Happy Holidays

Paralyzed Veterans of America
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John Tuzzolino      IPP
Dianne Brunswick    Treasurer

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Jacqueline Berkshire, Senior Secretary
Michael Wilson, Sr. National Service Officer
P-602-627-3311 or 1-800-795-3582

Attention All Readers !!!!!

The Arizona Chapter has a Prosthetics Lending closet. Here you can acquire a power wheelchair, a manual wheelchair, shower equipment, aluminum walkers, canes, crutches. We also have Hoyer Lifts (manual & electric) Do not hesitate to call the Chapter office if you are in need of any type of equipment. We may have just what you or your family members need.
Moment of thought from the Arizona Chapter Paralyzed Veterans of America President

My name is Leonard Hosea Smith Sr. On June 10, 2017 I was elected as the new President for Arizona Chapter Paralyzed Veterans of America by the members of the Chapter. I would like to take a moment to thank all of you who took the time to fill out the ballots and mail them back to the Chapter. It will be a great honor to serve as President of PVA Arizona Chapter.

I became a member of the Chapter in 2009. In 2010 I became a board member and later was elected as Secretary. I also held the National Directors position for the Chapter from 2013 to 2017. While serving in each one of those capacities I have pledged and faithfully committed my time and energy to help move the Arizona Chapter forward successfully. As your new President I will devote and commit more of my time and energy to help continue to move Arizona Chapter forward.

Our Executive Director Peter Quinn and his staff are doing an excellent job on the day-to-day operations of the Chapter they cannot do it alone. We would like to see participation from all of our members. We host many events throughout the year and 2018 does not look like it will be slowing down.

In the fiscal year 2017-2018 we are going to start an aggressive campaign to bring new members into the Chapter. We are looking for new members not only to increase our numbers but also to find and assist Veterans who are not aware they may be eligible for VA services. 10 years ago I was one of those Veterans. Since I have been on VA services it has made a world of difference in my life and my care.

As your President I want to encourage you to come participate and join us in our endeavors to find new veterans and participate in the organization that has giving us all so much. Contact the Chapter Office if interested in participating in the growth of the Arizona Chapter at 602-244-9168.

Thank you,

Leonard Hosea Smith Sr.
Arizona Chapter PVA President
Paralyzed Veterans of America Names Interim Executive Director

WASHINGTON, DC— 11/7/17 Paralyzed Veterans of America (Paralyzed Veterans) today announced that its President and Executive Committee have named Carl Blake the organization’s interim executive director. Paralyzed Veterans is the only veterans service organization that serves veterans living with spinal cord injury or disease, and Blake has led its government relations program since 2014.

Blake, a West Point grad and U. S. Army veteran, first became a member of Paralyzed Veterans in 2001, and has served as its associate executive director of government relations for the past three years.

“Carl Blake has shown unfailing dedication and commitment to the members of Paralyzed Veterans of America, all veterans and the greater disability community for more than a decade,” said National President David Zurfluh. “His leadership of our national advocacy and legislative efforts has given severely disabled veterans and their families new hope and opportunities for a better quality of life, families of their own and the benefits they’ve earned in service to our great country. We are confident he will continue to put the needs and concerns of our paralyzed veterans first, and do everything possible to improve the lives of our members and their families, as well as the lives of all veterans and disabled Americans.”

As head of the organization’s government relations department, Blake has been responsible for the planning, coordination, and implementation of its national legislative and advocacy program agendas with the United States Congress and federal departments and agencies. He has developed and executed Paralyzed Veterans’ Washington agenda in areas of budget, appropriations, health care, and veterans’ benefits issues, as well as disability civil rights. He has also spearheaded the consortium of veterans service organization partners who annually plan, author and publish The Independent Budget, a collaborative policy and budget recommendation publication that is presented each year to the United States Congress.

In this role, Blake has also represented Paralyzed Veterans to federal agencies, including the Department of Defense, Department of Labor, Small Business Administration, the Department of Transportation, Department of Justice, and the Office of Personnel Management. He has coordinated all activities with Paralyzed Veterans’ Association of Chapter Government Relations Directors, as well its Executive Committee, Board of Directors and senior leadership.

“I am honored and privileged to be asked to carry the responsibility of advancing the mission of Paralyzed Veterans of America,” said Blake. “As a Paralyzed Veterans’ member, I take seriously the organization’s commitment to the men and women who rely upon us to be their advocates. The leaders who have come before me have built this organization into a influential force in the veterans and disability communities, and I humbly intend to build on their legacy.”
The 2017 Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) Air Rifle/Air Pistol Circuit got a great boost with its 4th annual event held on Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, California on Tuesday and Wednesday, 3 and 4 October 2017. The Base consists of 125,000 acres of California Au Natural so it is a great location for the shoot. What a blessing for all of us.

We were fortunate to have Camp Pendleton’s Coach Phil Bryant and two of PVA’s Shooting Sports Directors, Andy MacDonald and Travis Greaves in charge of making sure that all things were conducted in a SAFE and orderly manner and they did an outstanding job. We were also blessed to have Ron Demo from Rollx to provide transportation for our out of town shooters, plus we had Cal-Diego’s special projects coordinator, John Plaza there on Tuesday to share the workload and to document the events in photography.

On a different note we had two visitors from the University of St. Augustine in San Marcos, Brian Inglis and Matt Lewis both students working on their Occupational Therapy Degree. They want to help create adaptive equipment for disabled shooters and got to talk first hand with their target audience.

The venue was set up in the 33 Area Gymnasium with ten electronic targets backed by 4 x 8 sheets of plywood to catch any errant pellets, and as you might expect there weren’t many of those. We had some really great shooters and a few not so great! The electronic targets make the shoot run a great deal smoother than an event with paper targets.

The course was set up as a standard Olympic/Paralympics 10 meter range. Each of the 10 shooting stations had an electronic target, a monitor (cathode ray tube) to relay to the shooter the value of the shot and where the target was struck and then compiled the shooters total score. The events were air rifle prone, air rifle standing (offhand) and air pistol, 20 shots in each event for a total of 60 shots.

Each shooter was classified according to their disability, SH1, SH2, SH3 or Open. SH1 for those that have lower extremity impairment, SH2 for those with upper extremity impairment, SH3 for those with a vision impairment (we did not have any SH3’s) and Open for those with impairment other than physical.

There were 11 total participants that practiced on Thursday and 11 that shot in competition of Friday. Wayne and Sandra Landon were there both days, but Wayne passed on shooting but Sandra shot on both days and appeared to have an enjoyable time.

For competition we had 6 Rifle SH1’s, 2 SH2, no SH3’s and 2 Open class shooters along with 7 SH1’s, 2 SH2’s and 2 Open class pistol shooters. Of those we had 6 PVA members; 5 from Cal-Diego, Paul Dugas, Doug Godfrey, Sandra Landon, David Wylie and Jim Russell, one from Arizona PVA, Les Craddock, plus five from the Camp Pendleton Warrior Battalion, Marcos DeLaRosa, John Flores, Jose Lopez, Bud McLeroy and Mike Rios.
We also had three service dogs, Lance Weir’s Augi, Wayne Landon’s Shilo and of course my Beau.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Rifle Prone</th>
<th>Rifle Stand</th>
<th>Rifle Total</th>
<th>Pistol</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Les Craddock</td>
<td>SH2</td>
<td>Arizona PVA</td>
<td>199.8</td>
<td>193.2</td>
<td>393.0</td>
<td>157.6</td>
<td>550.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marco DeLaRosa</td>
<td>SH1</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>190.0</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>190.0</td>
<td>185.6</td>
<td>375.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Flores</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>197.7</td>
<td>151.3</td>
<td>349.0</td>
<td>174.6</td>
<td>523.6</td>
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<td>Paul Dugas</td>
<td>SH1</td>
<td>Cal-Diego</td>
<td>171.2</td>
<td>178.3</td>
<td>349.5</td>
<td>129.2</td>
<td>478.7</td>
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<td>Doug Godfrey</td>
<td>SH1</td>
<td>Cal-Diego</td>
<td>194.4</td>
<td>135.7</td>
<td>330.1</td>
<td>151.6</td>
<td>481.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jose Lopez</td>
<td>SH1</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>184.0</td>
<td>121.1</td>
<td>305.1</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>305.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bud McLeroy</td>
<td>SH1</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>188.4</td>
<td>118.4</td>
<td>306.8</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>306.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mike Rios</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>197.9</td>
<td>167.4</td>
<td>365.3</td>
<td>172.8</td>
<td>538.1</td>
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<td>Jim Russell</td>
<td>SH1</td>
<td>Cal-Diego</td>
<td>87.3</td>
<td>82.8</td>
<td>170.1</td>
<td>74.4</td>
<td>244.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dave Wylie</td>
<td>SH2</td>
<td>Cal-Diego</td>
<td>201.8</td>
<td>198.8</td>
<td>400.6</td>
<td>67.6</td>
<td>468.2</td>
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Did you know about Arizona’s Good Samaritan Law?

Arizona has a Good Samaritan law which is contained in Arizona Revised Statutes §32-1471. The law provides that any person who renders aid at the scene of an emergency is not liable for any damages as a result of an act or omission so long as the care was provided:

- In good faith
- For no money or other consideration
- The person was not grossly negligent. If these conditions are met there will be no liability for any problems that arise

If you are able to provide help without putting your self at risk why wouldn’t you help?

Merry Christmas!
Benefits for Veterans with Rating of 100% Permanent and Total Rating

1. In addition to a monthly tax-free monetary compensation from the VA, the following benefits are as follows:

2. You will no longer be scheduled by the VA for future exams to evaluate your condition.

3. You are eligible for dental treatment from VA. You may apply at the VA Medical Center nearest you at the eligibility office.

4. Your spouse and dependent children are eligible for Dependents Education Assistance commonly referred to as Chapter 35 benefits. This is a monthly stipend to help defray the costs of college or training. Please contact our office for these application forms. Generally, Dependents Educational Assistance is available for 10 years (from the date you were found to be permanent and totally disabled) for your spouse and from age 18 to 26 for dependent children.

5. You now need to have your eligibility for medical care at the VA Medical Center updated to reflect your new evaluation. Please go to the eligibility office at the VA Medical Center nearest you and present your new rating decision.

6. You are now eligible for free car registration for one vehicle with the State of Arizona. You will have to pay the tax, however. The month that your car tags are due, please contact the VA at 800-827-1000 and ask for a “Summary of Benefits” letter. Once you have that letter, take it to Department of Motor Vehicles for processing (this letter is needed to show that you owe only the tax on the car). You are required to pay for the emission tests when due.

Michael Wilson, Sr.
National Service Officer
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- Can virtually eliminate episodes of incontinence
- Non-irritating formula. No afterburn.
- Simple administration by caregiver or patient
- Enemeez® Plus contains 20mg of benzocaine, assisting in the anesthetization of the rectum

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For your free sample and product brochure, call (888) 273-9734 or visit us at www.enemeez.com
Arizona Chapter Paralyzed Veterans of America Team Spotlight

Tucson has witnessed an explosion in the popularity of wheelchair sports after Rio 2016 Paralympics. The fast paced sport of wheelchair basketball is leading the way.

Tucson Lobos is southern Arizona's community basketball program. We offer recreational play and a competitive Division 3 team sanctioned by the National Wheelchair Basketball Association. The Tucson Lobos was started in 2003 by members of the Arizona Chapter Paralyzed Veterans of America with just a hand full of players. Over the years the Lobos have recruited new players from the community. In 2016 the Lobos tripled in size with twenty players ages 18 - 72 years old on the roster. Part of the growth can be attributed to the popularity and visibility of wheelchair sports in general. The majority of the Lobos growth spurt came about through the efforts of the team members themselves to grow the program. Team members actively recruit at prosthetic centers like Hanger Clinic, at rehabilitation centers including St. Mary’s Hospital, HealthSouth Institute, and through grass-roots, on-the-street recruiting at bus stops, restaurants, and chance encounters. Newcomers are welcome.
Wheels Helping Warriors will accept your vehicle, regardless of its condition!
MEMBERSHIP REPORT from The Arizona Chapter

The Arizona Chapter voting membership stands at 469 as of 15, December 2017.

National and AZPVA records show our voting membership as of

252- Service Connected  217- Non-Service Connected

The Arizona Chapter encourages each of our members to contact the Chapter and let us know how you are doing, and if we can help you in any way. If you know of any of our members who have passed away, or if you have an address/phone change, please contact the Chapter as soon as possible. Also, if you would like to receive the Desert Oracle Newsletter by email, please call or email the office with your email address.

Do you know a veteran with spinal cord dysfunction who isn’t a member of the AZPVA?
Each Referral is eligible for a 50 dollar gift card after verification of Application

Let us know at the Chapter office by calling

602-244-9168 or 1-800-621-9217
email: azpva@azpva.org
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

North Central Shooting Sports Tournament
Sept. 8-10, 2017
Sioux Falls, SD

Keystone Shooting Sports Tournament
Sept. 22-24, 2017
Clairton, PA

Armed Forces Open
Jan. 21-22, 2018
San Antonio, TX

Paralyzed Veterans of America Open
Aug. 23-24, 2017
Pensacola, FL

Paralyzed Veterans of America Open
Oct. 4-6, 2017
Cedar Rapids, IA

PARALYZED VETERANS BASS TOUR

MidAmerica Bass Tournament
Sept. 22-24, 2017
Eufaula, OK

Lone Star Bass Tournament
Sept. 29—Oct. 1, 2017
Garland, TX

Southeastern Bass Tournament
Evans, GA

Paralyzed Veterans of America Bass Tournament
Oct. 27-29, 2017
Mt. Vernon, IL

Florida Gulf Coast Bass Tournament
April 6-8, 2018
Kissimmee, FL

KY-IN Bass Tournament
May 4-6, 2018
Kuttawa, KY

National Bass Tournament
June 1-3, 2018
Marbury, MD

Mid-Atlantic Bass Tournament
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

ANNUAL PARALYZED VETERANS/AWBA BOWLING TOURNAMENT SERIES

Great Plains Bowling Tournament
July 6-9, 2017
Council Bluffs, IA

Mountain States Bowling Tournament
Aug. 24-27, 2017
Colorado Springs, CO

Mid-Atlantic Bowling Tournament
Sept. 22-24, 2017
Glen Allen, VA

Nevada Bowling Tournament
Nov. 30—December 3, 2017
Las Vegas, NV

Florida Gulf Coast Bowling Tournament
Feb. 23-25, 2018
Tampa, FL

Vaugan Bowling Tournament
May 3-6, 2018
Romeoville, IL

Mid-America Bowling Tournament
July 6-9, 2017
Shawnee, OK

Boccia

Nevada Bocce Tournament
Jan. 26-27, 2018
Las Vegas, NV

Cal-Diego Bocce Tournament
Feb. 22-23, 2018
San Diego, CA

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

Merry Christmas!