



Bay Area & Western Chapter

E-BRIDGE

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



President's Message

WRITTEN BY REESE LEVASSEUR



As we come to the end of the Summer, I want to take the time to say thank you for being a PVA member. I know we are living in unprecedented times, but we must remain positive for a bright future. The Chapter is slowly trying to create events that are safe for everyone. We miss seeing all of you.

Due to restrictions at VA Palo Alto Health Care System, the Chapter's events will mostly be held virtually in September 2021 or will be in person for inpatients. 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 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. This month will be Shuffleboard. 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. The Chapter will also be visiting Reno, NV the last week of the month to visit our members. Please see page 2 for more details.

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.



PVA Reno Visit

IN SPONSORSHIP WITH THE
PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA'S BAY AREA & WESTERN
CHAPTER, CHAPTER PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA'S
NEVADA CHAPTER AND CITY OF RENO



Bay Area & Western Chapter

PVA

Reno Visit 2021



Nevada Chapter



**Adaptive Sports Clinic -
Boccia Ball**
Tuesday, September 28, 2021
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Location: TBA
Lunch Provided

**Membership Meeting Lunch &
Entertainment**
Wednesday, September 29, 2021
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Location: Record Street Brewing
324 E 4th Street
Reno, NV 89512

Reserved for Veterans, Caregivers, Family Members, and Staff





Movie & Snack
Thursday, September 30, 2021
12:00 PM
Location: Century Theatres
Summit Sierra
13965 S Virginia Street
Reno, NV 89511

Please RSVP by Monday, September 20, 2021
to Kory Amaral at (650) 858-3936 or amaral@bawpva.org

September Calendar

LABOR DAY (OFFICE CLOSED)
SEPTEMBER 6

MARYLAND RETREAT
SEPTEMBER 9 - 12

SHUFFLEBOARD CLINIC
SEPTEMBER 9

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14

BINGO & PIZZA NIGHT
SEPTEMBER 16

SCI PEER MENTORING
PROGRAM
SEPTEMBER 24

PVA RENO VISIT
SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 1

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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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National PVA's Washington Update

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

SVAC Approves Several Veterans Bills in July Markup

On July 28, the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee (SVAC) approved 13 bills aimed at tackling veterans homelessness, improving veterans' health care, and other issues impacting veterans. The bills approved included S.887, the VA Supply Chain Resiliency Act, which could help bolster the VA supply chain. Early in the pandemic, VA was forced to limit supplies like gloves, gowns, and pads normally provided to SCI/D patients for critical procedures performed in their homes such as bowel, bladder, and wound care. This was a source of great concern when members who relied on VA to prescribe these items had to turn to the private sector to try to obtain them. The VA Supply Chain Resiliency Act could help prevent situations like this from happening again by including VA in the Department of Defense's Warstopper program.

Another bill, S. 372, the Ensuring Quality Care for Our Veterans Act, would require VA to establish a third-party process for the review of any instance in which a veteran has been treated by a VA provider later found to have a revoked license. It also requires VA to notify veterans if it is determined that an episode of care or services they received was below established levels for acceptable care. We believe this common-sense approach would help protect the health and well-being of veterans.

Finally, S. 1965, the Planning for Aging Veterans Act of 2021, would pave the way for future investments in long-term care, strengthen VA's relationship with state veterans homes, and expand the care veterans in state homes receive. Language in this bill requires VA to develop a long-term care strategy to meet the needs of veterans; clarifies VA policy to ensure catastrophically disabled veterans residing in a state home receive their medications without a copayment, as they would if they resided elsewhere; and directs VA to work with public housing authorities and local organizations to assist aging homeless veterans in accessing existing housing and supportive services. The complete list of SVAC approved bills can be found [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.

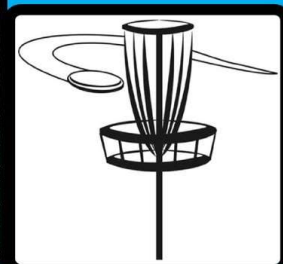
Building 7 's SCI/D Center

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](#)
[PASSENGER WITH A](#)
[DISABILITY](#)

[PUBLICATIONS](#)
[VIEW CHAPTER](#)
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[ANNUAL REPORTS, PVA](#)
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[COVID-19 RESOURCES](#)
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[PVA'S RESOURCES AND](#)
[UPDATES ON COVID-19](#)

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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, Northern Nevada, 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

Phone:

(650) 858-3936

Email:

administration@bawpva.org

Website:

bawpva.org

