

RT '11

Rollin' Times from the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America



Michael Harris, MPVA Executive Director, takes a moment to reflect at Oakland Hills Memorial Garden's POW/MIA Memorial site. National POW/MIA Recognition Day is on September 16, 2011.





PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA
MICHIGAN CHAPTER



On the Cover:

National POW/MIA Recognition Day is September 16, 2011 and the MPVA will be out at the newly renovated, wheelchair accessible, Oakland Hills Memorial Garden's POW/MIA Memorial site. Please see the President's Report for more details.

Cover Photo by: *Patty Soma*

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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

POW/MIA Recognition Day

The United States National POW/MIA Recognition Day is observed across the nation on the third Friday of September each year. This is an opportunity for Americans to pay tribute to the American men and women who have not returned from the battlefield and express our gratitude to those who returned only after facing unimaginable hardship on our behalf.

Like others who have served in uniform, I place a special emphasis on efforts to account for missing, captive or killed American service men and women. I think you will find that Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines, past and present, share those values. It is part of a code that all service members live by "that no one shall be left behind."



The Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America (MPVA) will be supporting and paying tribute to the POW/MIA veterans, their families, and loved ones on Friday, September 16, 2011 at Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens in Novi. There will be a 24-hour vigil with a 6:30 PM memorial that Friday (a 5:00 PM memorial will also take place on Saturday, September 17, 2011) put on by the POW/MIA Committee of Michigan and VVA 154.

This year, paralyzed veterans and individuals with disabilities will literally have an opportunity to get



bit closer to the POW/MIA Memorial featured in Oakland Hills Memorial Garden as the grounds that surround the memorial have been made accessible.

Collin Fifer, a young Novi resident who has been striving to earn his Eagle Scout badge, along with a dedicated team of volunteers, have worked to install a cement surface which will allow wheelchair users the ability to navigate the property without much difficulty. Collin's parents, along with other scouts and their parents from Troop 327 also assisted in making the site accessible. Ray and Andy Bakerjian who have worked with the MPVA to make our sidewalk accessible at our Chapter Headquarters as Andy earned his Eagle Badge spent a significant amount of time working at the memorial grounds as well. The site also welcomed last minute volunteer support from Mark and Bonnie Sypula, and Scott Karevich.

Once again, the MPVA looked to our good friend to help oversee and support this project. Bill Helwig, one of the MPVA's hardest working supporters, stepped up to the plate to oversee the project from the preparation of the surface to the pouring of the cement. Bill has been a great supporter of our organization over the years. Without his hard work and benevolent nature the cement surface in front of the memorial would have

never been completed.

In addition, long-time MPVA supporters and members, Tony and Patty Soma, spent endless hours helping to coordinate the project. They managed to volunteer to help dig up gravel, act as photographers, and donate their time, sweat, and money to the project!

Furthermore, the crew at the Oakland Hills Memorial Garden was beyond supportive by donating their equipment and manpower to assist in making the site accessible. The Foundation for American Veterans (FAV) even stepped up by donating a check for \$500.00 to help offset some of the funds for the material that was needed to complete the project.

The MPVA would like to thank each and every person that helped to make the POW/MIA Memorial at Oakland Hills Memorial Garden accessible! We cannot begin to express our gratitude to those who stepped up to spend their time, energy, and money to help this project along! You all mean so much to us!

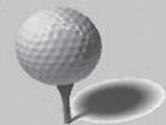


We hope to see as many people as possible at the memorial gardens this year. If you cannot make it out to the memorial site, I would like to ask you to find some time to pay tribute to these brave service men and women and their families so that we can remain steadfast in our commitment of leaving no warrior behind or unaccounted for.



The MPVA would like to thank all 80 individuals, 13 hole sponsors, and the multiple friends and family of the Zagata family who participated and supported the 10th Annual Fred Zagata Golf Memorial! Proceeds from the event will directly support the MPVA's mission!

The MPVA would especially like to thank Len Zagata, and Nancy Zagata and Leo Batchelor!





Executive Director's Report

By Mike Harris

Barrier Free Design Board

I was recently contacted by Jason Allen, Senior Deputy Executive Director for Veteran Affairs, Michigan Department Military & Veteran Affairs, inquiring to see if I had any interest in being appointed to the Michigan Barrier Free Design Board (BFDB). He indicated that Governor Snyder was looking to appoint a disabled veteran to the board. I gladly accepted!

The Barrier Free Design Board is a division of the Michigan Department of Labor. It is the only state agency with the authority to grant exceptions to Michigan's barrier-free design requirements. The board is responsible for receiving, reviewing, processing or recommending barrier free design rules as well as overseeing any exception to the rules and appropriate equivalent alternatives.

The Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America (MPVA) has a long history with the BFDB. In 1995, we filed a lawsuit in the United States District Court, Western District of Michigan, claiming that the BFDB, under the direction of the Director of the Department of Labor, were issuing variances to the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), and the Michigan Barrier Free Design Laws, at a rate of 94 percent. The MPVA felt that this was an unacceptably high rating level that left people with disabilities without access to facilities that they would otherwise have the ability to utilize. In addition, this rating would also circumvent the federal and state disability civil rights laws.

Unfortunately, the judge threw the case out because the BFDB exception process was created through Michigan legislation.

The MPVA did not let the judge's ruling discourage us. Instead, we filed complaints in federal court with six Michigan businesses that were granted exception by the BFDB claiming that these businesses were violating the federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Each case was settled out of court and each business ended up acknowledging that they had violated the federal civil rights law.

At the time, businesses were under the impression that if the Board granted them an exception then they were protected from both the federal/state accessibility guidelines. They were pretty upset when they realized they were still responsible to

comply with the federal accessibility statutes.

Because of our lawsuit, there is now a disclaimer on the application for the Barrier Free Design Rule Exception that states the following: "The Barrier Free Design Board has no authority over the federal standards contained in the Americans with Disabilities Act."

The reason we filed the lawsuit was not only on behalf of our membership, but for the 1.5 million persons with disabilities who live in Michigan. Our intention at the MPVA is to advocate for the laws that were created, at both the federal/state level, and make certain that they carry out their purpose of diminishing unnecessary discrimination and prejudice against persons with disabilities.

How the Process Works!

Only the BFDB can grant exceptions from Michigan's barrier free code requirements. Someone requesting an exception must demonstrate a compelling need to warrant an exception. A "compelling need" includes, but is not limited to: structural, economic and technological limitations, and historical structures.

Upon receipt of an application, a hearing on-the-record will be conducted by an Administrative Law Judge. The applicant has the responsibility at the hearing to explain the compelling reason why an exception from the requirements is warranted for this project. After the hearing, the Judge will prepare a written recommendation, which summarizes the facts in the case and recommends a decision to the Board.

A minimum of 10 days will transpire from the date of the recommendation and the date the Board takes final action. This period of time is provided to assure the applicant and the other parties are given an opportunity to review the recommendation and offer any written clarification or arguments believed necessary for the Board to consider before taking action.

The Board then will review each case where they can either agree/disagree with the Administrative Law Judge decision.

The law authorizes the Board to grant exceptions for stated time periods and conditions. If the exception is granted, the final order of the Board will clearly detail any conditions or limitations established by the Board, which apply to the project.

I have attended two meetings since being appointed by the Governor. The BFDB, which meets quarterly, has only had to review four cases at each meeting. This compares to 1995, when the Board would meet six times a year reviewing an average of 80 cases per meeting.

One of my objectives as a Board member is to get the Michigan accessibility codes certified by the Department of Justice. This will allow municipalities throughout Michigan to enforce Title III of the ADA. Right now, only the Department of Justice has the authority to enforce the civil rights law. Also, architects will know that they have met their responsibilities under both the federal/state accessibility requirements.

I look forward to representing wheelchair users to ensure that they have a voice at the table. My goal is to educate the Board on issues that impact people with mobility impairments

so they have an understanding on how their decisions can negatively impact their ability to navigate communities they reside in without having to encounter architectural barriers.

Board members must embrace accessibility as something that has a positive impact for society as a whole. For example, accommodations meant to allow people with mobility impairments to independently access their communities, such as curb cuts, automatic door openers, and modified bathrooms, are accommodations that have had a positive impact for all Americans.

When cases come before the Board, we must look at that case with the understanding of the “glass being half full instead of half empty.” We must be willing to “think outside of the box” by letting businesses know that there are tax incentives available to assist them in the cost of compliance or other alternatives are available that can reduce costs. Granting an exception, just for the sake of doing so, is an easy way out; especially when there are practical solutions that can be found.



Sincere Condolences to the family of:

Charles E Armour

Ladell P Bass

Jackie L. Cobb

Sam C Clymer

Jay R Dodge

Daniel C Evans

Edmund C Ross

Charles O Sheridan

William S Williams



Guest Article

By: Brigadier General Carol Ann Fausone (ret)

SUPPORTING OUR HEROES AT HOME

After 34 years of military service, I will continue taking care of our veterans through THE MEDICAL TEAM. This company has a unique program of clinical care, behavioral health and support services to meet the needs of veterans and their families. Supporting Our Heroes at Home is part of the company's Catastrophic Care initiative, which helps patients recover and rehabilitate at home following life-changing trauma, spinal cord and brain injuries.

THE MEDICAL TEAM is able to offer comprehensive post-acute rehabilitation and treatment services in the comfort of our veterans' homes. It is one of the few agencies to offer both a comprehensive wound care management program and a unique, evidence-based behavioral health program called Journey to assist individuals and families struggling with behavioral health disorders. Journey provides specific services and support tailored to the needs of veterans dealing with behavioral health disorders, including PTSD, depression, anxiety and grief and loss.

THE MEDICAL TEAM is dedicated to providing high-quality, cost-effective health care services ranging from assistance with the activities of daily living to highly specialized therapies. The company operates Medicare-certified home health agencies in Texas, Louisiana, Michigan, and Virginia. All agencies are Tricare in-network providers that specialize in:

- Catastrophic Care
- Journey Behavioral Home Health
- Wound Care Management
- Diabetes Care
- Cardiac Care
- Total Knee and Hip Replacement
- Private Duty and Personal Care Services
- Respite Care

Please visit www.medicalteam.com to learn more about our services. If you have any questions or if I can be of assistance, please contact me at:

THE MEDICAL TEAM's Livonia, MI office at 734-779-9700 or e-mail: cafausone@medteam.com.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

Carol Ann Fausone





BIRTHDAYS



SEPTEMBER

Alice M. MacNaughton September 02
 Janet L. Summers September 02
 Naida A. Schelter September 03
 Ada Louise Grassmyer September 04
 Jaclyn K. Kochis September 04
 Roger L. Putman September 04
 Truman Yoder September 05
 Richard H. Rapp September 06
 Bruce M. Hayden September 07
 Percy L. Lampkin September 07
 James D. Hyatt September 08
 Jose V. Davila Martinez September 09
 Michael D. Leonard September 09
 Kenneth M. Owens September 09
 Ralph C. Spence September 09
 Russell C. Andersen September 10
 Paul R. Brown September 10
 Willie Daniels September 11
 Larry E. Pratt September 11
 Thomas F. Schneider September 11
 James R. Witz September 11
 Francesco Guerra September 12
 Bonnie J. Williams September 12
 Kenneth E. Bezemek September 13
 Ian Minicuci September 13
 Jamie R. Monroe September 13
 Carl A. Larkins September 14
 Kimberly S. Keeter September 15
 David C. MacKinder September 15
 Amy E. Shuler September 16
 Deborah Adams-Roraback September 17
 Thomas A. Dever September 17
 C William Helwig September 17
 Brian D. Walker September 17
 George T. Coward September 18
 Jerrold A. Weathers September 18
 William R. Sampey September 19
 Wayne E. Bryant September 20
 Dorethea Harrison September 21
 Frederick L. Moore September 21
 Michael A. Anderson September 22
 Stephanie D. Calendar September 22
 Andron R. Shoup September 22
 Daniel S. Kemp September 23
 James Sewell September 23
 Gary L. Grubbe September 24

Walden K. Robinson September 24
 Inez A. Waller September 24
 Richard L. Lang September 25
 Raymond Larsch September 25
 William D. Nee September 25
 Benjamin F. Taylor September 25
 Jan M. Black September 26
 Christ K. Rasmussen September 26
 Richard T. Harner September 27
 Ernie Richardson September 27
 Joseph M. Sabatini September 28

OCTOBER

Michael E. Baldwin October 02
 Rodney K. Hawes October 02
 Norman J. Ochelski October 02
 Donald D. Ransom October 02
 Jeffery D. Risner October 02
 Kevin P. Wolf October 05
 Anthony P. Daschke October 06
 Stephanie E. Strickland October 06
 John R. Jackson October 07
 Robert E. Goble October 08
 Mark E. Gulch October 08
 Robert M. Lee October 08
 Roland A. Heaton October 09
 Mary E. Estes October 10
 Christopher V. Greenhouse October 10
 Scot D. Karevich October 10
 Byron R. Arrowsmith October 12
 Michael W. Gates October 12
 Jacob Gormezano October 12
 Bonnie L. Morgan October 12
 Ronald K. Gimik October 12
 Gerald D. Childs October 13
 Carey Glaze October 14
 Timothy L. Guilford October 14
 Michael R. Leonard October 14
 Arthur A. Potter October 14
 Gary R. Dillon October 16
 Joseph R. Poterek October 16
 George J. Priest October 16
 Debra L. Grubbe October 17
 Fred G. Minx October 17
 Dale R. Wood October 17
 Renee A. LaForest-Diggs October 18
 Marlene T. Shotwell October 18
 Kenneth O. Johnson October 19

James G. Tanner October 19
 Matthew W. Wermer October 19
 Mark R. Brorson October 20
 Christian M. Gouin October 20
 William H. Horen October 20
 Lorenzo M. Woodson October 20
 Lynn Houghton October 21
 James E. Lay October 21
 Norma Smith October 21
 Charles L. Havens October 22
 Richard L. Owens October 23
 Nathan R. Moore October 24
 Randy L. Hilkert October 25
 Nickolas Wercely October 25
 Charles F. Wilson October 25
 Jerry S. Beard October 26
 Margo H. Bradley-Mark October 26
 Juan E. Flores October 26
 Herbert S. Lewis October 27
 Earsel Daniels October 28
 Willie Mooney October 28
 Mark A. Van Slambrouck October 28
 Joe D. Walker October 28
 Tammy M. Bova October 29
 Kenneth Jones October 29
 Terry Katajamaki October 29
 Kenneth H. Laudenslager October 29
 James D. Webber October 29
 Robert G. Hoover October 30
 Dale Weaver October 30
 James L. Mauney October 31





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



Guest Article

By: Ghassan Souri, MS., RE, Rehabilitation Engineer

Environmental Control Units (ECUs)

What is an ECU anyway?

An ECU is an electronic device that enables individuals with physical disabilities to control their home environment independently. For example, an individual with a spinal cord injury can fully control his/her Television (turn on/off, change the channels, change volume, etc.), DVD player, a fan, turn lights on/off, open doors, powered adjustable beds, utilize an intercom to identify visitors, and answer /place phone calls independently.



An individual using automatic door opener

Two ways of controlling an ECU

ECUs can be controlled by an accessible switch (such as sip/puff, head switch, etc.). This is done through menu scanning, the menu items are presented to the user one at a time and the user makes his/her selection when the feature is presented on the screen. Other ECUs can be activated by a more direct selection, simply by giving verbal commands. The user gives the voice command into a microphone that is mounted on the bed frame and plugged into the ECU to control the environment. To enable the user to control his/her home environment from the wheelchair, an additional microphone is mounted to the wheelchair and is connected to a remote package system that sends the signals to the main unit wirelessly.

An ECU provides an individual with disabilities independence and autonomy in controlling the home environment. This will ultimately contribute to a greater self esteem and a better quality of life. Furthermore, ECUs provide safety and peace of mind.

How can I get an ECU?

If you are a veteran with a physical disability, you can ask your VA doctor to write a script for Environmental Control Unit to maximize safety and independence at home. Once, the order is in the system, the VA will contact Assistive Technology of Michigan to perform an evaluation to determine which device and accessories are appropriate for you.

Is it going to cost me anything?

No, the VA will pay 100% of the cost of an ECU, accessories needed, and installation and training.



voice recognition ECU

If you have any questions, you can call Gus at 248-348-7161 or you can write him at info@atofmich.com. You can also visit our website at www.atofmich.com.

About the writer:

Ghassan (Gus) is a Rehabilitation Engineer and the owner of Assistive Technology of Michigan, Inc. located in Novi, Michigan. He has been providing Assistive Technology solutions to individuals with disabilities for over 19 years. He received his Bachelors degree in Biomedical Engineering from Wright State University and his Masters degree in Rehabilitation Engineering from the same University. He established Assistive Technology of Michigan, Inc. in 1999.



WELCOME ABOARD NEW MEMBERS

Kevin R Bradley

Charles W. Mouch

Erik Cuolahan

Michael R Romanowski

Earsel Daniels

Charles E Sobieck

Andy L Lemon

Patty Soma

Wendell H. Ming

Harry Wilcox

Pamela Wilcox

We are proud you are part of the MPVA family!



By: Charles J. Henning, Senior National Service Officer

Unauthorized Emergent Non-VA Hospital Care Millennium Health Care Bill

What should you do if you require emergency medical treatment and the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) facility is not available?

Call 911 or other means to go to the nearest hospital emergency room. Have someone contact the VA fee basis as soon as possible. This should be within 72 hours of admission. The local hospital can do this, but request the name of the individual that is contacted.

Will the Department of Veterans Affairs pay for my care?

They will first determine if it is an emergency. The standard that must be met is "if in the mind of an average person, it was a life threatening situation or that if a delay of care would be life threatening" then it is an emergency.

Then they would look to see if you are in a category that is eligible for payment or reimbursement. These conditions for service connected veterans are:

1. If treatment is for a service connected condition or is aggravating a service connected condition.
2. Any condition for a patient rated with a total and permanent (100%) service connected disability.

For the veterans without a service connected disability, there are two things for them to consider:

1. If one has no other insurance, it is covered. They will pay until the emergency is over or they can transfer you to a VA facility. If a transfer is offered

and refused, they will not pay from the date that a transfer was possible.

2. If you have any other insurance the VA cannot pay. They can however have you transferred to a VA facility to lessen your expenses.

Most facilities will bill the VA directly. One important thing to remember is that if any other carrier pays any portion, the VA is unable to pay, unless the facility refunds the first payer. They are required to pay all or none. Sometimes, you must insist that they bill the VA.

What happens if I get letters from creditors because the bills have not been paid?

These bills are ultimately your responsibility and non payment can affect your credit report if they go unresolved. You need to talk to the creditors and can refer them to the VA. You may also contact your National Service Officer (NSO) or the VA fee basis section directly. If possible, you can pay the bill and be reimbursed by VA but this is a slow process that the NSO can assist you with.

You must also remember that when you call 911, they are required to transport you to the nearest trauma center that can provide the needed care. VA medical centers are not registered trauma centers. If they were, they could not refuse to treat any emergent patient and they are not manned, equipped nor funded to do so and could not support their mission of caring for veterans.





Sports & Recreation

By: Coach Phil Chester

31st National Veterans' Wheelchair Games



Seasoned and new athletes alike arrived in Pittsburgh on the first of August invigorated and ready to get the games under way. Even with our novice team members learning the ropes, it took us very little time to start tallying our medals.

One of the new athletes, Dave Cuttsinger, proved to be a shining star! Every event he entered into ended with a medal. At the end of the week, he had to haul around four gold medals and one bronze. He also was selected to receive the "Ken Huber Spirit Award" from his fellow team members on the Michigan team! Congratulations Dave!

In addition, another new team member, Kevin Bradley, also stood out with an accumulation of three gold medals and also found time for a day of fishing while he was there. Meanwhile, our other fresh team member, Don McLaughlin, came away with two silver medals.

The experience and knowledge the novices picked up from the seasoned athletes, both on the Michigan team and others they met from other states, was outstanding and I am sure greatly appreciated.

Our veteran team members such as Scot Severn, Ray Brown, Gary Grubbe, Judy Ross, Carl Larkin, Brian Sweet, Tom Coward and Robert Williams all added to the excitement of the week as well! A total medal count for the team was thirty-two medals—not too bad for eleven athletes.

Special thanks go out to Harry Wilcox for coming on board as a coach!

I am sure the team and coaches are looking forward to another exciting competition next year in Virginia.





Provides technology solutions for individuals with disabilities.

**Do you have a physical disability? Would you like to control
your environment independently?**

**If yes, Contact:
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43000 W. 9 Mile Rd.,
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Novi, MI 48375
www.atofmich.com
PH: 248-348-7161
E-mail: info@atofmich.com**

**Examples of device you can control hands-free
Television, Lights, Bed, Automatic Door Opener, Telephone,
Thermostat, Intercom and more**

ECUs are 100% covered by VA.

MPVA's 2011 Membership Picnic





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

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 DATED MATERIAL — PLEASE EXPEDITE!
 September/October 2011

Valuable Dates for 2011:

<p> Labor Day Monday, September 5, 2011 Office Closed in Observation of Holiday</p>		<p> Columbus Day Monday, October 10, 2011 Office Closed in Observation of Holiday</p>	
<p> POW/MIA Recognition Day September 16, 2011 Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens in Novi will be host a 24-hour vigil with a 6:30 PM memorial on Friday (a 5:00 PM memorial will also take place on Saturday, September 17, 2011) put on by the POW/MIA Committee of Michigan.</p>		<p> Salute to Veterans Gala November 9, 2011 6:00-9:00 PM VistaTech Center Schoolcraft College 18600 Haggerty Road Livonia, MI 48152</p>	
<p> Membership Meeting September 22, 2011 Nick Long, Fusion Medical, MPVA Guest Speaker</p>		<p>Register Today! Dinner tickets are only \$55.00 and sponsorship packages vary! Contact Jaclyn Kochis at (248) 476-9000 or at jkochis@michiganpva.org for more details!</p>	
<p>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)</p>			