Roundtable on Air Travel Accessibility

On November 8, 2017, PVA hosted a roundtable with the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee on improving access to air travel for veterans with disabilities. The purpose of the roundtable discussion was to focus on how disability-related provisions in S. 1872, the “TSA Modernization Act,” and S. 1405, the “FAA Reauthorization Act of 2017,” would lay the groundwork for ensuring safe and effective access to air travel for all people with disabilities. The roundtable provided an opportunity for PVA leaders to share their travel experiences and for Senators and staff to learn more about their concerns. Senators engaged leaders about the frequency of wheelchair damage, service animals, and the general accessibility of air travel.

PVA National President David L. Zurfluh, PVA National Secretary Larry Dodson, PVA National Vice President Charles Brown, and Interim Executive Director Carl Blake were joined at the event by Senate Commerce Committee Chairman John Thune (R-SD), Ranking Member Bill Nelson (D-FL), and Senator Tammy Duckworth (D-IL). Heather Ansley, Associate General Counsel for Corporate and Government Relations and Lee Page, Senior Associate Advocacy Director, served as moderators for the event. Representatives for Wounded Warrior Project, the American Legion, and VetsFirst also participated.
It seems like only yesterday we were getting ready for 2017, now 2018 is just around the corner. As I think back, this was a very prosperous year for our chapter. How time flies!

Now it is time to look forward to the challenges, events, and issues, which will be encountered in 2018. The most imposing challenge we are always looking at is the funding needed to be able to carry out chapter programs for our members at the level of past years. So I am asking members to consider being involved in events whether by attending, selling raffle tickets, volunteering or donations to the chapter’s upcoming events.

March 10, 2018 is the date for our chapter’s annual “Great Food, Great Cause” fundraiser held at the Parma Tavern, 5680 Broadview Road in Parma, Ohio from 6pm to 8pm. This is an all-you-can-eat buffet of pizza, pasta, wings and salad. All BPVA members will receive a letter from the chapter in January or February, enclosed with 5 raffle tickets, asking for your support to either sell or buy these tickets. This is a small way to help your chapter raise funds to support our members.
member programs. If you are able to sell more than the five tickets you received, please contact the chapter office and staff will be glad to assist you and answer any questions.

April is Paralyzed Veterans of America Awareness Month (PAM). Throughout this month the chapter will have representatives at many locations with displays and pamphlets to educate the public about PVA’s mission of service to its members as well as the disabled community. Take time and get involved, we can always use volunteers to pass on our mission. Please call the Chapter office at (800) 248-2548 to sign up for a location and time.

April 20 - 21, 2018 is the chapter’s Annual Buckeye Wheelchair Games (BWG) at Spire Institute. If you would like to participate and do not receive a registration form by the end of January, check the chapter’s web site for the BWG form or call the chapter office to have one sent to you. Even if you are not participating you are welcome to come out to Spire and see what the games are all about and cheer on the athletes. Spire Institute is located in Geneva, Ohio at the intersection of I-90 and Rt 534 just east of Cleveland.

Other events include the Annual Buckeye 8-Ball Tournament at Wickliffe Lanes in Wickliffe, Ohio June 22 - 23, 2018; July 30 - August 4, 2018 is the National Veterans Wheelchair Games held in Orlando, Florida; and August 27, 2018 is the Annual Golf Scramble Fundraiser at Windmill Lakes Golf Course in Ravenna, Ohio. More information about these events will be in the upcoming newsletters and on the chapter web site. Don’t forget to mark your 2018 Buckeye pocket calendar with these upcoming dates.

Lastly, a grateful “THANK YOU” to the volunteers, sponsors, donors, staff, officers, directors, and all our members who took their time to step up to help support the chapter throughout the year. I have full confidence that this will continue through the New Year. Your officers and directors look forward to continue serving the BPVA chapter and its members.

If you have any thoughts or ideas big or small that may help improve the productivity of the chapter, please don’t hesitate to share them with one of the officers or directors. Contact the chapter office, stop by the VA chapter office on the 6th floor or email me at carlh@buckeyepva.org.

Best Wishes for a VERY MERRY HOLIDAY SEASON and a WONDERFUL and HEALTHY NEW YEAR to everyone!!!!
Greetings All,

What an amazing year for the Buckeye Chapter. Of course we had our successful All You Can Eat which will occur in 2018 on March 10 – same place, same time. Then we held the Buckeye Wheelchair Games at Spire. We had the highest attendance ever at 85 participants including the kids from Youth Challenge. Next year the Games are April 20-21, 2018. Same time and place as last year. Watch your mail for the application.

In July, we were hosts to the National Veterans Wheelchair Games in Cincinnati. Our huge team did very well in medals. And the Chapter was successful in providing the Athletes Reception and the sale of merchandise. This was a fabulous experience for me. I am very proud of the Chapter members for their athleticism.

August brought our annual Golf Outing which brings new faces for us to meet. Next year’s Outing will be August 27, 2018.

In November, Holly Koester was inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame. Earlier in the year you may recall Holly was awarded the Speedy Award. This is the highest honor National PVA awards. We should all aspire to be like Holly. So very proud of her.

Our Food Gift Card program served nearly 300 families thanks in large part to the Community Fund Management Foundation who donated $20,000 toward the program.

Here we are at the end of another successful year at Buckeye PVA. But we would like to be more successful in 2018. Let us help you. If we can’t help you we may know someone who can. We remain here for you. Read the Banner and see all of the information we have to offer. Call the Chapter office at 800-248-2548 if there is anything you need.

I wish you all the best in the upcoming year.
In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) Treatment

In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) treatment now offered to eligible veterans.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced in January 2017 that it is amending its regulation regarding fertility counseling and treatment available to eligible Veterans and spouses. VA currently provides certain infertility services other than in vitro fertilization (IVF) services to Veterans as part of the medical benefits package. This interim final rule authorizes IVF for a Veteran with a service-connected disability that results in the inability of the Veteran to procreate without the use of fertility treatment. It also states that VA may provide fertility counseling and treatment using assisted reproductive technologies (ART), including IVF, to a spouse of a Veteran with a service-connected disability that results in the inability of the Veteran to procreate without the use of fertility treatment. As part of the medical benefits package, VA provides many different types of fertility treatments and procedures to Veterans. These include infertility counseling, laboratory blood testing, surgical correction of structural pathology, reversal of a vasectomy or tubal ligation, medication, and various other diagnostic studies or treatments.

Full implementation of this regulation requires that VA utilize and optimize existing capabilities for care in the community and develop internal processes that will provide Veterans with a seamless path to receiving ART services. Veterans can immediately schedule appointments with their local health care system for eligibility determinations, clinical evaluation and consultation, and initial treatment as we work to build this structure.

The interim final rule was published in the Federal Register on January 19, 2017. Although the interim rule references September 30, 2017 as the date the funding expires, the funds are authorized through September 30, 2018.

If you would like more information about infertility treatment options for eligible Veterans and their spouses, do the following:

If you are enrolled in VA health care, schedule an appointment with your VA provider (e.g., primary care provider or gynecologist) to discuss evaluation. If you are eligible for this benefit, your provider will refer you to a fertility specialist.

If you are not yet enrolled in VA health care, enroll today. Once enrolled, schedule an appointment with your VA provider.

Emergency Assistance Program

Paralyzed Veterans of America, Buckeye Chapter has available an Emergency Assistance Program. This program helps members of the Buckeye Chapter who may find themselves in financial distress causing possible eviction from their homes, disconnection of utilities or the inability to pay for food.

Members must be in good standing for a minimum of 90 days prior to qualifying for consideration. Application for help is limited to twice yearly or up to a maximum of $500 per year. This is a confidential process.

Payments must be made directly to the vendor. Please contact the Chapter office for more details. (800) 248-2548; (216) 731-1017.
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ANNUAL AIR RIFLE & AIR PISTOL PROGRAM

Arizona Air Rifle/Archery & Bocce Tournament* Sept. 6-8, 2017 Phoenix, AZ
West Virginia Air Rifle & Bocce Tournament* Oct. 27-28, 2017 Martinsburg, WV
KY-IN Air Rifle & Bocce Tournament* Nov 16-18, 2017 Lexington, KY
Cal-Diego Air Rifle Tournament Jan. 22-23, 2018 San Diego, CA
Mid-Atlantic Air Rifle Tournament March 7-8, 2018 Richmond, VA
Wisconsin Air Rifle Tournament March 23-25, 2018 Milwaukee, WI
Buckeye Air Rifle Tournament April 21-22, 2018 Geneva, OH
*indicates combined events

PARALYZED VETERANS NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS CIRCUIT

Wisconsin Shooting Sports Tournament & Pistol Tournament Aug. 4-6, 2017 Green Bay, WI
Pistol Tournament - Sept. 8 Sioux Falls, SD
Keystone Shooting Sports Tournament Sept. 22-24, 2017 Clarion, PA

Arizona Shooting Sports Tournament Nov. 3-5, 2017 Phoenix, AZ
Mid-Atlantic Shooting Sports Tournament Nov. 10-12, 2017 Charles City, VA
Florida Gulf Coast Shooting Sports Tournament March 1-3, 2018 Odessa, FL
Nevada Shooting Sports Tournament March 16-18, 2018 Las Vegas, NV
Cal-Diego Shooting Sports Tournament & Cal-Diego Rifle/Pistol March 23-25, 2018 Redlands, CA
Minnesota Shooting Sports Tournament May 18-20, 2018 Minneapolis, MN
Lone Star Shooting Sports Tournament June 22-24, 2018 Lakeland, FL
Iowa Shooting Sports Tournament & Pistol Tournament June 15-17, 2018 Cedar Rapids, IA

PARALYZED VETERANS BASS TOUR

Mid-America Bass Tournament Sept. 22-24, 2017 Eufaula, OK
Lone Star Bass Tournament Sept. 29-Oct. 1, 2017 Garland, TX

VAUGHAN BASS TOUR

Oct. 27-29, 2017 Mt. Vernon, IL
April 6-8, 2018 Kissimmee, FL
May 4-6, 2018 Kuttawa, KY
June 1-3, 2018 Marlbury, MD
June 8-10, 2018 Richmond, VA

ANNUAL PARALYZED VETERANS/NWPA BILLIARDS TOURNAMENT SERIES

Mid-Atlantic Billiards Tournament Sept. 15-17, 2017 Virginia Beach, VA
Mid-South Billiards Tournament Oct. 13-14, 2017 Memphis, TN
Mid-Atlantic Billiards Tournament March 23-25, 2018 Midlothian, VA
Mid-America Billiards Tournament April 20-22, 2018 Oklahoma City, OK
Mountain States Billiards Tournament May 4-5, 2018 Fountain, CO

Buckeye Billiards Tournament** June 22-23, 2018 Wickliffe, OH
**non-sanctioned events

PARALYZED VETERANS RACING

Pensacola Cycling Sept. 16-17, 2017 Pensacola, FL
Air Force Marathon Sept. 16, 2017 Dayton, OH
Pocahontas State Park Off-road Ride Sept. 30, 2017 Richmond, VA
Army Ten-Miler Oct. 8, 2017 Washington, DC
Blue and Gray Oct. 21-22, 2017 Gettysburg, PA

38TH NVWG

July 30-Aug. 4, 2018 Orlando, FL

For more information, visit: pva.org/sports
House VA Committee Conducts Hearing to Review Choice Reform Legislation

On October 24, 2017, the House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs conducted a legislative hearing to examine a number of important proposals. The hearing included two very important draft bills that offered direction for the reform of the Choice program administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Paralyzed Veterans of America submitted a statement for the record for the hearing.

The focus of our testimony was on the draft bill presented by the House VA Committee—a bill that would eventually become H.R. 4242, the “VA Care in the Community Act”—and on the draft bill presented by the VA—the “Veteran Coordinated Access & Rewarding Experiences (CARE) Act.” PVA did not explicitly oppose either draft bill as presented.

We also emphasized in our testimony that before the Committee takes steps to reform the delivery of veterans’ health care in the community, it is important to affirm that specialized services are part of the core mission and responsibility of VA. In recent months, VA has indicated that, along with improving the delivery of care in the community to veterans, it plans to concentrate on expanding and improving what it considers “foundational services.” The Secretary has indicated that it considers spinal cord injury and disease (SCI/D) care and blinded care foundational services. However, he must make that policy unequivocally clear to all networks and all facilities. Additionally, we do not believe foundational services end with just those areas; there are many areas of service within VA that inform the principle of veteran-centric care. We appreciate the fact that the Secretary has committed to expanding SCI/D nurse staffing by approximately 1,000 new positions. These concerns about foundational services cannot be dismissed simply in the interest of focusing attention on more community care.

Congress should examine more closely how VA will monitor the quality of care veterans are receiving in the community. This question goes beyond a plan for care coordination. If VA is unprepared to retain ownership of responsibility for care delivered in the private sector, Congress will be helpless in conducting adequate oversight. PVA believes that the Committee and VA need to seriously consider the consequences for veterans when they are injured during the course of their treatment in the community. When veterans receive treatment at a VA medical center, they are protected in the event that some additional disability or health problem is incurred. Under 38 U.S.C. § 1151, veterans can file claims for disability as a result of medical malpractice that occurs in a VA facility or as a result of care delivered by a VA provider.

When PVA questioned VA as to whether these protections are conferred to veterans being treated in the community, VA officials confirmed in writing that this protection, as a matter of law, does not attach to the veteran in such circumstances. We continue to advocate for the inclusion of this protection in any final bill considered by the Committee. Unfortunately, the bill being considered in the House does not include these provisions.

PVA strongly supports the concept of developing a high-performing integrated health care network that would seamlessly combine the capabilities of the VA health care system with both public and private health care providers in the community. We believe that the design and development of VA’s network must be locally driven using national guidance, and it must reflect the demographics and availability of resources within that area. VA has taken the first steps toward this goal by conducting its pilot market
assessments using three individual VHA facilities and their surrounding health care markets. PVA also supports the Secretary’s plan to move the Department away from the current 30-day/40-mile eligibility standards in favor of a case-by-case clinical determination. The Committee’s draft bill targets the same desired end goal. Access decisions dictated by arbitrary wait times and geographic distances have no comparable industry practices in the private sector. This change would shift the organizational mindset and focus of VA to clinical outcomes instead of catering to arbitrary metrics governing access to care in the community. We have consistently advocated for this proposition before Congress and the administration, stating that eligibility and access to care in the community should be a clinically-based decision made between a veteran and his or her doctor. Establishing appropriate eligibility standards will be an integral part of a sustainable network.

The hearing agenda also included several other bills. PVA supported H.R. 1133, the “Veterans Transplant Coverage Act;” H.R. 2123, the “Veterans E-Health and Telemedicine Support (VETS) Act of 2017;” and H.R. 2601, the “Veterans Increased Choice for Transplanted Organs and Recover Act of 2017.” While we also supported the intent of H.R. 3642, the “Military Sexual Assault Victims Empowerment (SAVE) Act,” we expressed reservations about some of the underlying assumptions of the bill. Similarly, we expressed concerns about a draft bill that would require the Veterans Crisis Line to collect certain data from veterans who contact the line in crisis.

Subsequent to the hearing, the Committee attempted to mark-up H.R. 4242; however, a recent cost estimate provided by the Congressional Budget Office forced the Committee to withdraw the bill from consideration at this time.

PVA’s full written statement can be viewed at www.pva.org.

VA Considering Proposed Cuts to VA Special Purpose Funds

In October, PVA became aware of VA’s plan to move nearly $1 billion dedicated to programs such as Women’s Health, Mental Health, Research, and Suicide Prevention, to a general purpose fund for an unclear purpose. While the VA has claimed that it will be used to reinvest in “foundational services”—which includes spinal cord injury/disease care, there has been no guarantee that will actually occur at this point. It seems the real impact of this dramatic shift of funds from special purpose to general purpose is to provide more resources and flexibility to Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISNs) and Medical Center Directors. PVA has long argued for the need for medical centers to be fully equipped to meet the needs of their patients. And while we understand the ultimate goal of this shift of resources we are deeply concerned by such a dramatic realignment of resources and the potential impact on veterans.

VA has not provided VSOs or Congress any detailed explanation for how the proposed cuts to critical programs will better serve veterans. Given the magnitude of the proposed repurposing and the potential to devastate critical programs, PVA and others in the VSO community have been diligently engaging with VA to pause the move until the extent of the impact is understood. Several members of Congress, including the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies have reached out to Secretary Shulkin as well to get clarification.

We will continue to monitor this action as the consequences for some key programs in VA could be severe. While VA has promised that “foundational services” will benefit from this shift, we do not believe that it should be at the expense of other critical services within VA.
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Veterans Legislation Passed

During the week of Veterans’ Day, the House of Representatives passed a long list of bills targeted at improving various services in the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). That list includes:

- H.R. 918, the “Veteran Urgent Access to Mental Healthcare Act.” This bill would require VA to provide an initial mental health assessment and any subsequent mental health services required to meet urgent mental health care needs to former service members who would otherwise be ineligible for such services because they were discharged from military service under other than honorable (OTH) conditions.
- H.R. 1066, the “VA Management Alignment Act of 2017.” This bill would require VA to submit a report regarding the roles, responsibility, and accountability of elements and individuals of VA, using the findings of the Independent Assessment, the Commission on Care, and relevant GAO reports as resources.
- H.R. 1133, the “Veterans Transplant Coverage Act.” This bill would authorize VA to provide all care and services needed for a veteran to receive an organ transplant from a live donor, regardless of whether the donor is eligible for VA health care or whether the health care facility is part of the VA.
- H.R. 1900, the “National Veterans Memorial and Museum Act.” This bill would designate the Veterans Memorial and Museum in Columbus, Ohio, as the National Veterans Memorial and Museum.
- H.R. 2123, the “Veterans Electronic Health and Telemedicine Support Act (VETS) Act of 2017.” This bill would give the VA Secretary the legislative authority to allow VA providers to practice telemedicine across state lines.
- H.R. 2601, the “Veterans Increased Choice for Transplanted Organs and Recovery (VICTOR) Act.”
- H.R. 3122, the “Veterans Care Financial Protection Act of 2017.” This bill directs VA to work with federal agencies and states to develop and implement standards that protect individuals who are eligible for increased pension from dishonest, predatory or otherwise unlawful practices.
- H.R. 3562, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish assistance for adaptations of residences of veterans in rehabilitation programs.
- H.R. 3634, “the Securing Electronic Records for Veterans Ease (SERVE) Act of 2017.” This bill would make BAH documentation available online to all veterans, which would help confirm a veteran’s monthly housing stipend and simplify their home or apartment rental process.
- H.R. 3656, a bill that would provide a headstone or marker for all eligible non-veterans who die on or after November 11, 1998.
- H.R. 3657, a bill that would authorize VA to provide headstones and markers to eligible spouses and dependents who are buried or interred at tribal veterans cemeteries.
- H.R. 3705, the “Veterans Fair Debt Notice Act.” This bill instructs VA to use plain language in its debt notices to provide a clear explanation of why VA is alleging that the veteran owes such a debt.
- H.R. 3949, the “Veteran Apprenticeship and Labor Opportunity Reform (VALOR) Act.” This bill would simplify an approval process by allowing companies to register their apprenticeship programs with one central approval agency.
- H.R. 4173, the “Veterans Crisis Line Study Act of 2017.” This bill would require VA to conduct a study on the outcomes and efficacy of the Veterans Crisis Line based on an analysis of national suicide data and data collected from the VCL.

PVA generally supported all of the bills that were considered and approved by the House. In testimony earlier this year, we did express concerns about the data collection process that would occur to support H.R. 4173, particularly what the impact might be of trying to obtain this type of information from veterans who are in crisis.
Paralyzed Veterans of America Buckeye Chapter Visitor Mileage Reimbursement Program

Who is eligible to participate in the program?
Must be a BPVA Member in good standing for a minimum of 90 days to participate. The Committee has the option to make exceptions for extenuating circumstances.

What is the acceptable time period before the program becomes available for use?
The BPVA Member must be hospitalized for a minimum of one week.

What is the acceptable distance for mileage reimbursement?
The mileage reimbursement will be given to visitors for travel to a VA hospital in the State of Ohio for the wellbeing of members who are hospitalized. Beginning and ending travel must be in the State of Ohio.

How much is the reimbursement?
Reimbursement will be at a rate of .20 per mile. Mileage will be determined via MapQuest based on the submission of the visitor of the beginning and ending address. Chapter will reimburse up to 2 trips per month with a $2,000 cap per year.

Reimbursement request containing the name of the member, name and address of the visitor, the date of visitation and the origin of the trip must be submitted by the 20th of the following month, with payment at the end of month. Request for reimbursement will only be valid for one calendar month following travel.

How will reimbursement be paid?
Reimbursements will be via check.

What locations are included in the program?
Reimbursement will be for Ohio VA hospitals only.

For more information contact the Chapter Office at 800-248-2548.
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March 10, 2018 - Buckeye PVA All You Can Eat Fundraiser

April 2018 - Paralyzed Veterans Awareness Month

April 20 - 21, 2018 - Buckeye Wheelchair Games, Geneva, Ohio

June 22 - 23, 2018 - Annual 8-ball Billiards Tournament, Wickliffe Lanes in Wickliffe, Ohio

July 30 – August 4, 2018 - National Veterans Wheelchair Games, Orlando, Florida

August 27, 2018 - Annual Golf Outing Fundraiser, Windmill Lakes Golf Course, Ravenna, Ohio

*Dates are subject to change.
Please watch the Buckeye website www.buckeyepva.org and future Banners for updates and more information.

It’s Time to Clean & Help a Worthwhile Cause!

The Paralyzed Veterans of America, Buckeye Chapter is committed to making life better for veterans affected by spinal cord injury or disease. Through our efforts we have been able to make a positive impact on the lives of veterans in our community. Your financial support can help us make a significant difference in the lives of veterans. To show our appreciation, with each $50.00 donation we will send you a package of high-quality trash bags.
Sizes available: 16, 33, 40, and 60 gallon.

To make a donation, you may call, mail a check or use our online form. Paralyzed Veterans of America, Buckeye Chapter
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Phone: (216) 731-1017 or (800) 248-2548
www.buckeyepva.org
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The Fall Board Meeting, was held in San Antonio, Texas, October 23 - 25. During these three days the National Directors reviewed and received updates from National PVA’s individual departments on finances and programs since the Annual Convention.

Resolutions results plus brief explanation:

Resolution 17-0-1 - National Directors Missing PVA Face to Face Meetings- Passed. Establish rules that if a National Director does not attend face to face meetings what the consequences are.

Resolution 17-0-2 - Code of Ethics and Standard of Conduct Jurisdiction Expansion- Passed. The Code of Ethics and Standard of Conduct shall apply to all members of PVA.

Resolution 17-0-3 - Suspension and Expulsion of Chapter Members- Passed. What the rights and consequences are to not adhering to the Code of Ethics and Standard of Conduct

Resolution 17-0-4 - Model Bylaw Change on Chapter Meeting Requirement- Passed. Requires that all chapter board of directors have least six monthly meetings a year.

Resolution 17-0-5 - Sporting and Recreation Program Events- Failed. All nationally supported sports circuits (Trap Shoots, Bass Trail, Bowling, Billiards, Boccia) would be made into 5 regional events.

Resolution 17-0-6 - Sports and Spokes Magazine for all PVA Members- Passed. Sports’ N Spokes publications will go PVA members electronically.

Resolution 17-0-0-01 - PVA Chapter Election Polices and Procedures- Referred to Committee Requires all chapters to adhere to the same policies and procedures.

Resolution 17-0-0-02 - Suspension of Cash Flow into PVA’s Investment Portfolio- Passed. Suspend to requirement to put $50,000 monthly into the PVA portfolio until July 1, 2018.

Resolution 17-0-0-03 - Code of Ethics and Standard of Conduct Zero Sexual Misconduct Tolerance - Referred to Committee. Create a Sexual Harassment Policy

Feel free to contact me with any questions you may have. I can be reached through email at: carlh@buckeyepva.org.
Greater Cincinnati including Dayton, Donate Today

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Paralyzed Veterans of America
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Buckeye Chapter

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We're engineered to make a difference in the community.
From Scott -
The 34th Annual Buckeye Cup Basketball Tournament was held November 4 - 5, 2017 at the Cleo Dumaree Athletic Complex in Columbus, Ohio. A total of eight teams participated in a two pool structured tournament over the weekend. The teams consisted of Miami Valley Raptors, Nashville Music City Lightning, Columbus Buckeye Wheelers, Louisville Spokes & Spires, LWSRA Hawks, Pittsburgh Steelwheelers, RHI Pacers and Fort Wayne Turnstone Bandits. This was the first year this tournament was a sanctioned event by the NWBA.

From Holly -
In addition to the Buckeye Cup, Buckeye PVA members were busy participating in individual sport activities. Good luck to Terry Rock of Norwalk. Terry continues to bowl in the different national bowling tournaments. Austin (James) Trzop is tearing up and down on the quad rugby court. I haven’t seen him play yet, but I’ve been told he was pretty quick in a scrimmage that a couple of our VA staff and coaches participated in. Paul Mann of Dayton and Doug (William) Comwall from Cincinnati also are tearing up and down the quad rugby courts as they play on traveling teams in their areas. I, Holly, of Walton Hills, got to race in the Indianapolis Monumental Marathon (3:08 finish) in my racing chair and participate in the Cleveland Turkey Trot with my family as we walked and rolled 5 miles before we went home to give thanks and eat turkey and pie.

Members, don’t get too sedentary over the winter! Nikki and Aubrey are sending out calendars of recreational activities going on at the Cleveland VA. Contact your coaches at the other VA’s to get a calendar of their activities.

We wish all of you and your families a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

See you next year!
Help Us Serve America’s Veterans

Health Care, Benefits, Advocacy, Sports, Recreation, Education are just a few of the programs your tax-deductible contributions help support.

For more information, call (800) 248-2548 or visit www.buckeyepva.org

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