



THE PURPLE HEARTBEAT
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS NEWSLETTER

NATIONAL ADJUTANT'S CALL . . .

Dear Patriots,

Getting Ready for Convention. It's not that far away - here's a quick checklist that you should be working on: registration, lodging, right assortment of MOPH shirts, transportation, and getting any issues of concern to your Department NEC representative for consideration at the Convention.

Convention Colors. Members attending the National Convention are encouraged to "SHOW OUR COLORS" on a daily basis. A sea of matching color gets instant recognition and the impression left on the hotel staff and the public at large is lasting.

Timely Submission of Critical Reports. Election, Finance, and 990 reports are all critical to MOPH operations and Your Convention Vote Strength. We've created a system to help you monitor reporting. Go to: www.purpleheart.org/Members/ReportTracking.aspx

Patriot of the Year. By now, Departments should have Chapter nominations to consider in determining the Department's nominations, due to your Region Commander by June 30. Regions then send their nominations to me by July 7th.

Order Plaques and Certificates as Early as Possible. Recommend that you order plaques and appropriate citations as Patriots are selected to ensure timely receipt. You'll find order forms under "Supply Room Forms" on the website to honor Patriots at Chapter and Department levels.

Yours in Patriotism, Jack Leonard



THIS NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED EVERY MONTH EXCEPT AUGUST. ALL ADJUTANTS AND COMMANDERS RECEIVE A COPY OF THE NEWSLETTER.

ALSO ENCLOSED:

- CHAPTERS: May 2011 Roster of Monthly Changes
DEPARTMENTS: May 2011 Membership Status Report & Chapters Roster of Monthly Changes

Inside this issue:

Table with 2 columns: Article Title and Page Number. Includes items like MOPH Medal of Honor Awardee, Submit Timely Reports, MOA New Contact, James Arness, Gunsmoke, PH Awardee, Civil War Note, Natl Convention Events, American Legion, Note from Am Officer, MOPH Calendar, P-47 Thunderbolt.

MOPH MEMBER TO RECEIVE MEDAL OF HONOR

Sgt. 1st Class Leroy Petry, an Army Ranger originally from Santa Fe, NM and now a member of MOPH Chapter 0407, Lakewood WA will be only the second living recipient of the Medal of Honor when President Obama presents the medal in a White House Ceremony on July 12. Patriot Petry will be accompanied by his wife Ashley and other family members when he receives his award.



Petry was with the 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment when he was wounded during a raid to capture a target in Pakiya, Afghanistan in May 2008. He and a colleague were shot while clearing a courtyard, and a bullet pierced both of Petry's legs. While taking cover, another soldier arrived and they were attacked with a grenade, which injured the two other soldiers. When a second grenade landed near them, rather than diving for cover, Petry grabbed it and tried to toss it away, but it exploded, blowing off his arm and hand just below the elbow. Petry continued fighting after tying a tourniquet on his arm. Petry's actions prevented them all from being seriously wounded or killed.

Patriot Petry deployed eight times after the 9/11 terror attacks - completed two tours in Iraq and six in Afghanistan. Previous decorations include two Bronze Stars, a Purple Heart and three Army Commendation Medals.



During rehabilitation for his injuries, doctors told him it was possible he wouldn't walk again because of the wounds to his legs. But he not only walked but became an avid golfer and learned to water ski with one hand.

Last year he enlisted in the Army indefinitely, and now works at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, south of Seattle, where he helps injured Rangers returning from deployment. (Based on variety of news sources.)



REMINDER!!!!

Submit National Officer and Department Reports on Time!

Please submit your report to MOPH HQ, Attn: Casey Nottage no later than **June 30, 2011**. We would greatly appreciate receiving the report by email: adjutant@purpleheart.org and, if possible, in a Word document. This will make it far easier to organize as well as manipulate into a more uniform and efficient document for publication. If you cannot submit electronically, then please mail rather than fax. Faxed copies do not scan or copy well. A PDF document will be scanned and saved as submitted.

New Medals of America (MOA) Contact for Chapter/Department Orders



Tony Aldebol, USAF retired, is your new MAO contact for orders (864)-862-0634 Ext 100 or taldebol@usmedals.com. He's also available to assist with your websites and social media opportunities.

JAMES ARNESS, STAR OF GUNSMOKE, PURPLE HEART AWARDEE

James Arness, who played Marshall Dillon in Gunsmoke for over 20 years, died June 3, 2011 at his home in Los Angeles. He was 88. Although not a member of MOPH, Arness was awarded the **Purple Heart** when he was severely wounded as an Army rifleman with the 2nd Platoon, E Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Regiment of the 3rd Infantry Division during the 1944 invasion of Anzio, Italy. He was shot in the right leg and foot by machine gun fire. Although he had several operations to alleviate his injuries, he suffered in later years from acute leg pain which sometimes hurt when mounting a horse.



He joined the Army in 1942 and was honorably discharged in 1945; he wanted to be a Naval aviator but was too tall at six feet seven inches. His decorations included the Bronze Star, **Purple Heart**, the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with three bronze stars, the WW II Victory Medal, and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

Just before his death, he wrote a letter to be posted when he was gone. He said he had a wonderful life, blessed with loving friends and family, especially his wife Janet. He also included the following: "I was honored to have served in the Army for my country. I was at Anzio during WWII and it makes you realize how very precious life is." (From various news accounts)



THE CIVIL WAR - 150 YEARS AGO

Gettysburg - Decisive Victory? The nature of the result of the Battle of Gettysburg has been the subject of controversy for years. Although not seen as overwhelmingly significant at the time, since the war continued for almost two years, in retrospect it has often been cited as the "turning point," usually in combination with the fall of Vicksburg the following day. This is based on hindsight that after Gettysburg, Lee's army conducted no more strategic offensives (his army merely reacted to the initiative of General Grant in 1864 and 1865) and by the speculative viewpoint of the Lost Cause writers that a Confederate victory at Gettysburg might have resulted in the end of the war. [The casualties for both sides were over 57,000 dead or wounded.] (Source: Wikipedia)



Bruce Catton, in Glory Road, wrote: "The Army of the Potomac had won a victory. It might be less of a victory than Mr. Lincoln had hoped for, but it was nevertheless a victory - and, because of that, it was no longer possible for the Confederacy to win the war. The North might still lose it, to be sure, if the soldiers or the people should lose heart, but outright defeat was no longer in the cards."



"Please God - let there be victory, before the Americans arrive."

Attributed to Sir Douglas Haig: Diary entry, 1917

**MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART 79TH NATIONAL CONVENTION
LAMOPH 78th**

9 - 13 August 2011

Crowne Plaza Saint Paul Riverfront
11 East Kellogg Boulevard, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101

Rate: \$129 plus tax

Phone: 651.292.1900 Fax: 651.605.6966

Reservations: 1.800.227.6963 – Ask for Military Order of the Purple Heart or

Please reference Group Code: Z15

Deadline for reservations: Friday, 1 July 2011

NO Reservations at the rate will be taken after this date

CONVENTION CHAIRMAN: BOB CONNOR

OFFICE: 651.227.4456 ^ Email: bconnor@mtn.org

IF YOU REQUIRE WHEELCHAIR OR OTHER HANDICAPPED NEEDS: Please advise the hotel when you call to make your wheelchair reservations. **Scooter Rental** –Northern Medical Supply, located in downtown Saint Paul has graciously agreed to extend a **\$70 rental fee for the entire week** to those in need of scooter assistance. Scooters will be delivered and picked up by Northern Medical Supply. Call **651.227.3707**; be sure to tell them that you are attending the MOPH National Convention at the Crowne Plaza Riverfront.

AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION: The hotel is located approximately 10 minutes from the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP). MOPH will welcome guests at Booth 12 on the baggage claim level at Terminal 1 (only). Although the SuperShuttles leave the airport often, they do not rotate continuously. The MOPH volunteers will be at Booth 12 to assist you in finding the SuperShuttle pick-up location. Please see flyer for the SuperShuttle discount rate provided to those attending the Convention.

PARKING: Available on first come first serve basis for a fee of \$10.00 per day for overnight guests -- Includes in and out access per 24 hour period.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON EVENTS:

Golf Tournament – Hillcrest Golf Club. Afternoon shot gun beginning at 1:00PM -- Limited to 72 players. Cost to participate is \$100 which includes green fees and cart. Immediately following the last golfers' roll in, there will be a buffet and award ceremony in the Club House.

Twin Cities Tour & Lunch – \$60.00/person-includes bus fare, lunch, non-alcoholic beverage, tax and tip. Bus leaves the Crowne at 1:30PM to return at approximately 6:00PM. Please see detail on registration form.

Mystic Lake Casino – \$10.00/person-covers the transportation. Please see detail on the registration form.

Sign ups are encouraged NOW – All Registration forms and monies are required to go the Convention Coordinator – Bob Connor.

MEALS: **8-9 -Commander's First Time Attendee Lunch** is a buffet for new MOPH attendees only!
(*No Spouses and/or significant others*)

8-10 -National Commander's Breakfast (Department Commanders Only)

8-12 - PNC/PNP Luncheon – Stuffed Pork Chop or Meatloaf w/Horseradish Browne Sauce
(*Includes: House Salad, Fresh Seasonal Vegetables, Sour Cream & Scallion Mashed Potatoes, Bakery Basket, Chocolate Mousse, Water, and Coffee (Regular & Decaffeinated), Hot & Ice Tea.*)

8-12 - LAMOPH Tea – *Tea Sandwiches, International Miniature Dessert Display, Seasonal Fruit & Berries, Water, and Coffee (Regular & Decaffeinated), Hot & Iced Tea.*

8-13 - BANQUET – Grilled Sirloin w/Shitake Mushroom & Sweet Onion Compote or Baked Salmon Filet Topped with Beurre Blanc Sauce
(*Includes: Classic Crowne Salad (Baby Greens w/Pear, Dried Cranberries, Red Onions, Cajun Pecans, Blue Cheese & Pear Fig Vinaigrette), Fresh Seasonal Vegetables, Garlic & Rosemary Roasted Red Potatoes, Bakery Basket, Chocolate Tiger Cake (Chocolate & White Cake Layered w/Dark & White Chocolate Butter Cream, Garnished w/Sauces & a Chocolate Wand), Water, Coffee (Regular & Decaffeinated), Hot & Ice Tea*)

ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING VETERANS – ONE OF SERIES

THE AMERICAN LEGION

The American Legion, like MOPH, is a congressionally chartered veterans organization that was founded in 1919 by about 1,000 WW I officers and enlisted men in Paris. It considered each soldier in the American Expeditionary Forces as a member of the Legion. Headquartered in Indianapolis, the Legion is one of the largest veteran's organizations with 2.4 million members in 14,000 Posts worldwide. When you add Legion volunteers, the number swells to over 4 million. General MacArthur, and Presidents Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Ford, Carter, and both Bush Presidents were all members of The American Legion.

Posts. The Post, like our Chapter, is the basic unit of the Legion, usually representing a town or part of a county. It's used for formal meetings and as a coordination point for community service projects; some Posts have bars open for limited hours.

Departments. The Posts are grouped together into a state level organization - a Department. There are 55 Departments, one for each of the 50 states, DC, Puerto Rico, France, Mexico, and the Philippines. Departments are organized into **Divisions** or **Districts** to facilitate administration.

Membership in the Legion is for honorably discharged and current personnel of the armed services who have served at least one day of active duty during a wartime period as defined by Congress. Annual membership costs \$25, but you can get a "Paid Up for Life" membership cost based on your age and the amount of your Post's dues. For example, if the member's current dues are \$25 and he's 67 years old, the monthly payment would be \$16.28 (from the monthly rate table). If the member wants to pay in full, it would be \$586 (\$16.28 x 36 months).

In addition to its regular membership, The Legion also has two volunteer arms – **The American Legion Auxiliary**, composed of women who are immediate family members of Legion member or a deceased veteran, and the **Sons of the American Legion**, males of all ages whose parents or grandparents served in the US military and were eligible for Legion membership. These volunteers work with local Posts to help with service programs or wherever needed.

Some of the programs executed by the Legion have national recognition such as American Legion Baseball and Boys and Girls States but it also has strong Americanism, Scouting (all types), Junior ROTC, VAVS, and Scholarship programs. [www.legion.org]

Many MOPH Chapters meet at Legion Posts – a gracious arrangement that has been a great benefit to the Order.

NOTE FROM THE AMERICANISM OFFICER

Lately, we have received several last minute requests for Americanism items. Members are reminded to place ALL orders for Americanism items at least 30 days in advance of needing the items. It is National HQ policy to ship these items at regular postal rates in order to hold down shipping costs, which are paid by MOPH. When members submit emergency requests, it leads to increased postal fees that could be avoided by more attentive planning. Following this simple 30 day rule will save money for other needs and we thank the membership for assisting in this effort. Ron Siebel



MOPH CALENDAR

COMBAT-WOUNDED VETERANS HELPING VETERANS

5413-B BACKLICK ROAD
SPRINGFIELD, VA 22151

Phone: 703-642-5360
Fax: 703-642-2054
E-mail: info@purpleheart.org

WAR BIRDS



Republic's P-47 Thunderbolt, also known as the "Jug," built in greater quantities than any other US fighter, was the heaviest single engine fighter to go into production, and the first piston engine aircraft to exceed 500 MPH. It was designed by two Russian immigrants who left their homeland to escape the Bolsheviks. The P-47 worked in all allied theaters, escorting bombers over Germany and Japan and shooting up ground targets throughout Europe. One of its outstanding features was its remarkable acceleration when diving, allowing it to catch up with an evading prey and blast it with eight 50-cal machine guns.

The last of the 15,686 **Thunderbolts** was produced in 1945, each costing about \$85,000 (\$1.04 million today). P-47s were used in the air forces of 21 countries, including the US, France, the UK, and China.

JULY 2011

- 01..... CONVENTION REGISTRATION DEADLINE
- 04..... INDEPENDENCE DAY - HQ CLOSED
- 08..... HOTEL SAINT PAUL RESERVATION DEADLINE FOR BEST RATE
- 09..... NFC FY 2012 BUDGET MEETING, ALEXANDRIA, VA
- 09..... INVESTMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

AUGUST 2011

- 01..... MAGAZINE DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER ISSUE
- 07..... PURPLE HEART DAY
- 09-13..... NATIONAL CONVENTION, SAINT PAUL MN

SEPTEMBER 2011

- 08..... LABOR DAY - HQ CLOSED
- 09..... NURSES MEMORIAL & RECEPTION, ARLINGTON NATL CEMETERY
- 09-10..... NATIONAL COMMANDER'S LEADERSHIP, ALEXANDRIA, VA
- 11..... PATRIOT DAY

OCTOBER 2011

- 01..... MAGAZINE DEADLINE FOR NOV/DEC ISSUE
- 10..... COLUMBUS DAY OBSERVED - HQ CLOSED
- 19..... INVESTMENT COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL
- 24..... UNITED NATIONS DAY

NOVEMBER 2011

- 08..... ELECTION DAY
- 10..... MARINE CORPS 235TH BIRTHDAY
- 11..... VETERANS DAY - HQ CLOSED
- 24-25..... THANKSGIVING - HQ CLOSED

DECEMBER 2011

- 01..... MAGAZINE DEADLINE FOR JAN/FEB ISSUE
- 07..... PEARL HARBOR DAY
- 20..... HANUKKAH BEGINS
- 25-26..... CHRISTMAS - HQ CLOSED

JANUARY 2012

- 01..... HAPPY NEW YEAR
- 12..... LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY
- 16..... MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY - HQ CLOSED
- 25..... INVESTMENT COMMITTEE TELECONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 2012

- 01..... MAGAZINE DEADLINE FOR MAR/APR ISSUE
- 20..... PRESIDENT'S DAY - HQ CLOSED
- 22..... WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY
- 24..... FLAG DAY

MARCH 2012

- 15-23..... ANNUAL NSO TRAINING, ORLANDO FL

2012 NATIONAL CONVENTION, SCOTTSDALE AZ..... AUGUST 7-11, 2012

2013 NATIONAL CONVENTION, ROGERS, AR..... AUGUST 6-10, 2013