Former US Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Anthony J. Principi, honored us with his attendance to the Iowa Chapter’s 30th anniversary Annual Dinner and Awards Banquet. Secretary Principi presented Chapter President Jon Schneider with the Keith M. Griggs Chapter Service Award which reads: In recognition for your support, dedication and tireless contributions to Paralyzed Veterans of America – Iowa Chapter. As the only President this chapter has ever known, you have created and developed us into a finely tuned veterans service organization. You have touched and improved the lives of every veteran and person you have come in contact with over your 30 years of service to IPVA. You are the face of IPVA, the heart of IPVA and the soul of IPVA. We are proud to call you our President and leader.
A Message From The President
Jon R. Schneider

Found an interesting article on the US Department of Veterans Affairs website which I believe would be of interest to many of you....

VA | U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs | News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 23, 2018

VA achieves major milestone in effort to modernize claims processing

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) recently completed a significant modernization effort in which more than 7.8 million paper files were removed from 60 locations in fewer than 22 months, enabling rapid scanning into VA’s electronic claims processing system by multiple third-part vendors. This will lead to faster claims decisions for veterans.

“Improving the delivery of benefits and services to Veterans is central to our mission,” said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. “This significant effort will not only improve VA’s claims process, it will also lead to quicker decisions for Veterans because millions more records will be available electronically.”

...VA continues to take steps to operate in a digital environment and modernize the way it processes compensation and pension claims—moving from a cumbersome, paper-intensive process to an efficient, electronic process—resulting in faster, more accurate and transparent claims process.

JRS

Thank you to ITC (a utility company which covers portions of the Midwest) for their generous donations to fund the purchase of two new Action Track Wheelchairs!!! An employee golf outing along with the ITC Vice President and the company allowed for this dream to become a reality. Pictured below (left) is Kenny Lloyd and Mark Peterson from Action Sports with the chair to be used by veterans in attendance at our pheasant, deer and turkey hunts. On the right is Lonn Cunningham, Mark from Action Sports, Miranda and LJ — Lonn’s children. Lonn is thrilled to receive chair number two. These chairs make the impossible possible for these veterans.

Thank you.
2018 Fall Board Meeting

Our Fall Board of Directors meeting for the Paralyzed Veterans of America was held in Orlando, Florida this year. Before the Fall Board Meeting started, the audit committee met with BDO our National Paralyzed Veterans of America auditors. The audit committee meeting was for two days and then the Fall Board Meeting started afterwards. The second day of the audit committee, I broke a tooth off eating bacon. I did go to a dentist in Orlando but they could not get it all extracted so I had to wait until I got home. I sat the rest of the week in meetings, in pain, until I got home to take care of the tooth.

The first day was mostly in executive session. As usual, we had all the reports from staff and the executive committee. If we had any questions about their reports we were allowed to ask questions at this meeting. If anything comes up during the year, we can still ask questions of the staff and the executive committee. The following resolutions were brought up during the meeting. There were some resolutions on the consent agenda which means that if there were no objections they would automatically pass.

The following resolutions were on the consent agenda. PVA BOD Minutes Distribution, Clarification for Resolution Cutoff to be 55 Calendar Days, Voting Procedures Between Meetings via Nasdaq Directors Desk (electronic communication system) and Revision of “PVA Trademark and Usage” Policy.

The following resolutions were referred to committee. Chapter Program Responsibility for North Carolina, PVA Chapter E-Mail Marketing Usage and Membership Documentation.

The rest of the resolutions were passed. They were Clarification of President and Executive Committee Discipline, Clarification of PVA President’s Authority to Fill Vacancies, Judicial Committee Disclosure Modification, Chapter Planned and/or Deferred Giving (Planned Giving) Policy, Standard of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Revisions and Use of Any Tobacco Products During PVA Meetings.

I believe the National Directors made the right decisions for the organization that week.

If you have any questions for me on any of the resolutions or any other issues you can call me at 515-570-1402.

ANNUAL SHOTGUN DEER HUNT

December 8 & December 9, 2018—Saturday and Sunday

Our Annual Deer Hunt will be held Saturday and Sunday at the Lloyd Family Farm in Union, Iowa.

Our Chapter’s track chair will also be on-site for participants to use.

Lunches will be provided by Pauline Lloyd.

The event is FREE to any IPVA member

You must register to attend. Please contact Kenny Lloyd at 515-570-1402 to register and obtain further details. Deadline to register is NOVEMBER 30TH.
From the Desk of Kim Gould

I know the Annual Dinner and Awards Banquet is covered heavily throughout this edition of the newsletter, but it was magical! I would like to let you in on the back story and take you behind the scenes.

I started working at Iowa PVA in April of 2009. From the time I started, Jon spoke of Anthony J. Principi on at the very least a weekly basis, but probably more often that that :). Anthony J Principi served as the Acting United States Secretary of Veterans Affairs under George H.W. Bush and was appointed to the position of United States Secretary of Veterans under George W. Bush in 2001. He held that position until 2005. In addition to servicing as US Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Mr. Principi received his law degree from Seton Hall, graduated from the Naval Academy at Annapolis, served in the Judge Advocate General Corps (JAGC), was legislative counsel for the Department of the Navy and served as Republican chief counsel and staff director of the United States Senate Committee on Armed Services. (The list goes on and on!) Jon Schneider worked for Secretary Principi during his term as Secretary of Veterans Affairs as a liaison to the Midwest. Jon reveres and respects Anthony J. Principi beyond my ability to express.

2018 is the 30th year anniversary for the Iowa Chapter of PVA. Jon Schneider has been our president for all 30 years! Jon with former Executive Director and founding member Donald H. Gerdom assembled a small handful of paralyzed veterans and formed this chapter in 1988.

2018 is a milestone for both the chapter and Jon. It was decided to give Jon an award this year to commemorate his service to Iowa PVA and all the veterans he has helped over the years. The award in itself would be a special gesture, but wouldn't it be GRAND to have Anthony J. Principi be the one to present it to him? So.....our Office Manager Gretchen "stole"/borrowed Jon's phone one day and was able to find a couple of email addresses for Secretary Principi. I emailed him and asked him to come and present. He agreed immediately! We kept this a secret from Jon for almost a month prior to the annual dinner.

SO much planning went into this night. The timing of introducing Secretary Principi and not giving Jon a heart attack. Making this event as special as what we were celebrating. I was truly afraid things would not go smoothly and that as big as we had made it in our minds, it would somehow be a letdown from such high expectations. I had nothing to be afraid of!

We started the Annual Dinner program as we always do and from the first moment it was apparent something special was in the room that night. Gretchen delivered the most beautiful invocation I have ever heard. Nicole Stevenson sang the National Anthem and brought people to tears. It was magnificent! At this point in the program, we normally have the children in the audience come up and assist Jon in leading everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Instead, this is where we brought out Secretary Principi! Jon was thrilled to say the least! What a great moment! (Video can be seen on the Iowa PVA Facebook page.)

After dinner, Jon and our former Executive Director, Joni St. Pierre (Lawal) gave us a history of the 30 years of the Iowa Chapter. Fantastic! Kenny Lloyd and I gave out awards to Tish Simons, Terry Clark, Mike Martin and Joe Manning (See page 12). Following these award presentations, Secretary Principi took the stage. He was mesmerizing! As it turns out, Secretary Principi thinks of Jon as Jon thinks of him. It is truly a mutual love and respect between these two. Mr. Principi presented Jon with his Iowa PVA award and the evening ended with a stirring benediction.

I was amazed at the night. There was a feeling in the room I could not put my finger on. I think everyone in the room was touched to the point of tears at one time or another throughout the evening. My friend and volunteer, Heidi Morrison, asked me later "What did you take away from tonight?" I blubbered something about being honored and humbled at the whole experience and enamored with Anthony Principi :). I knew she was getting at something and asked her what her take on the evening was. She hit the nail on the head. We had approximately 130 people in attendance. There was arguably the most highly regarded veteran/advocate/official in history (Anthony J. Principi) in the same room, having the same experience, witnessing the same program, enjoying the same meal, etc. at the same time as the veteran in his wheelchair who needed help feeding himself where almost no one knew him by name. And between those two were those individuals representing almost every other piece of our puzzle. Veterans, doctors, the Commandant of the Iowa Veterans Home, care providers, PVA staff (current and former), the Director of the Des Moines VAMC, volunteers, award winners and the PVA Board of Directors. Every person has a different role but all of the roles are equally important. We were all on the same playing field during that same magical evening.

That experience alone would have made the night a total success, but it even got a little better. Jon Schneider who has given so much of himself to this Chapter and to veterans as a whole, was surprised and honored. I received a text message late that night from Jon's wife, Joyce. It said in part "Jon said, if someone asked me what was the best night of my life, I believe I would have to say tonight." That was the best part!

We would like to again thank Anthony J. Principi for making this the best night of Jon's life :). Now we are all joking that instead of Jon talking about Tony Principi every single day, WE ALL are. He is truly everything and more than Jon made him out to be.
MANY THANKS

to the people and/or organizations who have donated directly to
Iowa PVA from September 1, 2018 - October 30, 2018

Abel-Priester, Lois (In memory of Otis Dearborn)
Alberts, Dan (monthly)
Anonymous/Unknown Donors (Memorial for Otis Dearborn)
Apsey, Andrew and Linda
Benge, Gregory or Lisa (In memory of Otis Dearborn)
Coffman, Rick or Sandra (In memory of Otis Dearborn)
Dearborn, Arlo or Carolyn (In memory of Otis Dearborn)
Dearborn, Martha (In memory of Otis Dearborn)
Espeland, Dr. Susan and Steven
Games, Kenneth and Nancy (In memory of Otis Dearborn)
Good, Edward or Vicki (In memory of Otis Dearborn)
Hartford Sportsmen Club of Hartford Iowa (monthly)
Hickman Hills Owner Association
Iowa One Gift (monthly)
ITC Employees (golf fundraiser plus company match for purchase of one Action Track Wheelchair)
Leary, Timothy and Laura (monthly)
Matje, Robert
McConnell, Linda (In memory of Otis Dearborn)
Morrison, Heidi (monthly)
Oginsky, Daniel (Vice President at ITC. Personal donation for purchase of one Action Track Wheelchair)
Parkin, Jerry or Randall (In memory of Otis Dearborn)
Personal Training (monthly)
Priester, C.A. “Butch” (In memory of Otis Dearborn)
Sammons Financial Group
Scott, Charles and Carolyn (In memory of Otis Dearborn)
Shelton, DeWitt and Phyllis (In memory of Otis Dearborn)
Simons, Letitia
Stufflebeam, Blanche and Dennis (In memory of Otis Dearborn)
Veatch, Bryan or Lia (In memory of Otis Dearborn)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!

Have you considered including Iowa Paralyzed Veterans of America in your will or trust?

“It takes a notable person to plant a seed for a tree that will one day provide shade for someone he may never meet”

This type of donation will serve as an investment in our organization that will reap our members benefits for many years to come.
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<th>Company/Group</th>
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<td>7G Distributing</td>
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<td>CJ's Sports Bar</td>
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<td>AE Dairy</td>
<td>Cole's Quality Foods, Inc (North Liberty)</td>
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<td>Ainsworth Community Church Youth Group</td>
<td>Coops Bait &amp; Tackle (Jason Schilling)</td>
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<td>Alberts, Dan &amp; Beckie</td>
<td>Coral Ridge Mall</td>
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<td>All About the Stitch</td>
<td>Cost Cutters by DQ</td>
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<td>Allen, Gerald and Nancy</td>
<td>Country Wonders</td>
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<td>Almost Famous Popcorn</td>
<td>Crazy Good Meats</td>
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<td>Americlean</td>
<td>CR Eagles Club</td>
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<td>Andresen, Tara</td>
<td>Czech Cottage Gifts, Crystal &amp; Jewelry</td>
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<td>Anonymous (NUMEROUS cash donations)</td>
<td>Daisy May Essentials</td>
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<td>Applebees-3 x $15 off next meal</td>
<td>Dan Clark Trucking, LLC</td>
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<td>Arnold Motor Supply</td>
<td>Dawn Productions</td>
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<td>AutoZone on 16th Ave</td>
<td>Deja Vine Vineyards &amp; Winery</td>
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<td>AutoZone-BF Rd</td>
<td>Denny's Automotive &amp; Muffler (Marion &amp; 16th)</td>
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<td>Ayers Engraving &amp; Design</td>
<td>Diesel-Turbo Services, Inc</td>
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<td>Bait, Guns &amp; More</td>
<td>DKW Art Gallery- Cindy Moss, C Sell</td>
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<td>Barb's Garden &amp; Pantry</td>
<td>DKW Art Gallery- Deb Weiser &amp; Various Artists</td>
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<td>Barger, Stacey</td>
<td>DKW Art Gallery -Don Dixon &amp; Various Artists</td>
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<td>Barnhart, Lara</td>
<td>DKW Art Gallery- Lori Kidd and Various Artists</td>
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<td>Beeke, Joe and Mindy</td>
<td>Doty Angus Cattle Company</td>
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<td>Beeson, Ryan M</td>
<td>Dubuque Heritage Winery</td>
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<td>Bell, Louise and Thomas</td>
<td>Echo Valley Metal Works</td>
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<td>Bell, Thomas and Teresa</td>
<td>Elevate Salon</td>
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<td>Berkenpas, Andy</td>
<td>Ennor, Marin</td>
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<td>Big Discount Liquor &amp; Tobacco</td>
<td>Faeth's Fowl Play</td>
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<td>Billy Simms BBQ</td>
<td>Fancy Nails</td>
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<td>Branded Apparel</td>
<td>Farlinger, Craig and Patricia</td>
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<td>Breakfast House Cafe</td>
<td>Fin &amp; Feather</td>
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<td>Britton's Cafe (Bonnie Jacobson)</td>
<td>Firehouse Subs (Edgewood Road)</td>
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<td>Bruseth, Tracy</td>
<td>Fireside Winery</td>
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<td>Buchanan House Winery</td>
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<td>Bunnell, George and Deborah</td>
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<td>Cain, Terrance</td>
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<td>Callan, Carrie</td>
<td>Frontier Garden Center</td>
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<td>Cargill</td>
<td>Funcrest Bait &amp; Tackle</td>
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<td>Cargill Animal Nutrition in West Branch</td>
<td>Gardner's Golf Course</td>
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<td>Carl &amp; Ernie's</td>
<td>Grandma's Spoons &amp; Grandpa's Stuff</td>
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<td>Carlos O'Kelys</td>
<td>Great Clips on Edgewood Rd</td>
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<td>Carol's Creations</td>
<td>Herb N' Lou's Pizza</td>
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<td>CC Military Surplus (Coralville)</td>
<td>Hills Bank</td>
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<td>Cedar Rapids Ice Arena</td>
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<td>Cedar Rapids Kernels</td>
<td>Hy-Vee - Edgewood Road</td>
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<td>Chedders Scratch Kitchen (Coralville)</td>
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<td>Kahl, Jeff and Sheri Russell-Kahl</td>
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<td>Kanbeon Jewelry &amp; Unique Gifts</td>
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<td>Oh, For Craft's Sake!</td>
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<td>Paramount Theatre</td>
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<td>Pierson's Flower Shop (Blairs Ferry Road)</td>
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Continued donations made at the Fish Fry Fundraiser on September 29th, 2018...

IVH Pool Tournament

Date/Time: November 17, 2018, at 9:00 am - completion
Location: Iowa Veterans Home, Malloy Building, LRC Room

This event is FREE and open to anyone. But, you must shoot pool from a wheelchair! Trophies and monetary awards given!!

Please RSVP by November 9th by calling the IPVA office at 515-277-4782 or 888-909-4782. Come have fun with us!!!
### November

- Rex E. Ball  
  Nov 1
- John E. Francis  
  Nov 2
- David L. Moyland  
  Nov 7
- Bob J. Stephens  
  Nov 9
- Ronald F. Alberhasky  
  Nov 10
- Kevin L. Wille  
  Nov 10
- Wayne A. Admire  
  Nov 13
- Jerry L. Sandvig  
  Nov 14
- Daniel L. Sawyer  
  Nov 14
- Dennis A. Timp  
  Nov 20
- Lisa E. Neitenbach  
  Nov 28

### December

- Kurtis R. Yeoman  
  Dec 1
- Loren P. Strong  
  Dec 2
- Teresa E. Hout  
  Dec 3
- Robert G. Matje  
  Dec 8
- Kenneth E. Whittaker  
  Dec 9
- John S. Sykes  
  Dec 9
- Steven L. King  
  Dec 15
- Michael L. Brady  
  Dec 17
- David S. Escher  
  Dec 18
- Heath C. Asmussen  
  Dec 20
- Herbert L. Price  
  Dec 23
- Larry R. Pint  
  Dec 24
- Marianne D. Berche-Nelson  
  Dec 28

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### CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- **11/01**  
  2018 National Veterans Creative Arts Festival – Art and Writing Exhibition,  
  1:30-4:30 pm, Atrium at Capital Square 400 Locust Street, Des Moines, Iowa
- **11/04**  
  2018 National Veterans Creative Arts Festival—Stage Show Performance,  
  2:00 pm, Hoyt Sherman Place Theater, Des Moines, Iowa
- **11/08**  
  Bingo at the Des Moines VA CLC - 6:30 pm
- **11/10**  
  Pheasant Hunt -Sponsored by Michael Martin
- **11/11**  
  Veterans Day
- **11/12**  
  IPVA Office Closed in Observance of Veterans Day
- **11/17**  
  IVH Pool Tournament at IVH (see page 7)
- **11/22-23**  
  IPVA Office Closed in Observance of Thanksgiving
- **11/29**  
  BOD/Membership/Caregivers Support Meeting at IPVA Office—11:00 am
- **12/08-09**  
  IPVA Shotgun Deer Hunt in Union, Iowa (see page 3)
- **12/12**  
  IPVA Christmas Party at 5:30 pm (see back page)
- **12/13**  
  Bingo at the Des Moines VA CLC - 6:30 pm
- **12/24-1/1**  
  IPVA Office Closed in Observance of Christmas and New Years Holidays
The Mission Statement of Paralyzed Veterans of America

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

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

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

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

SUPPORT THE IOWA PVA

Paralyzed Veterans of America - Iowa Chapter 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:

Paralyzed Veterans of America - Iowa Chapter
7025 Hickman Rd, Suite #1
Urbandale, IA 50322
WASHINGTON, DC (September 24, 2018)—Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) today lauded House and Senate transportation committee leaders for coming to an agreement on a long-term Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) bill.

“We are extremely pleased that the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 (H.R. 302) includes multiple provisions that specifically target the air travel experience of passengers with disabilities,” said PVA National President David Zurfluh.

The FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 includes some crucial provisions such as an Airline Passengers with Disabilities Bill of Rights; an Advisory Committee on the Air Travel Needs of Passengers with Disabilities; a study on in-cabin wheelchair restraint systems; increased civil penalties for damage to a passenger with a disability or his or her mobility aid; and a requirement for the Department of Transportation (DOT) to move forward in implementing the reporting requirement for large domestic airlines to report on the number of wheelchairs and scooters enplaned and subsequently damaged.

H.R. 302 also includes a revision of training requirements for Transportation Security Agency (TSA) officers in screening people with disabilities in consultation with disability and veterans organizations and increased reporting requirements.

“We greatly appreciate the efforts of the leaders of the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation and House Transportation and Infrastructure and Committees who listened to the concerns of paralyzed veterans and all people with disabilities to ensure that this FAA Reauthorization Bill begins to address the difficulties people with disabilities encounter in air travel and in transiting airport security,” stated Zurfluh.

Zurfluh also thanked Chairman John Thune (R-SD), Ranking Member Bill Nelson (D-FL), Chairman Bill Shuster (R-PA), and Ranking Member Peter DeFazio (D-OR) for their efforts on this bill.

“We applaud Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) and Congressman Jim Langevin (D-RI) for introducing the Air Carrier Access Amendments Act (S. 1318/H.R. 5004), which helped inform many of the disability-related provisions related to improving access to air travel,” said Zurfluh. “We would also like to thank Ranking Member Nelson for including improvements to the airport security process for all people with disabilities.”
Iowa PVA was nominated to the Sammons Financial Group Giving Committee by Sammons employee Megan Christiansen, and a donation of $10,000 was presented to the IPVA on Thursday, 9/27/18. THANK YOU to Sammons Financial Group for their generous gift!
Tish Simons was awarded the Dwain Taylor Certificate of Appreciation for Voluntary Service in the Non-Member Category. Tish devoted 716 volunteer hours and knitted 68 afghans in 2017. This placed her #4 in PVA Nationwide.

Mike Martin received the Alfred H. Blumanhourst Volunteer Appreciation Award which reads: In appreciation for your generosity toward Paralyzed Veterans of America - Iowa Chapter. Hosting our annual pheasant hunt on your land has provided a magnificent venue for this event. By welcoming these disabled veterans, you have afforded them the opportunity to participate in an activity they enjoyed, in many cases, long before their injury. Thank you for your support of this event and our paralyzed veteran hunters.

Joe Manning received the Donald H. Gerdom Executive Director’s Service Award which reads: In recognition of your support of veterans and the members of Paralyzed Veterans of America - Iowa Chapter. The Iowa PVA pheasant hunt would not be possible without dedicated volunteers such as yourself. These events are vital for rehabilitation and also contribute to the quality of life of these veteran heroes. Thank you for your generosity of time and energy to support these disabled hunters.

Terry Clark was presented the Jon R. Schneider Chapter Presidents Award which reads: In appreciation for the excellent care you have provided to our members of Paralyzed Veterans of America - Iowa Chapter through your work with the Iowa City VA SCI/D Clinic. You are an expert and a consummate professional in the treatment of these veterans. Thank you for your many years of service.
Annual Dinner and Awards Banquet - 2018

2018 marks the 30th year anniversary of the Iowa Chapter of Paralyzed Veterans of America. October 12 was our Annual Dinner and Awards Banquet and we did it up big!!!! Jon Schneider is our Chapter President and has held that position for the entire 30 years. He and our first Executive Director, Donald H. Gerdon were among the founding members of the Chapter.

Former United States Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Anthony J. Principi joined us and spoke at our banquet! President Jon Schneider worked for Secretary Principi during the first term of George W. Bush. They are very close and Secretary Principi graciously agreed to surprise Jon with his attendance to the dinner. As you see on the cover of this issue, Secretary Principi presented Jon with his Chapter Award commemorating Jon’s 30 years of service to PVA and the Iowa Chapter.

Also in attendance was Donald Gerdon’s daughter Ann, former Executive Director Joni St. Pierre (Lawal), former Administrative Assistant Jazz Hutchings, former Office Manager Linda Krause, IVH Commandant Timon Oujiri, Director of the Des Moines VAMC, Gail Graham, members of the Des Moines and Iowa City VA SCI/D teams, and 18 residents of the Iowa Veterans Home. The Iowa PVA Board of Directors, PVA members, Associate Members, Judy Keeling from the NSO office and many friends, family members, and volunteers rounded out the attendance.

From the invocation to the benediction and everything in between, the evening was flawless! Nicole Stevenson singing the National Anthem, a surprise guest to lead us in the pledge of allegiance, presentations of well deserved awards, a talk by Secretary Principi, and some history from Jon Schneider and our former ED Joni St. Pierre (Lawal) made the evening very memorable. It was truly a beautiful evening and one we will not soon forget.
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ANNUAL AIR RIFLE & AIR PISTOL PROGRAM

Cal-Diego Air Rifle and Pistol Tournament
January 28-29, 2019
San Diego, CA

Mid-Atlantic Air Rifle and Pistol Tournament
March 6-7, 2019
Richmond, VA

Wisconsin Air Rifle and Pistol Tournament
March 30-31, 2019
Milwaukee, WI

New England Combined Air Rifle and Bocciia Tournament* April 26-28, 2019
Brockton, MA

Buckeye Air Rifle and Pistol Tournament
April 26-27, 2019
Geneva, OH

*indicates combined events

PARALYZED VETERANS NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS CIRCUIT

North Central Trapshoot
September 8-9, 2018
Sioux Falls, SD

Mid-Atlantic Shooting Sports Tournament and Handgun Shoot
November 9-11, 2018
Charles City, VA

Arizona Shooting Sports Tournament
February 8-10, 2019
Phoenix, AZ

Cal-Diego Shooting Sports Tournament & Pistol Tournament
March 29-31, 2019
Redlands, CA

Paralyzed Veterans of America

Wisconsin Shooting Sports Tournament & Pistol Tournament
May 17-19, 2019
Green Bay, WI

Vaughn Shooting Sports Tournament
May 31-June 2, 2019
Elburn, IL

Iowa Shooting Sports Tournament & Pistol Tournament
June 14-16, 2019
Cedar Rapids, IA

Lone Star Shooting Sports Tournament
June 21-23, 2019
Waxahachie, TX

PARALYZED VETERANS BOATING/FISHING TOUR

Mid-America Bass Tournament
September 21-23, 2018
Eufaula, OK

Vaughn Bass Tournament
October 5-7, 2018
Whittington, IL

Florida Gulf Coast Bass Tournament
March 29-31, 2019
Tavares, FL

Kentucky-Indiana Bass Tournament
May 3-5, 2019
Kuttawa, KY

Mid-Atlantic Bass Tournament
June 7-9, 2019
Henrico, VA

ANNUAL PVA/NWPA BILLIARDS TOURNAMENT SERIES

Mid-South Billiards Tournament
October 12-13, 2018
Memphis, TN

Mid-Atlantic Billiards Tournament at the Beach
November 16-18, 2018
Virginia Beach, VA

Mid-Atlantic Billiards Tournament Chuck Willis Mem
March 22-24, 2019
Midlothian, VA

Mid-America Billiards Tournament
April 5-7, 2019
Oklahoma City, OK

Buckeye Billiards Tournament
June 14-15, 2019
Wickliffe, OH

Mountain States Billiards Tournament
June 21-22, 2019
Fountain, CO

Mid-America Bowling Tournament
April 12-14, 2019
Shawnee, OK

Vaughn Bowling Tournament
June 27-30, 2019
Romeoville, IL

HANDCYCLING RACING

Museum of Aviation Marathon
January 12, 2019
Warner Robins, GA

PVA Racing High Performance Camp
January 26-February 1, 2019
Brooksville, FL

Top End Euro-American HC Championships
February 2-3, 2019
Gainesville, FL

Valley of the Sun
February 16-18, 2019
Phoenix, AZ

One City Marathon
March 2, 2019
Newport News, VA

Off-Road Spring Expo
April 19-21, 2019
Chesterfield, VA

PVA Learn to Race Camp
April 23-26, 2019
Gettysburg, PA

Blue and Gray Half Marathon and Criterion
April 27-28, 2019
Gettysburg, PA

NATIONAL VETERANS WHEELCHAIR GAMES

For more information, visit: pva.org/sports
The Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin Chapters of Paralyzed Veterans of America would like to announce their partnership in the 2019 Midwest PVA Fishing Event, which will be held June 23-29, 2019.

This week-long event will be held at the Veterans on the Lake Resort in Ely, Minnesota. Veterans on the Lake Resort was started for the sole purpose of creating a recreational facility for disabled veterans to enjoy and continues to be a non-profit facility. It is nestled in the Superior National Forest adjacent to Fall Lake and has over 2,700 feet of shoreline. It offers fishing from boats, pontoons and off the dock. (www.veteransonthelakersort.org) Other fun activities will include: Fish-fry, campfires, and access to the local attractions. This event promotes rehabilitation by assisting physically challenged veterans the chance to experience the sport of fishing along with networking and camaraderie. Fishing assistance will be offered to anyone who needs it.

**Participation in the Midwest PVA Fishing Event is open to all PVA members in good standing. Applications will be mailed out in the next couple of months. Once you receive your application, please return it as soon as possible. Space is limited and attendees will be selected on a first come first serve basis and dependent on space availability to accommodate disability levels and accessibility needs.**

The Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin Chapters will make all of the arrangements at the resort for lodging and meals. PVA Members need to be aware the event is held at a resort and veterans and caregivers will room together. The Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin Chapters will make every effort to provide a safe and comfortable experience for everyone.

**Medical treatment will be available at local hospitals and clinics at the participants expense. All participants requiring daily supportive care or assistance in activities or daily living MUST bring their own caregiver or support person. Nursing care for activities of daily living such as bathing, showering, chronic wound care and/or catheter or bowel care is NOT provided. We recommend that if you anticipate needing personal equipment or supplies such as catheters, leg bags, irrigating solution, etc. that you plan to bring these items with you due to Ely being a small town. It will also be very important for you to bring all required medications with you for the entire trip.**

Participants will be responsible for a registration fee of $50.00 to cover their own attendance cost. Participants bringing a spouse or caregiver will need to pay an additional $50 for this person to attend.

- It will be expected that you will participate and remain at the event ALL WEEK, otherwise another PVA member could have enjoyed the week (unless prior arrangements have been made and approved).
- This event will be offered to PVA Members and 1 adult caregiver/family member. No additional family members can be accepted due to space.
- We are currently making arrangements for a fishing license to be provided for all participants.
- Fishing gear will be available for those participants who do not have equipment. All participants are encouraged to bring their own tackle and fishing gear, including wet-weather clothing.
- Boats and life jackets will be provided. If you have your own boat or life jacket and want to bring it, we would encourage you to do so. Gas for personal boats would be covered for fishing activities. You will be responsible to get your boat to and from the resort.
- You (and your caregiver) will be responsible for your own transportation to and from the event. If you have transportation issues, please contact your nearest chapter (Iowa, Minnesota, or Wisconsin). Transportation issues will be addressed on a case by case basis and every effort will be made to assist those PVA members with transportation. There is no guarantee that transportation assistance can be provided.

We hope you will consider being a part of this event. If you have questions or want additional information, please contact Kim Gould at 515-277-4782 or Kenny Lloyd at 515-570-1402.
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7025 Hickman Rd., Suite #1
Urbandale, IA 50322
515-277-4782 or 1-888-909-4782

iowapval@yahoo.com
iowapvakim@yahoo.com
iowapvagretchen1@yahoo.com
By: Gus Gonzales  
National Service Officer

As of late, there has been numerous cancellations of annuals here. Attached is an article the VA SCI leadership drafted. This is pretty important as this is a recurring site visit recommendation regarding the number of annuals.

*********************************************************************************

“If you can’t make it, let another Veteran take it”

You get the phone call or letter – “It is time to schedule your annual evaluation in Minneapolis” – and you dutifully sign up, but life gets in the way and you decide you can’t make it. You cancel your appointment.

There is a growing problem with increasing cancellation rates that leave too many Annual Evaluation opportunities unusable for other Veterans. We need your help to make sure that all SCI/D Veterans have access to an Annual Evaluation! The SCI/D Annual Preventative Health Evaluation (AE) is a complicated series of 10-14 appointments with spinal cord experts in many areas and cancelled appointments have wide ranging effects.

Our goal is to help monitor your health, avoid the complications that sometimes occur for SCI/D Veterans, update you on new technology, and help you stay in your communities engaged with family and friends.

When you get your letter or phone call to schedule your Annual Evaluation, please consider the following:

- **Carefully choose** the dates for your Annual Evaluation. We understand that life can be busy and this is a big commitment of time, but do try to schedule a time when you will most likely make the appointments.
- **Try to avoid rescheduling**, if at all possible. However, if a serious conflict does come up, please call at least 2 weeks in advance. A last-minute cancellation means that no one gets an Annual Evaluation at that time.
- **If scheduling this year is not possible** for you, please contact your SCI/D clinic so we can make arrangements for your future care.

We understand that there are times when illness or bad traveling conditions may require missing your appointment, but please think about your fellow Veterans before cancelling your Annual Evaluation.

Remember if you are experiencing changes in your health, do not wait until your Annual Evaluation to get them addressed. Contact your local SCI/D clinic or Primary Care Provider to schedule an appointment.

The number at the Minneapolis SCI/D clinic is 612-629-7005.
We look forward to serving you, and remember – we’ve got your back!
Minneapolis SCI/D Leadership Team

Sunday  
November 11, 2018
New VA Fiduciary Regulations
By: Tim Hicks, Central South Area Manager

VA's Fiduciary Program was established to protect Veterans and other beneficiaries who, due to injury, disease, or due to age, are unable to manage their financial affairs.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) recently updated its regulations related to how it governs the oversight of beneficiaries, who, because of injury, disease, or age, are unable to manage their VA benefits, and the appointment and oversight of fiduciaries for these vulnerable beneficiaries.

The new regulations, under 38 CFR §13.30 effective July 13, 2018, took effect in August 2018. The new regulations, update and reorganize fiduciary rules consistent with current law and VA policies, and clarify the rights of beneficiaries and the roles of VA and fiduciaries in the program and clarify the protections in place for Veterans and family members who apply for or are currently part of our fiduciary care program. Among other things, the new regulations clarify beneficiaries’ rights, including the right to appeal fiduciary appointments and other fiduciary decisions, the 4% limit on fiduciary fees, and the procedures to remove a fiduciary, for instance, when a beneficiary demonstrates the ability to manage their own funds or when VA determines that the fiduciary misused VA benefits.

Some of the rights of beneficiaries in the fiduciary program include the right to:

- Receive direct payment of recurring monthly benefits until VA appoints a fiduciary if the beneficiary reaches the age of majority or older.
- Receive written notice regarding VA's appointment of a fiduciary or any other decision on a fiduciary matter that affects VA's provision of benefits to the beneficiary.
- Be informed of the fiduciary's name, telephone number, mailing address, and email address.
- Appeal to the Board of Veterans' Appeals VA's appointment of a fiduciary.
- Appeal to the Board of Veterans' Appeals VA's determination regarding its own negligence in misuse and reissuance of benefits matters.
- Submit to VA a reasonable request for appointment of a successor fiduciary. For purposes of this paragraph, reasonable request means a good faith effort to seek replacement of a fiduciary, if:(i) The beneficiary’s current fiduciary receives a fee deducted from the beneficiary's account under §13.220 and the beneficiary requests an unpaid volunteer fiduciary who ranks higher in the order of preference under §13.100(e).
- Request removal of his or her fiduciary under §13.500(a)(1)(iii) and supervised direct payment of benefits under §13.110.
- Request to be removed from the fiduciary program and receive direct payment of benefits without VA supervision provided that the beneficiary: (A) Is rated by VA as able to manage his or her own benefits; or (B) Is determined by a court with jurisdiction as able to manage his or her financial affairs if the beneficiary is in the fiduciary program as a result of a court order and not a decision by VA's rating agency; or (C) Attains the age of majority.
- Request to have a fiduciary removed and receive direct payment of benefits with VA supervision as prescribed in §13.110 regarding supervised direct payment and §13.500 regarding removal of fiduciaries generally, provided that the beneficiary establishes the ability to manage his or her own benefits with limited and temporary VA supervision; and
- Request to be represented by a VA-accredited attorney, claims agent, or representative of a VA-recognized Veteran Service Organization. This includes the right to have a representative present during a field examination and the right to be represented in the appeal of a fiduciary matter under §13.600.

NOTE: Rating Decisions made by the VA Regional Offices involving the determination to rate a Veteran incompetent, due to the Veteran needing help managing VA benefit payments or cognitive impairment, are subject to provisions that prohibit the Veteran from purchasing, possessing, receiving, or transporting a firearm or ammunition as outlined in the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act (the Brady Act). The Veteran may be fined, imprisoned, or both if the Veteran knowingly violates this law. However, a Veteran may apply to the VA for relief from the firearms prohibition imposed by the Brady Act by submitting a request on VA Form 21-4138.

For more information on Fiduciary rules please visit https://www.benefits.va.gov/FIDUCIARY/. To discuss a fiduciary matter, please contact 1-888-407-0144 or your friendly neighborhood PVA NSO.
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Please check out our new and improved web page! [www.iowapva.org] Many items of interest will be posted frequently. This will bring you news about the chapter between newsletters. It is a work in progress, but you will find it very interesting and informative.

Please provide us with your email address. We would like to provide you your newsletter and other information electronically. This will make it easier for you and less expensive for us.
WASHINGTON (October 3, 2018)— Paralyzed Veterans of America is hailing the passage of the Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act of 2018 (H.R. 302) through the U.S. Senate today by a vote of 93 to 6. The legislation includes a ‘bill of rights’ and an advisory panel for passengers with disabilities, as well as revised training and procedures for TSA screenings of people with disabilities.

“We applaud the bipartisan passage of this bill,” said David Zurfluh, national president of Paralyzed Veterans of America. “This is truly a move in the right direction and we will continue to support efforts to prohibit discrimination based on disability in air travel, whether that’s on Capitol Hill or in the courts.”

According to Paralyzed Veterans of America, the number one complaint that they receive from members is related to problems with air travel. Shaun Castle, who serves as the deputy executive director of Paralyzed Veterans of America and is a service-disabled U.S. Army Veteran, has had his wheelchair bent, cracked and even lost in separate incidents.

“These are more than minor inconveniences,” Castle said. “If my wheelchair is damaged, it may mean I am stranded until I can get it repaired.”

H.R. 302 includes several provisions similar to those found in the Air Carrier Access Amendments Act (ACAAA - H.R. 5004/S. 1318) introduced by Rep. Jim Langevin, D-R.I. earlier this year and by Sen. Tammy Baldwin, D-Wis. in 2017. Some of the Paralyzed Veterans of America supported provisions include increased civil penalties for wheelchair damage or bodily harm, and a study on the feasibility of in-cabin wheelchair restraint systems.

“Passengers with disabilities deserve equal access to the skies,” said Congressman Langevin, a quadriplegic who co-chairs the Bipartisan Disabilities Caucus. “As I have seen in my own flying experience, however, our safety and security is often not prioritized. That’s why I’m proud of the work Senator Baldwin and I did to make meaningful changes in the FAA bill, including a bill of rights for people with disabilities, to reduce barriers to travel. While there is still considerable progress to be made before we can achieve full equality, I am pleased with our achievements in this legislation, and I am grateful for the work of PVA in advocating on behalf of the broader disability community.”

In addition to Langevin, Baldwin was also a sponsor of the bill. “In order to keep America’s promise of full equality for all, we must break down the barriers that individuals with disabilities and our veterans face when they travel,” said Baldwin.

“Equal access to air travel ensures our veterans are able to participate in today’s economy and enjoy their travel opportunities. I’m so proud to partner with Paralyzed Veterans of America to protect the rights of our veterans when they travel and I’m looking forward to the president signing this important legislation,” added Baldwin.
NOVEMBER 2018
NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVERS MONTH

SUPERCHARGE YOUR CAREGIVING
The VA Central Iowa Health Care System would like to show appreciation for the families and caregivers of our Veterans. Please come and join us for the various events scheduled throughout the month of November. This is a great way to network with other caregivers, find support in each other, and learn more about the resources available to you as caregivers.

COFFEE DATES/LOCATIONS
11/07/18: Mason City @ Hy-Vee 4:00p-7:00p
2400 4th St SW, Mason City, IA 50401
11/07/18: Des Moines @ Twisted Bean 5:00p-7:00p
4504 Merle Hay Rd. DSM, IA 50310
11/08/18: Fort Dodge @ Tea Thyme 2:00p-4:00p
2021 6th Ave S. Fort Dodge, IA 50501
11/13/19: Knoxville @ Knoxville VA Clinic 2:00P-4:00P
1607 N. Lincoln, Knoxville, IA 50138

November 1, 2018
Caregiver Appreciation Board
VA DSM Lobby 11-1

November 8, 2018
Flowers & Appreciation Board
VA DSM Lobby 11-1

November 15, 2018
Caregivers: We’re in it together Education
VA DSM Auditorium 9-3

November 29, 2018
Caregiver Bags & Self-care Items give-away
VA DSM Lobby 11-1

Please come join us for any and all events!

VA CENTRAL IOWA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM
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CHRISTMAS PARTY 2018
December 12th, 2018 - Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.

Please join us for our special Holiday celebration at the IPVA office located at 7025 Hickman Rd. Suite 1, Urbandale. The evening will begin at **5:30 p.m.** with a catered dinner being served at 6:00 p.m. Dinner will be followed by a special visit from Santa with presents for the children.

If you have children/grandchildren twelve and under, PLEASE CONTACT us so we can notify Santa and give him a gift suggestion! Please understand we would love to satisfy all requests but are budgeted up to $20.00 per gift. (Possible ideas are Barbie dolls, CD with title, Legos, etc.)

This event is FREE and open to anyone! **THE MORE THE MERRIER—ESPECIALLY CHILDREN!!!!** After all, what is a Christmas party without children ripping open their presents?!!!

This event is a wonderful evening of holiday spirit, socializing, food and gift giving. **PLEASE CALL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE:** SANTA, KIM, AND GRETHELEN NEED TO HAVE YOUR RSVP BY 12/1. (515-277-4782 or 1-888-909-4782)

ARE YOU MOVING???
Don’t forget to notify the office of your new address. If you are a PVA member, we will let National PVA and **PN PARAPLEGIA NEWS** know where you are moving to, so you won’t miss a single issue.
Call us at 888-909-4782.