



Bay Area & Western Chapter

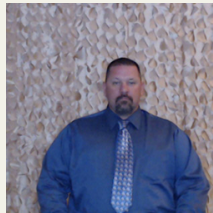
# *E-BRIDGE*

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



## *President's Message*

**WRITTEN BY REESE LEVASSEUR**



Hello everyone! It is almost Summer. Just an update, the PVA 75th Anniversary packages should be sent to all members by the end of the month. We are still waiting on some members to get back to us. We are excited to celebrate this milestone with all of you.

Due to restrictions at VA Palo Alto Health Care System, the Chapter's events will mostly be held virtually in June 2021. The SCI/D Center is still at 40%, 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. The Chapter will be having DISC Golf clinics in the community on June 17th (Bay Area) and June 24th (Sacramento). We are still working on some details, but we will be calling you soon. The clinics are for all members and families. The Chapter encourages you to come to a clinic to receive Chapter updates. Food will be provided.

The Annual Banquet is scheduled for Saturday, July 10, 2021 at the the Hyatt Regency Santa Clara. There are strict restrictions in place put on by the hotel and the Chapter. All guests need to be vaccinated or need to take a COVID-19 test within 3 days of the event showing a negative result. If you are interested in attending, please call the office at (650) 858 - 3936 or email Executive Director Kory Amaral at amaral@bawpva.org. Capacity will be limited. The Banquet is for PVA members and SCI staff.

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

### *In This Issue*

**PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**

**SCI MEET AND GREET**

**GOODS INSPIRING  
VETERANS EVERYWHERE  
(GIVE) AND WHEELS  
HELPING WARRIORS  
(WHW) PROGRAMS**

**NATIONAL PVA'S  
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS  
WASHINGTON UPDATE**

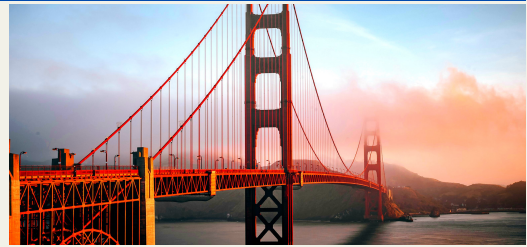
**INTERACTIVE ARTS  
CLINIC**

**DISC GOLF CLINICS**

**ABOUT US**

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



## *SCI Meet and Greet*

IN SPONSORSHIP WITH THE  
PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA, BAY AREA & WESTERN  
CHAPTER, INC. AND THE SCI CENTER IN PALO ALTO

### LIVING WITH A SPINAL CORD INJURY



#### **SCI Monthly Meet & Greet**

Please join us the FIRST WEDNESDAY of the month in the SCI Dining Room at 12:00 PM PDT for a catered lunch and peer support activity. This is a monthly program designed for SCI veterans to gather together and connect in a social and relaxed environment, socially distanced of course!

If you cannot attend in person, or if group is at capacity, you can call into ZOOM from your room or home.

**ZOOM Dial: 1-669-900-9128 Meeting ID: 835 1426 6166**

**Access Code: 9750449**

**ZOOM Online: Meeting ID: 835 1426 6166**

**Passcode: SCIPEER**

**[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83514266166?  
pwd=RzE3dzFKaE5wVUJadGdualdQUmM4Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83514266166?pwd=RzE3dzFKaE5wVUJadGdualdQUmM4Zz09)**

#### *June Calendar*

SCI MEET AND GREET  
JUNE 2

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING  
JUNE 8

DISC GOLF CLINICS  
JUNE 10, 17, & 24

INTERACTIVE ARTS CLINIC  
JUNE 22

VIRTUAL BINGO CLINIC  
JUNE 30

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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.

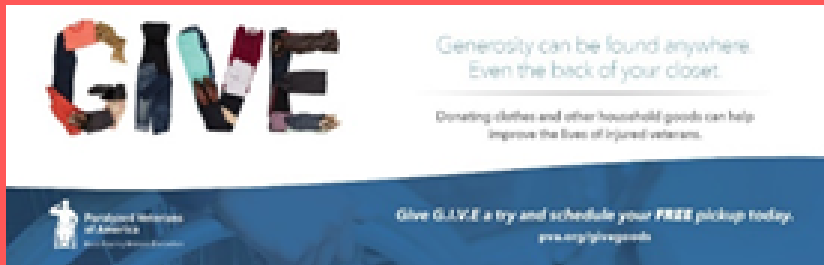
Clothing Donation Program - GIVE  
<https://www.pva.org/ways-to-give/g-i-v-e-clothing-donation/>

## 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.**

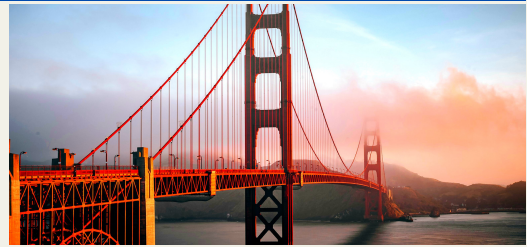
Are you tired of having too many cars or is your car getting old and you are looking to donate it? The Wheels Helping Warriors Program is a program in which we accept vehicles and the proceeds go to our veterans. The process is very simple and veterans from Northern California will benefit from the donation.

Vehicle Donation Program - WHW  
<https://pva.careasy.org/HOME.html>



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



## *National PVA's Washington Update*

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

### **Senator Duckworth Introduces Bill to Make Legacy Transit Accessible**

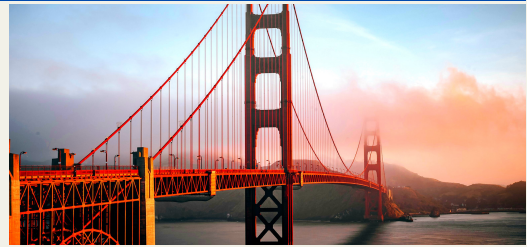
On May 18, Senator Tammy Duckworth (D-IL) introduced the All Stations Accessibility Program Act of 2021 or the ASAP Act (S.1680) with cosponsors Sherrod Brown (D-OH) and Bob Casey (D-PA). This measure would provide competitive grants to assist state and local governmental authorities in addressing the disability access needs of legacy rail fixed guideway public transportation systems. Specifically, the Secretary of Transportation would make grants to assist eligible entities in financing capital projects to upgrade the accessibility of legacy rail fixed guideway public transportation systems by increasing the number of existing rail stations that meet the new construction standards of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. With the appropriated funds that the ASAP Act would allocate on an annual basis, this measure would enable legacy transit systems to maximize access for people with disabilities.

Transit facilities, intermodal centers, rail stations, and platforms must meet accessibility standards established by the U.S. Department of Transportation. The requirements apply to new construction as well as alterations made to existing facilities and include the following: accessible paths of travel, boarding ramps and bridge plates, bus stops and shelters, curb ramps, doors, elevators, escalators, emergency alarms, fare collection, gates and turnstiles, grade crossings, parking, passenger drop-off areas, platforms edges, rescue assistance areas, and restrooms, signs, stairs, public telephones, water fountains, with wheelchair spaces.

PVA supports this legislation because it would improve access to public transportation options for people with disabilities, including those who use assistive devices for mobility.

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## Interactive Arts Clinic

IN SPONSORSHIP WITH THE  
PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA, BAY AREA & WESTERN  
CHAPTER, INC. AND SCI RECREATION THERAPY IN PALO ALTO

### Interactive Arts Clinic



Tuesday,  
June 22, 2021  
11:00 am — 2:00 pm

VA Palo Alto Health Care System  
3801 Miranda Ave.  
Building 7 Dining Room  
*Location May Change*



Paralyzed Veterans of America, Bay Area & Western Chapter and SCI Recreation Therapy would like to invite all PVA Members, veterans, and families to join us for an Interactive Arts Clinic . This is an opportunity to connect with chapter representatives and receive updates, but the most important thing is to have fun!

RSVP to BAWPVA  
1 (800) 273-6789 or  
amaral@bawpva.org



Paralyzed Veterans  
of America  
Bay Area & Western Chapter



### Important Links

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

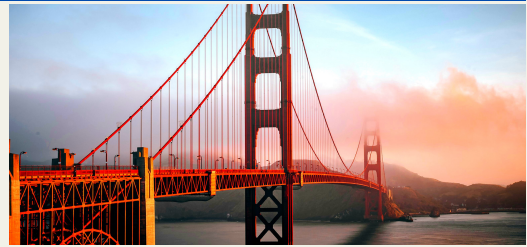
[AIR ACCESS 30](#)  
[SHARE STORIES ABOUT](#)  
[YOUR AIR TRAVEL](#)  
[EXPERIENCES AS A](#)  
[PASSENGER WITH A](#)  
[DISABILITY](#)

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

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

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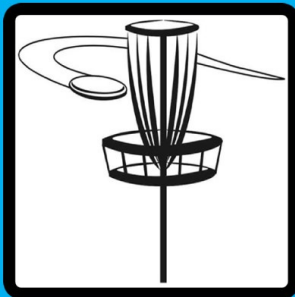
Paralyzed Veterans of America, Bay Area & Western Chapter, INC.



## DISC Golf Clinics

IN SPONSORSHIP WITH THE PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA,  
BAY AREA & WESTERN CHAPTER, INC. AND SCI RECREATION  
THERAPY IN PALO ALTO

### DISC Golf Series



**Thursday, June 10, 2021**

**Thursday, June 17, 2021**

**Thursday, June 24, 2021**

**11:00 am — 2:00 pm**

**Location: TBA**

*Paralyzed Veterans of America, Bay Area & Western Chapter and SCI Recreation Therapy would like to invite all PVA Members and families to join us for a DISC Golf Series . This is an opportunity to connect with chapter representatives and receive updates, but the most important thing is to have fun!*

**RSVP to BAWPVA**  
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**amaral@bawpva.org**

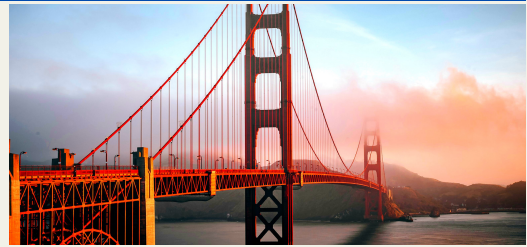


**Paralyzed Veterans  
of America**  
Bay Area & Western Chapter



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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.

Our office is located at:

3801 Miranda Ave.

Building 7 Rm. E-118

Palo Alto, CA 94304

Our Mailing Address is:

P.O. Box 27

Palo Alto, CA 94304-0027

Email:

[administration@bawpva.org](mailto:administration@bawpva.org)

Website:

[bawpva.org](http://bawpva.org)

