



Nevada Chapter

Third Quarter 2025
Volume 1 Issue 3

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Paralyzed Veterans of America, Nevada Chapter

www.nevadapva.org

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Mission Statement

The mission of Nevada PVA is to improve the quality of life of U.S. military veterans and others who have spinal cord dysfunction through the use of adaptive sports, recreation, wellness programs, outreach, education, research and support.

Disclaimer

The Nevada Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America is a non-profit organization. We do not ask for or receive any money from any federal or state agencies. All of our funds are received mainly from donations. All members of the Paralyzed Veterans of America have sustained a spinal cord injury or disease. This newsletter is a publication of the Nevada chapter and is meant to inform its readers of Chapter activities, legislation, and other matters of concern to veterans and/or members of the disabled community. The opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of Nevada PVA, its officers, board members, the editor or production staff.

President and Executive Director's Report

by Dominic Cirino & Julie Johnson

We hope everyone is doing well and staying hydrated during this summer heat!

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our community partner, Henderson Harley Davidson, for graciously providing us with a table at their event once again. We're excited about our annual BBQ at their location on November 8th and hope to see all our members, volunteers, sponsors and community partners there.

The National Veterans Wheelchair Games (NVWG) are fast approaching and we are thrilled to be taking eight athletes caregivers and coaches to Minneapolis for a week filled with a variety of athletic competitions. Stay tuned to see all the medals our athletes earn. Keep checking our Facebook page for pictures. A special thanks to First Nation Group for their generous support as our team continues to grow.

Northern Nevada Members –Mark your calendars for our Annual PVA Reno Takeover, September 13-15. Whether you plan to attend all three days of events or just one, you are welcome! If you're coming from a distance and need accommodations, let us know, we can assist with a room for all three days.

Southern Nevada Members

October 18 –Annual Banquet @ Aliante Hotel

November 8—Henderson Harley Davidson BBQ

December 4-7—Bowling Tournament @ Sunset Station

December 13 –Holiday Party @ Lieburn Senior Center

Volunteers Needed: We are looking for individuals knowledgeable in CANVA to help us create flyers and newsletters.



ELECTIONS

Don't forget, elections are coming later this year. Get involved in our chapter, you **CAN** make a difference. Bio's are due no later than August 1st. You can submit them before if you wish. If you don't want to run for an office, you can run to be a director on our board.

We have members all across the country, you do not need to live in Nevada to run, you just need to be a member in good standing. Thanks to wonder of ZOOM you can live anywhere and still be a board member.

Ways You Can Support Our Programs

- * **Donate Your Vehicle**
- * **Become an Event Sponsor**
- * **Organize a Canned Food Drive**
- * **Host a Sock Drive**
- * **Explore Community Grant Opportunities:**
Does your workplace offer community grants or donate items for raffles?

National Director's Report

by Jason Kelley



This year was the 79th Annual PVA Convention, May 12-17 located in Austin, Texas. Julie Johnson, our Executive Director and I attended the week long conference.

With 30 of the 33 chapters represented, the convention featured discussions about an upcoming research study, fundraising the chapter grant process and evaluating the return on investments in PVA's programs, along with the traditional approval of the fiscal year 2026 budget and resolutions, awards, program manager reports and election of the PVA Executive Committee.

Las Vegas was specifically honored that our late, past president, Dan Kaminski won the Speedy Award (posthumously). Julie Johnson was there along with Dan's family to accept the award in his honor during the brunch awards ceremony,

The PVA also announced that the next two years' conventions will be held in Las Vegas! More information to come on that as the date nears closer to May 2026.



Paralyzed Veterans of America Nevada Chapter National Director Jason Kelley, left, and his wife, Christina, attended the convention.

2025 Awards

The Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) 79th Annual Convention in Austin, Texas, honored many outstanding individuals, PVA chapters and businesses for their dedication and support of PVA's mission to improve the quality of life for veterans and all people living with spinal cord injury and disease. The following award winners were recognized during this year's convention:

Speedy Award (member category)
David Zurfluh

Speedy Award (posthumous category)
Daniel "Dan" Kaminski

Individual Giving Patriot Award
Lorie Smith

Richard Fuller Outstanding Achievement in Government Relations Award
Milton H. Young

Harry A. Schweikert Jr. Disability Awareness Award
Jerrod R. Harris

Membership Development Award
PVA Wisconsin Chapter

Chapter Volunteer Service Award
PVA Colonial Chapter

Center for Development and Civic Engagement Award
Glen Bentley (1,674 hours at the Dallas Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center)

Dwain Taylor Volunteer Service Award (member category)
Matthew Peeling (3,056 hours, PVA Colonial Chapter)

Dwain Taylor Volunteer Service Award (non-member category)
Belinda Scoggins-Kokendoffer (1,102 hours, PVA Mid-America Chapter)

Gilford Moss President's Award
PVA Cal-Diego Chapter

Advocacy/Legislative Director's Report

by Roger Dauffenbach



From June 10-14, representatives from our Nevada Chapter journeyed to Washington, DC to participate in PVA's Annual Advocacy and Legislative Seminar. This significant event brought together chapters from across the country, amplifying the voices of paralyzed and disabled veterans and underscoring the importance of prioritizing their needs and rights at the national level.

During Wednesday and Thursday, we had the opportunity to engage with various members of Congress and their staff, advocating for essential legislative initiatives that impact veterans dealing with spinal cord injuries and diseases.

Julie Johnson, Executive Director, and her grandson Bronson Hamel and I conveyed to Congress the urgent necessity of maintaining a strong and effective VA. We focused our discussions on key bills for the 2025 priority legislation, including:

- ◆ H.R. 1147/S. 1383: Veterans Accessibility Advisory Committee Act
- ◆ H.R. 1364: Automotive Support Services for improved safe transportation
- ◆ H.R. 2245/S.1644/H.R. 3309: Autonomy for Disabled Veterans Act/Autonomy for All Disabled Veterans Act
- ◆ H.R. 1288/S. 599: Driver Reimbursement increase for Veterans Equity (DRIVE) Act
- ◆ HR. 1685/S 749: Justice for ALS Veterans Act

The week proved to be a truly impactful experience in our advocacy efforts.





July

Mary Cunningham-Irwin	Yokiko Knowlton	Bill Sharkey
L.E. Curtis	Patricia Lechuga	Richard Squires
Linville Hinch	James Leinberger	William Taylor
Jeanenne Hubbard-Dunbar	Raymond Long	Celisa Willette
Katherine Jones	Mariza Shaffa	

August

Lionila Angelias	Fletcher Hantke	John Lowther
Susumu Arishita	James Hoban	Timothy Manchego
Rickey Bossert	Bandon Jones	Lyndon Ruddie
Robert Butterfield	Timothy Kast	Lester Wood
David Fivecoats	Edward Loesch	Joe Ybanez
Thomas Glasby		

September

Le'Toi Adams	Darnell Calahan	Joseph Hauk
Cedrick Arinwine	Ronald Cantagallo	David Matthews
Robert Artz	Dominic Cirino	Christopher McMahon
Kimberly Bernstorff	Norman Cruz	Tad Stuart


Follow us on:

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Branded One CrossFit is a Nonprofit Organization dedicated to empowering  Disabled Veterans and First Responders through fitness. Our mission is to provide **free** memberships to those who have served and sacrificed, helping them rebuild strength, resilience, and community. At Branded One, we believe that fitness is for everyone, and we're here to support our heroes every step of the way.

CrossFit is a means of building strength, endurance, and confidence through scalable, functional movements. It's about pushing personal limits, fostering community, and proving that fitness is for everyone, regardless of physical ability. Adaptive CrossFit focuses on modifying movements to suit each athlete's unique needs. For wheelchair users, this might include seated versions of exercises like presses, pulls, and core work, as well as conditioning. The emphasis is on building capacity while maintaining intensity, just like any other CrossFit workout.

Beyond physical fitness, it's about empowerment—showing athletes that they are capable of more than they might have thought. The community aspect is huge, offering camaraderie and support as athletes overcome challenges together.

- We offer 39 class times each week, including Crossfit, Stretch and Jiu Jitsu. We also have several social events and volunteer opportunities for you to participate in our community.
- **To sign up** and become a member of this amazing community, **free of charge**, simply click this link https://branded.pushpress.com/landing/plans/plan_47c6572a44855c/login
- Please bring your VA Disability Rating Document or email to nick@brandedone.org or kristin@brandedone.org

Class Schedule

- CrossFit - Monday - Friday - 5:30 am, 7:00 am, 8:15 am (stretch class), 9:00 am, 3:00 pm, 4:30 pm, 6:00 pm
Saturday - 9:00 am only
- Jiu Jitsu - Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday - 7:15 pm

Branded One CrossFit, 2055 E Windmill Lane, #125, Las Vegas, NV 89123, (725) 696-3037

Free Crossfit for veterans

If you are a widow or widower needing help obtaining benefits, Barbara may be able to help.



Kids Bowling at the Gold Coast



Upcoming events

July 17-22	NVWG* Minneapolis, MN
Sept 8-12	Reno Military Sports Camp*
Sept 13-15	Reno Takeover
Oct 4	Toys for Tots Golf Tournament
Oct 18	Nevada PVA Awards Banquet Aliante Casino 5:30 pm
Nov 8	BBQ at Henderson Harley Davidson
Nov 11	Veterans Day Parade
Dec 4	Up Down Bowl Fundraiser* Sunset Station 5 pm
Dec 4-7	L.E. Curtis Invitational Bowling Tournament* Sunset Station
Dec 13	PVA Christmas Party Lieburn Senior Center 12 Noon
Dec 17	Paralympic Kids Christmas Party J D Smith Middle School 6 pm

***Prior registration required**

Julie Johnson, Executive Director and Jared Clancy, Adapted PE teacher/special programs lead, accept a check from Chicken N Pickle for the cup fundraiser they held to help fund our kids programs



Kids Summer Camp BBQ



Memorial Day BBQ



Thank You!

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Donations can be made in any amount. They will accumulate from January 1—December 31. Donors will be printed in our monthly newsletter unless otherwise requested. To make a donation go online to www.nevadapva.org or call 702-646-0040.

★ ★ ★ 6th Annual ★ ★ ★
PVA
RENO Takeover

**SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 13, 2025**

MOVIE & SNACKS

12:00 PM

MOVIE: TBA

LOCATION: CINEMARK CENTURY
PARK LANE 16
2040 CENTURY WAY
RENO, NV 89502

PVA MEMBERSHIP DINNER

6:00 PM

LOCATION: WILD RIVER GRILLE
17 SOUTH VIRGINIA STREET
RENO, NV 89501

**SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 14, 2025**

RENO ACES BASEBALL GAME

12:05 PM

LOCATION: GREATER NEVADA FIELD
250 EVANS AVENUE
RENO, NV 89501

**MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 15, 2025**

**PVA MEMBERSHIP MEETING &
LUNCH /
ADAPTIVE RECREATION CLINIC
(BOCCIA BALL & CORNHOLE)**

11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

LOCATION: EVELYN MOUNT
NORTHEAST
COMMUNITY CENTER
1301 VALLEY ROAD
RENO, NV 89512

★ ★ ★
**RSVP TO KORY AMARAL BY
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2025
1 (650) 399-5296 OR
AMARAL@BAWPVA.ORG**



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Las Vegas VA Medical Center Locations

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Main Number: 702-791-9000 **Toll-Free Phone:** 1-888-633-7554 **VA Pharmacy:** 702-791-9076

Toll-Free Nurse Advice Line: 1-877-252-4866

	Northeast Primary Care Clinic 4461 East Charleston Boulevard Las Vegas, NV 89104	702-791-9050
	Northwest Primary Care Clinic 3968 North Rancho Drive North Las Vegas, NV 89130	702-791-9020
	Pahrump Community Based Outpatient Clinic 2100 East Calvada Boulevard Pahrump, NV 89048	775-727-7535
	Southeast Primary Care Clinic 1020 South Boulder Highway Henderson, NV 89015	702-791-9030
	Southwest Primary Care Clinic 7235 South Buffalo Drive Las Vegas, NV 89113	702-791-9040
	Community Resource and Referral Center 926 West Owens Avenue Las Vegas, NV 89106	702-791-9077
	Mike O'Callaghan Federal Medical Center 4700 North Las Vegas Boulevard Las Vegas, NV 89115	702-653-2227 EMERGENCY CARE ONLY
	Psychosocial Rehab Recovery Center 3525 W. Cheyenne Avenue North Las Vegas, NV 89032	702-791-9060
	Vet Center - Las Vegas 1919 South Jones Boulevard, Suite A Las Vegas, NV 89146	702-251-7873
	Vet Center - Henderson 400 North Stephanie Street, Suite 180 Henderson, NV 89014	702-791-9100
	Women's Health Center Temporarily at Northeast PCC 4461 East Charleston Boulevard Las Vegas, NV 89104	702-791-9050

Nevada Paralyzed Veterans of America

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