

Air rifle clinic moves to the North Hills of Pittsburgh



Above: The competition is on! Seated in the photo left to right are chapter President **Mark Rosensteel** and members **David Gifford** and **Tom Strang**. The people in uniform are Reserve Officer Training Corps students.

Right: Standing in the Navy blue PVA shirt, **Chad Evans** gives tips on accurate shooting to one of the veterans who attended the Air Rifle Clinic.

After a one-year layoff, the annual Air Rifle Clinic and Competition found a new home in the North Hills of Pittsburgh when the North Side Sportsmen's Club, near Warrendale just off Interstate 79, offered its facility on Mount Pleasant Road for the two-day event.

Chad Evans, a therapist who works for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, again conducted the clinic on Saturday, 21 March and conducted the competition on Sunday, 22 March.

Approximately 20 disabled veterans participated in the

Continued on page 4



SPECIAL THANKS!

For the third year, Altamira, Ltd. provided funding for the Air Rifle Clinic and Competition.

Thanks to Joe Kramer for his support!

And for the first time the event was hosted by the North Side Sportsmens Association. Jeff Knauss, Pat Devore and a whole team of members of the club provided a great target-shooting experience!

Annual Banquet will relocate! See page 2 for details

The June Membership Meeting will start at 12:45 p.m. Join us in Erie! see back page

Paralyzed Veterans of America, Keystone Chapter

Chapter founded 1960

President

Mark O. Rosensteel

Vice President

Sean M. Ferry

Secretary

Peter K. Townsend Jr.

Treasurer

William D. Jakovac

Directors

Joseph A. Dunn

William D. Lightner

Chris Fidler

Tom Strang

Advocacy Director

Peter K. Townsend Jr.

Fundraising Coordinator

William D. Jakovac

Hospital Visitation Coordinator

Chris Fidler

Legislative Director

Chris Fidler

Membership Officer

Tom Strang

MS Committee Representative

Peter K. Townsend Jr.

Service Officer

Joseph A. Dunn

Sports Director

Dane R. Smith

Volunteer Coordinator

Agnes Strang

National Director

William D. Jakovac

National Service Officers

See page 14

Executive Director

Joseph W. Dornbrock

Membership and Projects Coordinator

Sely Thanasack

Bookkeeper

Nancy F. Campbell

Administrative Assistant

Pattie Lujetic

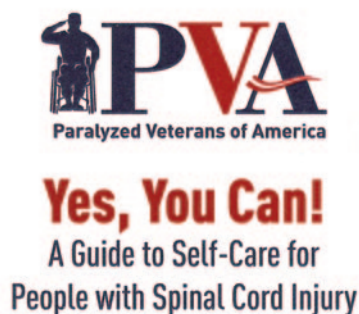
Annual independent audit
conducted by

Kimberly Y. Donovan, CPA

We're changing the location of the Annual Awards Banquet

The Keystone PVA Annual Awards Banquet will be held at a new location in 2026. The Ramada Inn by Wyndham is located just south of Butler, Pennsylvania, on Pennsylvania Route 8.

The street address is 139 Pittsburgh Road, Butler PA 16002.



Scan to Download for Free!



PLAN AHEAD for these events:

Advocacy/Legislation Seminar—09-11 June in Arlington, Virginia and Washington, D.C.

Bass Tournament (Spring)—Saturday, 13 June at the American Legion Post 940 Marina, West Brownsville, Pa.

Chapter Board of Directors election—Candidate information is due 15 June; ballots to be mailed in early July. Deadline to return ballots to chapter office: 31 July. Ballot count to take place on 07 August; announcement of results at the Membership Meeting on 08 Aug.

Kennywood Park Picnic—Wednesday, 22 July, Kennywood Park, West Mifflin, Pa.

National Veterans Wheelchair Games—9-14 July in Detroit, Michigan

Bass Tournament (Summer)—Sunday, 06 September, American Legion Marina, W. Brownsville

Annual Awards Banquet—Thursday, 01 October, Ramada by Wyndham Butler, Butler Pa.

Veterans Day Parades—Pittsburgh and Erie, Pa.; exact dates to be announced

Membership Meetings—Held Saturdays at 10am except for the June meeting start at 12:45pm.

20 June: Erie VA Medical Center, 135 E. 38th Street, Erie PA 16504-1559. Members in northwestern Pa. invited to join in person; all others join by Zoom.

08 August: via Zoom for all members; chapter office open.

10 October: via Zoom for all members; chapter office open.

12 December: via Zoom for all members: chapter office open.

Now and then, times and dates change due to unforeseen circumstances.

Keep an eye on your email and/or call ahead.

RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS NEEDED

Assessing the Caregiver Assisted Transfer Technique Instrument



Join our research study to validate the Caregiver Assisted Transfer Technique Instrument, a new tool to assess the assisted transfer performance of individuals with disabilities and their caregivers.

YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE IF YOU:

Are 18 or older and fit one of the following:

- Have a disability AND a caregiver AND use assistance with transfers between surfaces.
- Have been the caregiver of an adult with a disability for at least three months AND provide transfer assistance to the adult AND have no formal transfer training.

PARTICIPANTS:

- Will perform a series of assisted transfers while wearing small sensors on their trunk and legs while clinicians assess their transfer skills.
- May be asked to participate in training with a therapist.
- **Will be compensated up to \$175 over two visits.**



Learn more and check if you are eligible: scan the QR code or call 412-407-2047.

Principal Investigator:
Alicia Koontz, Ph.D.



The study takes place over two visits in your home or our lab (your choice), each visit is no longer than two hours.

Human Engineering Research Labs
Bakery Square, 6425 Penn Ave.,
Suite 400, Pittsburgh, PA, 15206

Call 412-360-2394 to validate this study.

10/2025

www.pittsburgh.va.gov
412-822-2222 | 866-482-7488

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System

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.

Gifford rides in Pittsburgh Marathon

Keystone PVA member and one of the chapter's cyclists, David Gifford, turned in this report after taking part in the Pittsburgh Marathon:

I completed the Pittsburgh Marathon 2 hours, 36 minutes and 26 seconds. This was slower than past marathons I have participated in. This was only the third time to ride the bike this year. It's harder for me to get out these days. This ride was harder because it was so cold. I have to wear more clothes, thermal pants, Gore-Tex pants, heavy boots, and gators to keep the wind from going up my pant leg. My legs were very cold when I completed the ride even with the extra clothing. I do wonder what might happen if my legs get super cold. I did not bring my GPS and this hurt my time. I did not know how fast I was going, or even how far, and it gives me something to concentrate on while riding!

Reminder: Recreation support policy

"Life members who request chapter sponsorship to cover the costs of attending an organized recreational event shall have attended, in person or by audio and/or video device, no fewer than 50 percent of the Keystone Chapter Membership Meetings in the 12 months (365 days) prior to the date of the sponsorship request. Examples of events are the National Veterans Wheelchair Games, the Buckeye Games, handcycling, bowling, billiards, fishing, shooting, and similar clinics and competitions. This qualification is in addition to any other eligibility requirement, such as earning Health and Recreation Points."

Air Rifle clinic and competition *(cont'd from p. 1)*

clinic on the first day, and eleven competed on the second day, with these total match scores:

Class SH1

David Gifford 445, William Jakovac 356, Jeannette Torres 333, and Ron Mason 248.

Class SH2

Tom Strang 484, Mark Rosensteel 481, Sean Clemens 457, Jorden Jones 378, George Brandt 259, and Michael Salasky 147.



Front row, left to right: **David Gifford, Tom Strang, Mark Rosensteel, Sean Clemens, and Bill Jakovac.**
Back row: **Chad Evans and Jeannette Torres.**

2025-26 season Keystone PVA bowling scores



*Reported as of late May 2026.
Bowling year: 01 Oct - 30 Sept*

	High Game	High Series	High Average	Strikes	Spares	Games	Average
Bob Baker	168	383	115	57	127	66	59
Sean Ferry	199	530	176	45	155	30	155
Bill Jackson	180	410	136	43	101	38	118
Bill Jakovac	164	403	134	24	38	18	112
Jorden Jones	193	444	148	18	53	12	143
John Kellner	189	504	168	217	476	122	141
Mark Rosensteel	211	552	184	107	292	55	160

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.

Late Spring 2026 TEAM BASS TOURNAMENT



Top prize: \$750 for the winning two-person team
Plus: \$200 for the Big Bass
and prizes for places 2nd through 10th

Tournament director:

Larry Freeman, 724-678-6860

Keystone PVA Associate Sports Director:

Tom Strang, 724-350-7955

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

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

Tournament at American Legion Post 940

800 Middle Street, West Brownsville PA 15417

Saturday, 13 June 2026, 5:30am to 3pm

Schedule: Disabled angler check in: 5:30 to 6 a.m.
Cast off: 7 a.m. Weigh-in: 1 p.m.
Picnic and prizes awarded after weigh-in

**To receive the rules, registration and waiver form,
contact the chapter office, 412-781-2474**



Hunting and fishing events Tom Strang, Associate Sports Director

For more information call Tom Strang, 724-350-7955.

For fishing and hunting in Pennsylvania a valid Pennsylvania hunting or fishing license is required. Keystone PVA will reimburse you for the cost of those licenses when you submit your receipts with the Volunteer Expense Report form by the 7th of each month. Contact the chapter office, 412-781-2474 for a form. One of our chapter goals is to have good hunting and angling events for our members and all persons with disabilities to enhance health, self esteem, confidence and independence.

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing

Disabled veterans can call Amanda Thompson, director for this organization in Western Pennsylvania, at 412-877-7864 to learn how to tie flies, build fly rods, and to go on

fishing outings. Learn more at projecthealingwaters.org.

Patriots Cove is a nonprofit organization that provides outdoor recreational opportunities for disabled veterans and first responders. Current activities on its 18-acre accessible site include fly fishing and hunting retreats. Caregiver events are also planned. All food and lodging is provided at no expense to the participant. For additional details including registration please go to the Patriots Cove website: patriotscove.org.

Hunting at the WCJ Ranch

Deer and turkey hunts for disabled hunters are available in Crawford County Area 1B, in northwest Pennsylvania, at the WCJ Ranch, 20397 N. Richmond Road, Cambridge Springs PA 16403-6834 Please call Shawn Schmitz in advance for an appointment at 814-724-1930.

Keystone PVA athletes attend the Buckeye Games next door

The Spire Institute in Geneva, Ohio, is less than 30 miles west of the Pennsylvania border on Interstate 90. The Buckeye Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America has organized wheelchair games for 15 years, and members of the Keystone Chapter participate every year. Keystone PVA Vice President Sean Ferry reports that five members made the trip in April 2026 and competed with a total of 62 wheelchair athletes. All five Keystone members earned medals in events shown below and a few others.



Above left: **Joe Wilkinson** navigates the speed bumps of the slalom.

Above right: **Bill Jakovac** keeps his eye on the ball in the table tennis competition.

Below left: **Sean Ferry** and **Bill Jackson** aim carefully on the boccia court.

Below right: The delegation from the Keystone State, left to right: **Rosi Cooper, Rory Cooper, Jean Jakovac, Lynnette Ferry, Sean Ferry, Bill Jakovac, Bill Jackson, LeeAnn Wilkinson, and Joe Wilkinson.**





The staff of the PVA's National Service Office in Pittsburgh recently visited the Spinal Cord Injury Clinic at the H. J. Heinz III Campus of the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System. Left to right are SCI Physician **Hema Murthy, M.D.**, National Service Officer **Justin Platt**, NSO Administrative Assistant **Marissa Sabatucci**, Keystone PVA membership Officer **Tom Strang**, and NSO **Christopher Custer**.

Anne Kiren, whose husband Joe was a president and the first executive director of the Keystone Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, is shown holding the shadow box of Joe's memorabilia from the 1998 and 2011 National Veterans Wheelchair Games, both of which were held in Pittsburgh and in both of which he participated. He helped organize the 1998 Games.

Among the other items she donated to the chapter are "Radar O'Reilly's teddy bear" in the clear plastic case, which was a PVA fundraiser in the early 1980s, and a plaque featuring a photo of Joe with then Governor Dick Thornburgh and other Commonwealth of Pennsylvania officials when the governor signed the law authorizing the Paralyzed Veterans Pension, which many of our members receive today.

The items Anne has donated are on display at the chapter offices. We thank her for her thoughtfulness and her generosity!



Jakovac attends his last PVA Board meeting as national director

Bill Jakovac (at right in the photo, with Sean Ferry) attended his last national PVA Board meeting as the national director from the Keystone Chapter.

Each PVA chapter elects a member to sit on the national PVA Board. Bill has been doing that job since he succeeded the late Jim Riemer in that position mid-2014.

Sean Ferry was elected to be the chapter's national director effective 01 July 2026. It is a three-year term. The national PVA holds two in-person Board meetings each year, plus one by teleconference.

While the national director's fiduciary responsibility is to the national PVA, she or he brings experience as a chapter member and leader to the deliberations of the national governing body.



The PVA Board meeting was held at the Planet Hollywood hotel and casino on the Strip in Las Vegas, Nevada, in May. During the May Board meeting, also called the annual convention, the program leaders and professional staff of PVA present reports on the operational and financial status of the organization, introduce new programs to serve veterans, and take guidance and questions from the national directors who attend the meetings. Many chapters, like Keystone, send other officers, directors, and executive directors to these meetings to make sure that their chapters are availing themselves of the best practices and resources. Sometime during the national Board meeting, the chapter executive directors meet to share information and experiences to better meet the PVA mission.



Keystone PVA provided some financial support for the PVA Research Foundation. At the PVA Convention in May 2026, PVA Chairman **Robert Thomas** (left) accepted the check for \$2,500 from **Bill Jakovac** and **Sean Ferry**.



35th annual Keystone PVA Kennywood Picnic

Wednesday, 22 July 2026

**Kennywood Park, 4800 Kennywood Boulevard
West Mifflin PA 15122**

The park is open for rides from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Keystone PVA member picnic served in Pavilion #8 from
4 p.m. to 5 p.m.; door prizes awarded during the picnic

All **life members, associate members, volunteers** and their **immediate family (including grandchildren)** may attend at no charge for admission and picnic, but must pay in advance and will have checks returned at the picnic. Caregivers are considered "immediate family" for this event. Limit six family members per party.

All others are welcome to attend at the discounted pass/picnic cost of \$59 per person*.

Picnic includes hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken tenders, mac & cheese, fruit salad, potato salad, assorted chips and beverages.

*Kennywood Park has changed its policy on how the picnic lunch is charged. It is now bundled into **group** admission passes, and cannot be separately ordered. Therefore, the admission pass and picnic cost is combined into one single price per person, no matter the age.*

This is a Keystone PVA membership event. Members and guests are asked to attend on this day only and be present for the picnic, 4 to 5 p.m. Travel to and from the picnic is not eligible for reimbursement from the chapter.

Name

Pass and meal cost: \$59 per person

**Parking not included in price*

(Member or volunteer) _____ \$ _____

(Family member) _____ \$ _____

(Family member) _____ \$ _____

(Family member) _____ \$ _____

(Family member) _____ \$ _____

(Family member) _____ \$ _____

Total—write this check to "Keystone PVA." It will be returned to you at the picnic: \$ _____

(Additional non-family guest) _____ \$ _____

(Additional non-family guest) _____ \$ _____

Total—write this check *separately from the first check* to "Keystone PVA." \$ _____

DEADLINE to order passes and meals:
in the office by 01 July 2026

MAIL this form and your check(s) to
Keystone PVA, 1113 Main Street,
Pittsburgh PA 15215

Passes will be first-class mailed
to the address you show here:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Research Study



Human Engineering Research Laboratories (HERL) Assistive Technology Registry 2.0

Principal Investigator: Rory A. Cooper, PhD

Purpose/About study

The purpose of this Registry is to enable the research team at HERL to facilitate assistive technology related research and development by identifying potential research participants for future research studies.

Participation

You will be asked to complete questionnaires that ask for your contact & demographic information, and your use of assistive technology. As a member of the HERL Registry, we will inform you of current and future research studies that you may be eligible for. The Registry is an informational resource and notification of a research study does not obligate you to participate.



Human Engineering Research Laboratories
6425 Penn Ave, Suite 400
Pittsburgh, PA 15206



@herlpitt
/herlpitt

Join our study: Make a difference today

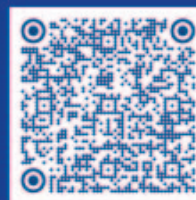
Your response and insights will contribute to the development of future assistive technology for diverse populations.

Eligibility

- Age 18 years or older
- People with disabilities, care-partners, students, advocates, professionals, and other stakeholders
- Willing to be contacted about current or future research studies.

Learn More

To participate or learn more, scan the below QR code or contact us at 412-822-3715 & mention HERL Registry 2.0 Sign Up



Project Easter Bag delivers for hospitalized vets



Project Easter Bag delivers personal use items for hospitalized veterans at VA medical centers around Pennsylvania and the Southwestern Veterans Center in Pittsburgh. Keystone PVA Volunteer Coordinator **Agnes Strang** (at left in both photos above) coordinates the effort in Pittsburgh with the help of BNY (formerly BNY Mellon) volunteers in the top left and bottom left photos. In the bottom left photo are, left to right, **Mark Luttringer, Shelby Coughenour, Tracy Gregory, Ryan Volpatti, Zachary DeTemple, Tim Nichols, and Heather LaFrenie**. In the upper right photo, Agnes delivered boxes full of Easter Bags to the Southwestern Veterans Center's Volunteer Coordinator **Brian Beach** (right) with the help of Keystone PVA Associate Member **Dwaine Crytzer**. In the bottom right photo, PVA Member **Mike Whiteman** (left) received one of the Easter Bags prepared for the vets at the Erie VA Medical Center by **Lynnette and Sean Ferry**.



We need to see your face!

The “Health and Recreation Points” system has been suspended, but members are strongly encouraged to engage in recreational and health-promoting activities, such as getting your annual SCI exam.

But to qualify for financial reimbursement for recreational activities, the chapter has instituted this rule:

Members are required to attend at least half of the chapter’s Membership Meetings prior to obtaining chapter sponsorship for participation in a recreational event, such as the National Veterans Wheelchair Games.

Attendance can be by Zoom or in person as the primary meeting location. There are six Membership Meetings in a year, so attending at least three meetings will fulfill the requirement.

The meetings must be attended in the 12 months PRIOR to making the sponsorship request.

The chapter has instituted this rule for two reasons: 1) To encourage our members to communicate with one another about issues that affect them, so that others may learn about opportunities, programs, challenges and more, and 2) to insure that the chapter’s leadership knows its members who request the chapter’s support. For more information on chapter programs, refer to Operations Manual Section 8, which you may request from the chapter office.



The VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System will again hold its annual art show for applied art and performing art on Wednesday, 26 August 2026. The art categories include Applied art, fine art, kits, dance, drama, music, and creative writing. The chapter can email you more information on request.

Contact people at the VAPHS are Krystal Neal for the applied arts, krystal.neal@va.gov, 412-822-3083, and for the performing arts, Allie Miller, alexandria.miller@va.gov, 412-822-3080.

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!

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!

June

01	William Sullivan
02	David Pyle
04	Joseph Branch
	Jason Fay
06	Sean Ferry
07	Troy Williams
08	Domenico Lazzaro
09	Charles H. Agne
	Serena (McCloskey) Gregory
	Edmond Proulx
10	David Kucherer
	Timothy Pollard
11	Clarence Appleby
	Rich Sarocky
13	David Cooper
	Kevin Williamson
15	Kimberly Atherton
	Tino Yaccich
16	Robert Wilt
24	Michael Carr
	Kenneth W. Deaven
	Berl Duvall
	Michael Michalek
	Thomas Otte
	Andrew Womeldorf
25	Rebecca McTall
29	Gina Congie
	Hanna Mowry
30	Austin Walters

July

02	George Westbrook
	Michael Markovcy
03	Brendan Beck
	Bruce Migota
05	Margaret Gesiskie
08	Leona Cinciripini
09	Theodore Anspach
	Dale Vonstein
12	John Allman Jr.
14	Matt Baylor
16	Taylor Strang
	Francis Watt
17	Sherry Lightner
	Michael W. Ritter
	Earl Williams
18	Sarah Yost
	Donald Speicher
19	Michael Salasky

21	Michael V. Whiteman
	Daniel Hika
	Warren Getz
22	Phillip Allen
24	Jerald Johnson
	Jamie Morris
26	Linda Berkheiser
	Andrew Ogdin
28	David P. Hauser
	Jeffrey Kabanuk
	Gary Robertson
29	John Larese
30	Michael Offen
	Timothy Sager

August

03	Carl F. Raymond
	Robert Serena
04	Michael R. Eaton
06	William Zally Jr.
08	Jim Malanowski
12	David Gifford
	Joseph Zimmet
	Raymond Boea
13	Matthew Schmalzriedt
15	Daniel P. Smith
15	Loren Zamiska
17	David Lynch
18	Gary Martisofski
	Ronald Speight
19	Kenneth R. Divens
	Curtis H. Paschal
20	Robert Luke Liggett
21	Vincent Dvorak
24	Lester Neimiller
25	Danny Steele
27	Derek E. Bruehl
28	Gregory Foster
29	Timothy Anick
30	Richard Anderson

PHOTO CREDITS taken or provided by: Page 6, top left and right: Lynnette Ferry. Page 6, bottom left: LeeAnn Gilkinson. Page 11, bottom right: Karen O'Neal, Erie VA Medical Center. Page 7, top four photos—Lynnette Ferry. Other photos were taken by staff, are file photos, or have been anonymously submitted.

ADVERTISING in THE PARASCOPE

The Parascope is published bi-monthly. Deadline for submission of ad copy for the July-August issue will be 15 June.

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. Four will start at 10 a.m.; two—Altoona and Erie—will start at 12:45 p.m. to accomodate the chapter president’s travel to those locations.

In calendar year 2026, the expected dates (all Saturdays) and locations of the “in-person” part of the rest of this year’s meetings will be:

20 June—Erie VA Medical Center, Erie
08 August—Chapter office, Sharpsburg
10 October—Chapter office, Sharpsburg
12 December—Chapter office, Sharpsburg

Details for attending the next Membership Meeting, on Saturday, 20 June in Erie, are on the back page.

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.

Timothy J. Anick, Anthony L. Barton, Joseph M. Kostich, Raymond K. Lookart, Curtis H. Pascal, William E. Shingler, and Joseph D. Zimmett

We welcome new Life Members—

*all communities are in Pennsylvania unless noted;
military branch is where each served:*

David P. Hauser, Erie, Erie County, Army.

Michael W. Ritter, Harrisburg, Dauphin Co., Marine Corps.

And we mourn the passing of Life Members

Frank E. Kenesky of Frackville, Schuylkill County, on 28 August 2025. He served in the Navy, was a PVA member for almost 52 years and a Keystone Chapter member since 2004.

Randall E. Moyer of Westover, Clearfield County, on 13 March 2026. He was a Navy veteran and a Keystone Chapter member for 17 years.

We regret that we do not always learn about the passing of members until some time later.

MEMBERSHIP TOTALS AS OF 31 MAY 2026

Service connected	169
Non-service connected	<u>90</u>
TOTAL	259
Annual Associate Members	16
Lifetime Associate Members	<u>70</u>
TOTAL	86

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

Justin Platt and Christopher Custer, National Service Officers; **Marissa Sabatucci**, Administrative Assistant

Eastern Pennsylvania: Philadelphia, 215-381-3057

5000 Wissahickon Avenue, Philadelphia PA 19144

Joseph Weeks, Area Manager; **Violet Graham**, Senior Administrative Assistant

Western New York: Buffalo, 716-857-3353

130 S. Elmwood Avenue, Suite 621, Buffalo NY 14202

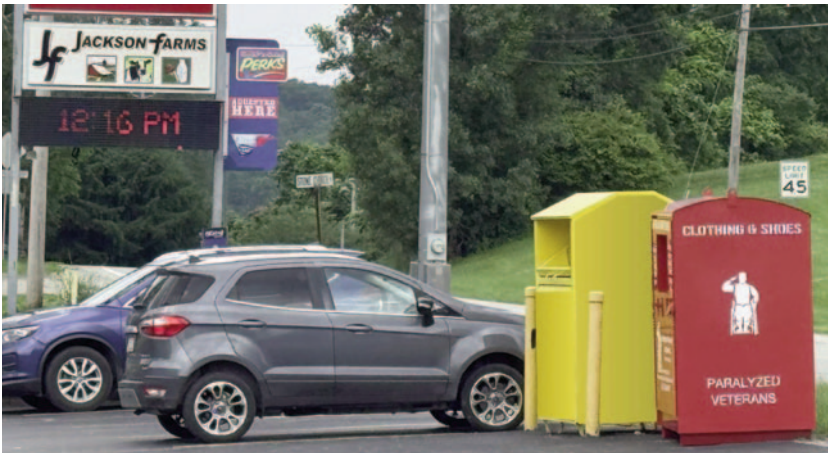
Matthew Wezka, National Service Officer II; **Victoria Gawne**, Administrative Assistant II

Central New York State: Syracuse, 315-425-4400, ext. 53317

800 Irving Avenue, Room C419, Syracuse NY 13210

Charles Tocci, Senior Benefits Advocate

Big red boxes and small green boxes support Keystone Paralyzed Veterans



This red donation box is at Jackson Farms Dairy, 6718 National Pike East (U.S. Route 40) in New Salem, Fayette County, Pa., just over seven miles west of Uniontown. Thanks to Jackson Farms Dairy for hosting a donation box! 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 Pennsylvania 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.

If you have donated, *thank you!*

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 Paralyzed Veterans of America is most grateful for voluntary donations from the generous public.

Army green boxes made from ammunition cans have been placed at supportive businesses in southwestern Pennsylvania, and generous customers have responded! The boxes are numbered, security tagged and sealed, then placed on the businesses' counters to accept bills and coins. Personnel from Keystone PVA periodically exchange the boxes.

Any business that wishes to host a box or any member who wishes to assist in placing and retrieving the boxes can contact the chapter for more information, 412-781-2474.





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

Sean Ferry, Rex Nichols—

Deputy Representatives

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

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, 20 JUNE 2026**
MEETING TIME: **12:45 p.m.**

*Primary site: Erie VA Medical Center,
135 E. 38th Street, Erie PA 16504-1559*

Join by Zoom videoconference.

Members who reside outside the Erie 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 12 June 2026

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

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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