Calibre Systems Makes a Generous Donation to Iowa PVA

Calibre Systems is a company which provides contracted training and support at Camp Dodge in Johnston, IA. There are currently 18 Calibre contract employees providing services at Camp Dodge. (Of the 18 employees, 17 are veterans.) These employees of Calibre petitioned their parent company to donate to the Iowa Chapter of Paralyzed Veterans of America.

Ronald Smith (left), Kristi Franzen (middle) and Gary Cory (right) representing Calibre Systems, presented IPVA President Jon Schneider with a generous check for $500 at the Iowa PVA Board of Directors meeting on November 19, 2014.
A Message From The President
Jon R. Schneider

Leadership Changes Coming to the Des Moines and Iowa City VA Medical Centers

Changes are again coming to the Des Moines VA Medical Center with the naming of Judith Johnson-Mekota to the position of Director of the Iowa City VA Medical Center. Johnson-Mekota was named Director of the Des Moines VA Medical Center in late 2013. On January 9, 2015 it was announced that she had been appointed as the new Director in Iowa City.

A spokesman for the Iowa City VAMC stated that the Iowa City facility serves a larger veterans population than the Des Moines VAMC. Johnson-Mekota will replace former Iowa City VA Director, Barry Sharp, who retired last year. During the interim, a number of administrators have served as Acting Directors at the Iowa City facility.

As some of you may know, the Iowa City VAMC provides care to some 40,000 veterans from Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois. Iowa City has a budget of approximately $182 million, has 1100 employees at the Iowa City VAMC and 10 CBOCs. There are currently approximately 180 patients enrolled in the Iowa City SCI/D clinic.

At the time of the news release announcing Ms. Johnson-Mekota’s appointment to Director at the Iowa City VA facility, no acknowledgment was made regarding the opening this would leave at the Des Moines VAMC. Spokesmen for the Des Moines VA were not available for comment.

I speak to this issue because all of our IPVA members and other disabled veterans are served by each of these healthcare systems and facilities. Leadership changes at these facilities need to be made public as soon as possible especially with the recent problems experienced and brought to light within the VA Health Care System.

Please know that we will watch these and all leadership changes and developments and report to our membership as soon as information is available.

JRS
This year our deer hunt was held during the second shotgun season. The first shotgun season was for bucks only in our area. I know everyone would like to take a buck, but when you have seven or eight guys hunting like we do every year it makes it hard for all the hunters to fill their tags. I know from years past changing to second shotgun season was going to be challenging too. When the deer are shot at during the first shotgun season, the deer are really spooked and hard to shoot by the time second season begins. On an average about half the guys get bucks anyway during the first shotgun season but I know everyone would like a chance to shoot a deer (buck or doe) and that is why I changed to second shotgun season.

The weather was a lot warmer this year and made it a lot better to sit out there waiting for a deer. We had a member from Fort Madison that came to hunt with us for the first time. Although he did not get a deer, he was able to shoot at one. He only hunted one day but he told me he would be back next year to try again. That left seven of us to fill our tags and yes we did fill seven tags. We always plan for a two day hunt but if not all the tags are filled we continue to go out daily until we fill the tags or the season runs out. We did very well because by the third day we only had one tag to fill and by Monday afternoon we had that tag filled. I was very happy because I was not planning on everyone filling their tags like we had in the past. Granted we only had one person that did not but I believe if he could have stayed to hunt with us we could have filled that tag too. Our success rate of filling our deer tags has been 100% the last few years.

If you or someone that you know is disabled and would like the chance to go hunting with us you can call the Iowa PVA office at 1-888-909-4782.
The excerpt provided below is a change in the way VA is going to or attempting to be doing business. Since this is a big issue when it comes to the care our veterans receive I have included the statement released by the Department of Veterans Affairs first. Below that is a letter sent out by our National Staff in Washington DC and they want to ensure you get all the information up front. The article written by our National Staff addresses specific information and even provides questions you may want to ask yourself and even your doctors.

VA Article:

The Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 (VACAA), enacted less than 3-months ago, goes a long way toward enabling VA to meet the demand for Veterans health care in the short-term. VA has put considerable focus and attention on ensuring the law is implemented seamlessly, without confusion, and without creating hardships for Veterans. This legislation provides authorities, funding, and other tools to better serve Veterans in the short-term. We are appreciative of this temporary measure to improve access while we build capacity within the VA system to better serve those who rely on us for health care.

From June 1 to September 30, 2014, VA completed more than 19 million Veteran appointments in our facilities and made nearly 1.1 million authorizations for Veterans to receive care in the private sector and other non-VA health facilities - a 46.6 percent increase over the same period in 2013. This was all done under existing programs prior to the passage of VACAA, and sets the stage for strengthening existing partnerships between VA and the private sector. We have much we can share with one another to the benefit of Veterans.

VA has signed contracts with two private health care companies to help VA administer the Veterans Choice Program (Choice Program) under VACAA. The Choice Program is a new, temporary benefit allowing some Veterans to receive health care in their communities rather than waiting for a VA appointment or traveling to a VA facility. It does not impact your existing VA health care or any other VA benefit you may be receiving. We will begin implementing this benefit on November 5, as required by law. A call center is now operational to answer your questions and verify your eligibility for this program.

As part of this new program, we are issuing a Veterans Choice Card to every Veteran who is potentially eligible for the new, temporary health benefit. The Choice Card allows Veterans to elect to receive care outside of VA when they qualify for the new program based on the distance of their residence from a VA care facility, or when wait times for VA health care exceed the standards established in law. The Choice Card does not replace the identification card you already use to access other VA benefits; please do not throw away that identification card.

The Choice Card will be issued in three phases:

The first group of Choice Cards along with a letter explaining eligibility for this program is currently being sent to Veterans who may live more than 40 miles from a VA facility.

The next group of Choice Cards and letters will be sent shortly thereafter to those Veterans who are currently waiting for an appointment longer than 30-days from their preferred date or the date determined to be medically necessary by their physician.

The final group of Choice Cards and letters will be sent between December 2014 and January 2015 to the remainder of all Veterans enrolled for VA health care who may be eligible for the Choice Program in the future.

According to the VA they are working with Congress, Veterans Service Organizations, and others to get the information about this health program out to Veterans in as many ways as possible.

Continued on page 5
The next portion of this article is what PVA is sending out to our veterans so they know what PVA’s stance is on this new process:

We need to alert you of a new Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) initiative that concerns us (PVA). On November 5, 2014, the “Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act (VACAA),” took effect. The law was passed in response to the number of veterans who were denied timely access to health care through the VA either due to unreasonable distance or wait times. If you registered to receive care at the VA prior to August 1, 2014, you are eligible to exercise “Choice” under the new law.

Paralyzed Veterans of America is built around our veterans getting the quality care they need in a timely manner especially those veteran’s entitled to receive care at VA Spinal Cord Injury/Disease (SCI/D) Centers and Clinics. PVA believes the only real choice for you is care delivered through the capable hands of the SCI/D trained experts at our VA Hospitals. PVA suggests that should you choose to seek care outside the VA, please take a moment to carefully consider the following questions:

- Does my treating physician understand Autonomic Dysreflexia (if applicable), what triggers it and how to treat it?
- Does my treating physician understand the complex nature of my spinal cord condition and its residuals (bowel, bladder, spasticity, decubitus ulcers, neuropathic pain, respiratory weakness, chronic urinary tract infections, etc.)?
- Without access to my medical records, is my treating physician fully aware of my past hospitalizations, medications, potential drug interactions, and/or pre-existing conditions (bacteria resistance, side effects and allergies.)?
- Will my PVA Service Officer be authorized to advocate for me in the event of an adverse outcome, clinical appeal, or need to access my medical records?
- Does treatment by Non-VA health care providers involve other VA benefits and ancillary health care matters, such as supporting a disability claim, ordering prosthetics, requiring housing/vehicle modifications?

These are just a few questions that should not be an afterthought when deciding to seek care at a non-VA facility. Your search for a “quick fix” may have unintended consequences. While some care, such as dental and vision, will not warrant the same consideration as more serious SCI/D conditions, such as wound treatment, urinary tract infection, and respiratory concerns, we encourage you to direct your care to the most qualified providers available.

Under the new law, eligible veterans may opt to receive non-VA care if one of the two primary conditions are met:

- If a veteran lives more than 40 miles from any VA Health Care Facility (either a major VA Medical Center (VAMC) or Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC), then he/she is eligible for “Choice” care; or
- If a veteran is already enrolled in the VA Health Care System, has sought an appointment for care, and the veteran cannot be seen within 30 days of the desired date, he/she is also eligible for the “Choice” program.

PVA wants you to be aware that there is no blanket authorization for veterans to receive care outside of the VA. You must meet the aforementioned distance or wait-time requirement. In order to verify your eligibility for “Choice” you must have enrolled in the VA Health Care System. The “Choice” Card will be issued in the order shown in the VA Article stated above.

Again please note that simply receiving a “Choice” card does not automatically make you eligible to seek care outside the VA. If you experience any difficulty with your access to SCI/D care at the VA, or in reporting your concerns related to the “Choice” care, you should contact your local PVA National Service Officer or the PVA National Medical Services Helpline at (800)232-1782 or the VA SCI/D System of Care Hotline at (206)582-4624. If you experience problems with the ‘Choice” care you can also email the PVA National Office at ChoiceCare@pva.org.

You can also go to the VA Web site at www.va.gov/opa/choiceact, where the VA has provided helpful information on the Choice Program eligibility.

As always you may contact your local PVA National Service Officer with any questions you may have.
Quick Facts About Your Veterans Choice Card

Visit www.va.gov/opa/choiceact/ for more information.

Before your Veterans Choice Card can be used, you must first meet the following test of eligibility for Choice Card benefits. If, after following Step 1 of the test you are not eligible for benefits, just hold on to your Card - you do not need to call us.

To Find Out If You're Eligible:

**Step 1**

**Personally Assess Your Eligibility for Choice Card Benefits.**

Before you call us, ask yourself these four simple questions:

1) Have you been told by your local VA medical facility that you will need to wait more than 30 days from your preferred date or the date medically determined by your physician? **OR**

2) Is your current residence more than 40 miles from the closest VA healthcare facility? **OR**

3) Do you need to travel by plane or boat to the VA medical facility closest to your home? **OR**

4) Does a geographic challenge, such as extensive distances around water or other geologic formations, such as mountains, present a significant travel hardship?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, you may be eligible to use your Choice Card. **Verify Your Eligibility by calling 866-606-8198.**

When you call us, please be prepared to provide us with any other health insurance coverage you have, such as employer or union-provided health plans, so we can assess coverage responsibilities.

**IMPORTANT:** If you do not receive approval, you may be responsible for some or all of the costs of the non-VA treatment you receive.

**NOT ELIGIBLE RIGHT NOW? NO NEED TO DO ANYTHING! JUST KEEP YOUR CARD!**

If you are not eligible to use the Choice Card right now, keep your card in a safe and convenient location. There is no need to call us.

VA | U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Thank you for your service to our country!
As most of you know, one of PVA’s main programs involves providing a National Service Officer to assist in advocating for benefits, health care and compensation for our veterans. PVA National Service Officers are EXPERTS at this and particularly in the area of spinal cord injury. PVA’s Veterans Benefits Department and the National Service Officers of PVA are not only experts, but very successful in acquiring benefits for our veterans. Below is an infographic comparing the "Big 6" Veteran Service Organizations impact, as reported by the Veterans Benefits Administration as of Dec 2014. As you can see, on the average, PVA National Service Officers secure almost twice the monthly benefits payment to those veterans we represent as the nearest VSO.

Please call Judy Keeling at 515-323-7544 or 1-800-795-3602 with any benefits questions or concerns.

Kim

VA Community Resource and Referral Center

VETERANS OUTREACH CENTER: Effective immediately the homeless Veterans walk in center more recently referred to as the “Veterans Outreach Center” will change its name to the VA Community Resource and Referral Center.

The center is located at 1223 Center St. Suite 17 in downtown Des Moines. The main office is open Monday-Thursday 7:30 am to 5:00 pm and Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm. This site provides to VA eligible Veterans free walk-in showers, laundry, internet, phone and full range of service for homeless Veterans on site. We have remodeled our current space to provide a day/group room for Veterans during business hours.

From this expanded space Day/Group room activities will be increased so that Veterans can spend time on site receiving all the services necessary for them to recover from homelessness. There will also be some local agencies participating on site to provide services to homeless Veterans. This will essentially be a one stop walk-in center.

To contact the VA Community Resource and Referral Center please call 699-5637 or visit: http://www.endveteranhomelessness.org/programs/community-resource-referral-centers for more information.
WE WANT VETERANS TO MAKE IOWA THEIR HOME

In 2007, the Iowa Senate established a Veterans Affairs Committee, which has since approved wide-ranging initiatives to help veterans, service members and their families. In 2010, Iowa became the first state to address the Department of Defense’s top 10 quality of life issues identified by USA 4 Military Families. The Iowa Veterans Council praised it as "the most successful year for veterans since the 1950s." We've followed it up with more initiatives recommended by veterans' organizations and service groups across the state.

Earlier this year, Iowa became one of the first All-Star Vet States, a program that highlights opportunities and services to attract military families. Part of what earned Iowa the All-Star designation is our Home Base Iowa effort, which helps veterans find jobs, explore career paths and make a smooth transition to civilian life. Home Base Iowa is also a hub for employers and communities that want to attract military families. Companies are becoming Home Base Iowa Businesses by pledging jobs specifically for veterans, and counties are offering incentives to welcome veterans to Home Base Iowa Communities.

As part of Home Base Iowa, we approved legislation this year that will encourage more veterans to make Iowa their home by:

- Cutting taxes for veterans by exempting military retirement pay from state individual income taxes. Eligible veterans have given 20 or more years of military service to our country, and must be at least 55 or disabled.
- Providing veterans, their spouses and dependents in-state tuition at Iowa’s colleges and universities.
- Encouraging our colleges and universities to give credit to veterans for military education, training and experience.
- Allowing relevant military training and experience to help veterans qualify for professional licensure.
- Encouraging private companies to follow the public sector’s lead by allowing a preference in hiring and promoting veterans.
- Eliminating the initial fee charged for special license plates associated with military service.
- Expanding eligibility for the Military Homeownership Assistance Program, which provides grants to veterans and service members purchasing a house in Iowa.

For more information on Home Base Iowa and how it's making our state home to more veterans and their families, go to www.HomeBaseIowa.org. Learn more about all state and federal benefits for veterans at https://va.iowa.gov/benefits.

ENSURING GOOD HOUSING FOR OUR VETERANS

One of the best ways we can welcome veterans to our state is by ensuring they can afford a home that meets their families' needs. Between 2009 and 2013, Iowa's Military Home Ownership Assistance Program boosted our state's economy by leveraging more than $178 million toward home purchases. Even so, the program wasn't keeping up with demand. This year, we eliminated the waiting list for the program, which provides service members and veterans with a $5,000 grant toward the down payment and closing costs on a home. We also expanded eligibility for the Military Home Ownership Assistance Program to those who served during the Persian Gulf Conflict, in addition to those who served since 9/11. Plus, we made more financing options available, ensuring our veterans and service members get the best possible deal when applying for a home loan. To learn more about eligibility and applying for the Military Home Ownership Assistance Program, visit the Iowa Finance Authority Web site at www.iowafinanceauthority.gov/Public/Pages/PC79LN25.

According to the Department of Veteran Affairs, more than 2,700 Iowa veterans are 100 percent disabled, and 60 percent of them own their home.
To help more of these men and women who've served and sacrificed, this year we expanded the Disabled Veterans Homestead Tax Credit to all eligible veterans with a 100 percent permanent and total disability rating because of service-related injuries—regardless of income and how their home was purchased. We also extended the credit to surviving spouses or children of troops killed in action, or who died because of service-related illness or injury, as certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. For an application form and further information on the Disabled Veteran Homestead Property Tax Credit, go to the Iowa Department of Revenue Web site at: https://tax.iowa.gov/disabled-veteran-homestead-property-tax-credit.

EDUCATION & JOB SKILLS FOR OUR VETERANS

Iowa has taken big steps to help veterans transition to civilian life with education and training that can move them quickly into the workforce. These efforts are opportunities to honor those who served and to strengthen our economy with workers who know the importance of hard work, teamwork and discipline. A new Home Base Iowa Certified Higher Academic Military Partner (CHAMP) program allows Iowa colleges and universities to become "CHAMP certified" for their ability to educate and assist veterans on campus. The certification will help attract veterans to Iowa and help academic institutions market their campus to veterans and their families. CHAMP helps service members transition to civilian life with the educational resources they need in Iowa. To become a Home Base Iowa CHAMP campus, colleges and universities must offer on-campus veterans resources, help those transitioning to civilian life and take into account a vet's financial circumstances.

Another program, Get Skills to Work, helps veterans get job-specific training or transition their military experience into jobs in manufacturing. This program will help local manufacturers connect with skilled veterans ready to enter the civilian workforce. It aims to train military veterans for advanced manufacturing careers, bolster the talent pipeline and enhance our competitiveness. A partnership among The Manufacturing Institute, Home Base Iowa, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation and other organizations has made Iowa the third state to join the national Get Skills to Work coalition. Get Skills to Work, founded in 2012, joins major manufacturers and educators to prepare and place veterans in long-term careers. The initiative has set the goal of closing the skills gap in our workforce by reaching 100,000 veterans by 2015. For more information on Get Skills to Work, visit www.getskillstowork.org.

HOW TO GET A “VETERAN” DESIGNATION ON YOUR DRIVER’S LICENSE

Veterans can get their "veteran" designation on their driver’s license or state identification card. The veteran designation is a voluntary initiative that many veterans may helpful. Thousands of businesses in Iowa and across the country offer special perks and discounts to veterans, including restaurants, hotels and stores. The veteran designation on a license or ID card allows Iowans to be easily identified as veterans, eliminating the need to carry official military papers for these purposes.

To be authorized for the veteran designation on your license or ID card, you must first present a copy of your DD 214 or applicable discharge document to your county Veterans Affairs office. That office will confirm your veteran status and complete the required Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) application form. Take the completed form with you to your driver’s license issuance location. The veteran designation will be added to your license or ID card when it is issued. To expedite the authorization process, a veteran can bring a completed Iowa DOT application form to their county Veterans Affairs office, along with DD 214. The application form must be certified by the county VA or the Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs.

If you are applying for a new license or ID, or are renewing a previous one, all usual fees apply. To find out what you'll pay, go to www.iowadot.gov/mvd/ods/types.htm. If you are requesting a duplicate license or adding the veteran’s designation to your current license or ID, the fee is $10.

2014 Iowa PVA Christmas Party
Care for the Caregiver:

Making My Goals Matter: Looking Forward to the Year Ahead

Tuesday, January 13th at 9 am CT
   With encore sessions
Wednesday, January 21st at 6 pm CT &
Wednesday, January 28th at 2 pm CT

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Leaning into Love: Building Strong Relationship Bonds

Tuesday, February 10th at 9 am CT
   With encore sessions
Wednesday, February 18th at 6 pm CT &
Wednesday, February 26th at 2 pm CT

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Creating a Space for You: Caring for a Loved One at Home

Tuesday, March 10th at 9 am CT
   With encore sessions
Wednesday, March 18th at 6 pm CT &
Wednesday, March 25th at 2 pm CT

All sessions are telephone education group focused on strategies
to enhance resilience and restore balance
All are open to Family Caregivers of Veterans of all eras.
If you would like to participate in any session,
please contact your Caregiver Support Coordinator:

Regina MacRae – 515-699-5999; x9-4015
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SUPPORT THE IOWA PVA

The Iowa Paralyzed Veterans of America relies solely on private donations and receives NO government funding! Your contribution is 100% tax deductible, as we are a 501(c)(3) corporation. Support by individual donors and businesses enable us to make our services FREE to members.

Please support our mission through a direct donation to:

Iowa Paralyzed Veterans of America
(Iowa PVA)
3703 1/2 Douglas Avenue
Des Moines, IA  50310

Thank you!

Have you considered including Iowa Paralyzed Veterans in your will or trust?

“It takes a notable person to plant a seed for a tree that will one day provide shade for someone he may never meet”

This type of donation will serve as an investment in our organization that will reap our members benefits for many years to come.
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## Calendar of Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/8</td>
<td>Bingo at the Des Moines VA CLC - 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/14</td>
<td>Hospital Liaison Site Visit at the Des Moines VA - 8:30 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/15</td>
<td>IPVA Board of Directors Meeting at the IPVA Office - 11:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/19</td>
<td>IPVA Office Closed in Observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/21</td>
<td>Veterans Day on the Hill at the Iowa State Capitol - 9:00 a.m. - Noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/29</td>
<td>Hospital Liaison Site Visit at the Iowa City VA - 9:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/12</td>
<td>Bingo at the Des Moines VA CLC - 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/16</td>
<td>IPVA Office Closed in Observance of President’s Day Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/19</td>
<td>IPVA Board of Directors Meeting at the IPVA Office - 11:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/2 - 3/6</td>
<td>Advocacy /Legislative Seminar in Washington DC</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/21 - 4/23</td>
<td>Hospital Liaison Training in Dallas, TX</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/4 - 5/9</td>
<td>PVA National Convention in San Diego, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/15 - 5/17</td>
<td>PVA National Trapshoot Event in Cedar Rapids, IA</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/6 - 6/13</td>
<td>Castaway Disabilities Fishing Event in Ely, MN</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/21 - 6/26</td>
<td>National Veterans Wheelchair Games in Dallas, TX</td>
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**Contact Us:**  
Iowa PVA  
3703 1/2 Douglas Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50310  
515-277-4782  
888-909-4782  
515-277-8165—Fax  
iowapva1@yahoo.com  
iowapvakim@yahoo.com  
iowapvajaz@yahoo.com

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**Paralyzed Veterans of America Iowa Chapter**

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Weekly and Ongoing Programs Sponsored by Adaptive Sports Iowa

Adaptive Sports Iowa is built around the concept of providing consistent opportunities to be active. We are able to achieve this by organizing a number of weekly and monthly program throughout the year.

**Wheelchair Basketball**
We host wheelchair basketball every Thursday evening at First Family Church in Ankeny, IA. The games are not officiated and are relaxed, giving players a chance to improve and enjoy themselves while getting some exercise. We also have 12 Top End Transformer All Sport wheelchairs on site for use.

- Thursday Evening
- 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
First Family Church, 317 SE Magazine Rd. Ankeny, IA

**Youth Sports Club**
Organized in collaboration with our friends at Courage League Sports, this youth program is designed to fun, social, and active. Similar to a “PE style” class we play games and have fun.

- Thursday Evenings
- 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm
Courage League Sports, 4405 121st St. Urbandale, IA

**Power Soccer**
Power Soccer is the first competitive team sport designed and developed specifically for power wheelchair users. These participants include persons with quadriplegia, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, cerebral palsy, head trauma, stroke, spinal cord injury and other disabilities. Power Soccer combines the skill of the wheelchair user with the speed and power of the chair itself, to participate in an extremely challenging game similar to soccer.

- Tuesday Evenings
- 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Valley Community Center, 4444 Fuller Rd. West Des Moines, IA

**Group Cycling Riders**
An opportunity for the novice to seasoned cyclists our weekly group rides take place on the popular Raccoon River Trail.

- Tuesday Evenings
- Depart trailhead at 5:30 pm
Waukee Trailhead located at the intersection of Hickman Rd. and 10th street on the west side of Waukee.

**Bowling Night**
The second Tuesday of every month we host an evening of bowling with your friends and family. Warrior Lanes in Waukee has graciously provided their facility to us for this event.

- Second Tuesday of every month
- 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
- Warrior Lanes, 190 SE Laurel. Waukee, IA

### DISCLAIMER

Back Talk and the Iowa Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America neither endorses nor guarantees any of the products or services advertised. We are pleased that we can offer you information about products and services that are available, but we strongly urge you to investigate any company or product yourself prior to using such services or products.

Back Talk is a publication of the Iowa PVA and is meant to inform its readers of Chapter activities, legislation, and other matters of concern to veterans and/or members of the disability community. Any opinions expressed in any article is that of the author and may not reflect the beliefs or policies of the Iowa Chapter.

Thank you.
BACK TALK

Wheelchair Basketball

Adaptive Sports Iowa continues to host weekly wheelchair Basketball pickup games in Ankeny. The games are held at the First Family Church located at 317 SE Magazine Road. The facility is reserved from 6-8 p.m. every Thursday night. Adaptive Sports Iowa will have six sports chairs on site. There is no cost to participate. Come out and enjoy the fun.

Robert K. Rankin
President-CEO

Wheelchair Basketball

iGive Shopping Donation Program

Iowa PVA recently became part of the iGive online shopping program. As friends and supporters of Iowa PVA, this is an easy and inexpensive (free) way to support our programs and causes.

1. Log in to iGive.com and create a free iGive account. You simply create a login in and password and designate Paralyzed Veterans of America - Iowa Chapter as your cause. By simply creating this account, $5 is donated to us automatically.

2. After your account is created, any online shopping you do from over 1000 participating stores generates a donation to our organization (%). The only catch is that you must log in to iGive and then choose the store you wish to order from.

Please visit the iGive website. You will see that almost every store you can think of is listed as options for your on line shopping needs.

Thank you for your continued support.

Rankin Communication Systems Inc.

Business Telephone Systems
Sales and Service
CenturyLink Services
5444 NW 96th Street - Johnston, Iowa 50131
Phone: (515) 331-2616 or (515) 986-5654 Ext. 207
Fax: (515) 986-5014 E-mail: bobrankin@rankincom.com
### JANUARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Darren M. Jargo</td>
<td>January 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larry G. Holm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jesse E. Barwick</td>
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<td>James E. Copeland</td>
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<td>Shawn L. Wallace</td>
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<td>Gerald W. Ebsen</td>
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<td>John S. Slawinski</td>
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<td>Cynthia M. Greulich</td>
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<td>Robbie E. Robinson</td>
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### FEBRUARY

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<td>Travis L. Lamphier</td>
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<td>Janet A. Gruber</td>
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<td>Lowell E. Bartel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richard W. Beckwith-Adams</td>
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<td>Jerry L. Nail</td>
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<td>Rod K. Taylor</td>
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<td>Robert J. Fencl</td>
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<td>George P. Lehman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul A. Barton</td>
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<td>Terrance (Terry) W. Tibbott</td>
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<td>Joseph A. Husar</td>
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<td>Miles M. Chaplin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burl T. Corrigan</td>
<td>February 28</td>
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### ATTENTION

Please check out our new and improved web page! Many items of interest will be posted frequently. This will bring you news about the chapter between newsletters. It is a work in progress, but you will find it very interesting and informative. www.iowapva.org.

Please provide us with your email address. We would like to provide you your newsletter and other information electronically. This will make it easier for you and less expensive for us.

### Cookbooks

The cookbooks have arrived and are going like hotcakes!!!!! With every donation of at least $20.00, you will receive a free cookbook. Please send your donation directly to our office at:

**Iowa Paralyzed Veterans of America**

3703 1/2 Douglas Ave.
Des Moines, IA  50310

### Associate Membership Drive

Please consider becoming an Associate Member of Iowa Paralyzed Veterans of America. Simply contact our office and request an Associate Membership Application. Complete it and mail it with a check for $75.00 back to our office. Applicants for Associate Membership will receive a free cookbook.

Be sure to include the address you would like your gift sent to.

Thank you!!!!!!!!!
Are you moving???
Don’t forget to notify the office of your new address. If you are a PVA member, we will let National PVA and PN PARAPLEGIA NEWS know where you are moving to, so you won’t miss a single issue.
Call us at 888-909-4782.