The 2012 IPVA Bowl-A-Thon was a huge success!
Lots of people came out to support IPVA. Everyone had a
great time bowling from wheelchairs and enjoyed pizza and
soda at Plaza Lanes.
A Message From The President

Jon R. Schneider

“Salute To Our Veterans And Service Members Parade”

In just a few days, the “Salute to our Veterans and Service Members” parade will kicking off in Des Moines. This even will serve as an excellent opportunity for not only Iowa PVA members, as well as all Iowans to honor our veterans who have sacrificed much over the years. As you know, Iowa always has a proud and rich tradition of answering the call to duty and a parade honoring all of our veterans for their efforts is just one of many ways we can show our appreciation.

The parade begins at 10am on Saturday, June 30 2012. It begins at the Iowa Capitol and ends at Vets Auditorium. The parade will be led by a riderless horse to symbolize Iowa's fallen warriors who will ride no more. Sixty-Five Iowans died in the Iraq war and twenty in the Afghanistan war.

In Addition to honoring the achievements and dedication of Iowa’s service men and women, the parade will also be timely because this year marks the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, the 60th anniversary of the Korean war, and the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War.

I know that some of our members will be attending the National Veterans Wheelchair Games, but would hope others in the Des Moines area could attend.

It is important to honor our veterans here at home and is just a great opportunity to say “thanks” to our heroes. Hope to see you at the parade on June 30th at 10:00am

JRS

DISCLAIMER

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Back Talk is a publication of the Iowa PVA and is meant to inform its readers of Chapter activities, legislation, and other matters of concern to veterans and/or members of the disability community. Any opinions expressed in any article is that of the author and may not reflect the beliefs or policies of the Iowa Chapter.
Southeast Polk Junior High School Diversity Day
and the 2012 IPVA Turkey Hunt

By
Kenny Lloyd
National Director

On March 28, David Graham, Kim Gould and I had the privilege to speak with the 8th graders at Southeast Polk Junior High School. Kim, our Executive Director, had to leave early but she got to see David and I talk to the first class. David and I spent the day talking to six different classes. We spent an hour with each class. The teacher told me the first class would be the most unruly but they were actually the quietest class we had. We always have classes that are quiet and then we will have classes that will ask lots of questions. I prefer the classes that ask questions. That tells me that they are interested in what we are talking about and they want to know more.

We talked to them about the Paralyzed Veterans of America and what we do. We showed them a short film on the National Veterans Wheelchair Games and told them about our experiences at the games and how much it means to us and the veterans that participate in the games. I had my service dog Cally with me and she showed the students how she could pick things up off of the floor. I told them about the other job duties she performs for me everyday. I also discussed with them what to do and not to do around service dogs.

David and I brought our hand cycles along to show the different kind of equipment that we use to get exercise and to just have fun riding. We always left enough time at the end of our presentations for the students to have a chance to ride our bikes and see what it is like for us. Although David’s bike could not be rode around the room like mine, because of it taking up so much room to turn, the students could tell the bikes basically did the same thing. I let the students that were not interested in riding the bikes, pet Cally. I have not heard officially what was the most interesting for the students but from years past it has always been my service dogs.

Many of the kids wrote us letters following this visit. Below is one such letter.

This year's turkey hunt was like most of our turkey hunts. Cold and rainy. It has been a long time since we have had good weather for this hunt. There was only one other disabled person besides me signed up and he decided he didn’t want to deal with the rain this year. My son and brother had never hunted turkey before and both of them had decided they would hunt with us this year.

As we always do, we started getting into our blinds around 5 a.m. Tony Geary was my volunteer helping me getting in and out of my blind. Tony also helps call turkey’s in close enough for me to shoot. When it became light enough to see, Tony started calling for the tom turkeys. We were sitting across a creek and watching up on a hill and we could see a tom walking around. Tony started calling trying to coax this tom towards us. The tom heard us and started running down the hill. From the position we were sitting we could not see down into the creek and lost sight of the bird when he got to that point. Tony kept trying to call the tom but we could not see the bird anymore. Earlier we had seen a hen come down that hill before the tom and the only conclusion we could come to is that the tom seen this hen and went to her instead of coming to us. Needless to say we sat there all weekend without getting a chance to fill my tag.

There was one turkey shot from our group and that lucky person was my son Darrell. He shot his bird at 7:15 a.m. about an hour after he went out to sit in his blind. Darrell tried to tell us that he shot the bird at 70 yards but Tony and I believe the bird died of natural causes. Darrell has had a successful deer and turkey hunts this year and the only thing I can say is that he was just lucky he was sitting in the spots he was. My brother was not so lucky but hopefully he will give it a try again next year. If you are interested in hunting with us you can call the office at 1-888-909-4782.

“1st turkey of the day and so far it ain't moving” Gary said. Of course my brother and I were looking at the same kind of decoy the whole day. That was the only kind of turkey we could get :).
Dual Clothing Allowance
by
Andrew Bernstrom
National Service Officer

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki announced the publication of a final regulation in the Federal Register on clothing allowance that expands the eligibility criteria for Veterans with multiple prosthetic and orthopedic devices or who use prescription medications for service-connected skin conditions.

“Veterans whose service-connected disabilities require prosthetic appliances and skin medications deserve financial assistance for the extra clothing they have to purchase,” said Shinseki. “A federal appeals court has ruled that Veterans may be entitled to more than one clothing allowance, and we are adjusting our regulations to make sure Veterans get the benefit of that decision.” The new regulation provides the criteria for more than one annual clothing allowance in situations where distinct garments are affected, and ensures Veterans are adequately compensated for any damage to clothing.

Veterans, who because of a service-connected disability, wear or use a prosthetic or orthopedic appliance that tends to wear out or tear clothing, are eligible for payment of an annual clothing allowance. Examples of appliances include an artificial limb, rigid extremity brace, rigid spinal or cervical brace, wheelchair, crutches or other devices prescribed for the Veteran’s service-connected disability. Also, Veterans who because of a service-connected skin condition use a medication that causes irreparable damage or stains to outer garments, are also eligible for payment of an annual clothing allowance.

The change makes VA’s clothing allowance regulations consistent with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit’s holding in the case of Sursely v. Peake. The application deadline for an annual clothing allowance is August 1 of each year. Payments are administered during the months of September and October. Payment of more than one clothing allowance to qualifying Veterans will begin in 2012. VA is in the process of revising VA Form 10-8678, Application for an Annual Clothing Allowance, to accommodate for more than one annual clothing allowance. Currently, the single annual clothing allowance is $716.

In the meantime, if a Veteran wishes to claim more than one allowance, the Veteran may continue to download and complete the current form at: http://www.va.gov/vaforms/medical/pdf/10-8678-fill%204-08.pdf and http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-21-4138-ARE.pdf, to indicate that he or she desires consideration for more than one annual clothing allowance. Veterans are also encouraged to visit VA’s web portal eBenefits - Compensation for information on the clothing allowance and other VA benefits.

WEBSITE!!!

We now have our very own website up and running. There are still some changes that need to be made and some things that need to be added, but this is a start. Check us out at: www.iapva.org
I am just going to come right out and say it. The way we treat our veterans and our disabled veterans in particular is disgraceful. In my opinion, this treatment is primarily due to shear ignorance. Not ignorance as in stupidity. Ignorance due to unawareness.

I just returned from a week of volunteering at the Castaway Disabilities Fishing Event in Ely, MN. This event is attended by almost 40 disabled veterans and many of their caregivers. On the last night of the event, many of us were sitting around the bon fire. I was visiting with one of the veterans I had met just that week and he said, “Can I ask you something? Why do you do what you do? Why do you work so hard for us? What is your story?” I didn’t really have an answer at that moment, but ever since then, I have given it a lot of thought.

Before I came to work at Iowa Paralyzed Veterans of America, I was ignorant. I worked for the United States Postal Service for 29 years. During that time, I worked with hundreds of veterans. It never occurred to me what sacrifices all veterans make in service to their country. Coming to work at IPVA has made me aware. It has made me appreciate all veterans. I no longer take for granted all of the opportunities and comfort that their service to our country has afforded me. That is why I do what I do.

We as an organization “preach to the choir”. These articles, the newsletter, our meetings, even our events and discussions are directed toward veterans. It is time to branch out and expand our audience. We need to work on educating those who are not aware. We need to shed a light not only on veterans issues but disability issues. That brings to question how we are going to do this.

I propose we all start talking. Not necessarily to each other, but to friends, family, coworkers, and neighbors. Talk about veterans issues and disability issues. Talk about PVA. Everyone knows about the DAV and VFW, but not everyone knows about PVA and all of the great things PVA does for it’s members. (In many cases, our own members do not realize what benefits PVA can afford to the quality of their lives.)

I want to challenge you all to promote awareness. I would love to give presentations to any of your local civic groups, social groups, schools, etc. Anyone who will listen. I truly believe awareness is key to the success of this organization and to our members. Use me. Use your IPVA Board of Directors. We are always here to serve.

Kim

Send Us Your Email Address!!!!

In an effort to enter the computer age as well as reduce our newsletter expenses, we would like to provide your newsletter electronically.

If you would like to receive your copy of Back Talk via email, please provide us with your email address. (See our contact information on Page 8.)
Following page
additional sponsorship opportunities are available on the
315-655-7145 or email at sponsorship@vets4vets.org

If you have any questions or need to donate:
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www.veters4vets.org

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**

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**

**7:00 P.M. - AWARD PRIZES
2:00 P.M. - SHOT GUN START
4:00 P.M. - CHECK-IN

4-PERSON BEST BALL FORMAT
SUNDAY, AUGUST 26, 2012

1ST ANNUAL GOLF FUNDRAISER FOR THE IOWA PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA

GOLF COURSE

RED, WHITE & BLUE
OF AMERICA

IOWA PARALYZED VETERANS
The Iowa Paralyzed Veterans of America is hosting a 4-person best-ball golf fundraising event on Sunday, August 26, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. at River Valley Golf Course in Adel, IA. We are looking for sponsors for this event in a variety of areas listed below. Proceeds from the event will go directly to support the Iowa Paralyzed Veterans of America sports program.

**Hole Sponsor**
- $100
- Company name and/or logo will be advertised on a hole during the golf outing.
- Company business card will be distributed to all golfers if provided.

**Red Sponsor**
- $200
- Includes same benefits described above for a Hole Sponsorship PLUS
- Free 1/4 page ad space for one year (6 issues) in our bi-monthly newsletter - Back Talk.
- Free golf and meal for 1 golfer.

**White Sponsor**
- $300
- Includes same benefits described above for a Hole Sponsorship PLUS
- Free 1/4 page ad space for one year (6 issues) in our bi-monthly newsletter - Back Talk.
- Free golf and meal for 1 golfer.

**Blue Sponsor**
- $500
- Includes same benefits described above for a Hole Sponsorship PLUS
- Free 1/4 page ad space for one year (6 issues) in our bi-monthly newsletter - Back Talk.
- Free golf and meal for 1 golfer.

**Additional Donation Opportunities**
- Prize or Auction Donations
  - Company/Donors name will be advertised during the golf outing.
  - Gift Certificates, monetary donations, donations of prizes, or any other ideas that we may use as awards or for a silent auction would be greatly appreciated.
- Commitment to_print these forms is appreciated.

**Please contact Kim Gould with your ideas, contributions or any questions at 515-669-8746 OR iowapvakim@yahoo.com.**

---

**Golf Outing Sponsorship Registration Form**

- **Hole Sponsor**
- **Red Sponsor**
- **White Sponsor**
- **Blue Sponsor**
- **Prize/Other Donation**

- **Total Amount Enclosed:** $__________

- **Company Name:**

- **Contact Person:**

- **Address:**

- **City, State, Zip:**

- **Phone:**

- **E-mail:**

- **Please provide a business card or indicate below how you would like your sign to read:**

- **Please make checks payable to:**

**Iowa PVA**
3703 1/2 Douglas Ave.
Des Moines, IA  50310

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**Please contact Kim Gould with any questions at 515-669-8746 OR iowapvakim@yahoo.com.**

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CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

7/12 - Bingo at the CLC
7/19 - IPVA Board of Directors Meeting at 1:00pm-IPVA Office
8/9 - Bingo at the CLC
8/13 - State Fair Parade
8/13-8/17 - PVA National Convention New Orleans, LA
8/26 - IPVA Golf Tournament Fundraising Event
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I'm writing this from, ‘Veterans on the Lake Resort’ near Ely, Minnesota. Land of 10,000 Larsons.

We’re doing the annual Castaway Disabilities fishing event. About two dozen veterans in wheelchairs are on hand. I think this is our ninth year in a row to be here. It’s great to see all our old friends and make some new ones.

The event comes with a bonfire every evening. At the first one we go around the circle and introduce ourselves. When it came to be my turn I said, “My name is Hopalong Cassidy and I'm here to horse around.” I won the prize for the first fish, the most fish, and the biggest fish.

The discussion question at last weeks meeting of my Thursday afternoon Grey Book Reading Club was: Except for Jesus, if he fishes he lies. True or False?

steven Brinkmeyer

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The Iowa Paralyzed Veterans of America relies solely on private donations and receives NO government funding! Your contribution is 100% tax deductible, as we are a 501(c)(3) corporation.

Support by individual donors and businesses enable us to make our services FREE to members.

Please support our mission through a direct donation to:

Iowa Paralyzed Veterans of America (Iowa PVA)
3703 1/2 Douglas Avenue
Des Moines, IA  50310
Thank you!
IOWA PVA CHAPTER BIRTHDAYS

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<tr>
<td>Wolfgang D. Gaumer</td>
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<td>Daniel J. Alberts</td>
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<td>Chris S. Mills</td>
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<td>David A. Wendling</td>
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<td>Jay A. Meek</td>
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<td>Jerry L. Meek</td>
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<td>Stuart D. Juarez</td>
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<td>Robert L. Madden</td>
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Wheelchair Basketball

Starting Thursday, May 26, Adaptive Sports Iowa began hosting weekly wheelchair Basketball pickup games in Ankeny. The games are held at the First Family Church located at 317 SE Magazine Road. The facility is reserved from 6-8 p.m. every Thursday night. Adaptive Sports Iowa will have six sports chairs on site. There is no cost to participate. Come out and enjoy the fun.

Fishing Event

The Iowa City Eagles Club is offering a fishing opportunity for disabled anglers! Please join them on July 14 at the Coralville Reservoir. There will be the chance to get out on a boat if you choose to and catch some fish! If you are interested please contact either Kim Gould at 515-669-8746 or Kenny Lloyd at 515-570-1402.

Along those same lines (no pun intended), The Iowa City Eagles Club is hosting the Annual Fish Fry on August 24 at the Eagles Club in Iowa City. All proceeds from the fish fry are provided to the Castaway Disabilities Fishing Event held each June in Ely, MN. For information on the Fish Fry, please contact Kirt Sickles at 319-358-5963 or Lori Montag at 319-358-5962.

Robert K. Rankin
President-CEO

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Come Join Us At The 2012 Iowa State Fair

The Iowa Paralyzed Veterans of America invites you to attend the Iowa State Fair on us. We are again offering FOUR FREE tickets per family for our Family Time August event.

We do ask, if possible, to please participate in the Veterans Day Parade on Monday, August 13th. FREE parking passes will be issued prior to the parade. The Iowa Military Band will play and there will be other specific events honoring our nation’s veterans. Please know that by being in the parade, you will have free admission for that day AND you can use your four FREE tickets another time! Plus, those who participate in the parade will be the only ones eligible for any extra unclaimed tickets. The Veterans Day Parade is our chance to be recognized by thousands. We are historically the only group in the parade to receive a standing ovation which is a very touching tribute to those participating. While heat can be an issue, the past few years have been perfect. PLEASE call and tell us you will participate!!!

All ticket orders must be received before Friday, July 20th. For those participating in the parade, you may call the office and order any remaining tickets after August 3th. We will give you those extra tickets when you arrive to be in the parade. This is our most popular event of the year, so call to order your tickets ASAP. There will be NO reorder, so once the tickets are all spoken for, we will be done issuing tickets. As we have done in previous years, we will mail out your tickets to you as soon as we receive them in our office.

Call today, 515-277-4782 or 888-909-4782, to order your Iowa State Fair Tickets!!!!