



www.mobilitymotoring.com

Fundraising and friends— Page 11

Rollin' Times from the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America

May/June 2007

Quotabilities

“We all have ability. The difference is how we use it.”

- Stevie Wonder

On the Cover:

Thanks to MPVA Associate member Josie Boore for photos of the 4-12-07 Open House!

Inside this Issue

President’s Report	3
Executive Director’s Report	4
Veterans News	5
Wheelchair Games 2007	7
Sports & Recreation	8
Birthdays	10
Spaghetti Dinner	11

MPVA Officers and Directors

President Kevin G. Elya

Vice President David Peck	Director Kenneth Giorgio
Secretary.....Patrick Adams	DirectorQuintin Williams
TreasurerClark Shuler	Director Scot Severn
Director Gary Grubbe	Director Dale Weaver
DirectorJohn Dusa	DirectorVacant

MPVA Staff

Executive Director <i>Michael Harris</i> mharris@michiganpva.org	Office Maintenance <i>Don Swale</i>
Deputy Executive Director <i>Vacant</i>	Legal Advisor <i>Steve Cohen</i>
Director of Development and Communications <i>R. Sue Dodea</i> rsdodea@michiganpva.org	Certified Public Accountants and Consultants <i>Morris, Kalish + Walgren, P.C.</i>
Sports & Recreation Director <i>Scot Severn</i> ssevern@michiganpva.org	Rollin’ Times Editorial Staff <i>Jan Black, R. Sue Dodea</i>
Administrative Assistant <i>Jan Black</i> chapterhq@michiganpva.org	Published by <i>Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America and Jessica Manley, JM Publishing</i>
	Layout and Design

VETERANS BENEFITS DEPARTMENT

McNamara Federal Building, 477 Michigan Avenue, Room 1233, Detroit, MI 48226
Phone: (313) 471-3996 or (800) 795-3608
 Service Office Supervisor Charles Henning
 Service Officer John A. Brezzell
 Service Officer Stephanie Strickland ¶ Service Officer Bonnie Williams
 Secretary Mary J. Pellerito-Barenbrugge
 National Field Director Charles E. (Ed) Rodgers
 (314) 552-9778, VARO St. Louis, MO

Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America

40550 Grand River Avenue
 Novi MI 48375
 (248) 476-9000 Fax (248) 476-9545
Toll free: (800) 638-MPVA (6782)

Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America (MPVA) is one of 34 member chapters of Washington, D.C.-based Paralyzed Veterans of America. A Congressionally chartered veterans service organization, MPVA has been assisting veterans with spinal cord injuries or diseases, including Multiple Sclerosis and ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, better known as Lou Gehrig’s Disease), in Michigan since 1961.

MPVA programs include:

- Veterans’ Benefits
- Wheelchair Sports and Recreation
- Spinal Cord Injury Research
- Equipment Donation
- Advocacy to eliminate architectural barriers and protect civil rights for persons with disabilities
- Referral Services for assistive devices, housing, employment and transportation
- Literature on a variety of topics including self-care, independent living, and disability rights.
- The Pump Guide: an online directory of gas stations throughout Michigan that will pump gas at the self-serve price for persons with disabilities.
- MPVA is a nonprofit organization and receives no federal funding. MPVA relies on grants, sponsorships, and private and corporate donations to support its programs.

The MPVA headquarters is in Novi, Michigan. Our service officers are based out of the McNamara Federal Building in Downtown Detroit.

Disclaimer:

The Rollin’ Times is a publication of the Michigan Chapter of Paralyzed Veterans of America. It is designed to inform the members of the PVA and other interested parties on veterans’ issues, legislation, legal decisions, medical technology and other matters deemed to be relevant to the disability community.

The contents of this publication do not always reflect the views or policies of Michigan PVA, and no endorsement or approval is made or should be inferred with respect to products or services advertised herein. Consult an appropriate professional before making use of any product or service mentioned.



President's Report

By Kevin G. Elya

Awareness Week a Big Success

Dear Members,

First I would like to thank all of you who visited patients in the long-term nursing units at the Ann Arbor, Detroit, and Battle Creek VA hospitals during PVA Awareness Week. For the veterans who don't have family support our visits mean a lot. I also would like to thank the Ford Motor Company for joining us this year and choosing our open house to launch their new book, the *Ford Michigan Mobility Motoring Resource Guide*.

It has been a long winter for all of us. I can't wait for the warmer temps, blue skies and sunshine. I have heard that a lot of our members have been in the hospital or stuck at home due to some illness. I would like to wish and hope all those member have a speedy recovery.

I'm looking forward to this year's MPVA picnic. Each year I am so impressed and pleased with the new faces that show up, as well as the friendly faces I have gotten to see year after year. I am hoping this year proves to be one of our strongest turnouts. As always new faces at the membership meetings is always something I am also very pleased with.

As many of you know, I just had spinal surgery in February in which rods were placed in my back to give my greater lumbar and trunk support. As I was at home mending I truly had a taste of what being homebound means. I have often written about my wish for our chapter to start an outreach program to call our veteran homebound brothers

and sisters, I cannot say this enough. I have family so I am one of the lucky ones. I have teenagers at home too, so there never seems to be a dull moment and my wife and I often wish we could just be quietly at home. Being homebound and not being able to go out and visit friends and family is different. The feeling of isolation that I experienced made me often feel as if I were going crazy. I was often like a puppy at the door waiting for visitors to give me some stimuli from the outside world. I started to think about those who do not have anyone visit and few callers. The men and women gave their all just as you and I did and we are all guilty of not making them feel as if we care. I again want to post the idea of an outreach program for those who would benefit from even a friendly call or card in the mail. I think we are all busy with our lives and until we truly feel what others might be going through we often turn a blind eye. As summer gets into full swing, I again plead with our membership to let the office know of members who would benefit from this program. My wife's company, A Choice in Care has offered to help. If you know of anyone, just give my wife Annie a call with the info for the list. If you too would want to be involved in this mission, please feel free to give her a call. Let's let them know we have not forgotten them.

I wish everyone a safe and happy summer and cannot wait to meet new faces. Let's make this year's picnic a record in attendance. God bless all. 🚗



✓ Success

✓ Fun



Executive Director's Report

By Mike Harris

Helen Keller Middle School Wins "Future City" Disability Award

The Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America partnered with the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Michigan Chapter, to recognize outstanding entries in the

Michigan Regional Future City Competition held in Novi. I attended the event with MPVA Secretary Patrick Adams. The Competition is part of a national program for middle school students sponsored by the National Engineers Week Committee of the Engineering Society of Detroit.

Teams of students, a teacher, and an engineer mentor create detailed, often fantastic, cities of tomorrow that give intriguing insights to how young minds envision their future. Their bold designs and innovative concepts provide a refreshing optimistic appreciation of how our nation can realistically deal with challenges facing its cities; including environmental disasters, crime, urban decay and urban sprawl.

When discussing the Future City Competition with the ESD, we were surprised to find out that the students weren't being judged on how their visions would impact people with disabilities. We changed that by creating "The Best City Disability Award"

to bring awareness to students that they need to include the disabled community when creating their future cities.

Through participation in this program, students develop their problem-solving skills, as well as their ability to work as a team. They learn how to conduct research and develop their presentation skills. As they begin to design and build their city, the team members apply various math and scientific principles to address practical problems, thereby increasing their awareness of community related issues. Then they present and defend their city to a panel of judges at the competition

It is estimated that the demand for accessible design solutions will skyrocket in the next 25 years as the number of Americans over the age of 50 increases to a total of 115 million individuals. Add to this the number of Americans with non-age related mobility impairments and our country faces a significant number of individuals whose lives would be greatly enhanced through accessible design at home, work or in public places.

A city of the future – "MIRAI" – engineered by students from the Helen Keller Middle School in Royal Oak won the "Best City Disability Award" at this year's event. I want to congratulate Mackenzie MacDormott, Sarah Lewan, Mairi Mundy-Dowd, Elly Villescas and Hanna Reed for a job well done. The team came in third at the National Finals in Washington D.C.

Once again, Congratulations to these bright and caring students for a job well done! 





Veterans' News

By Chuck Henning Staff Supervisor, MPVA Service Office

WOMEN VETERANS HEALTH PROGRAM

With a growing number of women in military service, the number of women veterans has grown accordingly. Like all veterans, the women who served our country need information about the VA benefits and health care services available to them. We want every veteran to access the benefits and services they earned. I encourage every woman veteran to call our office for information on VA benefits at (313) 471-3996 or (800) 795-3608.

The VA Women Veterans Health Program was established in 1985. The Veterans Health Care Act of 1992 dramatically improved the VA's programs for women veterans. Today the VA offers its veteran women state-of-the-art Women's Health facilities in an environment that is warm, comfortable and private. The Women Veterans Health Program provides a full range of medical and mental health care services, including:

- Primary Care
- Gynecology Services
- Patient Education
- Reproductive Health Care, Maternity Care, HIV Testing and Infertility Evaluation
- Preventive Health Screening including Breast Cancer, Cervical Cancer and Osteoporosis
- Screening, Counseling and Treatment for Sexual Trauma, Substance Abuse, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Domestic Violence
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Homeless Programs
- Research

Every VA Medical Center has a Women Veterans Program Manager (WVPM), who helps women understand their benefits and coordinates care for those veterans. The WVPM assists women veterans in:

- Establishing their eligibility
- Understanding their benefits
- Obtaining their health care in the VA system

The Women Veterans Program Manger's focus is on:

- Quality customer service
- Improving the public image of the VA and women veterans
- Targeted outreach to women veterans
- Expansion of appropriate women's health care services
- Educating VA health care providers and students
- Case management for high-risk woman veterans
- Monitoring clinical trends and outcomes

If you are a female veteran, or if you know women who have served our nation through any military branch, please encourage them to learn more about how the VA can assist in providing quality health care. 



MPVA is proud to sponsor the radio version of Roger McCarville's "Disabilities Today".

Listen to the live show each Sunday at 11 a.m. – Noon on 1400 AM WDTK.

You can also hear the program through live streaming audio over your computer at

www.wdtkam.com

SUNDAYS
11 a.m. – Noon
1400 AM WDTK





Sports & Recreation

By Scot Severn

SEVERN APPOINTED TO DNR — AAC

M PVA Board member Scot Severn has been selected to serve on the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Accessibility Advisory Council (AAC). As a member of the AAC, Severn will contribute his expertise to its mission of “providing access to Michigan’s natural resources and recreation opportunities” for all residents and tourists. Also serving on the AAC is MPVA Associate member Roger McCarville.

Among the activities involving AAC members are: providing expert knowledge and information to the DNR on accessibility issues; evaluation of oversight programs; review of hunting and fishing regulations; identifying barriers to user groups; reviewing internal training materials; and establishing a network of experts who can provide on-going advice to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. ♿

DID YOU KNOW?

Free Stuff

You can get a free copy of the 300-page “Paralysis Resource Guide” published by the Christopher and Dana Reeve Paralysis Resource Center. This loose-leaf guide is a comprehensive look at issues related to life with paralysis, written by accomplished author Sam Maddox, a founding editor of “New Mobility” magazine and wheelchair user.



Contact the Center at (toll-free) 1-800-539-7309. The book is available in English and Spanish. It is sent to you at no cost thanks to the purposeful lives of the late Christopher and Dana Reeve.

Also free for you, the new Ford “Michigan Mobility Motoring Resource Guide,” 26 pages of essential information regarding adaptive vehicles and other resources that support independence and improved quality of life. Your free copy is waiting for you when you call toll-free (800) 952-2248. Produced by Versacom Incorporated, Dearborn, Ford collaborated with key



leaders in Michigan’s disability community to create this first-ever “Guide,” including Ann Arbor’s Center for Independent Living, the Detroit Medical Center and the Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan to ensure that the Guide will prove immediately useful to drivers with disabilities. The Guide made its debut at the April 12 MPVA Open House.

National News

PVA Executive Director Louis Irvin is recovering from recent health issues. As Mr. Irvin recovers, our own Maurice Jordan is currently the Acting Executive Director of PVA in his absence. They picked the right man for the job and we know PVA is in good hands until Mr. Irvin returns. ♿



Acting Executive Director of PVA Maurice Jordan



Great Games on a Great Lake!
**27th National Veterans
 Wheelchair Games**

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN ★ JUNE 19-23, 2007



The National Veterans Wheelchair Games are the largest annual wheelchair sporting event in the United States. More than 600 athletes and coaches from the United States, Puerto Rico, and Great Britain are expected to participate. The event is an excellent opportunity for novice competitors or newly injured veterans to regain confidence and rediscover the joy of movement and competition.

Featured Events:

- Air Guns
- Archery
- Basketball
- Bowling
- Field Events
- Handcycling
- Motor Rally
- Nine Ball
- Power Chair Relay
- Power Soccer
- Quad Rugby
- Slalom
- Softball
- Swimming
- Table Tennis
- Track
- Weightlifting

Exhibition Events:

- Trapshooting
- Wheelchair Curling

For More Information and Registration Materials, Contact:

Paralyzed Veterans of America,
 Sports and Recreation Program
 (800) 424-8200, ext. 752 or 652
 (800) 795-4327 (tty),
 or
 Milwaukee VA Medical Center
 Brian Walker
 (414) 389-4009
 brian.walker@va.gov
 or visit
www.wheelchairgames.org

Presented by



National Host Sponsor

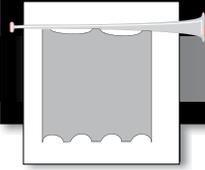


Local Host Sponsors



Sustaining Host Sponsors





ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCI&D Services Websites To Check Out

Get the latest news about programs and events from the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America!
www.michiganpva.org

The Center for Disability and Special Needs Preparedness provides links to pamphlets with information about preparing for emergencies, natural disasters, and terrorist attacks for people with disabilities. www.disabilitypreparedness.org

The Christopher and Dana Reeve Paralysis Resource Center's site contains lots of information and many links to other SCI&D sites. www.paralysis.org

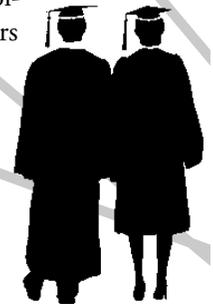
A website from the National Spinal Cord Injury Association has many links to good information, news stories, ongoing surveys and studies, upcoming conferences, and regular columns. www.spinalcord.org

The *New Mobility* magazine on-line features from the award-winning magazine published for people with disabilities. www.newmobility.com



Scholarship Money Available for the 2007-2008 Academic Year

PVA established an Educational Scholarship Program to assist PVA members and their immediate family members in gaining a post-secondary education from accredited colleges and universities across America. For the upcoming 2007-2008 academic year, PVA will be offering both full-time (\$1,000) and part-time scholarships (\$500).



This program is open to PVA members, their spouses and unmarried children (under 24 years of age). Applicants must be United States citizens and accepted or enrolled in a degree program.

Applications must be received at the PVA National Office no later than June 1, 2007. To obtain the appropriate instructions and application forms, you may go to www.pva.org (click on the Membership); contact your local PVA chapter or contact Patricia Rollins at 800-424-8200 ext. 619, / TrishR@pva.org.

2007 Events

Date	Description
5	Cycling Class - Training for Racing AACIL, 2568 Packard Road, Ann Arbor Mary Stack, 734-971-0277 x56, mstack@aacil.org
10 - 12	Disabled Sports Games Michigan Wheelchair Athletic Association (734) 971-0277
17-20	Disabled Sports Games Michigan Disabilities Sports Alliance Victory Games (248) 922-1236
19	Cycling Class - Training for Recreation AACIL, 2568 Packard Road, Ann Arbor Mary Stack, 734-971-0277 x56, mstack@aacil.org
26	Handcycle Clinics Northern Michigan Adaptive Sports (231) 935-7331
2	Cycling Class - Nutrition AACIL, 2568 Packard Road, Ann Arbor Mary Stack, 734-971-0277 x56, mstack@aacil.org

FOR SALE

Milan Michigan 3,200 sq. ft. Ranch

Wheelchair accessible, built in 1995

3 Bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, 2 1/2 car garage

Includes whole house generator

Remote control doors and sky lights

Sunroom, large shed and gazebo

20 minutes from Ann Arbor

\$390,000

Randy 734-429-7579

Congressional Record

Proceedings and debates of the 110th Congress, First Session

House of Representatives Hon. Thaddeus G. McCotter Of Michigan

In the House of Representatives

March 29, 2007

Madame Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge the Michigan chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America partnering with the Ford Motor Company to release "The Ford Michigan Mobility Resource Guide" during their open house in Novi, Michigan April 12, 2007.

For nearly five decades the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America have loyally served our community's veterans with spinal cord injury or disease. A congressionally chartered veteran's service organization the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America have faithfully honored its commitment to advocate for improved health care, access, research and development for spinal cord injury and spinal cord dysfunction, sports programs; and have enhanced the benefits and disability rates on behalf of all paralyzed veterans.

In honor of MPVA Awareness Week April 8, 2007, through April 14, 2007 the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America have partnered with Ford Motor Company of Michigan Mobility Division to introduce the Ford Michigan Mobility Resource Guide. On April 12, 2007 the 14-page guide for disabled drivers will debut at the MPVA Open House and subsequently be available at Ford auto

dealerships statewide.

Madame Speaker, this Guide is key to helping the MPVA continue its noble mission to ensure that all paralyzed veterans are empowered to lead healthy and fulfilling lives. Today in honor of its legendary dedication to our disabled veterans and its tireless efforts to assist individuals with spinal cord injuries, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America for its unwavering commitment of our veterans, our community, and our country. ♿



**Special Needs
HOME MODIFICATIONS**

Bathrooms, Kitchens,
Ramps, Lifts & Grab Bars

734.414.9525/ Plymouth
586.978.1499/ Sterling Heights
fax.734.416.9330
10% Senior Discount

www.ADAforall.com



BIRTHDAYS



Members

Alonzo Baker	May 02
Glenn B. Hall	May 02
James L. Nicewander	May 02
Ronnie D. Adkins	May 03
Fred R. Dahlberg	May 03
John E. Senn	May 04
Theresa Smith	May 04
Rolland M. Butler	May 05
John W. Beagen	May 06
John L. Ramgren	May 06
Herbert A. James	May 09
Gary A. Lynn	May 11
Harvey D. Slotman	May 11
Thomas A. Driver	May 12
Johnny R. Miles	May 12
Gary L. Wreggelsworth	May 12
Martin Erickson	May 13
Charlie L. Potts	May 15
Kenneth M. Painter	May 16
Milton Kaunitz	May 17
Henry Triesenberg	May 17
Marshall A. Jackson	May 19
James F. Lear	May 19
Willie E. Buchanan	May 20
Florian C. Rabineau	May 20
Paul H. Senske	May 20
Anthony R. Wilson	May 20
Thomas E. Delleruyelle	May 21
Ida N. Harper	May 22
Andrea C. Trimmingham	May 22
Charles E. Williams	May 22
Donald S. Desmarais	May 23
Robert A. Hanner	May 23
Joe M. Rodriguez	May 23
Neil L. Begin	May 24
Earl E. Gunnels	May 24
Keith A. Ketchum	May 24
Asberry York	May 24
Michael D. Hogue	May 25

James W. Anderson
 James D. Minton
 Timothy W. Patrick
 Danny Shumate
 Beverly A. Valliere
 Dawn M. Hamm
 Sam A. Bateman
Associate Members
 Kevin G. McCrory
 Roger W. Loyer
 Mark P. Hogue
 Yvan C. Laine
 Paul W. McIntosh
 Tiberia C. Sasu



Members

Arthur Mulder
 Michael E. Madigan
 Lynn R. Ordway
 William F. Wilson
 Mark A. Velthouse
 Walter Crowley
 Kristy A. Dubois
 Lyman M. Justice
 Albert Lett
 Nelson A. Taber
 Byron R. Cook
 Kevin G. Elya
 Werley Vanover
 John D. Edgar
 James H. Farmer
 Carole L. Halquist
 Evan F. Mayday
 Ernest P. Whaley
 Chet D. Kuskowski
 Dannie C. Pauley

May 26	Rodney T. Hooks	June 15
May 26	Charles T. Stedman	June 16
May 26	Thomas D. Holcomb	June 17
May 26	Almarie D. Veitenheimer	June 17
May 29	Barbara J. McCrary	June 19
May 30	Kenneth L. Faber	June 15
May 31	Thomas C. McGillen	June 15
	Tony A. Rhodes	June 16
May 10	Bernard P. Wein	June 17
May 13	Edward L. Wilmers	June 19
May 14	Jack A. Converse	June 21
May 15	Dani M. Deline	June 21
May 17	Larry Springer	June 21
May 24	Larry G. Neely	June 22
	Larry Harris	June 23
	Jerry R. Martineau	June 23



	Eddie L. Cheese	June 24
June 01	Steve J. Jarmosco	June 24
June 04	John E. Hockstadt	June 25
June 04	Bobby E. Johnson	June 26
June 05	David C. Kiel	June 26
June 06	Karl E. Raney	June 26
June 06	Jon M. Crocker	June 27
June 06	Robert L. Davis	June 27
June 06	Melvyn J. Mandell	June 27
June 06	Danny D. Pryor	June 28
June 06	Douglas M. Bobo	June 29
June 07	George A. Bolden	June 29
June 07	Brett D. Howd	June 29
June 07	Roy J. Rowsey	June 29
June 08	Daniel R. Porterfield	June 30
June 09	Edmund C. Ross	June 30
June 09	Judy M. Ross	June 30
June 10		
June 10		
June 11		
June 11		

FUNDRAISING AND FRIENDS: *Why not in your home town?*

Photos courtesy of Gary Grubbe

For the second year, Rolling Thunder®, Chapter 5, Brighton, offered an all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner as a fundraiser for Michigan athletes headed to the National Veterans Wheelchair Games (NVWG) in Milwaukee in June.

Why not host a similar event in your home town? It's not as difficult as you may think and the results are well worth the effort.

This year the VFW hall in Hamburg made their site available at no cost for the MPVA fundraiser. The leaders of Rolling Thunder invited other members and friends to volunteer their services, and collected items for a silent auction. They were able to get free and discounted food and other goods. Musician friends played for free.

The spirit of one dedicated group of citizens added a healthy check to the savings account for our wheelchair athletes.

MPVA thanks everyone involved in this year's Rolling Thunder® fundraiser. Maybe it's time to bring a simple, delicious, and rewarding event like this one to your friends and neighbors. We'll be glad to tell you how! 🦿



MPVA *Annual*

Member “Lakeshore Park”

on Walled Lake in Novi,

Novi Parks and Recreation Department

The waters of Walled Lake lure hundreds of families to the park on sunny days. Nature lovers will enjoy the “up north” feeling of Lakeshore Park by walking or rolling over 9 miles of trail. MPVA has reserved a sheltered site for a great day at a beautiful site.

Picnic
Saturday, July 21

601 South Lake Drive, Novi

Novi Parks and Rec map available at:

<http://cityofnovi.org/Community/PDFMaps/ParksMapInANewWindow.htm>

Or contact us and we will mail you directions.

chapterhq@michiganpva.org

248-476-9000

Deadline to RSVP: Monday, July 16



MICHIGAN PARALYZED
VETERANS OF AMERICA

A Member Chapter of Paralyzed Veterans of America

40550 Grand River Avenue

Novi, MI 48375

NON-PROFIT
U.S. Postage
PAID
Novi, Michigan
Permit No. 104

Change Service Requested
DATED MATERIAL — PLEASE EXPEDITE!
May/June 2007