



E-BRIDGE

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



Executive Director's Message

WRITTEN BY KORY AMARAL

The Paralyzed Veterans of America, Bay Area and Western Chapter has many events coming up to celebrate our veterans. November 11, 2022 is Veterans Day, but we will be celebrating the whole week. On Monday, November 7, 2022 we will be hosting our 11th Annual Golf Tournament at Cinnabar Hills Golf Course in San Jose, CA. If you want to participate or sponsor the event, please email me at amaral@bawpva.org. On Thursday, November 10, 2022, we will be hosting a Veterans Day Luncheon for veterans who are inpatient and SCI/D staff. Lastly, the Paralyzed Veterans of America, Bay Area and Western Chapter and SCI/D Recreation Therapy will walk and roll in the Veterans Day Parade in San Jose, CA. Please refer to Page 2 for more information.

The holiday season is sometimes tough for our veterans because they do not have family and friends around. I just ask that if you see a veteran in the community, just stop and say happy holidays. A little gesture can change someone's day in an instant. We as a nation are still going through a lot, so we must remain positive in order to find a brighter future. Thank you for all your support in our veterans and in the Chapter.

The office at VA Palo Alto Health Care System's SCI/D Center is still closed to visitors. If you need to speak with us in person, let me know and I can put you on the visitor list with approval from the SCI/D Center. Please, if you need anything, do not hesitate to reach out. We are here for you, email Kory Amaral at amaral@bawpva.org or call (650) 399-5296 with any questions or concerns.

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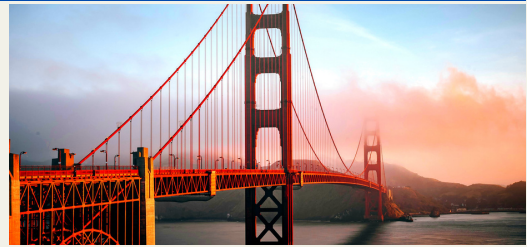
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Paralyzed Veterans of America, Bay Area & Western Chapter, INC.



Veterans Day Parade

SPONSORED BY THE PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA, BAY AREA AND WESTERN CHAPTER AND SCI/D RECREATION THERAPY AT VA PALO ALTO HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

**11
NOV**



**12
PM**



VETERANS DAY

★ ★ ★ *Parade* ★ ★ ★

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

LUNCH IS PROVIDED TO PARTICIPANTS

Downtown San Jose near SAP Center

RSVP to Kory Amaral
(650) 399 - 5296
amaral@bawpva.org

November Calendar

VETERANS CONNECT FAIR
NOVEMBER 5

11TH ANNUAL GOLF
TOURNAMENT
NOVEMBER 7

NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICER
(NSO) MONTHLY CHAT
NOVEMBER 8

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S
MEETING
NOVEMBER 8

VETERANS DAY LUNCHEON
(INPATIENTS)
NOVEMBER 10

VETERANS DAY PARADE
NOVEMBER 11

BINGO AND PIZZA NIGHT
(INPATIENTS)
NOVEMBER 17

THANKSGIVING BREAK
NOVEMBER 24-25

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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.

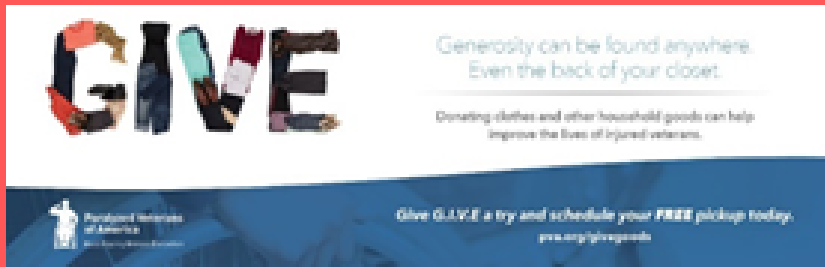
Clothing Donation Program - GIVE
<https://www.pva.org/ways-to-give/g-i-v-e-clothing-donation/>

Car Donation 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 Car Donation 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.

Car Donation Program
<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.



2023 COLA Announced for Veterans and Social Security Benefits

The Social Security Administration (SSA) announced on October 13 that Social Security benefits will receive an 8.7 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) increase starting in 2023. The increase is reflective of the effects of inflation. On October 10, the President signed legislation ensuring that certain veterans' disability compensation programs will receive the same COLA. Military and federal employment retirement benefits will also be increased.

Rates for VA Housing Adaptation Grant Programs Raised

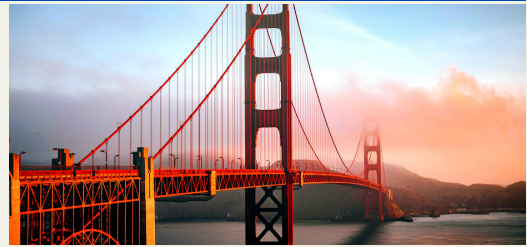
The value for some of VA's housing adaptation grant programs were raised at the start of the new fiscal year which began on October 1, 2022. The maximum rate for the Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) grant is now \$109,986 and the Special Housing Adaptation (SHA) grant is now \$22,036. Additionally, rates for the Temporary Residence Adaptation (TRA) grant were raised to \$44,299 for the temporary version of the SAH grant and \$7,910 for the temporary SHA grant. The TRA grant assists veterans who qualify for an SAH or SHA grant but are living temporarily in a family member's home that needs modifications to improve accessibility.

VA Bowel and Bladder Program Updates

Over the past year, the VA has been making changes to the Bowel and Bladder program. The Office of Community Care, in collaboration with the SCI/D National Program Office, has developed a standard form and two letters related to payments, which are currently pending Office of Management and Budget review and approval. In addition, the two offices are updating processes and communication related to payments. Last year, VA centralized the payment process. These additional changes will further standardize the claims process. PVA is also working to make additional improvements to the program's administration. Any questions may be directed to Roscoe Butler, Senior Health Policy Advisor, at 202-461-7641 or RoscoeB@PVA.org.

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National Service Officer Monthly Chat

IN SPONSORSHIP WITH THE
PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA'S BAY AREA AND WESTERN
CHAPTER AND NATIONAL PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA

Monthly Chat with your National Service Officer (NSO)

Who: PVA Members &
SCI/D Veterans

When: Second Tuesday of the
Month
11:30am

(Will only stay on the call for 15 mins if no one calls in)

Where: Virtual (Zoom)
Meeting ID: 867 9150 1025
Passcode: 370759
+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86791501025?
pwd=OHJ1KzNoVi9XR0FoSHNvVHRkcFRUZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86791501025?pwd=OHJ1KzNoVi9XR0FoSHNvVHRkcFRUZz09)

Why: To receive benefit updates
and to ask questions



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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[UPDATES ON COVID-19](#)

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National PVA Sports

IN SPONSORSHIP WITH NATIONAL PVA'S SPORTS TEAM IN WASHINGTON, D.C. AND PVA CHAPTERS



2022-2023 ANNUAL CALENDAR



PVA BASS TOURNAMENT SERIES

Mid-America Bass Tournament
September 16-18, 2022
Eufaula, OK

Vaughan Bass Tournament
October 7-9, 2022
Marion, IL

Southeastern Bass Tournament
September 30-October 2, 2022
Evans, GA

Florida Gulf Coast Bass Tournament
March 24-26, 2023
Kissimmee, FL

Kentucky-Indiana Bass Tournament
April 21-23, 2023
Kuttawa, KY

Mid-Atlantic Bass Tournament
June 2-4, 2023
Hopewell, VA

Capital Clash Bass Tournament
June 9-11, 2023
Waldorf, MD

PVA BILLIARDS TOURNAMENT SERIES

Mid-South Billiards Tournament
October 28-29, 2022
Memphis, TN

Mid-Atlantic Billiards Tournament
March 17-19, 2023
Richmond, VA

Mid-America Billiards Tournament
June 16-18, 2023
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Buckeye Billiards Tournament
June 24-26, 2023
Columbus, OH

AIR RIFLE & PISTOL PROGRAM

National Postal Matches
November 2022 – March 2023
In-person event dates coming soon!

PVA BOWLING TOURNAMENT SERIES

Great Plains Bowling Tournament
July 28-31, 2022
Council Bluffs, IA

Mid-Atlantic Bowling Tournament
September 9-11, 2022
Richmond, VA

Nevada Bowling Tournament
December 2-5, 2022
Las Vegas, NV

Florida Gulf Coast Bowling Tournament
February 23-25, 2023
Tampa, FL

Mid-America Bowling Tournament
March 31 – April 3, 2023
Oklahoma City, OK

PVA NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS CIRCUIT

North Central Trapshoot
September 9-11, 2022
Sioux Falls, SD

Oregon Trapshoot
September 24-25, 2022
Hillsboro, Oregon

Cal-Diego Trapshoot
March 18-19, 2023
Redlands, CA

Nevada Trapshoot
March 31-April 2, 2023
Las Vegas, NV

Wisconsin Trapshoot
May 19-21, 2023
Green Bay, WI

Vaughan Trapshoot
May 26-28, 2023
Elburn, IL

Iowa Shooting Trapshoot *
June 16-18, 2023
Cedar Rapids, IA
*Year-End Tournament

BOCCIA

New England Boccia Tournament
November 5-6, 2022
West Roxbury, MA

West Virginia Boccia Tournament
December 2-3, 2022
Charleston, WV

Bayou Boccia Tournament
February 3-5, 2023
Gulfport, MS

Gateway Boccia Tournament
March 17-19, 2023
St. Louis, MO

HANDCYCLING

Echelon Racing League Virtual Paracycling Series (Online)
November 2022 - February 2023

PVA High Performance Off-Road HC Camp
August 13-18, 2022
Crested Butte, Colorado

Off-Road Handcycling Championships
August 19-21, 2022
Crested Butte, Colorado

Pocahontas Off-Road Camp
September 29 – October 2, 2022
Chesterfield, VA

Tampa VA Handcycling Clinic
January 21, 2023
Tampa, FL

PVA High Performance Camp
January 30 – February 3, 2023
Brooksville, FL

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

PVA – NWBA Lakeshore Basketball Camp
August 4-7, 2022
Birmingham, AL

Bay Area & Western Disc Golf
August 19-20, 2022
San Jose, CA

New England Disc Golf Clinic
September 10, 2022
West Roxbury, MA

PVA Rugby Clinic
September 16-18, 2022
Phoenix, AZ

New England Basketball Camp
September 23-26, 2022
New Haven, CT

PVA Wheelchair Rugby Invitational
February 23-26, 2023
Raleigh, NC

NATIONAL VETERANS WHEELCHAIR GAMES



July 4-9, 2023
Portland, Oregon

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER FOR AN EVENT: PVA.ORG/ADAPTIVE-SPORTS

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Veterans Connect Fair

IN SPONSORSHIP WITH THE FREMONT PUBLIC LIBRARY AND THE PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA, BAY AREA AND WESTERN CHAPTER, INC.

Member Column

KEVIN HOY
VICE PRESIDENT

MR. HOY SERVED IN THE USMC AS A 3521 MECHANIC STATIONED AT CAMP PENDLETON IN CA. HIS SPINAL CORD INJURY IS T12 INCOMPLETE SUSTAINED AS A RESULT OF A AVM IN NOVEMBER OF 1991. MR. HOY'S GOAL AS A BOARD MEMBER OF THE BAY AREA & WESTERN CHAPTER OF THE PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA IS TO REACH OUT TO OTHER VETERANS TO EDUCATE THEM ABOUT THE SERVICES THAT MAY BE AVAILABLE TO THEM, AND TO HELP THEM ACHIEVE A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE.

MR. HOY ALSO SERVES AS THE CHAPTER'S NATIONAL DIRECTOR AND GOVERNEMENT RELATIONS DIRECTOR.



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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 - Office
(650) 399-5296 - Mobile

Email:

administration@bawpva.org

Website:

bawpva.org

