



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**

Vaughan Chapter

the Wheel

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE VAUGHAN CHAPTER PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA

February 2019

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Hello, everyone hope that you stayed warm and safe those below zero days we had in Chicago last month. If you attended our first event of 2019, Valentine's luncheon on Saturday, February 16th hope you enjoyed yourself and had a great time. Music band provided by Bob Sove made it enjoyable and fun for everyone that attended the luncheon with their sweetheart.

Our next event on the calendar is the Annual Paul Kolb memorial dinner on March 23, 2019 you will be receiving the invitation in the mail or by email shortly. Come join us and help us acknowledge by presenting an award to the volunteers and organizations that have contributed to our cause by volunteering or by donating to our Vaughan Chapter.

Hope you can join us and enjoy the company of our comrades, a delicious meal and the entertainment with have ready for you along with the presentation of awards.

Furthermore; we would like to inform you that for 2019 there would be only six (6) Membership Meetings, they will be held bi-monthly instead of monthly, these are as follows March 27, May 22, July 24, September 25 and November 27 they are held at the Hines VA Hospital, Building #128 SCI Multipurpose room at Noon and lunch is provided. If you are NOT able to attend in person, you may also join via conference call by calling 1-888-537-7715 Passcode 72787546#.

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THANKS UROPARTNERS

The Vaughan Chapter Board of Directors extends its THANKS to UROPARTNERS, Christopher Setzler and staff for their generosity at our Annual Christmas/Holiday Luncheon at Hines VA Hospital on Wednesday, December 19, 2018.

Once again, they provided a boatload of toys for our disabled veterans to choose from for a child family member, as well as collecting \$2,114.00 that will be used by our disabled members through our Life Enjoyment Fund Program. That was so very generous and gracious UROPARTNERS. The party was a HUGE success, with over 50 disabled wheelchair-bound veterans attended. UROPARTNERS employees pitched in and worked so hard to make this annual event a joyous and wonderful one! They all are TRULY friends of Vaughan Chapter PVA!



**On behalf of the Chapter and the disabled
veteran members we serve, THANK YOU.**

Sincerely,
Vaughan Chapter PVA



Paralyzed Veterans of America

Vaughan Chapter

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2019 Membership Meetings

WHERE:

Hines VA Hospital; Building #128, SCI Multipurpose Room

TIME: 12:00 (noon) CST. Lunch is provided – FREE

If not able to attend in person, you may also join via conference call by dialing in at 1-888-537-7715 Passcode 72787546#. State your name when joining the meeting.

**March 27, May 22, July 24, September 25,
November 27**



Vaughan PVA Members

Call Us on your Birthday

for a FREE Gift to You

on behalf of

Vaughan Chapter PVA.

(800) 727-2234



2019 Board of Directors Meetings

Vaughan Chapter, Board of Directors Meetings are held at the Chapter office on the third (3rd) Wednesday of each month. You are welcome to attend as a member (no voice and no vote) listed below are the dates of the B.O.D. meeting for 2019.

**March 20, April 17, May 15, June 19, July 17, August 21,
September 18, October 16, November 20, December 11**

VPVA Executive Director's Letter

By Maria Hernandez
Executive Director

Vaughan Chapter, Board of Directors Meetings are held at the Chapter office on the third (3rd) Wednesday of each month. You are welcome to attend as a member (no voice and no vote).

Our next BOD meeting is scheduled for March 20th, 2019. Also, inside this newsletter you will find the 2019 calendar of events, please mark your calendar so you don't forget any of our events and outings that are already scheduled for you. I encourage you if you have updated your mailing address or email address to please call our office and update your contact information so you don't miss any of

events and outings that are NOT on this calendar yet, but we will be mailing out the invitations to everyone. We hope to have a great and successful year 2019 full of recreational events.

Vaughan Chapter doors are always open for new volunteers that are willing to assist us with the eight mandated programs, we need directors, coordinators and committees to help on the following programs Membership, Administration, Service, Liaison, Fundraising, Communication, Advocacy, and Sports and Recreation. If you are interested, please contact our Chapter President Josue Cordova by email at

jcordova@vaughanpva.org.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call our office and we will be happy to help, we are here to service you.

Thank you,

Maria Hernandez



Government Relations Director - February 2019 VPVA Report

The PVA will conduct the annual Advocacy and Legislation Seminar March 4-8th. Our chapter will be sending four members to reach out to Illinois staff and legislative offices in Washington D.C. Our week includes 3 days training and two days visiting. We'll be in meetings all day from 9 AM to 4 PM and our visits include getting up extra early to make it through security to our 9 AM appointments. There's annual testimony provided by PVA, which is always a memorable experience. Topics this year will include:

- **AIR CARRIER ACCESS ACT**
- **CAREGIVER EXPANSION**
- **LONG-TERM SERVICES AND SUPPORTS**
- **PROVISION OF IVF**
- **SPECIALY ADAPTED HOUSING PROGRAM**
- **REHABILITATION AND PROSTHETIC SERVICES**
(Automobile Allowance and Adaptive Equipment)
- **READI FOR DISASTERS ACT (Readying Elders and Americans with Disabilities Inclusively)**

There are current draft copies of these point papers and we will have the final versions available by the time we hit "The Hill" in March. We need members to contact our Senators and your perspective federal representative concerning these issues. Please call us upon our return to receive your copy for this purpose. Your voice is crucial to improving the quality of all our lives and securing better healthcare and benefits.

If you are ever in need of any assistance or would like to assist us, please contact our office. There's so much we can accomplish together!

National Director's Report

Our National office has been busy filling recent vacancies in sports and recreation as well as government relations departments the last few months. Fortunately, National is maintaining strict adherence to our Fiscal Year budget up to this point in time and has requested to deviate only slightly to accommodate salary needs for continued program operations.

An Ad Hoc Committee was formed to look into a resolution passed by the board for possible changes to implement due to the processing documentation for new members.

National sent a staff member from our office to meet the chapter president and I at two Chicago hotels for a possible bid for an upcoming PVA Convention. The two locations seemed fairly nice and staff were very gracious hosts. If PVA's Executive Committee (EC) agrees to award the bid to one of the two locations, we may see the Convention come to Chicago in a few years for the third time. Our visit was to check on accommodations and accessibility. We were pleased with both hotels. The formal decision is up to the EC.

Over the past few months PVA has continued to submit regularly financial reports to keep the board informed of our progress. We were also furnished a comprehensive report from PVA Research and Education Foundations. Since 1976, PVA has donated over \$60,000,00 in support. Quite impressive! Additional reports include minutes

from various meetings of the EC and National board. Additionally, chapters send the National Director copies of their newsletter and Annual Report. Our IRS Form 990 for our two foundations and National were submitted for questions and review.

Correspondence has been submitted to every chapter for PVA award nominations and their submission deadline. The September PVA Executive Committee Meeting Final Minutes held in Orlando, FL were produced and distributed for review. The third PVA Board of Director's Meeting will be held via teleconference January 14, 2019. A 180-page draft copy of this past Fall PVA Board of Directors Meeting in Orlando, FL was made available for review, questions and comment. It will be scrutinized and ready for adoption at Convention held at Aurora, CO on May 15, 2019.

As usual, PVA furnishes bed and staffing reports each month to provide National Directors a snapshot in the progress the VA is making to fill vacancies across Spinal Cord Injury care. Lastly, the National board held a one hour teleconference call in January to discuss the foundations and PVA Summit.

**If you have any specific questions,
please do not hesitate to ask!**

***Vaughan Chapter PVA is in need of volunteers
in the following areas.***

Sports & Recreation

Advocacy and

Fundraising. (Training provided)

Please call Chapter Office at

(708) 947-9790 or email to vpva@vaughanpva.org



President's Report

By Josue Cordova, Vaughan Chapter President

Greetings Vaughan Chapter Members,

The amount of snow and record cold temperatures we've been dealing with this winter with spring only weeks away, has been incredible. We have important information and many new opportunities within our chapter for our members this 2019. I'm very excited to tell you all about it. With your participation and involvement, it will guarantee an exciting and adventurous year for our chapter!

This February 2019, with the leadership and direction of our chapter treasurer, Gerald Brown, a finance committee has been established with the following Vaughan members; Leo Moore, Winston Woodward and Dan James. Through their hard work, we've taken back our Chapter finances and completed the final objective that we have been working towards. We now have complete control of our chapter from national.

On Saturday March 30th, at 7pm, at the Allstate Arena in Rosemont, IL., the Chicago Wolves hockey organization will recognize the Vaughan chapter PVA as the honorary nonprofit organization of the game. We have tickets for our members to attend and we will also be selling tickets at \$25 each for friends, family and all those that want to attend and support our organization. Your life enjoyment fund is a possible option you are able to utilize, if you'd like to treat your family out and enjoy an entertaining hockey game.

I want to reiterate to all our Vaughan members that we have all different types of sports from trapshooting, fishing, Boccia ball, to bowling and so many other sports. We also have activities available for you, our members, but we need your involvement to make them successful. We have positions on committees that need to be filled and this can only be done with your commitment and dedication to our chapter.

Please remember to look at our chapter events calendar for the different dinners, sports, recreational events and picnics we have going on this year. We're here to support you, so please come out and support your chapter. We can work together to make this an incredibly successful year!

Thank you and God Bless,

Josue E. Cordova
President

Paralyzed Veterans of America, Vaughan Chapter



This month, I would like to address the importance of volunteering for the Chapter.

First of all, a BIG welcome to our new members. I welcome you to the Chapter and want you to know how important volunteer hours are for both, you AND the Chapter. Volunteer hours are recorded in the office using a volunteer's time sheet that is due into the office each month NO LATER THAN the 10th. These hours will be added up and allow members to receive funding from our Chapter to attend the various events throughout the year at no cost IF you have the volunteer hours registered. We have a host of events scheduled for this year. Please contact one of the Board members to find out how to volunteer or call the Chapter office at (708) 947-9790 to see what is needed and add up the hours YOU need for the scheduled events you feel you can participate in.

EVERY member.... new and old MUST meet required hours, or you will be required to pay your own way to events. The Chapter office can send you the Volunteer time sheet forms for you to fill out and also let you know how to help YOUR Chapter. Events are listed in this newsletter and also were mailed out to you by the Chapter office. GET INVOLVED...STAY INVOLVED. This is necessary for BOTH NEW AND OLD MEMBERS to help show National PVA that Vaughan is a strong chapter. Once again, WELCOME to our new members!

Sincerely,

Anthony Powell, Vice President VPVA

Sports & Recreation

by Robert Arciola, Sports Director

Welcome to 2019!

Time is sweeping by too quickly! The VA has begun accepting online registrations to attend the National Veteran Wheelchair Games. Don't wait and get yours started right away. The Hines VA Windy City Rollerz have already begun with athletes and need you to contact Recreation now if you plan to attend. This year's event is being held in Louisville, KY. The Golden Age Games are in Anchorage, AK...wow! Our chapter has assisted with a donation to purchase Valentine's Day flowers as one of the fundraisers they're conducting.

National has sent us FY2020 bid applications for PVA Sports and Recreation events. We typically submit bids to host a trapshoot, bass tournament and now bowling events. We might add boccia ball this time. Bids are due in by March 1st.

Our remaining planned events include a trapshoot, which we'll need to relocate. We've received notice the clubhouse will be under renovation and an addition. We have three sites in consideration for relocation of this event for May 31st. Please keep in touch and attend it even if you want to just watch for a day!

Our Midwestern Invitational Bowling Tournament date will need to be bumped up to Memorial Day weekend if the bowling center has no problem accommodating us. The June dates are too close to the American Wheelchair Bowling Association National event and we want to avoid any date overlapping. May is going to be one very busy month! This is another event that you can come to watch, if not participate in at will. PVA will be watching membership participation rates when awarding bids in 2020, so please consider coming out!

GET OUT THERE AGAIN THIS YEAR





Paralyzed Veterans of America

ANNUAL AIR RIFLE & AIR PISTOL PROGRAM

Camp Pendleton Air Gun Tournament
December 5-6, 2018
Oceanside, CA

Cal-Diego Air Rifle and Pistol Tournament
January 28-29, 2019
San Diego, CA

Mid-Atlantic Air Rifle and Pistol Tournament
March 6-7, 2019
Richmond, VA

Wisconsin Air Rifle and Pistol Tournament
March 30-31, 2019
Milwaukee, WI

New England Combined Air Rifle and Boccia Tournament*
April 26-28, 2019
Brockton, MA

Buckeye Air Rifle and Pistol Tournament
April 26-27, 2019
Geneva, OH

**indicates combined events*

PARALYZED VETERANS NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS CIRCUIT

North Central Trapshoot
September 8-9, 2018
Sioux Falls, SD

Mid-Atlantic Shooting Sports Tournament and Handgun Shoot
November 9-11, 2018
Charles City, VA

Arizona Shooting Sports Tournament
February 8-10, 2019
Phoenix, AZ

Cal-Diego Shooting Sports Tournament & Pistol Tournament
March 29-31, 2019
Redlands, CA
Pistol Shoot - March 29, 2019
Lytle Creek, CA

Wisconsin Shooting Sports Tournament & Pistol Tournament

May 17-19, 2019
Rifle/Pistol Shoot - May 17, 2019
Green Bay, WI

Vaughan Shooting Sports Tournament
May 31-June 2, 2019
Elburn, IL

Iowa Shooting Sports Tournament & Pistol Tournament
June 14-16, 2019
Pistol Event - June 14, 2019
Cedar Rapids, IA

Lone Star Shooting Sports Tournament
June 21-23, 2019
Waxahachie, TX

PARALYZED VETERANS BOATING/FISHING TOUR

Mid-America Bass Tournament
September 21-23, 2018
Eufaula, OK

Vaughan Bass Tournament
October 5-7, 2018
Whittington, IL

Florida Gulf Coast Bass Tournament
March 29-31, 2019
Tavares, FL

Kentucky-Indiana Bass Tournament
May 3-5, 2019
Kuttawa, KY

Mid-Atlantic Bass Tournament
June 7-9, 2019
Henrico, VA

ANNUAL PVA/NWPA BILLIARDS TOURNAMENT SERIES

Mid-South Billiards Tournament
October 12-13, 2018
Memphis, TN

Mid-Atlantic Billiards Tournament Battle at the Beach
November 16-18, 2018
Virginia Beach, VA

Mid-Atlantic Billiards Tournament Chuck Willis Mem
March 22-24, 2019
Midlothian, VA

Mid-America Billiards Tournament

April 5-7, 2019
Oklahoma City, OK

Buckeye Billiards Tournament
June 14-15, 2019
Wickliffe, OH
Mountain States Billiards Tournament
June 21-22, 2019
Fountain, CO

BOCCIA

Gateway Boccia Tournament
October 18-20, 2018
St. Louis, MO

Mid-Atlantic Boccia Tournament
January 12-13, 2019
Richmond, VA

Bayou Boccia Tournament
February 1-2, 2019
Gulfport, MS

Cal-Diego Boccia Tournament
February 19-20, 2019
San Diego, CA

Arizona Boccia Tournament
April 6-7, 2019
Phoenix, AZ

New England Combined Air Rifle and Boccia Tournament
April 26-28, 2019
Brockton, MA

ANNUAL PVA/AWBA BOWLING TOURNAMENT SERIES

Great Plains Bowling Tournament
July 12-15, 2018
Council Bluffs, IA

Mountain States Bowling Tournament
August 15-18, 2018
Colorado Springs, CO

Mid-Atlantic Bowling Tournament
September 28-30, 2018
Glen Allen, VA

Nevada Bowling Tournament
November 29-Dec 2, 2018
Las Vegas, NV

Florida Gulf Coast Bowling Tournament
February 21-24, 2019
Tampa, FL

Mid-America Bowling Tournament

April 12-14, 2019
Shawnee, OK

Vaughan Bowling Tournament
June 27-30, 2019
Romeoville, IL

HANDCYCLING RACING

Museum of Aviation Marathon
January 12, 2019
Warner Robins, GA

PVA Racing High Performance Camp
January 26-February 1, 2019
Brooksville, FL

Top End Euro-American HC Championships
February 2-3, 2019
Gainesville, FL

Valley of the Sun
February 16-18, 2019
Phoenix, AZ

One City Marathon
March 2, 2019
Newport News, VA

Off-Road Spring Expo
April 19-21, 2019
Chesterfield, VA

PVA Learn to Race Camp
April 23-26, 2019
Gettysburg, PA

Blue and Gray Half Marathon and Criterium
April 27-28, 2019
Gettysburg, PA

NATIONAL VETERANS WHEELCHAIR GAMES



For more information, visit:
pva.org/sports

A Note from the Treasurer

To all Vaughan Chapter PVA members this is a recruiting requisition, the chapter currently needs two additional members to serve on the finance committee. One of the ways we can ensure our chapters ability to provide services and benefits to the membership is to remain financially healthy. The finance committee will work with the chapters portfolio advisors to continue to grow the chapters investment assets. Each member of the chapter should be willing to work on one of our committees, your participation would be a benefit to you and the chapter.

I'm reminded of a poem my grandfather used to repeat to me, the author is unknown, but it illustrates the value of participation.

"We are all architects of faith

Working within these walls of time;

Some with massive deeds and great,

Some with ornaments and rhyme.

There is nothing useless or low,

Each thing in its place is best,

And what seems but idle show

Strengthens and supports the rest.

Then let us build the day

With firm and ample base,

And ascending and secure

Shall tomorrow find its place."

Each member should volunteer to serve on one of the chapters committees, your service will be a benefit to the chapter and to yourself. The finance committee currently has four members, Daniel James, Leo Moore, Winston Woodard III and Gerald L Brown.

Gerald L Brown, Treasurer VPVA



Your Treasurer, Gerald L. Brown

LIFE ENJOYMENT FUND

Voting MEMBERS!

Attend a sport or recreational event such as a ball game, dinner, theatre and send in the receipt with an expense report then tell us how accessible the facility was such as parking and entrance or bathroom and counters, and if you recommend the place pointing out any problems, you'd like us to address, if needed, and get fully reimbursed up to \$150.00 per year! Yes, that's correct refunded up to \$150.00 per year! You can use the funds to cover the travel, lodging and food (NO alcohol) or event ticket/s. if you use a partial amount of the \$150.00; the remainder is available until the fiscal year ends! Call us now for ANY question/s! We're absolutely serious, so try us!



Can you believe only a few members use this fund every year? Neither can I, so let's let the cat out of the bag and go do something with our precious summertime and great weather while it lasts! (Fiscal year 10/1/2018 to 9/30/2019).

All the Way With PVA!

Government Relations Director

February 2019 VPVA Report

The PVA will conduct the annual Advocacy and Legislation Seminar March 4-8th. Our chapter will be sending four members to reach out to Illinois staff and legislative offices in Washington D.C. Our week includes 3 days training and two days visiting. We'll be in meetings all day from 9 AM to 4 PM and our visits include getting up extra early to make it through security to our 9 AM appointments. There's annual testimony provided by PVA, which is always a memorable experience. Topics this year will include:

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(Automobile Allowance and Adaptive Equipment)
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There are current draft copies of these point papers and we will have the final versions available by the time we hit "The Hill" in March. We need members to contact our Senators and your perspective federal representative concerning these issues. Please call us upon our return to receive your copy for this purpose. Your voice is crucial to improving the quality of all our lives and securing better healthcare and benefits.

If you are ever in need of any assistance or would like to assist us, please contact our office. There's so much we can accomplish together!



Paralyzed Veterans of America
Vaughan Chapter



13th Paul Kolb Memorial Dinner

Saturday Evening, March 23, 2019
Via Bella Banquets
5412 S LaGrange Road
Countryside, IL 60525
*Cocktails 3-4 p.m. (**cash bar**) *Dinner 4-5 p.m.
5-5:30 awards 5:30-6:30 Entertainment

RESERVATIONS ONLY **\$15.00** PER PERSON
(pay at the door)

Vaughan Members & 1 Guest FREE

RSVP to Chapter office by March 18, 2019
by calling or by email
(708) 947-9790
1-800-727-2234
vpva@vaughanpva.org



Would you like to have one of these?

Volunteers with the most volunteer hours each month get one of these beautiful Armed Forces Plaques. (\$40 value)
Just turn in your volunteer time sheet to the chapter by the 10th of each month.
(Excludes officers & Board of Directors)

Military Sexual Trauma (MST)

by Winston Woodard, Senior Benefits Advocate

The fulfillment of our military obligations can be the challenging; we are trained to accomplish the mission. During service, men and women encounter many obstacles; some of those are not visible and remain silent. Have you experienced any unwanted sexual attention, uninvited sexual advances, or forced sex while in the military. Where you asked to engage in a sexual act in return for faster promotions or better treatment? Other examples of invalid sexual attention may include unwanted sexual touching or grabbing; threatening, offensive remarks about a person's body or sexual activities or sexual advances. These men and women who have experienced may be victims of military sexual trauma (MST).

What is military sexual trauma (MST)?

Military Sexual Trauma is an experience, not a diagnosis or a mental health condition in and of itself. Pursuant to Title 38, United States Code Service § 1720D, "to overcome psychological trauma, which in the judgment of a mental health professional, resulted from a physical assault of a sexual harassment which occurred while veteran was serving on active duty or training". The term, sexual harassment means repeated, unsolicited verbal or physical contact of a sexual nature which is threatening in character.

The after effects of military sexual trauma (MST), could include strong emotions, feelings of numbness, trouble sleeping, difficulties with attention, concentration and memory. Veterans may abuse substances and have difficulties with things that remind of their experiences of sexual trauma. Difficulties in relationships, mental health disorders (posttraumatic stress disorder, anxiety disorder, and mood and depression disorders) are most frequently associated with MST. For some veterans, experiences of MST may continue to affect their mental and physical health, even many years later.

When a veteran comes into a Veteran Health Administration (VHA) facility he or she participates in the Veteran Administration's (VA) universal screening program. Under the program, all veterans are asked whether they have experienced sexual trauma during their military service. Currently, about 1 in 5 women and 1 in 100 men respond "yes". When responding affirmatively the VA asks the veteran if they are interested in learning about MST and related services.

What services are available?

Since 1992, Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) has been developing programs to monitor MST screening and treatment, provide staff with training on MST-related issues and engage in outreach to veterans about services. The MST Coordinator can help veteran access VA services and programs. They may be able to access state, federal programs, and community resources that may prove to be helpful.

These services include:

- All veterans who are seen in a VHA facility are screened for MST.
- Free treatment for both men and women for physical and mental conditions related to experience of MST.
- Every VHA facility has a designated Military Sexual Trauma (MST) Coordinator.
- Each VA facility has knowledgeable staff to treat the effects of MST.
- There are residential, inpatient and outpatient programs nationwide.

Why are we concerned?

Paralyzed Veterans of America wants veterans suffering from MST to understand recovery is possible and VA has services to help and assist veterans. Remember this service is free, confidential treatment for mental and physical health condition related to MST, is free to all veterans. Veterans do not need to have a VA disability rating. The need to have reported the incident(s) when they happened or provide documentation is not necessary. Your national service officers (NSOs) /senior benefit advocates (SBAs) can assist you with a referral to your MST coordinator in your local facility.

Can I apply for benefits for conditions related to my experiences of MST?

Compensation can be received for disabilities that began or got worse in the line of duty, disabilities or injuries resulting from military sexual trauma (MST). Remember, the MST is an experience, not a diagnosis or a mental health condition that is compensable in and of itself. When a veteran applies for disability compensation, VA must determine whether there are current disabilities related to his or her service.

How can veterans get assistance and more information?

Veterans can speak with their existing VA provider or contact the MST Coordinator at the nearest VA Medical facility, or Vet Center. VA facilities can be found online www.va.gov.

Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) national service officer can assist and explain the compensation program and the referral process and how it may relate the military sexual trauma (MST). We can assist in the filing of a possible claim for benefits. For more information, contact the Paralyzed Veterans of America Veteran Benefits Department online at www.pva.org or your local PVA NSO.

Service Officer's Report

By Robert Statam, NSO III

Travelers with Disabilities

Many of us have endured the burden of traveling to and from various designations, through our busy O'Hare International – Midway Airports. The preparation and readiness is frustrating enough, and not to take into account someone living with a disability. There are a number of laws that cover the rights and responsibilities for air carriers regarding people with disabilities. On October 5, 2018, the President signed into law the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Reauthorization Act of 2018.

It was back in May of this year when PVA's, Acting Associate Director, for Government Relations, Heather Ansley, was among those who sat in talks with the standards committees concerning important subject matters surrounding the passenger and the airlines communications. PVA was an intermit part of this newly signed bill, whereas, their role in the inclusion of several disability-related provisions, many of which are similar to those found in the Air Carrier Access Amendments Act (H.R. 5004/S. 1318). We are fortunate to have a voice on Capitol Hill, to address matters of tremendous importance to us. Through our representatives and others this new legislation introduces a closer look at how the air travel for people with disabilities can be improved. Matters such as;

- The training for Transportation Security Officers on screening people with disabilities.
- TSA must work in consultation with disability and veterans organizations to revise their training requirements.
- A study of airport accessibility and airline training policies, including any best practices that go beyond the requirements of current civil rights laws.
- A determination of whether in-cabin wheelchair restraint systems to allow passengers to fly while seated in their wheelchairs are feasible.
- A requirement for the Department of Transportation (DOT) to work with stakeholders to develop an airline passenger with disabilities bill of rights.

*We are fortunate to have
a voice on Capitol Hill,
to address matters of
tremendous importance to us.*

These are just a few of the topics of importance, while I am sure we all can reflect on one or more horror stories regarding our air traveling experiences. As PVA's President, David Zurfluh stated, "We applaud the bipartisan passage of this bill. This is truly a move in the right direction and we will continue to support efforts to prohibit discrimination based on disability in air travel, whether that's on Capitol Hill or in the courts." We all know that there is much more work to be done, we should be thankful for every effort.

If you should have any questions concerning this topic, please feel free to contact Robert Statam, NSO III at the Chicago Regional Office, PVA @ (312)980-4278, or Mr. Winston Woodard III, SBA, at the Hines VAMC, @ (708)202-5623.

Site: May, and October 2018, PVA Washington Update, Volume 24, Numbers 6 & 10.

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Vaughan Chapter, PVA Funding Sponsorship Policy

A member can request up to three (3) funding requests in a Fiscal Year. The member may be considered if they volunteered with the Chapter and have a recorded minimum of ten (10) hours for each of their funding requests.

1. Members First Time (Novice) participants attending the National Veterans Wheelchair Games (NVWG) require no volunteer hours and will be funded 100% with a maximum funding of \$3000.
2. Members (non-Novice) 1st request with ten (10) hours of documented chapter volunteer hours may be funded at 100% with a maximum funding of \$3000 for the entire Fiscal Year.
3. Members 2nd request with documented minimum of 10 hours volunteerism @ 50%
4. Members 3rd request with documented minimum 10 hours volunteerism @ 50%.

Requests submitted by members using this system, is based on volunteer hours submitted on a monthly basis. If a member has a request and doesn't have the minimum 10-hours recorded, the member's sponsorship request will not be considered.

The submission of volunteer hours is a practical solution to helping both the chapter prove it's accomplishing things; that more members are involved in program operations; that members are again taking responsibility for the governance and accomplishing its program and chapter overall mission. All "Members and Associate Member" Funding Sponsorship requests must be submitted to the Board of Directors in writing, by the individual requesting funding, with estimates of expenses, prior to a Board of Directors meeting prior to the event. Associate Members are required to meet the same eligibility requirements for sponsorship funding as voting members and membership dues must be up to date prior to submission of any requests. Approval will be at the sole discretion of the Vaughan Board of Directors. Business Expense Reports must be submitted by the member requesting funding, with receipts within fifteen (15) business days for reimbursement.

Volunteer Activity Forms are available at the office as well as Volunteer Time Sheets for members to submit no later than the 10th of each month. Your funding sponsorship requests may be sent to the office via email, fax or by regular mail.

vpva@vaughanpva.org, FAX to (708) 947-9755, Address: Vaughan PVA, 2235 Enterprise Drive – Suite 3501, Westchester, IL 60154.

Requests should be received in our chapter office by the 5th of each month or will not be documented for consideration of the Board.

Approved by B.O.D 09/24/2018

How Your Vehicle Can Help Veterans

Every vehicle has value, whether it runs like the day you drove it off the lot or doesn't start at all. Regardless of the condition, it will sell at auction. In return, donors receive a tax deduction, and the proceeds of the sale help provide rehabilitation services, job training, quality healthcare, benefits, and funding for education and research for veterans living with spinal cord injury/dysfunction.

It's simple: Be sure the vehicle title is on hand, fill out the online form or call a Wheels Helping Warriors representative, and schedule a pickup free of charge. Paralyzed Veterans of America's Wheels Helping Warriors Vehicle Donation Program accepts a variety of vehicles:

- Airplanes
- Boats
- Farm/construction equipment
- Horse trailers
- Motorcycles
- Motorized wheelchairs
- RVs/campers
- Semi-tractors
- Trucks/SUVs

Any of these vehicles can become a new beginning for a paralyzed veteran. Be a hero to a hero today and consider vehicle donation to help someone who has served and sacrificed.

Donate Today!

Call or visit us online to donate your vehicle today:

855-744-0782

wheelshelpingwarriors.org



One Car One Difference is IAA's public awareness campaign promoting the benefits of vehicle donation.
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SPOKES ON the Wheel

It's 2019 and we're at the end of winter, coming into spring. We want to welcome you back to our series Spokes on the Wheel. This February, I'm excited to introduce you to a associate member who's been a volunteer for our chapter for over 20 years. His name is Charlie Johnson.

Charlie can you tell us a little bit about yourself and where you're from?

I was born and raised in Lombard, Illinois. I went to high school at Glenbard East high school, and I went to college in the area. I received a degree from the College of DuPage. My wife Janet, our son and I now live in unincorporated Elmhurst Illinois. We've lived here for the past 24 years.

How did you first hear about Vaughan chapter and decide to become a volunteer?

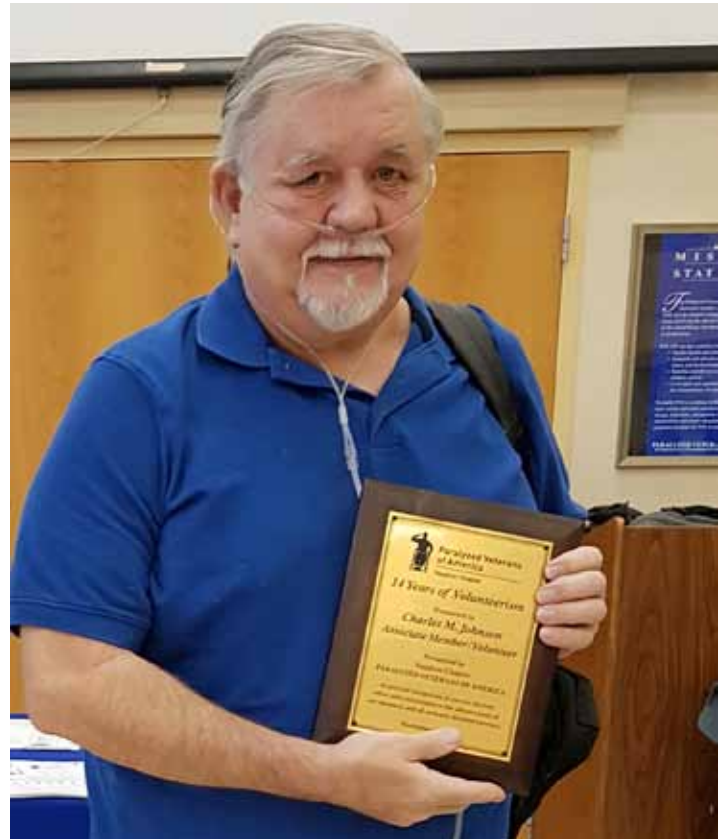
I first met Tom Mansfield, who was the former outdoors director for the Vaughan chapter, in the early to mid 90's. I met Tom on a disabled fishing trip on the Chain of Lakes. Tom introduced me to the Vaughan chapter and told me about the different events and activities going on at that time. He also relayed to me the need for volunteers. I began doing just that in the mid 90's at many of the different events Vaughan chapter was holding at the time. My wife Janet volunteered along with me and when my son became old enough, he would come along and volunteer. My wife still volunteers with me to this day.

Charlie, do you have any hobbies or things you like to do in your free time?

I really enjoy fishing and hunting with my son. I began fishing when I was a young boy growing up in Lombard. It's something that I still enjoy very much.

What do you like most about being volunteer for the Vaughan chapter?

I really enjoy the camaraderie, the talking and laughing and having a great time at all the different events. Early on, years ago I've made my own mission statement when it came to the volunteering and it is "If the chapter needs me, I'm there."



Charlie Johnson is an incredible volunteer and associate member who has dedicated over 20 years of service to our members. He saw the need within the chapter and decided to volunteer and become involved. Charlie volunteers at an array of different events from our Land of Lincoln bass fishing tournament and trapshooting tournament to even volunteering at our chapter information table at different expos and events. He also makes it a priority every month to sell candy bars, with his wife Janet, for our chapter fundraisers. Charlie averages close to \$200 every month for our chapter! Even while requiring oxygen 24/7 for over 20 years, Charlie finds a way to serve our members and our chapter because he cares. Thank you Charlie, we are honored and grateful to have you as a volunteer to our Vaughan chapter.

Josue E. Cordova

President

Paralyzed Veterans of America

Vaughan Chapter

Vaughan PVA
2235 Enterprise Drive, Suite 3501
Westchester, IL 60154



Paralyzed Veterans of America

Vaughan Chapter

800-727-2234

Join Us!!!

FOR THE FOLLOWING LOCAL EVENTS

March 23

13th Paul Kolb Memorial Dinner 3 pm cocktails, Dinner 4 pm
Via Bella Banquets, (family style dinner)

April 27

39th Hines VAH Local Wheelchair Games

May 18

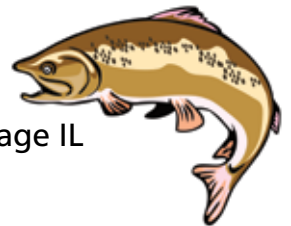
Poker Tournament (no gambling)
Hines VA SCI Building #128

May 25

Chicago Memorial Day Parade

June 8

VPVA Busse Woods Fishing Derby
Busse Woods Forest Preserve, Elk Grove Village IL
FREE Lunch 10am – 3pm



June 21-23

Abilities Expo, Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center
Admission is FREE Friday & Saturday 11am – 5pm
Sunday 11am – 4 pm

June 27-30

Vaughan Bowling Tournament, Romeoville, IL

Download the VPVA 2019 Calendar of Events at vaughanpva.org