Winter 2022



# THE BULLETIN

Mid-Atlantic Chapter

Mid-Atlantic Chapter - Paralyzed Veterans of America

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#### MID-ATLANTIC/AWBA BOWLING TOURNAMENT

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Bowlers from all over the country competed in Mid-Atlantic's annual bowling tournament. Check out the results!

#### HOLIDAY BANQUET

Mid-Atlantic came together to celebrate the holidays and discuss the exciting things coming to the chapter in the new year.

#### BASS BARGAIN BAAZAR

The baazar helps to fund the Old Dominion Brawl. Come out and support!



Mid-Atlantic Chapter

### A SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY FOR CAPABLE HEROES

11620 Busy Street North Chesterfield, VA 23236 Tel. (804) 378-0017 Toll Free. 1-800-852-7639 Fax. (804) 378-0026 Email: VAPVA@aol.com www.pvamidatlantic.org

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## Our President's Words **Jimmy May**



As the holiday season enters full swing, we all have so much to be thankful for – and this is especially true of our Mid-Atlantic Chapter. We offer special thanks to each of you for becoming more involved and engaged, as we continue to work hard every day in fulfilling our mission. While I am honored to have been re-elected to serve as your President, a greater level of pride comes from the fact that our election process generated more returned ballots than ever before. This directly reflects on our members taking pride in the future of our organization and being a part of our success and growth. Our chapter is only as strong as our membership, and I thank you for being more hands-on and involved. One of our 2023 goals will be to generate even more engagement, so I encourage you to let me know how you would like to actively participate - we have so many opportunities, and we will be sure to make it happen for you.

When it comes to active participation by our members, this edition of the newsletter showcases exactly what we mean. Changes are in store for our annual bass fishing tournament, the Old Dominion Brawl – changes which will encourage more of you to join us on the water in a family-friendly event for anglers of all levels. Keep turning the pages and you will see our members in action. From our 6th Annual PVA Mid-Atlantic/AWBA Bowling Invitational, to outdoor events around town and across the country, and even a trip to England, the Mid-Atlantic Chapter is non-stop – and we won't stop!

Following our enjoyable Holiday Banquet which so many of you attended, the next few months are going to be very busy. In February, our Advocacy Legislation Committee will be meeting with members of Congress from Virginia and North Carolina, stressing the important issues which impact our members on a daily basis. You can get a jump on the spring fishing season at our Bass Bargain Bazaar, picking-up some tackle, rods and reels, and getting tips from our many vendors. On March 17th – 19th, we will host our popular billiards tournament, the 6th Annual Charles "Chuck" Willis 9-Ball Championship, including a clinic and skills competition if you are just getting started playing the game. Our team is just getting started preparing for 'Vroom for Vets', our newly-named Mid-Atlantic Chapter Car Show, which should be one of the largest in the area.

A new initiative in the works to support our members and their immediate families is the PVA Mid-Atlantic Scholarship Awards Program. Substantial funds have been raised to support the project and a committee has been established to define the specific criteria and application process. We will provide you with all of the details as they are established and finalized.

In the meantime, on behalf of our incredibly strong and passionate Board of Directors, let me wish all of you a safe and enjoyable holiday season, leading into a healthy and prosperous new year. My invitation to you in 2023 is to get out, get active, and get on-board with our PVA Mid-Atlantic programs, events and activities. I want to see a picture of you in the next edition of our newsletter.

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Jimmy May President PVA Mid-Atlantic Chapter

### 2022 PVA MID-ATLANTIC 6th Annual PVA Mid-Atlantic/AWBA Bowling Tournament













#### **Scratch Division**

1st - George Holscher 2nd - Dave Nelson Jr. 3rd - Mark Shepard 4th - Brooks Martin 5th - Andrew Szahowski

#### A Divison

lst - Henry Walters 2nd - Frank Goebel 3rd - Phillip Daniel 4th - Kyle Kennon 5th - Ronald Richardson 6th - Michael Marcheskie

#### <u>B Division</u>

lst - Dave McGinnes 2nd - Johnny Holland 3rd - Chris Murphy 4th - Dan Ferment 5th - Roy Gray 6th -LaDon Chambers

#### <u>Doubles</u>

lst - Skip Johnson & Wayne Webber 2nd - LaDon Chambers & Richard Mahaney 3rd - Michael Marcheskie & Jimmy May

#### Up & Down Event

1st - Johnny Holland, Alma Gordon, & Vicente Garces 2nd - Mark Hartney, Johnathan Mauricio, & Dee Hunter 3rd - LaDon Chambers, Yonette Chambers, & Hailey Radcliff



More than 20 folks participated in our annual Bowling Clinic – a popular event for those who are new to the game or experienced bowlers trying to fine-tune their skills.

Pretty in Pink A very special Mid-Atlantic thank you to the best support team we could ever ask for!



PVA MID-ATLANTIC 6TH ANNUAL CHARLES "CHUCK" WILLIS 9-BALL CHAMPIONSHIP

> March 17–19, 2023

**Diamond Billiards Richmond** 13184 Midlothian Tpke Midlothian, VA 23113



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Hosted by the Mid-Atlantic Chapter, this 3-day event is geared towards players of all levels. We will feature a skills competition, a hefty prize pool and a fun weekend of 9-Ball. **Please contact the chapter for registration information**.



**♦** 804-378-0017
 **♥** vapva.ivan@gmail.com
 **♥** www.pvamidatlantic.org

### Across the Pond



a wonderful New Year!

# National Service Officer Report Chris Custer



With the holiday season upon us, we wanted to send some Christmas cheer and provide a quick update for our Mid-Atlantic Chapter Members and families.

Currently, Richmond VAMC is still operating on HIGH health protection levels which include masking for everyone and physical distancing as possible. Visitation is authorized but limited, especially in the SCI/D Center. A maximum of 2 visitors are permitted and there is a 2-hour limit for adults and children age 12 and older. As of now, the entrance to the SCI/D Center remains closed for the foreseeable future to control flow of visitors and protect our inpatient Veterans.

For Veterans having to spend the holidays hospitalized, this can certainly dampen spirits. To uplift these Veterans, the annual PVA Holiday Celebration Luncheon serves as a wholesome reminder they are not alone and that the PVA Mid-Atlantic Chapter is a valuable resource for them. This meal always brightens the holiday season and is a welcomed change from hospital food. Thank you PVA Mid-Atlantic for continuing to provide this for our SCI/D Veterans.

Your NSO offices will be closed in celebration of Christmas and New Years from 12/23/2022 – 01/02/2023. We are sending all our best to you, your family and friends this holiday season and hope you reflect back on all of the blessings this year may have brought as we look forward to an even better 2023.

All our best wishes, Chris

### Upcoming Events

January 4 February 1 February 11 February 24-26 February 27-March 2 March 1 March 17-19 April 5 April 22 Board of Directors Meeting Board of Directors Meeting Bass Bargain Bazaar – Hopewell, VA Wheelchair Rugby Championships – Raleigh, NC National Advocacy and Legislation Week Board of Directors Meeting Mid-Atlantic Billiards Tournament – Midlothian, VA Board of Directors Meeting Vroom for Vets – Mid-Atlantic Car Show – Richmond, VA

### 2023 PVA MID-ATLANTIC Old Dominion Brawl Update



Exciting changes are in-store for the 2023 edition of our popular bass fishing tournament, as this will now be a Mid-Atlantic Chapter event, with our focus being on YOU – anglers of all levels. Whether you want to spend the weekend on a bass boat with our volunteer captains or fish off the bank at the marina, the Old Dominion Brawl will treat you first-class, with food, fun, families, and yes – fishing for thousands of dollars in cash prizes! Put it on your calendar and stay-tuned for registration information.

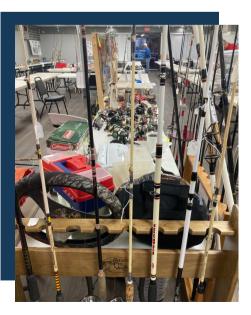
### Bass Bargain Bazaar

### Saturday, February 11, 2023





8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. American Legion Post 146 217 E. City Point Rd. Hopewell, VA 23860



### Out and About -Mid-Atlantic Style



PVA Mid-Atlantic donating wheelchairs to a local assisted living community



The inaugural meeting of our Mid-Atlantic Women's Council



Danica King competing in the Richmond Marathon



On the trails with Jackie Jones at the Mountain Bike World Championship in Colorado



Josh Burch representing the Mid-Atlantic Chapter at the Travis Manion 9/11 Event



Honored to be a partner at the ITAC Golf Tournament



George Holscher, Jimmy May, Ronald Richardson, and Kyle Kennon competed in the AWBA National Championships in Colorado.

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Mid-Atlantic members Ronald Richardson, Lee Sexton, and Rickey Wood represented PVA at the Richmond Mini- Games



Paul Austin was chosen to participate in the Iowa Veteran Outdoor experience



A successful hunt for Ace Cruz in Gold Hill, NC.



A great day on the water at Coach Jessie's 1st Annual Fishing Tournament



Jimmy May and Josh Burch featured as *Heroes Among Us* on WTVR TV-6 in Richmond



Putting out the Halloween flames with James Howard and his family



On the court with Mark Hartney

# **Connect With What Matters**



BraunAbility

### Being there makes a difference

It could be a simple trip to the mall, a ride to the movies or just a visit to friend's home. The little things in life can make a big difference. It's why MobilityWorks\* has been helping veterans connect with who and what matters most since 1997. Veteran have unique needs so we treat each of them as individuals. First of all, we listen. Then, we work together to find the best solution.

MobilityWorks considers it a privilege to help our nation's veterans. Every day we work with local VISNs and service organizations to make the process of securing accessible vehicles, lifts and driving equipment for veterans as easy as possible.

MobilityWorks has more than 90 locations across the country with the largest selection of accessible vehicles and adaptive solutions:

- Converted minivans and full-size vans, and SUVs Chrysler, Dodge, Ford, Honda and Toyota
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- The latest in adaptive technology including transfer and turning seats, scooter lifts and hand controls
- Complete maintenance and service on adaptive driving equipment, lifts and conversions
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MobilityWorks is committed to serving you. Contact us today so we can evaluate your needs and find a solution that best fits your lifestyle.

# be there

Certified Mobility Consultants Provide Comprehensive Needs Analysis



Scooter lifts, turning seats, and driving accessories

#### USA's largest accessible van dealer!

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### Holiday Banquet

Festive, filling and full of fun, more than 75 of our members and their guests celebrated the holidays together with an incredible feast. Special thanks to our dedicated volunteers and our loyal partners at *Mobility Works, Maggiano's Little Italy*, and *Ukrop's Homestyle Foods* for their passionate support.













### Membership Meeting



Members were introduced to our recently elected Board of Directors, who shared our recent successes and outlined the Mid-Atlantic vision for 2023. Additionally, a vote was held amongst the general membership which approved a proposed amendment to our chapter bylaws, extending the terms of service for our board members and officers from one to two years, effective December 2022.

## **Ré//ak**

### Want To Improve Your Bowel Function?

Recently published research reveals between 50 and 80% of participants reported improvements in bowel function and/or management after walking in an exoskeleton\*

Did you know Paralyzed US Veterans May be Eligible for a ReWalk Personal Exoskeleton? Contact ReWalk for more Information: rewalk.com/contact or 508.251.1154 option 2

"Chan A, et al. Changes in bowsi function following excelusional autoted walking in persons with spinal cord injury an shorvational pilot study. Spinal Cord. 2020/68(4):464-466.

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# NATIONAL VETERANS WHEELCHAIR GAMES

### **GET PUMPED FOR PORTLAND** July 4-9, 2023 • Portland, OR

Join 500+ Veterans competing in 22 sports!



WheelchairGames.org 🖬 🖸 🖬 #WheelchairGames

**Co-Presented by:** 







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# CALLING VETERANS VITH MS: JOIN OUR FAMILY!