



# THE PURPLE HEARTBEAT NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS' NEWSLETTER

## GLIMPSE OF COMBAT IN AFGHANISTAN

A New York Times reporter recently wrote about our Marines operating in remote Helmand Province, leading the offensive in Taliban territory.

“Taliban fighters here are well trained and battle-hardened, and many American units face daily firefights. But the insurgent’s bombs have been even worse than their bullets, and every move the Marines make now must come slowly, deliberately. Clustered tightly on trails, each one taking care to step in the footprint of the man before him, the Marines squint at every bump in the dirt in case it hides an improvised explosive device.”



“One of our sergeants turned around, he planted his foot just outside the trail and lost both legs,” said an officer with the Third Battalion, Fifth Marines. Standard procedure now is for the men to shuffle their feet in a small circle when they must turn – a profound and dangerous frustration for a Marine force whose fighting philosophy is based on quick maneuvering.

One company encountered as many as 15 improvised explosive devices in a day. Four months into their seven-month tour here, one platoon had nearly a quarter of its men either wounded or killed. The loss of limbs is so common that the men refer to “amps,” “double amps” and “triple amps” to describe their comrades’ conditions.

Many of the explosives are designed to be triggered by a pressure plate made of wood and plastic foam, a very common design that makes the bomb nearly invisible to metal detectors. “The batteries are the only thing you can find, and they bury them up to 10 feet off the trail, connecting them with low metallic speaker wire,” another sergeant commented. “The metal detectors are often useless: we call them confidence boosters,” one officer said, with a grim laugh.

“I hate it when it rains,” Cpl. David Hernandez said, “The dirt runs together. We can’t see where they’ve dug in the IED’s.”

[Excerpted from “In Afghanistan, Insurgents Let Bombs Do Fighting” By Michael Kamber, The New York Times, January 18, 2011]



THIS NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED EVERY MONTH EXCEPT AUGUST. ALL ADJUTANTS AND COMMANDERS RECEIVE A COPY OF THE NEWSLETTER. ADJUTANTS RECEIVE THE SPECIFIC CHAPTER/DEPARTMENT INFORMATION.

### ALSO ENCLOSED:

- ♦ **CHAPTERS:** *January 2011 Roster of Monthly Changes*
- ♦ **DEPARTMENTS:** *January 2011 Membership Status Report & Chapters Roster of Monthly Changes*

### Inside this issue:

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## IT’S NOW FOREVER!



The Purple Heart Stamp is now a **Forever** stamp - keeping its value at the price purchased whenever used. Goes on sale May 2, 2011.

## NATIONAL ADJUTANT'S CALL . . .

Dear Patriots,

- **National Leadership Visits ICU, Walter Reed Army Medical Center.** Arranged and coordinated by Chapter 353 Member Steve Cobb, NC Clayton Jones, SVC Bill Hutton and JVC Bruce McKenty made personal visits to critically wounded Soldiers, Marines, and their families on Friday, 28 January in the ICU at WRAMC, Washington, DC. It was, by all reports, a very sobering experience. I observed that the Staff and facility at Walter Reed are delivering 1st class medical care to our wounded and their accompanying families. Our MOPH party was able to also converse briefly with CO and the CSM.
- **Purple Heart Forever Stamp.** I commend all of you who worked so hard in getting the Post Office to issue the Purple Heart Stamp as a **Forever** Stamp. Your voices, added to the many similar appeals by members of other military fraternal organizations, were instrumental in getting the stamp approved. Sales of the stamp will begin on May 2 in San Diego, CA. A possible East Coast ceremony is in the planning stages.
- **Recruiting.** Recruiting is a primary mission at all levels, but particularly at the Chapter level whose members interact with local VA facilities and the surrounding community. I know that recruiting new members is not easy, but the stark truth is that organizations that cannot replace their membership losses are on the path to extinction. Make sure that I know your material needs for recruiting and I'll try to meet them.
- **NSO Training.** Plans are underway to gather all of our NSOs (over 130) for five days of training in Florida at the end of March. This annual event is vital to ensuring the professionalism of each NSO when dealing with client veterans. As you're all aware, the work of our NSOs, the VAVS Program, and other Chapter efforts to help veterans is interlaced and mutually supporting.
- **Major Change to Posting Cell Phones for Soldiers.** Do not post your collected cell phones **until** your representatives download new FEDEX labels that will credit MOPH. New instructions are on the MOPH website.

Yours in Patriotism,  
Jack Leonard

### HAVE YOU HEARD?

On March 1, 2013, VA will stop issuing paper checks to comply with a Department of Treasury policy. Veterans and other beneficiaries who do not have electronic payments for their Federal benefits by that time will receive their funds via a pre-paid debit card. Called the **Direct Express card**, it is issued by Commercial Bank as the financial agent of the U.S. Treasury. As a prelude to converting to totally paperless payments, those receiving VA compensation or pension benefits for the first time after May 1, 2011 will automatically receive the benefits electronically. Anyone already receiving Federal benefit payments electronically will be unaffected by the change.



To learn more about the Federal government's switch to direct deposit – or to change VA benefits to direct deposit -- visit [www.GoDirect.org](http://www.GoDirect.org). Information about the Federal government's "Go Direct" campaign is also available at 1-800-333-1795. Along with payments for VA benefits, the change will also affect recipients of payments from Social Security, Supplemental Security Income, Railroad Retirement Board, and Office of Personnel Management.

### CORRECT E-MAIL ADDRESS FOR SENDING MATERIAL TO PURPLE HEART MAGAZINE

Use [magazine@purpleheart.org](mailto:magazine@purpleheart.org) vice [editor@purpleheart.org](mailto:editor@purpleheart.org) as directed on page 21 of the January/February 2011 edition of the magazine.





**79<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL CONVENTION  
AUGUST 9-13, 2011  
CONVENTION REGISTRATION  
(NOT FOR HOTEL REGISTRATION)**

**\*\*\* REGISTER EARLY-SAVE \$20.00 \*\*\***

CROWNE PLAZA SAINT PAUL  
RIVERFRONT  
11 EAST KEELLOGG BOULEVARD  
SAINT PAUL, MN 55101  
RESERVE BY: **1 July 2011**  
1.800.227.6963  
REFERENCE GROUP CODE: Z15  
OR: MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART  
RATE SINGLE OR DOUBLE: \$129.00 TAX

**\*\*\* REGISTRATIONS RECEIVED AFTER 1 JULY WILL BE CONSIDERED LATE \*\*\***  
**\*\*\* Members Must Pay Registration Fee to receive meeting materials and attend meetings! \*\*\***

**FIRST TIME MOPH NATIONAL CONVENTION ATTENDEE - Purple Heart Recipient Member Only:**  
(Please **initial** only if this is your very first MOPH National Convention)

	Price	Qty	=	Total
MOPH/ASSOCIATE/LAMOPH EARLY REGISTRATION FEE.....	\$40.00	x _____	=	\$ _____
MOPH/ASSOCIATE/LAMOPH LATE REGISTRATION FEE.....	\$60.00	x _____	=	\$ _____
<i>THE FOLLOWING EVENTS ARE OPTIONAL (CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS APPLY) - HOPE YOU CAN PARTICIPATE AND ENJOY</i>				
<b>Tuesday,</b> 8-09 - Commander's MOPH First Time Attendee Lunch.....				Yes No
<b>Wednesday,</b> 8-10 - Commander's Breakfast (Current Department Commanders-Only) .....				Yes No
<b>Wednesday,</b> 8-10 - PNC/PNP Luncheon [No charge for PNC/PNP].....				PNC PNP
Stuffed Pork Chop.....	\$25.00	x _____	=	\$ _____
Meatloaf with Horseradish Browne Sauce.....	\$25.00	x _____	=	\$ _____
<b>Friday,</b> 8-12 - Ladies' Tea.....				Yes No
Ladies' Tea - Without Paid Registration.....	\$20.00	x _____	=	\$ _____
<b>Saturday,</b> 8-13 - BANQUET *** Must Purchase by Noon, Thursday 11 August 2011 ***				
Grilled Sirloin.....	\$35.00	x _____	=	\$ _____
Baked Salmon Filet.....	\$35.00	x _____	=	\$ _____
				<b>TOTAL PAYMENT DUE \$ _____</b>

PLEASE PRINT:

**MOPH** Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Member No: \_\_\_\_\_ PNC

Name

Title on Badge: \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter#: \_\_\_\_\_ Dept: \_\_\_\_\_

MOPH Title (One Title only please) or put Guest if not a member

**ASSOCIATE** Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Member No: \_\_\_\_\_

Title on Badge: \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter #: \_\_\_\_\_ Dept: \_\_\_\_\_

MOPH Title (One Title only please) or put Guest if not a member

**LAMOPH** Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Member No.: \_\_\_\_\_ PNP

Name

Title on Badge: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit#: \_\_\_\_\_ Dept: \_\_\_\_\_

LAMOPH Title (One Title only please) or Guest if not a member

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to "M.O.P.H. National Convention" or include credit card information:

Credit Card (Check one): Am Exp \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_ Discover \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expires \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (Required) \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**For Early Registration Mail NLT 24 June 2011 to  
MOPH National HQ, 5413-B Backlick Road, Springfield, VA 22151**

2/10/2011

Preliminary Schedules for National Convention, St. Paul, Minnesota  
9 - 13 August 2011

**MOPH****TUESDAY, AUGUST 9**

8:00 — 5:00 Vendors and Exhibitors  
 9:00 — 5:00 Registration, HQ Office  
 9:00 — 11:30 National Finance Committee  
 11:30 — 1:00 **New Attendee Lunch Buffet**  
 1:30 — 3:00 *NFC Continuation if required*  
 3:00 — 5:00 National Executive Committee  
 7:00 — 8:00 **Joint MOPH/LAMOPH Opening**  
 8:00 — 11:00 Hospitality

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10**

6:30 Religious Observances  
 6:30 — 8:00 Hospitality  
 7:00 — 8:30 **NC Breakfast (Dept Cmdrs)**  
 8:00 — 5:00 National Office  
 8:00 — 5:00 Vendors and Exhibitors  
 8:30 — 11:30 Convention Business Session  
 12:00 — 1:30 **PNC/PNP Lunch**  
 1:30 — 5:30 Convention Business Session-Workshops  
     5:30 Legislative Committee  
     6:00 National Public Relations Committee  
     7:00 Bylaws Committee  
 6:00 — 11:00 Hospitality

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 11**

6:30 Religious Observances  
 6:30 — 8:00 Hospitality  
 6:30 — 8:00 **Time and Place Committee**  
 8:00 — 11:30 Convention Business Session  
 8:00 — 12:00 National Office  
 8:00 — 5:00 Vendors and Exhibitors  
 1:00 — Local Event or Free Time  
 6:00 — 11:00 Hospitality

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 12**

6:30 Religious Observances  
 6:30 — 8:00 Hospitality  
 8:00 — 12:00 Convention Business Session  
 8:00 — 3:00 National Office  
 8:00 — 3:00 Vendors and Exhibitors  
 1:00 — 3:30 Regional Caucuses  
 4:00 — 5:00 **Memorial Service**  
 6:00 — 11:00 Hospitality

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 13**

6:30 Religious Observances  
 6:30 — 8:00 Hospitality  
 8:00 — 11:00 Convention Business Session  
 11:00 — 12:30 National Executive Committee  
 1:30 — 3:30 National Finance Committee  
 4:00 Catholic Service  
 6:00 **Reception**  
 7:00 **Banquet (Suit/Tie/Black Tie)**

**LAMOPH****TUESDAY, AUGUST 9**

8:00 — 5:00 Vendors and Exhibitors  
 9:00 — 5:00 Registration, HQ Office  
 1:00 — 3:00 National Finance Committee  
 3:00 — 5:00 National Executive Committee  
 7:00 — 8:00 **Joint MOPH/LAMOPH Opening**  
 8:00 — 11:00 Hospitality

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10**

6:30 Religious Observances  
 6:30 — 8:00 Hospitality  
 8:00 — 5:00 National Office  
 8:00 — 5:00 Vendors and Exhibitors  
 8:30 — 12:00 Convention Business Session  
 12:00 — 1:30 **PNC/PNP Lunch**  
 1:30 — 5:30 Convention Business Session  
 6:00 — 11:00 Hospitality

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 11**

6:30 Religious Observances  
 6:30 — 8:00 Hospitality  
 8:00 — 12:00 Convention Business Session  
 8:00 — 12:00 National Office  
 8:00 — 5:00 Vendors and Exhibitors  
 1:00 — Local Event or Free Time  
 6:00 — 11:00 Hospitality

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 12**

6:30 Religious Observances  
 6:30 — 8:00 Hospitality  
 8:00 — 12:00 Convention Business Session  
 8:00 — 3:00 National Office  
 8:00 — 3:00 Vendors and Exhibitors  
 1:00 — 3:00 **LAMOPH Tea**  
 4:00 — 5:00 **Memorial Service**  
 6:00 — 11:00 Hospitality

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 13**

6:30 Religious Observances  
 6:30 — 8:00 Hospitality  
 8:00 — 11:00 Convention Business Session  
 11:00 — 12:30 National Executive Committee  
 1:30 — 3:30 LAMOPH VAVS Meeting  
 4:00 Catholic Service  
 6:00 **Reception**  
 7:00 **Banquet –Dress Accordingly**

**MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART**  
**79TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION**  
**9-13 AUGUST 2011**  
**CONVENTION BOOK ADVERTISING**

**DEADLINE: May 31, 2011**

Make checks payable to:  
 National Convention,  
 Department of Minnesota

Mail Checks to: Military Order of the Purple Heart (Attn Bob Connor)  
 20 West 12th Street, Room 134  
 Saint Paul, MN 55155

<b><u>LOCATION</u></b>	<b><u>RATE</u></b>	<b><u>SIZES</u></b>	<b><u>AD CONTACT INFORMATION</u></b>	<b><u>AD SPECS</u></b>
Full Page.....	\$300.....	8.5 x11	Pat Laurel	Color or Black/White
Half Page.....	\$150...	7.625 x 4.875	175 W. Kellogg Boulevard	PDF, Illustrator or EPS File
Quarter Page.....	\$75.....	3.685 x 4.875	Suite 502	Journal Book size 8 x 11
Eighth Page.....	\$50....	3.685 x 2.3125	Saint Paul, MN 55102	
Sixteenth Page.....	\$25....	3.685 x1.03125	Email: plaurel@visitsaintpaul.com Phone: 800-627-6101 x 4921	

**ADVERTISER CONTACT INFORMATION**

Name of Organization or Supporter: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Contact (if Org) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Numbers: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**ANNUAL FILING FORMS**



The Chapter and Department Election Forms are updated and can be downloaded from the website. To download the forms, put the mouse cursor on “Members” and click “Download Forms & Documents” from the drop down menu. The forms are under Blank Chapter and Department Forms. You do not have to log in to access the forms. Electronic signatures are accepted.

The rest of the MOPH annual filing forms are in the process of being revised. Please do not use them until advised.

As in the past three years, the Chapter and Department Adjutants will receive a computer disk in the mail around the 2nd or 3rd week of March 2011. We no longer provide hard copies of the forms. The Departments should contact their chapters and assist with accessing, printing and completing the annual filing forms.

For Chapters and Departments that do not want to receive the disk and prefer to download all the forms from the website, please send an email to [memberships@purpleheart.org](mailto:memberships@purpleheart.org) with the subject line as in the example below.

Example: Subject: No Annual Forms Disc for Chapter 1  
 Subject: No Annual Forms Disc for Department of CT

**“Strike the tent.”**



The last words of General Robert E. Lee, Commander Confederate Army, on his deathbed on October 12, 1870. Lee never discussed the war nor wrote about his war-time experiences despite many offers of money for his memoirs which an adoring public would have read. He is buried in the chapel of Washington and Lee University.



# UPCOMING MOPH EVENTS

## FEBRUARY 2011

- 15..... SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE
- 21..... PRESIDENTS' DAY OBSERVED, HQ CLOSED
- 22..... WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

## MARCH 2011

- 12 ..... SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING, ST. LOUIS MO
- 25..... LEADERSHIP EXECUTIVE MEETING, ARLINGTON VA
- 26..... NFC MID-YEAR MEETING, ARLINGTON VA
- 27-31..... ANNUAL NATIONAL SERVICE TRAINING, ORLANDO FL

## APRIL 2011

- 1..... MAGAZINE DEADLINE FOR MAY/JUNE ISSUE
- 1..... END OF SERVICE TRAINING
- 20..... INVESTMENT COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL

## MAY 2011

- (TBA) ..... DEPARTMENT CONVENTIONS
- 10-13..... MOPHSF MID-YEAR BUDGET REVIEW, MYRTLE BEACH, SC
- 30..... MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVED—HQ CLOSED

## JUNE 2011

- (TBA) ..... DEPARTMENT CONVENTIONS
- 1..... MAGAZINE DEADLINE FOR JULY/AUGUST ISSUE

## JULY 2011

- 09..... NFC FY 2012 BUDGET MEETING, ARLINGTON, VA
- 09..... INVESTMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

## AUGUST 2011

- 1..... MAGAZINE DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER ISSUE
- 7..... PURPLE HEART DAY
- 9-13..... NATIONAL CONVENTION, ST PAUL MN

## SEPTEMBER 2011

- 9..... NURSES MEMORIAL & RECEPTION, ARLINGTON NATL CEMETERY
- 9-10..... NATIONAL COMMANDER'S LEADERSHIP, ALEXANDRIA, VA

## OCTOBER 2011

- 01..... MAGAZINE DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER ISSUE
- 19..... INVESTMENT COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL

## NOVEMBER 2011

- 11..... VETERANS DAY - HQ CLOSED

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

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

## 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



This light attack bomber began its life in 1942 as the **Douglas A-26 Invader** and served in both European and Pacific theaters in WW II. It was unusual as it was designed as single pilot aircraft. It had two basic configurations - one with a glass or bombardier nose for conventional bombing missions and one with a solid nose for tactical and close air support roles, bristling with machine guns and cannons. After WW II, it was renamed the **B-26 Invader** and its hard nose version participated in the Korean War with the USAF, joined the French Air Force in the first Indo-China War, worked for CIA in its support of Indonesian rebels, returned to Indo-China with CIA operations in both Laos and Vietnam; and, finally, used by the CIA to support the Bay of Pigs Invasion of Cuba in 1961.

### A CIVIL WAR MOMENT



“The soldier’s body was found near the center of Gettysburg with no identification - no regimental numbers on his cap, no corps badge on his jacket, no letters, no diary. Nothing save for an ambrotype (an early type of photograph) of three small children clutched in his hand.” (Errol Morris, “Whose Father Was He,” NY Times)