



Keystone Chapter

THE PARASCOPE

THE BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE KEYSTONE CHAPTER
OF THE PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA
VOLUME XXI, ISSUE 4
JULY-AUGUST 2023

Bass competition holds Spring event; more to come

The catch was bigger and better than last year's competitions as teams of bass anglers took to the Monongahela River in West Brownsville, Pa., on 11 June for the Spring 2023 edition of the Team Bass Tournament sponsored by Keystone PVA and the Outcast Bass Club.

The biggest bass, at 3.59 lbs., was pulled in by Outcast Fishing Club President Larry Freeman. The second biggest bass weighed 3.01 lbs. and was caught by boat captain Bill Kronander.

Overall results, with the weight of the catch, the boat captain's name, the disabled angler's name, and the total prize money for the team:

First place, 11.65 lbs: Bill Kronander and Mark Rosensteel, \$550.
Second, 9.69 lbs: Larry Freeman and Rob Morris, \$350.
Third: 8.42 lbs: Ed Strawn, Jordan Jones, \$200.
Fourth, 7.1 lbs: Luke Pecjak and Tom Strang, \$150.
Fifth, 6.87 lbs: Pete Evanovich and Frank Steck, \$100.
Sixth, 6.59 lbs: Steve Shawley and David Gifford, \$50.
Seventh, 6.05 lbs: John Vaneta and Domenic Dorazio, \$50.
Eighth, 5.24 lbs: Zach Koratich and Jim Moore, \$50.
Ninth, 3.85 lbs: Phillip Richardson and John Kellner (no payout)

Continued on page 4



On the Monongahela River in June: Keystone PVA member **David Gifford** and boat captain **Steve Shawley**.

Thomas M. Landish, 1947-2022



From the 2018 Bass Tournament, left to right: **Agnes Strang, Tom Landish, Tom Strang, and Larry Freeman.**

Tom Landish, an avid angler and frequent boat captain for the Keystone PVA/Outcast Bass Club Team Bass Tournament, died on 18 December 2022 in Washington, Pa. Tom's support of the tournament led him to create a fund at the Pittsburgh Foundation that annually provides a grant to support many of the tournament's expenses. Tom's participation in the event and commitment to it have ensured the continuation of this long-time chapter recreation program.

The next Membership Meeting will be on Saturday, 14 October 2023! Details on back page

Paralyzed Veterans
of America,
Keystone Chapter
Chapter founded 1960

President

Mark O. Rosensteel

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Secretary

Dane R. Smith

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David B. Gifford

Tom Strang

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To be named

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Chris Fidler

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Tom Strang

MS Committee Representative

Peter K. Townsend Jr.

Service Officer

To be named

Sports Director

Dane R. Smith

Volunteer Coordinator

Agnes Strang

National Director

William D. Jakovac

National Service Officers

See page 7

Executive Director

Joseph W. Dornbrock

Bookkeeper

Nancy F. Campbell

Annual independent audit
conducted by
Kimberly Y. Donovan, CPA

Make your plans now!

Major chapter member events have been confirmed for later in 2023.

The **Summer Team Bass Tournament**, the chapter's second bass tournament of the year, will be held on **Saturday, 09 September**. **SEE PAGE 7** for details.

The **Annual Awards Banquet** has been confirmed for **Thursday, 05 October** at the Hampton Event Center on Route 8 in Richland Township in Allegheny County, a half mile north of the Butler Valley Interchange of the Pennsylvania Turnpike. No major changes in the format, except to ascertain the location and again, it will be in-person. Banquet Chairman Sean Ferry has announced that the Erie VA Medical Center will put its Mobile Service Center on display an hour before the doors open for the banquet registration. **SEE PAGE 9** for details.

Veterans Day Parades will be on **Saturday, 11 November 2023** in Pittsburgh and Erie, Pa. Both parades will include at least one decorated minivan with members rolling and walking in front. The gathering times are 8:30 a.m. for Erie and 9:30 a.m. for Pittsburgh. Want to join these parades? Please do! Contact the office for Pittsburgh, 412-781-2474, and Sean Ferry for Erie, 814-490-0474.

Consider the Compassionate Contact Corps

Volunteer from home!

The Veterans Health Administration has established the "Compassionate Contact Corps," an outreach program in which volunteers reach out by telephone to veterans to provide conversation, companionship, support, and another link for the veteran to the health care to which he or she is entitled.

The program is in operation at two VA hospitals in Pennsylvania that we are aware of: VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System, 412-822-3084, and at the Wilkes-Barre VA Medical Center, 570-824-3521, ext. 27448.

This program gives a volunteer the opportunity to serve from home. There are no medical or home care duties associated with it, and generally asks for service one or two times a week for 15 to 60 minutes each time.

Keystone PVA will ask that, like all volunteering, that the program participant reports the hours spent so that we can keep track of this service.

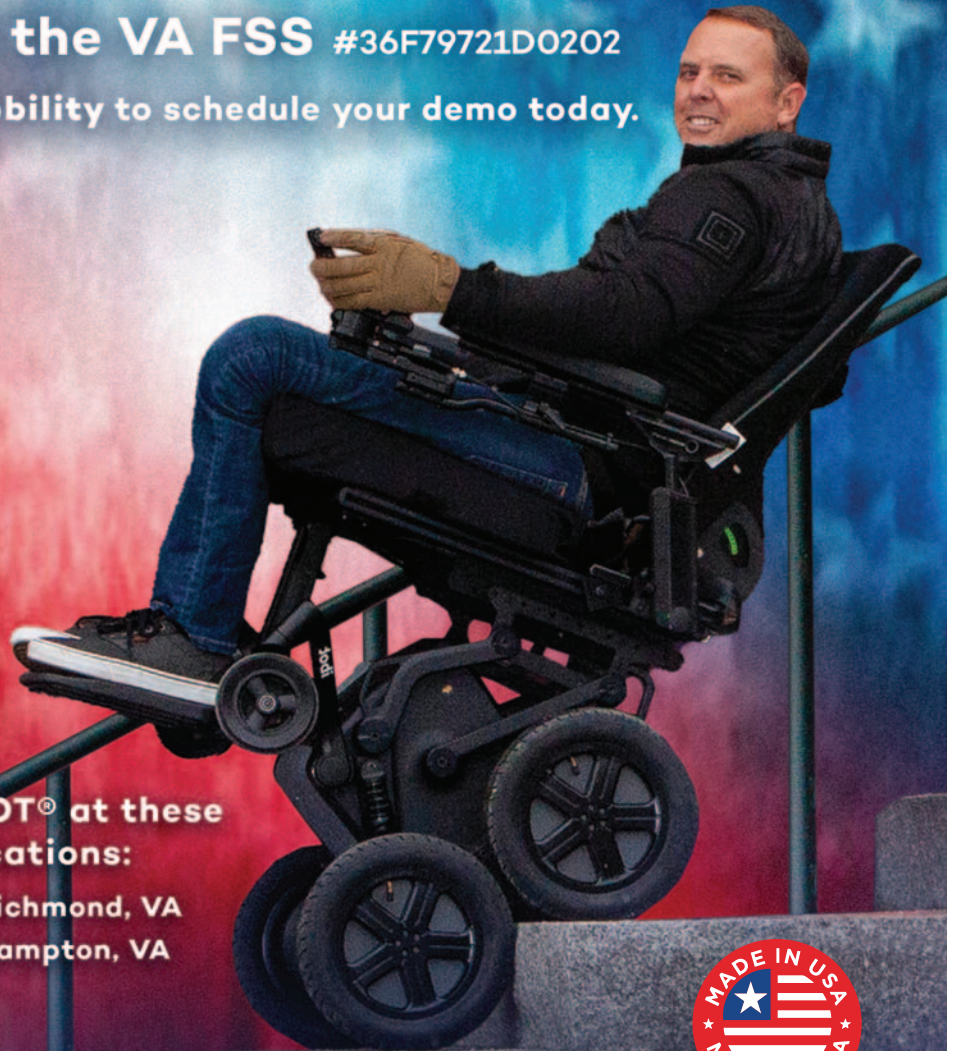
The VA Voluntary Services offices at each VA medical center has other volunteer opportunities, most of them in-hospital, that anyone may also wish to consider. Keystone PVA has many volunteers, members and nonmembers, who serve at their local VA medical centers and get credit for the hours they put in. We have volunteers who have been credited with thousands of hours over the years, and many who have put in fewer. All are of value to our fellow veterans.

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Sports and Recreation Report Dane Smith, Sports Director

Fishing and hunting reports are by Tom Strang, Associate Sports Director. The bowling results are from Bill Jakovac. Dane and Mark Rosensteel coordinate the chapter's participation in the National Veterans Wheelchair Games. Mark also reports on shooting sports. David Gifford submits information on handcycling.

More bass fishing to come *Cont'd from page 1*

The tournament was organized by Larry Freeman for the Outcast Bass Club and Agnes and Tom Strang for Keystone PVA. The organizers thank American Legion Post 980 in West Brownsville for the use of its boat ramp and pavilion, and to the Tom Landish Fund at the Pittsburgh Foundation, which provides an annual grant for the Bass Tournaments. that covered all of the out-of-pocket costs.

The Team Bass Tournament will be held again on Saturday, 09 September 2023. Registration forms will be sent out to recent past participants, but if you are unsure if you are on the mailing list, please contact the chapter office to have one sent directly to you.

Boat captain **Luke Pecjak** and Keystone PVA tournament co-organizer **Tom Strang** on the water. ▶



Life members can bowl anytime and the chapter will reimburse up to three games per week! Contact Mark Rosensteel (724-875-1086) or Bill Jakovac (412-916-9261) or the office for details.

2022-23 season Keystone PVA bowling scores

*Reported as of June 2023.
Bowling year: 01 Oct-30 Sep*

	High Game	High Series	High Average	Strikes	Games	Average
Sean Ferry	211	563	191	41	21	164
Bill Jakovac	119	99	99	1	3	99
John Kellner	222	508	169	348	233	142
Mark Rosensteel	179	478	161	21	15	147



Life member John Kellner (23rd from the left, or 20th from the right—yeah, we counted) participated in the Great Plains PVA Invitational Bowling Tournament held in Omaha in July.

Four chapter members participate in the Wheelchair Games in Portland

The Games were held in Portland, Oregon, 04 through 09 July 2023. Three chapter athletes—Sean Ferry of Erie, John Kellner of Ford City, and Mark Rosensteel of Apollo (all in Pennsylvania)—were sponsored by the chapter and participated in multiple events.

John Kellner reported that his softball team was knocked out in the third round, but he went on to earn seven medals: gold in archery, adaptive fitness and bowling; silver in nineball; and bronze in bocce ball, table tennis and the one that he is “most proud of,” the shot put. This year, he was honored to be chosen as a mentor for Kids’ Day for young disabled children. Kids’ Day returned after a three year hiatus due to the covid pandemic. John said, “This event is bittersweet to me. I love cheering for these kids when they compete in disc golf, fishing and the obstacle course, but it always makes me sad to see these little children in wheelchairs.”

Sean Ferry, a second-year participant in the Games, won a gold medal each for adaptive fitness, motor rally, and bocce; one silver each for bowling and the slalom; and one bronze for power soccer.

Mark Rosensteel turned in some medal-winning performances. In the motorized slalom, Masters category 1A, his time of 2:32.9 minutes earned a gold medal. He took a silver medal for bocce in the Masters ramp category. In ramp bowling, Masters category, his score of 326 was also good for silver. Mark was a member of the bronze-winning power soccer team (see photo, upper right). He competed in the air rifle competition in the Masters SH2 division, but his score of 436.3 was not enough to place.

Dr. Rory Cooper, director of the Human Engineering Research Laboratories in Pittsburgh and a member of the Keystone chapter, also competes in the Games each year, predominantly and successfully in the swimming events.

The 2024 National Veterans Wheelchair Games will be held in New Orleans, from the 25th to the 29th of July. Keystone PVA encourages more of its members to consider participating in the Games; the first step is to have a year-round training regime that fits one’s abilities and interests.



Sean Ferry (front, second from left) and **Mark Rosensteel** (front, second from right) were on the bronze medal-winning power soccer team dubbed “Mount St. Helens” at the 2023 Games.

Summer Wheelchair Tennis Clinics in Pittsburgh

WHERE: Highland Park Tennis Courts
6344 Stanton Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
WHEN: Saturdays 12 - 1:30 p.m.
Starting July 29th, 2023.

Wheelchair Tennis Clinics are:

- Open to Adults and Youth.
- Open to all levels from beginner to advanced. Open to all disability levels.

If you don't have equipment, don't worry!

- Tennis racquets are available for use if needed and tennis balls will be provided.
- Bring your sports wheelchair, but if needed a limited number are available for use. Please contact ahead of time.

For more information contact
Highland Park Tennis Club at:
Website: www.hptc.info
Phone: 412-726-2401





At the National Veterans Wheelchair Games in Portland, Oregon in early July 2023, clockwise from left: **Mark Rosensteel** carefully aims a craftily disguised bowling ball towards ten unsuspecting pins; **John Kellner** hurls the shot; and **Sean Ferry** steers around the obstacles involved in the slalom.

More sports on page 8

Summer 2023 Team Bass Tournament



Team tournaments with one able-bodied boat captain and one disabled angler

Sponsored by
the Keystone Paralyzed Veterans of America,
the Outcast Bass Club, and
the Tom Landish Fund of the Pittsburgh Foundation

Late summer: SATURDAY, 09 SEPTEMBER 2023

Location:

The marina at the American Legion Post 940, 800 Middle Street, West Brownsville PA 15417

Schedule:

Disabled angler check-in: 5:30 to 6 a.m.

Cast-off: 7 p.m.

Weigh-in: 1 p.m.

Picnic after the weigh-in

Entry fee, boat captain: \$20.00

Entry fee, disabled angler: \$30.00

Checks will be returned to boat captains and anglers present for those present when awards are presented at the picnic.

To request an application, with rules and limitations, call the Keystone chapter office, 412-781-2474 or 800-775-9323

Prizes per team for total catch:

1st place	\$500.00
2nd place	\$250.00
3rd place	\$200.00
4th place	\$150.00
5th place	\$100.00
6th place	\$ 50.00
7th place	\$ 50.00
8th place	\$ 50.00

Prize for the Big Bass: \$100.00

Prize for the 2nd biggest bass: \$50.00

(one angler cannot have both biggest bass)

Tournament director: Larry Freeman, President, Greene County BassMasters, **724-678-6860**
Tom Strang, Associate Sports Director, Keystone Paralyzed Veterans of America, **724-350-7957**

Major Keystone PVA events for the rest of calendar year 2023

Some dates may change. Contact the chapter office, 412-781-2474 or 800-775-9323, to confirm dates and locations.

Membership Meetings All Saturdays, and all will be available to members via Zoom videoconferencing; some will be in person. The Zoom link will go "live" at 12:30 p.m., and the meetings will start at 12:45 p.m., and will usually conclude by 2 p.m. Dates: 14 October, and 09 December.

Events

Bass Tournament (summer)	09 September	American Legion Post 940, W. Brownsville, Pa.
Annual Awards Banquet	05 October	Hampton Banquet Hall, Gibsonia, Pa.
Veterans' Day	11 November	Various activities around Pennsylvania

Keystone Paralyzed Veterans have units in two Veterans Day Parades:

Pittsburgh, Saturday, 11 November. Formation will be on Liberty Avenue near 12th Street at 9:30 a.m.

Erie, Saturday, 11 November. Meeting in front of Veterans Memorial Stadium, 26th and State Streets, at 8:30 a.m. Interested: Contact Sean Ferry, 814-490-0474.

Sports and Recreation Report

Continued from page 6

Report from **Associate Sports Director Tom Strang**

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing

Director for Western Pa.: Amanda Thompson, amanda.thompson@projecthealingwaters.com, 412-877-7864

Disabled veterans can give Amanda a call to find out how to tie flies, build fly rods, and go on fishing outings.

You can learn more about Project Healing Waters by going to ProjectHealingWaters.org.

Fishing on Lake Erie

At The Lake Ministries located in Erie, Pa. is a boating and fishing ministry for those with special needs. This charter boat service is especially for disabled anglers. Contact Rob Wilson, executive director, at 814-657-4024 or go on line, atthelakeministries@gmail.com

Bass fishing reminder!

Keystone PVA now sponsors TWO team bass tournaments each year. The second is on Saturday, 09 September, and it's not too late to register. Call the office ASAP for a registration form, 412-781-2474.

Keystone PVA member **Audra Lyons** sent this photo of her in the recumbent trike to show what such a trike looks like. She said, "I was riding with other veterans in April 2023 as part of the Face of America (FOA) ride from the Pentagon to Gettysburg (104 miles) over a two-day period. The person in the middle of the photo is a random veteran along the way who was very generously helping me by pushing me up the hill using the stick they attached to my trike. It's a great ride and I'd be more than happy to speak with/encourage anyone who's interested in recumbent trike riding."



Allegheny County Veteran Services

FISHING Derby



A SPECIAL EVENT FOR ALL VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Join Allegheny County Veterans Services on Saturday, September 9, 2023 at the Kolich Pavilion in North Park between 10:00 am and 5:00 pm for our first Fishing Derby. Thanks to the Allegheny County Parks and the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, rentals and fishing licenses have been waived for this event.

Registration is highly recommended to ensure there is enough equipment for all. To register, email number of participants to veterans@alleghenycounty.us



You are invited to the **Annual Awards Banquet** of the **Keystone Paralyzed Veterans of America** **Thursday, 05 October 2023** at the **Hampton Event Center**

5416 William Flinn Highway (Route 8), Gibsonia PA 15044

The Hampton Event Center is on Pa. Route 8 just north of the Butler Valley Interchange of the Pennsylvania Turnpike. It is on the ground floor, level with the parking lot, which surrounds the building.

Cost per person: \$36.00

Attendance at the Banquet at no charge is a benefit for Life Members (paralyzed veterans) and Associate Members. Each Life Member and Associate Member may bring one guest each at no charge. Checks for Members and one guest each will be returned at the banquet registration.

Additional guests are welcome at \$36.00 each.



Reception and registration at 5:30 p.m.
Dinner at 6:30 p.m., followed by
installation of directors, presentation
of awards, and drawing for door prizes.

Due to food preparation considerations, no refunds for cancellations can be honored after 12 noon on Tuesday, 26 September. Checks for no-shows will not be returned.

Please complete the form below.

Make your check out to "Keystone PVA" and return no later than 26 September by mail to
Keystone PVA, 1113 Main Street, Pittsburgh PA 15215
You can email (keystoneparavets@gmail.com) or fax (412-781-2659) your form to the office and send your check by postal service.

Entrees:

Roast Sirloin of Beef au jus or Chicken Cordon Bleu.

Dinners include a tossed salad, buttered parsley potatoes, broccoli and cauliflower with butter, and ice cream and cake. Special dietary needs will be accommodated on request.

More questions? Call 412-781-2474 or 800-775-9323.

New for the 2023 Banquet:
Mileage reimbursement

Attendees at the Annual Banquet may pick up a form at the banquet to request reimbursement for their travel to and from the banquet hall from their residences up to 100 miles each way, total of 200 miles, at a rate of \$.50/mile.

Members who travel over 100 miles from home one way may also request lodging reimbursement. Details and restrictions will be included on the form, and the form may be obtained in advance from the chapter office.

Keystone PVA Annual Awards Banquet, THURSDAY, 05 OCTOBER 2023

Please provide the name you want on your nametag.

Name _____ Phone _____ Check here if you are a Keystone PVA Life Member or Associate Member

Entree choice: beef chicken

Amount enclosed: \$ _____ made out to Keystone PVA

Name of guest
Entree: beef chicken

Name of guest
Entree: beef chicken

Name of guest
Entree: beef chicken



Bill Jakovac entered six of his needlepoint designs into the Veterans Art Contest held by the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System in August. Bill's work and the other entries were placed on display at the Heinz Campus of the VAPHS on 17 August.

U.S. Representative Mike Kelly (*in navy blazer*) sponsors a Veteran Resource Fair every year in Meadville, Pa., and Keystone PVA members turn out to staff an outreach table to speak to the attendees and talk about PVA's work for paralyzed veterans. In this photo are (*left to right*) **Earl Stufflebeam** (*seated in back*), **Rex Nichols**, **John Larese**, Rep. Kelly, and **Francis Lacamera** of Rep. Kelly's staff.



Keystone PVA members staff outreach tables at several events through the year in many places around Pennsylvania, and the chapter provides promotional items and literature to hand out to attendees. Members who wish to help out with this outreach to the public should contact the office to volunteer.

Ferry, Lightner and Townsend prevail in 2023 directors election

Keystone Paralyzed Veterans Sean Ferry, Bill Lightner, and Peter Townsend will each take new three-year seats on the Keystone Chapter's Board of Directors starting 01 October, per the outcome of the annual directors election announced at the Membership Meeting on 12 August.

The election was a four-way contest that also included incumbent Board member David Gifford.

"We thank David Gifford for his service on the Board, said Keystone PVA President Mark Rosensteel. "We are grateful that his interest in recreation, especially hand-cycling, will continue to serve members of the chapter, through his reports in The Parascope and his personal involvement."

Mr. Townsend will be serving on the Board for the first time. He is the chapter's Multiple Sclerosis representative and is the chapter's site leader at the Wilkes-Barre, Pa. VA Medical Center.

Mr. Ferry has served on the Board since early 2021. He is currently the chapter's vice president and chairman of the Annual Awards Banquet and Kennywood Park picnic.

Mr. Lightner is the veteran of the group in more ways than one. He was first elected to the Board effective October



Sean Ferry, Bill Lightner, and Peter Townsend.

2013 and has served as the chapter's site leader at the James E. Van Zandt VA Medical Center in Altoona, Pa. since 2010. He has held the posts of chapter secretary and chapter vice president at different times. He has participated in the PVA Advocacy/Legislation Seminar in Arlington, Va. and Washington, D.C. as part of the Keystone chapter's legislative team.

Service on the chapter's Board of Directors is not honorary. Like any other corporation in Pennsylvania, for-profit or nonprofit, service on the Board is governed by the statutes of the Commonwealth as administered through the Department of State. Board members are responsible for the assets, operations, and reputation of Keystone PVA and are trustees of these things on behalf of all the members.

NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICES

for members in Pennsylvania and western and central New York State:

Western Pennsylvania: Pittsburgh, 412-395-6255
1000 Liberty Avenue, Room 1602, Pittsburgh PA 15222

Brent Madison, National Service Officer II; **Marissa Sabatucci**, Secretary

Eastern Pennsylvania: Philadelphia, 215-381-3057
5000 Wissahickon Avenue, Philadelphia PA 19144

Joseph Weeks, Senior National Service Officer; **Violet Graham**, Senior Secretary

Western New York: Buffalo, 716-857-3353
130 S. Elmwood Avenue, Suite 621, Buffalo NY 14202

Matthew Wezka, National Service Officer II; **Victoria Gawne**, Secretary II

Central New York State: Syracuse, 315-425-4400, ext. 53317
800 Irving Avenue, Room C419, Syracuse NY 13210

Charles Tocci, Area Manager

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.

Attendance at a Keystone PVA membership meeting	3 points
Attendance at a Keystone PVA membership activity, <i>e.g., Easter Bag distribution, Fish for Fun, Kennywood Picnic, Annual Awards Banquet</i>	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, <i>e.g., bowling, fishing, hunting, trapshoot, etc.</i>	1 point
Sign up a regular voting member	2 points
Represent Keystone PVA at community functions, <i>e.g., Sharing and Caring, Soldiers & Sailors, United Cerebral Palsy, Veteran Support Groups</i>	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.

For more information on chapter programs, refer to Operations Manual Section 8, which you may request from the chapter office.

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.
- ☛ **Member Recreation Reimbursement Fund.** Keystone PVA will reimburse voting members up to \$100 for attending any recreational event one time during the fiscal year or until the fund is depleted. Member must send receipts within 30 days of the event to the chapter office including a short description of the outing; good photos appreciated. This benefit is intended for members who do not take advantage of reimbursements and chapter payments for hunting and fishing licenses, or participation in recreational programs such as the National Veterans Wheelchair Games.
- ☛ **Fitness club membership.** The Chapter will reimburse members quarterly for memberships in nonprofit or for-profit organizations such as the YMCA, YWCA, Planet Fitness or LA Fitness up to \$10 monthly or \$30 quarterly.
- ☛ **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.
- ☛ Reimbursement for hunting, shooting and fishing programs that Keystone PVA supports or sponsors.
- ☛ (Currently, this rule remains suspended.) 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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS!

SEPTEMBER

- 03 Earl Corp
Robert Pamplin
- 05 Beth Duvall
Larry Spahr Jr.
- 07 Clarissa Congie
Kathleen Kleinmann
Rody Rogers
- 09 Paula Schultz
- 12 William Ferguson Jr.
Stephen G. Miller
- 13 Stephen P. Lee
- 14 Barbara Plants
- 15 John B. Hofmeister
- 16 Leo Latona
- 17 Angelo Degree
- 18 Gary Egri
- 19 Fred Frank
Jack Zavilla
- 20 Rob Morris
Walter McGee
- 21 Jeffrey Hanlin Sr.
Michael S. Martin
- 23 Carol E. Reber
- 25 David Wingard
- 26 John Cotto
- 28 Richard Barbara
- 29 George E. Dye

OCTOBER

- 01 Ray Mercalde
- 02 George Barton
- 04 Eric Kaag
- 05 Kurt Eisele
Jorden Jones
- 10 Dwaine Crytzer

If we missed your birthday, let us know!

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!

- 11 Stanley Gillis
- 11 Michael Kiley
- 12 William Metzger
- 12 Jim Costello
- 13 Gary Klimek
- 15 Truman "Dick" Yohe
- 15 Russell Achilles
- 15 Jeffrey Campbell
- 18 Thomas Fix
- 18 Louise Wall
- 19 Gib Gutshall
- 20 Audra Lyons
- 23 Chad Evans
- 23 Robert Eyler
- 23 Mark Rosensteel
- 24 Victor Ramos
- 24 Patrick Schwabenbauer
- 24 Peter Townsend Jr.

- 26 Daniel Heffernan
Brooke Schmolly
- 27 Bruce Palmisano
- 31 John Kellner

NOVEMBER

- 02 Anne Kiren
- 03 Domenic Dorazio
Paula Fox
- 06 Charles Freed
Michelle Shoop
- 08 Gary Kirkendall
- 09 Rory Cooper
James Harff
Gregory Heinle
- 12 Richard Sarocky
- 14 Alex Dipko
- 15 Janice Rapoza
- 16 Raymond Castlebury
- 18 Terry Greer
Thomas Gunderman
Rebecca Henderson
Edwin Leeper
Harry Wallis
- 19 Larry Brown
- 20 Gerald Longstreth
- 21 Dane Smith
- 22 James Jakubowski
- 23 Agnes Strang
Rebecca Strang
- 25 Regis McManus Jr.
- 28 Connor Fox Jr.
- 29 Pamela Stania
- 30 Sharon Lightner
Dwight Morris

ADVERTISING in THE PARASCOPE

The Parascope is published bi-monthly. Deadline for submission of ad copy for the September-October issue will be 15 September. CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING: The charge is \$20.00 for 15 words (each additional word is \$.35). Your name and address or phone number counts as five words. CONTACT THE OFFICE FOR PAYMENT TERMS—412-781-2474. 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

Membership Report Tom Strang, Membership Officer

Membership Meetings will be held as “hybrid” meetings for the foreseeable future, all of which will be available via some form of video such as Zoom videoconference, and with a “primary” in person location.

The August meeting was held on Saturday, 12 August, mostly on Zoom, though Chapter President Mark Rosensteel presided from the Chapter office in Sharpsburg. Altogether, eighteen people were present. Topics discussed were the chapter’s fiscal year 2024 budget; a possible “bigger” bass tournament in 2024, the 20th anniversary of the chapter’s annual team bass tournament; the 2023 National Veterans Wheelchair Games; the 2023 Poster and Poem Contest; and the activity in and around VA medical centers in Pennsylvania. The outcome of the annual Board directors election was announced; results are on page 11.

The October Membership Meeting will be held both in person at the chapter office and on Zoom on Saturday the 14th. See the back page for details.

Why do we ask for an R.S.V.P.? The chapter has been asking for a “repondez s’il vous plait” (“respond, please”) since we began conducting Membership Meetings decades ago. We ask for your response if you will be attending an “in person” part of the meeting, such as our member meeting in June in Erie or at the office in Sharpsburg. We just need to know how much food to order!

UNDELIVERABLES — MIAs

Have you seen or know the whereabouts of the following members? They may be dropped from the PVA Membership Roster unless we can find them. Please call us, write or e-mail the chapter office if you are able to help. Contact information for the chapter is on the back page.

Richard L. Anderson, John H. Beitler, John H. Conrad, James D. Evans, Jerald R. Johnson, Donald G. King, Michael A. Offen, Thomas H. Parke, and Gary Robertson

**MEMBERSHIP TOTALS AS OF
18 AUGUST 2023**

Service connected	137
Non-service connected	<u>99</u>
TOTAL	236
Annual Associate Members	16
Lifetime Associate Members	<u>70</u>
TOTAL	86

We welcome new Life Members—
*all communities are in Pennsylvania unless noted;
military branch is where each served:*

Andrew J. Borkowski of Abington,
Montgomery County, Army

Derrick R. Hughes of Sunbury, Northumberland
County, Army

Alicia Luberto of Lansdale, Montgomery
County, Army

and we mourn the passing of members

John W. Fisher of Lititz, Lancaster County, on
05 May 2023, an Air Force veteran who was a
member since 2004.

George A. Shumac of Ashville, Cambria
County, on 08 July 2023.
He was a Marine Corps veteran and a Keystone
PVA member since 2021.



Other entries in the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System Veterans Art Show held in August.

Red boxes, green boxes: Donations support Keystone Paralyzed Veterans



This donation box is (as the sign says) on Pa. Route 66, northbound just before the bridge over the Kiskiminetas River into Apollo, Pa. on the premises of the Rukas Beverage Company and next to Naser Foods. As always, our thanks to this company hosting this box, and to the generous donors who place gently-used household goods and clothing in this box and others. For information about what can be placed in these boxes, call 412-469-9663.

Red boxes

Since the mid-1990s, the American Thrift Center has made the Keystone Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America the sole beneficiary of its work, donating a significant percentage of its gross revenue to the chapter. Each of its over 800 donation boxes in western Pa. is marked to show that our veterans benefit from those donations.

If you have gently-used household items you would like to donate, and they are a bit too cumbersome to take to a collection box, call American Thrift at 412-469-9663 to arrange a pickup. You can also find out what goods they can accept.

Green “ammo” boxes

The modified ammunition box shown below has a deposit slot in the top and when sent out, it is sealed with a numbered zip tie. The “ammo” boxes are in several business locations whose owners have been most generous with their counter space; their customers have been quite generous, as well. We have more that can be placed. If interested in helping with Project Ammo Box, call the office, 412-781-2474 or 800-775-9323.



AMERICAN THRIFT CENTER

Quality Pre-Owned
Merchandise

**Village Shopping Center
1806 Homeville Road
West Mifflin, PA 15122**

412-469-9665 or 412-469-9663

The American Thrift Center has been a professional fundraiser for Keystone PVA since 1990. Keystone PVA members are cordially invited to visit our store. Lifetime voting 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
Keystone PVA!**



Keystone Chapter

1113 Main Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15215-2407

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

Fax 412-781-2659

www.kpva.org

keystoneparavets@gmail.com

VA MEDICAL CENTERS

VAVS representatives serve veterans at these VA Medical Centers on behalf of the Keystone Chapter of Paralyzed Veterans.

James E. Van Zandt VAMC

2907 Pleasant Valley Boulevard

Altoona PA 16602-4377

877-626-2500

William D. Lightner—VAVS Representative

Abie Abraham VA Healthcare System

353 N. Duffy Road

Butler PA 16001

800-362-8262

John Kellner—VAVS Representative

Erie VAMC

135 E. 38th Street

Erie PA 16504-1559

800-274-8387

John Larese—VAVS Representative

Rex Nichols—Deputy Representative

Lebanon VAMC

1700 S. Lincoln Avenue

Lebanon PA 17042-7529

800-409-8771

Chris Fidler—VAVS Representative

VA Pittsburgh 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

Wilkes-Barre VAMC

1111 East End Boulevard

Wilkes-Barre PA 18711-0030

570-824-3521

Peter Townsend—VAVS Representative



The next Keystone PVA MEMBERSHIP MEETING

will be on Saturday, 14 OCTOBER 2023

(Lunch 12 noon; meeting 12:45 p.m.)

Primary site: Keystone PVA office,

1113 Main St., Sharpsburg (Pittsburgh PA 15215)

Join by Zoom videoconference.

Members who reside outside the Pittsburgh region are invited to join online via the Zoom link that will be emailed to members.

(The chapter will not reimburse travel to and from the event for attendees.)

If attending in person PLEASE

RSVP by 06 October 2023

to **412-781-2474** or **800-775-9323**

Attendance will be limited.

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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