

RT '11

Rollin' Times from the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America



Staff Sgt. Kenneth Hubbard and his young daughter join him for the last few steps of a 23 mile march he did with Sgt. First Class Jason Holley and Sgt. First Class Russell Tansey in order to raise funds for the MPVA!





PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA
MICHIGAN CHAPTER



On the Cover:

Soldiers from the U.S. Army recruiting office in Petoskey marched 23 miles to raise money and awareness for MPVA this past May. See the Executive Director's Report for more details.

Inside this Issue

President's Report	3
Executive Director's Report	5
From the Development Office	7
Government Relations & Advocacy	9
Veterans' News	11
Birthdays	12
Sports & Recreation	13

MPVA Officers and Directors

President	Kevin G. Elya	Director	John Dusa
Vice President	David Peck	Director	Nickolas Wercely
Secretary.....	Patrick Adams	Director	Quintin Williams
Treasurer	Clark Shuler	Director	Scot Severn
Director	Gary Grubbe	Director	Russell Stewart

MPVA Staff

Executive Director <i>Michael Harris</i> mharris@michiganpva.org	Administrative Assistant <i>Jan Black</i> chapterhq@michiganpva.org
Deputy Executive Director/Development <i>Jaelyn K. Kochis</i> jkochis@michiganpva.org	Financial Officer <i>Linda Highland</i>
Director of Government Relations & Advocacy <i>Bonnie L. Welbaum</i> BWelbaum@michiganpva.org	Office Maintenance <i>Don Swale</i>
Sports & Recreation Director <i>Scot Severn</i> ssvern@michiganpva.org	Legal Advisor <i>Steve Cohen</i>
	Certified Public Accountants and Consultants <i>Morris, Kalish + Walgren, P.C.</i>
	Published by <i>Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America</i>

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 Stephanie Strickland • Service Officer Bonnie Williams
Service Office Secretary Marilyn Kittrell
National Field Director Rickey Grant
(202) 374-2032 Washington, D.C

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

MPVA Opens Fund with Canton Community Foundation



From Left to Right: Jaclyn Kochis, MPVA Deputy Executive Director/Development, Jim Fausone, Foundation Board Member, Michael Harris, MPVA Executive Director, and Joan Noricks, Foundation President, take part in the signing of an MPVA endowment with the Canton Community Foundation.

This past spring, the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America (MPVA) Board of Directors chose to team up with the Canton Community Foundation to expand our potential in planned giving. Through this partnership, the MPVA established an endowment fund with the Foundation.

The endowment fund will offer our donors a way to give back that will benefit them, strengthen our organization's programs, and potentially broaden our exposure with other donors and the public.

"Through the Canton Community Foundation, the MPVA will receive an annual distribution from the interest on the endowment to use for its purposes," said Joan Noricks, Canton Community Foundation president.

Essentially, the MPVA will be strengthened by investing its money through the foundation and will receive a greater return than if we invested on our own.

MPVA donors will also receive a tax credit because our endowment is placed with a certified community foundation. This benefit is one of a number of cuts made by Governor Rick Snyder earlier this year, and will expire on December 31, 2011. Any contributions made before the deadline, however, will receive the credit. The elimination will not affect the federal tax credit for donations.

Jim Fausone, attorney and partner of Fausone Bohn, LLP, and Legal Help for Veterans PLLC, helped to make this partnership possible as he has not only been a longtime supporter of the MPVA, but, he also

serves as a Board Member for the Canton Community Foundation. As he expressed it, this partnership will “assure donors who support the MPVA that their funds are being managed and reported properly by the foundation.”

For more information on the Canton Community Foundation, or the MPVA’s endowment fund, please contact Joan Noricks at 734-495-1200 or by email at jnoricks@cantonfoundation.org.

MPVA to Assist in the Cobo Hall Renovation

After years of it merely being a discussion point in our local news media, the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America (MPVA) was ecstatic to find out that much talked about renovations to one of Detroit’s renowned venues, Cobo Hall, was finally going to be a reality. This past spring, the Detroit Regional Convention Facility Authority revealed that Cobo Hall will receive a \$221 million facelift that will substantially expand the existing facility and make it more accommodating and accessible for people with disabilities.

Over the years, the MPVA has shared its knowledge on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance and accessibility with businesses, government entities, architects and project coordinators to ensure that the rights and protections afforded to people with disabilities in the text of the accessibility codes are properly translated while building new entities or making renovations to existing structures.

During the construction of the new Comerica Park and Ford Field, the MPVA had the opportunity to work directly with the designers and project coordinators to ensure that the new facilities would provide accessibility to persons with a variety of disabilities. The final outcome resulted in perhaps two of the most accommodating sports venues in the country.

With that being said, the MPVA contacted Larry Alexander, Chairman, Detroit Regional Convention Facility Authority, to extend an invitation to provide our services during the renovation of Cobo Hall.

Historically, MPVA has tried to work with architects during the design phase to ensure that federal/state accessibility codes have been properly interpreted. We have found that it becomes very difficult to correct something once it has been constructed.

The ADA requires that new construction comply with American with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG). Successful accessibility is often measured in inches, so attention to detail can make the difference between achieving access and excluding or injuring someone. When the ADA’s minimum requirements are not met, the results can limit or exclude a person with a disability and can be dangerous. In addition, failure to meet such guidelines can also result in costly reconstruction and renovations after the fact. It is for that reason that it becomes critical that everyone gets it right prior to construction.

Throughout the years, MPVA has worked closely with public and private entities statewide to make positive changes resulting in equal access and participation by people with disabilities. The law cannot act on its own. Partnerships we form with area businesses and organizations can bring the ADA to life, enabling people with disabilities to independently access facilities in and around their communities without encountering architectural and attitudinal barriers.

Such cooperative efforts have created the accurate perception that ADA implementation need not be an adversarial activity, but can be accomplished through partnerships and direct communication among those having a stake in compliance.





Executive Director's Report

By Mike Harris

23 Mile March in Support of MPVA

Soldiers from the U.S. Army recruiting office in Petoskey marched 23 miles to raise money and awareness for MPVA this past May. They started at the Indian River at 7:00 am and finished 9 hours later at the Petoskey waterfront. They did this while carrying a 45 pound backpack.



The American patriots that went well beyond on what is normally expected of someone when fund-raising on behalf of others were Sgt. First Class Jason Holley, Sgt. First Class Russell Tansey and Staff Sgt. Kenneth Hubbard.

Because I was participating in the "Tightlines for Troops"

Veterans Fishing Tournament that weekend in Manistee, I decided to pay a visit to Petoskey so I could personally thank them.

They expressed disappointment that they did not garner more than the \$1,000 in pledges. Over the years, MPVA has been very fortunate to have people/organizations host numerous events where the proceeds generated went back to our organization. In my eyes, this event will always stand out.

The commitment and effort it took on their part to complete the course was impressive in itself. The terrain in Northern Michigan is very difficult to navigate because of the steepness of the hills throughout the region. When they finally returned to the finish area they were completely exhausted.

When I inquired why they selected MPVA they indicated that they wanted to walk on behalf of veterans who no longer have the ability to walk while at the same time showcasing the number of wounded soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Words really don't do justice for what they did for MPVA. On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff and membership of the MPVA it's with a heartfelt appreciation that I thank Jason, Russell and Ken for making a difference in the lives of others; especially paralyzed veterans.

Disabled Veterans Enjoy a Day of Fishing on Lake Michigan

The Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America along with the Brain Injury Association of Michigan hosted the 2nd Annual "Tight Lines for Troops" Veterans Fishing Tournament on May 22, 2011. The veterans that participated in the event were treated like VIP's.

A group of charter boat captains in Manistee came together with Little River Casino Resort and Manistee County to create an opportunity for Michigan veterans to fish in a first class environment. Forty Lake Michigan Charter Boat



Captains gave up a day's pay to honor 160 disabled veterans from World War II to Afghanistan. Veterans that had difficulty paying for the trip were given financial support to help offset the cost of their travel, meals & lodging and the purchase of a fishing license.

This year, the fishing trip hosted boats with two "POW Teams" made up of Michigan POWs from various wars. There were five boats carrying "Gold Star" family teams comprised of family members of fallen heroes. Another five boats carried veterans from the Army, Marines, Air Force, Navy and Coast Guard where a friendly rivalry was created amongst the branches of the arm forces. The remaining 28 boats carried a variety of disabled veterans that served during World War II, Korean, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan.

The brainchild behind the fishing tournament was Army veteran and Manistee County Charter Boat Captain Bob Guenthardt. His motivation for hosting the event was to express his gratitude to disabled veterans for their distinguished military service and sacrifice they made on behalf of our Nation.

shoulder along the docks and piers with flags representing all branches of the arm forces and the United States. It was very moving experience. There must have been over two hundred flags welcoming the veterans back.

The event was capped off with an awards ceremony along with a dinner donated by the Little River Casino Resorts. When I was asked to say a few words at the event it gave me an opportunity to reflect on the true meaning of what the day meant to me. Having the opportunity to talk with my fellow veterans for six hours without interruption, while in the beautiful surrounding of Manistee on Lake Michigan, was priceless. Catching a fish was icing on the cake!

Without the support of many this event would have never been possible. All the heavy lifting for the event was provided by Bob Guenthardt, Rick Briggs and Judy Ball.

I want to personally thank the Boat Captains for donating their time and resources. Sunday is a prime day in the charter boat industry. For them to have given up an opportunity for a big payday to honor disabled veterans is a statement within itself!



Around dawn on Sunday morning, the boats gathered on Lake Michigan at the mouth of the Manistee River Channel. With all the boat engines turned off, the bagpipers performed Amazing Grace. Sitting back listening to their rendition with my fellow veterans is something I will never forget. I don't think there was a dry eye out there.

At the conclusion of the tournament boats gathered at the mouth of the channel where they proceeded to move in single file back to the docks. As they returned, the veterans had company. Scores of well wishers stood

along with the 40 boat captain who participated in the event; local fire departments, police officers, the U.S. Coast Guard, Rollin Thunder Motorcycle Clubs, Michigan National Guard Armory, United Veterans Council of Manistee County and a host of volunteers also pitched in.

Special thanks go out to everyone who sponsored the event. Without their support this day would not have been possible.





From The Development Office

By Jaclyn Kochis

MPVA's 8th Annual Salute to Veterans Gala is Just Around the Corner

It is hard to believe that while I write this article we are approximately 5 months away from our 8th Annual Salute to Veterans Gala which will be once again held at the VistaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia, Michigan.

Each year around Veteran's Day, the MPVA gears up to host an event that recognizes the men and women who are serving now, have served, or have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our country. It is our hope that those who are able to attend the Gala leave the event feeling inspired, and most importantly, gain a sense of understanding that Veteran's Day is not the only day to honor those who serve—everyday is a day to honor those who serve.

As we near Wednesday, November 9, 2011, the date of this year's Salute, our office will be busy coordinating details for the event. One detail that we are excited to announce is the name of this year's Keynote Speaker: Mr. John Quinn.

John Quinn is a Detroit native who was born with cerebral palsy. Since he was a young boy, he had always wanted to serve his country. So, in spite of his partial paralysis, two different sized feet, and the inability to walk prior to the age of four, John joined the United States Navy and served for the next twenty years on battleships, aircraft carriers and destroyers. He did it all while keeping his condition a complete secret out of a deep desire to wear the uniform of his nation.

In his powerful memoir, *Someone Like Me, An Unlikely Story of Challenge and Triumph over Cerebral Palsy*,

Senior Chief Quinn describes what it is like to live with a handicap—a life filled with pain, laughter and love.

Mr. Quinn has been so remarkably modest since he agreed to act as our 2011 Salute to Veterans Gala Keynote Speaker and even posted the following comment on his Official Facebook Page along with our event brochure:

"I am honored to announce that I will be giving the keynote address during the 8th Annual Salute to Veterans Gala put on by the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America (MPVA). The event is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, November 9, 2011, from 6:00 to 9:00 PM, at Schoolcraft College's VistaTech Center located in Livonia, MI. I am humbled just to be asked to attend, let alone speak to these great warriors."

We are thrilled that Mr. Quinn will be speaking at our Salute to Veterans Gala. His memoir will be available for purchase at the Gala for \$15.00 (cash or check).

Lastly, the MPVA will be hosting our 3rd Annual Salute to Veterans Online Auction from November 2, 2011-November 16, 2011. There will be tons of outstanding items at various values for you to bid on. You can make a gift donation today by visiting: <http://www.biddingforgood.com/mpva/salute2011>. Your gift can be made tax-deductible. Proceeds from the 2011 Salute to Veterans Gala and Salute to Veterans Gala Online Auction will go on to benefit MPVA Programs. Please contact me at (248) 476-9000 for a full event brochure, or email me at jkochis@michiganpva.org.



THE MICHIGAN PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA

Presents
The 8th Annual

Salute to Veterans Gala

With Keynote Speaker:

John Quinn,
Senior Chief Petty Officer: USN, (Ret.)

Wednesday, November 9, 2011
6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Individual Dinner Tickets:
\$55.00 per person

Location:
VistaTech Center at Schoolcraft College
18600 Haggerty Road
Livonia, MI 48152

Visit: www.michiganpva.org for more details

Be a "Salute Sponsor" in 2011!

Your Sponsorship will entail:

- You or your company will be recognized on MPVA's website, www.michiganpva.org, which receives approximately 800 hits a day and is also linked with the state of Michigan's website
- You or your company will be recognized in our Rollin' Times newsletter which reaches more than 2,000 people every two months
- You or your company will be recognized in the Gala program booklet with a full page ad or half page ad (see sponsorship levels)
- You or your company will receive tickets to attend the event and be recognized on site that evening

Sponsorship Levels

4 Star Sponsor: \$ 5,000

- 2 tables of 8 with preferred placement near stage
- Full page ad in Gala program booklet

3 Star Sponsor: \$ 2,500

- 1 table of 8 with preferred placement near stage
- Full page ad in Gala program booklet

2 Star Sponsor: \$ 1,000

- 4 tickets to event
- Half-page ad in Gala program booklet

1 Star Sponsor: \$ 500

- 2 tickets to event
- Half-page ad in Gala program booklet

ROTC Sponsor: \$ 1,200

- Underwrite the cost for a table of 8 for a local University ROTC program
- Full page ad in program book

Sponsor a Veteran: \$ 55 (per person)

- Underwrite the cost for a veteran(s) dinner

Business Card Advertisement: \$ 50

- Business card ad in program booklet





Government Relations & Advocacy

By Bonnie L. Welbaum, Director of Government Relations & Advocacy

The National ADA Symposium

In May, I attended my fourth National Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Symposium. This year's event, held in Las Vegas, was once again put on by the Great Plains ADA Center. This is one of the best conferences to get the latest updates on the Department of Justice (DOJ) cases and recent changes to ADA guidelines.

The conference is always informative, and attendees have a great opportunity to meet others that have an expertise in different areas of the ADA. I had an opportunity to get together and spend quality time getting to know some of our new Government Relations Directors from other PVA chapters.

One of the biggest surprises of the conference was the change of the definition of the term "service animal" under the new ADA guidelines. Effective March 15, 2011, "service animal" means any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of person with a disability, including a physical or mental disability. I was surprised to learn, however, though not considered a service animal, businesses are generally required to accommodate the use of miniature horses under certain conditions.

Michigan News

In May and June, the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America (MPVA) partnered with the Brain Injury Association of Michigan (BIAMI) to host two fishing events. The first event, Tightlines for Troops, was held in Manistee one week before Memorial Day. The second event, Tip-up for Troops, was held three weeks later at Kensington Park. Those that participated in either event had nothing but positive things to say

about their experience. Everyone was grateful that the weather cooperated at both events. I caught a salmon in the beautiful Manistee that weighed 2 oz short of 11 lbs. A good time was had by everyone!

News from VA

More than 500 Family Caregivers who applied for new services offered to Post 9/11 Veterans and their caregivers through a program of comprehensive assistance for Family Caregivers by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) started their care-giving training June 9 and 10.

The core training, which was developed in collaboration with Easter Seals, is offered in traditional classroom settings, online or through home study with a DVD and workbook. The modules focus on the health and well-being of both the Veteran and the Family Caregiver. The training includes information on Caregiver self-care, home safety, practical caregiving skills, providing personal care services to the Veteran, managing challenging behaviors and locating additional resources.

Family Caregivers attending the Easter Seals training will receive respite care for the Veteran under their care, as well as mileage reimbursement and lodging, if needed. A Spanish version of the training materials will also be available.

Since May 9, more than 1,000 Family Caregivers have applied for the new services. The training program was developed by the Easter Seals in collaboration with VA clinical experts as part of a package of new services. The package also includes a stipend, mental health services

and access to health care insurance, if they are not already entitled to care or services under a health plan.

Veterans may review the criteria for eligibility and download the Family Caregiver program application (VA CG 10-10) at: www.caregiver.va.gov. The application enables the Veteran to designate a primary Family Caregiver and secondary Family Caregivers. Caregiver support coordinators are stationed at every VA medical center to assist with coordinating the training or assist caregivers in locating available services.

Support for all caregivers is also available via the National Caregiver Support Line at 1-855-260-3274. Caregivers of Veterans from all eras are also encouraged to use the website (www.caregiver.va.gov) and support line to explore more than two dozen other services VA provides caregivers for their service.

Veterans Benefit: What is a Compensation and Pension (C&P) Exam?

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) offers many different kinds of benefits that are available to veterans and their family members, dependents and survivors. The most widely accessed benefits are disability compensation and pension benefits.

Compensation – This benefit program evaluates disability resulting from all types of diseases and injuries encountered as a result of military service.

Pension – Pension is available to veterans, surviving spouses and children, if the veteran has qualifying service and there is financial need. Veterans must also have a qualifying disability which need not be service-connected.

Examinations – Physical examinations, when made by the VA, are done under criteria worked out by both the Veterans Health Administration and Veterans Benefits Administration.

A C&P exam is designed to determine the following:

- (1) if you still have a disability that may have started in the service,
- (2) if the current disability is a result of the military service,
- (3) and finally, a C&P exam is used to determine the severity of the disability.

The rating specialist then takes the exam report and uses the criteria to determine the proper rating percentage. You do not have to attend a C&P exam alone unless you choose to. You cannot be denied anyone you request to be present and, if necessary, sign a release for that person to be present. Missing your exam appointment will cause a significant delay in your claim being processed. Be on time or a little early. Answer the questions to the best of your ability. If you don't know the answer, say so. Remember to report how you REALLY feel and not how you would like to be doing.

Once you receive your letter with the date and time of your C&P appointment, contact your local MPVA representative so they may go over critical C&P guidelines with you prior to your appointment.

Hope you have a wonderful summer, and be safe! Until the next Rollin' Times Issue! –Bonnie





By: Stephanie Strickland, PVA Service Officer

Medical Emergency Coverage under the VA

I know I am eligible for VA healthcare benefits, but what happens if I'm hurt and I can't get there? What do I do then?

A good example of a medical emergency would be: you are a diabetic and you missed taking your medicine and didn't eat anything all day. You suddenly pass out and go into a diabetic coma. When the ambulance arrives they are unaware that you are a veteran and they take you to a non-VA facility because it is the closest to your home.

Is that OK?

The answer is: yes! It is very important that the VA be notified by the non-VA facility that you are there for emergency or inpatient services within 72 hours of admittance. This information should be given to the inpatient nurse or doctor handling your case.

What happens next?

Once the veteran has been deemed stable enough by his/her medical physicians, the veteran will then be transferred to the VA medical center for continuation of treatment for the disability. Remember, the important word here is "stable;" the veteran must be stable enough to be transferred.

How does the VA handle emergency care of service-connected or non-service-connected conditions?

Emergency Care of Services-Connected Conditions:

The VA is authorized under Title 38 USC 1728 to make payments or reimbursements to a claimant for emergency treatment to a veteran for service connected conditions.

There is a timely filing limit for unauthorized inpatient or outpatient medical care claims. Claims must be submitted within 2 years from the date of care.

Emergency Care of Non-Service-Connected Conditions:

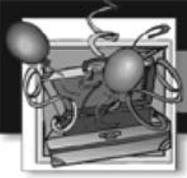
The VA is authorized under Title 38 USC 1725 to make payment or reimbursement to a claimant for emergency treatment provided to a veteran for non-service connected conditions in certain circumstances.

There is a timely filing limit for unauthorized inpatient or outpatient medical care claims. Claims must be submitted within 90 days from the date of care.

On the VA form 10-583 (claim for payment of cost of unauthorized medical services) there is a "Statement of Circumstances Under which the Services Were Rendered." The information in this section should be completed to include the diagnosis, symptoms, whether emergency existed, and reason VA facilities were not used. You will want to attach your invoice along with discharge paperwork and submit it to the VA or your service organization.

"It is the bold man who every time does best, at home or abroad." ~Homer





BIRTHDAYS

JULY

Timothy D. Bishop July 01
 Gary L. Bennett July 02
 Eddie Derrico July 02
 Joseph W. Sutschek July 03
 Mira K. Pierson July 04
 Michelle L. Marsh July 05
 James A. Kochis July 06
 Terry L. Novak July 06
 Joseph M. Salvia July 06
 Herbert J. Spring July 06
 Russell C. Stewart July 06
 Merlin L. Ihrig July 07
 Archie A. MacIntyre July 07
 James E. Willingham July 07
 Jerry S. Adams July 08
 Harry Gregorian July 08
 Gerald A. Baier July 09
 Alan D. Opra July 09
 John R. Jacques July 10
 Bruce P. Chargo July 11
 Jason G. Peck July 11
 Gerald H. Talerico July 11
 Kristine I. Wolff July 11
 Patrick M. Adams July 12
 Tom Boyd July 12
 Mark J. Cristao July 12
 Eric A. Gentile July 12
 Ronald C. Richardson July 12
 John Dusa July 13
 Mark T. Ozanic July 15
 Alan R. Armitage July 17
 Elizabeth M. Barrentine July 17
 Thomas E. Hughel July 18
 Cleophus J. Teague July 19
 David W. Compton July 20
 George Y. Duffy July 20
 Keith B. Ingle July 20
 Scot E. Severn July 20
 Curtis H. Arthurs July 21
 Peter M. Choreff July 21
 Christopher A. Durant July 22
 Douglas R. Kline July 22
 Tim E. Leisner July 23
 Kenneth J. Vajner July 23
 Brent W. Christensen July 25
 John W. Dowdle July 25

Richard P. Van Eenenaam July 25
 Kirk J. Dowding July 26
 Robert Robleski July 26
 Kelly F. Whalen July 26
 Steven B. Wilson July 26
 Elizabeth A. Greenwood July 27
 James M. Cisco July 28
 Teresa Kamphorst July 28
 Dwayne "DJ" L. Murray July 28
 James E. Rutherford July 29
 Carl E. Heath July 30
 James T. Jensen July 30
 Samuel L. Harding July 31
 Mary J. Pellerito-Barenbrugge July 31

AUGUST

Cheryl L. Angelelli August 01
 Diego E. Marrero August 01
 Heidi M. Plante August 01
 Leondriss Davis August 02
 James A. Przybylo August 02
 Gerald W. O'Chel August 03
 Norman D'Angelo August 04
 Verlyn T. Kveen August 04
 Richard Mitchell August 04
 Richard C. Shellenberger August 04
 Michael L. Schuman August 05
 Brian E. Ellicott August 07
 Jeffery S. Dawson August 08
 Douglas A. Freiburger August 08
 Clarence Hill August 08
 John N. Martel August 08
 Michael T. Monaghan August 08
 Ronald K. Derhammer August 09
 Fredrick George August 09
 Brian P. Kaule August 10
 Robert E. Colthorp August 11
 Michael J. Cortright August 11
 Daniel R. Keefer August 11
 Richard S. McKee August 11
 Don W. Downey August 12
 Jose L. Garcia August 13
 Robert J. Kaminski August 13
 Joseph R. Bottang August 14
 Joseph Jefferson August 14
 Edward V. Lowery August 14
 Douglas W. Stone August 14

Donald F. Wilkinson August 15
 Terence L. Austin August 16
 William A. Cash August 16
 Dwayne Pingston August 17
 Charlene L. Baker-Rutland August 18
 James L. Bonilla August 18
 John A. Brezzell August 18
 Linda K. Highland August 19
 George E. Dolan August 20
 Tara Pearson August 20
 Mary A. Huber August 21
 John E. Mayer August 21
 Darren P. Seward August 21
 Mayqulla Y. Squire August 21
 Raymond R. Bruce August 22
 Robert W. Hayes August 22
 Gilbert D. Wantland August 22
 Florine L. White August 22
 Joseph Lewis August 23
 Patricia N. Harris August 25
 Michael J. Jones August 25
 Rodney A. King August 25
 Rex A. Roe August 25
 Jim J. Saliba August 25
 Michael J. Gambotto August 26
 Eugene J. Kovacs August 27
 Kay Sousa August 27
 Josie A. Boore August 28
 Kim L. Huber August 28
 Juan L. Medina August 28
 Gerald D. Wolffe August 28
 Timothy G. Grove August 29
 Daniel L. Risch August 29
 Steven H. Geark August 30
 Thomas E. Schlenkert August 30
 John Swierczynski August 30
 Chester V. Zack August 31





Sports & Recreation

By Scot Severn, Sports & Recreation Director

Thunder in the Valley Games

Athletes from several different states descended on Saginaw, Michigan for the 4th annual Thunder in The Valley Games that were held at Saginaw Valley State University. There were no fewer than 5 past and present Paralympics Athletes competing as well as 4 participants from the 2011 world championships that were held in Christchurch, New Zealand back in January.

Events included swimming, air rifle, table tennis, power lifting, archery, hand cycling and track & field. The University once again offered a reduced rate on dorm rooms to allow athletes to stay right on campus. The weather was great all weekend which has been a bit of a challenge in Michigan this year.

At the end of the weekend, awards were handed out to the Most Valuable athletes. In the masters division, Ray

Brown and Zena Cole took home the honors. The adult division was won by Grant Anderson and Evan Petros, and the junior most valuable athletes were AJ Digby and Anjeline LaVasseur. Mia Lewis claimed the rising star award. The team trophies went to SportsAbility for large team and DASA for the small team.

With more events being added each year, there is something for everyone. Please log onto www.thunderinthevalleygames.com to check out this year's results and photos and information on next year's games. Be sure to also check out the inside back cover of this Rollin' Times issue for photos from the event.



Valuable Dates for 2011:

- **Independence Day**
Monday, July 4, 2011
Office Closed in Observation of Holiday
- **MPVA Membership Picnic**
Saturday, July 16, 2011
12:00 PM-2:00 PM
Kensington Metropark
East boat launch area shelter—Martindale Beach A
Catered Food
Swimming, Nature Trails, & Bike Trails
RSVP by July 11, 2011 to Jan Black at (800) 638-6782 or via email at: chapterhq@michiganpva.org
- **32nd Annual National Veterans Wheelchair Games**
August 1-6, 2011
The 31st National Veterans Wheelchair Games are presented by the Paralyzed Veterans of America and Department of Veterans Affairs and will be hosted by Keystone Paralyzed Veterans of America and VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System. Sign up by visiting: <http://www.pittsburgh.va.gov>
- **Membership Meeting**
August 25, 2011
Counting of Ballots for Board of Directors
Luncheon begins at 12:00 noon, and the meeting begins at 1:00 PM (All meetings are on Thursdays at the Novi MPVA office unless otherwise notified)





Do You Have a Spinal Cord Injury?

The Sleep Research Laboratory at the Wayne State University/Detroit VA Medical Center is looking for participants with spinal cord injuries to take part in a sleep disordered breathing study.

You may qualify to participate if:

- It has been at least 1 month since your injury
- Your injury is at spinal level T6 or above
- You are not using a ventilator to breathe

All participants will receive free research-related medical assessments including blood analysis, questionnaires, sleep and respiratory function testing at the Wayne State University/Detroit VA Medical Center in Detroit, MI. Monetary compensation will be provided to all participants.

If you or someone you know is interested in participating, please contact the sleep research laboratory at
313-576-3548 or
e-mail Amy Bascom at
abascom1@med.wayne.edu
to get further information.

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

THUNDER
V IN THE VALLEY
GAMES



Photography courtesy of Colin Johnson <http://whimshot.com>



MICHIGAN PARALYZED
VETERANS OF AMERICA
A Member Chapter of Paralyzed Veterans of America
40550 Grand River Avenue
Novi, MI 48375

Change Service Requested
DATED MATERIAL — PLEASE EXPEDITE!
July/August 2011



MPVA Membership Picnic
Saturday, July 16, 2011
12:00 PM-2:00 PM
Kensington Metropark



East boat launch area shelter — Martindale Beach A
Catered Food

Swimming, Nature Trails, & Bike Trails

RSVP by July 11, 2011 to Jan Black at (800) 638-6782

or via email at: chapterhq@michiganpva.org