



Cal-Diego

PARALYZED VETERANS ASSOCIATION

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Cal-Diego PVA Officers

President: Al Kovach
Vice President: Bill Palmer
Treasurer: Mike Snodgrass
Secretary: Marie Munoz

Presidents Message

Cal-Diego PVA has dedicated 25 years of service, improving the quality of life for our veterans who have a spinal cord injury or disease. As a member of the Paralyzed Veterans of America since 1991, I have been elected by the members of Cal-Diego PVA to serve a second term as their Chapter President. It has been an honor to work alongside an energetic and professional team that anticipates and enjoys the unique challenges presented to a veterans service organization. While receiving no federal funding, Cal-Diego PVA has consistently provided much needed services to our members and their families.

Recognized as a leader by the disabled population, we must exercise our ability to effect change. Cal-Diego continues to engage the community surrounding San Diego in various and creative ways such as joining the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce and facilitating the creation of a new non-profit foundation that provides sports and recreation for children with disabilities. In addition, we are sponsors of events and programs such as Camp Pendleton's Wounded Warrior Center, California Wheelchair Bowling Association, Operation Stand Down, U.S. Open Wheelchair Tennis Championship, Junior Athlete Wheelchair Sports Camp, and much more.

CAL-DIEGO PVA PRESIDENT
Al Kovach





Executive Director's Message

What a year! We are in the midst of celebrating our 25th anniversary, serving veterans and going strong. Cal-Diego PVA's office is located in the Spinal Cord Injury Center at the San Diego VA Healthcare System. Because we are located in the hospital, this gives us not only a unique perspective on how the hospital staff works with its patients, but also allows us to see members from many different states even countries.

One of Cal-Diego PVA's goals was to increase exposure in and around San Diego. Our members are tenacious when it comes to telling people about us; however, I am always looking for more ways to get us out into the community. Our members are involved in a myriad of activities from art to trapshooting, which shows the able-bodied community these disabled veterans are not so disabled!



Executive Director: Kelly Price Noble

As we embark upon another quarter century, on behalf of the Board of Directors and Staff here at Cal-Diego PVA, we look forward to serving our veterans and others with spinal cord injuries or diseases with dedication and pride.

Membership

Cal-Diego PVA membership continues to grow, currently standing at 508 members; 285 service connected life members and 224 non-service connected members. Sadly, nine of our members passed away this year. They will be missed.

The Annual Membership meeting was held in June. The December membership meeting was held in conjunction with the Annual Holiday party, which was held off-site for members, SCI and Cal-Diego PVA staff. Staff and volunteers also decorated the Spinal Cord Injury Center for the holiday party and then held a luncheon for inpatients complete with food and drinks, and gifts! The Board of Directors' meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month.

Board of Directors

Johnny Sandoval
Jim Russell
Richard Johnson
Pete Morelli
Joe Fox

Appointments & Committees

National Director:
Jim Russell
Finance:
Mike Snodgrass
Hospital Liason:
Al Kovach
Membership & Volunteers
Bill Palmer
Sports & Recreation:
Johnnie Sandoval



Cal-Diego PVA wishes to remember the following deceased members:

David M. Bennett
Thomas G. Bushman
Warren P. Fragomen
Larry E. Ingram
George M. Langellier
Jack J. Massey
David V Miller, Eugene D. Rogers
James C. Samdal
Edward H. Solomon

Liaison

Quality of healthcare for our nearly 400 SCI patients at the Veterans Administration San Diego Healthcare System is our priority. To achieve this goal, Cal-Diego PVA works closely with the Paralyzed Veterans of America's Veterans Benefits Department and our Hospital Liaison Committee visits with inpatients and outpatients daily.

The Hospital Liaison Committee is chaired by Cal-Diego PVA President Al Kovach and includes members Art King, Don Hyslop, National Service Officer Sherman Gillums, and Executive Director Kelly Price Noble.

The Chapter works with SCI Recreational Therapists and funds both inpatient and outpatient activities through the Veterans Administration Volunteer Services (VAVS). These donations amounted to \$34,438.30 and the volunteer hours totaled 2964 volunteer hours.

The Hospital Liaison Committee meets with the SCI Center Chief of Staff, Dr. Gerhart, regularly to discuss issues that pertain to the SCI Center and its patients. We rely heavily on his leadership and commitment to insure the quality of healthcare we deserve. The Department of Defense recently established a Comprehensive Combat Casualty Care Center at San Diego's Balboa Naval Medical Hospital. Cal-Diego PVA works closely with the managers of this new rehabilitation program to ensure that our service members who have suffered spinal cord injuries are immediately transferred to our SCI Center to begin the rehabilitation process.

The SCI Center and Cal-Diego PVA, together, celebrate 17 years of dedication to SCI healthcare. In recognition of the SCI staff's commitment to excellence in patient care, Cal-Diego PVA is encouraging the retention of their specialized services, by funding continued education, certification and training.

Service

The San Diego Paralyzed Veterans of America national service office enjoyed a few successes this past year. First, Amanda McGrath was in January hired to fill the long-vacant second National Service Officer (NSO) slot and is enthusiastically moving through the candidate program. During the same month, Sherman Gillums Jr. completed the 16-month candidate program in January thus earning a pro-





motion to NSO II. Also, the San Diego office hit the \$1,433,081 mark in combined awards (retroactive and annual) for member / member eligible clients with seven of those clients receiving an average of \$69,909 in retroactive awards. Finally, 47 new clients were added to the rolls of which 36 were either members or member eligible.

Communications

Communication is an integral part of our job here at Cal-Diego PVA. Not only is it part of daily operations, it has become a way of business for us. One of the projects we committed to create was aligning ourselves with the San Diego Neuro Network. The group is an interagency collaboration to increase awareness of programs available to support individuals diagnosed with neurological diseases or disorders, their families and healthcare providers in the San Diego area. We met with some of these groups during the latter part of Paralyzed Veterans Awareness week, forming a community network for paralyzed veterans. We have become regulars at the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce functions and have met with the San Diego Disability Coalition. This group is the Accessible & Affordable Housing for All (AAHA) Coalition. It is a group of San Diego citizens who are concerned that the City of San Diego including San Diego City Council, the Mayor, City Manager, and other City officials has failed to address the magnitude, impact and scale of the housing crisis for persons with disabilities and seniors. This is only the beginning. As we close this year and enter our 26th, our vision is to increase levels of communication with many other organizations, opening doors for our veterans.

Fundraising

This has been a great year for fundraising. From January to December, Cal-Diego PVA holds events to help support our eight mandated programs. We have been fortunate enough to be on the receiving end of some very charitable people and organizations. Our



fundraising efforts reach a broad range of disciplines. Rolling and Bowling for Dollar\$ is a bowling tournament that helps raise funds



Fundraising (cont.)

for the Beachcombers Sporting Team. Because of the positive turnout we experienced in January, we decided to make it a bi-annual event. Ride, Strive and Roll, the motorcycle run, kicks off Paralyzed Veterans Awareness Week. The run helps raise funds and awareness for our Transportation Program. Funds are also raised for the Trapshoot team, so it can attend annual events. Reflections art show is another venue that gives us an opportunity to raise funds and awareness. Reflections gives people with disabilities an opportunity to reach beyond their limitations, utilizing the arts to expand and enhance their lives. Reflections is the perfect venue to inspire people with disabilities to explore their own creativity. It provides a showcase and a marketplace for talented artists while educating the community about the remarkable capabilities of people with a wide variety of disabilities.

Advocacy / Legislation



Cal-Diego PVA's Government relations program is committed to serve as educator, assistant and liaison to protect the rights and benefits of our members as well as those of all citizens with disabilities. In 2006, Cal-Diego PVA continued to be proactive in federal, state, and local legislation. Cal-Diego PVA is

represented on U.S. Congressman Bob Filner Veterans Affairs advisory board, the San Diego Chief of Police Advisory Board for the Disabled Community and the steering committee for the newly formed San Diego Disability Action Coalition. Cal-Diego PVA also assisted in enforcement of the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Title 24 of the California state code. Legal assistance and guidance was provided throughout the year by Paul Danielsen & Sullivan Attorney at Law.

Throughout 2006, Cal-Diego PVA monitored State and National legislation to keep members informed, addressing issues that it deemed appropriate on which to take action. Cal-Diego PVA personally presented veteran related issues to its national representatives on Capitol Hill and State, County and City representatives at their local offices.



Architecture

Cal-Diego provided design resources to members and the general public who requested suggestions for accessible buildings, homes, or places of business. The chapter serves as an architectural liaison between PVA and local businesses and municipalities.

Cal-Diego worked to uphold civil rights and opportunities that maximize the independence of our members. These issues involved the enforcement of Titles I, II, III, and IV of the ADA and Title 24 of the California state code.

Sports & Recreation

Sports and Recreation continue as major Cal-Diego PVA programs. The Chapter's sponsorship enabled its members and others in the disabled community to participate in a wide range of activities, including trapshooting, quad rugby, rowing, hand cycling, adaptive snow and water skiing, pool and surfing, just to name a few. Cal-Diego PVA sponsored teams that participated in National Veterans Wheelchair Games, the Golden Age Games, Veterans Winter Ski Clinic, Superfrog Triathlon and helped to fund Junior Athlete Wheelchair Sports. Reflections VI, the Chapter's art exhibition drew over a thousand art lovers to this unique show for artists with disabilities. The annual Chapter Holiday Parties maintained their popularity and plans are in the works for another PVA Awareness Week in the spring.





Revenue and Other Support

	2005	2006
Contributions.....	\$ 92,842	\$ 30,099
PVA Grant.....	183,441	188,227
Program Services.....	55,784	84,798
Special Events.....	41,152	48,365
Investment income.....	41,384	45,736
Gain(loss) on sale of investments.....	19,786	(16,729)
Total Revenue and Support.....	434,389	380,496

Expenses

Program services:		
Member benefits.....	278,758	314,682
Public affairs.....	23,673	21,116
Research.....	18,000	5,000
Total program services.....	320,431	340,798
Support services:		
General and administrative.....	89,387	73,639
Total support services.....	89,387	73,639
Total Expenses.....	409,818	414,437

Changes in Net Assets.....	24,571	(33,941)
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments.....	23,924	47,690

Net Change in Assets.....	48,495	13,749
Net Assets, Beginning of year.....	914,670	963,165
Net Assets, end of year.....	963,165	976,914

Statement of Financial Position

Cash and equivalents.....	36,892	4,407
Investments.....	847,189	898,717
Prepaid expenses.....	7,900	8,237
Office equipment.....	39,700	46,591
Transportation equipment.....	83,000	83,000
Accumulated depreciation.....	(48,754)	(61,276)
Total Assets.....	965,927	979,676

Liabilities and Net Assets

Accounts payable.....	2,762	2,762
Total liabilities.....	2,762	2,762
Net Assets: Unrestricted.....	893,831	917,508
Temporarily restricted.....	69,334	59,406
Total Net Assets.....	963,165	976,914
Total liabilities and net assets.....	965,927	979,676



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Supporters With Our Gratitude

Edward Johnson	Larry Rodrigues	Carol Louck
Dennis Larsen	Aida Torres	Tanya Coty
Audra & Harry Palmer	Robert Reed	WellPoint Foundation
Daniel Cravens	Linda Berman	Terry Koehler
Marcia Laycock	Julianne Kelly	SBC Employee Giving
George Oswell	Joe Garrett	Charlene Haney
Judy & Bob Cheseborough	Edward Matta	George Oswell
Bill Striegel	Anonymous	American Wheelchair Veterans Association
Kelly Price Noble	Bill & Sharon Dirr	Robert Lewis
Felicity Dobbins	Kathleen Knaresboro	Bill Miller
Richard Arnicar	Bruce & Florence Warnock	William Morris
Greg Smith	Steven Galloway	Thomas Mooney
John Shiposki	Wayne Sheridan	Dudley Gaouette
Walter O'Neil	Laurence Curtis	Laurel Moorhead
Ronald Bacon	Father George Morelli	Thomas Asher
Al Kovach	Denise Murphy	V.F.W. Mission Valley Post 3787
Otis Heald	Jennifer Hastings	American Legion J.B. Clark Post 149
Steven Martin	Lee Fouts	American Legion Riders VFW 2275
Mitch & Aida Menschel	Ross & Susan Ehrhardt	Sons of American Legion J.B. Clark Post 149
Marc Kelly	Anges Caballes	
Richard & Shelia Johnson	Ron & Carol Costa	
Ginger Hughes	Michael Carlyle	
Chad Reed	Deborah Conter	