

Speedy Gazette

"Improving Lives... Building Futures"



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**

Texas Chapter

6418 FM 2100 Road
Crosby, Texas 77532
Phone: 713-520-8782
Toll Free: 800-993-4261
Fax: 713-520-8217
Email: info@texaspva.org
www.texaspva.org

June 2016

Honoring our Flag and our Fathers

Volume 35, Issue 8



Copyright 1971, The F. W. O. Co., Red Oak, Iowa, U. S. A.

393 THE BIRTH OF OLD GLORY

From Painting by Moran

**Paralyzed Veterans of America
TEXAS CHAPTER**

6418 FM 2100 Road
Crosby, TX 77532

Tel: (713) 520-8782 / (800) 933-4261

Fax: (713) 520-8217

Email: info@texaspva.org

Officers – Board of Directors

- President..... Anne Robinson
- Immediate Past President..... David Fowler
- Vice President..... Tammy Jones
- Secretary..... Matthew Bourbon
- Treasurer..... Darrell Wilson
- Board Member #1..... David Bradshaw
- Board Member #2..... Alvin Guerrero
- Board Member #3..... Frank Ellis

Program Directors

- National Director..... Darrell Wilson
- South TX Satellite Director..... John Taylor
- Austin Satellite Director..... Vacant
- Houston Satellite Director..... Frank Ellis
- San Antonio Satellite Director.... Ben Reynaga
- Legislative Director..... Matthew Bourbon
- Government Relations Director .. Kerry Reyna
- Advocacy Director Derrick Perkins
- Sports and Recreation..... Tammy Jones
- Outdoor Sports..... Alvin Guerrero
- Service..... Vacant
- Membership..... Anne Robinson
- MS Director..... Vacacny
- Volunteer Services..... Vacant
- San Antonio HLO Anne Robinson
- Michael E. DeBakey HLO Carlton Tucker
- Chaplain..... Charlie Gant

TPVA Chapter Staff

- Executive Director..... Amanda Saunders
- Bookkeeper..... Jill Blankenship
- Administrative Assistant..... Jennifer Wilson
- E-Mail: info@texaspva.org

The SPEEDY GAZETTE is published approximately once a month by the Paralyzed Veterans of America, Texas Chapter, in the interest of Chapter members. Subscriptions are free to members of TPVA. Send address changes to the TPVA Chapter address.



**Please contact me with more information about
volunteer opportunities and other ways I can help
TPVA!**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Interests: (Circle all that Apply) Membership /Volunteering
Donating Sponsorship Other

****Please cut out, and mail back to the Chapter Office at:**

6418 FM 2100 Road

Crosby, TX 77532

SPEEDY GAZETTE

*Available via email, send us your email
address to info@texaspva.org or visit us to read your*

***SPEEDY GAZETTE
ON-LINE***

www.texaspva.org

PVA National www.pva.org



**We would like to welcome
the following new members**

**John Van Walsen
Will Matay**

PVA Service Officers-see p 27 for detailed contact info

Houston-Greg Treacy, SNSO—800-795-3571/713-383-2727

Houston-Kimberly Springfield, BA—713-794-7993

San Antonio-Armando De la Rosa, SNSO—800-795-3572/210-617-5300 x 1-6819

Temple-Jack Soto, VLO—254-743-1686

Waco -Dan Meckel, NSO II—254-299-9944, 800-795-3573

President's Report By Anne Robinson



Hello Texas PVA members,

I hope this finds everyone doing okay and not having to pick up the pieces after all the flooding that has occurred across Texas. If you were affected by the flooding and need emergency assistance, PVA National offers a program, just call the office for more information. If you have not had an opportunity to make it over to the new office in Crosby, try to get by there soon, they have a very good archery course set up, and hopefully soon we will have a couple of horseshoe pits.

If you have been waiting on a prosthetic item or wheelchair for an extended period of time and no one has given you an explanation, we need you to contact the National Service Officers and make them aware of the situation. Long delays have started showing up, especially on highly adapted wheelchairs. If you are in the Houston area, contact Kimberly Springfield and if you are in the San Antonio, Austin area, contact Armando de la Rosa, their phone numbers are listed in the back. It's extremely important that we keep track of any delays, as each facility is about six months away from their site visits.

Good luck to all of the athletes going to the National Veterans Wheelchair Games at the end of this month, bring home all of the gold. Also, I would like to congratulate Marco Delarosa, as he is the newest Paralympic athlete, placing second in the world in air pistols.

If you do not have an autonomic dysreflexia card to carry around in your wallet and you would like to have one, please contact the chapter office and we will get one mailed out to you. It is extremely important to have this card on you if you have to receive emergency medical care.



Let's Hear It for Body, Mind, Spirit! by Roger Rahill, STVHCS SCIC Chaplain

Good guys wear white hats, right? What makes them good? Do I deserve a white hat?

Asking questions often brings us to important places and opportunities for understanding and growth. Asking the right question usually comes when we're willing to address our own motives, character and behavior. When a periodical writer rhetorically asked his readers, "What's wrong with this world?" Catholic theologian G. K. Chesterton responded, "I am." Giving deep thought to important questions has

the potential to unlock profound answers that change lives.

A seminary professor once asked my classmates and me early one Tuesday morning, "If you knew Jesus was coming back on Friday what would you do?" Many hands shot up to answer him before he finished. This professor who, in my opinion, was a white hat guy, allowed one zealous answer: "I'd be down on the street corner telling people to repent!" Professor Good Guy answered, "Then why aren't you down there doing that now?" I didn't raise my hand. I thought about the question, and the answer I got was feeling affirmed that being in that classroom for training to become an Army chaplain was exactly where God wanted me to be.

Asking ourselves, "Am I good enough?" or "Am I on the right path?" can lead us to prayer, to good works, to our Higher Power. Quiet reflection in our hospital beds can lead to good questions and feeling better about ourselves, our condition and our world. Before you schedule your next hospital stay, consider writing down some questions to ponder once you're admitted, so your time in bed will feel more meaningful and productive.



Election Season



Register To Vote; to vote in Texas, you must be registered. Simply pick up a voter registration application, fill it out, and mail it at least 30 days before the election date, OR get your application here on-line <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/reqvr.shtml> . You are eligible to register to vote if:

You are a United States citizen;

You are a resident of the county where you submit the application;

You are at least 18 years old on Election Day;

You are not a convicted felon (you may be eligible to vote if you have completed your sentence, probation, and parole); and

You have not been declared by a court exercising probate jurisdiction to be either totally mentally incapacitated or partially mentally incapacitated without the right to vote.

Are you already registered?

To confirm your voter registration status, you may select one of three methods to perform a search:

Your Texas driver's license number, if you provided it when you applied for voter registration;

Your Voter Unique Identifier (VUID), which appears on your voter registration certificate;

Your first and last name.

Texas Chapter PVA Election Results

President:

Frank Ellis - 55 Votes

Anne Robinson– 72 Votes

Secretary:

Matthew Bourbon– 67 Votes

Director #1:

David Bradhaw—125 Votes

Election Committee

Tammy Jones, Vice President

Election Committee Chairman

Darrell Wilson

Alvin Guererro

Derrick Perkins



Vice President By Tammy Jones

WOW! Summer is back!

Everyone please remember your sunscreen and to drink plenty of water, it is getting hot out there. Granted Mother Nature has given East Texas quite a bit of water lately. If you have had any damages from the rains and storms that have rolled through Texas lately, contact the Chapter office, for possible assistance. There are a couple of agencies and National PVA that may be of assistance, please reach out, you are not alone.

I would like to encourage our members to visit with our patients at the SCI Centers. When you have an appointment at the SCI Center take a few extra moments to stop in a room or by the day room or Rec room and say hi and ask how they are doing? We have all been patients and know it can feel a bit isolating being away from home and family. If a point of concern arises during the conversation take the concern to the NSO, at the PVA office at the facility. One more way to give back ☐.

In closing, I would like to say GOOD LUCK to all our athletes going to the National Veterans Wheelchair Games, in beautiful Salt Lake City, Utah.

Go for the Gold Team Texas!!!!!!!!!!!!

DEAR CICI-a Caregivers Column—this column is designed to be interactive. Caregivers please send us your input to info@texaspva.org or fax 713-520-8217. Call 800-933-4261 x4 if you have any questions.

Dear Cici,

My husband and I live in San Antonio, and during the summer, we can expect “visits” from family members who are on their way to somewhere else. They stay here for a few days, and when they leave, I am just plain worn out. It used to be all right when my husband was able to help out, but now he is in a wheelchair after two successive back surgeries and needs help with a lot of things. Since his last surgery, he has gotten weaker and the demands on my time are greater.

I resent having to cater to guests who don't understand that caregiving is a full time job.

The other thing is that I have trouble expressing how I feel and don't want to hurt anyone's feelings. At the same time, I don't want to feel like a doormat either. How can I tell my relatives to exclude us from their vacation itineraries without sounding mean.

Bewildered

Dear Bewildered,

Taking for granted that your relatives give you advanced notice of when they want to “visit,” a simple message should be sufficient. If you're reluctant to do this over the phone, try sending an email message or use the postal service. Simply state that because the situation has changed, you will no longer be able to accommodate visitors. You might suggest a few inexpensive hotels in the area and suggest meeting them for lunch, so they will get to see you while they're passing through. There's nothing mean about being honest about what you can and cannot do. Good luck.



June 27 – July 2, 2016
Salt Lake City, Utah



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**

Texas Chapter

Membership Events

June

- 2 - SAS Membership Forum ALM SCIC Rec room
Dinner 5:00pm Forum 6:00pm
- 9 – ALM SCIC Women w/SCI Support Group
- 9-12 – Endeavor Games, University of Central
Oklahoma, www.uco.edu (Registration opens in
March)
- 12-14 - Flag Day Fishing - FULL- POC Alvin
- 24 - 25 - BBQ Cookoff & Poker Run/Rally, 11335
Sheldon Rd, Houston
- 23 - ALM SCIC Women w/SCI Support Group
- 29 – Houston Membership Forum, MED VA SCIC
Dayroom Lunch 12pm w/meeting to follow
- 30 - Corpus Christi Membership forum POC Chapter
office for time & place

July

- 7 - TPVA Membership Meeting ALM SCIC Rec
room Dinner 5:00pm Forum 6:00pm**
- 9 – Sporting Clays Tournament, Premier Shooting
Complex, Sealy, TX
- 14 – ALM SCIC Women w/SCI Support Group
- 27 – Houston Membership Forum, MED VA SCIC
Dayroom Lunch 12pm w/meeting to follow
- 28 - ALM SCIC Women w/SCI Support Group 28 -
Corpus Christi Membership forum POC Chapter
office for time & place

August

- 4 - SAS Membership Forum ALM SCIC Rec room
Dinner 5:00pm Forum 6:00pm
- 11 – ALM SCIC Women w/SCI Support Group
- 25 - ALM SCIC Women w/SCI Support Group
- 25 - Corpus Christi Membership forum POC Chapter
office for time & place
- 31 – Houston Membership Forum, MED VA SCIC
Dayroom Lunch 12pm w/meeting to follow

September

- 1 - SAS Membership Forum ALM SCIC Rec
room Dinner 5:00pm Forum 6:00pm
- 8 – ALM SCIC Women w/SCI Support Group
- 21 - 23 - Valor Games Southwest San Antonio
- 28 – Houston Membership Forum, MED VA
SCIC Dayroom Lunch 12pm w/meeting to
follow
- 29 - Corpus Christi Membership forum POC
Chapter office for time & place

October

- 6 - SAS Membership Forum ALM SCIC Rec
room Dinner 5:00pm Forum 6:00pm
- 7 - Jack Sanders Banquet, Sheraton N. Houston,
6:30pm call Chapter office to RSVP
- 13 – ALM SCIC Women w/SCI Support Group
- 26 – Houston Membership Forum, MED VA
SCIC Dayroom Lunch 12pm w/meeting to
follow
- 27 - ALM SCIC Women w/SCI Support Group
- 27 - Corpus Christi Membership forum POC
Chapter office for time & place

November

- 3 - SAS Membership Forum ALM SCIC Rec
room Dinner 5:00pm Forum 6:00pm
- 10 – ALM SCIC Women w/SCI Support Group
- 11 - Veterans Day *Volunteers needed for
Parades call Chapter to be on list*
- 12 – Freedom Shoot Sporting Clays, Liberty,
TX *Volunteers needed*
- 24 - Thanksgiving

Sports and Recreation By Tammy Jones

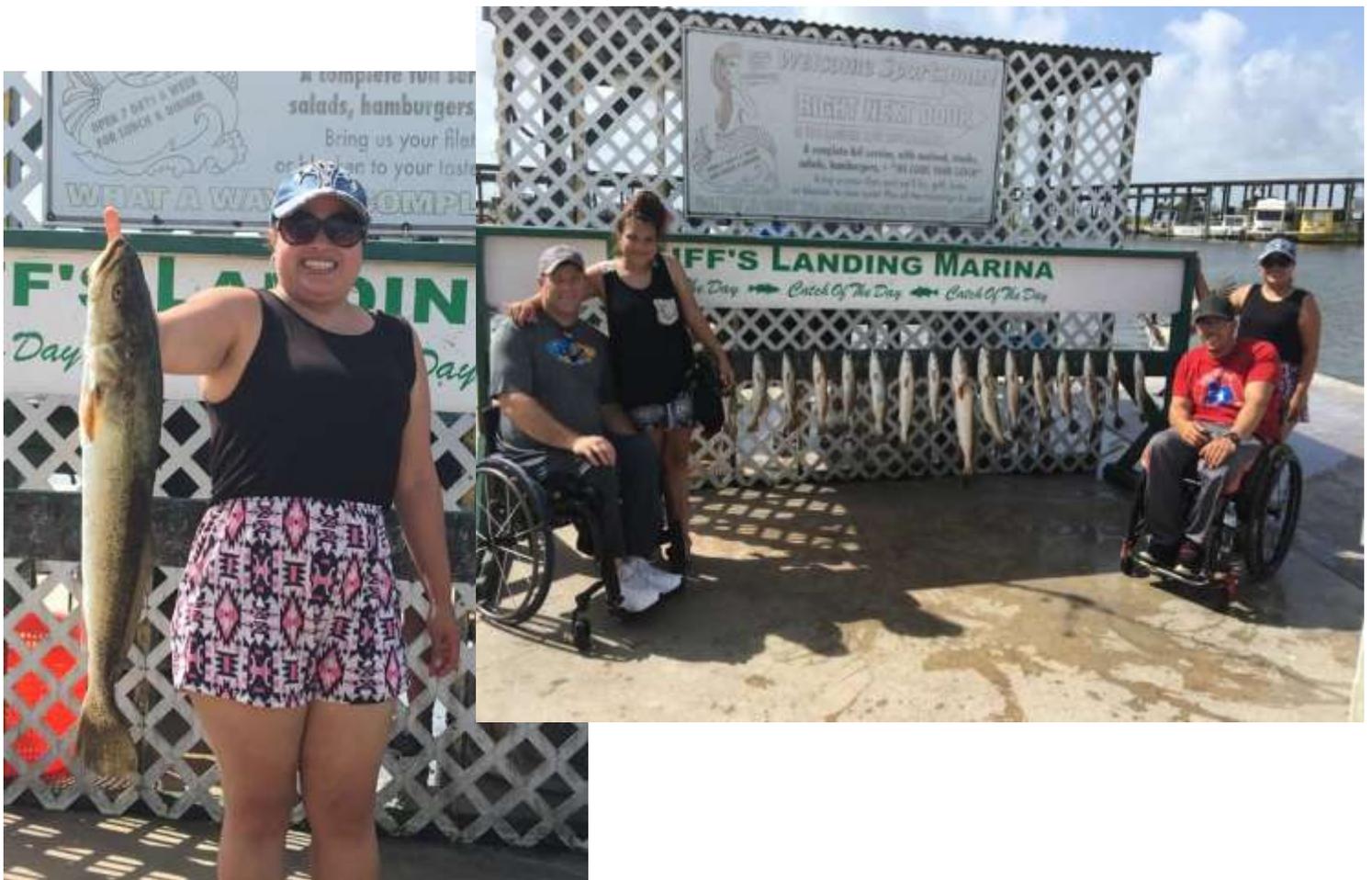
Go Team Texas!!!!!!!!!!!!

Give it all you got, we are proud of you!!!!!!!!!!!!

We have a BBQ Cookoff, starting June 24th with judging June 25th, also on the 25th at the same place will be a Poker Run/Rally open to all kinds of vehicles 2 or 4 wheels;-). This event will be held at the Hawg Stop, 11335 Sheldon Rd in Houston. Volunteers and judges are needed, call the Chapter office to volunteer.

Send in your points by the 10th of the month and contact the Chapter office to see if there are any volunteering opportunities available.

Check out the Calendar of Events for happenings around you, let me know if you know of events you would like to share with other members.





Paralyzed Veterans of America

Texas Chapter

POC Information

Tammy Jones – tammyjtpvasports@gmail.com
Alvin Guerrero – alvin-guerrero@att.net
David Bradshaw – dbradshaw1@sbcglobal.net
Matthew Bourbon – matthew_bourbon@yahoo.com
Frank Ellis – hotwheels0114@gmail.com
Jose Laguna – jose.laguna@va.gov
Barry Muth – bmuth@satx.rr.com
Gabe Diaz de Leon – diazlions@msn.com
Jennifer Cooper Weatherford – 830-377-1238, jcooper@afsc.com
Brooke Matula – 210-336-4135, brooke@strapssports.com
Brad Bowen – 512-988-7711, bbowen@afsc.com
Todd Erickson – 210-379-5170, ticoachtodd@att.net
Chuck French – 713-562-4089, Charles.french@houstontx.gov
Troy Hopkins - 210-872-7120 troy.hopkins1@us.army.mil
Abdul Brown - 240-338-5717 abdul.r.brown.civ@mail.mil
Chris Leverkuhn - 210-913-8869 c.leverkuhn@hotmail.com
Janis 210-826-0500 jroz814@operationcomfort.org
Ben Kvanli (512-203-0093/ben@kayakinstruction.org



Websites

www.texaspva.org
www.pva.org
www.texasregionalparalympicsport.org
www.sanaantoniosports.org
www.strapssports.org
www.wheelchairgames.org
www.mrc.pasadenatexas.net

Employment Specialist By Shaun Smith

SCI Vocational Rehabilitation is a service offered at Michael E DeBakey VA Medical Center. When working with veterans who have Spinal Cord Injuries, it is important to remember that a Spinal cord Injury does not have to prevent you from continuing with life. For some, an important piece of life is work. Finding a job after have a spinal cord injury can be very intimidating. Some veteran think that since they have a Spinal Cord Injury, they can never work again. I can tell you if you want to work, you can work. Work does not have to be 40 hours a week. Work can be 1 day a week for 1 hour a day if that is what you want. You might be asking yourself, how I can find a job that will allow me to work only 1 hour a day for 1 day a week. This is where vocational rehabilitation can help. I have heard from some veterans, I cannot work because of my benefits. You would be surprised how many benefits allow veterans to go to work with causing any limitations to their benefits. Are you registered with the Houston VA? Are you part of the Spinal Cord Injury Clinic? Are you interested in working? If you answered yes to these questions, please feel free to give me a call.

713-791-1414 ext 23659

TO ALL VETERANS, FAMILIES, AND CAREGIVERS:

It is IMPORTANT to be aware that one of the services the VA office is the Veterans Crisis Line. The number is 1-800-273-8255, Press 1

This is confidential help for Veterans and their families. It is staffed with committed employees trained to help save lives. Many of them are Veterans. If you feel you need help or if someone you know needs help please make the call. If for some reason there is a problem with the crisis hotline then Dial 911. We are losing too many lives. So it is



Contact the Chapter Office to read the entire article

*****PRIORITY*****

The Government Relations staff is still looking for stories about problems that our members have experienced during air travel. Please visit www.AirAccess30.org and share your story.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU IN JUNE It is never our intention to leave anyone out

Albert	Adler	William	Maier
Diana	Arias	Don	Marshall
Bobby	Barton	Damon	McDay
Larry	Bates	Moises	Medrano
Lawrence	Benefield	David	Melendez-Couvertier
Larry	Binger	Patrick	Moore
Kirk	Black	Lemar	Murphy
Edward	Born	Barry	Muth
Shelitta	Breland-Ray	Roger	Nelson
Raymond	Burford	Brent	Norris
Catherine	Callahan	Larry	Nunn
Elmer	Canady	Justin	Perez-Gorda
Dillon	Cannon	Hugh	Pitts
Johnny	Carabajal	Daniel	Pratt
Kirkland	David	Charles	Randolph
William	Duckworth	Ginger	Rhodes
Daniel	Ebarb	James	Robertson
Roger	Figg	Joseph	Robinson
Raymond	Franssen	Charles	Roney
Jaime	Garcia	Clifford	Shuff
Jerry	Hall	Willie	Simmons
Don	Haney	Kedgerick	Smith
Jim	Harris	Bennie	Sullivan
Carol	Havelka	Timothy	Taylor
Leslie	Hester	Lorenzo	Thompson
Joe	Hinton	Warren	Tinseth
Norris	Honeycutt	Richard	Wight
		Wanda	Youpee

IN MEMORIAM

LET US TAKE A MOMENT TO REMEMBER THOSE WHO ARE NO LONGER WITH US



Roberto Gonzalez
Evo Marini

John Sedillo
Raymond Weatherford



We have several different kinds of frozen deer meat in the Chapter Office freezer. Please contact the Chapter office at info@texaspva.org or 800-933-4261 x0

Legislative Director By Matthew Bourbon



We need your voices!

As you read yesterday, PVA has publicly condemned a new bill that has devastating potential for our members. That condemnation has sparked a public conversation that we need to ensure is as informative and accurate as possible. So we are encouraging all PVA members to "Join the Conversation" on social media regarding the "Caring for Our Heroes in the 21st Century Act."

We encourage all those who use the VA healthcare system to share your positive experiences of receiving health care through VA; retweet and "like" PVA's Twitter posts regarding this bill; and reshare, "like" and comment on PVA's Facebook posts on this issue.

Please be sure you are following Paralyzed Veterans of America on facebook and twitter at:

[facebook.com/paralyzedveterans](https://www.facebook.com/paralyzedveterans)

twitter.com/pva1946

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) urges its members to contact your representatives and ask them to strongly oppose the "Caring for Our Heroes in the 21st Century Act." This legislation is yet another attempt to undermine the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care system that our members rely almost entirely upon for care. This bill is being introduced by Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) and co-sponsored by Rep. Doug Lamborn (R-CO), who is also a member of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs.

The "Caring for Our Heroes in the 21st Century Act" was introduced yesterday and purports to reform the VA by establishing a Veterans Accountable Care Organization and Veterans Health Insurance Program that would incentivize veterans to leave the VA system of care. In fact, it would essentially make VA a non-governmental entity, the very definition of privatized care. Unfortunately, it provides no mechanism to ensure veterans care is properly coordinated and that they receive the most appropriate care they need. The proposal forces veterans to fend for themselves in the private sector health care system and leaves them with the responsibility of being the stewards of taxpayers' money. Perhaps worst of all, the bill does not contemplate the fact that the private sector is not better positioned to provide the care veterans need, and in many cases is substantially worse.

This bill would leave the most vulnerable American veterans-veterans with catastrophic disabilities-with medical costs they can't bear for care that might not be the best option. The bill includes a premium support model that would clearly disadvantage catastrophically disabled (Priority Group 4) and low-income (Priority Group 5) veterans who currently have little to no cost share to receive care in the VA.

We urge you to contact your representatives and ask them to oppose the "Caring for Our Heroes in the 21st Century Act." You can find your individual representative's office phone number at the following link: <http://www.house.gov/representatives/>. If you cannot find the office phone number for your representative, please **contact the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121** and ask to be directed to the appropriate House or Senate office.

We also ask that the **Northwest** and **Mountain States** Chapters make a concerted effort to contact Rep. McMorris Rodgers and Rep. Lamborn about this bad legislative proposal.

Advocacy Director by Derrick Perkins



Houston VAVS Representative

As the PVA VAVS Representative/Deputy Representative, I am responsible for the following functions:

1. Attend the VAVS regularly scheduled committee meetings.
2. Recruit volunteers.
3. Coordination of the volunteer resources by PVA and all aspects of their participation in the VAVS program at the medical center.
4. Interpretation of policies and procedures of PVA to the VAVS committee and appropriate VA staff.
5. Annual evaluation of PVA's participation in the VAVS program with the leadership of PVA and VA. (Annual Joint Review scheduled with the Chief of Voluntary Services or Program Manager.)
6. Establishment of procedures for informing the PVA chapter of ongoing medical center programs and needs.

PVA may have up to three Deputy Representatives to share the duties of the Representative.

Deputy responsibilities include:

1. Attending VAVS committee meetings in the absence of the Representative.
2. Attending meetings with the VAVS Representative in order to be fully knowledgeable of the work of the committee and to be able to represent PVA effectively when the Representative is unable to attend.

Please Note: If PVA is not represented by a Representative or Deputy Representative at three consecutive meetings, PVA may be dropped from the VAVS committee.

If you are interested in being deputized, just call the office and we will notify you when you are needed.



Paralyzed Veterans
of America

Texas Chapter



POKER RUN/RALLY

Saturday, June 25th



Registration begins at 10:30 a.m. - last vehicle in by 4:00 p.m. unlimited entry

\$10 per hand, Rain or shine, open to the public, everyone invited.

50/50 split for winning poker hand



Classic Car, Car, Bus, Bike, Uber.....

Open to any street legal vehicle



Raffles & live auction (custom AR15 & a YETI Cooler)

AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED



Live Music—DJ 3 to 7 & live band 8 to 12



SANCTIONED BBQ COOK-OFF

Friday, June 24th and Saturday, June 25th

CHICKEN, PORK SPARE RIBS & BRISKET \$100 ENTRY FOR ONE OR ALL. JACK POT OPEN \$20 (NO DESSERT)

11:30 AM OPEN - 1:00 PM CHICKEN - 2:30 PM PORK SPARE RIBS - 4:00 PM BRISKET

AWARDS AND PRIZE \$\$\$ FOR TOP 3 IN EACH MEAT CATEGORY

ALL FUNDS RAISED WILL BENEFIT THE PROGRAMS OF THE

PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA,

TEXAS CHAPTER



For more info contact Amanda @ 713-520-8782 x2 or amandas@texaspva.org
For Poker Run/Rally info contact Bill "Walkingman" Callahan @ 713-594-4949

Hawg Stop Bar & Grill is located at 11335 Sheldon Rd, Houston, TX 77044



Executive Director Report By Amanda Saunders



Hello Texas PVA Members,

I hope everyone is doing well and your summer is off to a great start. It's definitely summertime in Texas already! Hello humidity and 90 + degree days.

If you were affected by all of the flooding in South Texas, please contact the Chapter Office. PVA has a Disaster Relief Fund that can help. Hurricane season is here, so please be prepared if you live near the coast.

Good luck to all of our athletes traveling to Salt Lake City for the National Veterans Wheelchair Games! We are sending 20 athletes this year to participate. GO TEAM TEXAS!!! Be sure to send us some pictures for the next Speedy.

On June 24th & 25th we will be having a Poker Run/Rally and BBQ Cook-Off in Houston. Please come out and show your support.

July 9th will be our Pullin' for Guts & Glory Sporting Clays event at the Texas Premier Sporting Arms in Sealy. Shooting will start at 8 am so get there early. This is our first event at this facility but I believe it has a lot of shaded area and the course is wheelchair accessible.

Happy 4th of July!!!

Government Relations Report By Kerry Reyna



Represented TPVA at a town meeting with Texas State Senator Jose Menendez along with other veteran's organization. The lesson learned is for all concerned veterans to be a voice in front of their elected officials. During this election season candidates are eager to listen and act upon veteran's concerns. Get involved and stay informed.



CAMP LEJEUNE: PAST WATER CONTAMINATION

From the 1950s through the 1980s, people serving or living at the U.S. Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, were potentially exposed to drinking water contaminated with industrial solvents, benzene, and other chemicals. This chemical exposure may have led to adverse health conditions.

YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR VA HEALTH BENEFITS IF YOU SERVED ON ACTIVE DUTY (VETERANS) OR RESIDED (FAMILY MEMBERS) AT CAMP LEJEUNE FOR 30 DAYS OR MORE BETWEEN AUGUST 1, 1953 AND DECEMBER 31, 1987:

- Veterans who are determined to be eligible will be able to receive VA health care. In addition, care for qualifying health conditions is provided at no cost to the Veteran (including copayments).
- Eligible family members receive reimbursement for out-of-pocket medical expenses incurred from the treatment of qualifying health conditions after all other health insurance is applied.

QUALIFYING HEALTH CONDITIONS INCLUDE:

- Bladder cancer
- Breast cancer
- Esophageal cancer
- Kidney cancer
- Leukemia
- Lung cancer
- Multiple myeloma
- Myelodysplastic syndromes
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
- Female infertility
- Hepatic steatosis
- Miscarriage
- Neurobehavioral effects
- Renal toxicity
- Scleroderma

VETERAN ELIGIBILITY:

- A Camp Lejeune Veteran does not need to have one of the 15 health conditions to be eligible to receive VA health care, nor do they need a service connected disability to be eligible as a Camp Lejeune Veteran for VA health care.

VETERANS

ENROLL IN VA HEALTH CARE

- Inform VA that you served on active duty at Camp Lejeune for at least 30 days during the covered time period.
- Already enrolled? Contact your local VA health care facility at <http://www.va.gov/directory/guide/> to sign up for the Camp Lejeune Program and receive VA care.
- Not yet enrolled? Apply online at <http://www.va.gov/healthbenefits/apply/> or call toll-free 1-877-222-8387.

FAMILY MEMBERS

GATHER DOCUMENTS

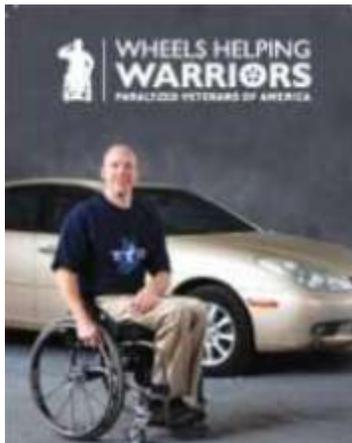
- Show your relationship to a Veteran, such as a marriage license or birth certificate.
- VA will assist you with verifying residency on Camp Lejeune during the covered timeframe.

GATHER QUALIFYING EXPENSE RECEIPTS

- By law, VA may only compensate for eligible out-of-pocket expenses after family members have received payment from all other health plans.

APPLY FOR REIMBURSEMENT

- Apply online at <https://www.clfamilymembers.fsc.va.gov> or call toll-free 1-866-372-1144.



How Your Vehicle Can Help Veterans

Every vehicle has value, whether it runs like the day you drove it off the lot or doesn't start at all. Regardless of the condition, it will sell at auction. In return, donors receive a tax deduction, and the proceeds of the sale help provide rehabilitation services, job training, quality healthcare, benefits, and funding for education and research for veterans living with spinal cord injury/dysfunction.

It's simple: Be sure the vehicle title is on hand, fill out the online form or call a Wheels Helping Warriors representative, and schedule a pickup free of charge. Paralyzed Veterans of America's Wheels Helping Warriors Vehicle Donation Program accepts a variety of vehicles:

- Airplanes
- Boats
- Farm/construction equipment
- Horse trailers
- Motorcycles
- Motorized wheelchairs
- RVs/campers
- Semi-tractors
- Trucks/SUVs

Any of these vehicles can become a new beginning for a paralyzed veteran. Be a hero to a hero today and consider vehicle donation to help someone who has served and sacrificed.

Donate Today!

Call or visit us online to donate your vehicle today:

855-744-0782

wheelshelpingwarriors.org



One Car One Difference is IAA's public awareness campaign promoting the benefits of vehicle donation. © 2013 Insurance Auto Auctions, Inc. All rights reserved.

In addition, feel free to use the following Wheels Helping Warriors you tube ad on your website and through social media.

:30 spot <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GCn255-xYL0>

CLASSIFIEDS / SERVICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ambit Energy Program (All Markets)

Save money and support a worthy cause every month.

Is holding a fundraising drive, but we're not selling anything you don't need. In fact, you can help our cause by saving money on something you already use! We will help you save on electricity or gas by switching your service to Ambit Energy, our partner in this fundraising effort.

Why Switch to Ambit?

Great Savings — Our rates are among the most competitive and there's no cost to switch.

Green Plans — Our green plans are 100% renewable wind energy and are Green-e Energy™ Certified.

Great Rewards

- Enjoy two nights of hotel accommodations at one of more than 25 destinations as a welcome gift.
- Accumulate points for Travel Rewards based on the energy you use each month.
- Earn additional Travel Rewards by referring Customers.

Satisfaction Guarantee

We are so certain your service will not be interrupted during your switch, Ambit will pay your first bill if we disconnect you.



Contact your Ambit Independent Consultant for the details and enroll today!

Contact me: Amanda Saunders / Diane Young
 Online: www.trekease.com/energy/IEE
 Email: www.trekease.com/energy/IEE
 Toll-free: (800) 833-4281 / (713) 520-4782 / (512) 310-8334 (Texas)



RAIL-PADS
FOR PROTECTING HEADS
P.O. BOX 741 DICKINSON, TEXAS 77116-4311

RAIL-PADS, an innovative way to provide additional patient comfort and protection, are available in various sizes.

Call/Fax: (281) 537-5000
Email: info@railpads.com
Web: railpads.com

100% CERTIFIED MANUFACTURED IN THE USA 482272177

RAIL-PADS
FOR HOSPITAL USE
P.O. BOX 741, DICKINSON, TEXAS 77116-4311

RAIL-PADS are available for all wheel chair types.

Massey Firearms
 Licensed Federal Firearms Dealer

Joe Massey - Owner 281-996-0197 or 281-782-0007

- * Gun Repair
- * Rifles & Scopes
- * Pistols & Revolvers
- Shotguns & Ammo

I am a proud PVA Life Member and NRA Life Member.
"I provide dependable, honest, and quality business"

**Custom Crafted
 Stationary Sports Wheelchair Trainers**
 Hand built by
Paralyzed Veteran in Austin.
 US Patent # 7,604,572

Contact Christopher Stanford
 (512) 567-2066 www.trekease.com

One on One Transportation

Marcus Ellison
 Manager
 Specializing in non-emergency transportation

- Phone: (832) 731-8104
- Fax: (281) 852-6901
- By appointment
- Oneon1transportation@yahoo.com

RAMPS AND OTHER THINGS—Our veteran friend, Carmen Gonzalez, works with the Boy Scouts. To help the boys earn their Eagle Scout status, they will build things like ramps at no cost other than the material. He said they will build portable or stationary ramps and other small projects. This is their community work they have to do. Contact Carmen by calling the Chapter

OFFER OF LAWN CARE-Houston area
 Name: Casey Norris—My husband and I would like to offer free lawn care to wounded veterans in the Houston metro area as a thank you for all they've done, and a way to relieve some pressure from their families. If you have any information that can help us accomplish this, we would greatly appreciate it. We have at least one full day open per week to dedicate to this. Thank you!
 email: Caseynorris90@gmail.com phone: 918-407-5476



SEEKING PEN PALS

Connie Conway
 1421 Haythorne
 Terre Haute, IN 47805



ADVANCED
Mobility Systems of Texas
"Keep Going"

Austin
239 Commercial Dr
Buda, TX 78610
Visit our new location!

Dallas
3029-A2 East Meadows Blvd
Mesquite, TX 75150

Ft Worth
2110 N. Beach
Ft Worth, TX 76111

Advanced Mobility is North Texas' largest mobility dealer. We offer a full range of mobility products. With 25 years of experience, we strive to deliver the perfect solution to keep you mobile. Call us today at 1-866-211-8267!




Service & Rentals

- Van Conversions
- Transfer Seats
- Hand Controls
- Stair & Personal Lifts
- Wheelchair & Scooter Lifts
- Home and Pool Modifications

BRUNO
A Mobility Solution

BraunAbility
A Mobility Solution

1-866-211-8267
www.advancedmobility.net

NEW

Uro Bag® System

Reusable urinary leg bag w/ T-Valve release port
Unisex 2-Pocket leg bag holder undergarment

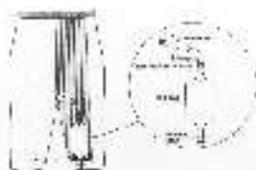


No Uncomfortable Leg Straps!

- No constriction of circulation to lower leg.
- No painful skin ulcers or red marks around leg
- Holds leg bag securely on leg without leg straps.
- Used with ALL catheters (including nephrostomy)



Which One Would You Choose?



Uro Bag System



Leg Straps



Adult Diaper



"The comfort and support I achieve with Uro Bag System is perfect for my active lifestyle." - David Wagner
Gold & Silver Medalist - Quad Tennis

Medicare Approved
HCPCS #A5112
DAPA Listed

Package Contains:
1 - Reusable rubber (22 oz.) leg bag (Made in USA)
1 - Tubing w/connector (Made in USA)
1 - Unisex leg bag holder (S thru 3X) - (Made in India)

Uro Bag System is currently available at selected VA Hospitals and Clinics.

If your VA location is not offering the URO BAG SYSTEM, please have them contact Uro Concepts Inc.
(830) 997-8025 - uroconcepts@gmail.com www.uroconcepts.com Patented product of Uro Concepts Inc.

CLASSIFIEDS / SERVICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Texas **Premier** Handicap Van and Mobility Equipment Dealer



Exclusive authorized **BraunAbility** conversion dealer for the Greater Houston area, Corpus Christi and McAllen | Authorized conversion dealer for **VMI, Tuscany, El Dorado** and **Mobility SVM** | Side and Rear Entry Lowered floor Minivans | Wheelchair Lifts/ Restraints | High-Tech Driving Systems | Raised Roofs & Doors | Rental Vans | **Bruno & Harmar** Scooter Lifts | Power Transfer/Lift-up Seats | Hand Controls & Steering Devices

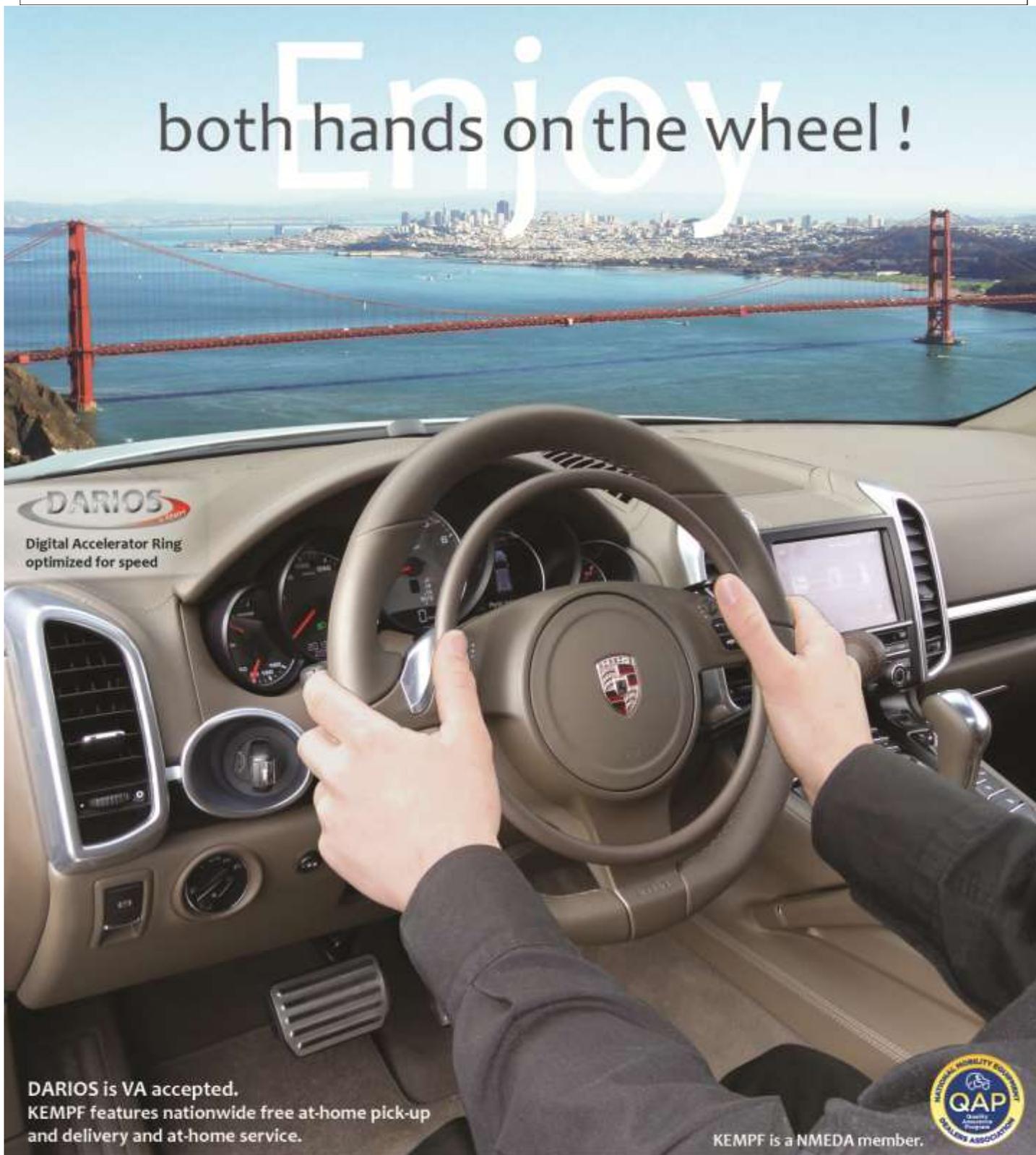


Largest inventory of new and pre-owned modified vans in Texas!

Pasadena Houston Corpus Christi McAllen

www.adaptivedriving.com | 1.888.553.6003

Enjoy
both hands on the wheel !



DARIOS is VA accepted.
KEMPF features nationwide free at-home pick-up
and delivery and at-home service.

KEMPF is a NMEDA member.



Visit: www.kempf-usa.com to find videos and comments from users and to request a quotation.

Call Toll-free: 1-888-4-KEMPF-US (453-6738) for a free DVD and free brochure.



CLASSIFIEDS / SERVICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS



Family owned and operated,
proudly serving Houston and
surrounding area since 1987.



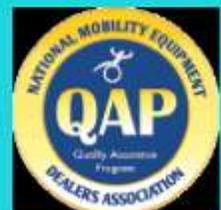
Be a part of the Mobility Plus family. It's nice knowing someone
"in the business".



Wheelchair Lifts and Ramps
Lowered Floor Mini Vans
Adaptive Driving Equipment
Rental Vans and Equipment
Stair Lifts
 Scooters
Manual and Power Wheelchairs



Visit us at our facility M-F 7 am til 4 pm or at our website - MobilityPlusTX.com
1789 Upland Drive | Houston, TX 77043 | 713 468 4683 phone
713 468 2230 fax | email info@mobilityplustx.com



CLASSIFIEDS / SERVICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALAMO MOBILITY, INC. - Our goal is simple, to help you reach yours!

www.alamomobility.com



Alamo Mobility, Inc.
6473 De Zavala Rd.
San Antonio, Texas 78249
(210) 697-8884

Full Size Vans
Transit Vans
Pre-Owned Vehicles
Securement



Alamo Mobility, Inc.- Austin

16262 IH-35 North
Selma, TX 78154
(210) 718-0055
Toll Free (888) 289-8812



Minivans
Buses
Hand Controls
Wheelchair Lifts

Scooter broken? Need new batteries?

We repair all scooters and power chairs, car lifts and lift chairs, --- in your home!

The VA pays for most repairs if it provided the equipment to you.

Call for details.
830-626-0051



Serving San Antonio, Waco, New Braunfels and surrounding areas
830-626-0051
www.restoringmob.com

Restoring Mobility of Texas

Lizzie B's Auction House

IF THE BID FITS... SELL IT

COL "COOP"

Auctioneer Lizzie B's Auction House

www.lizziebauctions.com

Offered by COL "COOP"



Charles Cooper, TX LIC#17412



Become A Donor

Annual contributions for 2013-2014 will be as follows:

Platinum Donor	\$1,000 or more
Titanium Donor	\$500 – \$999
Gold Donor	\$250 – \$499
Silver Donor	\$100 – \$249
Bronze Donor	\$50 – \$99
Brass Donor	\$25 – \$49
Supporter	\$5 – \$24

2015-2016 DONOR CLUB as of October 1, 2015

- PLATINUM** - Burns & McDonnell (Johnny Godwin), John Stacy Kemp II, Excel Modular Scaffold, Scott McLendon, Wayne Swaim, Help Our Wounded, Ancira Winton Chevrolet, TK Holdings, Baker Nissan, . JB & Kelly Kolodzey, TAKATA, Jaime's Roustabout Service, VFW Post 7108, Alamo Safari Club
- TITANIUM** - Triad Electric & Controls, Inc., Post Oak Farms, Wayne Wright LLP, Apple Inc., Mae Grigsby, Genentech Inc., Julie Dexter, Royce Graff (NSSC), TX Dove Hunters Assn., Dixie RV & Boat Storage , Willard Allen; Wayne Wright, Reagent Chemical & Research, Inc., Rita Schwarzenbach, Aderbad Tomball, Miguel Quinones
- GOLD** - Johnson Glass & Mirror, Spring Klein Chamber of Commerce, Global, The Source, Briley, Lone Star Arms & Ammo, Bayou Electrical, PK Industrial, H.D. Mercer, Dan McNeil, Christopher Medina, Alamo City Chocolate Factory, Decot Hy-Wyd Sport Glasses
- SILVER** - Steve Ellis in memory of F.A. Stokley, Michael Taggart, R&R Traps & Sales, Gulf So Fence & Access, The Woodlands United Methodist Church, Briley, Thomas Morgan, Perazzi USA, Krieghoff International, Inc., Pineforest Jewelry, Mary Ann Ruth, Decon Richmond Phillips with Veterans of True Vine and Shiloh Baptist Churchs & The Community of Barrett Station, Morris Williams, JoAnn Clark, Ana Timmins in memory of Jose C. Laguna, Patricia Hamzy, Woodco USA, Ron & Sharon Rolando, Ron Sommers & Charles Mary Kubricht in honor of Corrine McCormick, Alice Benson, John Rodak, Vickie & Richard Tanner, Robert Giles, Hermes Rodriguez, Karen Carlson, Matthew Sealy on behalf of Valda Mae Gates for her continued support of Las Palmas, Warren Hamrick, Sylvia Garza, TX St Rifle Assoc., Lisette & Clemente Zabalza, Speedbump Stockworks, Richard Cain, Mohan's, Sabrina & Leroy Robinson, Jo Ann Glickman, Dean Cambourakis, Silvia Garza, Judith Withers, Honeywell International, Don Langford, Mr. and Mrs. Mercer, Houston Gulf Coast Building, Marlon Punch, Christina Rogers, Michael Taggart, Sandra Randolph, Nina Dennis, Jose Aguilar
- BRONZE** - Ben & Peggy Jurek in memory of Michael Hefferan, Shauna Akers, Mattie Cornwall, Robin Allhouse, Sean & Judi Oliver, J.C. Street, Mike or Linda Dockal in memory of Reed Bond, Ruth Brunt in memory of Michael Hefferan, Chico & Yvonne Mason in memory of Mary Aguilera, Becky Martin in memory of Reed Bond, Thaddeus Berry, Ralph Weston, Williams Companies, Sarah Wysocki, employess @ TX DOT-Structural Section, Tammi Danielson, Lydia Baugh, Cynthia Overholser DDS & Staff in memory of William "Bill" McKenzie, Carie Angelico, Lillian Street in memory of Christopher Bowling, Robin Allhouse, James Nelson, John Millet, Linda Cowles, Betty and Martin Ellyn, Dennis Selfridge, Brianne Gravatt, Gail Evans, James Ignatovich, Krueger Engineering, Mark Joyce, Judith Oliver
- BRASS** - William & Marian Tannahill in memory of F.A. Stokley, El Tejano, Alvin Guerrero, Woman's Club of Cleveland, Rosemarie Zimmer, Darlene Byler, Robert or Teresa Ochoa in memory of Mary Aguilera, Rebecca Edwardes, Frances Colaianne, Diann Fiore, Patricia Chapman, JC Penney, Hussein Nijim, Chevron, AT&T, Barbara Zavala, Bonnie Donaho, Home Away from Home, Walt Gish, Phyllis Pittman Communications, Pam Langenbahn, Paul Yozzo, Cory Job, Nipa Kamdar
- SUPPORTER** - Ambit Energy, Hayley Lenz, Michael Hausman, Carrie E. Swint, Howard Rudolph, Nina Dennis, Narayan Rajan, United Health Group, Miguel Chavez, Alejandro R. Martinez Sr., David Ho, Ronald Hamlin, Matthew J. Campbell

PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA. TEXAS CHAPTER DISCLAIMER

We are a chartered chapter of Paralyzed Veterans of America. This newsletter is a publication of the PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA, TEXAS CHAPTER , Houston, Texas. It is designed to serve its members and interested parties by keeping them informed of Chapter activities, Veterans Issues, SCI related items, Legislative and Advocacy Issues, Veterans Benefits, Development, and other issues concerning the disabled community.

The opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Chapter, Board of Directors, Officers, or the Editor. Similarly, any appearance of advertising, or mention of products, does **NOT** constitute an endorsement of products or services.

CLASSIFIEDS / SERVICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVERTISE WITH THE SPEEDY GAZETTE!

All submissions for the classified section of the **SPEEDY GAZETTE** must be in the TPVA office no later than the 1st of the month. The charge is \$15.00 for 15 words (each additional word is \$.25). Payment must accompany the ad. If you are a member in good standing of TPVA, you may place a 15 word ad for FREE. An incentive 10% discount applies on ANNUAL commitments.

Display Advertisements: to offset some of the cost of printing and mailing the **SPEEDY GAZETTE**, the following ad rates apply:

<u>SIZE</u>	<u>MONTHLY</u>	<u>ANNUAL (approximately six issues a year)</u>
Business Card	\$20	\$120 less 10% = \$108
1/4 Page	\$30	\$180 less 10% = \$162
1/2 Page	\$55	\$330 less 10% = \$297
Full Page	\$125	\$750 less 10% = \$675

Call 800-933-4261 or 713-520-8782, ext 4 to place a display advertisement or classified advertisement.

PVA Service Officers

Houston	San Antonio	Waco
<p>Gregory Treacy, SNSO (800) 795-3571, (713) 383-2727/2723 (713) 799-1335 FAX</p> <p>Houston VA Regional Office 6900 Alameda Rd., Room 1028 Houston, Texas 77030-4200 Olga Fernandez, Sr Secretary</p>	<p>Armando De La Rosa, SNSO (800) 795-3572, (210) 617-5300 ext. 1-6819 (800) 795-3572, (210) 617-5300 ext. 1-5275 (210) 615-7498 FAX</p> <p>Audie Murphy VAMC 7400 Merton Minter Blvd., Rm. C-014 San Antonio, Texas 78229 Patricia Phelps, Sr Secretary</p>	<p>John Allen, SNSO Rick Corbett, NSO III (800) 795-3573 (254) 299-9944/9942/9941/9940 (254) 299-9943 FAX</p> <p>Waco Regional Office One Veterans Plaza 701 Clay Avenue, Room 115 Waco, Texas 76799 Rhonda Broughton, Sr Secretary</p>
<p>Kimberly Springfield, Benefits Advocate (713) 794-7993 (713) 794-7525 FAX</p> <p>Houston Michael E. DeBakey VAMC 2002 Holcombe Blvd, Room 1-B-164 Houston, Texas 77030 Angel Chapa, Secretary</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Temple</p> <p>PVA VLO Jack Soto 254-743-1686 SCI Clinic (Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays Only 8:30 - 2:30) SCI Physician, Dr. Idowu 800-423-2111, then dial the extension #44528 SCI Coord Derrick Matthews x 41769 SCI RN Karen Page ext 43042 or 43043</p>	
<p>Shaun Smith Voc. Rehabilitation Counselor Work: 713-791-1414 x 3659 Fax: 713-794-7865 Cell: 832-589-2621 shaun.smith @ va.gov</p>		

PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA

TEXAS CHAPTER

P.O. Box 989

Crosby, TX 77532