



# THE PARASCOPE

THE BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE KEYSTONE CHAPTER OF THE  
PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA

VOLUME XIX, ISSUE 6

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2021

## Winners named in PVA Poster & Poem Contest

Seven students were recognized for their entries in the 2021-22 school year Poster and Poem Contest for their depiction of this year's theme, "Honor the Spot," in words and in pictures.

The judges concluded that three students from two different schools would share the top prize in the 7th-8th grade poem division: Riley Brown of Charleroi Middle School in Charleroi, Pa., and Ian Potts and Nevarah Hollins in the Brookline PreK-8 School in the Pittsburgh Public Schools. In the 5th-6th grade poem division, 5th grader Mason French of

*Continued on page 2*

Keystone PVA National Director and Treasurer **Bill Jakovac** presented plaques to fourth-grader **Brooke Yates** (left) and fifth-grader **Mason French** (right) of the Franklin Elementary School of the Uniontown Area School District in Vanderbilt, Fayette County, Pa. for their poster and poem entries, respectively.



**Sally A. Ebert**, the spinal cord injury coordinator at the Erie VA Medical Center, was presented with the Frank Steck SCI Coordinator Award from Keystone PVA by Board Member **Sean Ferry**. In the photo (left to right) are Erie VAMC Director **John Gennaro**; Keystone PVA member and VAWS Representative **John Larese**; Sally Ebert; Sean Ferry; **Lynette Ferry**, Erie VAMC Chief of Staff **Borys Losa**; and Erie VAMC Supervisor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation **Joseph Pryzbycien**.

Next Membership Meeting will be by *videoconference* on Saturday, 12 February 2022. See back page

## Paralyzed Veterans of America, Keystone Chapter

### President

Mark O. Rosensteel

### Vice President

Bill Lightner

### Secretary

Dane R. Smith

### Treasurer

William D. Jakovac

### Directors

Joseph A. Dunn

Sean M. Ferry

Chris Fidler

David B. Gifford

Tom Strang

### Advocacy Director

To be named

### Fundraising Coordinator

Bill Jakovac

### Hospital Liaison Coordinator

Chris Fidler

### Legislative Director

Chris Fidler

### Membership Officer

Tom Strang

### Outreach Coordinator

To be named

### Service Officer

To be named

### Sports Director

Dane R. Smith

### Volunteer Coordinator

Agnes Strang

### National Director

William D. Jakovac

### Executive Director

Joseph W. Dornbrock

### National Service Officers

[See page 10]

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Pittsburgh PA 15222

Phone 412-395-6255

Toll free 800-795-3629

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Joseph Weeks, NSO

Violet A. Graham,

Accredited Administrator

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Phone 215-381-3057

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# Poster & Poem Contest

Continued from page 1

the Franklin Elementary School in the Uniontown Area School District took the top honor. The winners of the 3rd-4th grade poster division were classmates, fourth-graders Molly Marcinek and Brooke Yates, also in the Franklin Elementary School. The winning entry in the 1st-2nd grade poster division was Lillianne Amber of the Hatfield Elementary School of the Uniontown Area School District.

Teachers who helped these students enter the 2021-22 Poster and Poem Contest were Beth Geary at the Franklin Elementary School; Jessica Kodric at Hatfield Elementary; Kari Gajewski at Pittsburgh Brookline PreK-8, and Tiffeni Furman at Charleroi Middle School.

Due to the pandemic, only two schools' winners were presented their plaques and gift cards in person; the others were shipped to the respective schools.



Fourth-grader **Molly Marcinek** of Franklin Elementary School

*Winning entries in the Contest will be shown in the next Parascope and on line at [kpva.org](http://kpva.org).*

## Veterans Day Parade in Pittsburgh, Pa.

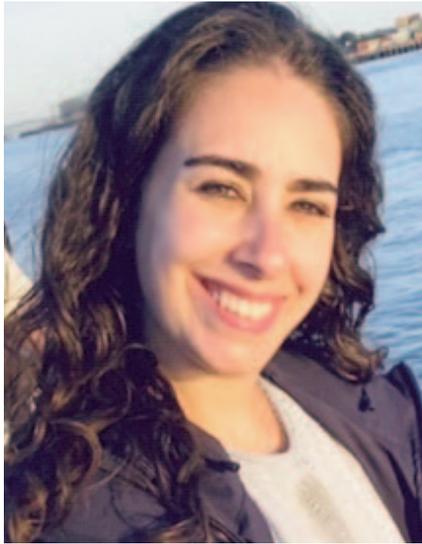


The Pittsburgh Veterans Day Parade was actually held on Veterans Day 2021. Rolling just behind the banner were President **Mark Rosensteel**, **John Kellner**, and **David Gifford**. Driving their vehicles were volunteer **Greg Farrell** and members **Dane Smith** and **Bill Jakovac**. Walking the banner were staff member **Marisa Markowitz** and associate member **Dwaine Crytzer**.

## Chapter office has two new employees

Keystone PVA Executive Director Joe Dornbrock re-staffed the chapter office in August 2021 with full-time employee Marisa Markowitz and contract worker Nancy Campbell, who is in the office two days a week.

Marisa was born and raised in Massachusetts and has a bachelors degree in criminal justice. Before moving to Pittsburgh, she was apart of the security team at the John Hancock Tower, which is the tallest skyscraper in New England. Marisa has also spent many years volunteering at the spinal cord injury unit in the Brockton, Mass. VA Medical Center. She is committed to supporting the needs of veterans. “The fond memories I had spending many hours with the paralyzed veteran residents at the Brockton VA will always hold a special place in my heart,” she said.



**Marisa Markowitz**



**Nancy Campbell**

Marisa’s duties include supporting membership and assisting with chapter events and programs.

Nancy Campbell has worked for some of the most recognizable names in the Pittsburgh region: Mellon Bank, General Electric, and Envirotech, to name three. She holds degrees from Carlow College in history, from the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary in the Old Testament, and from Point Park College in accounting. It’s the last degree she puts to work for Keystone PVA as our staff accountant. She also handles money-related chapter matters, such as tracking and thanking our donors.

## Veterans Day Parade in Erie, Pa.

Keystone PVA members **Sean** and **Lynnette Ferry** (top photo) and **John Larese** (bottom photo) rode in an early Veterans Day Parade in Erie, Pa., on 06 November 2021.



# Sports & Recreation . . . . . Dane Smith, Sports Director

## National Veterans Wheelchair Games

Last call! If you plan to go to the National Veterans Wheelchair Games in Tempe, Arizona this July, and if you want financial support from the Keystone chapter to pay for your lodging and transportation, you need to get that sponsorship form on the next two pages filled out and in to the office by 31 December. Late applications will NOT be accepted!

Those wheelchair athletes who plan to go to Tempe REALLY NEED TO GET ON THE MONTHLY COACHES CALLS! Every third Wednesday at 2 p.m. Eastern Time, the VA and the PVA national offices hold an informational call, by video and by phone, that lasts between 40 minutes and an hour. The call

on 15 December was loaded with good information about everything from the entry deadlines to the events that will be held. Do not count on someone else knowing everything about the Games. Get the information you need first-hand.

## Other sports events in 2022

Most sports events in the coming year will be outside, reducing but not eliminating the need for virus mitigation measures. We are looking forward to the Buckeye Games, at least one Bass Tournament, and a possible multi-chapter hunting event; planning for that is underway. Your first step to being ready to participate in these activities is to get the health care you need, so don't miss any health care appointments and keep active!

# Hunting and Fishing Events . . . . . Tom Strang, Associate Sports Director

**Hunts at the WCJ Ranch** for deer and turkey for disabled hunters are available in Crawford County area 1B, northwest Pennsylvania, at the WCJ Ranch, 20397 North Richmond Road, Cambridge Springs, Pa. 16403-6834. The ranch features wheelchair stands. Please call Shawn Schmitz in advance for an appointment, 814-720-3500.

**Hunting with the Wounded Warriors of Western Pennsylvania** (WWWPa). Deer hunting for disabled hunters in Washington County (Pa.) Area 2B is sponsored by the WWWPa. Scott Gregory, president of WWWPa, invites disabled veterans to hunt deer, turkey, pheasant, and coyote. The WWWPa also sponsors an early antlerless deer hunt in October. For more information go to [wpawoundedwarrior.org](http://wpawoundedwarrior.org). (Editor's note: WWWPa is not affiliated with the Wounded Warriors Project.)

**Fishing with Healing Waters** – Attend rod building and fly tying classes, and participate in fishing outings. For information contact Amanda Thompson, 412-877-7864.

**Bow and Crossbow Big Game Hunts for** disabled hunters Join the Physically Challenged Bowhunters of America, Inc; many sponsored hunts are listed in its newsletter. To join, go online at [www.pcba-inc.org](http://www.pcba-inc.org).

**Wyoming Disabled Hunters** offers elk and deer hunts near Cody, Wyoming To apply, call 304-899-0790 or go to [www.wyomingdisabledhunters.org](http://www.wyomingdisabledhunters.org).

*For fishing and hunting in Pennsylvania, a valid Pennsylvania hunting or fishing license is required. Life members should keep their hunting or fishing license and/or hunting licenses receipts so Keystone PVA can reimburse them.*

Members who hunt, fish or engage in other interesting outdoor activities: Photos of you and your catch or you in action are welcome in digital format with a complete description: who what, why, where, when and how. Sorry, we won't accept low-quality photos or referrals to other web sites or services. Send us an e-mail with a good, attached photo.

## You can bowl near home

The new bowling year is underway, but you can still participate. If you have nearby bowling lanes and you can get there, you can bowl! The chapter's bowlers all go to nearby bowling emporiums, roll up to three games a week, and send their receipts to the chapter monthly to get reimbursed. Call Bill Jakovac, 412-916-9261, or Mark Rosensteel, 724-875-1086, to learn more about getting started.

2020-21 season Keystone PVA bowling scores						
<small>Reported as of November 2021. Bowling year: 01 Oct – 30 Sep</small>	High Game	High Series	High Average	Strikes	Games	Average
Sean Ferry	199	475	158	24	15	149
John Kellner	174	426	142	54	47	125
Mark Rosensteel	180	500	166	13	6	164

# CHAPTER SPONSORSHIP FORM

## 2022 National Veterans Wheelchair Games Tempe, Arizona 07 - 12 July 2022



(This is page 1 of the sponsorship form. There are two pages.)

The only purpose of this two-page form is to request financial support for transportation to and from the site of the Games and for lodging there.

To apply to participate in the Games, each athlete must download the National Veterans Wheelchair Games application, which will be available after 01 January 2022 from [www.wheelchairgames.org/registration](http://www.wheelchairgames.org/registration). The athlete is responsible for completing the application and following its instructions.

The deadline for National PVA to receive your application is expected to be on or around 15 April 2022.

All members, life and associate, planning to attend the 2022 National Veterans Wheelchair Games in Tempe, Arizona and who want the chapter to pay for transportation and lodging must submit **both pages of this chapter sponsorship form** to Keystone PVA, 1113 Main Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15215.

**ALL SPONSORSHIP FORMS MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN 31 DECEMBER 2021. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS.**

- Due to the inability of our members to earn Health and Recreation Points during the pandemic, these “points” will not be required for sponsorship eligibility in 2022.
- *Circumstances, including holding the NVWG, may change with little notice. See box at the bottom of the page.*
- Keystone PVA funding is limited, so the amount of chapter funding for each participant will depend on the total number of applicants and limits set on costs by the Board of Directors.
- Applicants for sponsorship will be notified of the decision of the Board of approval or denial after its January 2022 meeting. Travel and lodging arrangements will be made with each athlete by Keystone PVA following approval.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE of BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

ATTENDANT'S NAME (if needed) \_\_\_\_\_ DATE of BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check here  if you want us to make reservations for your hotel room.

Please read the statements on the second page of this form. Only ONE of the statements will apply to you (“Life Member” or “Associate Member.”) Print your name on the line immediately below the section that applies to you, and sign and date on next lines. Your signature at the end of the appropriate statement constitutes your agreement.

Leading to the Games each year, the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs has conducted monthly informational “Coaches Calls” that are open to coaches AND wheelchair athletes. Anticipating that these “calls” will be held in 2022, Keystone PVA will endeavor to notify and remind wheelchair athletes associated with this chapter of these calls. Keystone PVA STRONGLY RECOMMENDS that athletes participate in these hour-long calls, which may be audio or audio/video and which will provide the opportunity to have questions asked and answered. Learn about the Games directly by participating in the Coaches Calls.

# CHAPTER SPONSORSHIP FORM

(This is page 2 of the sponsorship form for the 2022 NVWG. There are two pages.)

## Associate Member

I, \_\_\_\_\_ certify that I am an "Associate Member" in good standing of the Keystone Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America (a.k.a. Keystone PVA) who expects to meet all conditions set by the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs and of Keystone PVA to participate in the National Veterans Wheelchair Games (a.k.a. NVWG) in Tempe, Arizona, 07 through 12 July 2022.

I understand that because I am not paralyzed per the definitions accepted by the Paralyzed Veterans of America, Inc. (a.k.a. PVA), the Keystone PVA will not pay for my participation in the NVWG, and that I am obliged to repay Keystone PVA for any expenses for transportation or lodging that it makes on my behalf (for the purpose of obtaining any available discounted costs). I will make full repayment within six months of the conclusion of the NVWG.

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Life (full voting) Member

I, \_\_\_\_\_ certify that I am a "Life Member" in good standing of the Keystone Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America (a.k.a. Keystone PVA) who expects to meet all conditions set by the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs and of Keystone PVA to participate in the National Veterans Wheelchair Games (a.k.a. NVWG) in Tempe, Arizona, 07 through 12 July 2022.

I understand that in participating in the NVWG, Keystone PVA will pay for lodging and transportation as follows: **LODGING:** no more than seven nights of single-room lodging per Life Member. Lodging expenses are limited to the room rental rate, directly associated taxes and fees, and any portage fee that may be imposed by the hotel. **TRANSPORTATION:** Chapter will reimburse each Life Member at a per-mile rate *to be determined by the Board of Directors* for direct, round-trip ground transportation from the Life Member's home to the airport from which the member is departing to attend the Games; parking at the airport capped at the reduced rate offered for adapted vehicles; and will pay for up to two round-trip air fares at the most economic available rates from the airport providing appropriate service nearest the member's home to Sky Harbor International Airport, Phoenix, Arizona. Member is responsible for arranging for transportation from Sky Harbor airport to lodging in Tempe, Arizona.

Keystone PVA is under no obligation to pay for any other expenses unless specifically permitted in advance of the NVWG by the Board of Directors. Should I become unable to participate in the NVWG because of circumstances demonstrably beyond my control (e.g., illness), I agree to notify Keystone PVA as soon as I know. Should I not notify Keystone PVA in a timely manner and Keystone PVA incurs expenses on my behalf, I will repay Keystone PVA for those expenses except when those circumstances arise within 48 hours of the start of the Games.

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Connect With What Matters



## Being there makes a difference

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MobilityWorks considers it a privilege to help our nation's veterans. Every day we work with local VISNs and service organizations to make the process of securing accessible vehicles, lifts and driving equipment for veterans as easy as possible.

MobilityWorks has more than 65 locations across the country with the largest selection of accessible vehicles and adaptive solutions:

- Converted minivans, full-size vans, SUVs and trucks — Chrysler, Dodge, Ford, Honda and Toyota
- Pre-owned accessible vehicles
- The latest in adaptive technology including transfer and turning seats, scooter lifts and hand controls
- Complete maintenance and service on adaptive driving equipment, lifts and conversions
- Daily, weekly and long term rental vans
- Financing options to fit your personal needs
- 24-hour roadside assistance with wheelchair transportation

MobilityWorks is committed to serving you. Contact us today so we can evaluate your needs and find a solution that best fits your lifestyle.



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Monroeville, PA 15146  
412-824-8220  
www.mobilityworks.com

  
**mobilityworks**  
be there

# Happy Birthdays!

If we missed your birthday, let us know!

## January

- 04 Keith W. Gilcrist Sr.  
Terrisa Hohn
- 05 John Fisher
- 07 William Driscoll  
John Lightner  
James Moore
- 08 Christopher Fidler Sr.  
Timothy Smiley
- 09 Edward Fink  
Daryl Lee
- 13 Raymond Lookhart
- 14 Edith Bernstein
- 17 Don Bartholomew  
Joseph Kostich  
Jennifer Strang
- 18 Patrick Nicklow
- 19 Dan McDonough
- 20 Dennis L. Fernandes  
Dennis Wilcox
- 21 Tom W. Strang
- 23 Richard Breneman  
Daniel J. Dougherty
- 24 Stephen F. Zimmerman
- 28 John P. Feltoovich
- 29 Shirley Wheaton
- 30 Matthew Fritz



Give us a ring at the  
chapter office,  
800-775-9323,  
if you spot an error.

Many happy wishes  
to all our members,  
associates,  
and volunteers!

## February

- 02 Laurence Q. Pates
- 07 Marvin Vought
- 08 Frank Lowe  
Rexford Nichols  
Lawrence Smith
- 09 Mary Amaditz
- 10 Linda Berty
- 11 Kenneth S. Anderson  
Michael Sims  
Richard Townsend

- 14 Jon M. Schnaars
- 16 Kurt Feathers
- 18 William J. Anderson, Jr.
- 20 Thomas A. Strang  
William W. Wheaton
- 22 Joseph G. Jenkins
- 27 Frank Kenesky
- 28 Donald Corson  
Suzanne M. Frye

## March

- 03 Gerald Jordan
- 04 Clifford Bateson
- 05 William Jackson
- 06 William N. Wall
- 09 Raymond Weigand
- 13 Gordon Geer  
Duane Woodley
- 14 Nevin Maurer
- 15 Henry W. Hillen Jr.
- 17 Stephen Bickle
- 18 James D. Simmons
- 20 Patrick Bush  
Norman Eicher
- 21 Bill Jakovac
- 24 Michael Crow  
Jeanne Keenan  
William Shingler
- 25 Diane Polensky  
Jeffrey Whitman
- 27 Gary Jenkins
- 29 Randall Moyer
- 31 John Berkavich

### PHOTO CREDITS

Page 1, top, and page 2, top: provided by Franklin Elementary School. Page 1, bottom, and three photos at the bottom of page 3: Erie VA Public Information Office. Page All other editorial photos by Keystone PVA staff.

## ADVERTISING in THE PARASCOPE

The Parascope is published bi-monthly. Deadline for submission of advertising is usually the 15th day of the month prior to the cover date, but because this issue has gone out later than usual, advertising for the issue for January-February will be due by 15

January. REGULAR MEMBERS of Keystone PVA qualify for up to a quarter-page advertisement free of charge.

Members' ads larger than a quarter-page will be half the price of the regular page.

DISPLAY ADVERTISING RATES:

SIZE OF AD	One issue	Three issues	Six issues
1/8 page	\$ 20.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 90.00
1/4 page	\$ 40.00	\$100.00	\$180.00
1/2 page	\$ 80.00	\$200.00	\$360.00
Full page	\$160.00	\$400.00	\$720.00

# Keystone Chapter Health and Recreation Points System

To be eligible for chapter sponsorship to the National Veterans Wheelchair Games and other recreational programs, a member may earn points by participating in these activities. Sponsorship by the chapter requires 12 points per EACH event.

☛ REQUIREMENT SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE ☚

Attendance at a Keystone PVA membership meeting	3 points
<i>NOTE: Earning these points required a member to attend a Membership Meeting "in person" at one of the meeting sites designated. Attending by phone did not count until attendance by teleconference phone became necessary due to restrictions forced by the COVID-19 pandemic. So until further notice, and though opportunities to use the points are also limited by the pandemic, calling in from home or other non-designated meeting location will earn three points per meeting for a member.</i>	
Attendance at a Keystone PVA membership activity, e.g., Easter Bag distribution, Fish for Fun, Kennywood Picnic, Annual Awards Banquet	2 points
Return SCI Survey following Annual SCI Appointment	2 points
Volunteer at a V.A. Hospital (4 hours or more)	2 points
Volunteer for Keystone PVA (4 hours or more)	2 points
Work out at V.A. or Rehab center with coach or therapist	1 point
Participate in a Keystone PVA sponsored sports or recreational activity, e.g., bowling, fishing, hunting, trapshoot, etc.	1 point
Sign up a regular voting member	2 points
Represent Keystone PVA at community functions, e.g., Sharing and Caring, Soldiers & Sailors, United Cerebral Palsy, Veteran Support Groups	2 points
Ride, walk or roll in a Veterans Day Parade	3 points

- ☛ Members are required to attend at least one Membership Meeting prior to attending a sponsored event.
- ☛ To receive credit for mileage, volunteer time & points, member MUST forward a Time Sheet—Volunteer Program Report (formerly titled the “Keystone PVA Volunteer Expense Voucher”) and an After Action Report to the chapter office by the close of business on the 7th day of the following month. If the office is closed on the 7th, expense vouchers are due by the close of business the next working day.
- ☛ All volunteers at the VA Medical Centers must complete volunteer training and receive a volunteer ID card. The volunteer hours MUST be in the name of PVA. Volunteer is responsible for forwarding the monthly VA Volunteer by Organization Report (VS26) to the chapter office by the end of the following month to receive travel expenses.

*More comprehensive information on chapter programs is in the chapter’s Operations Manual Section 8. A copy was sent to each member some time ago; parts of it have been updated, so if you need a copy, please call the office.*

## MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

Lifetime membership is **free** and there are **no dues required** for qualified **veterans** who apply to the Chapter for membership.

Our newsletter no longer includes a membership application, but online application can be made at the national PVA web site, **pva.org**. For help, call the office, 412-781-2474 or 800-775-9323.

Life membership in the PVA is available to any U.S. citizen who served on **active duty** in the Armed Forces of the United States and who sustained **spinal cord dysfunction** because of traumatic injury or disease. Separation from military service must have been under other than dishonorable conditions.

The Life Member receives all benefits according to the Bylaws of the Chapter of record and has equal voting rights with the other members. The Life Member is also entitled to attend Chapter meetings, hold office at the Chapter and National levels and receive PN Magazine, chapter publications and bulletins from the National Office. In order to hold office, however, the Life Member must receive certification from PVA’s National Secretary.

# Membership Report . . . . . Tom Strang, Membership Officer

Membership Meetings continue to be held via Zoom videoconferencing. It's not as great as meeting in person, but it allows members to see, not just hear one another. See the story about "Reopening" at the top of page 11.

The next meeting will be held on Saturday, 12 February 2022. As usual, the Zoom link will be e-mailed to all members who use e-mail. The Zoom link will go live at 12:30 p.m.

**We mourn the passing of member**  
**Kenneth A. Barkhurst**, Upper St. Clair, Pa., veteran of the U. S. Navy, on 11 October 2021

## MEMBERSHIP TOTALS as of 30 November 2021

Service connected	126
Non-service connected	<u>106</u>
TOTAL	232
Annual Associate Members	8
Lifetime Associate Members	<u>64</u>
TOTAL	72

## UNDELIVERABLES

*Does anyone know the whereabouts of these members? They may be dropped from the PVA membership roster if we can't find them. Please contact the Keystone PVA office if you are able to help.*

John H. Beitler, John H. Conrad, William Ferguson,  
Roberta Houston, William H. Johnson,  
Donald G. King, and Michael A. Offen

**NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICERS**  
for members in or around Pennsylvania:

Western Pennsylvania: Until further notice, contact  
**Charles Tocchi**, Syracuse, 315-425-4400

Eastern Pennsylvania: **Joseph Weeks**, Philadelphia,  
800-795-3628

Western New York: **Rachael Schneider**, Buffalo,  
800-795-3619

New Jersey: Newark, 800-795-3617

## MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS

- ☛ All receipts submitted for reimbursement must be dated within the Chapter's current fiscal year, 01 October–30 September.
  - ☛ The Chapter has an annual picnic at Kennywood Amusement Park and an Annual Awards Banquet.
  - ☛ Keystone PVA will reimburse voting members for their annual resident hunting license, with a limit of one (1) Antlerless Deer License annually. Member must send a copy of all licenses and a receipt to obtain reimbursement. The cost of a resident fishing license will be reimbursed. Members may also be reimbursed for their membership dues for sports club memberships.
  - ☛ **Social Activity Reimbursement:** Keystone PVA will reimburse voting members\* up to \$100.00 one time during a fiscal year for the expenses of attending a social activity of these types:
    - Dinner at a sit-down restaurant • Movie theater, live theater, concert, or sporting performance • Museum, zoo, amusement park or cultural/historic attraction.
- Member must send request for reimbursement, with receipts, within 30 days of the event to the chapter office including a short description of the outing. If convenient, send a photo of the event, with a complete description, by e-mail to the office for its use in promotion of the chapter's programs.
- \*This benefit is intended for the use of life members who do not and will not participate in any other sponsored or reimbursed sports and recreation activities paid for by the chapter except for the Kennywood Park Picnic and Annual Awards Banquet. Should a member use this benefit and then claim reimbursement for another activity paid for by the chapter other than the picnic or dinner, the chapter may request repayment of the Social Activity Reimbursement.*
- ☛ The Chapter currently has a weekly bowling league available to members as a recreational activity and to practice for the National Veterans Wheelchair Games (NVWG). Scores are in the newsletter and awards will be presented at the Chapter annual banquet. The Chapter may also reimburse members for other activities offered at the NVWG such as trapshooting and archery.
  - ☛ Reimbursement for hunting, trapshooting and fishing programs that Keystone PVA supports or sponsors.
  - ☛ Members that accumulate 12 points or more by attending membership meetings, attending Chapter functions, volunteering at VA medical centers, etc., qualify to participate in the Keystone PVA Sports and Recreation Program.
  - ☛ All program expenses must be approved by the Keystone PVA Board of Directors.

## Take a wild guess where this Red Box sits



Of course it's on Pa. Route 31, just a mile east of the Donegal interchange on the Pennsylvania Turnpike on the way to the pictured Seven Springs, or Hidden Valley if you don't take the "next right." Donate at this or the other red boxes, or call 412-469-9663 for pickup, especially if you have large items and/or a lot to donate.

This second-hand goods donation program is based, organized and operated only in Pennsylvania, and benefits only the programs of the Keystone Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America.

The American Thrift Center and owner/operator Jim Zeik have been partners in supporting the Keystone Paralyzed Veterans since the 1990s. With donation boxes all over southwestern Pennsylvania and with a pickup service, you can get additional life and usefulness from your gently-used household goods. Thank you for donating!

## Reopening in 2022: Current thinking

In unofficial but more-or-less unanimous discussions, Keystone PVA leadership is making plans to open up meetings and events in 2022 to people who are fully vaccinated against the COVID-19 coronavirus.

Reaction to the virus from the start has almost always been too optimistic. Keystone PVA leadership is being very cautious, but intends to set a "reopening" date for Board meetings at its January meeting. Since April 2020, Board meetings have been conducted remotely, first by conference phone and now by Zoom video. Even when the chapter office opens to in-person Board meetings, Zoom video will be employed for the convenience of Board members who live significant distances, some up to 250 miles, from the office.

Membership Meetings will be another matter. The host sites for some of the meetings have been at VA medical centers, which had been connected with one another by conference phone. They are currently closed and any reopening plans are unknown. But the chapter office may open for limited (i.e., uncrowded) Membership Meeting attendance.

### A Tub With A Door Inc

Affordable walk-in tubs & wheelchair accessible showers

10% savings from the HISA grant will be used at the veterans discretion

Visit us at  
[www.tubwithadoor.com](http://www.tubwithadoor.com)  
for more details

**570 872 2648**

### AMERICAN THRIFT CENTER

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West Mifflin, PA 15122**

**412-469-9665 or 412-469-9663**

The American Thrift Center has been a professional fundraiser for Keystone Paralyzed Veterans since 1990. Keystone PVA members are cordially invited to visit our store.

Life members: Present your PVA membership card and receive a 50% discount on all purchases.

**Also, by donating items to the American Thrift Center  
you are supporting our paralyzed veterans!**



## Keystone Chapter

1113 Main Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15215-2407

Phone 412-781-2474 or 800-775-9323

Fax 412-781-2659

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

[keystoneparavets@gmail.com](mailto:keystoneparavets@gmail.com)

## VA MEDICAL CENTERS

*VAVS representatives serve veterans at these  
VA medical centers:*

### **James E. Van Zandt VAMC**

2907 Pleasant Valley Boulevard

Altoona, PA 16602-4377

877-626-2500

Bill Lightner—VAVS Representative

Kurt Feathers—Deputy Rep.

### **Abie Abraham VA Healthcare System**

353 N. Duffy Road

Butler, PA 16001

800-362-8262

John Kellner—VAVS Reps

### **Erie VAMC**

135 E. 38th Street

Erie, PA 16504-1559

800-274-8387

John Larese—VAVS Representative

Rex Nichols—Deputy Rep.

### **Lebanon VAMC**

1700 S. Lincoln Avenue

Lebanon, PA 17042-7529

800-409-8771

Chris Fidler—VAVS Representative

Ken Walters—Deputy Rep.

### **VA Pgh. Healthcare System University Drive campus**

University Drive C

Pittsburgh, PA 15240

800-309-8398

### **H. John Heinz III campus**

1010 Delafield Road

Pittsburgh, PA 15215-1802

800-309-8398

*For both campuses:*

Tom Strang—VAVS Representative



## **The next Keystone PVA MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**will be on Saturday, 12 FEBRUARY 2022**  
via Zoom videoconference.

Please connect just before 12:45 p.m.,  
when the meeting will be called to order.

*No primary meeting site!*

*President Mark Rosensteel will preside.*

*No advance registration needed.*

## **The mission of Keystone Paralyzed Veterans of America is**

to improve the quality of life of paralyzed veterans by

- Encouraging and supporting spinal cord injury and disease research;
- Improving access to health care and other veterans' benefits;
- Assisting in the expansion of opportunities in wheelchair sports and recreation; and
- Advocating for the rights of disabled people, including the reduction and elimination of barriers to accessibility and mobility.

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