



A Member Chapter of the
Paralyzed Veterans of America
Aggressive Advocates for an Accessible America

2010 Annual Report



President's Message



With the recession looming throughout 2010, I thought it important to stress awareness and public speaking at events to the Board of Directors and Membership, to accomplish public awareness and create opportunities for fundraising. We accomplished this goal by speaking at more engagements and enrolling in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). I expect fundraising to be at the same levels or more in 2011 (Thanks to Ernie Butler). Once again, Chapter programs remained in budget and we are looking to add a Bowling Tournament and Hand-cycle event in the near future.

In 2011 I am looking to get the Board of Directors and Members more involved in membership and chapter programs. This year some Directors and members have taken on that challenge, in 2011 I am looking for more member and Board involvement. In 2010 we continued to have a great working relationship with our two Chapter National Service Officers (NSO's) and plan to continue it in 2011.

Finally, remember I would love to hear from you, our members. The ideas I got last year were not all used but were all heard so please keep them coming.

Please take time to remember those members who have passed on in 2010, but for us the work still continues. May you have a prosperous and healthy New Year.

2010 Accomplishments

Chapter Administration

NWPVA's Chapter office is open daily from 9:00 AM until 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday in our chapter owned building. We currently have five (5) Tenants, Empire Electronics; Disabled Americans have Rights Too (DAHRT), Tellit Communications, Grady Financial and The League of Women Voters of South King County. In addition, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4314 holds their regular monthly meeting in our facility. Once each year for the past two years the chapter office has hosted the 'Miss Wheelchair Washington Pageant.

NWPVA is in full compliance with all the reporting requirements of National PVA, Washington State and local governments and file our IRS form 990 with the Internal Revenue Service as required by our 501C3 non-profit tax status. All reports are available for public inspection at the chapter office. NWPVA in good standing with our National office and participates fully in all National meetings.

Membership

This year's membership roles decreased a small amount due to readjustments for relocation and deaths. Membership at the end of November stood at 197 service connected members and 251 non-service connected members for a total of 448 members. The Chapter will continue to work diligently for all our members in the coming years with our volunteer programs.

Liaison

The Chapter continues to have an active relationship with the VA Puget Sound Healthcare System's Seattle and American Lakes campuses. Our programs extend from direct donations to support nurses continuing education and certification programs, to NWPVA's support of the PSHCS Fisher House, as this directly affects the loved ones of members traveling to Seattle for extended hospital stays. We also have continued the monthly pizza parties and our annual Christmas dinner in the SCI unit dining hall and opening up the chapter to support Recreation Therapists with their programs. All in all the SCI unit and NW Chapter relations continue to be strong.

Advocacy/Legislation

Barrier-free design and access to public services and facilities continues to be the focus of our Advocacy efforts. Working with National PVA we continue to follow the construction of the new facilities at the Puget Sound Healthcare System, which is slated to be completed in 2011 and will be immediately followed by the beginning of construction on the new underground Parking Garage. In 2010 the Chapter joined with other Disability Organizations in successfully lobbying the King County Council to form a Disability Board to help manage ADA related issues in King County. We are happy to say this new board is seated and begun its work. This is a step forward for King County and the city of Seattle. The chapter continues to send a strong team to the Advocacy / Legislation Seminar each year and look for other opportunities to advance accessibility in the Chapter's areas. Within the State of Washington, the chapter has members serving on the Governor's Veterans Advisory Committee and on the Veterans Legislative Committee keeping an active face at the State Capitol.

Communication

Our Chapter Newsletter, the Northwest Outpost is published bimonthly and more than 600 copies are mailed out to members and other interested parties. Our website, www.nwpva.org is continuing as a source of chapter information for the public and members alike. The website under the direction of Board of Director's Member Patrick Carpenter, has undergone substantial changes this past year. Our 'PayPal' button on every page allows online donations quickly and easily, more pictures are on each page, with new pictures and content added bi-monthly. We have also this past year added a new Xerox Docu-color Print System allowing us to bring all our outside print jobs in house.

In these three ways, newsletter, website and in-house printing, we are able to better communicate effectively with members. Finally we are excited about two additional communications pieces. The chapter has committed with National Communications Director, Mark Daley to hold a "Message Box" training seminar for our new Board Members and staff.

Fundraising

NWPVA continues to raise funds in a variety of ways. As in the past, the largest portion of our income comes from National PVA. The rest comes from programs conducted by the chapter. Our vehicle donation program remains our biggest fundraiser. The National Trapshoot has become a solid contributor in our fund raising efforts as well. Individual donations and pledges made through the United Way of King County, The Microsoft Giving Campaign and the Employees Community Fund of the Boeing Company, along with regular member and community based donations all help us pay for our chapter programs. This past year the chapter joined the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) as a non-profit organization eligible for federal employees of King County payroll contribution. We expect to see a good donation base grow with the CFC.

Sports & Recreation

Sports and Recreation continue to be the hallmark program for the NW chapter. In 2010 our chapter participated in the National Veteran Wheelchair Games (NVWG) in Denver, CO. We hosted a meet and greet with chapter friends at the Spokane VA introducing new members from the east side of our state to the Chapter's Sports programs.. NWPVA's contingent to the games was again over 40 people with members, coaches and support personnel. For NWPVA attending the NVWG continues to be a yearly event.

The chapter also sent members to the National Winter Sports Clinic in Colorado, and supported our Chapter Trap Shooting Team, while holding our 4th National PVA Trapshoot, a fun event that has also become a good fundraising opportunity for the chapter. Combining with the Oregon Chapter to our south we have continued our quarterly inter-chapter Trapshoot to help both chapters grow our shooting sports programs and improve the skills of our members in a friendly competitive format. Other sports and recreation events we supported this past year were our continued affiliation with "Camp ACCESS" a disabled children's summer camp, hand-cycling rides and partnering with the VA in hosting a disabled golf clinic with the 'Solo Riders', a golf cart designed to make golfing available to paralyzed individuals.



Service Office

This year again has been a very busy one but not as busy as previous years do to the fact the other National Service Officer has been out of the office. This year we have taken 50 new power of attorneys allowing us to represent more veterans before the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Between both officers we have filed 800 claims with the VA. This has resulted in a little over \$5 million dollars in benefits being paid to our clientele. We continue to work closely with the ALS Associations Evergreen Chapter to reach out to veterans that are diagnosed with ALS or their survivors. We have done different activities with the NW Chapter not just locally but also in different parts of the state.

Financial Statement

<u>Assets</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 37,005	\$ 37,063
Short-Term Investments: Bonds & Money Market	250,905	250,905
Other Receivables	-	-
Prepaid Expenses & Supplies Inventory	360	2,000
Property & Equipment-Net of Depreciation	<u>272,049</u>	<u>278,229</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 560,319</u>	<u>\$ 568,197</u>
 <u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u>		
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Accounts Payable	-	6,800
Funds Held in Trust	10,709	13,210
Payroll Tax Liabilities	127	3,335
Rent Deposits	<u>2,350</u>	<u>2,350</u>
Total Liabilities	13,186	25,695
 <u>Net Assets</u>		
Unrestricted	<u>547,133</u>	<u>542,502</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>547,133</u>	<u>542,502</u>
 Total Liabilities and Net Assets	 <u>\$ 560,319</u>	 <u>\$ 568,197</u>
 <u>Unrestricted Net Assets</u>		
<u>Support</u>		
Contributions	\$ 213,094	\$ 157,371
Investment Income	22	2,599
PVA Grant	181,710	156,710
Lease Income	16,741	13,425
Fund Raising-Newsletter Advertising	100	2,200
Other	-	200
Total Unrestricted Support	411,667	332,505
 <u>Expenses</u>		
<u>Program Services</u>		
Membership and Benefits	127,012	94,572
Public Affairs	145,769	122,208
Geo. B. Turner Research & Education	<u>30,794</u>	<u>27,342</u>
Total Program Services	<u>303,575</u>	<u>244,122</u>
 <u>Support Services</u>		
General & Administrative	40,113	42,601
Fund Raising	<u>63,348</u>	<u>45,878</u>
Total Support Services	<u>103,461</u>	<u>88,479</u>
Total Expenses	<u>407,036</u>	<u>332,601</u>
 (Decrease) Increase in Unrestricted Net Assets	 4,631	 (96)
Unrestricted Net Assets-Beginning	<u>542,502</u>	<u>542,598</u>
Unrestricted Net Assets-Ending	<u>\$ 547,133</u>	<u>\$ 542,502</u>



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Our Mission

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

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

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

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

The Northwest Chapter Paralyzed Veterans of America (NWPVA) a member chapter of Paralyzed Veterans of America accomplishes it's mission by coordinated efforts through programs that:

- *Provide opportunities for health promotion, recreation, employment, sports and recreation, service and camaraderie for paralyzed veterans;*
- *Elevate society's information level about the attitudinal, physical and legal barriers that confront persons with disabilities in order to influence the removal of those barriers;*
- *Advocate for and monitor the delivery of high quality and appropriate health care benefits and service;*
- *Cooperate with and seek the support of other groups and individuals that share NWPVA's objective;*
- *Educate the public with the current and ongoing needs and current and past contributions of America's veterans.*

NWPVA Officers
 President-David Zurfluh
 Vice President-Brent King
 Secretary-Terry Chenoweth
 Treasurer-Aaron Hastings
 Past President & National Director-
 Gary Pearson

**NWPVA
 Board of Directors**
 Duane Osborn Joe Sapienza
 Tom Bungert Tom Knoppi
 Sean Halsted Patrick Carpenter

NWPVA Appointees
 Sports Director-Tom Knoppi
 Shooting Sports Director-
 Mike Davis
 Fundraising Chairman-
 Ernie Butler
 Membership Director & Seattle
 VAVS-Tom Bungert
 Outpost Editor-Lisa Lawrence
 Legislative Director-
 Michael Partridge
 Seattle VA Hospital Liaison-
 David Zurfluh

Staff
 Executive Director-Ernie Butler
 Office Manager-Lisa Lawrence

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