



TEXAS CHAPTER PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA

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We hope to see you at the Jack Sanders Banquet. We reserved a block of rooms. Please dial 713-974-1000 or 800-445-8667, identify yourself as Texas Chapter PVA & guarantee with a room deposit or credit card. The rate for the evening is \$89 plus tax plus \$10 for each addtl person. Please RSVP WITH YOUR CHOICE OF CHICKEN OR BEEF BY October 1st.

Standing Rules Committee Report By Garland Jennings

The TPVA Board of Directors met in Corpus Christi on the 31st of July. At that meeting, five resolutions were adopted and became part of the standing rules of the Corporation (SRC). Two more Resolutions were read. It was their first reading, and they were approved.

For those members who are not aware of it, the Texas Chapter PVA Bylaws, and the Standing Rules of the Corporation can be found on the Chapter website. (www.texaspva.org)

At the board teleconference in September anything could happen. Whatever occurs will be reported, and recorded, at the October 9th Board Meeting (at the Hilton Houston Westchase, 9999 Westheimer Road, Houston, TX 77042.)

This is just one of the committee's reports to the TPVA Board of Directors. There are many additional reports to hear, and other exciting information to be learned at one of these Board Meetings. You are cordially invited to join us when we are in your town, or a town close to you. For a time and location, refer to your "Speedy Gazette" on p. 7, or call the Chapter Office at 1+ 800+ 933-4261.

BYLAWS REPORT By Garland Jennings, Chairman

The Corpus Christi, July 31st Board Meeting was interesting. The proposed bylaw change, to accommodate the Board-approved Standing Rules of the Corporation (SRC) change in the election notification timeline, was approved by National PVA. Next, to be in accordance with the Texas Chapter PVA's Bylaws, and SRC, notice of this bylaw change was published in the Chapter Newsletter, the "Speedy Gazette".

All of this being done, prior to the TPVA Board of Directors meeting in Corpus Christi, the Election Notification Timeline, resolution received its second reading, and was approved by the Board of Directors. It is now part of our bylaws, and takes effect immediately.

Note from David Fowler, President—A few months ago, I talked about being prepared for any kind of emergency/disaster that may come your way. I stressed this important issue before the hurricane season started and sure enough, we've had more than our share of storms come through our members areas in the San Antonio/Austin and the Lower Valley areas. Please know that PVA has an *Emergency Disaster Relief Fund* established and is offered to our members who may have had property damage or suffered loss. Please contact your local NSO or the Chapter Office for more information regarding appropriate procedures required.

One of the benefits that I have as President is that I get to read all the other chapters newsletters that are sent to the Chapter office. It provides an opportunity for me to see what the other Chapters are doing as far as the different programs such as Advocacy/Legislative, Sports and Recreation, and Fundraising. One report from a Chapter President really hit home and I believe it's an important issue facing not only the Texas Chapter but PVA as a whole is that the need for participation from our newer, younger vets. I've often spoken about the importance of volunteering and that this organization is all about **VETERANS HELPING VETERANS**. As our membership ages, and as we get older, the potential for health problems increases. This may limit us from participating as much as we used to over the past years. I'm urging you to volunteer by contacting the Chapter office to discuss needs. Our strength is in our numbers which translates to a strong chapter. Members who volunteer learn about the organization and become eligible to serve on the board. Also the bottom line is our newer and younger veterans will one day hopefully become mentors to future members. We often say *our mission continues and we won't leave any veteran with an SCI/D behind*. Our board and staff continue to work hard to better serve you. If you want to get involved or feel like we can help in any way, please feel free to contact us.

I'd also like to mention that the month of October is *Disability Awareness Month*. There should be activities across the nation for you to participate.

In closing, I'd like to express my sympathy to the family of Mr. John Evans who was the President and CEO of Alamo Mobility in Austin. Also condolences to Ed Fladger in the loss of his father, Dr. Charles Fladger and appreciation for the many donations made in Dr. Fladger's memory.

Waiting for the Supreme Court—By Darrell Wilson, Legislative Director

The Supreme Court has decided to review the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit's decision in *Henderson v. Shinseki*. In this important case, the Federal Circuit held that there can be no exceptions to the 120-day deadline for a veteran to appeal to the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. This means veterans who are hospitalized or psychiatrically disabled must act within that time period, even if VA took years to decide their claims. It also means that any veteran who relies upon VA for help or misdirects his appeal documents to VA may well lose his right to appeal if VA does not forward the documents to the court in time.

There is no way to predict how the Supreme Court will rule in the case. The case will not be heard until fall 2010 or winter so it is unlikely a decision would be issued before 2011. So, for the moment, veterans would be well-advised to make sure any filings with any court or even with VA are made within applicable time limits.

October 2010

WINTER SPORTS CLINIC PACKETS ARE DUE TO THE CHAPTER OFFICE BY **NOVEMBER 1ST**

Please tell your golfing friends
Second Annual Texas Chapter
Paralyzed Veterans of America
Golf Tournament

Monday, October 18, 2010
 The Quarry Golf Club
 444 E. Basse Road, San Antonio, TX 78209
 210-824-4500
 Golf Tournament Coordinator Fred Reyna
 8:30 a.m. Registration / 9 a.m. tee off



www.texaspva.org to register

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1	2
3	4	5	6	San Antonio Satellite Member Forum ALM VAMC	Jack Sanders Banquet Westchase Hilton, Houston 6:30 p.m.	TPVA Board Meeting Westchase Hilton, Houston 9 a.m.
10	Columbus Day Chapter Office closed sanctioned by PVA National	12	13	14	15	KIDS FISHING FOR FUN DAY 10 a.m. John 381-225-2360 SANTA BOB FISHING Alvin Guerrero—alvin.guerrero@sbcglobal.net
17	Golf Tournament Fundraiser—The Quarry 8:30 a.m.	19	Austin Satellite Member Forum @ 11 a.m.	So TX Satellite Member Forum @ 12 noon Olive Garden	22	23
24	25	Houston MED VAMC SCI OKTOBERFEST 12 noon	27	28	29	30
31						

November 2010

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	WINTER SPORTS CLINIC DEADLINE	2	3	San Antonio Satellite Member Forum ALM VAMC 5 p.m. dinner, 6	5	6
7	8	9	10	Houston Veterans Day Parade, meet downtown 9 a.m.	12	13
14	15	Houston MED VAMC SCI Thanksgiving 12 noon	Austin Satellite Member Forum @ 11 a.m.	SoTX Satellite Thanksgiving @ Torch Restaurant—6:30 p.m.	19	20
21	22	23	24	THANKSGIVING TPVA/PVA OFFICES CLOSED		27
28	29	30				

The seventh annual Paralyzed Veterans National Veterans Day Poster & Essay Contest is a great way for kids to learn about veterans and the sacrifices they have made by giving them a creative outlet to express their gratitude for the service of others. Please spread the word about our contest to your local schools, scouts, boys and girls clubs, church groups, families, friends, and others whom you think would be interested in participating.

The theme for this year's contest is: *Veterans Day: A Time to Honor A Veteran in Your Family or Community*. The contest is open and all entries must be received by October 1, 2010. This deadline will allow time for the entries to be judged and winners chosen to attend Paralyzed Veterans of America's Veterans Day celebrations in Washington, DC. Please visit www.pva.org/posteressay for contest rules or more information. If you have any questions, please e-mail at evelynr@pva.org.



TPVA MEMBERS and VOLUNTEERS



You are invited to roll with us in the Veterans Day Parade on Thursday, November 11th



Veterans Day Parade Ceremony Info—Houston Salutes America's Heroes—*Thursday, Nov 11, 2010*

Ceremony 10 a.m. Steps of City Hall

Parade 11:45 a.m. Smith and Texas Streets—we will meet at 9 a.m.—**CALL THE CHAPTER OFFICE TO PARTICIPATE**

713-520-8782 x4