

# ACES

## AMPUTEE CARE, EDUCATION & SUPPORT

Newsletter

Winter 2011



### Amputation Care, Education and Support Group 2011: A YEAR IN REVIEW



The year started out with a Holiday party in January, which had to be rescheduled from December 2010, secondary to weather and electrical issues. This did not dampen anyone's spirit of the holidays.

February we had Stan Brown, from the Gateway Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America (*see article on PVA this newsletter*) and Jean Ferguson, CTRS, talk about the National Wheelchair Games.

We rolled into March with an open group discussion led by John Neudecker, Ph.D., discussing the activities and topics the group was interested in participating in for the upcoming year.

Since April is tax month, we invited McDuffy MacDonald from billing and Lyle Schmidt from eligibility departments. The two discussed how billing and eligibility worked within the VHA system and offered assistance to those that were having problems.

In May the group did not hold a formal meeting as many members of the group were participating in the "Boots on the Green" Golf Tournament and/or the local wheelchair games. Both events allowed opportunities for recreation, competition and fun.

June brought us speakers from the St. Louis Wheelchair Association, Gary Dalton and Charles Berry, who discussed the recreational and competitive opportunities available in the community through their organization.



July was a time to enjoy the fresh air, and the group did this with a picnic and games at Jefferson Barracks. The group had burgers and brats from Kedrick's and salads and desserts. Everyone is looking forward to next year's, which will most likely be scheduled at an earlier date because the July weather in Missouri was a scorcher.

In August we had everyone dropping and giving 20 (*actually the group discussed fall preventions and those that wanted were given the opportunity to practice getting up from falls*). It was a drop over good session, as individuals learned helpful techniques to prevent falls but also how to get up from a fall if it should occur. This session was led by physical therapists Marybeth Abkemeier, MPT, and Stephanie O'Connor, DPT.

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The meeting in September was hosted by Laura Cornwell, LCSW, who offered support and review of access to VA services promoting independence. She discussed the Freedom Alert System, Home Respite Volunteer Program and Respite Program. These are all services or items available at the St. Louis VAMC. The Freedom Alert is 2-way voice emergency pendant/bracelet communicator with no monthly fees. A base unit requires a landline home phone and a pendant. The pendant has a wireless range up to approximately 600 ft from the base unit. The system allows you to program four numbers that you want called in an event of an emergency in order to receive assistance. It could be a spouse, child, friend or 911. For more information regarding this product, please discuss with your primary care provider at your next visit.



The Home Respite Volunteer program is a new program within the VA system. The role of a home respite volunteer is to assist veteran care recipients, their primary caregivers and their family in coping with the daily challenges of living with a chronic disease, illness, disability or condition of aging. The volunteers undergo a background check and receive training prior to being placed with a veteran. The benefit of this program is for the caregiver to receive some relief from the everyday burden of providing care. In addition, the program provides socialization for the veteran. There are limitations to what the home respite volunteers roles are within the home. If you are interested either in additional information regarding this program, to become a volunteer or in need of the service in your home, please contact St. Louis VAMC Voluntary Services at 314-894-6530.

Lastly, Laura talked about the inpatient respite program available at St. Louis VAMC. This is an inpatient respite program at Jefferson Barracks; it is available for veteran who require caregivers to live at home. The inpatient respite program requires pre-registration and approval. It is located in Building 53 at Jefferson Barracks. If a veteran is eligible, he or she may stay one week per quarter. All stays must be scheduled in advance. If you are interested in additional information regarding this program, please contact your social worker or discuss it with your primary care provider. A consult must be submitted and approved for this service.



In lieu of an official meeting in the month of October, members participated in the local Golden Age Games. (See article on Local Golden Age Games in this newsletter).

The annual holiday party was held in the month of November, where members were able to gather for games, door prizes and lunch. November wrapped up our year for the ACES meeting, in which in reflection turned out to be a fulfilling year.

As we look forward to the 2012 ACES meeting, one of our goals is to increase our monthly attendance. If you are interested in attending, but transportation is an issue, there are several options available. There is DAV transportation in St. Louis City and County. If you are a member of the PVA (See PVA article), they offer transportation. The bus shuttle from JC to JB is listed in this newsletter. OATS and Call-a-Ride are available. **Bring yourself and bring a friend!**

As we are always striving to improve our program, please feel free to contact Stephanie O'Connor, DPT at 314-894-6607 with any suggestion or questions you have.



*ACES activities and food items are funded through donations to the Amputation Program.*

*by Stephanie O'Connor*

The ACES support group and the St Louis Amputation Team would like to thank **AMVETS Post 1** from Kirkwood, Missouri for their generous donations for the past two years. We would like to also thank the **Military Order of the Purple Heart VAVS National Program Chapter 125** for their generous donation this year. These gifts were used to help cover the cost of travel and expenses for participation in National Veterans Sporting events for Veterans with limb loss. We were also able to purchase T-shirts for the ACES Group as well as fund the annual picnic and holiday parties. Again, without the support of organizations like AMVETS Post 1 and MOPH Chapter 125, we would not be able to provide these things to our Veterans.

The ACES Group and Veterans with limb loss in rehab at Jefferson Barracks would like to extend a warm thank you to **Anna O'Connor** (no relation to the author). Ms. O'Connor generously donated many handmade lap blankets to Veterans with limb loss over the holiday season. In her letter that accompanied the donations she speaks of her family's military history and how she offers daily prayer for each of the recipients of her blankets. *Thank you again, Ms. O'Connor!*

As a veteran myself I appreciate the support of these organizations and individuals, without you our team would not be able to carry out this mission as successfully. Thank you very much.



## Creative Arts Festival

by Karen Wait/Stephanie O'Connor



The St. Louis VA Medical Center incorporates creative arts into their occupational and recreation therapy programs to further the rehabilitation milieu for both inpatients and outpatients. This annual competition recognizes the progress and recovery made through that therapy, and raises the visibility of the creative achievements of our nation's Veterans after disease, disability or life crisis. The festival is a wonderful forum to recognize Veterans for their creative accomplishments and to educate and demonstrate to the community the therapeutic benefits of the arts.

This local veteran Creative Arts Festival is celebrated in the month of February with two different events showcasing three areas of talent. Creative writing and performing arts are presented in an entertaining evening show and competition in the VAMC Jefferson Barracks Theater. The visual arts show and competition is presented in the gymnasium on the last Friday of each February. Both events warmly welcome members of the community to come share in, and be entertained by the talents and accomplishments of our Veterans.

The winners in each of the many categories will be videotaped or photos taken of their visual art, to be sent to the national level for judging. If the visual artist's work is selected as a first place winner, the veteran is invited to a weeklong stay at the national hosting site. The winners will be treated to workshops, entertainment, and general celebration of their talent. The visual artist may also be selected to attend the national event, practicing throughout the week to perform a live professional-type stage show that will also be taped and aired on PBS.

Millard Pursley, an 87-year-old World War II veteran who has bilateral below-knee amputations, entered the competition for the first time in 2011. Mr. Pursley reports that he used to make his string art from kits, but because of quality and limitation of the kits, he cuts and designs his own patterns to create his work. A first place blue ribbon winner in the category of String Art at the St. Louis VAMC made him eligible to compete at the National Creative Arts Festival, in which artwork from Veterans from all over the United States show off their talents and compete. Winning first place nationally earned Mr. Pursley an invitation to attend and participate in the 2011 National Veteran Creative Arts Festival. In total, 3,625 Veterans from 123 VA facilities entered the competition nationwide, with 143 of the medal-winning Veterans earning an invitation to participate in the 2011 National Veterans Creative Arts Festival, hosted by the Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks and held in Fayetteville, Arkansas. Mr. Pursley was one of eight veterans from the St. Louis VAMC whose artwork or talent earned this honor. The 2012 Local Creative Arts Festival will be February 24 at Jefferson Barracks in Building 63.





## Local Golden Age Games

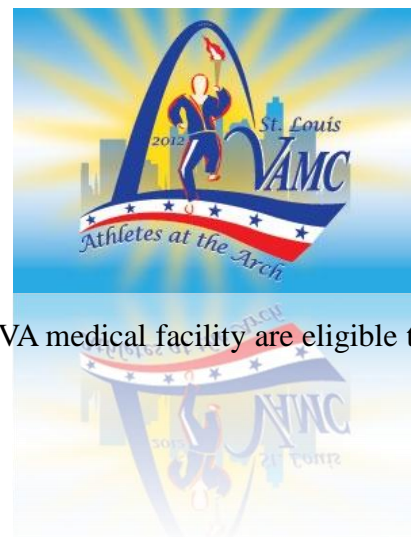
St. Louis VAMC held their annual Local Golden Age Games, October 12-14, 2011. Golden Age Games offer sports and recreational competitive events for Veterans 55 years of age and older. This mirrors the National Golden Age Games that are held annually; in 2011 it was in Hawaii. More than 70 individuals participated in the events at Jefferson Barracks that included golf, bowling, swimming, checkers, dominoes, table tennis, shuffleboard, nine ball, shot put, discus, croquet, and horseshoes.

### ACES member winners:

Barry Epley	shot put/discus	gold/silver medals
Robert Farwig	w/c shot put, discus and horseshoe	gold medal
Alex Grippo	shuffleboard, horseshoes	bronze medals
Mark Hess	golf	bronze medal

## National Veterans Golden Age Games

*"Life begins at 55"* — at least it does for the Veterans competing in the National Veterans Golden Age Games. This event clearly demonstrates that sports and fitness are important for all Americans, at any age. It is a national showcase for the preventive and therapeutic value of sports, fitness, and recreation — all vital ingredients in VA's extensive rehabilitation programs. Since the beginning, the event has encouraged older Veterans to remain active, both physically and mentally. Each year, those who participate return home to encourage others to do the same. This year the St. Louis VAMC will be hosting the 26<sup>th</sup> annual National Veterans Golden Age Games.



**When** May 31 – June 5, 2012

**Where** St. Louis, Missouri (*various locations to be announced*)

**Who** Military Veterans age 55 or older who receive health care at any VA medical facility are eligible to compete in the National Veterans Golden Age Games.

**Sponsors** Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)  
Veterans Canteen Service (VCS)  
Help Hospitalized Veterans (HHV)

**Events** Competitive events include: swimming, cycling, golf, shot-put, discus, 10-meter air rifle, table tennis, dominoes, shuffleboard, horseshoes, nine-ball, bowling, checkers and croquet. Each event has seven age categories for participation, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80-84 and 85 and up. Additionally, Veterans with visual impairments and those who use wheelchairs for mobility may compete in the Visually Impaired or Wheelchair divisions.

There are **applications available in the fitness center in building 63** or contact:

Coach for St. Louis VA Golden Age Team: **John Schmeink, RT**, (314)-652-4100 x 63313

Recreational Therapist for Amputation Program: **Jean Ferguson, CTRS**, (314)-652-4100 x 64015

For additional information about the National Golden Age Games go to

<http://www.va.gov/opa/speceven/gag/index.asp>

# ACES



**Local Wheelchair Games:** held May 6, 2011 at the St. Louis VAMC. Athletes from the St Louis and the Kansas City area participated. This is the first time that Veterans from Kansas City area traveled to St. Louis for this event. A civil St. Louis vs Kansas City competition took place in all the events. A nice lunch was donated and served by the Order of the Cooties.

## Local Games Results

### 2011 Spirit of the Games Awarded to LaRoy Smith

#### ACE's member winners:

<b>Earle Lester</b>	weightlifting	Bronze medal
<b>Alex Grippo</b>	bowling, table tennis	Silver medal
<b>Terrance Stith</b>	table tennis, discus and shot put	Gold Medal
	bowling	Bronze medal
<b>Louis Murray</b>	nine ball	Bronze medal



**The National Wheelchair Games** took place at Pittsburg VAMC during the week of Aug 1 thru Aug 6. The National Wheelchair Games is the largest annual wheelchair sports competition in the world, This event offers 17 different sports to Veterans who use wheelchairs due to spinal cord injuries, amputations and neurological diseases. The Games promote rehabilitation through rigorous competition in such events as basketball, rugby, softball, handcycling and others.

While past Games have produced national and world-class champions, the Games also provide opportunities for newly disabled Veterans to gain sports skills and be exposed to other wheelchair athletes. The National Veterans Wheelchair Games events include: air-guns, basketball, bowling-ramp, handcycling, motorized slalom, power soccer, softball, swimming, track, weightlifting, archery, bowling, field, motorized rally, 9-ball, quad rugby, slalom, table tennis, trap shooting.

Thirteen Veterans from St. Louis attended, three of whom were members of the Amputation Care Education and Support Group (ACES). A portion of the travel and lodging for the Veterans to this event and other national events is raised through donations and fundraising activities throughout the year.

Earle Lester is a fourth-year participant ; and he competed in the masters division in bowling, wheelchair slalom, and 9-ball. Earle has been an inspiration to other Veterans with amputation in ACES group, through encouragement and demonstration that you can continue to strive for your ambitions after limb loss. Robert Hutchinson (Bobby or Hutch) is a second-year participant. He competed in the open division in bowling, basketball, table tennis and softball. Bobby earned a silver medal in table tennis and a bronze medal in softball.

Fellow teammate Terrance Stith is a also an second-year participant and competed in the open division in shot put, javelin, discus, basketball and table tennis. Terrance earned a silver medal in discus.

***Congratulation to all of Team St. Louis;  
we are proud to have you represent us.***

For more information regarding the 2011 National Wheelchair Games to be held in Richmond, VA, please contact Jean Ferguson, CTRS, at 314-652-4100, ext 64015.



## Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA), Gateway Chapter

Chapter president Stan Brown was a guest speaker at the ACES group this year. You could be asking yourself why the president of PVA is talking with the amputee group. Mr. Brown came to discuss how Veterans with limb loss are eligible to become associate members of the PVA.

According to the PVA brochure, the Gateway Chapter of Paralyzed Veterans of America is a 501(c)(3) non-profit Veterans organization, one of 34 chapters of the Paralyzed Veterans of America. PVA Gateway Chapter does not receive any Federal Government funding.

The PVA Gateway Chapter provides patient services, peer support, transportation, communication, advocacy, and sports and recreation. A free monthly luncheon that is open to all members/associate members is held at Jefferson Barracks in Building 52. The chapter provides activities for members such as fishing, camping, picnic outings, bowling, billiards, and trap shooting. PVA also participates in and supports the hospital's recreational activities.

If you are interested in joining the Gateway Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, it is a **FREE** Associate membership to those persons with a sincere interest in helping and/or participating in chapter activities. Associate members are welcome to attend functions, contribute to activities, and even attend membership meetings. Associate members are eligible to be considered for funding by the PVA-Gateway Chapter for National Wheelchair Games, to assist in defraying the cost of travel and lodging. This is based on a points system; individuals can earn points by attending events. Limitations to the associate members are as follows: they may not be on the board or have voting rights. There is a bi-monthly newsletter, the *Gazette*, which will be mailed to you upon acceptance to our chapter.

For additional information activities, services and membership please visit the chapter's website at [www.gatewaypva.org](http://www.gatewaypva.org) or call 314-427-0393 or 1-800-426-4058. Below is a list of upcoming events.

### Gateway PVA Activities Calendar - Upcoming Events February 2012

- 8 - Newsletter Articles Due (15 pts - article must be a half a page or more in normal print, and be published in the current newsletter to receive the points)
- 16 - JB Member/Patient Luncheon - SCI Building 52 at Noon (5 pts)
- 16 - VA's Got Talent - JB Theatre at 5:30 p.m.
- 20 - Office Closed for Washington's Birthday/President's Day
- 21 - BOD Meeting at 4 p.m. (15 pts for non-board members)
- 24 - VA Art Show - JB Gym at 11:30 a.m.
- 25 - VA Trivia Night - JB Gym at 7 p.m.

**Advocacy: This information is posted on the website for the survey that PVA is sponsoring in regards to individuals with mobility issues and traveling. The link for the website is listed below in the article.**

The PVA is requesting your input on air travel. Below is a website address that will take you to the survey that will ask you about your experience that you as an individual with mobility issues have encountered during air travel.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GPVAairtravelsurvey>

***Below is basic information that is available on the survey website:***

This survey is intended for a very specific purpose – to learn of air travel incidents/problems encountered by persons with mobility disabilities. It does not address issues with security, TSA and the airport itself.

The Air Carrier Access Act (ACAA) is a civil rights law that was enacted 23 years ago with the express purpose of accommodating the needs of passengers with disabilities. Nonetheless, the Department of Transportation (DOT) continues to receive thousands of complaints annually from passengers with disabilities. In 2010 alone, over 21,000 disability complaints involving foreign and domestic air carriers were filed with the carriers themselves and then reported to DOT. More than half of the complaints concerned the failure to provide adequate assistance to persons using wheelchairs.

This survey is sponsored and administered by the Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) and the Gateway Chapter of PVA with the intention of collecting and reporting sufficient accounts of disability complaints to DOT and/or Congress.



## Peer Visitor Program for Veterans with Limb Loss

The Veterans Health Administration and the Amputation Coalition have entered in a partnership to establish a certification for amputee peer visitors program within the VA St. Louis Health Care System. Five Veterans from St. Louis completed the amputee peer visitor training certification course this September at Jefferson Barracks. This certification course is designed to prepare Veterans with tools and guidelines to being an effective peer visitor for other Veterans with limb loss. The training included a full day of course work, followed by examination.



The peer visitor program is to pair a certified peer visitor with a veteran who is in need of someone to discuss a pending amputation or who has had a recent surgery for an amputation. The peer visitor is someone who has made it through the stages of recovery and is striving with their new role in society as an amputee. Peer visits can take place via phone, or face to face, at JB or JC.

## Relocation of Amputation Clinic

The amputation clinic held every Wednesday afternoon starting at 1:00 p.m. has **relocated to Building 23** (behind Building 1). This clinic was previously held in Building 53. If you have questions please contact Stephanie O'Connor at 314-894-6607.

## Education Opportunities for Members of the Amputation Team

In a continuing effort to keep abreast of the current technology and treatments available for Veterans with limb loss, the St. Louis team has attended training throughout the year. The Veterans Health Administration Amputation System of Care Conference was held the summer of 2011 in Indianapolis, IN. The conference topics included post-op care, rehab, prosthetic technology and recreation for Veterans with limb loss.

Other educational opportunities included members of the team attending training to receive certification on the prosthetic microprocessor knee unit, Genium by Otto Bock.

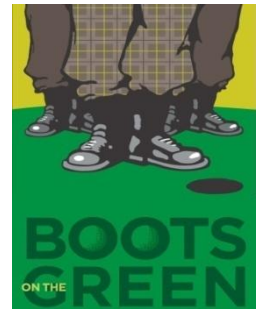
An in-service on Power foot BiOM by I Walk, a microprocessor ankle/foot unit, was held for the rehab team at Jefferson Barracks. Also, 2011 Advance Lower Extremity Prosthetic Design Seminar, by Fillauer was held in St. Louis in which members of the St. Louis VA attended.

This continuing education allows the clinicians to receive information on up-to-date technology and rehabilitation for Veterans with limb loss. One example of this is a Veteran who lost all his fingers on one hand, except for his thumb. This Veteran received a powered prosthesis for individuals with missing fingers. This prosthetic hand has articulating fingers to allow for a more natural grasp, as shown in pictures at left.



## “Boots on the Green” Golf Event (David York Memorial Golf Tournament)

by John Schmenk



Tom Getchman was asked by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to participate in the “Boots on the Green” golf clinic on April 29<sup>th</sup> and a 9-hole golf tournament on May 13<sup>th</sup> at the Woodlands Golf Course in Alton, IL. The program is designed to pair Veterans from various war time eras with active duty service members from Scott Air Force Base, IL. Many of these young service men and women have recently returned from Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Tom reports, “It was very humbling to join in with participants who are seriously disabled, including several who are single and multiple amputees.” Tom Getchman is a member of the St. Louis Communications, Business & Asset Management Group.



Mark Hess, Veteran and above knee amputee



Mr. York, Veteran and bilateral amputee, using adaptive golf cart to play in tournament which is named in honor of his brother



Adaptive golf carts

In preparation for the 2012 golf tournament, the golf clinics at Jefferson Barrack will start February 1<sup>st</sup>. The golf clinic is for any Veteran or active duty member with a disability who is interested in playing golf. All skill levels are welcome at the clinic from beginner to experienced players. The recreation department recently received two of their own adaptive golf carts for Veterans to use. These carts can go from the tee box to the greens to assist individuals with balance, debility or amputation to continue playing golf. These golf carts will be available to see and use during the upcoming golf clinics. For more information about the golf clinic or tournament, contact John Schmeink at 314-652-4100 x 66341.



## VA St. Louis Health Care System Shuttle Bus Schedule

The shuttle bus stops at the VA Hope Recovery Center at 515 North Jefferson as part of its run between divisions.

Shuttle bus service now includes OIF/OEF Clinic, Building 5T located at the SW corner of the JC campus. The shuttle will include 5T from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The shuttle will stop twice per hour.

Leaves JB Division Building 1	Leaves JC Division Ambassador Suite Entrance
<b>6:45 a.m.</b> (This shuttle will make a stop at the corner of Grand Avenue and Olive Boulevard in the vicinity of the Scottish Rite parking garage.)	<b>8:00 a.m.</b> (Mail pouch pick up at 7:35 a.m.)
<b>9:00 a.m.</b> (Mail pouch pick up at 8:35 a.m.)	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>11:15 a.m.</b> (Mail pouch pick up at 10:35 a.m.)
<b>11:15 a.m.</b> (Mail pouch pick up at 10:35 a.m.)	<b>1:00 p.m.</b> (Mail pouch pick up at 12 noon.)
<b>1:00 p.m.</b> (Mail pouch pick up at 12 noon.)	<b>2:00 p.m.</b> (Mail pouch pick up at 1:35 p.m.)
<b>3:00 p.m.</b> (Mail pouch pick up at 2:35 p.m.)	<b>4:15 p.m.</b> (This shuttle will make a stop at the corner of Grand Avenue and Olive Boulevard in the vicinity of the Scottish Rite parking garage.)

### Parking Shuttle:

There is a parking shuttle available at Jefferson Barracks that can assist in transportation between buildings. The contact number is 314-630-9098. Unfortunately, we have to report that neither the JC-JB bus shuttle nor the Jefferson Barracks parking shuttle is wheelchair accessible.

## Life Waters

*By Charles Wright/Jody Paniagua*

The LifeWaters Vets SCUBA program is a program run by a dedicated dive team who are passionate about helping our injured service members and diving. SCUBA is a great equalizer, providing a world of opportunity for people with and without physical disabilities. Diving has become an increasingly popular recreation sport, enjoyed by millions of people. There also has been a growing interest in SCUBA within the disabled population in community programs and also rehabilitation hospitals nationwide. LWV has worked hard to bring in knowledgeable healthcare professionals who also have many years of experience underwater as divers themselves. LWV will be conducting Discover Scuba sessions at Jefferson Barracks pool in St. Louis on a regular basis starting in January of 2012. Disabled Veterans who are not able to perform a skill to SDI (Scuba Diving International) open water standards are offered the chance to earn their scuba certification with a Scubility™ certified scuba instructor. For further information please contact: Charles Wright at 314-652-4100 ext: 64590. Charles Wright and Jody Paniagua will be speaking at the March 1, 2012 ACES meeting, regarding Life Waters.

Charles Wright with red mask



## An Award Winning Team Working For You!

We are proud to announce that the Amputation Program team was awarded the January 2011 Group of the Month Award, a St. Louis VA Medical Center system-wide distinction. This award was in recognition for the team's dedication and efforts to improve the Amputation Program. We thank you for your support, and look forward to continued improvement.



*Below are two athletic associations in the St. Louis area that offer opportunities to service-members and active duty personnel.*

### **St. Louis Wheelchair Athletic Association (SLWAA)**

The St. Louis Wheelchair Athletic Association (SLWAA) was founded in response to a need in the community for a professionally organized and developed program of wheelchair sports and adaptive recreation activities for children, youth and adults with physical disabilities.



SLWAA information is as follows: 10030 Big Bend Road, St. Louis, MO 63122, phone: 314-775-2512, email: [slwaa@lipic.com](mailto:slwaa@lipic.com), website: [www.slwaa.org](http://www.slwaa.org). *(Information obtained from SLWAA brochure)*

### **Disabled Athlete Sports Association (DASA)**



The mission of the Disabled Athlete Sports Association (DASA) is to provide all of those who live with a physical or visual disability the opportunity to participate in sports and fitness activities designed to improve self-esteem and to promote growth and well-being while instilling family values. The athletes of DASA will be encouraged to continually seek their highest level of independence and become involved to the greatest extent with their non-disabled peers and community as a whole.

DASA information is as follows: 1236 Jungermann Road, Suite A, St. Peters, MO 63376. Phone 636-447-0716. Website: [www.dasasports.org](http://www.dasasports.org). *(Information obtained from DASA brochure)*

*Many company names are mentioned in this newsletter for the purpose of giving accurate accounts of events. However, the VA St. Louis Health Care System or the staff does not endorse or have financial interest in any of these companies or their products.*



**VA**  
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Defining  
**EXCELLENCE**  
in the 21st Century

In an effort to improve our Veterans' experiences with the ACES group, we are requesting your input to complete the following brief survey. This information will be incorporated in future plans for the ACES group. Please mail back in the enclosed self-addressed, postage-paid envelope. Thank you for your time with this matter; your input is always appreciated.

**Do you currently attend the ACES meeting regularly?**

Yes ( )

No ( )

**If you do not currently attend the ACES meeting, please check any answer that limits you from attending.**

( ) Transportation

( ) Meeting day/time

( ) Location

( ) No interest in attending

( ) Other; *please be specific* \_\_\_\_\_

**Meeting dates are generally the first Thursday of the month at 11 a.m. Please select which days and time would be convenient for you to participate (check all that apply)**

( ) First Thursday of the month @ 11 a.m. (current meeting time)

( ) First Thursday of the month @ 2 p.m.

( ) First Monday of the month @ 11 a.m.

( ) First Monday of the month @ 1 p.m.

( ) First Tuesday of the month @ 1 p.m.

**Would you be interested in a receiving a reminder call by a volunteer a day or two before the meeting?**

( ) Yes

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

( ) No

**What topics or activities would you be interested in participating in with the ACES group?**

- coping tools for adjusting to limb loss
- interpersonal relationships with family and friends following limb loss
- education on different prosthetic devices available
- diabetes education
- peripheral vascular disease education
- skin issues/skin breakdown
- others \_\_\_\_\_

**Activities:**

- bowling
- table tennis
- swimming
- basketball
- hand cycle
- attending a movie
- attending a baseball game
- attending other community outings:

suggestions \_\_\_\_\_

other \_\_\_\_\_

