HOUSE VETERANS COMMITTEE HOLDS ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY HEARING

On April 9, the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing to discuss upcoming legislation. Much of the hearing focused on the reintroduction of the VET OPP Act, H.R. 2045, which seeks to realign VA's transition, education, and employment programs under a new fourth administration.

All panelists expressed support for this legislation except for VA and The American Legion. VA said adding a fourth administration would only add more layers to an already very bureaucratic process. The American Legion did not have a position.

PVA has already publicly supported this legislation and provided the following quote in advance of its introduction: "We are pleased to support legislation to establish the Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration. By creating a fourth

administration within VA, this bill will give the financial and administrative autonomy needed for VA to strengthen the focus on Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment services and other programs to help veterans with catastrophic disabilities.”

CHAMPVA IMPROVEMENTS INTRODUCED

Legislation has been reintroduced to allow children of disabled veterans to remain eligible for coverage under the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA) until they are 26 years old – the same coverage required under the Affordable Care Act for private-sector insurance plans, as well as the military’s TRICARE program.

Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) and Congresswoman Julia Brownley (D-CA) simultaneously introduced the legislation, S. 1034 /H.R. 2094, with Senator Brown being joined by Senators Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), Jon Tester (D-MT), Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), Jack Reed (D-RI), Patty Murray (D-WA), Debbie Stabenow (D-MI), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), Chris Murphy (D-CT), Bernie Sanders (D-VT), and Dick Durbin (D-IL). CHAMPVA provides comprehensive health care benefits for dependents of permanently and totally disabled veterans, survivors of veterans who died as a result of a service-connected disability, survivors of veterans who at the time of death were permanently and totally disabled from a service-connected disability, and survivors of service members who died in the line of duty. Currently, a child of a veteran loses eligibility for CHAMPVA at age 18 if he or she is not a student or at age 23 regardless of student status.

When the Affordable Care Act was signed into law in 2010, it required private-sector health plans to allow children to stay on their parents’ insurance until they are 26 years old, but this coverage was not extended to military or veteran health coverage. This discrepancy was addressed for TRICARE in 2011. The CHAMPVA Children’s Care Protection Act would fix this

for VA’s CHAMPVA program. This legislation is supported by PVA, DAV (Disabled American Veterans), The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA), Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), and The Military Coalition (TMC).

FAIR HOUSING VETERAN PROTECTION LEGISLATION CONSIDERED IN HOUSE

On April 2, the House Financial Services Committee held a hearing highlighting a number of housing proposals, including H.R. 149, which seeks to create a new Department of Housing and Urban Development program for proactively testing for discrimination. The legislation, which was introduced by Rep. Al Green (D-TX), would also start a competitive grant program for nonprofit groups studying the causes and effects of discrimination and implementing pilot projects in response. Authorized at \$25 million over five years, the grant program would cover anti-veteran discrimination, as well as all other classes protected by housing law. In addition, this legislation calls for increasing funds for private fair housing organizations that assist housing discrimination victims. The Fair Housing Initiatives Program (FHIP) received \$39.6 million in fiscal year 2019. This legislation would increase the FHIP authorization to \$42.5 million through fiscal year 2024.

HOUSE VETERANS COMMITTEE HOLDS TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION HEARING

The House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Technology Modernization held a hearing on April 2 entitled, “Mapping the Challenges and Progress of the Office of Information and Technology (OIT).” Unfortunately, VA failed to send a representative to the hearing. VA’s OIT Chief was scheduled to testify at a later hearing so the Subcommittee requested VA to send the Deputy. VA failed to respond to that request.

The absence of a VA representative made it difficult to conduct a hearing since no one was present from OIT to answer questions or provide any insight on the current state of VA's IT management. In light of the Chief's absence, the Subcommittee determined that VA faces quite a few challenges that must be addressed to ensure the correct implementation of both the VA MISSION Act and Appeals Modernization.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS HOLDS HEARING ON STATUS OF IT SOLUTIONS NEEDED TO IMPLEMENT THE VA MISSION ACT

The House Committee on Veterans' Affairs held an oversight hearing on April 2 entitled, "MISSION Critical: Assessing the Technology to Support Community Care." Dr. Richard Stone, Executive in Charge, Veterans Health Administration; Mr. James Gfrerer, VA's Assistant Secretary for the Office of Information and Technology/Chief Information Officer; and Dr. Melissa Glynn, Assistant Secretary for Enterprise Integration represented VA.

This hearing was held to discuss VA's implementation of the new Veterans Community Care Program (VCCP), which is due to roll out on June 6. The Committee opened the hearing by voicing concerns about whether the Decision Support Tool (DST) will be ready to deploy by the implementation deadline. DST is a tool VA is developing to make decisions on drive and wait times. Dr. Stone stated that DST is not required to launch the VCCP and VA will be ready to launch the program as planned. Mr. Gfrerer explained DST was designed by VA physicians and looks at the Master Patient Index, Enrollment System, and Patient Data Exchange to make decisions about drive time and wait time.

The Committee also addressed VA's proposed access standards. Committee Members outlined their disappointments in writing to VA, noting the Department's proposed access standards don't live up to the goal of the VA MISSION Act, which was to get rid of the arbitrary one-size-fits-

all approach to veterans' access to community care. They urged the Department not to hollow out VA's capacity to serve veterans by bypassing VA care for nearly-automatic eligibility for community care. The Committee also criticized VA's unacceptable lack of transparency in developing access standards that would hold community providers to lower standards than VA doctors. Lastly, the members also noted that VA does not know how many veterans will be affected by the proposed access standards and is unable to provide accurate data about how much it will cost tax payers.

CAREGIVER LEGISLATION INTRODUCED IN EARLY APRIL

In April, two important pieces of legislation impacting caregivers were introduced. First, the Lifespan Respite Care Reauthorization Act of 2019, S. 995/H.R. 2035, was introduced in the Senate on April 2 by Senators Susan Collins (R-ME) and Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), and in the House by Representatives by Jim Langevin (D-RI) and Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA). The bill authorizes \$200 million over five years, extending the program through fiscal year 2024. The Lifespan Respite Care Program Act authorizes grants to states to implement statewide coordinated systems of respite services, provide planned and emergency respite services, recruit and train respite workers and volunteers, and provide information to family caregivers to help them access respite care.

To date, 37 states and the District of Columbia have received Lifespan Respite grants from the Administration for Community Living to help improve access, quality and affordability of respite for family caregivers of children and adults. Extending the program for another five years will help ensure that states are able to sustain the work they have begun and still allow new states to receive grants.

Second, on April 3, Senators Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Tim Kaine (D-VA) introduced the Supporting America's Caregivers and Families Act, S. 1017, a bill that would increase funding,

training, and support for the more than 34 million family caregivers in America. The bill would bolster the nation's network of Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs), and enhance support for caregivers through skills building, resources and information, respite care, counseling, and other services.

The legislation enhances the ability of AAAs, under the authority of the Older Americans Act, to support caregivers and those they serve by doing the following:

- **Increase funding:** Increases the funding authorization level for the National Family Caregiver Support Program (Title III-E of the Older Americans Act) from \$160.8 million to \$360 million.
- **Increase the use of caregiver assessments:** Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a plan to increase the use of caregiver assessments, and creates a new technical assistance and resource center to share best practices. Eighty-four percent of caregivers report they could use additional information to provide care to loved ones. Increasing the use of caregiver assessments will help identify and address the health, financial, training, and skills that caregivers may need.
- **Enhance Partnerships with Health Payers:** Expand the ability of AAAs to receive funding from Medicare and Medicaid to provide case management and other services for seniors, which will increase funding for support services to seniors.

Additional information about the Durbin-Kaine bill can be found at <https://www.kaine.senate.gov/press-releases/durbin-kaine-introduce-bill-to-support-family-caregivers>.

introduced S. 978, a bill to make the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) permanent. A week later, on April 10, House Ways and Means Select Revenue Measures Subcommittee Chairman Mike Thompson (D-CA), along with Representatives Tom Reed (R-NY), Bill Pascrell (D-NJ), Tom Rice (R-SC), and Tom Suozzi (D-NY) announced the introduction of H.R. 2213, a similar bill to make the tax credit permanent.

The WOTC encourages private employers to hire people on public assistance who might otherwise have barriers to employment, including disabled, unemployed, and food stamp-dependent veterans. Studies show that WOTC saves both state and federal governments at least \$85 billion over ten years because it reduces spending on programs like TANF, SNAP, Medicaid, and housing assistance. The most recent five-year extension of the program, enacted in 2015, significantly increased hiring by employers of individuals on public assistance programs, veterans, and people with disabilities. According to the Department of Labor's most recent statistics, over 2.2 million WOTC certifications were issued in fiscal year 2018 compared to 1.3 million in fiscal year 2014.

PVA is a strong supporter of WOTC and recently joined a number of advocacy organizations in a letter to Congress urging permanent extension of the program prior to its expiration on December 31. Of the Senate sponsors, all but Senator Blunt are members of the Senate Finance Committee. Senator Blunt, however, is a member of the Senate leadership and works closely with Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY). Their sponsorship of this measure is meant to send a strong signal to Congress and the White House that the time for WOTC permanency is long overdue.

WORK OPPORTUNITY TAX CREDIT EXTENSION INTRODUCED

On April 2, Senators Rob Portman (R-OH) and Sherrod Brown (D-OH), along with Senators Ben Cardin (D-MD), Robert Menendez (D-NJ), Bill Cassidy (R-LA), and Roy Blunt (R-MO)

ITS AMERICA DRIVERLESS CAR REPORT

The Intelligent Transportation Society of America (ITS America) released its April 2019 report on Driverless Cars and Accessibility: Designing the Future of Transportation for

People with Disabilities. <https://bit.ly/2CW6Gtd>. The report summarizes current challenges that people with disabilities face and speculates as to which requirements might be necessary for a “fully automated” and “fully accessible” vehicle to indeed be accessible. The report focusses on issues affecting people with disabilities who are deaf and hard of hearing, blind and low vision, and those who are mobility Impaired.

Representatives from the mobility impaired community have expressed the importance of considering the following when designing automated vehicle systems:

- Human-machine interface of the vehicle – specifically, that the interface can accommodate users who experience a range of physical challenges, such as difficulties associated with fine motor control or speech.
- Challenges associated with inaccessible routes (e.g. street furniture, streetscape) or obstacles on the way to/from vehicle (including navigating through traffic as a pedestrian).
- Independent and safe ingress and egress methods.
- Independent and safe use of occupant protection and mobility aid device restraint systems (e.g. Wheelchair Tie-down and Occupant Restraint Systems).

There are still gaps in accessibility and plenty of lessons learned from several decades of experience with ADA in transportation. Therefore, new vehicle designs that incorporate fully automated driving systems, particularly those supporting demand-responsive passenger service (to include shared-use ride-hailing, micro-transit, and para-transit services), represent a unique opportunity to reexamine the needs of people with disabilities.

ADDRESSING VETERAN’S MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS

PVA recently endorsed S. 785, the Commander John Scott Hannon Veterans Mental Health Care Improvement Act, which was introduced

by the Ranking Member of the Senate Veterans’ Affairs Committee, Senator Jon Tester. This landmark legislation incorporates ideas from mental health advocates, local stakeholders, and veterans, and builds upon what VA is doing right when it comes to mental health treatment and suicide prevention, while filling in the gaps with innovative treatment options, better access to care for rural and women veterans, and more help for service members transitioning out of the military. Among other provisions, the bill would:

- Bolster VA’s mental health workforce to serve more veterans by giving VA direct hiring authority for more mental health professions, offering scholarships to mental health professionals to work at Vet Centers, and placing at least one Suicide Prevention Coordinator in every VA hospital.
- Improve rural veterans’ access to mental health care by increasing the number of locations at which veterans can access VA telehealth services and offer grants to non-VA organizations that provide mental health services or alternative treatment to veterans.
- Strengthen support and assistance for service members transitioning out of the military by giving every service member one full year of VA health care when they leave several the military and improving services that connect transitioning veterans with career and education opportunities.
- Study and invest in innovative and alternative treatment options by expanding veterans’ access to animal, outdoor, or agri-therapy, yoga, meditation, and acupuncture, and investing in VA research into the impact of living at high altitude on veterans’ suicide risk and identifying and treating mental illness.
- Hold VA accountable for its mental health care and suicide prevention efforts by examining how VA manages its suicide prevention resources and how VA provides seamless care and information sharing for veterans seeking mental health care from VA and community providers.

HOUSE LEADERSHIP UNVEILS LEGISLATION TO STRENGTHEN PROTECTIONS FOR PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS AND LOWER HEALTH CARE COSTS

In late March, House Democratic leaders introduced the Protecting Pre-Existing Conditions & Making Health Care More Affordable Act of 2019, H.R. 1184, which is intended to strengthen protections for people with pre-existing conditions and address recent regulatory moves to weaken the Affordable Care Act. The bill would reverse efforts by the Department of Health and Human Services to give states waivers that undermine pre-existing condition protections in health insurance coverage and stop the expansion of so-called “junk insurance plans” that fail to provide adequate coverage and discriminate against some consumers. The legislation would also restore critical outreach and enrollment funding for navigators to assist consumers in signing up for health care plans.

To address the rising costs of health insurance coverage, the bill expands eligibility for premium tax credits beyond 400 percent of the federal poverty line and increases the size of tax credits for all income brackets. The legislation would also establish a national reinsurance program to help cover the costs of consumers with expensive medical conditions, which should lower premiums in general, and would offer funding to states to establish their own State-Based Marketplaces, which often offer lower cost health insurance plans.

This legislation is likely to pass the House whenever it is brought to the floor for a vote but its fate in the Senate is uncertain given the reluctance of Senate leadership to pursue health care reforms during the 116th Congress.

SENATE LETTER HIGHLIGHTS 2020 ADMINISTRATION BUDGET IMPACT ON DISABILITY PROGRAMS

Senators Bob Casey (D-PA) and Sherrod Brown (D-OH) have written to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Director Mick Mulvaney urging the Administration’s cabinet departments to review their budgets for cuts to disability programs and to restore recommended funding for these programs. Early reports on the budget highlighted a \$1.5 trillion cut to Medicaid, \$800 billion reduction in Medicare spending, \$84 billion reduction in Social Security Disability Insurance, and elimination of funding for the Special Olympics.

In addition to those cuts, the Senators’ letter goes on to point out reductions in funding contained in the fiscal year 2020 budget to the Traumatic Brain Injury program; the Paralysis Resource Center; State Councils on Developmental Disabilities; University Centers on Developmental Disabilities; the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research; Independent Living Centers; the Voting Access for People with Disabilities program; state Assistive Technology programs; the Family Caregiver Support Services program; Lifespan Respite Care program; and Section 811 Housing for Persons with Disabilities.

The scope of these cuts are unlikely to come to fruition because Congress has largely dismissed the Administration’s proposed 2020 budget. However, PVA will be working with its allies in the disability community to ensure that any final spending bills preserve support for these and other vital programs that are essential to the lives of people with disabilities.



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Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America
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UPCOMING U.S. ACCESS BOARD WEBINARS

On April 20 at 2:00 pm ET, the U.S. Access Board is hosting part one of a webinar series on “Promoting Independence and Access through Responsible Design.” Melissa Anderson, PE, formerly a Transportation Engineer for the U.S. Access Board, will present a four-part webinar series designed to improve the understanding of why and how to provide accessible pedestrian facilities in the public right of way. Part one will begin with a discussion of legal obligations, how the standards and guidelines apply and then move through the components of pedestrian access and how to actually achieve access.

The Access Board is also hosting a webinar on May 2 at 2:30 pm ET. This session will cover access to sales and services counters and review applicable requirements in the Americans with Disabilities Act and Architectural Barriers Act Standards. Presenters will illustrate access to various types of counters, including sales


counters, check-in counters, and food service counters. They will also address teller and service windows, check-out aisles, self-service shelves, and food and beverage dispensers.

For more information or to register for these webinars, please visit www.accessibilityonline.org.



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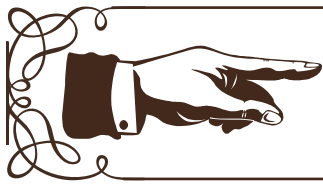
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MEMBERSHIP/CERTIFICATION APPLICATION

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

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

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

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

Race/Ethnicity:

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

Address: _____ **City:** _____

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

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

VETERAN STATUS INFORMATION

Please submit the following with application:

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

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

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

If yes, please explain: _____

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

DISABILITY CLASSIFICATION

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

SPINAL CORD INJURY

Complete only if you have a traumatic spinal cord injury.

Date of Injury: ___ / ___ / _____

Cause of Spinal Cord Injury:

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

SPINAL CORD DISEASE

Complete only if there is no spinal cord injury.

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

Specific Disease Involving Spinal Cord:

- Multiple Sclerosis
- 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

ANNUAL AIR RIFLE & AIR PISTOL PROGRAM

Cal-Diego Air Rifle and Pistol Tournament
January 28-29, 2019
San Diego, CA

Mid-Atlantic Air Rifle and Pistol Tournament
March 6-7, 2019
Richmond, VA

Wisconsin Air Rifle and Pistol Tournament
March 30-31, 2019
Milwaukee, WI

New England Combined Air Rifle and Boccia Tournament*
April 26-28, 2019
Brockton, MA

Buckeye Air Rifle and Pistol Tournament
April 26-27, 2019
Geneva, OH

**indicates combined events*

PARALYZED VETERANS NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS CIRCUIT

North Central Trapshoot
September 8-9, 2018
Sioux Falls, SD

Mid-Atlantic Shooting Sports Tournament and Handgun Shoot
November 9-11, 2018
Charles City, VA

Arizona Shooting Sports Tournament
February 8-10, 2019
Phoenix, AZ

Cal-Diego Shooting Sports Tournament & Pistol Tournament
March 29-31, 2019
Redlands, CA
Pistol Shoot - March 29, 2019
Lytle Creek, CA

Wisconsin Shooting Sports Tournament & Pistol Tournament
May 17-19, 2019
Rifle/Pistol Shoot - May 17, 2019
Green Bay, WI

Vaughan Shooting Sports Tournament
May 31-June 2, 2019
Elburn, IL

Iowa Shooting Sports Tournament & Pistol Tournament
June 14-16, 2019
Pistol Event - June 14, 2019
Cedar Rapids, IA

Lone Star Shooting Sports Tournament
June 21-23, 2019
Waxahachie, TX

PARALYZED VETERANS BOATING/FISHING TOUR

Mid-America Bass Tournament
September 21-23, 2018
Eufaula, OK

Vaughan Bass Tournament
October 5-7, 2018
Whittington, IL

Florida Gulf Coast Bass Tournament
March 29-31, 2019
Tavares, FL

Kentucky-Indiana Bass Tournament
May 3-5, 2019
Kuttawa, KY

Mid-Atlantic Bass Tournament
June 7-9, 2019
Henrico, VA

ANNUAL PVA/NWPA BILLIARDS TOURNAMENT SERIES

Mid-South Billiards Tournament
October 12-13, 2018
Memphis, TN

Mid-Atlantic Billiards Tournament Battle at the Beach
November 16-18, 2018
Virginia Beach, VA

Mid-Atlantic Billiards Tournament Chuck Willis Mem
March 22-24, 2019
Midlothian, VA

Mid-America Billiards Tournament
April 5-7, 2019
Oklahoma City, OK

Buckeye Billiards Tournament
June 14-15, 2019
Wickliffe, OH
Mountain States Billiards Tournament
June 21-22, 2019
Fountain, CO

BOCCIA

Gateway Boccia Tournament
October 18-20, 2018
St. Louis, MO

Bayou Boccia Tournament
November 30-December 1, 2018
Gulfport, MS

Mid-Atlantic Boccia Tournament
January 2019
Richmond, VA

Cal-Diego Boccia Tournament
February 19-20, 2019
San Diego, CA

Arizona Boccia Tournament
April 6-7, 2019
Phoenix, AZ

New England Combined Air Rifle and Boccia Tournament
April 26-28, 2019
Brockton, MA

ANNUAL PVA/AWBA BOWLING TOURNAMENT SERIES

Great Plains Bowling Tournament
July 12-15, 2018
Council Bluffs, IA

Mountain States Bowling Tournament
August 15-18, 2018
Colorado Springs, CO

Mid-Atlantic Bowling Tournament
September 28-30, 2018
Glen Allen, VA

Nevada Bowling Tournament
November 29-Dec 2, 2018
Las Vegas, NV

Florida Gulf Coast Bowling Tournament
February 21-24, 2019
Tampa, FL

Mid-America Bowling Tournament
April 12-14, 2019
Shawnee, OK

Vaughan Bowling Tournament
June 27-30, 2019
Romeoville, IL

HANDCYCLING RACING

Museum of Aviation Marathon
January 12, 2019
Warner Robins, GA

PVA Racing High Performance Camp
January 26-February 1, 2019
Brooksville, FL

Top End Euro-American HC Championships
February 2-3, 2019
Gainesville, FL

Valley of the Sun
February 16-18, 2019
Phoenix, AZ

One City Marathon
March 2, 2019
Newport News, VA

Off-Road Spring Expo
April 19-21, 2019
Chesterfield, VA

PVA Learn to Race Camp
April 23-26, 2019
Gettysburg, PA

Blue and Gray Half Marathon and Criterium
April 27-28, 2019
Gettysburg, PA

NATIONAL VETERANS WHEELCHAIR GAMES



For more information, visit:
pva.org/sports



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

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May/June 2019

We proudly support the Paralyzed Veterans of America

If you have a **service-connected disability**, you may qualify for VA funding assistance for wheelchair accessible vehicles or driving modifications. If your current vehicle is more than two years old, you may even qualify for a brand new conversion.

Portland East

12905 NE Airport Way Portland,
 OR 97230 Local: 503.564.7155
 Toll-Free: 877.501.8267
 Formerly Performance Mobility

Portland West

4347 NW Yeon Ave Portland, OR
 97210 Local: 503.243.2940
 Toll-Free: 877.501.8267
 Formerly Performance Mobility

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*Trade-In your accessible vehicle for a new one.
 Call us today to schedule your appraisal.*
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 Oregon Chapter

