



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**

West Virginia Chapter

336 Campbells Creek Dr.
Charleston, WV 25306

304-925-9352
info@wvpva.org

Check Out Our Website
www.wvpva.org

(Continued from page 10)

the program every 3rd Thursday of the month. Veterans, you need to participate in these they are very helpful. Until the next meeting on February 18, 2016, keep in touch.

West Virginia Paralyzed Veterans of America, Inc.

ROLLING MOUNTAINEER

November/December 2015
January/February 2016



PRESIDENT'S REPORT Submitted By: Randy Pleva

Well, we are getting closer and closer to Christmas. WOW! Can you believe that?? Anyway, things at the chapter are steady getting it. Yes, we need more volunteers. If you live near a VA hospital and want to get involved please do so. Michelle has been working on some special issues and I'm glad to say they are rectified. Laura worked the trapshoot in Pennsylvania with great success, Roger has a few arms in the fire as sports director overseeing different events doing a great job, then our hospital liaison at all 4 VAMC's been busy so we are keeping up. We haven't had a ADA COMPLAINT in a long time. Legislative issues will be coming up in January. Things at the office are keeping Amanda busy, so overall the chapter is doing a great job. We had a program review in September from our National Organization. There are a couple of things we need to improve on and we will. This chapter been here since 1990, and became a full chapter in '92. For 25 years we have been here working with Brenda and Doug, our Service Officers, making sure all veterans and their families got what they were promised. Our little chapter has helped a lot of people down through the years . It has changed people's lives and, of course, it could not have happen if it wasn't for the ones on the ground beating the bushes, making meetings, attending seminars, traveling thousand of miles in their own vans and cars wearing themselves out plus putting unwanted mileage on their vans and cars. A lot of these people have gone on to rest and May the good Lord grant them rest.

SECRETARY'S REPORT Submitted By: Lawrence Mullins

We have had some recent changes in the chapter's personnel. On Wednesday, November 17th I accepted a letter of resignation from our medical director, Michelle Cumpton. There aren't any plans as of now to hire a new medical director. On Friday, November 20 I also accepted a let-

**Paralyzed Veterans of America
West Virginia Chapter**
336 Campbells Creek Dr.
Charleston, WV 25306
Tel: (304) 925-9352 or (800) 540-9352
Fax: (304) 926-8519
Email: info@wvpva.org
Website: www.wvpva.org
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 7:30am-3:30pm

WV-PVA OFFICERS
President: Gilbert "Darrell" Miller
Vice President: Lawrence "Louie" Mullins
Secretary/Treasurer: VACANT
National Director: Gilbert "Darrell" Miller

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Darrell Carrell, Laura Ellington, Roger Sack,
Richard Simers, Albert Taylor, Jr.

PROGRAM DIRECTORS
Membership Officer: Amanda Bias
Volunteer Coordinator: Amanda Bias
Service: Lawrence "Louie" Mullins
Fundraising" Laura Ellington
Sports & Recreation: Roger Sack
Chapter Editor: Amanda Bias

STAFF
Office Manager: Amanda Bias

Membership Report	
SC	82
NSC	80
Total	162
Associate Members	
	21
Volunteer Report	
	16

**Has your address changed?
Please inform us by email:
info@wvpva.org, or you
may write or call us at the
following:**
West Virginia Chapter PVA
336 Campbells Creek Dr.
Charleston, WV 25306
Office (304) 925-9352 or (800)
540-9352
Fax (304) 926-8519

HLO REPORT

Submitted By: Lawrence Mullins

I arrived at the Huntington VA at 2:00 on November 10th, as I was passing out PN magazines I went to speak with the SCI coordinator. I then found out that she was out on training. After I spoke with the spinal cord nurse, Regina. She informed me that there weren't any SCI/D patients in the hospital at that time. I also learned that there was a new doctor taking Dr. Conner's place. I spoke with Leo in rehab to see if there any problems with people getting their prosthetic equipment, and he said that everything was running smoothly. I left the hospital around 3:30 headed to a challenged athletes banquet at the Charleston Marriot. This is the organization that hosts the Mid-Atlantic Challenged Sports Games in Charleston every May. We sponsor the air rifle shoot during these games. I left the banquet at 7:00 headed home. If you are having any problems with the VA or want to learn more about the games call the office at 304-925-9352 or email me at imwild79@aol.com.

Advisory Council Meeting

Submitted By: Darrell Carrell

I arrived at Huntington VAMC at 11:50am on November 19th and went to Walsh Conference room where the meeting was ready to begin. Jim Patrick was in attendance along with Al Taylor on teleconference. Dr. Tinney was talking about how restricted SCI/D was on travel for education this year, and how he was hoping that in 2016 funding would be better. Jim Patrick asked how the facility teams were working together, and about the SCI/D Team. Dr. Tinney responded that they were good and that the SCI/D team would remain the same. Topic of prescriptions meds was brought up by Al Taylor. He asked how the changes in pharmacy were effecting prescriptions from Nashville? Robin, from pharmacy, clarified that we usually get ours from Muffersboro, TN, and things are going pretty smooth. Overlays for long distance transport are working out okay. It's all so far so good. The meeting adjourned around 12:45 p.m. We still have to call into

(Continued on page 12)

ter of resignation from our president, Randy Pleva. After 25 plus years of service to our chapter he decided that he needed to take a break for awhile. He was a great asset to the chapter and still has a few projects that he is working on. Darrell Miller has assumed the presidency and will be appointing a vice president in the near future.

Thanks to the hard work of our sports director we had a charity clay shoot held at Hunting Hills Shooting Preserve in Dilliner, PA. We received a 10,000 dollar donation from the event. The chapter would like to thank the event sponsors and Roger Sack for their efforts in putting this event together. Also Roger filed for and received a grant from National PVA for future sporting events.

The chapter will be closed from December 18th through January 3rd. I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I look forward to serving you in 2016.

DRIVERS CHOICE

Submitted By: Lawrence Mullins

For those of you who are tired of the same old choice, either mini-van or full size vans, there are now newer and better options. A few months back I was at Midway Ford in Hurricane where they unveiled their wheelchair accessible Ford Explorer. A smaller more compact vehicle that gets better mileage than either van. It can accommodate a full size power chair with room for three additional passengers. It has removable front driver and passenger seats. The lift and doors open just like the mini-van with the lift unfolding and the door sliding to the rear. It also has a four inch kneeling system that squats the vehicle on the passenger side by four inches so that it is easier to get in and out of the vehicle.

There are two conversion companies offering both 2wd and 4wd full size pick-ups. The first is a company called Mobility SVM. This conversion allows the driver side front and rear door on a 4 door pickup to slide out 36 inches while bringing a lift out with it. The lift will accommodate chairs up to 29" wide and has a 750 pound lift capacity. They can do this conver-

sion on either driver or passenger side. Whether you can get a 2wd or 4wd depends on the link of your chair.

The second is a company called All Terrain Conversions (ATC). With this conversion the door lifts up vertically then the lift slides out of the van and comes to the ground. This lift also accommodates chairs up to 29" inches long with 750 pound weight capacity. I personally drove to Columbus, Ohio and tested this conversion out. I am 6'4", and me and my chair have a combined weight 730 pounds and this system operated flawlessly.

If you have any question you can contact me at 304-541-1843 or you can contact Mobility SVM at 1-260-434-4777 and ATC at 1-855-324-3085.

VETERANS 10K Submitted By: Lawrence Mullins

On Friday, November 6th I traveled to Wheeling to observe the veterans 10k run/walk. When I arrived at the hotel, I met with Roger Sack (chapter sports director) and we discussed the upcoming event. Saturday morning we headed to the starting point of the race bright and early(7:30am). Roger then introduced me to several event coordinators and racers including the two hand cyclists. George Jackson and Tom Furnival were the only hand cyclists out of 700 racers. The racers lined up about ten minutes prior to the start. After the national anthem was sung, Roger was called to be the official racer starter. The race began at 8:30 and, since we weren't competing, I followed Roger to the finish line where we awaited the runners arrival. Both hand cyclists finished in well under an hour with Tom Furnival finishing first.

After the race was complete the runners and cyclist were treated to a banquet where awards were given out. There were awards given for many different age groups and categories. All being said, the event went very smoothly and I enjoyed watching the many veterans and others in the race. The only troublesome part was the cyclists didn't get their due recognition at the banquet as there was some sort of mix-up. I would like to apologize for that and say a job well done. I hope to see them there next year along with more cyclists, possibly some from our chapter.

WV—PVA DONORS

Donations can be made in any amount and are fully tax deductible. Donors will be printed in our bi-monthly newsletter as follows:

Bronze – \$25 or more

Grandparents Club of Charleston – South Charleston, WV
Mr. & Mrs. James Crysel– Sylacauga, AL
Mt. Juliet Methodist Church – Belle, WV
Rudy & Phyllis Hoch –Greensboro, NC
J.T. Billups – Pickerington, OH
Ronald Patterson –Hedgesville, WV
Garrett R. Thompson –Clemmons, NC
Frances Walker – St. Albans, WV
James A. & Pamela J. White – Charleston, WV
Willis Chiropractic –Wytheville, VA
Shirlene Talley—Bridgeport, WV

Silver – \$50 or more

Seidel & DeFilippo Dentistry Partnership—Gettysburg, PA
William & Martha Salerno—Shinnston, WV
George & Glenna Moose -Charleston, WV
J.T. & Terry Hannah -Florida
Lee & Lynn Seibert –Greensboro, NC
Division of Highways Traffic Engineering Division (Maura Burke) - Nitro, WV
Charlie & Tinker Dalton – Greensboro, NC
Frank & Phyllis Hall – Greensboro, NC
Ruth Ellen Luck –Greensboro, NC
Larry & Cynthia Cummins – Shelby, NC
Dorothy Farmer – Grayson, KY
George H. & Glenna Moose Charleston, WV
Charles & Jean Oliver –St. Albans, WV
Joyce, Joe & Lori Moore—Wallace, WV

Gold – \$100 or more

Hanover Fellowship
Church—Hanover, PA
Esler Chapel United Methodist—Wallace, WV
Richard Simers - Osgood, IN
Darrell Carrell - Pikeville, KY
First Army Division East (Rolda Gaines) - Ft. Meade, MD
Ellen Martin – High Point, NC
Michael & Augusta Brannen – St Simons Island, GA
John E. Devine – Summersville, WV
Junior W. Elswick – Charleston, WV
Randy B. Maxwell – Princeton, WV
C. M. Meador, III – Charleston, WV
Clifford & Mary Porter –Fort Gay, WV
George & Mary Beth Zutaut – Beckley, WV

Platinum – \$250 or more

Campbells Creek Car Club - Charleston, WV
James B. & Judith Reynolds— Ashland, KY
Albert F. Taylor, Jr. – St. Albans, WV
Van-Lifts Unlimited—Hurricane, WV
Good Samaritan Foundation – Charleston, WV
George D. Begler – Newton, WV
Douglass Campbell – Martinsburg, WV
Laura & John Ellington – Fairmont, WV
John & Carolyn Harris – Sutton, WV
Gilbert "Darrell" Miller – Indianapolis, IN
Jeanette Pleva – Charleston, WV
Beecher Rhoades – Camden, WV

Remember, your contribution will be deeply appreciated and you will be sent a receipt for your generosity. Thank you

<i>February 2016</i>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29					

Birthdays

Amanda L. Bias	2/08
Larry P. Shreve	2/11
Harry R. Seabolt	2/11
Timothy W. Haycraft	2/12
Rodney D. Taylor	2/14
Rome E. Stover	2/16
Junior W. Elswick	2/17
William R. Melander, Sr.	2/24
William H. Poteet, Jr.	2/26
Samantha A. Ward	2/26
Linda M. Estep	2/27

VETERANS CHOICE PROGRAM Submitted By: Doug Woodard, NSO

Hello everyone. I hope that you all are doing well and getting prepared for the cold weather that is quickly approaching. For this edition, I have decided to alter the format of my submission, in the hope of making it more interesting while still being informative. I may use this format in the future, depending on the feedback that I receive. If you have any questions about this, or any other VA issue, please contact me at (304) 399-9393.

Scenario:

A veteran has been approved by VA to be evaluated on October 31, 2014 by a non-VA physician using her Veterans Choice card. After the evaluation, the non-VA physician recommends surgery based on the findings from the evaluation. In addition, the non-VA physician schedules the veteran to have the surgery performed by him in a non-VA hospital on November 30, 2014.

Question:

Can the veteran have the surgery performed by the non-VA physician in a private sector hospital, using her Veterans Choice card?

Answer:

Yes, the veteran can have the surgery performed by the non-VA physician in the private sector hospital, if certain steps are taken. In this scenario, the non-VA physician would have to report the findings and recommendation to Triwest, who then notifies VA. Triwest is a healthcare alliance that administers the Veterans Choice Program. The VA will then contact the non-VA provider, granting or denying authorization for a subsequent visit. The veteran, however, should always call the number on the back of the Veterans Choice card to confirm authorization, prior to any evaluation or procedure.

November & December Birthdays

Douglass Campbell	11/02
Jerry L. Huffman	11/02
Michelle L. Mardos	11/03
Charles E. Patton	11/04
Franklin L. Simmons, Jr.	11/05
Richard L. Boyd	11/07
Jeremiah J. Arbogast	11/07
Ralph Fox, Jr.	11/08
Kenneth W. Swartz	11/09
David G. Allen	11/13
Donald J. Lecik	11/14
Virginia E. Moles	11/17
Matthew N. Burton	11/19
Michael E. Corn	11/20
David A. Hicks	11/24
Charles J. Erb	11/30
Freddie L. Kincaid	11/30
Michael S. McCafferty	12/02
Thomas G. Girondo	12/02
Richard L. Miller	12/04
Edward W. Tenney	12/08
Lisa L. Oliver	12/10
Lawrence V. Mullins, Jr.	12/12
Larry R. Bradshaw	12/18
Michael J. Raad	12/18
Darrell Carrell	12/19
Mary Beth Zutaut	12/21
Roderick S. Sharkady	12/21
Elayne R. Devine	12/22
Angelo Zayas	12/24
Louis (Brad) B. Rhodes	12/30

<i>January 2016</i>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Birthdays

William C. Crank	1/03	Jacob N. Stafford	1/13
Gilbert D. Miller	1/05	Ronald L. Patterson	1/13
William L. Barnhart	1/05	Connie I. Harper	1/14
James M. Lowe	1/05	Larry K. Williamson	1/21
John L. May	1/05	Kevin R. Thompson	1/23
Robert P. Fisher	1/05	Carl J. Landers	1/24
David J. Rose	1/06	Millard C. Shaffer	1/26
Kent A. Brown	1/08	David M. Fetty	1/29
Patrick V. Murphy	1/08	Roger D. Sack	1/30
James F. Cole, Jr.	1/10	Leslie R. Freeland	1/31
James D. Fritz	1/10		