



Keystone Chapter

THE PARASCOPE

THE BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE KEYSTONE CHAPTER
OF THE PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA
VOLUME XXIV, ISSUE 5 SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2026

Keystone PVA nets 40 medals at Detroit Wheelchair Games

Detroit hosted the 2026 National Veterans Wheelchair Games in mid July, and nine members of the Keystone Paralyzed Veterans took advantage of the short ride to the Motor City to compete in a variety of games.

The National Veterans Wheelchair Games provide a competitive atmosphere for disabled veterans to measure their strength, reflexes, and overall health against the obstacles and other veterans they encounter.

Disabled veterans—mostly paralyzed and amputated vets—

Continued on page 5



The Keystone PVA athletes, family and coach gathered at the opening of the 2026 National Veterans Wheelchair Games in Detroit. ▼

▲ In the power soccer competition at the National Veterans Wheelchair Games in Detroit in July, Keystone PVA Vice President **Sean Ferry** (number 38) and President **Mark Rosensteel** (number 604) found themselves on competing teams. See the results pages to find out how their teams placed.



The Annual Awards Banquet will be held on Thursday, 01 October 2026. See page 9 for details.

Paralyzed Veterans of America, Keystone Chapter

Chapter founded 1960

President

Mark O. Rosensteel

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Secretary

Peter K. Townsend Jr.

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Sports Director

Dane R. Smith

Volunteer Coordinator

Agnes Strang

National Director

Sean M. Ferry

National Service Officers

See page 14

Executive Director

Joseph W. Dornbrock

Membership and Projects Coordinator

Sely Thanasack

Bookkeeper

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Administrative Assistant

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Annual independent audit
conducted by

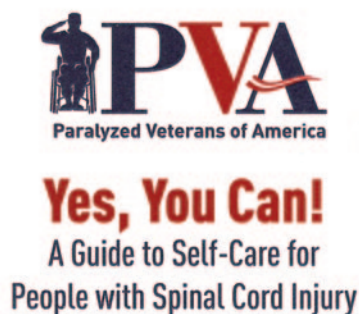
Kimberly Y. Donovan, CPA

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 16001.

Read more about the banquet and new location on page 9.
And check out the offer for life members to be reimbursed for travel and lodging.



Scan to Download for Free!



PLAN AHEAD for these events:

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.

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 and eye on your email and/or call ahead.

Planning meetings for the next three months:

OCTOBER: First planning meeting for the Air Rifle Clinic and Competition

NOVEMBER: First planning meeting for Project Easter Bag

DECEMBER: First planning meeting for the Bass Tournaments

These meetings will be held by Zoom on Thursdays that are not Board meeting days.

RESEARCH STUDY

Omnidirectional Mobility Platform for Wheelchair Users



Join our study: Make a difference! Help us test a new omnidirectional wheelchair designed to improve mobility and everyday task performance.

PARTICIPANTS WILL:

- Attend one in-person visit at Human Engineering Research Laboratories for approximately 3 hours.
- Complete questions about mobility device use and demographics.
- Practice using, driving and completing several tasks with Omnichair and your mobility assistive technology.
- Complete a short interview at the end of the study.

ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS:

- Are Veterans age 18-65 years old.
- Use a mobility assistive technology (e.g. cane, walker, scooter, manual or power wheelchair) for four or more hours daily.
- Weigh less than or equal to 250 lbs (113.4 kg).
- Can shift weight independently.
- Do not have pressure sores; back, pelvic or thigh pain; or self-reported pregnancy.
- May be compensated up to \$100



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

06/2026



Learn more and check if you are eligible: call **412-822-3715** or email **wed56@pitt.edu**

Visit **www.herl.pitt.edu/omnichair**

Principal Investigator: Jorge Candiotti, Ph.D.

Call 412-360-2394 to validate this study.

www.va.gov/pittsburgh-health-care
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.

Patriots Cove hosts fishing on the Susquehanna, Beaver Run

Patriots Cove, an outdoor recreation organization with facilities near Noxen, Wyoming County, Pa., hosted its August fishing event with fishing for small mouth bass on the Susquehanna River and fly fishing for trout on Beaver Run on the Patriots Cove property.

New Keystone PVA member Eric Greenwald traveled across the Commonwealth to participate and was greeted by Patriots Cove Fishing liaison Dave Falkowski and Keystone PVA Secretary and MS Committee Representative Peter Townsend, a resident of Wyoming County.

See more information on Patriots Cove on page 5.



Eric Greenwald, a member new to Keystone PVA this year and appearing in all three photos, traveled to Patriots Cove to participate in its fishing event in August. In the photo below, he's with **Dave Falkowski** (center) and **Peter Townsend**.



2025-26 season Keystone PVA bowling scores



*Reported as of mid-August 2026.
Bowling year: 01 Oct - 30 Sept*

	High Game	High Series	High Average	Strikes	Spares	Games	Average
Bob Baker	211	534	178	148	357	115	124
Sean Ferry	199	530	176	61	369	36	155
Bill Jackson	180	410	136	43	101	38	118
Bill Jakovac	164	403	134	37	60	30	109
Jorden Jones	193	460	153	25	88	18	146
John Kellner	201	504	168	269	580	151	140
Mark Rosensteel	211	552	184	130	341	67	158

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.

Keystone athletes earn 40 medals in Detroit *Continued from page 1*

may participate in multiple events. Their relative abilities are measured by Games officials, who then classify them so they may compete in similar categories. Not all disabled vets use wheelchairs, so to keep the field of play level, all competitors are required to compete from wheelchairs. One exception are the field events, for which special seating is provided for tossing the discus, shot and javelin.

Keystone PVA provides funding for the travel and lodging of members who wish to and medically qualify to participate and for an attendant, often a family member. The 2027 National Veterans Wheelchair Games will be held in Orlando, Florida at the Orange County Convention Center 14 — 19 July. The sponsorship form for Keystone PVA members who wish to have the chapter's financial support will be in the November-December 2026 edition of The Parascopes.

Keystone's **Jorden Jones** (number 81) encountered National PVA President **Robert Thomas** on the power soccer court. ►

Raymond "Joe" Wilkinson (second from right) and his team, Huron, celebrated their first-place finish as the 2026 National Veterans Wheelchair Games came to a close. ▼



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.

Pheasant Hunt and Picnic on 12 September 2026 starting at 8 a.m. at the McDonald Sportsmen's Association, 8699 Sportsmens Club Way, McDonald PA 15057. Shotguns and licenses are not required. Come for the picnic if you don't hunt. Contact Dick Polk, 412-478-0122.

South Fayette Township Disabled Hunters Deer Hunt Scheduled for 23-24 October 2026. All participants must have a valid, current antlerless deer tag for WMZ 2B and a Disabled Persons Permit from the Pa. Game Commission. Preregistration is required. Contact Ian McNeil at 412-221-8700 for a hunt application.

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 results from the 2026 National Veterans Wheelchair Games

Scoring notes: Events with targets are scored on points, which are shown. Field events show distances in meters. Team events (basketball, power soccer, softball and wheelchair rugby) or elimination competition (table tennis) show only what place the athlete or the athlete's team may have placed, but no scores. Racing events (handcycling, track) are measured in units of time. Weightlifting results are in pounds. Athletes are rated by ability and compete in different classifications and divisions. They are not usually competing head-to-head within the same event. The numbers following the event name (format: xx/xxx) show the number of Keystone PVA athletes and the number of total entries for the event. This information was obtained from the information posted by the organizers of the Games and not all information was available. Corrections are welcome.

<u>Athlete/Category</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Classification and Division</u>		<u>Score and Place</u>	
ADAPTIVE FITNESS (2/64)					
Sean Ferry	Adaptive Fitness	IA	Masters	343	1
Austin Walters	Adaptive Fitness	IB	Open	519	1
AIR PISTOL (3/60)					
William Hoffman	Air Rifle	P1	Masters	009	-
AIR RIFLE (4/151)					
William Hoffman	Air Rifle	SH1	Masters	495	-
Bill Jakovac	Air Rifle	SH1	Seniors	454	-
Jorden Jones	Air Rifle	SH2	Novice	384	-
Mark Rosensteel	Air Rifle	SH2	Seniors	485	-
ARCHERY (1/97)					
William Hoffman	Recurve Bow II		Masters	065	1
BOCCIA (4/314)					
Sean Ferry	Boccia—Ramp		Masters		3
Joe Gilkinson	Boccia IB		Masters		1
William Hoffman	Boccia II		Masters		-
Bill Jakovac	Boccia V		Seniors		-
Jorden Jones	Boccia—Ramp		Novice		1
Mark Rosensteel	Boccia—Ramp		Seniors		-
Tom Strang	Boccia III		Seniors		-
BOWLING (5/282)					
Sean Ferry	Pwr. chair, hand controls	IA	Masters	497	2
William Hoffman	Manual	II	Masters	219	2
Bill Jakovac	Manual	V	Seniors	296	-
Jorden Jones	Pwr. chair, hand controls	IA	Novice	459	1
Mark Rosensteel	Pwr chair, hand controls	IA	Seniors	440	1
CYCLING (2/68)					
Rory Cooper	Handcycle	II-III	Seniors	27:25.3	1
Bill Hoffman	Handcycle	II-III	Masters	47:37.0	1
DISC GOLF (3/157)					
Rory Cooper	Disc Golf	II-III	Seniors	18	3
Bill Jakovac	Disc Golf	IV-V	Seniors	15	3
Tom Strang	Disc Golf	IV-V	Seniors	27	-

Results continued on page 10



(Top left) **Austin Walters** tossed in the cornhole competition, one of his many other events..

(Top right) **Bill Jakovac** competed in the Seniors Division of table tennis, which had 138 entrants.

(Bottom left) **Tom Strang** picked up a gold medal in fishing.

(Bottom right) In this year of the North America-hosted World Cup, a giant soccer ball was one obstacle in the slalom, which is being pushed up a ramp by **Rory Cooper**.



Directors each re-elected to three-year terms

Sean M. Ferry, William D. Lightner, and Peter K. Townsend Jr. (*pictured, left to right*) all received a majority of votes cast by members to be re-elected to the Board of Directors of the Keystone PVA, each for three-year terms.

Their new terms begin on 01 October 2026 and will end on 30 September 2029.

As members of the Board, they are responsible for the assets, operations, and reputation of the chapter. To determine chapter policy, conduct oversight, and approve major decisions, the Board meets monthly on the third Thursday unless pre-empted by another chapter event or commitment.

They will take the oath of office at the chapter's Annual Awards Banquet on Thursday, 01 October 2026.

The Board elects officers of the chapter from among the Board members for one-year terms each at its first meeting of the fiscal year, which is scheduled for 15 October 2026.



Ferry takes post on Paralyzed Veterans of America Board as National Director

Sean M. Ferry was elected by the Keystone Paralyzed Veterans of America to become a member of the Board of Directors of the national Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) for a three-year term that began on 01 July 2026.

Each chapter associated with the PVA elects one member to the PVA Board, which meets three times a year, twice in person, to conduct the major policy and decision making of PVA. The position is commonly referred to as "National Director." Though this arrangement appears to give representation of the chapters on the national PVA Board, the national PVA and the chapters are separately incorporated nonprofit organizations and the national directors execute their fiduciary duties on behalf of the PVA, not the chapters from which they were elected.

Sean succeeds William D. Jakovac, who has served in the position since 2014. Bill succeeded the late James E. Reimer, who served in the post from 2001 to 2007 and again from 2010 to 2013, when he was elected Keystone PVA president.



Votes for chapter directors were tallied on 07 August at the chapter office. Membership Officer **Tom Strang** (*left*), who becomes the election officer in the years he is not on the ballot, oversaw the count by Associate Members (*left to right*) **Agnes Strang**, **Jim Moore**, and **Sylvett Wideman**.

You are invited to the **Annual Awards Banquet** of the **Keystone Paralyzed Veterans of America** **Thursday, 01 October 2026** at **Tesla's Ramada by Wyndham**

139 Pittsburgh Road (Pa. Route 8), Butler PA 16001

Tesla's Ramada by Wyndham is just south of the city of Butler, Pa.

The ballroom on the ground floor, level with the parking lot,
which surrounds the building.

The hotel shares the property with the Tesla Biohealing Resort, which dominates the view from Pittsburgh Road/Route 8. The sign pictured at the right is directly in front of the property on Route 8. When driving onto the property, the main entrance to the hotel is on the left side of the building complex; a dedicated ballroom entrance is on the right.

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.

Due to food preparation considerations, no refunds for cancellations can be honored after 12 noon on Wednesday, 23 September. Checks for no-shows will not be returned.

**Dinner will be buffet style, featuring
braised beef tips and stuffed chicken breast.**

The buffet will also include mashed potatoes and steamed broccoli.
Served with coffee, iced tea or lemonade, a mixed greens salad, rolls & butter, and a Texas sheet cake for dessert. Special dietary needs will be accommodated on request.

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

Please complete the form below. Make your check out to
"Keystone PVA" and return no later than 23 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.*



Mileage and lodging 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 \$.60/mile. **Members who travel over 25 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, 01 OCTOBER 2026

Please provide the name(s) you want on your nametag.

Name

Phone

Check here ☐ if you are a Keystone PVA
Life Member or Associate Member

Amount enclosed: \$ _____ made out to Keystone PVA

Name of guest

Name of guest

Name of guest

<u>Athlete/Category</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Classification and Division</u>			<u>Score and Place</u>	
FIELD (4/175)						
William Hoffman	Discus	II	Masters		5.45	-
William Hoffman	Javelin	II	Masters		5.24	-
William Hoffman	Shot Put	II	Masters		2.80	-
Rory Cooper	Discus	III	Seniors		6.77	2
Rory Cooper	Javelin	III	Seniors		5.46	3
Austin Walters	Discus	IB	Open		7.27	2
Austin Walters	Javelin	IB	Open		6.08	3
Austin Walters	Shot Put	IB	Open		3.47	1
FISHING (1/90)						
Tom Strang	Fishing—Individual	III	Seniors			1
Tom Strang	Fishing—Team	III	Seniors			1
MOTORIZED SLALOM (2/101)						
Sean Ferry	Motor Slalom—hand controls	IA	Masters		4:19.84	2
M. Rosensteel	Motor Slalom—hand controls	IA	Seniors		4:54.91	1
NINE BALL (2/205)						
William Jakovac	Nine Ball	V	Seniors			-
Tom Strang	Nine Ball	III	Seniors			-
PICKLEBALL (1/97)						
Rory Cooper	Pickleball—II/III/IV/V	III	Seniors			-
POWER SOCCER (3/38)						
Sean Ferry	Power Soccer	IA	Masters	Team: GTO		-
Jorden Jones	Power Soccer	IA	Novice	Team: Dart		1
Mark Rosensteel	Power Soccer	IA	Seniors	Team: Chargers		3
POWER LIFTING (1/101)						
Austin Walters	Bench Press IB	Open			90	2
Austin Walters	Deadlift	I/unl	Open		135	2
THE RALLY (5/143)						
Sean Ferry	The Rally	IA	Masters			1
William Hoffman	The Rally	II	Masters			3
Bill Jakovac	The Rally	V	Seniors			3
Jorden Jones	The Rally	IA	Novice			-
Mark Rosensteel	The Rally	N/A	Seniors			-
SLALOM (4/31)						
Rory Cooper	Slalom (II, II)	III	Seniors		6:59.56	2
Joe Gilkinson	Slalom (IA, IB, IC)	IB	Masters		2:23.08	-
Tom Strang	Slalom (II, III)	III	Seniors		7:34.66	3
Austin Walters	Slalom (IA, IB, IC)	IB	Open		1:59.56	3

Results continued on next page



(Top right) **Austin Walters** (center, in green) competes in wheelchair rugby.

(Above) **Bill Hoffman**, in the Masters Division of archery with a recurve bow, earned a gold medal.

(Left) **Rory Cooper**, in the center of the photo, took a first place in the Seniors division handcycling event with a time of 27 minutes, 25.3 seconds.

<u>Athlete/Category</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Classification and Division</u>			<u>Score and Place</u>	
SWIMMING (1/115)						
Rory Cooper	Backstroke, 50m	III-IIIK	Masters		1:27.52	1
Rory Cooper	Breaststroke, 50m	III-IIIK	Masters		3:05.57	1
Rory Cooper	Freestyle, 50m	III-IIIK	Masters		1:36.58	1
Rory Cooper	Freestyle, 100m	III-IIIK	Masters		3:24.28	1
Rory Cooper	Freestyle, 200m	III-IIIK	Masters		7:09.85	1
TABLE TENNIS (2/138)						
Rory Cooper	Table Tennis	III	Masters			1
Bill Jakovac	Table Tennis	V	Seniors			-
WHEELCHAIR RUGBY (2/28)						
Joe Gilkinson	Wheelchair Rugby	1	Masters	Team: Huron		1
Austin Walters	Wheelchair Rugby	3	Novice	Team: Michigan		3

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 at 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.

What can a PVA National Service Officer do for you?

- Help you explore what benefits you may be entitled to
- Help you file a claim
- Answer questions about your VA benefits
- Advocate on your behalf in VA Benefits and VA Healthcare
- Provide information on various VA programs, loans and grants including but not limited to:
 - CHAMPVA health insurance
 - Dependent educational assistance (DEA)
 - Disability Housing grant
 - Automobile and Adaptive Equipment grants

See the list of PVA National Service offices and staff on page 14

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!

September

03	Earl Corp
	Robert Pamplin
05	Beth Duvall
	Larry Spahr Jr.
07	Clarissa Congie
	Steven R. Iman
	Kathleen Kleinmann
	Rody Rogers
08	Jesse Lyles
	Gary L. Smith
09	Paula Schultz
12	William Ferguson Jr.
13	Stephen P. Lee
14	Barbara Plants
	Todd R. Wallace
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

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!

October

01	Ray Mercalde
02	George Barton
04	Eric Kaag
05	Kurt Eisele
	Jorden Jones
06	Timothy Reider
10	Dwaine Crytzer
	Stanley Gillis
11	Michael Kiley
	William Metzger
12	Jim Costello
13	Truman "Dick" Yohe
15	Russell Achilles
	Jeffrey Campbell
	Thomas Fix
18	Louise Wall
19	Gib Gutshall
20	Audra Lyons
23	Chad Evans

24
25
26
27
31

Robert Eyler
Kevin Lee
Mark Rosensteel
Victor Ramos
Patrick Schwabenbauer
Peter Townsend Jr.
Thomas Shaffer
Daniel Heffernan
Brooke Schmolly
Bruce Palmisano
John Kellner
Joseph Shaw

November

02	Annie Kiren
03	Paula L. Fox
06	Charles Freed
	Michelle Shoop.
08	Gary Kirkendall
09	Rory Cooper
	Raymond "Joe" Gilkinson
	James Harff
	Gregory Heinle
11	Marcus Mitchell
12	Richard S. Sarocky
15	Janice Rapoza
16	Raymond Castleberry
18	Terry Greer
	Rebecca Henderson
	Edward Leeper
	Harry Wallis
19	Larry Brown
20	Gerald Longstreth
21	Dane Smith
22	James Jakubowski
23	Agnes Strang
	Rebecca Strang
25	Regis P. McManus Jr.
27	Harley Marino
28	Connor Fox Jr.
29	Pamela Stania
30	Sharon Lightner
	Dwight Morris
	John Sunderhauf

PHOTO CREDITS Page 4, right center: Lisa Townsend. Page 4, the other photos: Dave Falkowski. Page 7, top left and bottom left, and page 11, top right and center, U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Other photos were taken by staff or are file photos.

ADVERTISING in THE PARASCOPE

The Parascope is published bi-monthly. Deadline for submission of ad copy for the November-December issue will be 15 October.

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

The August Membership Meeting was held on Saturday, 08 August at 10 a.m. President Mark Rosensteel presided, as usual, and most attendees “Zoomed in” from home. But chapter Vice President Sean Ferry and Site Leader John Larese organized a meeting site at the Erie VA Medical Center for members in the Erie, Pa. region. VP Ferry says that he will continue to ask the Erie VAMC for a meeting room with a video screen to join chapter Membership Meetings.

The results of the annual Board of Directors election were announced at the meeting, which are also reported on page 8.

The next three Membership Meetings will continue to start at 10 a.m., all on Saturdays on 10 October, 12 December, and 13 February. While the chapter office will be staffed during these meetings, members in the Pittsburgh region have chosen and may choose to join from home by Zoom.

Details for attending the October Membership Meeting are on the back page.

We welcome new Life Members—

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

Alan D. Kennedy of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Air Force.

Timothy Milligan of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Army.

MEMBERSHIP TOTALS AS OF 31 AUGUST 2026

Service connected	166
Non-service connected	<u>89</u>
TOTAL	255

Annual Associate Members	16
Lifetime Associate Members	<u>70</u>
TOTAL	86

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. Zimmitt

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 sits at the intersection of Library Road (Pa. Route 88) and Loretta Street in Bethel Park, Allegheny County, Pa. It's in the parking lot of the Bethel Park Laundromat and just two "doors" away from Keystone Coach Works, which modified the chapter's minivan and just recently tuned up its ramp mechanism. As always, thanks to the businesses and organizations that host the American Thrift donation boxes!

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.

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!**

If you have donated, *thank you!*

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, 10 OCTOBER 2026**
MEETING TIME: **10:00 a.m.**

*Primary site: Keystone PVA offices,
1113 Main Street, Sharpsburg
(Pittsburgh PA 15215)*

Join by Zoom videoconference.

Members who reside outside southwestern
Pennsylvania 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 02 October 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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