Paralyzed Veterans of America Central Florida Chapter
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Mission Statement
Paralyzed Veterans of America Central Florida, is a congressionally chartered veteran’s service organization that provides a platform of advocacy, education and research, communication, adaptive sports and recreation for veterans paralyzed as a result of spinal cord injury or dysfunction, in an effort to afford them with the highest quality of healthcare and life experiences.

April Board Meeting is a Zoom/Hybrid - April 14th 10:30 AM.

Save The Date
May 14th 2022

Paralyzed Veterans of America Central Florida
8th Annual
Jerry Dugan Memorial Charity Golf Tournament

MetroWest Golf Club Orlando

Registration 8:00 AM  Shot Gun Start 9:00 AM
Registration: $125.00 per golfer (Veterans $100)
Foursomes: $440

Cart & Green Fee, Range Balls, unlimited drinks during play (beer, soda & water)
Goody Bag and Special Gift for each player
Hole in One Prizes on all par 3s
Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams, closest to the pin, raffle/silent auction
Send check to: PVACF 2711 South Design Court Sanford, FL 32773 or register online at pvacf.org

For more information call 407-328-7041 or email joannep@pvacf.org
The National convention will be in Atlanta and while I’m there I would like to visit the Jimmy Carter Library and Museum. The museum houses U.S. President Jimmy Carter’s papers and other material relating to the Carter administration and the Carter family’s life. What I found most interesting, in my research on the museum, are the special exhibits. Such as Carter’s Nobel Peace Prize and a full-scale replica of the Oval Office as it was during the Carter Administration, including a reproduction of the Resolute desk.

The HMS Resolute was abandoned in the Arctic waterway Taryuarnaq in 1854 while searching for Sir John Franklin and his lost expedition. It was found in 1855 floating in Davis Strait by George Henry, an American whaling ship. Resolute was repaired and returned to the United Kingdom as a gesture of goodwill from the United States. The ship was decommissioned in 1879, broken up, and a competition was held to design and build a piece of furniture from its timbers that Queen Victoria could give to the American president. Morant, Boyd, & Blanford won this contest, and this desk was constructed shortly after. Two other furniture pieces were created from the timbers of the Resolute: the Grinnell desk, made for the widow of Henry Grinnell, who spent significant sums of money trying to find Sir John Franklin and his ships; and a table made for Queen Victoria’s steam-powered yacht HMY Victoria and Albert.

The Resolute desk was received at the White House on November 23, 1880, and shortly thereafter was rediscovered the desk and had it brought to the Oval Office in 1961. The desk was removed from the White House after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, and went on a traveling exhibition with artifacts of the Kennedy Presidential Library. It was then put on display in the Smithsonian Institution. President Jimmy Carter brought the desk back to the Oval Office in 1977, where it has remained since, save that George H. W. Bush used the C&O desk in the Oval Office but kept the Resolute desk in the White House. The desk has been modified twice. Franklin Roosevelt requested the addition of a door with the presidential seal to conceal his leg braces and a safe, but it was not installed until 1945, after his death. A 2-inch-tall (5.1 cm) plinth was added to the desk in 1963 and replaced in 1986. Many replicas have been made of the Resolute desk. The first was commissioned in 1978 for a permanent display at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library in Boston, Massachusetts, and since then five other presidential libraries and many museums, libraries, tourist attractions, and private homes and offices have acquired copies of the desk. The Oval Office is the formal working space of the President of the United States. Part of the Executive Office of the President of the United States, it is located in the West Wing of the White House, in Washington, D.C. The oval-shaped room features three large south-facing windows behind the president’s desk and a fireplace at the north end. It has two built-in bookcases, and four doors: the east door opens to the Rose Garden; the west door leads to a private study and dining room; the northeast door opens onto the main corridor of the West Wing; and the northeast door opens to the office of the president’s secretary. Presidents generally decorate the office to suit their personal taste, choosing furniture, drapery, and often commissioning their own oval-shaped carpet. Artwork is selected from the White House’s own collection, or borrowed from museums for the length of the president’s term in office.

Steve Kirk

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President

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Did You Know That Paralyzed US Veterans May Be Eligible For a ReWalk Exoskeleton?

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rewalk.com/contact or 508.251.1154 Option 2
Maximizing Caregiver Hours through Medicaid Long-Term Care

most of us don’t get the caregiving hours we deserve. You’re expected to lean on family or live out our days in an assisted or skilled nursing facility. This does not have to be the case.

I currently receive 140 hours of in-home care through Medicaid long-term care program. I am a C3 complete quadriplegic with a Home-Based Community Services Waiver from Medicaid. I also live in Florida and selected Humana as my Medicaid long-term care provider. Since my diving accident in 2014 I have jumped through many of the hoops and busted through Medicaid bureaucracy in order to obtain the amount of hours I received from Medicaid.

Many people, and veterans are forced to utilize family members or find outside the box approaches to obtain caregiving. Here I am going to describe the coding and different verbiage utilized by Medicaid that is necessary to maximize your level of care. I drew these directly from the Medicaid website and my own personal care plan. These are breakdown of my hours.

**Personal Care:** (T1019 Personal Care Services 43 hours) These are services to assist the functionally impaired elderly with Bathing, Dressing, Ambulation, Housekeeping, Eating, Supervision of Self Administered Medications, Shopping Assistance, Transportation and Accompanying a client to a clinic or doctor’s office; Transfers, Personal Hygiene and Toileting. These services are routinely performed by Certified Nursing Assistants and/or Home Health Aides.

**Homemaker Services or Chore Services:** (S5130 Homemaker Services 43 hours) These are specific home management duties including Housekeeping, Laundry, Cleaning Refrigerators, Minor Home Repairs, Sewing, Transportation, Meal Planning and Preparation, Shopping Assistance, etc., these duties are routinely performed by Companion or Homemaker level caregivers. Should the client/patient have a condition that might require a home caregiver to have the assessment skills necessary to determine that a client might need hands on attention in a given situation then the services of a CNA or HHA might be warranted.

**Companion:** (S5135 adult companion 54 hours) Strictly for the purpose of visiting a client who is socially and/or geographically isolated for the purpose of relieving loneliness and encouraging continual social interaction. Transportation may be involved in this service. Homemakers or Companions routinely perform this service.

**Respite Care:** The services performed during Respite Care may be the same as the aforementioned “Personal Care Services” but with the intent of relieving the provider (usually a family member).

Most individuals considered homebound and that are receiving services for Medicaid long-term care are eligible for the above selections. All of these are used to increase the amount of care received during a one-week period.

Individual resources may vary but a prudent individual should always maximize their benefits to increase their level of independence. Anyone seeking help should contact the chapter office or reach out to me directly and I’ll be more than happy to provide you with anything and everything I can do to assist you in increasing your level of care and your quality of life.

Charlie Merritt


The Florida Department of Veterans’ Affairs is accepting nominations for the renaming of the Lake Baldwin State Veterans’ Nursing Home, scheduled to open later in 2022.

FDVA invites public input for renaming Lake Baldwin State Veterans’ Nursing Home.

FDVA is proud to announce the 2022 edition of the Florida Veterans Benefits Guide!
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Up and Coming Events

Annual Spring Fun Festival is coming soon

The last time I attended a festival was pre-COVID-19. My wife, Rosa, and I strolled through Lake Eola Spring Festival, eating and drinking everything possible. We picked up trinkets because we felt they were something we had to have or just too adorable to pass. We laughed, took pictures, and locked in the memories of a fun-filled day.

PVACF Spring Fun Festival

Are you ready for some fun? We are proud to provide our members and family a place for gathering and entertainment. On April 9, 2020, from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm, our chapter will be hosting our Annual Spring Fun Festival, with lots of popcorn, food trucks, games, giveaways, races, music, displays, and demonstrations. Everyone of all ages should attend.

- Cornhole
- Giant connect four
- Outdoor bowling
- Duckpond
- Sack and wheelchair relay race
- Horseshoe
- Wheelchair toss and move
- Bounce house
- Face painting
- Obstacle Course Relay
- Scavenger Easter Egg Hunt
- Giant Jena
- Giant Dominoes
- Spin the wheel
- Car show
- ATV demonstration

Our newest addition to the festival is the car show and the all-terrain vehicle (ATV) demonstration, giving you two more opportunities to enjoy. IMotorsports is bringing the new Vanderhalls. The hand-made three-wheeled autocycles are designed for sports driving, touring, commuting, and city driving. And Sky Power Sports will bring two ATVs for a hands-on demonstration. ATVs are durable and reliable utility vehicles for recreation, farming, and ranching. Our Spring Fun Festival is a family destination to remember, so mark your calendars.

David D. Rountree
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ABILITY CENTER

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We’re here to help!
Call us today or stop by and take a test drive.

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Paralyzed Veterans of America
As spring comes upon us, outdoor activities and opportunities are ramping up for some, including Fishing Season, Cycling, individual and team training for the National Veterans Wheelchair Games. But for some of our PVA Members, it is Spring Turkey Season.

Our partners with Patriots 4, Mossy Oak, D-Dot Timberlands, Florida Cattleman’s Association, Buck Island Ranch had openings that two members of PVA were able to participate in their first Osceola Turkey Hunt. March 4-6th, Bagferry “Ace” Cruz, USMC, from the Virginia Mid-Atlantic Chapter was on the first of two hunts. He attended the Buck Island Turkey hunt with his son-in-law, a US Army Veteran and a Navy Veteran. He had hunted before, but was in for a different type of hunt, Osceola Turkey. He was met by the Mossey Oak Turkey Thugs and the staff of Buck Island Ranch. With our thanks to Archbold Research Center and the Buck Island Ranch, Mossy Oak and Patriots 4, Major General Randy West, USMC, Retired, for hosting the hunt.

A house that is semi-accessible (a work in progress), gives Veterans an opportunity to get a good night’s sleep and have family style environment.

On March 7-9th, Rick Rettinger, US Navy and myself, both from PVA Central Florida Chapter, had the opportunity to go to the Hilliard Brother’s Ranch near Clewiston, Florida for another Turkey hunt. The Mossy Oak Turkey Thugs, Maj. General Randy West, USMC, Retired, along with member of D-Dot Timberlands, Florida Cattleman’s Association, teamed up at Hilliard Brother’s Ranch. Thanks Hilliard Brother’s for your generosity.

Veterans get to know one another from different hunting and military experiences, their families, as they meet the team at dinner and fireside chats. Opportunities for the Veterans and the team talk about their experiences and then hit the rack for a good night sleep. The Turkey Thugs, team up with a veteran and get up early before daylight and the before turkeys fly down from their “Hammocks” for the day. As the hunters get into their blind, which is made up of tree cover and cut Palm fronds (either hung or stuck in the ground). It is an exhilarating time to listen to the outdoors wake up. Birds singing, animals starting to move around, as the sun peeks through an often fog clouded ground. As they wait, Mossey Oak Turkey Thugs call the turkeys to bring them close to their decoys 15-20 yards from the blind. As the they approach, they wait for the gobbler to show up. As he approaches the decoys, the hunter raises his shotgun up to get a good shot on the bird. Then shoots. Excitement is not just in the shot, but watching the beautiful animal show their instinctive response to jealousy of having another gobbler in his territory with his hen. All of our new Turkey hunters were successful and each has unique stories to share about their experiences. New friendships and a new turkey hunters have been added to the ranks.

Congratulations to our hunters and we thank the sponsors for their generous opportunity and skills they shared with our veterans.

If you hunt or are interested in a hunting opportunity, please contact Roger Sack, rogers@pvacr.org to let us know.
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A.T.A.P. COMPANIES
MARK 9:23 — “IF THOU CANST BELIEVE, ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE TO HIM WHO BELIEVETH”

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Dr. Joyce “Jo” Hewell, CEO R.E. “Buddy” Hewell, CFO

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“Help people to live
life and to live it
more abundantly”

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Help to prevent disease:
Cure the sick;
Comfort the afflicted;
Feed the hungry
Clothe and shelter those in need

GOD, Grant me the serenity to accept the things I can not change.
Courage to change the things I can and the WISDOM to know the difference.

HAPPINESS is thinking of others first, yourself last and GOD always.
All a person is remembered for is what they did for others.

As mankind thinketh in their minds... so they are.

Adversity is Inevitable ***** Stress is OPTIONAL.

Anything that your mind can DREAM and you BELIEVE, you can ACHIEVE.
GOD created you to be SUCCESSFUL and HAPPY.

REGRET looks back, FEAR looks around... FAITH looks UP.

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On National Nonprofit Day, fight for those that fought for you. Our members receive the benefits and services they need when you donate your gently used clothes and household goods. To donate, visit: non-profits.pva.org/default.aspx?sid=949&doc=non-
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tion-amount-other&msource=WEQY/MDFW2QPG&_pa
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