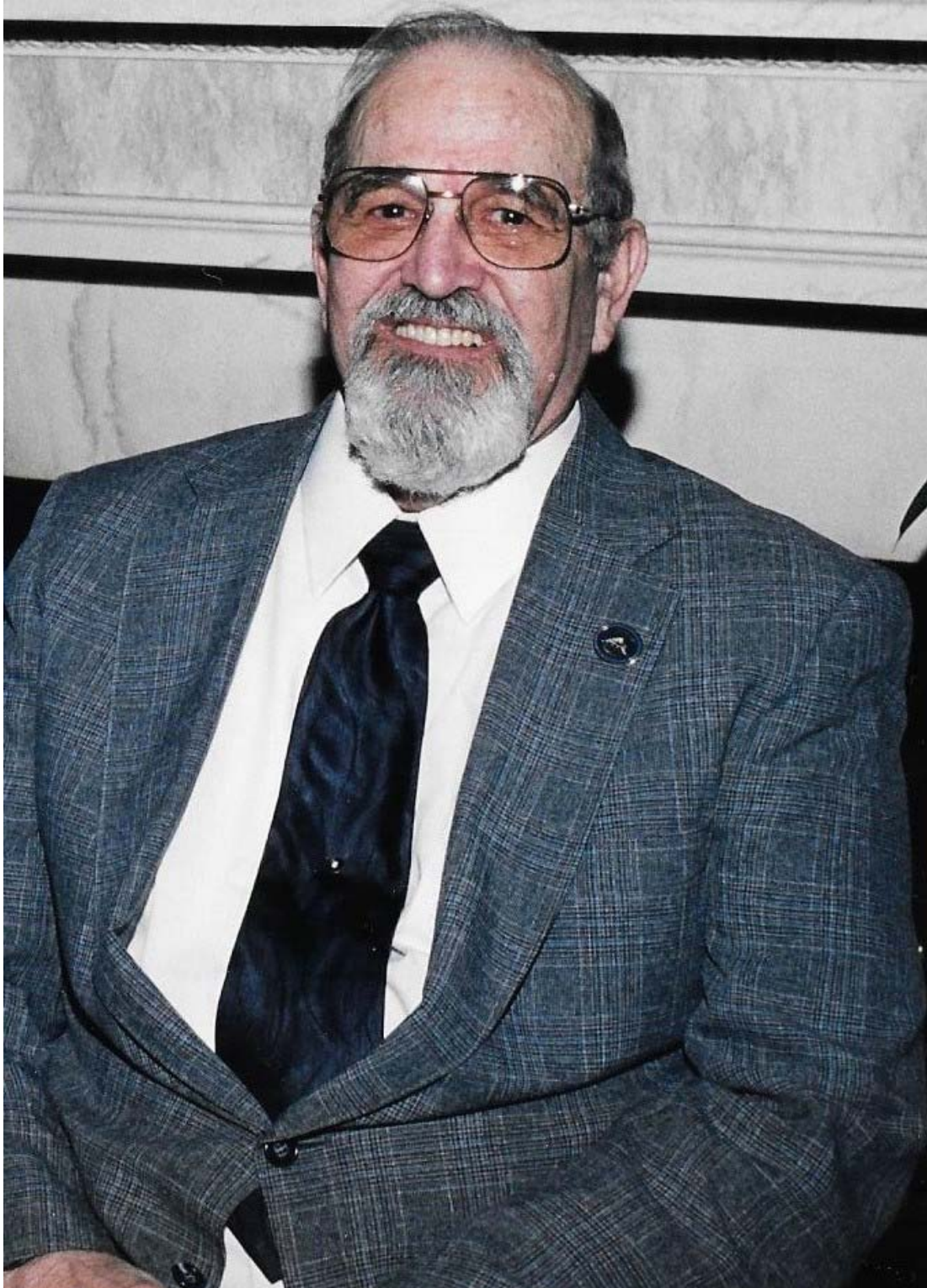




**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**

Northwest Chapter

**2016
Annual Report**



Duane Osborn 1934-2016

President's Message



T

his year has been quite busy for the Northwest Paralyzed Veterans of America in helping address members' healthcare issues by advocating at local, state, and federal levels. One of our organizational mission's is making the healthcare of our members a high priority. Through PVA's SCI Site Visit and PVA National Service Officers we were able to resolve many issues and continue to work to solve problems that have lingered for years.

Our website (nwpva.org) continues to provide our members and others with vital information and resources. If anyone knows of a good resource website for important information not on our resource page or blog, please contact the Chapter Office. The goal is for veterans and all people with disabilities to be able to access a library of resources to make a better quality-of-life for themselves and their families. If you have an android phone you can download the nwpva app at Google play.

My goal is not only serve to the best of my ability, but make the Northwest PVA better than last year. Members made a tremendous difference in making my rehabilitation at Seattle VA, and I just want to give back to this great organization and its members. Thank you for your trust in me and I promise to continue serving to the best of my ability.

My hopes and prayers are for everyone to have a wonderful 2017. If you need to contact me for any reason, please go to our website (nwpva.org), or use my email address: thomasbungert@nwpva.org. I want to hear if anyone has any questions or concerns.

May the God of us all bless you, your family and keep you safe.



2016 Accomplishments

Chapter Administration

NWPVA's Chapter Office is open daily from 9:00 AM until 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday in our chapter owned building. We currently have four tenants, Empire Electronics, Traico, Disabled Americans Have Rights Too (DAHRT), and McCrystal/Bennett. The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4314 holds their monthly meeting in our facility too. NWPVA is in full compliance with all reporting requirements of National PVA, Washington State and local governments and file our IRS form 990 with the Internal Revenue Service as required by our 5013C non-profit tax status. All reports are available for public inspection at the chapter office.

NWPVA is in good standing with our National office and participates fully in all National meetings.

Liaison

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

Membership

Membership at the end of November stood at 188 service connected members and 233 non-service connected members for a total of 421 members. The Chapter will continue to work diligently for all our members in the coming years with our volunteer programs.

Service Office

It has been quite a rocky past couple of years with staff turn-over in the Service Offices. Joshua Wheeldon, who was hired in December 2016 as the new Veterans Health and Benefit Specialist (VHBS) left shortly after the New Year started to go work for the VA. Maria Rigolo came aboard in April as the new VHBS at the SCI Office and has provided much needed stability to that office. Things started to look promising as we were approved for another National Service Officer (NSO) for the Service Office in the Federal Building. Unfortunately that was short-lived as the secretary position became vacant in November. We are currently interviewing for this vital position and expect to have it filled shortly. 2017 is starting off on a better note as Lance Morgan just started this month as the new National Service Officer Candidate (NSOC) and expect the office to be fully staffed once the new secretary is hired. We are expecting many great things from these new additions.

Even with all these changes, we still had a productive year. We ended up getting 95 new Power of Attorneys. We had a significant increase in the number of issues/claims we filed this last year, filing over nine hundred claims/issues that resulted in over 4.3 million dollars being awarded by the VA either as compensation or pension benefits for our clientele. We conducted over thirty-six hundred contacts by either phone or mail including over two hundred eighty personal interviews at bedside or in the office.

With the increases we experienced last year, we are continuing to look at other ways to build on this momentum like increasing our outreach activities, attending more Chapter events and providing needed support we can to the Chapter.

Sports & Recreation

The chapter has purchased some shooting equipment over the past few years that is available to shoot on site under supervision of a chapter officer, board member or recreational therapist. We are working on an NRA Grant to develop a permanent 2 to 3 lane air rifle shooting range in the back warehouse. We have new bocce sets and adaptive equipment if anyone would like to try this all-inclusive sport. The chapter continues to support members that want to participate in the National Veterans Wheelchair Games and the Veterans Winter Sports Clinic. If you have any sport you would like to try, notify us and we will do all we can to help you achieve your goals!





2
0
1
6



Communication

Our Chapter Newsletter, the Northwest Outpost is published bimonthly and printed in-house. More than 600 copies are mailed out to members and other interested parties after each printing. Our newly designed website, www.nwpva.org is another valued source of information for the public and members alike. We utilize our newsletter, website blog and calendar to communicate what is happening with the NWPVA to our members. Finally the chapter has hosted board meetings monthly via an 800 call in line through National PVA for Directors and Members hospitalized or ill who cannot attend the meeting.

Advocacy/Legislation

Of tremendous importance to the Chapter, Barrier-free design and access to public services and facilities continues to be the focus of our Advocacy efforts. Without these efforts items would have been passed over and the disabled community would suffer the consequences! The chapter continues to send a strong team to the Advocacy/Legislation Seminar each year and look for other opportunities to advance accessibility in the Chapters areas. We have teamed up with Nelson Boyd Attorneys and had successful lawsuits settled to make parking lots accessible within the next few years with a half dozen large big box businesses. It was the 25th anniversary of the ADA and it was decided that these businesses had ample time to make their businesses accessible. Some businesses received a slight nudge in the right direction to correct their inadequacies.

Fundraising

NWPVA continues to raise funds in a variety of ways. As in the past, our largest portion of our income comes from National PVA. The rest comes from programs conducted by the chapter. The National PVA Trapshoot has become a solid contributor in our fundraising efforts. We also receive funds through local organizations donating to the chapter such as, Ames Bros, Seattle Police Employees Charity Fund, OthersFirst, Kerseys Mobility and Absolute Mobility. The PVA and NWPVA have partnered a local thrift store to receive a percentage of any donations brought in under this G.I.V.E. clothing donation program. One other successful fundraiser is our car donation program called “Wheels Helping Warriors” that brings in funds year around.



Financial Statement

<u>Assets</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 32,006	\$ 26,427
Short-Term Investments: Bonds & Money Market	322,861	321,673
Supplies Inventory	1,590	2,120
Property & Equipment-Net of Depreciation	<u>257,686</u>	<u>265,463</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 614,143</u>	<u>\$ 615,463</u>
 <u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u>		
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Accounts Payable	-	-
Funds Held in Trust	10,710	11,685
Payroll Tax Liabilities	154	151
Rent Deposits	<u>1,650</u>	<u>1,350</u>
Total Liabilities	12,514	13,186
 <u>Net Assets</u>		
Unrestricted	<u>601,629</u>	<u>602,497</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>601,629</u>	<u>602,497</u>
 Total Liabilities and Net Assets	 <u>\$ 614,143</u>	 <u>\$ 615,683</u>
 <u>Unrestricted Net Assets</u>		
<u>Support</u>		
Contributions	\$ 41,916	\$ 72,926
Investment Income	1,192	7
PVA Grant	158,100	163,275
Lease Income	13,430	11,580
Fund Raising-Newsletter Advertising	700	-
Sports Shooting Entry Fees	<u>24,586</u>	<u>200</u>
Total Unrestricted Support	239,924	247,988
 <u>Expenses</u>		
<u>Program Services</u>		
Membership and Benefits	37,733	35,151
Public Affairs	98,261	71,683
Geo. B. Turner Research & Education	<u>25,264</u>	<u>18,876</u>
Total Program Services	<u>161,258</u>	<u>125,710</u>
 <u>Support Services</u>		
General & Administrative	45,791	38,843
Fund Raising	<u>33,743</u>	<u>27,585</u>
Total Support Services	<u>79,534</u>	<u>66,428</u>
 Total Expenses	 <u>240,792</u>	 <u>192,138</u>
 (Decrease) Increase in Unrestricted Net Assets	 (868)	 55,850
Unrestricted Net Assets-Beginning	<u>602,497</u>	<u>546,647</u>
Unrestricted Net Assets-Ending	<u>\$ 601,629</u>	<u>\$ 602,497</u>



**Senior National Service
Officer**
Michael Killen
Henry M. Jackson Federal
Bldg.
915 Second Avenue
Room 1054
Seattle, WA 98174
206-220-6175
800-795-3576

**Veterans' Health & Benefits
Specialist**
Maria Rigolo
206-768-5415 (VA Hospital)
206-220-6136 (Fax)

NWPVA Officers FY 2016

President-Thomas Bungert
Vice President-Skip Dreps
Secretary-Gary Lieberg
Treasurer-Aaron Hastings
Past President-R. Patrick Carpenter
National Director-Michael Partridge

NWPVA

Board of Directors

Duane Osborn Joe Sapienza
Russ Norris Terry Chenoweth
Sean Halsted David Zurfluh

NWPVA Appointees

Sports Director-Russ Norris
Fundraising Chairman-
Brent King
Membership & Advocacy Director -
Tom Bungert
Outpost Editor-Lisa Lawrence
Legislative Director-
Michael Partridge
Seattle VA Hospital Liaison-
Robert Brush

Staff

Executive Director-Brent King
Office Manager-Lisa Lawrence

Our Mission

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

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

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

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

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

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

Northwest Chapter Paralyzed Veterans of America

616 SW 152nd Street, Suite B
Burien, WA 98166
206-241-1843
1-800-336-9782
Fax: 206-433-0749
E-mail: pvachnw@mindspring.com
Web site: www.nwpva.org