



Bay Area & Western Chapter

E-BRIDGE

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



President's Message

WRITTEN BY REESE LEVASSEUR



I hope your summer is going well. We have some great news! On Monday, July 26, 2021 the Chapter had its 10th Annual Golf Tournament at Palo Alto Hills Golf & Country Club. The Chapter raised over \$22,000.00 for our Adaptive Sports & Recreation and Research Programs. Now, the Chapter can support all the veterans going to the National Veterans Wheelchair Games in New York from August 6-14, 2021.

Due to restrictions at VA Palo Alto Health Care System, the Chapter's events will mostly be held virtually in August 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 Pizza Night for inpatients on Tuesday, August 10, 2021.

The Paralyzed Veterans of America, Bay Area & Western (BAWPVA) Chapter and SCI Recreation Therapy in Palo Alto are revamping our programs to better assist our veterans. On the second Thursday of the month, there will be an Adaptive Sports Clinic (various sports will be each month including: Shuffleboard, Boccia Ball, Table Tennis, Art, Drumming, and more) at 3:00 PM. On the third Thursday of the month, there will be Bingo and Pizza Nights at 5:00 PM. For now, these events will be for inpatients and invited guests due to COVID-19 restrictions. The Chapter will open its doors to everyone once the restrictions are lifted.

We will get through this soon, but please if you have any issues or concerns, reach out to the office. The Chapter will be closed most of August due to the NVWG and staff vacation, but we will get back to you in a timely matter.

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



National PVA's Sports & Recreation

IN SPONSORSHIP WITH THE
PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA AND PVA CHAPTERS



ANNUAL AIR RIFLE & AIR PISTOL PROGRAM

Cal-Diego Air Rifle and Pistol Tournament
December 3, 2021
Camp Pendleton
Camp Pendleton, CA

Wisconsin Air Rifle and Pistol Tournament
March 11-12, 2022
Milwaukee Tech Area College
Milwaukee, WI

Mid-Atlantic Air Rifle and Pistol Tournament
March 2022 (Dates TBD)
Colonial Shooting Academy
Richmond, VA

Buckeye Air Rifle and Pistol Tournament *
April 14-16, 2022
Spire Institute
Geneva, OH
*Buckeye Wheelchair Games

PVA BOATING/FISHING TOUR

Mid-America Bass Tournament
September 10-12, 2021
Lake Eufaula
Eufaula, OK

Vaughan Bass Tournament
October 8-10, 2021
The Lakes of Egypt
Marion, IL

Southeastern Bass Tournament
October 15-17, 2021
Thurmond/Clarks Hill Lake
Evans, GA

Florida Gulf Coast Bass Tournament
April 1-3, 2022
Lake Toho
Kissimmee, FL

Kentucky-Indiana Bass Tournament
April 22-24, 2022
Lake Barkley
Kuttawa, KY

Mid-Atlantic Bass Tournament
June 10-12, 2022
James & Appomattox Rivers
Hopewell, VA

ANNUAL PVA/WPWA BILLIARDS TOURNAMENT SERIES

Buckeye Billiards Tournament
July 17-18, 2021
8 Ball Sports Bar & Billiards
Columbus, OH

Mid-South Billiards Tournament
October 15-16, 2021
Clicks Billiards
Memphis, TN

Mid-Atlantic Billiards Tournament
March 18-20, 2022
Diamond Billiards
Midlothian, VA

ANNUAL PVA/AWBA BOWLING TOURNAMENT SERIES

Great Plains Bowling Tournament
July 29-August 1, 2021
Thunderbowl
Council Bluffs, IA

Mid-Atlantic Bowling Tournament
September 24-26, 2021
Bowl America
Midlothian, VA

KY-IN Bowling Tournament
October 2021 (Dates TBD)
Kingpin Lanes
Jeffersontown, KY

Florida Gulf Coast Bowling Tour.
February 23-25, 2022
Pin Chasers
Tampa, FL

Vaughan Bowling Tournament
April 2022 (Dates TBD)
Bowlero
Romeoville, IL

PVA NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS CIRCUIT

North Central Trapshoot
September 11-12, 2021
Crooks Gun Club
Sioux Falls, SD

Mid-Atlantic Trapshoot
September 2021 (Dates TBD)
Conservation Park of Virginia
Charles City, VA

Cal-Diego Trapshoot
March 25-27, 2022
Redlands Shooting Park
Redlands, CA

Nevada Trapshoot
April 1-3, 2022
Clark County Shooting Park
Las Vegas, NV

Florida Gulf Coast Trapshoot
May 13-15, 2022
Silver Dollar Trap Club
Odessa, FL

Vaughan Trapshoot
June 3-5, 2022
St. Charles Sportsmen's Club
Elburn, IL

Wisconsin Trapshoot
June 10-12, 2022
Brown County Sportsman Club
Green Bay, WI

Iowa Shooting Trapshoot *
June 17-19, 2022
Otter Creek Sportsman Club
Cedar Rapids, IA
*Year-End Tournament

BOCCIA

KY-IN Boccia Tournament
July 17-18, 2021
Indianapolis, IN

KY-IN Boccia Tournament
September 25-26, 2021
Bowling Green, KY

Vaughan Boccia Tournament
October 22-23, 2021
Carol Stream, IL

Bayou Boccia Tournament
February 11-12, 2022
Gulfport, MS

Buckeye Boccia Tournament *
April 14-16, 2022
Geneva, OH
*Buckeye Wheelchair Games

Mid-Atlantic Boccia Tournament
May 2022 (Dates TBD)
Richmond, VA

HANDCYCLING

PVAR High Performance Camp
August 14-23, 2021
Crested Butte, CO

Off Road Handcycling Champs
August 20-22, 2021
Crested Butte, CO

Off-Road Fall Expo
September 30-October 2, 2021
Chesterfield, VA

Army Ten Miller
October 10, 2021
Washington, DC

NATIONAL VETERANS WHEELCHAIR GAMES



August 7-14, 2021
New York, NY

PVA WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL CLINIC

August 26-29, 2021
Lakeshore Foundation Facility
Birmingham, AL

PVA WHEELCHAIR RUGBY INVITATIONAL

October 7-10, 2021
Raleigh Convention Center
Raleigh, NC

August Calendar

NATIONAL VETERANS
WHEELCHAIR GAMES
AUGUST 6-14

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING
AUGUST 10

PIZZA NIGHT
AUGUST 10

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



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/>

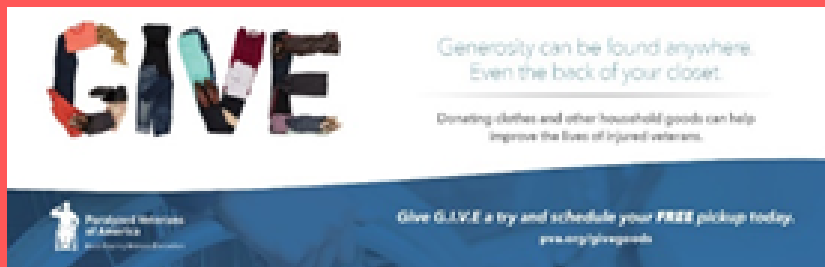
Wheels Helping Warriors (WHW) Program

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.

Congress Scrutinizes VA Electronic Health Record Modernization Project

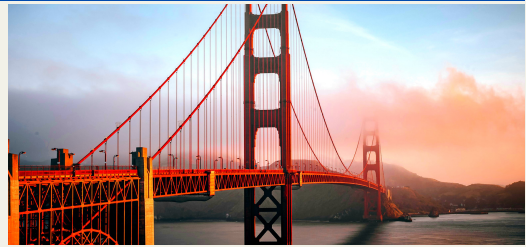
VA's Electronic Health Record Modernization (EHRM) efforts are under the microscope following the release of two VA Office of Inspector General (VAOIG) reports in early July and an earlier one from the Government Accountability Office (GAO) that identified faulty cost estimates and training deficiencies associated with the project. Earlier this year, VA Secretary Denis McDonough directed a top-to-bottom strategic review of the EHRM project. That 12-week study of the massive modernization effort concluded days after the VAOIG reports were released and immediately prior to a pair of hearings by the House and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committees.

During a July 13 Senate hearing, Secretary McDonough told Committee members the department uncovered "numerous patient safety concerns and system errors" with the Cerner Millennium system which they are still trying to resolve. These include prescription information not transferring properly resulting in veterans receiving duplicate medications, and inadequate support help for providers using the program. Secretary McDonough said VA is "reimagining" its approach to the EHR modernization effort, beginning with a new governance structure to manage the project. Also, the previous roll out plan is obsolete and future deployments would depend on which facilities are ready. The VA Deputy Inspector General told the panel that VA needs to spend billions on physical and IT upgrades to support the project. On the positive side, they have seen improvements in VA IT cost estimates but a previous audit by VAOIG estimated that the department's figures were off by at least \$2.5 billion.

At a House hearing on July 21, members voiced concerns about continuing to expand the project. "Until the Cerner system is shown to be absolutely safe in Spokane and fully functional, it must not be rolled out anywhere else," said Subcommittee on Technology Modernization Ranking Member Matt Rosendale (R-MT). "It has to improve operations, not grind them to a halt. It must improve the delivery of healthcare, not put our veterans' health at risk. The strategic review is an elaborate explanation of the problems, but the solutions are far and few between." VA did announce during the House hearing that newly installed VA Deputy Secretary Donald Remy would be leading the EHR modernization from this point onward. Also, the department would be pausing further EHR deployments at least through the remainder of this year to allow them time to resolve problems with the current system. Both hearings were recorded and you can watch the Senate hearing [here](#) and the House hearing [here](#).

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Adaptive Sports Clinic

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

ADAPTIVE SPORTS CLINIC



2nd Thursday of the Month

Starting September 2021

3:00 PM—6:00 PM

VA Palo Alto Health Care System

3801 Miranda Ave.

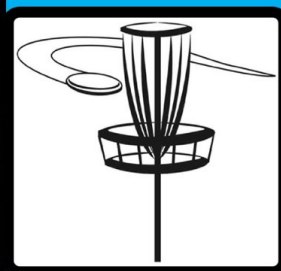
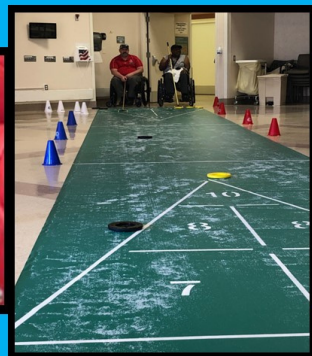
Building 7 's SCI/D Center

Palo Alto, CA 94304

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 Adaptive Sports Clinic.

Food will be provided to participants and food will be delivered beside to inpatients if needed.

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



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](#)
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[PUBLICATIONS](#)
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[ANNUAL REPORTS, PVA](#)
[PUBLICATIONS](#)

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

E-BRIDGE

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



Bingo & Pizza Night

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

BINGO & PIZZA NIGHT

3rd Thursday of the Month

Starting September 2021

5:00 PM

VA Palo Alto Health Care System
3801 Miranda Ave.
Building 7's SCI/D Center
Palo Alto, CA 94304
*(May be virtual depending on
COVID-19 status)*



*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 Bingo and
Pizza Night.*

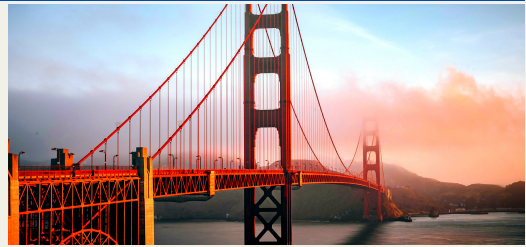
*Prizes will be given to participants and food will be
delivered to bedside for inpatients if needed.*

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



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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:

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