



**Mountain States Chapter**  
*Paralyzed Veterans of America*

*Fact Sheet*

Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) was founded more than 60 years ago by and for veterans of the armed forces with spinal cord injury or disease. Paralyzed Veterans of America is a dynamic, broad-based organization with more than 34 chapters, 59 national service offices, and more than 19,000 members in the United States, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The Mt. States Chapter was founded in 1955.

Each chapter provides a variety of programs and activities to meet the needs of its members and other Americans with disabilities. Here's how the Mt. States Chapter makes a difference in our local community.

*Veterans Benefits*

- The Mt. States Chapter serves veterans in the states of Colorado, Montana, Utah, and Wyoming.
- Mt. States Chapter members volunteer more than 3,600 hours per year at the local VA Medical Centers, Fitzsimons VA Nursing Home and the Denver VA Regional Office.
- Mt. States Chapter assists its members during their transition period, and in applying for and obtaining veterans benefits.

*Advocacy*

- The Mt. States Chapter advocates for the civil rights of its members, other veterans, and others with disabilities in the states of Colorado, Montana, Utah, and Wyoming.
- Mt. States Chapter members serve as volunteers on state and local access boards, helping to ensure that local building codes and ordinances are in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and that architectural barriers are removed.
- The Mt. States Chapter distributes a monthly Advocacy Bulletin to local and national elected officials, other veterans service organizations, and fellow PVA chapters, which is designed to enhance community awareness of veterans with disabilities.

## *Communication*

- Mt. States Chapter members visit schools and work with local Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops to help instill the ideals of patriotism and community service in America's youth.
- The SCOOP, the Mt. States Chapter newsletter, offers a bi-monthly review of our programs and activities, notice of upcoming events, and features designed to enhance the quality of life of our members.

## *Sports and Recreation*

- The Mt. States Chapter sends a team of its members annually to the National Veterans Wheelchair Games. In 2007, six chapter members competed in Milwaukee, WI, in the 27<sup>th</sup> Games.
- The Mt. States Chapter Rolling Nuggets has participated in the National Wheelchair Basketball Championships for the last several years.
- The Mt. States Chapter also hosts sporting events such as a bowling tournament and league, billiards tournament, and a poker league.
- Other recreational activities include parades, picnics, motorcycle run, and other areas of interest.

## *Research and Education*

- The Mt. States Chapter supports research to find cures for paralysis through contributions to the PVA Research Foundation.
- For the last four years, the Mt. States Chapter has awarded scholarships to students enrolled in the University of Colorado's School of Nursing as an investment in the future health and treatment of our members and other with spinal cord injury of disease.
- Through donations to the PVA Education Foundation, Mt. States PVA strives to improve the lives of people with spinal cord dysfunction through consumer information and health-care professional education.

To learn more about the Mt. States Chapter, contact us at:

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