

# ROLL WITH US

APRIL - MAY - JUNE 2024

## PVA-WI Travels to Washington, D.C. for the 4th Annual Reeve Summit



The 4th Annual Reeve Summit, "Where Care, Cure, and Community Connect," is a three-day event from March 6-8, 2024, in Washington, DC. The summit aims to address the critical health, policy, and social challenges faced by individuals in the paralysis community and their families. Through a diverse array of keynote speeches, panel discussions, and breakout sessions, attendees will gain valuable insights and resources to enhance their quality of life and foster a more inclusive future.

Key topics covered at the summit include the complexities of caregiving, emergency preparedness, progress in spinal cord injury research, and combating racism and ableism in healthcare. Attendees will learn about programs that support outdoor accessibility, higher education pursuits for students with disabilities, and strategies for recruiting and managing caregivers. Additionally, the event will highlight the importance of disability inclusivity and representation in research and the role of technology in shaping an accessible future.

Scott Griffith, PVA-WI's National Director and Vice President, was invited to attend and sponsored by the Foundation's Military and Veterans Program (MVP) council, in which he participates as a volunteer. The Reeve Summit offers a wealth of information and support. Sessions on caring for family caregivers, mitigating burnout and distress, and navigating the challenges of caregiving amidst a crisis will provide valuable insights and resources. Discussions on advocacy at the federal and state levels, as well as the experiences of those living with paralysis, will provide insights as well. Moreover, the summit presents opportunities to connect with organizations and subject-matter experts to learn about cutting-edge research and treatments and discover tools for enhancing self-management and well-being.

By attending the Reeve Summit, PVA-WI gains the knowledge and help needed to support our members and their caregivers in leading fulfilling lives and advocating for positive change. See page 4 for more information on resources



President's Report .....	2
PVA-Wisconsin at Work.....	5
Upcoming Event Flyers.....	6
Member Updates.....	7
NSO Article.....	8 & 17
Announcements.....	11
Activity.....	14
ALS & MS Resources.....	16
PVA Awareness Month.....	20
Sporting Events.....	22

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear PVA-WI Community,

As your Board President, I am thrilled to share with you the exciting developments and ongoing efforts our organization is making to strengthen collaborations across our community. We have been actively engaging in outreach initiatives to connect with local organizations, businesses, community leaders, and adaptive sports trainers. Through these efforts, we have identified several key partners who share our vision and are committed to enhancing the services and events we provide. By fostering these relationships, we aim to bring you an even more diverse array of resources, expertise, and opportunities.

In addition to these efforts, we have been actively participating in conferences and workshops to stay informed about the latest trends, best practices, and resources that will benefit our membership. By staying at the forefront of these developments, we can ensure that our members receive the highest quality services and support. Looking ahead, we are excited to announce that we have identified points of strategic collaboration with our partners and hope you will see the impact at upcoming events and services. By leveraging the strengths and resources of our collaborators, we aim to deliver even more impactful and meaningful experiences for our members and their families. Keep an eye out for upcoming webinars and events that showcase the fruits of these collaborations.

On another note, I wanted to remind you that our annual board elections are just around the corner. If you are a full member of PVA-WI, passionate about our organization's mission, and would like to contribute your skills and expertise to help guide our future direction, I encourage you to consider running for a position on the board. Please contact our office for more information on the nomination process and the responsibilities of board members.

In closing, I want to express my gratitude for your continued support and engagement with our organization. It is through the dedication and involvement of members like you that we are able to make a positive impact in our community. Together, we will continue to strengthen our collaborations, enhance our services, and create a brighter future for all.

Best regards,

Todd Drazy  
Board President

### WHO WE ARE

#### **Officers**

President: Todd Drazy  
Vice President/GRD: Scott Griffith  
Secretary: Gary Stott  
President Emeritus: Phil Rosenberg  
Immediate Past President: Ken Ness

#### **National Director**

Scott Griffith

#### **Directors**

Richard "Rick" Buth  
Peter Carrao  
Troy Kurczek  
Ken Matthews  
Michael Thomas

#### **Recreation Therapy**

Erinn Kulba  
Sam Gracz

#### **Staff**

Amera Schaefer: Executive Director  
Brenna Frey: Nonprofit Administrative Manager

#### **National SVC Office**

Brenda Stencil  
Call: 414-902-5655

#### **Rehab Counselor**

Doug Green MS, CRC

#### **Office Hours**

Monday-Thursday, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM  
Friday, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Saturday & Sunday Closed  
750 N Lincoln Memorial Drive, Suite 422  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
414-328-8910

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dear PVA-WI Members,

I wanted to take a moment to remind you to visit our website regularly to stay informed about all the exciting upcoming events our organization has planned for you. In addition to our website, be sure to follow our Facebook page, where you will find not only our own events but also other relevant events taking place in your local area. By staying connected through these platforms, you can ensure that you never miss out on the valuable opportunities and resources our community has to offer. If you have any questions about the events, please contact the office at [info@wisconsinpva.org](mailto:info@wisconsinpva.org) or 414-328-8910. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!

Amera Schaefer, Executive Director.

### CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

**Members: 307**

#### New Members:

Michael Walls, Glynn A. Patrick, Terry R. Mittelstaedt, Jeff Dollar, Megan Kingston, Frank S. Smith, John D. Rapant, Scott T. Hamely

#### Associate Members: 167

Tiffany Perry, Dante McCommon, Richard Hoffmann

#### Final Bugle:

James G. Dekay, Daniel R. Furdek, Garret J. Smith, Darrell E. Standish, Gerald A. Zurowski, Robert J. Mathis, James L. Schirmer

Hello PVA-WI Members,

A donor has donated a crypt to us located at West Lawn Memorial Park in Racine, WI.

If you are interested or have any questions please email [info@wisconsinpva.org](mailto:info@wisconsinpva.org) or call 414-328-8910.

## Scholarship Opportunity

PVA-WI has a scholarship program for our members and their families. Eligibility is open to all PVA-WI members, their spouse, their children, and their grandchildren. This scholarship opportunity is not open to associate members or their dependents.

Application submission guidelines:

1. Proof of enrollment in an accredited college, university, or technical school
2. Submit an essay between 500-600 words describing how you have been impacted by a veteran living with a spinal cord injury or disease
3. Share any civic engagement activity you have performed
4. Must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above; please submit your most recent transcript showing grades and GPA

The application is available on our website under policies; click on the policy titled PVA-WI Scholarship for Members/Dependents or scan the QR code. These applications will be reviewed year-round on the first of every month. If you have any questions, please email [aschaefer@wisconsinpva.org](mailto:aschaefer@wisconsinpva.org).

Scan the QR code to start your scholarship application today!



## 2024 Reeve Summit Cover Story Continued...

The Reeve Foundation is an excellent resource of information and partners with PVA in producing and translating clinical practice guidelines. Several guest speakers from the disability and paralysis community spoke on topics ranging from home healthcare to disaster preparedness. Please contact the office if you would like a disaster preparedness guidebook created by The Reeve Foundation, which now goes into all of our Emergency Grab 'n go bags.

Additionally, the Reeve Foundation offers grants to individuals, organizations, and research. Please be sure to visit the website to learn more about the exciting work they do: <https://www.christopherreeve.org>.



## Congratulations: Scholarship Recipients

- Haley David
  - Daughter of David David, studying nursing
- Parker Griffith
  - Son of Scott Griffith, studying biology to pursue a medical degree
- Connor Olsen
  - Son of Einar Olsen, studying business
- Annie Olsen
  - Daughter of Einar Olsen, studying biomedical engineering

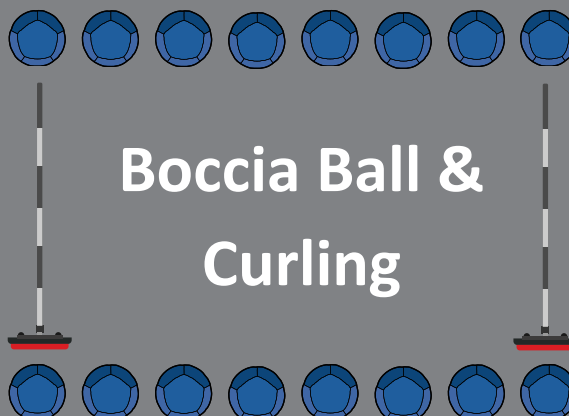
PVA-WI wishes you the best of luck in your studies and thanks you for the opportunity to support your future endeavors!



# Bowling



# Frost Fest





## Upcoming Events

Please visit our website [www.wisconsinpva.org](http://www.wisconsinpva.org) for more information about these events.



**PVA**  
Paralyzed Veterans of America  
Wisconsin Chapter

# #ROLL WITH US

## ADAPTIVE SPORTS BOOTCAMP 2024

May 21-22

Register Here: <https://forms.office.com/r/69eFKU176C>



## JOIN TEAM PVA-WI

**NATIONAL MS WALK - MILWAUKEE**  
MAY 5, 2024

- 1 Participate virtually or in person! Register for Walk MS in Milwaukee at this link: <https://bit.ly/3Thy8t6>
- 2 Click Join Our Team
- 3 Complete registration and join us; donations are not required for participation but are welcome to support National MS efforts

**DETAILS**

- 📍 SUMMERFEST 200 N. HARBOR DRIVE
- 🕒 SITE OPENS AT 8:30 AM, WALK STARTS AT 10:00 AM
- 🌐 <https://bit.ly/3Thy8t6>



**PVA**  
Paralyzed Veterans of America  
Wisconsin Chapter

## 2024 PVA-WI ANNUAL TRAP SHOOT

June 7-9, 2024

BROWN COUNTY SPORTSMEN CLUB  
1711 W DEERFIELD AVE, GREEN BAY, WI 54313

**PRIZES:**

- Top Prize: \$400 Cabelas Gift Card
- 1st Place: \$100 Cabelas Gift Card
- 2nd Place: \$50 Cabelas Gift Card

**Hotel reservation:**  
Radisson Hotel, 2040 Airport Dr. Green Bay, WI  
Phone: (920) 471-4997  
\$119/night + tax  
**Must reserve room before May 17, 2024**

Registration fee for full event is \$225, \$75 for each event. Includes lunch and dinner on Saturday and lunch on Sunday. Optional breakfast military style biscuits and gravy Sunday morning for \$10.

<https://pva.org/adaptive-sports/trapshooting>



PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA - WISCONSIN CHAPTER

# SALMON-A-RAMA

## July 16th, 2024

Join us on Tuesday, July 16th, 2024, at 5:30AM at the Reefpoint Marina for Charter Boat fishing!  
There will be a Hoyer lift at the marina.


★★★★★

PVA-WI members and 1 guest are priority for spots. Associate members on a standby list. Hotel is provided for PVA-WI members traveling > 50 miles.

Special prizes, breakfast provided and lunch upon return of all 10 charter boats. Snacks will be provided while on the boats. Bring sun block and wear appropriate clothing!

**RSVP: (414) 328-8910 // RSVP BY MAY 30, 2024**

**MICROSOFT FORM LINK:**  
[HTTPS://FORMS.OFFICE.COM/R/AR5IKMQ96F](https://forms.office.com/r/AR5IKMQ96F)



# PVA-WI Annual Election 2024-2025

PVA-WI is accepting nominations for the Board of Directors until July 31, 2024. In early August, the election ballots will be mailed to the voting membership for selection. Current PVA Board Members Ken Matthews, Todd Drazy, Richard Buth, and Troy Kurczek are up for re-election as their term ends September 30, 2023. Nominations are now being accepted. Please contact the office if you are interested in running for the board.

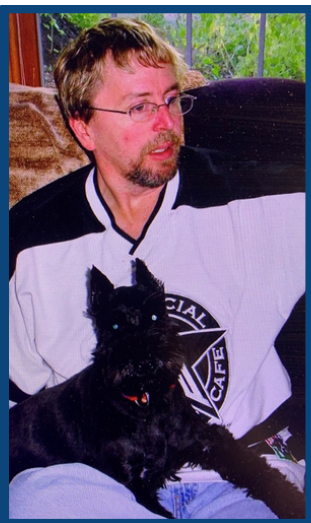
If you are considering running for an open position, you must successfully complete Paralyzed Veterans of America's Certification process. If the National Secretary has not certified you, your name can still be placed on the ballot, but you cannot assume an elected position until you are certified. The certification process is very simple, and the forms are available through PVA-WI.

Certification requires three items of proof:

- Citizenship (birth certificate, passport, immigration or naturalization form number)
- Active Duty Service in the Armed Forces and character of discharge other than dishonorable (DD-214)
- Medical proof of spinal cord injury or disease (physician's statement or medical records).

Please note - this process does take time, so make sure to allow enough time to complete the certification process. If you have questions, please contact the office at (414) 328-8910 or email [info@wisconsinpva.org](mailto:info@wisconsinpva.org)

## PVA-WI's MS Point of Contact



Hi, my name is Mark Rose, and I am the MS Point of Contact Representative for PVA-WI. I work along side Amera Schaefer to be a liaison between membership and PVA National's MS Committee because PVA wanted a disabled veteran with MS for this position. I served in the US Army from November 1983 to November of 1987. I worked on communications, navigation, and aircraft survivability on attack helicopters. When I was honorably discharged I was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis in March 1990. I was later pronounced by the Veterans Association as a 100% service-connected and 100 % disabled Veteran. I was asked and happily accepted being the lead to a bunch of men and woman who all did at least our 4 years. I personally think that honor to do our time to the country is a serious and good thing. As the saying goes', You have done your part in serving our country, now it is our duty to serve you.

If you are an MS member you would like to speak to Mark Rose; please contact the PVA-WI office for his contact information. Mark is currently making calls to all PVA-WI members with MS to connect, share programming opportunities, and find out what PVA-WI can do to better support our membership.

## National Service Officer Report

### Are Your VA Benefits Deposited into Different Accounts? VA's Transition to Single Payment Bank Accounts

By Brenda Stencil, NSO

Since 1944, the GI Bill has helped qualifying veterans and their family members to get money to cover all or some of the cost for school or training. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) relies extensively on its legacy GI Bill payment system; however, as the VA's modernization initiatives evolve, outdated systems need to be updated.

The updated payment system will pay all VA benefits to veterans and beneficiaries through one system. As part of modernizing the GI Bill payment system, the VA will no longer send a veteran's or family members' benefit payments to more than one bank account. **Effective**

- **April 20, 2024, all veterans and beneficiaries will be required to select only one payment address to keep on file.** For example, a veteran's VA disability compensation payments are deposited into "bank account A," and education benefits are deposited into "bank account B." The veteran must select either account A or account B, which will become the same account for all benefits.

The benefits of this modernization will protect veterans and families from fraud and ensure the VA is able to pay veterans on time, every time, and without error. Additionally, once fully deployed, this platform will improve claims processing and customer service by providing direct, online, one-stop access to GI Bill benefits and information.

Nearly 50,000 of 800,000 total GI Bill beneficiaries will be impacted by this shift. VA is reaching out to students through phone, texts, and emails and will continue to contact them until their information is updated on VA.gov. No veteran or beneficiary will miss a benefits payment of any type. For those students who do not comply by April 20, the VA will consolidate the accounts for them on their behalf, electing the non-education benefit pay account as their primary bank account.

The easiest way for veterans and beneficiaries to make this change is to log on to <https://www.va.gov/change-direct-deposit/>. When beneficiaries get to the pay information, there will be a box for the bank account information of their education benefit and a box for the bank account information for the other benefits they receive. The beneficiary should then update the bank account information to use the same account for all benefits.

**The article continued on page 15...**





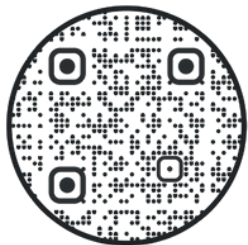
# Ekso Indego® Gets Veterans Walking Again

Eligible veterans can receive an Ekso Indego exoskeleton at NO COST!

## Ekso Indego Personal

### What is the Ekso Indego?

Ekso Indego is an FDA-cleared, powered exoskeleton worn around the waist and legs that enables individuals paralyzed from spinal cord injuries (level T3-L5) to stand and walk, offering a new level of independence.



Scan with your phone for more information on how you could receive your own Ekso Indego Personal.

### Getting Veterans with SCI Back on Their Feet

A recently revised VA policy allows Ekso Indego to be issued to qualified veterans at no cost.\*

- Regain your independence
- Improve your cardio & bone density
- Enjoy eye-level conversations again



Contact us to find out if you are eligible to receive an Ekso Indego at NO COST!

[www.eksobionics.com/request-information/](http://www.eksobionics.com/request-information/)



Proudly designed & assembled in the USA

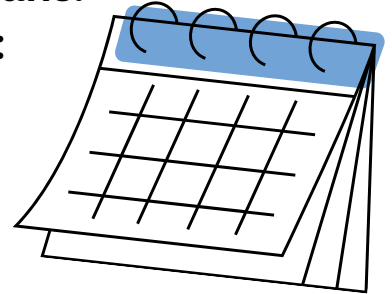
\* A screening process through the VA is required to determine eligibility for use of the Ekso Indego Personal device. For full indications for use, visit: [www.eksobionics.com/indications-for-use/](http://www.eksobionics.com/indications-for-use/)

# WHOLE HEALTH CALENDAR

The Milwaukee VA Health Care System offers a variety of Whole Health and Well-Being classes for enrolled Veterans.

For the full list of classes, click on the link below:

<https://www.va.gov/milwaukee-health-care/programs/whole-health-calendar/>



## ADVOCACY



On March 6, PVA National President Robert Thomas, Jr. testified before a joint session of the Senate and House Veterans' Affairs Committees regarding PVA's public policy priorities. During the hearing, he stressed the need for comprehensive support systems and policies that address the unique challenges faced by our nation's veterans with catastrophic injuries and diseases. President Thomas fervently advocated for legislative initiatives aimed at enabling and empowering disabled veterans, their families, and caregivers.

**Take Action Now** by Scanning the QR Code or Visiting: <https://wisconsinpva.org/advocacy-and-legislation>



CLAIMS ASSISTANCE HAS A NEW PHONE NUMBER

**833-4-WIS-CLM**

**WDVA** WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT  
of VETERANS AFFAIRS

**(494-7265)**

**SAVE** THE **DATE**

**09**

**1**

**5**

**24**

**SUN**

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP BANQUET**

Roma Lodge at 11:00 AM

**Register Here:**

**<https://forms.office.com/r/69eFKUt7GC>**

**or Scan the QR Code**





## Want To Improve **Your Bowel Function?**



Recently published research reveals between 50 and 80% of participants reported improvements in bowel function and/or management after walking in an exoskeleton\*

**Did you know Paralyzed US Veterans May be Eligible for a ReWalk Personal Exoskeleton?**

Contact ReWalk for more Information:  
**rewalk.com/contact** or  
**508.251.1154** option 2

\*Chun A, et al. Changes in bowel function following exoskeletal-assisted walking in persons with spinal cord injury: an observational pilot study. Spinal Cord. 2020;58(4):459-466.



## Thank You

*The Paralyzed Veterans of America Wisconsin Chapter Family Member Scholarship not only empowers my educational aspirations but also strengthens my resolve to contribute positively to society. I am committed to utilizing my academic and extracurricular experiences to honor the sacrifice of those who have served our country.*

*Thank you once again for this incredible opportunity. Your generosity has made a significant impact on my life, and I am excited to embark on this academic journey with the support of The Paralyzed Veterans of America Wisconsin Chapter*

*-Parker Griffith Scholarship recipient*



*Thank you it was a great time! Holy crap, that was a lot of hockey! 4 games for me, 4 for Owen, and we each did a one-hour clinic with a USA team member! Also..... we both went undefeated!!*

*-John Wild*

*Here is a picture of Robert enjoying our Valentine's meal at The Sky Club in Plover. It is a well known supper club and we loved our treat. Thank you very much for the generous entertainment benefit.*

*-Michele Repinski*



## Activity

### U.S. Army Unit Scramble

1. DQSAU\_\_\_\_\_
2. OLPOANT\_\_\_\_\_
3. OYPMACN\_\_\_\_\_
4. TOLABNTAI\_\_\_\_\_
5. EGDIABR\_\_\_\_\_
6. SDNOIIV\_\_\_\_\_
7. SCPRO\_\_\_\_\_
8. R LEYFMAID\_\_\_\_\_
9. PURMO YARG\_\_\_\_\_
10. ORNIE MRGAY\_\_\_\_\_
11. FETSGRNE FTAAS\_\_\_\_\_

### Word Bank

Corps	Army Group	Squad	Battalion
Field Army	Company	Army Region	Platoon
Brigade	Staff Sergeant	Division	

★ See answers at the end of page 22 ★





# INNOVATION IN ACTION with iBOT®


Qualified veterans can receive an iBOT® at NO CHARGE to them under VA FSS #36F79721D0202. Contact **Mobius Mobility** to schedule your demo today.





1-833-3GO-IBOT  
(1-833-346-4268)

 [mobiusmobility.com](https://www.mobiusmobility.com)

 [info@mobiusmobility.com](mailto:info@mobiusmobility.com)

 [@mobiusmobility](https://www.instagram.com/mobiusmobility)

 [iBOT® by Mobius Mobility](https://www.facebook.com/ibotbyMobiusMobility)

 [@mobiusmobility](https://www.tiktok.com/@mobiusmobility)



### Aging With MS with Dr. Aaron Boster

We're all living longer and that includes people living with MS. And as they age, people with MS are asking new questions.

Is there a need to stay on disease-modifying therapy after the age of 60?

How do we know whether a new symptom is a symptom of MS or a symptom of aging?

Does an additional age-related health condition make treating MS more difficult?

This week, Dr. Aaron Boster joins me on a deep dive into aging with MS. Dr. Boster brings 19 years of experience as an MS clinician. He's participated in over 65 clinical trials. And, following its FDA approval, Dr. Boster administered the very first dose of Ocrevus in the world.

To listen to Episode 337 of the RealTalk MS Podcast, please visit:



[https://realtalkms.com/episode-337-aging-with-ms-with-dr-aaron-boster/?utm\\_source=imt&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=fy24\\_societynewsletter\\_march1\\_fy24&CampaignID=](https://realtalkms.com/episode-337-aging-with-ms-with-dr-aaron-boster/?utm_source=imt&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=fy24_societynewsletter_march1_fy24&CampaignID=)

### Navigating Insurance Denials: A Major Hurdle for People Living with ALS

An ALS diagnosis often leaves people feeling overwhelmed and uncertain about their future. Among the many challenges they face, uncertainty about insurance coverage for treatments and equipment they need to live shouldn't be one of them. And with the help of ALS advocates nationwide, we're working to make sure people with ALS and their families have access to what they deserve.

To help educate the public and raise awareness of the growing issues people with ALS and their families struggle with, ALS Association CEO Calaneet Balas recently shared her views about insurance denials in an op-ed published by the International Business Times, specifically relating to the use of ventilators and assistive technology.

To read this article, please visit: <https://www.als.org/blog/navigating-insurance-denials-major-hurdle-people-living-als>





## National Service Officer Report Continued

Also, effective March 5, 2024, the VA established three new groups of veterans eligible for VA health care years earlier than called for by the PACT Act:

1. Veterans who were exposed to toxins or other hazards during military service;
2. Veterans who were assigned to certain duty stations in Southwest Asia or parts of Africa; &
3. Veterans who deployed in support of certain operations after 9/11.

### Here's what that means for veterans:

- If you served in Vietnam, the Gulf War, Iraq, or Afghanistan, you can enroll.
- If you deployed to any combat zone after 9/11, you can enroll.
- If you deployed in support of the Global War on Terror, you can enroll.

• And even if you never deployed but were exposed to toxins or hazards while training or serving on active duty here at home – by working with chemicals, pesticides, lead, asbestos, certain paints, nuclear weapons, x-rays, and more – you can enroll, too.

### Bottom line:

All veterans exposed to toxins and other hazards – at home or abroad – are eligible to enroll in VA care. Even if you don't think you need this care today, you might need it tomorrow, or the next day, or 30 years from now. All you have to do is enroll, then you have access for life. So, don't miss this opportunity: better, more affordable health care is waiting for you. Go to [VA.gov/PACT](https://VA.gov/PACT) and get it.

If you have any questions relating to this information, please feel free to contact me at 414.902.5655, or you can reach me by email at [brendas@pva.org](mailto:brendas@pva.org).

## PVA Releases Caregiving Video Series

Caregiving is an important issue to PVA and the Veterans we support. This month, we released videos about the limitations of VA caregiver support programs, and the challenge of finding quality in-home caregiving. To view this series, please visit:

<https://pva.org/find-support/caregiver-support/>





**WE BRING THE VAN TO YOU!**

**SAFE. CONVENIENT. TRUSTED.**



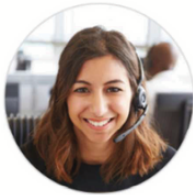
**For nearly 50 years Rollx Vans has been providing Veterans Nationwide the safest most convenient way to purchase a wheelchair accessible vehicle.**

**We take great pride in serving those who served our country.**



**SEARCH INVENTORY**

**SHOP ONLINE  
FROM HOME**



**FINALIZE DETAILS**

**SKILLED STAFF  
TO ASSIST YOU**



**FREE DELIVERY**

**TOUCHLESS  
HOME DELIVERY**



**ENJOY YOUR FREEDOM**

**100% SATISFACTION  
GUARANTEE!**

**Veterans get up to \$3000 off the purchase of your Rollx Van!**

**Call 800-956-6668 or visit us at [rollxvans.com](http://rollxvans.com)**

## PVA Awareness Month



### April is PVA Awareness Month!



April is recognized as PVA Awareness Month, which serves as a precursor to Paralyzed Veterans Recognition Day. This day was declared by President Ronald Reagan in 1986 and started as a day-long observance. After requests from PVA members and chapters across the country, the celebration was extended to an entire month to raise awareness of America's veterans living with spinal cord injury and disease (SCI/D) as well as all veterans with disabilities. The aim is to highlight the people, programs, and services that exist to help make their lives easier.

PVA-WI is proud to celebrate PVA Awareness Month in April, which demonstrates how far we have come in the fight to help paralyzed Veterans and all people with disabilities. It also shines a spotlight on how much further we have left to go in helping these heroes regain what they fought for: their freedom and independence.

Throughout April, all 33 PVA Chapters will share stories that highlight the resiliency of their members and the national impact of PVA efforts for veterans with spinal cord injury and disease (SCI/D) and all people living with disabilities. Follow us on all social media platforms at Paralyzed Veterans of America - WI Chapter!

### New VA Outpatient Clinic in Oconomowoc Brings Health Care Closer to Home for Thousands of Veterans

On March 8, 2024, a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held to mark the grand opening of the Oconomowoc VA Outpatient Clinic located at 1289 Olympia Fields Drive. The clinic, which spans over 8,500 square feet, will provide healthcare services to approximately 5,500 eligible Veterans in the area. The Oconomowoc clinic is the fifth community-based outpatient clinic under the Milwaukee VA umbrella, joining the Green Bay, Appleton, Cleveland, and Union Grove clinics. Jim McLain, the executive director of the Milwaukee VA, believes the new clinic will cater to the healthcare needs of Veterans living between VA hospitals in Madison and Milwaukee.

McLain states, "Our staff is all about doing the right thing for Veterans, and that is why we are here — because it is the right thing to do. Our dedication is to serve our Veterans — those who stand up and serve and defend our country — We are able to sleep at night and feel safe because of the individuals who are standing watch in foreign lands. We are here to ensure that when they come back, they're cared for. Our mission never ends."

Please read the rest of this article by the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, Public Affairs Specialist David Walter at this link: <https://www.va.gov/milwaukee-health-care/stories/new-va-outpatient-clinic-opens-in-conomowoc/>



## Sporting Events

### Scuba Diving

Tim Martin and Dr. Lee participated in a scuba diving event with LifeWaters in the Georgia Aquarium.



### Terrence Green at Cackle Green Pheasant



#### Activity Answers

- |              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. Squad     | 6. Division     |
| 2. Platoon   | 7. Corps        |
| 3. Company   | 8. Field Army   |
| 4. Battalion | 9. Army Group   |
| 5. Brigade   | 10. Army Region |





# A&J Mobility

(888) 775-7750



## Chevy Traverse

Are you looking for something other than a minivan? The Chevy Traverse is the perfect option. The Traverse has a roomy interior, an infloor ramp that supports up to 1,000 lbs, plenty of cargo space for traveling, USB power ports for everyone's devices, and so much more.

+SPACIOUS

+STRONG

### EFFICIENCY



TOYOTA SIENNA HYBRID

### PERFORMANCE



HONDA ODYSSEY

### CLASS



CHRYSLER PACIFICA

AJMOBILITY.COM  
(888) 775-7750

A&J Mobility is a proud BraunAbility® dealer. We chose to work with BraunAbility® because they strive to achieve the highest safety, durability, and manufacturing standards.



## A CUSTOM PERSONAL EXPERIENCE JUST FOR YOU

It is not about just getting a vehicle but getting the right vehicle just for you when it comes to automotive freedom. Call us at (888) 775-7750 for the custom personal consultation you deserve.

MILWAUKEE • MADISON • GREEN BAY • EAU CLAIRE • MANITOWOC

## We Want Your Feedback!



### 1. Caregiver Registration Form

If you have a caregiver, please complete PVA-WI's Caregiver Registration Form for your caregiver, or have your caregiver complete this form. You can do so by scanning the QR code, or visiting:  
<https://forms.office.com/r/XLhLnMpc41?origin=lprLink>.

### 2. Member Satisfaction Survey

Please complete the PVA-WI Member Satisfaction Survey. You can do so by scanning the QR code or visiting:  
<https://forms.office.com/r/EFxRFvOqfB?origin=lprLink>



# HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY

Recounting the Sacrifice of Soldiers

WE WILL NEVER FORGET



# Supporting PVA-WI

PVA-WI has a variety of ways that individuals, groups or companies can show their support. Please review the multiple opportunities to continue to support the PVA-WI mission and our work.

If you have any questions please email [info@wisconsinpva.org](mailto:info@wisconsinpva.org) or call the office at 414-328-8910.



### Employee Matching

Does your employer have a matching gift program? Please check with your employer's human resources department for details. PVA-WI is happy to provide any other information your company may have to satisfy the requirements.



### Donor-Advised Funds

Using a charitable giving account is another powerful way to put your charitable dollars to work. This method eliminates capital gains on donated stocks. Use the DAF donation tool at [wisconsinpva.org/be-our-hero-and-make-difference-today](http://wisconsinpva.org/be-our-hero-and-make-difference-today).



### Legacy Society

Join our Legacy Society by making a bequest or other estate gift to assure the sustainability of our organization. Visit [www.wisconsinpva.org/planned-giving](http://www.wisconsinpva.org/planned-giving)



### Stock Donations

You can donate appreciated stocks, bonds, or mutual funds, which upon transfer, would be tax deductible. Please consult your financial advisor and submit questions to [info@wisconsinpva.org](mailto:info@wisconsinpva.org)



### Shop for Good

AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation, donates 0.5% of the purchase price to the customer's selected charitable organization. Visit <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/39-1393216> to get started. You can also go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and type Paralyzed Veterans of America Wisconsin Chapter in the search bar.



### Join VoterVoice

Advocate for our members with their unique needs to ensure that Wisconsin is accessible for all! Join our advocacy team by visiting [voterveice.net/PVA/Campaigns](http://voterveice.net/PVA/Campaigns)

Especially now, we need your support.

Donate a car, truck or other vehicle. The process is easy, the pick-up is free, and your gift is tax-deductible.

[Give Today](#)

Paralyzed Veterans of America VEHICLE DONATION PROGRAM

## Wisconsin's Gun Shop Project & Safe Storage Program

"Scan code for details"

- Suicide Prevention Education
- Responsible Firearm Ownership
- Voluntary, Temporary Safe Storage of a Firearm

## LIVE TODAY — PUT IT AWAY!

Visit us at [www.BethereWis.com](http://www.BethereWis.com)

## Veterans Crisis Line

1-800-273-8255  
PRESS 1

1155 N MAYFAIR RD  
MILWAUKEE, WI 53226  
414.955.8910 ph  
414.955.8965 fax

[WWW.BETHEREWIS.COM](http://WWW.BETHEREWIS.COM)

### SAFE STORAGE OF FIREARMS -

What to do with guns when a person may be in crisis.

**FACT:** Safe storage of a firearm for a loved one is a critical way to get them safely through a crisis period and is proven to save lives.

[CaptianJohnDMasonProgram@mcw.edu](mailto:CaptianJohnDMasonProgram@mcw.edu)

## Scan Here For Volunteer Opportunities





Non-Profit  
 US Postage Paid  
 Milwaukee, WI  
 Permit No. 1092

## Wisconsin Chapter

750 N Lincoln Memorial Dr, Ste 422  
 Milwaukee, WI 53202



# SPINAL CORD INJURY SERVICE INFORMATION

These resources are available statewide, to all qualified Wisconsin residents.  
 Please call 414-384-2000 or 888-469-6616 and the extension listed below for services.

Department / Office	Extension	Department / Office	Extension
General information	41288	Prosthetics	42608
Triage	45845	Recreation Therapy	41256/41245/41258
SCI Clinical Appointments	41230	VA Van Travel	42057
Physical Therapy	41126	Patient Advocate	42604
Occupational Therapy	41126	National Service	414-902-5655
Badger Team (Social Worker)	41841	Packer Team (Social Worker)	42244
Pharmacy	42083	Packer & Badger RN	41236
Admissions ER	41885/41886		

## Wisconsin VAMC

Iron Mountain	Debra Pate	906-774-3300 ext. 31378
Madison	Heather Rehm	608-256-1901 ext. 18095
Tomah	Kristin Holloway	608-372-3971 ext. 61548

Printed by American Litho, 530 N 22nd Street, Milwaukee, WI 53233  
 To advertise in this quarterly newsletter, contact Paralyzed Veterans of America - Wisconsin Chapter

Disclaimer: Any advertising that appears in this newsletter is paid for by the business placing the advertisement.  
 The chapter does not endorse and shall not be held liable for any claims against said business.