



THE PURPLE HEARTBEAT
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS NEWSLETTER

NATIONAL ADJUTANT'S CALL . . .

Dear Patriots,

Veterans' Day. As you know, 11 November is Veterans' Day and Departments and Chapters should be planning how to observe it, trying to make MOPH as visible as possible. Uniformed Patriots always make any effort impressive and you can order shirts, hats, badges, jackets, etc. from our authorized vendors advertising in the Purple Heart Magazine. Check in with your local community planners for their activities - participation in a local parade or other ceremonies might be an excellent opportunity. Recruit one of your members who is camera savvy to take photos for submission to the Magazine along with your story of the event. The Procedures Manual has detailed instructions on how to submit material.

Aide-de-Camp Appointments. Page 3 lists the Departments that need to make such appointments. Aide-de-Camps are a valuable component in executing MOPH's mission and Commanders need to fill the outstanding slots ASAP.

Procedures Manual. Junior Vice Commander Ron Siebels is revising this Manual for reissue next year and you can help by sending him any ideas for its improvement. As I've said repeatedly, good ideas can come from every level of the Order and you're encouraged to submit them. You can mail material to Ron at 1945 N Salem Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508-5180 or email submissions to: ronakph@gci.net.

First Responders Program. I'd like to recognize MOPH Public Safety Officer Harry Smart's recent improvements to this vital MOPH Program that honors community heroes by standardizing the awards and simplifying the request procedures. The revised SOP and forms can be found under "Programs" on our website. I encourage all Commanders to assist Harry in expanding this program nationwide. Well done, Harry.

Voice of Warriors (VOW). VOW is an organization that has the goal of making the general population aware of the obstacles veterans and their families face in day to day living. It addresses such topics as military suicide, TBI, PTSD and multiple deployments to war zones. VOW helps veterans connect with the resources available at local and national levels and tries to help veterans flourish in the communities where they reside. For more information, go to: http://www.voiceofwarriors.com.

Yours in Patriotism,
Jack Leonard



THIS NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED EVERY MONTH EXCEPT AUGUST, BUT ONLY IN DIGITAL FORMAT. ALL ADJUTANTS AND COMMANDERS WILL RECEIVE A DIGITAL COPY VIA EMAIL. IT ALSO CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM THE MOPH WEBSITE AND PRINTED FOR LOCAL DISTRIBUTION.

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ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING VETERANS - ONE OF A SERIES

WOUNDED WARRIOR PROJECT

The Wounded Warrior Project (WWP)'s mission is to honor and empower wounded warriors of the United States Armed Forces. Its motto keys its operations: "The greatest casualty is being forgotten." Many Patriots are aware of WWP because of its widespread fundraising efforts by mail, often mentioning the Purple Heart Medals of those it supports and sometimes including a Purple Heart stamp to be used on the return envelope. Its website states that 82% of funds received is spent on services and programs for Wounded Warriors and their families.

WWP works to raise awareness and enlist the public's aid for the needs of severely injured servicemen and women, to help severely injured service members aid and assist each other and to provide unique, direct programs and services to meet their needs. It was started in 2002 in Roanoke VA by a small group of individuals moved by the news of the difficulties being experienced by service members returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. Its initial effort was to develop its trademark activity, delivering backpacks full of supplies and other items to bedsides of injured servicemen and women. It now has widespread individual and corporate financial support and operates out of six locations: New York City (Headquarters), Washington (legislative actions), Jacksonville, Chicago, San Antonio, and San Diego.



Here are some of the programs being offered by WWP:

TRACK offers an integrated approach to address long term needs for education and training, advocacy and secondary rehabilitative care for mind, body and spirit. It offers a range of college classes and services customized to their needs, helping them build career skills and continued recovery towards a more independent life. Warriors attend classes as a group, permitting shared experiences.

Transition Training Academy (TTA) was established as a joint effort by WWP, the Department of Labor and other agencies. WWP administers the program as part of their service to servicemen and women wounded/injured on active duty. TTA concentrates on IT training and job placement after training.

Project Odyssey helps veterans overcome combat stress through outdoor rehabilitative retreats that encourage a connection with nature, our peers, Odyssey staff and trained counselors. Programs are offered in regional, national and international venues.

Other programs involve peer mentoring, benefits counseling, a resource center, disabled sports program and an aggressive legislative advocacy program that often leads to passing of legislation on recognizing and treating Traumatic Brain Injuries.

Like MOPH and other veterans organizations, WWP is VA accredited and has a network of NSOs to help veterans with their benefit claims and other interactions with the government.

You can find details on all of WWP's programs, its finances and forms to apply for its various services at www.woundedwarriorproject.org.

National Aide-de-Camp Appointments

The National Commander has appointed one National Aide-de-Camp for each Department that nominated one Patriot for consideration.

Their names will be published in the November/December Magazine. The National Commander requests that the following Department Commanders submit their nominations to memberships@purpleheart.org or MOPH, 5413-B, Backlick Rd., Springfield, VA 22151 as soon as possible as the deadline for submission has passed.



Region	Dept
3	Alaska
5	Arkansas
3	Dakotas
6	Asia Pacific
6	Hawaii
3	Idaho
5	Kansas

Region	DeptName
2	Missouri
3	Montana
1	New Jersey
5	New Mexico
1	Northern New England
1	New York
1	Pennsylvania

Region	DeptName
4	The Carribean
1	Rhode Island
4	Tennessee
6	Utah
3	Washington
2	Wisconsin

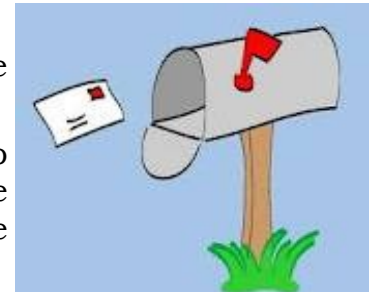
CHAPTERS & DEPARTMENTS LIFE MEMBER REBATE CHECKS

4 checked boxes = Rebate Check

The online Report Tracker has been updated to include Life Member Verification Report.

Congratulations to the Chapters and Departments eligible to receive Rebate checks in November, as they have filed the Life Member Verification Report on time as well as the Election, Finance and IRS 990.

Please direct any questions to your chain of command or the Membership Department at memberships@purpleheart.org.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS

Copies of Membership Applications and supporting documents such as DD214s, Award Orders, etc.. are no longer mailed to Chapters and Departments due to **security and privacy concerns.**

If local storage and privacy issues are of concern, please make arrangements to forward sensitive personnel records of members to HQ (Attn: Membership) for scanning and proper disposal (shredding).

Please direct any questions to your chain of command or the Membership Department at memberships@purpleheart.org.

CIVIL WAR 150

“Go in anywhere, Colonel! You’ll find lovely fighting along the whole line.”

Major General Philip Kearny, USA: To the Colonel of a reinforcing regiment at Seven Pines, 31 May 1862

FREE CANES ON VETERANS DAY

U.S. Military Veterans will be honored this Veterans Day in a national program in which 36,000 state of the art folding canes will be given free of charge to Veterans in need of mobility assistance. *Hugo Salutes Our Veterans* will give out Hugo® Folding Canes to U.S.



Military Veterans at all U.S. Sam's Club locations nationwide from November 9, 2011 through Veterans Day, November 11, 2011 while supplies last. Each Sam's Club will have 60 canes to give out and they will be available on a first come basis. Sam's Club Membership is not required. Proof of U.S. military service may be required in order to be eligible.

Hugo Salutes Our Veterans was started by AMG Medical, a small Georgia based medical equipment company, in 2007 with 5000 canes to honor parents and relatives of the company's employees who served in the US military. The company then expanded the program to all needy veterans, giving out 36,000 canes in both 2010 and now the same in 2011. The cane retails for \$29.99 and is a beautiful patriotic blue. Its ergonomic soft-grip handle provides superior comfort, is appropriate for both left and right hand use and includes a wrist strap for extra confidence. It automatically unfolds and locks in place for use and conveniently folds into four sections for storage. For more details on the program, go to www.hugosalutes.com. To find a Sam's Club near you, visit samsclub.com.

CONTACT INFORMATION - NATIONAL PERSONNEL RECORDS CENTER

The new contact information for the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) is:

National Personnel Records Center

1 Archives Drive
St. Louis MO 63138-1002
Telephone: 314-801-0800
Fax: 314-801-9195
E-mail: MPR.center@nara.gov



The majority of NPRC personnel have moved to their new location and the military personnel records are in the process of moving. The entire move should be completed by the end of Summer 2012.

As a reminder, the preferred method of submitting a request to NPRC is via the internet, eliminating mailroom processing time. You can access this application at:

<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>

NEW DIGITAL INITIATIVES BY VA

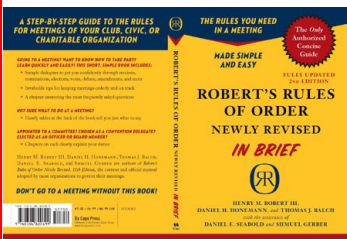
Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record (VLER). VA will expand this program which enables sharing of veterans' health records by adding six additional sites to the current five. It is designed to share health information digitally, safely and privately between VA, DoD and selected private health care facilities. To find out more about VLER, you can call toll-free 1-877-771-8537.

Online Health Benefits Renewal (10-10EZR). VA recently automated this process in an ongoing effort to streamline access to benefits. Previously, you were required to print a copy, sign it and send it to a local medical center before updates could occur. You may now submit updates online. For additional information, go to www.va.gov/healtheligibility or call toll-free 1-877-222-8387. Online form is available at:

<https://www.1010ez.med.va.gov/sec/vha/1010ez/Form/1010ezr.pdf>

ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER 11TH EDITION

Robert's Rules of Order released its full 11th Edition in both hard copy and paperback recently, containing 120 changes from the 10th Edition. Looking at the description of the changes, it appears that such detail in the full edition is not necessary for Chapters and Departments to run their meetings. Instead of buying the full paperback edition (\$11.41 plus postage from Amazon), recommend you get the paperback edition of **Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised in Brief, 2nd Edition** (\$7.50 plus postage) that contains all the essential guidance of the large volume, telling you the most important Rules - the stuff that comes up regularly at meetings - in a concise useable manner. It's very user friendly and one reader commented: "I've already decided that mine is mine alone. Nobody is going to borrow it because it would never come back to me." Details on all editions can be found at www.robertsrules.com.

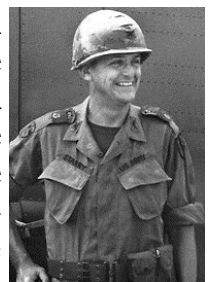


GENERAL DONN A. STARRY, USA - FOUR STAR GENERAL WHO DEVELOPED COLD WAR STRATEGY

Although not a member of MOPH, General Starry's decorations included the Purple Heart, along with the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, two Distinguished Service Medals, the Silver Star, three Legions of Merit, the Bronze Star and the Soldier's Medal. He received the Purple Heart and the Soldier's Medal for his actions on May 5, 1970 during the Cambodian incursion. On that day, he pushed future general Fredrick M. Franks out of the way of a North Vietnamese grenade. General Starry was wounded in the chest and Franks lost his leg, but not his life. Every year, the two men phoned each other on the anniversary of that event. They called each other "the friends of the Fifth of May." [General Franks has been a member of MOPH since 1992.]



General Starry enlisted in the Army as a Private in 1943, but was soon selected for West Point, graduating in 1948. He advanced through the ranks during the Cold War, holding command assignments in Germany and Vietnam, where he led an armored Cavalry regiment. While Commander of the US Army Training and Doctrine Command, he developed the doctrine of *AirLand Battle*, a Cold War strategy for facing off with the Soviet aligned Eastern Bloc countries. Gen Starry looked miles beyond the front, calling for helicopters and smart precision weapons to attack the enemy from the rear. The doctrine was put to test in the early 1990s in the Persian Gulf, where US forces overwhelmed the Iraqi Army. Conrad Crane, Director of the US Army Military History Institute, said that General Starry was one of the "intellectual giants who turned the Army around after Vietnam." General Starry died August 26, 2011 at his home in Canton OH. He was 86. [Excerpted from his obituary by Emily Langer, Washington Post, September 2, 2011]



NEW MERIT COIN AVAILABLE FOR BULK PURCHASE

Chapters and Departments can now make bulk orders for the new Merit Coin to be used in Americanism, fundraising activities and resale to their members. Contact Jennifer at: 703-642-5360 Ext:107 or via email at: supply@purpleheart.org or jpereyra@purpleheart.org

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

CIVIL WAR 150

Historians call them "Witness Trees" on the battlefield at Gettysburg, the dwindling number of trees that were present when the titanic 1863



battle took place. Park officials recently found a new one - although fallen - with two bullets still embedded in the trunk 148 years later.

The bullets were found in an old oak tree that had toppled on Culp's Hill, scene of bitter fighting on July 2 & 3, 1863. The fighting at Culp's Hill was so savage, involving 12,000 men, that for years after the battle visitors would go there to see the shot-up and shattered trees in the forest.

"Each soldier had around 60 rounds of ammunition and everybody expended all of it," said the park historian, John Heiser. "That's a lot of hot lead flying . . . And the trees were the unhappy recipients of most of it."

[Washington Post, August 10, 2011]

OCTOBER 2011

- 24..... UNITED NATIONS DAY
- 28-30 REGION II CONFERENCE, SPRINGBORO OH

NOVEMBER 2011

- 01..... INVESTMENT COMMITTEE TELECONFERENCE
- 03-05 AMERICAN VETERANS CONFERENCE, WASHINGTON DC
- 08..... ELECTION DAY
- 10..... MARINE CORPS 236TH BIRTHDAY
- 11..... VETERANS' DAY - HQ CLOSED
- 17-19 MOPH SERVICE FOUNDATION ANNUAL MEETING, ORLANDO FL
- 24-25 THANKSGIVING - HQ CLOSED

DECEMBER 2011

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

JANUARY 2012

- 01..... HAPPY NEW YEAR
- 02..... HQ CLOSED
- 16..... MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY - HQ CLOSED
- 25..... NFC INVESTMENT COMMITTEE TELECONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 2012

- 01..... MAGAZINE DEADLINE FOR MAR/APR ISSUE
- 12..... LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY
- 14..... SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE
- 20..... PRESIDENT'S DAY - HQ CLOSED
- 22..... WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY
- 24..... FLAG DAY

MARCH 2012

- 15-23 ANNUAL NSO TRAINING, ORLANDO FL
- 24..... NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP MEETING, ST LOUIS MO
- 30..... NATIONAL FINANCE COMMITTEE MID-YEAR MEETING, ALEXANDERIA VA
- TBD MARCH ON THE HILL
- TBD COMMANDER'S PRESENTATION TO JOINT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES, WASHINGTON, DC
- TBD LEADERSHIP EXECUTIVE MEETING, ARLINGTON, VA

APRIL 2012

- 25..... NFC INVESTMENT CONFERENCE CALL

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- 2012 NATIONAL CONVENTION, SCOTTSDALE AZ..... AUGUST 7-11, 2012
 - 2013 NATIONAL CONVENTION, ROGERS AR..... AUGUST 6-10, 2013
 - 2014 NATIONAL CONVENTION, DENVER CO..... AUGUST 5-9, 2014

"I propose to fight it out on this line, if it takes all summer."
General Ulysses S Grant, 11 May 1864, dispatch from Spotsylvania Court-house.