Paralyzed Veterans of America

Texas Chapter

6418 FM 2100 Road, Crosby, TX 77532
Toll Free (800) 933-4261
(713) 520-8782 (800) 933-4261 Fax (713) 520-8217
www.texaspva.org info@texaspva.org

ANNUAL REPORT 2014 - 2015

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Officers – Board of Directors

President…… Anne Robinson
Immediate Past President……..……David Fowler
Vice President……Tammy Jones
2014 Secretary……..…… Kate Callahan
2015 Secretary …….. Matthew Bourbon
Treasurer…….……Darrell Wilson
Board Member #1…….....Derrick Perkins
Board Member #2……...Alvin Guerrero
Board Member #3……...Frank Ellis

Program Directors

National Director…….……..……Darrell Wilson
South TX Satellite……...……...…….John Taylor
San Antonio Satellite……...……..….Ben Reynaga
Houston Satellite……Frank Ellis
Legislative……...……..…..Darrell Wilson
Advocacy……...…….……...….Derrick Perkins
Sports and Recreation…….……...……Tammy Jones
Outdoor Sports…….……..……Alvin Guerrero
Service…….……...Vacant
Membership…….……...Anne Robinson
MS Director…..…….……David Conerly
Volunteer Services…….…….....Sherry Kirkpatrick
San Antonio HLO ……....……....Anne Robinson
Government Relations……Kerry Reyna
San Antonio VAVS ……...Andy Roca
San Antonio VAVS …….....Hope Cooper
San Antonio VAVS ……....……..Barry Muth
San Antonio VAVS ……...John Shores
Houston VAVS……..Carlton Tucker

TPVA Chapter Staff

Executive Director…….……....Amanda Saunders
Bookkeeper ……...……Jill Blankenship
Administrative Assistant/Editor…….Sherry Kirkpatrick
E-Mail: ……...…info@texaspva.org

National Service Officers

SNSO—Greg Treacy
NSO—Kimberly Springfield
SNSO—Armando de La Rosa
NSO—John Allen
VLO—Jack Soto

TPVA partners with Merchandise Collection Services which is a fundraiser.

If you'd like to donate contact:

THRIFT STORES

Houston & Corpus scheduling
713-696-5500

San Antonio scheduling 210-431-3726

Austin scheduling 512-443-3336

Hello Texas Chapter PVA members, donors, and friends,

It is my pleasure to present the Paralyzed Veterans of America, Texas Chapter's 2014-2015 Annual Report.

We started off a terrific year with our annual Jack Sanders Award Banquet and membership meeting in Houston, with the 2014 Jack Sanders award being given posthumously to David Fowler. Several awards were given to VA SCI employees, members, and donors and the new Board of Directors were sworn in by our National Vice President Liaison, Charlie Brown.

The Board of Directors knew that we were facing a challenging situation staying in our office location due to the condition of the building and safety needs, so we set our sights on finding a permanent location for the Texas Chapter. After searching for a couple of months, we found a great location in Crosby, which is on the northeast side of Houston. It is a great community that will allow TPVA to grow its membership programs as well as providing a safe and long-term location for the chapter office.

TPVA staggers our elections to split the board up for election process. This helps to ensure that your board members maintain a high level of experience. We hold quarterly face-to-face board meetings, rotating between Houston and San Antonio, providing an opportunity for membership to participate. In between the face-to-face meetings, we hold monthly BOD teleconferences to conduct business.

The Houston, South Texas, and San Antonio Satellites hold membership forums once a month at their respective SCI centers/cities. The Satellite Directors provide information to local members on chapter issues, as well as what events are going on. It gives members the opportunity to bring up issues as well as promote fellowship with other members in the area.

TPVA has two VA SCI facilities in its area. The Michael E DeBakey VAMC is in Houston and the Audie L Murphy VAMC is in San Antonio. Each facility has a hospital liaison that works with the local NSO and hospital administration to ensure that TPVA members have great access to medical care.

Texas Chapter's Board of Directors will continue to work diligently on behalf of its 612 members, keeping it strong and a viable part of the community. This annual report includes detailed financial accounting information for the fiscal years of 2014-2015 and lists out the different programs as in accordance with our bylaws.

There are many people to thank for helping TPVA to continue its mission. First to our members, spouses, and other volunteers for all of their dedicated time and energy, allowing us to achieve our goals. To our generous donors, thank you. Our membership programs are a huge success because of your generosity. Finally, to the staff and Board of Directors, thank you for all you do. I know it's hard to find time for yourself sometimes, but to see the smiles and first time achievements of the members makes it all worth it.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of our new members this past year, as we gained quite a few, but also I would like to remember those that have "graduated" this year. We are grateful to have had you as part of our family.

Anne Robinson

Chapter Administration

Our office hours are 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:15 a.. to 12:00 p.m. on Friday. We are in compliance with all the reporting requirements as mandated by PVA's Governing Documents. We receive an annual audit of our financial statement and file all required documents with the IRS, the state, and other entities, as required. TPVA has three employees, Executive Director Amanda Saunders, Bookkeeper Jill Blankenship, and Administrative Assistant/Newsletter Editor, Sherry Kirkpatrick who work to ensure that the chapter is successful. We appreciate all the numerous volunteers, including our staff and especially our families who answer the call to support our members.

Communication

Our *Speedy Gazette Newsletter* is published monthly and mailed electronically with the option of a hard copy to members and other supporters. If you would like to receive your newsletter via email instead of the mailed hard copy, please send us your email address. We regularly update our website at www.texaspva.org and *Facebook*, which offers public communication. Email blasts are sent when opportunities and/or news that may interest our members.

Service

National Service Officers for our member area are: Greg Treacy (713-383-2705) and Kimberly Springfield (713-794-7993) for the Michael E. DeBakey VAMC in Houston. Contact Armando De La Rosa, NSO (210-617-5275) at the Audie L. Murphy VAMC in San Antonio or Dan Meckel, NSO (254-299-9944) in Waco. Both San Antonio and Houston's SCI Units have Hospital Liaison Officers who volunteer valuable time to assist the NSOs and the Chapter to ensure that our hospitalized members receive the highest quality of care. TPVA members can apply and obtain their veteran's benefits through their local National Service Offices.

Liaison

We keep an active working relationship with the Michael E. DeBakey VAMC, the Audie L. Murphy VAMC, and community-based out-patient clinics throughout Texas. Assisting us is VLO, Jack Soto in Temple, Texas, HLO Anne Robinson at Audie L. Murphy VAMC, and HLO Frank Ellis and Carlton Tucker for Michael E. DeBakey VAMC. Our goal is to maintain presence at both facilities to ensure the highest quality of care.

Advocacy/Legislative

Being active in the legislative side of things this past year, with Texas Legislature in session in February, 2015, we scoured Austin's Capitol Hill to have our representatives hear our needs in state level government. We were also present during the National PVA Annual Advocacy meeting. The major issues of disabled veterans and civilians were analyzed, plotted and executed; again TPVA sought our state representatives at the federal level to hear and understand our plight. We plan on attending all levels of government meetings, being active from federal and state to local governments.

Sports and Recreation

Two Recreation Therapy Departments help getting members out & enjoying life. Each facility has holiday celebrations such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, & the ever-popular Patriotic holidays such as Memorial Day, & Independence Day where we offer cookouts to inpatients, staff and members. Veterans Day finds us in Houston participating in the city's Veterans Day Parade & in San Antonio, inpatients are treated to a steak dinner by a local restaurant. Together with the SCI RT Dept. at Audie L. Murphy VA inpatients & members have access to weekly events like Boccia, bowling and air rifles to name a few. At weekly events at both VA SCI centers, inpatients & members are invited to join in 9-Ball tournaments, mixed ability bowling tournaments & Boccia tournaments for some friendly competition. San Antonio area members enjoyed some baseball with tickets to the SA Missions ball games. In conjunction with BlazeSports, PVA Sports & the Houston Parks & Rec Adapted Sports Program, we held a 2-day Boccia Clinic. Through the RT, the inpatients & members also attended Houston Astros baseball games & Houston Rockets basketball games. The SCI patients enjoyed cookouts by volunteers, like BOD member Frank Ellis & his family. Members were able to get tickets to the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo. We hosted many fishing opportunities including one Galveston Bay excursion, in which inpatients from MED VA SCIC attended All enjoyed two Family Fishing Weekends in Port Aransas, organized by John Taylor. When it comes to Outdoor Sports, TPVA offered sporting clay shoots & in San Antonio, & range days were available for marksmanship practice. Working with many organizations we offer our members numerous hunting opportunities. Partnerships with Patriot Warrior Foundation (PWF), Texas Dove Hunters, Safari Club International–Houston & Alamo Chapter, Hill Country Chapter and Flying A Ranch along with many other ranches and groups allowing our members to return to hunting or to try it for the first time, no matter his/her level of ability.

Fundraising

In November, the Texas Chapter hosted our First Annual Freedom Shoot followed by our Seventh Annual Kill'n Clays Classic in March. Both events are successful fundraisers and we continue to grow our shooter participation, as well as our sponsor base. In June, we hosted our Hill Country Ride for Heroes in the San Antonio area. In July, Bounds Autoplex hosted a car show on our behalf. We will also be adding additional fundraisers for fiscal year 2016. Our thrift store operation continues to be our most profitable fundraiser. We would like to thank our sponsors and donors for their continuous support throughout the year.

Membership

Our member count was approximately 612, both service connected (299) and non-service connected (313.) This is a result of combined outreach efforts by our NSO's, our hospital liaison activities, as well as our many volunteers.

Satellites

San Antonio Satellite: We had a fun year with many great events, good times & opportunities to try new things to make our quality of life a little better. Helping with things on the SCI ward for our vets & staff has been a priority of the PVA members & volunteers. The Winter Sports Clinic, & Wheelchair Games were very successful in helping everyone experience how we are capable of doing more than we may have thought. I want to give the caregivers and our families a special thanks and a special thanks to our Board Members to help make things possible for our members. Many of our members got to try new events from Shooting Clays to hunting events. We enjoyed the ice cream socials and the holiday dinners. Most of all we enjoyed spending many good times together as an extended family. I see a bright future for this new year as we continue building our programs to new heights. I welcome new ideas that can help making a better quality of life for our members so we can present it to our board members to help make your ideas and dreams possible. Dr. Ben

ABBM Group, Ltd LLP
Certified Public Accountants

9575 Katy Freeway, Suite 370
Houston, Texas 77024
(713) 552-9800
FAX (713) 552-9700
www.abbmgroup.com
International Associate
UK 200 GROUP
Associate Offices in Principal Cities Around The World

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Trustees of
Paralyzed Veterans of America, Texas Chapter

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Paralyzed Veterans of America, Texas Chapter (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statements of financial position as of September 30, 2015 and 2014, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements
Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility
Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion
In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Paralyzed Veterans of America, Texas Chapter as of September 30, 2015

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and 2014, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

ABBM GROUP, LTD. LLP

Houston, Texas
January 27, 2016

PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA, TEXAS CHAPTER

Statement of Activities

For The Year Ended September 30, 2015

	Unrestricted	*Temporarily Restricted*	*Permanently Restricted*	*Total*
SUPPORT AND REVENUE:				
Contributions and support	$ 654,016	$ -	$ -	$ 654,016
PVA grant	163,275	-	-	163,275
Fundraising	39,275	-	-	39,275
Investment income	66,797	-	-	66,797
Net unrealized and realized gains (losses) on investments	(122,221)	-	-	(122,221)
Membership dues	-	-	-	-
Total support and revenue	801,142	-	-	801,142
EXPENSES:				
Program services:				
Membership and benefits	366,951	7,273	-	374,224
Public affairs	219,039	-	-	219,039
Research	25,748	-	-	25,748
Total program services	611,738	7,273	-	619,011
Support services:				
Management and general	156,061	-	-	156,061
Fundraising	18,714	-	-	18,714
Total support services	174,775	-	-	174,775
Total expenses	786,513	7,273	-	793,786
Change in net assets	14,629	(7,273)	-	7,356
Net assets, beginning of year	1,770,038	32,354	-	1,802,392
Net assets, end of year	$ 1,784,667	$ 25,081	$ -	$ 1,809,748

PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA, TEXAS CHAPTER Statement of Activities
For The Year Ended September 30, 2014

	Unrestricted	*Temporarily Restricted*	*Permanently Restricted*	*Total*
SUPPORT AND REVENUE:				
Contributions and support	$439,166	$ -	$ -	$439,166
PVA grant	155,000	-	-	155,000
Fundraising	30,393	-	-	30,393
Investment income	50,706	12	-	50,718
Net unrealized and realized gains (losses) on investments	38,998	- -	- -	38,998
Membership dues	-	-	-	
Total support and revenue	714,263	12	-	714,275
EXPENSES:				
Program services:				
Membership and benefits	300,743	14,352	-	315,095
Public affairs	148,952	-	-	148,952
Research	13,232	-	-	13,232
Total program services	462,927	14,352	-	477,279
Support services:				
Management and general	145,715	-	-	145,715
Fundraising	13,946	-	-	13,946
Total support services	159,661	-	-	159,661
Total expenses	622,588	14,352	-	636,940
Change in net assets	91,675	(14,340)	-	77,335
Net assets, beginning of year	1,678,363	46,694	-	1,725,057
Net assets, end of year	$ 1,770,038	$32,354	$ -	$ 1,802,392

Paralyzed Veterans of America
Texas Chapter

Purpose

The purpose of Paralyzed Veterans of America, Texas Chapter (TPVA) is to help our members and their families, veterans, and all people with disabilities with accessibility issues, civil rights, VA benefits, transportation issues, and new laws to enhance the lives of people with disabilities. TPVA also advocates for veterans and individuals suffering from spinal cord injury or disease in order to assist them in integrating into mainstream society and to open all possible avenues towards living life to its fullest.

One of the ways that TPVA accomplishes its purpose is to promote the health and wellbeing of the disabled person. Texas PVA provides information and equipment to potential wheelchair athletes. Archery, basketball, boating, football, sit-skiing, racquetball, rugby, swimming, tennis, track and field, and weightlifting are among the many sports and recreation activities in which our members can participate.

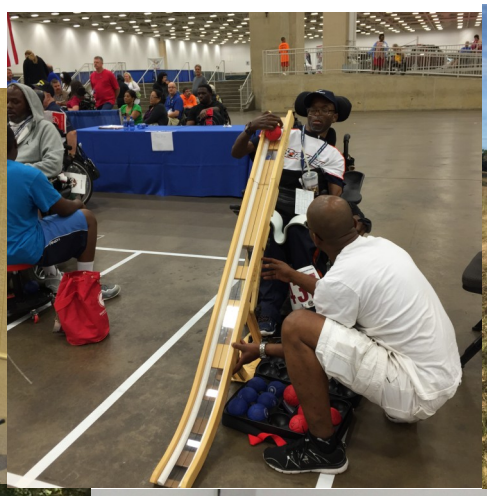
Mission

The Paralyzed Veterans of America, a congressionally chartered veterans service organization founded in 1946, has developed a unique expertise on a wide variety of issues involving the special needs of our members—veterans of the armed forces who have experienced spinal cord injury or dysfunction.

PVA will use that expertise to be the leading advocate for:

- Quality health care for our members,
- Research and education addressing spinal cord injury and dysfunction,
- Benefits available as a result of our members' military service,
- Civil rights and opportunities which maximize the independence of our members.

To enable PVA to continue to honor this commitment, we must recruit and retain members who have the experience, energy, dedication, and passion necessary to manage the organization and ensure adequate resources to sustain the programs essential for PVA to achieve its mission.



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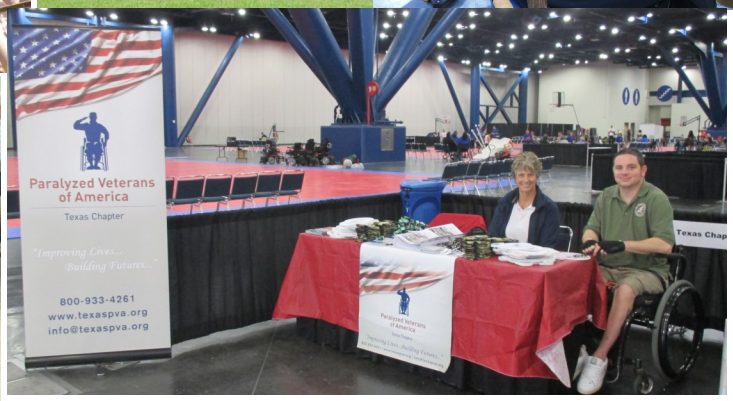
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