

# THE WHEEL

HELLO, VAUGHAN CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP,

From the Executive Director's desk,

As we look forward to an exciting summer, we want to emphasize the crucial role each of you plays in our Chapter. I encourage you to please look at the calendar of events and outings for you to enjoy throughout the summer. Many of you know the Vaughan Chapter had a successful bowling tournament a few weeks ago.



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Director's Report • P. 3

Presidents Report • P. 4

Sports & Recreation • P. 5-7

Communications • P. 8

MS Advocate • P. 9

Service Officer Report • P. 10

Treasurer Report • P. 11

Event Calendar • P. 13

Vaughan In Action • P. 16

Members Birthday's • P. 18

Busse Woods Fishing • P. 19

We will have our annual Busse Woods, a one-day fishing derby, two weeks after the parade on Saturday, June 8th, 2024. It is a free event and a family fishing day. We provide lunch and mileage reimbursement. Please visit our website for a complete calendar and more details on each event and outing.

Your participation in events, outings, and attendance at the bimonthly membership meetings is invaluable to us. The Chapter acknowledges this by reimbursing .50¢ per mile round trip for attending the bimonthly membership meetings. If you have a caregiver, they will receive a \$65 stipend and must be with you during the membership meeting. Your presence and involvement are what make our Chapter thrive.

*Continue on pg. 3*

# Vaughan PVA Members

## Call Us on your Birthday for a FREE Gift to You on behalf of Vaughan Chapter PVA.

### (800) 727-2234

## 2024 Bi-Monthly Membership Meetings

Vaughan Chapter's goal this year is to reach out to every member in the surrounding areas; for this to happen, we will conduct in-person membership meetings near you. We will still have a few meetings in the Multipurpose Room at the Hines VA Hospital, Spinal Cord Injury Building #128, and in different areas of the Hines VA. As usual, the Chapter office will send reminders for the upcoming meetings; please mark your calendar for the 2024 membership meetings to attend in person; we are excited to see you there. All membership meetings offer FREE lunch and now door prizes.

Your attendance and feedback at these membership meetings are paramount to our chapter's continued success and our ability to serve 'you' the member, on a more meaningful level. Please take a look at the meeting dates below to see when the next membership meetings will take place.

## Meeting Dates:

Wednesday, July 24th  
Wednesday, September 25th  
Wednesday, November 27th



Photos captured at the VPVA Nov. Membership Meeting

## Chapter Officers

Anthony Powell, Acting President  
Vice President, Cheryl Gerdes  
Dennis Scanlan, Secretary  
Gerald Brown, Treasurer

## Chapter Board of Directors

Daniel James,  
Leo Moore, Susan Dochterman

**National Chapter Liaison**    **National Director**  
Ken Ness    Gerald Brown  
**Hospital Coordinator**    **Government Relations**  
Dennis Scanlan    Robert Statem

## Staff

**Executive Director**    **Fundraising Director**  
Maria Hernandez    Keith Cooper  
**Sports Director**    **Communications Director**  
Keith Cooper    Ryan Dalton  
**Office Assistant**  
Edward Millar

## Service Officers

Winston Woodard, III    Whitney Brown  
Hines PVA SCI    Chicago PVA VARO  
708-202-5623    312-980-4278

## DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:

With respect to documents available on this newsletter, neither the Vaughan PVA nor its officers or employees makes any warranty express or implied, including the warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, or assumes any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information, apparatus, product, or process disclosed, or represents that its use would not infringe privately owned rights. Portions of this newsletter contain information regarding medical treatment or upon which medical treatment discussions may be based. That information is subject to the same policy and disclaimer notices set forth herein. No decisions regarding medical care, psychological care, or treatment should be made on the basis of information contained on this newsletter alone. The responsibility for filing out any Forms, or for proper medical treatment rests with the individual and his or her treating physician. This newsletter does not contain any legal advice, nor should it be relied on for such. Anything contained herein is solely for informational purposes and should NOT be relied on when making legal decisions. Decisions regarding legal matters should only be made after consulting with an attorney. Reference on this newsletter to any specific commercial products, process or service by trade name, trademark, manufacture, or otherwise does not constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the Vaughan PVA, its officers or employees. The view and opinions of Independent authors regarding such products or processes do not necessarily reflect those of the Vaughan PVA, its officers or employees. All references to this organization shall not be used for advertising or project endorsement. The Wheel is published four times a year by the Vaughan Chapter Paralyzed Veterans of America, 2235 Enterprise Drive, Suite 3501 Westchester, IL 60154 in the interest of Chapter members. Membership in Vaughan PVA entitles you to a free subscription to the Wheel. Postmaster: send changes of address to Vaughan PVA, 2235 Enterprise Drive, Suite 3501 Westchester, IL 60154

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

## Cover Story

*Continued from page 1*

As I have reported in a prior newsletter, the Vaughan Chapter sends a cash birthday gift to Vaughan voting members; all you must do is call us on your birthday. Also, remember to take advantage of the life enjoyment fund that is available to voting members for up to \$200 per fiscal year (10/1/23 – 9/30/24); also available is the 3k annual sponsorship grant for voting members allows you to participate in any Vaughan sporting and recreation event with NO volunteer hours required for this fiscal year. Reimbursement will be up to a maximum of \$3,000 per year for voting members and \$1,000 a year for associate members; this includes fees paid to your approved attendant.

I encourage you to utilize social networks, including our website, [www.vaughanpva.org](http://www.vaughanpva.org), Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Please check your inbox emails to stay updated about recreational sports activities, events, and outings.

Remember, we are always here for you. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions, concerns, needs, or assistance. We are committed to serving you and ensuring your experience with the Chapter is fulfilling. We look forward to seeing you at as many events as possible this year, enjoying the outdoors and each other's company.

**IMPORTANT:** Please call our office to update your contact information. Whether you have moved or acquired a new phone number or email address, your updated contact information is crucial for us to keep you informed about all the Chapter's activities. This way, you will not miss any important updates or events.

Thank You for letting me serve you,

Maria Hernandez  
Executive Director



Photo captured at  
Busse Woods Fishing  
Derby 2023



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

## Hello fellow veterans,

Let's take stock of our future as we begin the summer months. We are Veterans, and we don't apologize for our skills. We are warriors; we make things happen. We will face any day and conquer them. We don't cry out about our pain; we enjoy time with our families, friends, and fellow Veterans. We try to do things together and try to find ways to be happy in this world. Whatever you do this summer, seek things that will bring you happiness.

We find ways to bring joy into our lives. We are not going to give up. We should go take our families out and enjoy their company because life is too short, and if we don't have family, we also have our dear friends; we have brothers and sisters and Veterans, so don't abandon each other. We need each other now more than ever. So, my fellow Veterans, this summer, take stock, find happiness, and enjoy your summer. Check-in with our chapter. We have some amazing events planned for you.

I guarantee the chapter is dedicated to all our fellow Veterans. Remember, you are veterans who never accept defeat, so don't quit. Call your chapter and make us work for you. We're here to provide the support and resources you need. Have a great summer my fellow veterans I know I will.

Sincerely,  
Anthony Powell -President  
Vaughan Chapter, Paralyzed Veterans of America



Anthony Powell Paralyzed  
Veterans of America Vaughan  
Chapter President

## Notice to Vaughan Chapter members.

Vaughan Chapter members please call our office at 708-947- 9790 or send us an email message to [vpva@vaughanpva.org](mailto:vpva@vaughanpva.org) with your current mailing address and phone numbers and email address to receive all the Vaughan chapter's benefits and valuable information we provide.

If we contact you and your phone is disconnected, and you do not have an email address where you can receive the communications, you will miss out on what Vaughan has to offer for you. Please let us know your accurate contact information as soon as possible.



# SPORTS AND RECREATION

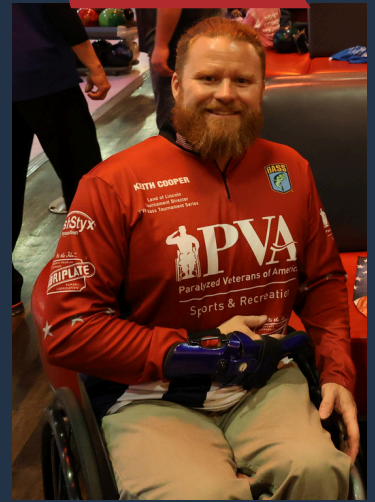
## Keith Cooper Director of Sports and Recreation

The 5th annual Vaughan PVA/AWBA Invitational was held May 3-5 at the Bowlero, in Romeoville, IL. A total of 34 bowlers participated. The wheelchair tournament used four-game sets for the doubles and all singles squads. Although the lanes were challenging, again this year, the bowlers adjusted quickly, and the competition was fierce.

Friday started with 13 doubles pairings. The winning pair was Cheryl Gerdes and Chris Murphy with a popping 1824; Second went to Gary Poole and Jimmy May with 1631. Third was Allen Neu and Charles Scott in 1613, and fourth was Sabrina Harge and Emmett Harris in 1604.

Congratulations to Vaughan chapter members Cheryl, Sabrina, and Emmett. The Up/Down community fundraiser (Three games, no-tap) was held Friday evening, and it was made possible by a generous donation from the American Warriors Motorcycle Association of Illinois. Their support is invaluable to us. The fundraiser features a four-person standing bowling team and a wheelchair bowler participant. The competition is friendly, competitive, and a joy for all those involved. The top team was George Holscher with 3004; second place went to the team of Johnnie Baylark, 2983. Third place was Rich Mahaney's team with 2839, and fourth went to newcomer Bill Ingersoll's team with 2639. Congratulations to Johnnie Baylark, a Vaughan Chapter member.

Saturday brought a splendid opening ceremony, followed by two four-game qualifying squads. Sunday morning held the final four-game qualifier, after which the top five in each division bowled a stepladder playoff. Our champions were Cheryl Gerdes, B Division; Charles Scott, A Division; and Eddy Hutchens, Scratch. Congratulations to Cheryl Vaughan, Chapter member and chapter Vice President; what a great weekend Cheryl had. Please see the graphic on the next page for all the winners and visit our Vaughan Chapter Flickr page for all the beautiful photos taken by Ryan Dalton, our communication content guru.



Keith Cooper at the 5th Annual VPVA/AWBA Bowling Tournament in Romeoville



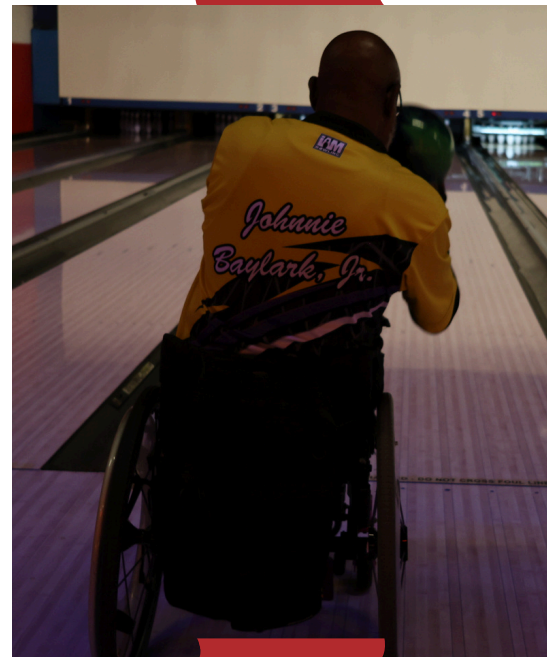
Keith Cooper PVA Vaughan Chapter Sports Director and Josue Cordova PVA National Vice President at the VPVA /AWBA 5th Annual Bowling Tournament

# Photos from the event

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to Johnnie Baylark and Kenneth Hill for their exceptional work as our resident subject matter experts in all things wheelchair bowling in the Chicagoland area. Their dedication is truly inspiring. A special shout is necessary for USBC Joliet member Larry Helton; he was consistently the first one in and the last one out; thanks, Larry.

**Attention:** The AWBA is bringing the 64th National Championships to Bowlero Romeoville in May 2025. The dates and format will be finalized and announced at the beginning of next year. Vaughan Chapter PVA is excited to host this tournament in collaboration with the AWBA.

Photos from the event can be found [here](#)







Paralyzed Veterans of America

Vaughan Chapter

## 5TH ANNUAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT

### SCRATCH

RANKING	BOWLER	SCRATCH
1ST	EDDY H.	171
2ND	GEORGE H.	146
3RD	CURTIS WOLFF	125
4TH	KYLE KENNON	156
5TH	JASON NELSON	171

### A-DIVISION

RANKING	BOWLER	AVERAGE	HANDICAP
1ST	CHARLESS.	135	62
2ND	CHRIS M.	118	70
3RD	JOHN KELLNER	105	74
4TH	FRANK GOEBEL	132	60
5TH	MICHAEL T.	98	69

### B-DIVISION

RANKING	BOWLER	AVERAGE	HANDICAP
1ST	CHERYL GERDES	122	119
2ND	DYLAN PICKETT	107	101
3RD	STEPHEN H.	126	97
4TH	JOSUE CORDOVA	123	93
5TH	ROBERT ARCIOLA	98	111

### UP & DOWN WINNERS

1ST
JOE REEVES
IRVIN LOPEZ
TONY MARCELINO
ERNESTO RUIZ
GEORGE HOLSCHER

### DOUBLES

1ST
CHERYL GERDES
CHRIS MURPHY



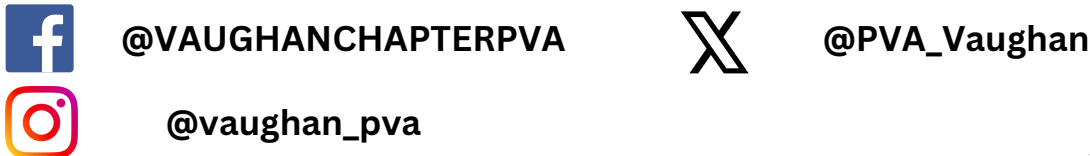
HIGH SCRATCH GAME	HIGH HDCP SERIES	
CHRIS MURPHY (181)	CHRIS MURPHY (903)	A-DIVISION
BILL INGERSOLL (157)	DYLAN PICKETT (944)	B-DIVISION
EDDY HUTCHENS (255)	GEORGE HOLSCHER (777)	SCRATCH

## May Communications Recap

Hello members, Ryan Dalton the Communications Director for the Paralyzed Veterans of America Vaughan Chapter here. 2024 has been a fantastic year so far. We have been making great strides in our ability to create more impactful communications for you, our chapter members. These changes include high-quality event photos, available for free to all members who attend our sports programs and recreational outings. So make sure you check your email for the latest news on our event photo albums, so you can save the moment.

Additionally, I had the great honor of attending the 78th PVA National Conference where I had the pleasure of being at the forefront of changes being made that directly impact our organization's members. While there I was able to share our unique chapter directives and updates on how we operate for you, our members.

As always keep up to date with the latest Vaughan Chapter events and dates by visiting our website **VaughanPVA.org** or check out our social media pages:



## Chapter Program Updates

The PVA Vaughan Chapter is still dedicated to launching our Chess and Bingo Program for those at the Hines VA and in the RCF wing. We have received the iPads that the chapter has ordered and set up the charging cart for the iPads. All that is left is implementing the software on these devices to make the Chess and Bingo programs functional. This is a program we are very excited about as it will allow the RCF members and other members of our chapter to connect even when they may not be able to do so in person.

Another chapter directive we have in the works is our sponsorship program. This program will allow companies to either become name sponsors of our sports and recreation or events or separately become partner sponsors of the chapter. This program will help increase our chapters funding, to either put on more events or provide more funding to members that participate in our programs.

## Be sure to check out the Wheel Page:

The PVA Vaughan Chapter has an extensive backlog of all of its Wheel issues. If you would like to catch up on an issue you missed, or go back and reread past content be sure to visit: <https://vaughanpva.org/the-wheel/>

## Check Out Our Recent Event Albums



Photo captured at Target Field at a Minnesota Twins Game, part of the PVA 78th National Convention  
Credit to: Keith Mellnick



# PVA TRAP CIRCUIT ELBURN TOUR STOP WITH THE PVA VAUGHAN CHAPTER



EMPOWER  
YOUR DRIVE

**Keith Brand**  
Certified Mobility Consultant

155 E. North Ave.  
Villa Park, IL 60181  
Office 630-333-2673  
keith.brand@mobilityworks.com



**MW**  
mobilityworks®

## Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis

Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (**ALS**) is a neurodegenerative and progressive disease that breaks down motor neurons or, nerve cells. Nerve cells, which are responsible for transmitting electrical signals to muscles throughout the body become impaired. This impairment results in muscle weakness and functional loss of movement. There are different types of ALS. The two most commonly diagnosed ones are, bulbar and spinal. Bulbar ALS starts in the mouth and throat region, while spinal ALS originates in the arms and legs. Symptoms of the different types of ALS present uniquely in every person. There can be a delay in receiving a diagnosis because of symptoms of other neurologic conditions and diseases.



**How is ALS diagnosed?** Diagnostic testing for ALS is similar to that of other neurologic testing. One of the most practiced tests is an Electromyogram (EMG). Performed in addition, is a nerve conduction test, with an **EMG**, almost always. To further confirm or, rule out ALS, a doctor may order a Magnetic Resonate Imaging (**MRI**) of the brain and spinal cord. Depending on the stage of ALS in a person, the disease can visibly be seen on an MRI- therefore confirming the diagnosis. Using a blood test called Serum neurofilament light levels, ALS can be detected in the early stage.

Interestingly, there are four stages of the progression of ALS- I read it's called, "The Lancet". Each time segment describes the symptoms experienced over a time frame. The first stage is "King's Staging". This is when the first onset of symptom(s) is experienced in one region of the body. Next is, "Time to Stage". This is when an individual is more likely diagnosed and a second region of the body can become affected. A third region of the body experiences symptoms at the Third Stage. The fourth stage is inclusive of the need for a gastrostomy, and or, ventilation. Individuals with bulbar ALS experience these stages at a much more rapid pace than those with spinal ALS. The length of time for each of these stages and symptoms will vary from person to person.

In reading to understand what Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis is more in-depth, I learned the origins of the name. Not surprisingly, it's of Greek origin. "A" translates to no, "myo" indicates muscle, and "trophic" translates to nourish. Putting the Greek words together, Amyotrophic- no muscle nourishment. "Lateral" indicates where parts of the nerve cells extend out from, the spinal cord- laterally. And lastly, "Sclerosis" means hardening or scarring.

What causes Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis? Despite advances in research, technology, diagnostics, and medicine, the specific causes of ALS are still unknown. However, there are two origins from which ALS is linked- heredity (genes) and environmental (exposure). From my readings, about 90% of ALS diagnoses are environmental. What's more, ALS has now been attributed to military service- namely the Gulf War period of service. A rise in diagnosis to service members begs the question, what toxic exposures are triggering ALS in so many? The answer is Fuels, from heavy machinery to chemical exposure.

*Continued on Vaughan PVA.org*



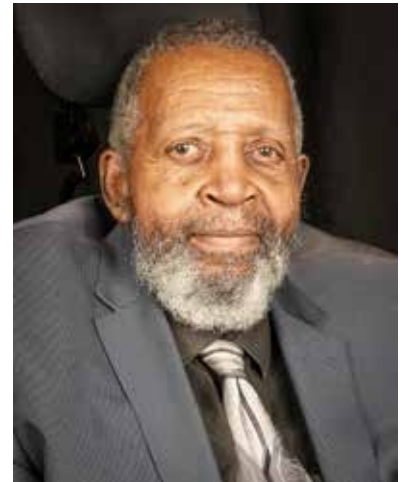
## From The Treasurers Desk:

Let me begin by shouting out a thank you to all our members. With a special shout-out for members having attended our membership meetings. Membership participation in the Vaughan chapter's activities is our goal, let us get motivated and get busy.

Service and participation are the key, if you are asking yourself the question what is in it for me? That is the same question your Board of Directors has been asking you, what can we do to encourage and motivate you to join the fight? Simply stated the fight is about improving daily life, and living experiences for spinal cord-injured veterans.

So, tell us about your ideas in areas where we can improve and do better. Communicate your needs in areas that would improve your daily living activities. The bottom line the board is struggling to do the right thing as we have no member input on what that might be.

The good news is we are off to a good start this year, membership meetings have increased. Likewise, participation in sport and recreational activities shown an increase. We need your ideas write them down drop them off at the PVA office across from physical therapy facility building 128. You could also respond to the survey in our newsletter, earn \$25 and communicate your ideas.



**Gerald L. Brown, Treasurer**

### Supporting the chapter's FY24 budget as follows:

• Chapter Grant Revenue PVA.....	\$150,656
• Donations and Service Revenue.....	\$144,500
• Advocacy and Legislation Grant.....	\$ 2,000
• Newsletter Advertisement Revenue.....	\$ 1,000
• Membership Dues.....	\$ 300
• Corporate Solicitation.....	\$ 12,000
• Sports and Recreation Revenue.....	\$ 74,000
• Dividend and Interest Revenue.....	\$ 65,000
• Transferred in from Portfolio Revenue.....	\$ 203,014
• Total Budgeted Income .....	\$ 652,470
<b>As illustrated \$65,000+ \$203,014 equals \$268,014</b>	
<b>represents the portfolio's contribution to FY 24 budget revenue.</b>	

***Yes, that's correct refunded up  
to \$200.00 per year!***

You can use the funds to cover the travel, lodging, food (NO alcohol), or event ticket/s. If you use a partial amount of the \$200.00, the remainder is available until the fiscal year ends! Call us now for ANY question/s! We're serious, so try us! Can you believe that only a few members use this fund every year?

Neither can I, so let's let the cat out of the bag and do something with our precious summertime and great weather while it lasts! (Fiscal year 10/1/2023 to 9/30/2024).

## RECAPPING MEMBER FUNDS PER FISCAL YEAR:

- 1. Lifetime enjoyment fund \$200 per fiscal year:**  
Go to a Movie, take the wife to dinner or a football game, submit your receipts, and the chapter will reimburse you up to \$200:
- 2. Attend an event sponsored by a PVA chapter**  
anywhere in the United States of America and be reimbursed up to \$3000 for the cost of you and your attendance if necessary. Funding is approved based on pre-event submitted requests.
- 3. Finally, if you need to solve some dilemma**  
affecting you or your immediate family, contact one of our service officers. The Vaughan chapter's Governing Body has discretionary funds available to help members in times of need.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerald L Brown, Treasurer VPVA

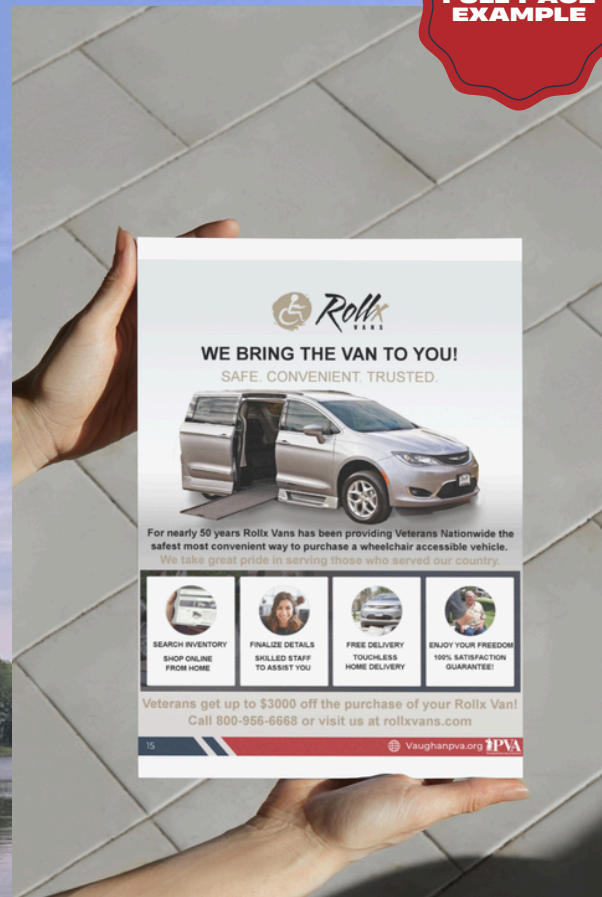
All the Way With PVA



# NEWSLETTER AD PACKAGES



*SCAN To  
LEARN MORE*



## AD SIZES:

FULL PAGE	7.25" X 9.75"
1/2 PAGE	7.25" X 4.75"
1/3 PAGE	7.25" X 3.125"
1/4 PAGE (VERTICLE)	3.50" X 4.75"
1/8 PAGE/ BUSINESS CARD	3.50" X 2.25"

## EXAMPLE



## AD RATES:

FULL PAGE	\$100
1/2 PAGE	\$65
1/3 PAGE	\$50
1/4 PAGE	\$30
1/8 PAGE	\$20



## Join Us for the Following Events!



## Registration Closed

**St. Charles Trap  
Shoot May. 24- 26th**



**On demand adaptive fishing trips with No Limits fishing**



## Registration Closed

**Veteran's Day Parade  
May 25th**



## Busse Woods Fishing Derby June 8th



**National Veterans  
Wheelchair Games  
July 25-30th**



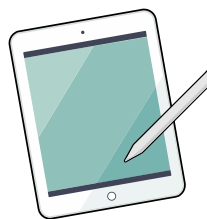
## Bus Provided

**USA Boccia Nationals  
With Synergy  
August 7-11th**



# SCAN ME

## Chess and Bingo Program Still Being Worked On



## QUESTIONS?

keithc@vaughanpva.org





# PVA VETERANS CAREER PROGRAM UPDATE

April 2024

## VETERANS CAREER PROGRAM AWARD: WINDSTREAM



The Veterans Career Program Award is given to a company or organization that exemplifies the spirit of workplace equity, which has been at the heart of PVA's mission since it launched its Veterans Career Program in 2007. At this year's PVA Igniting Change Gala, we were honored to award the VCP Award to Windstream Holdings.

Windstream, a communications and software company, is regularly recognized by the U.S. Department of Labor, the Military Friendly® program, Vets Indexes 5 Star Employer, and the Military Times' "Best for Vets" Program for its commitment to supporting Veterans and prioritizing their employment. Windstream's dedication to Veterans extends beyond recruitment, as they actively promote a work environment where Veterans thrive and contribute their unique skills and experiences. As a result, roughly 14 percent of their employees are Veterans, military spouses, and Veteran spouses.

An invaluable partner, Windstream is a staple in PVA Veterans Career Program webinars. They also frequently work with PVA's dedicated career counselors to place clients in positions throughout their company.

Additionally, Windstream implements policies that include disabled Veterans in their Human Resources and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion efforts, like inclusive language in job descriptions, remote work options, and accessible accommodations. By fostering an equitable workplace, Windstream has created a welcoming environment for all Veterans.

## MONTHLY IMPACT

### 20 Client Placements

- 14 Paid Employment
- 5 Education/Training
- 1 Volunteer
  - 19 Veterans
  - 1 Active Duty
  - 2 PVA Members
- The average salary for the 12 clients in full time employment was \$65,937; and the average income for the 2 clients in part time employment was \$21,000.



Accepting the award on behalf of Windstream were Mary Michaels, Chief Human Resources Officer, and Paul Strickland, Vice President Customer Care at Windstream. We were joined by SBA Deputy Administrator Dilawar Syed who spoke about the connection between Veteran-owned/friendly businesses and Veteran employment.

## MEET TIFFANEY DAVISON



In 2023, we launched a 10-week virtual self-employment program for PVA members and spouses interested in pursuing small business opportunities. Thanks to generous grant funding from the Wells Fargo Foundation, we will host our fourth cohort later this year and are one track to awarding \$20,000 in start-up grants. We know that veteran-owned and veteran-friendly

businesses are key to lowering disabled Veteran unemployment.

We were honored to share the Gala stage with Tiffany Davison. Tiffany is a PVA Member who was part of our first self-employment cohort, and one of our first Pitch Night winners. She received a small business grant to help launch Handi No Cap LLC that designs and manufactures adaptive sportswear for disabled athletes.



# Ekso Indego® Gets Veterans Walking Again



Eligible veterans can receive an Ekso Indego exoskeleton at **NO COST!**

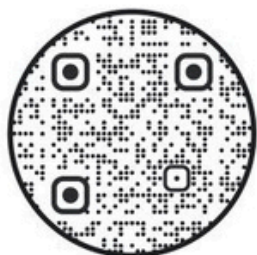
- Fastest walking speeds
- Lightest weight exoskeleton
- Walk at home and in your community



## Ekso Indego Personal

### What is Ekso Indego?

Ekso Indego is an FDA-cleared, powered exoskeleton worn around the waist and legs that enables individuals paralyzed from spinal cord injuries (level T3-L5)\* to stand and walk, offering a new level of independence.



Scan with your phone for more information on how you could receive your own Ekso Indego Personal.

### Getting Veterans with SCI Back on Their Feet

A recently revised VA policy allows Ekso Indego to be issued to qualified veterans at no cost.\*\*

- Modular design for easy transportation
- Improve your cardio & bone density
- Enjoy eye-level conversations again



Contact us to find out if you are eligible to receive an Ekso Indego at **NO COST!**

An evaluation by your provider at a SCI/D center is required to determine eligibility for use of the Ekso Indego Personal device

\* For full indications for use, visit: [www.eksobionics.com/indications-for-use/](http://www.eksobionics.com/indications-for-use/)

\*\* A screening process through the VA is required to determine eligibility for use of the Ekso Indego Personal device



Proudly designed & assembled in the USA  
[www.eksobionics.com](http://www.eksobionics.com)

PNB-044-028-001 Rev. C



# Vaughan In Action

## MS Committee Chair Report: MS Walk

The weather wasn't the best, but the energy level and attitudes at MS Walk Chicago on Sunday, April 28, 2024, were FIRED UP! I've been in MS Walks all around the country over the years, but have to say that Chicago really knows how to throw a party and hype a crowd! PVA members, I need to form a committee for the Walk next year, so be prepared to be called on by me! We can walk and roll; lots of people did just that on Sunday, when we listened to awesome music, collected SWAG and snacks, and my favorite activity (of course), networking and chatting with LOTS of beautiful people with one thing in common – FINDING A CURE FOR MS!



*Susan L. Dochterman,  
MS Walk Chicago 2024*

## Winter Sports Clinic

What an honor and pleasure to attend the 2024 Winter Sports Clinic in beautiful Aspen, Colorado! I had the best roommate at a gorgeous hotel with a yummy restaurant and Buttermilk Mountain right out the window!

I had never seen the Rockies or experienced high altitudes and have to say that I would do this over and over again! The locals were pretty chill, and the 600 volunteers were absolutely wonderful. Witnessing 400 other Veterans having the time of our lives was pure Joy. Meeting so many inspiring athletes was overwhelming, and my favorite takeaway from the trip.

I had the opportunity to ski cross country, aka Nordic, snowshoe up the mountain, experience the healing waters at Glenwood Hot Springs, and SNOWMOBILE! I am so grateful for our awesome Recreation Therapist, Kacie, for her mentoring, direction, and especially her genuinely caring and nurturing spirit. Thank you, Hines VA Hospital for making this possible



*Susan Dochterman and Cheryl  
Gerdes at the Winter Sports Clinic*





# INDEPENDENT EATING IS POSSIBLE.

Obi is an eating device helping hundreds of Veterans with ALS, MS, SCI, and other conditions eat with independence.



Alan, U.S. Veteran

## obi VETERAN TRIAL PROGRAM

Try Obi in the comfort of your own home or facility for free!

[www.MeetObi.com](http://www.MeetObi.com)



**CALL US**  
FOR MORE INFO

844-435-7624

## March - May Member Birthdays:

The Vaughan Chapter would like this opportunity to celebrate all of our chapter members with March, April, and May birthdays, happy birthday to all!

### March

- Dominic Adkins •
  - Michael Carter •
  - Paula Chapman •
  - Stephen Chavis •
  - Yu Chen •
  - Matthew Daly •
  - Jmelba Davis Cotten •
  - Russel Dill •
  - Henry Dold •
  - Ryan Eichner •
  - Michael Filippi •
  - Robert Foster •
  - Maximilian Gross •
  - John Guest •
  - Anthony Harper •
  - Michelle Harris •
  - William Jeffries •
- Bryan Kulka •
  - Theodore Lindo •
  - Scott Massingale •
  - Carey Messerle •
  - Bryce Morville •
  - Michelle North •
  - John Okerblom •
  - Hector Rodriquez •
  - Vicky Saffrahn •
  - David Schilling •
  - Robert Skow •
  - Christopher Timmer •
  - Bruce Walker •
  - Warren Wunderlich •

### April

- Louis Allabastro •
  - Joe Boyd •
  - Lee Calabria •
  - Antonio Del Rio •
  - Booker Felton •
  - Anthony Fuentes •
  - Ronald Hamlet •
  - Shonda Harrison •
  - Sue Hensley •
  - Edward Higbee •
  - Donald Johnson •
  - Dale Jones •
  - John Klich •
  - Jeremy Legrand •
  - Jose Lopez •
  - John Marson •
  - Louis Mauricio •
  - Jodi Meehan •
- Gerald Mennie •
  - Harold Mills •
  - Jimmy Mitchell •
  - Robert Nuzum •
  - Sam Sasone •
  - Charles Stimac •
  - Caleb Sullivan •
  - Fidel Terrones •
  - Lawrence Wagner •
  - Bonita Young •

### May

- David Aguirre •
  - RJ Anderson •
  - Larry Baker •
  - Michael Cahill •
  - Roy Carey •
  - Eric Chriswell •
  - Herbert Colen •
  - Terence Davis •
  - Henry Griffith •
  - Timothy Hartney •
  - Terrance Jones •
  - Michael Kammerude •
  - Donald Klinger •
  - Darla LeNoir-Kujawinski •
- Timothy Lindgren •
  - James McCray •
  - Neal Millette •
  - Michael Mink •
  - John Mosman •
  - William Newton •
  - Otis Nunn •
  - Robert Olson •
  - Robert Pettitt •
  - Anthony Powell •
- Edward Regester •
  - Steven Rehberg •
  - John Robinson •
  - Kerry Ryan •
  - Adam Sherman •
  - Michael Sherwood •
  - Robert Statam •
  - Thomas Taylor •
  - Roger Thomas •
  - Clifton Williams •
  - Jerry Woodwald •
  - Bryon Zuehlk •

Happy  
Birthday!



Attention to all members with Birthdays: Be sure to call into the chapter office on your birthday to receive your birthday check



# BUSSE

# WOODS

**JUNE 08  
2024**



**FISHING  
DERBY**

# RSVP BY JUNE, 3RD!

**ELK GROVE VILLAGE, IL**

**CALL OUR OFFICE AT - +708-947-9790**





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



Vaughan Chapter



[www.VaughanPVA.org](http://www.VaughanPVA.org)

*Follow  
-US-*



@VAUGHANCHAPTERPVA



@paralyzed-veterans-of-america-inc-vaughan-chapter



@vaughan\_pva



@PVA\_Vaughan