



Bay Area & Western Chapter

E-BRIDGE

Paralyzed Veterans of America, Bay Area & Western Chapter, INC.



President's Message

WRITTEN BY REESE LEVASSEUR



Happy early Spring everyone! Just a reminder that there will be elections this year for the Board of Directors. Please follow this link to learn more: http://www.bawpva.org/_fileCabinet/vol35no3.pdf. The deadline to submit a written statement and bio is March 9, 2021. Please contact the office at (650) 858 - 3936 if you have any questions.

Due to restrictions at VA Palo Alto Health Care System, the Chapter's events will be held virtually. The SCI/D Center is still at 40% and visitors and veterans without appointments will not be allowed on the unit. The office is also closed until further notice to protect the staff and Board of Directors.

A note from the SCI/D Center's Outpatient Clinic in Palo Alto, CA: All SCI/D Vets are now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine. If you wish to receive the COVID-19 vaccination call 650-496-2535 or contact your nearest VA to schedule an appointment. Navarre transportation may be provided once the COVID-19 vaccine appointment is made; this includes gurney transportation as well. You may visit <https://www.paloalto.va.gov/services/covid-19-vaccines.asp> for more details. If you have already received your COVID-19 vaccinations, please bring your CDC vaccination card with you to your next appointment so it can be documented in your medical record. You may also send the documentation using MyHealthVet.

We will get through this soon, but please if you have any issues or concerns, reach out to the office.

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Paralyzed Veterans of America, Bay Area & Western Chapter, INC.



Paralyzed Veterans of America

National PVA's Sports Update

WRITTEN BY NATIONAL PVA SPORTS & RECREATION TEAM IN WASHINGTON, D.C.



MARCH SPORTS & RECREATION

SPIN SESSION with guest speakers
Monday - Saturday each week
Email HANDCYCLING@PVA.ORG for times and registration

E-SPORTS MEET UP - Apex Legends!
Led by Travis Greaves
[Click to Join our Discord](#)
or Email for Details- TravisG@pva.org

MEDITATION AND YOGA WEBINAR-
Special guest speakers Darnell McDonald and Dr. Audrey Lee
March 25 @ 1pm - [Click to Register](#)

AIR RIFLE 106 Led by John Arbino
Thurs March 18 & 25 @ 3pm
[Click to Register](#)

FL GULF COAST BASS TOURNAMENT
Fri March 26 - Sun March 28
[Click to Register](#)

WISCONSIN PVA AIR RIFLE & PISTOL TOURNAMENT
Sat March 13 - Sun March 14

ADAPTIVE YOGA Led by Dr. Audrey Lee
Every Monday & Wednesday @ 2pm
EST, Saturdays @ 11am EST
[Click to Register](#)

Virtual Nutrition Led by Dr. Audrey Lee
Thurs March 11 @ 2pm EST
[Click to Register](#)

BOOK CLUB - Firefly Lane by Kristin Hannah
Fri March 19 @ 1pm
[Click to Register](#)

PVA FITNESS TRAINING Led by Jerod Warf
Mon's & Wed's starting March 1 @ 12:25pm
[Click to Register](#)

Check out PVA.ORG/SPORTS for more details!

• All times are EST



March Calendar

[SCI PEER SUPPORT](#)
MARCH 3

[BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING](#)
MARCH 9

SHUFFLEBOARD CLINIC (INPATIENTS)
MARCH 10

ST. PATRICK'S DAY LUNCHEON (INPATIENTS)
MARCH 16

[VIRTUAL BINGO CLINIC](#)
MARCH 31

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Goods Inspiring Veterans Everywhere (GIVE) Program

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE NATIONAL PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA AND THE PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA, BAY AREA & WESTERN CHAPTER, INC.

The Chapter is hosting a Clothing Drive in the Palo Alto, CA Office. The Chapter is looking to the community to donate lightly used clothing and other items that will directly benefit a veteran. Through the GIVE Program, we would love to expand the program by bringing in more funds for our veterans.

Clothing Donation Program - GIVE

<https://www.pva.org/ways-to-give/g-i-v-e-clothing-donation/>

Wheels Helping Warriors (WHW) Program

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE NATIONAL PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA AND THE PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA, BAY AREA & WESTERN CHAPTER, INC.

Are you tired of having too many cars or is your car getting old and you are looking to donate it? The Wheels Helping Warriors Program is a program in which we accept vehicles and the proceeds go to our veterans. The process is very simple and veterans from Northern California will benefit from the donation.

Vehicle Donation Program - WHW

<https://pva.careasy.org/HOME.html>



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National PVA's Washington Update

WRITTEN BY NATIONAL PVA'S GOVERNMENT RELATIONS TEAM IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

House Appropriators Examine VA's COVID Response

On February 19, the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies held a virtual hearing to assess how well VA is responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. Topics covered during the hearing included the COVID vaccine rollout and distribution, therapies for COVID-19 patients, the utilization of telehealth, and health care accessibility in rural and hard-to-reach communities. Dr. Richard Stone, Acting Under Secretary for Health, Veterans Health Administration, told the panel that the limited vaccine supply has inhibited the Department's ability to distribute the vaccine to veterans and VA staff. So far, VA has administered more than 1.3 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccine; nearly one million of them went to veterans. He said VA is enrolling eligible veterans so they can receive the vaccine but made it clear that the Department does not have the supplies or authority to vaccinate the broader population of veterans who are not eligible for VA health care at this time.

Dr. Stone also spoke about COVID-related funding received last year and the Department's need for additional funding for its COVID-19 response. The Department already used \$6.5 billion of the more than \$19 billion Congress gave the Department last year through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. The remaining amount will be committed this year and the additional funding Congress is now considering would go toward health care costs, personal protective equipment (PPE), and several large-scale modernization efforts. Dr. Stone also said VA has begun talking about the long-term ramifications of the pandemic. Stone said, "We know that there's a huge impact on deferred and delayed care that will begin to come in. We know that there's a huge effect on unemployment, where people lose their health insurance and come to us as a safety net."

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Veterans Career Program

WRITTEN BY NATIONAL PVA VETERANS CAREER PROGRAM TEAM IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

- March 2, 2021: Tips for Handling Interview Anxiety at 4:00 p.m. ET (3:00 p.m. CT/ 2:00 p.m. MT/ 1:00 p.m. PT)
 - March 4, 2021: Informational Interviews at 1:00 p.m. ET (12:00 p.m. CT/ 11:00 a.m. MT/ 10:00 a.m. PT)
 - March 10, 2021: Employer Session: Johnson & Johnson at 4:00 p.m. ET (3:00 p.m. CT/ 2:00 p.m. MT/ 1:00 p.m. PT)
 - March 12, 2021: Creating an Elevator Pitch at 4:00 p.m. ET (3:00 p.m. CT/ 2:00 p.m. MT/ 1:00 p.m. PT)

Each Veterans Career Live session is an hour-long and features a short presentation and plenty of time for discussion and interactive Q&A.

Registration is limited to ensure a high-touch experience for all who attend.

As a reminder, please note that the PAVE program has changed names and will now be known as PVA Veterans Career Program.

Important Links

[PATIENT EDUCATION REVIEW PAST PATIENT EDUCATION SESSIONS AND FIND OUT HOW TO PARTICIPATE](#)

[AIR ACCESS 30 SHARE STORIES ABOUT YOUR AIR TRAVEL EXPERIENCES AS A PASSENGER WITH A DISABILITY](#)

[PUBLICATIONS VIEW CHAPTER NEWSLETTERS, ANNUAL REPORTS, PVA PUBLICATIONS](#)

[COVID-19 RESOURCES VIEW NATIONAL PVA'S RESOURCES AND UPDATES ON COVID-19](#)

100th ANNIVERSARY
PVA
Paralyzed Veterans of America
EST. 1946
Veterans Career Program

UPCOMING Veterans Career Live Sessions

Employment Support, When and Where It Matters
Register now at pva.org/VeteransCareerLive

<p>Tips for Handling Interview Anxiety March 2, 2021 • 4:00 p.m. EST</p>	<p>Informational Interviews March 4, 2021 • 1:00 p.m. EST</p>
<p>Employment Session: Johnson & Johnson March 10, 2021 • 4:00 p.m. EST</p>	<p>Creating an Elevator Pitch March 12, 2021 • 4:00 p.m. EST</p>

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St. Patrick's Day Luncheon (Inpatients)

IN SPONSORSHIP WITH THE PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA,
BAY AREA & WESTERN CHAPTER, INC.

St. Patrick's Day Luncheon
Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 12:00 pm

Join us for a St. Patrick's Day Luncheon sponsored by Paralyzed Veterans of America, Bay Area & Western Chapter. All SCI/D veterans and their families are welcome. Veterans with sitting restrictions will be served at bedside upon request. SCI staff will be required to have a ticket. Location of Luncheon TBD.

Menu
 Corned Beef
 Cabbage Salad
 Boiled Potatoes
 Carrots
 Rolls & Butter



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About Us

THE PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA, BAY AREA & WESTERN CHAPTER, INC.

The Paralyzed Veterans of America, Bay Area and Western Chapter, INC. (BAWPVA) is a nonprofit, Veterans service organization located in Palo Alto, CA. BAWPVA serves spinal cord injured and/or dysfunction Veterans located in Northern California and the Pacific Islands. BAWPVA is one of 33 chapters of the Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) located across the United States. Currently, BAWPVA has approximately 500 members.

The Paralyzed Veterans of America, Bay Area and Western Chapter, INC. (BAWPVA) services provide direct support to the chapter's programs. BAWPVA sponsors various events and adaptive sports clinics at the VA Palo Alto Health Care System in Palo Alto, CA, VA Northern California Health Care System, VA Central California Health Care System, VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System, and VA Pacific Islands Health Care System.

If you are interested in membership, volunteering, or donating please contact us today.

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