



THE PURPLE HEARTBEAT

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS' NEWSLETTER

NATIONAL ADJUTANT'S CALL

Dear Patriots,

2018 Membership Directory: The Directory is scheduled for delivery in August 2018. For any address changes, please notify the Membership Department and contact PCI Customer Service by calling 1-800-982-1590.

Officer Access at www.purpleheart.org is still DOWN.

- ◆ Commanders and Adjutants, please contact membership@purpleheart.org to request rosters.
- ◆ Please be sure to specify the format (excel or pdf).

Procedures Manual: The Procedures Manual is in the process of being updated by the Bylaws Committee. You will be notified when it has been completed. It will be entitled a "How-to-Manual" and will be posted on the MOPH website.

Chapters & Departments:

- ◆ Please take the time to share your activities with other Purple Hearters by sending your articles and photos for the Purple Hat Press to: communications@purpleheart.org.
- ◆ Kudos to the chapters that have submitted their Election Reports by the April 30th deadline!!

Yours In Patriotism,

Jack

Jack Leonard
National Adjutant MOPH

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Membership Statistics - 5/10/2018

Associate Life Members	2,371
Life Members	43,750
Total Active Members	46,121
New Members since 7/1/2017	1,104
Deceased Members since 7/1/2017	1,871

Region	Total	AS	LM
2	10,530	606	9,924
1	10,320	503	9,817
4	9,912	570	9,342
5	7,441	307	7,134
6	5,312	241	5,071
3	2,468	142	2,326
7	137	1	136

Dept	Total	AS	LM
TX5	4,078	171	3,907
CA-6	3,221	134	3,087
FL-4	2,987	207	2,780
NC-4	2,321	79	2,242
NJ-1	2,213	147	2,066
PA-1	2,142	86	2,056
MI-2	2,017	119	1,898
NY-1	1,847	99	1,748
OH-2	1,795	35	1,760
VA-1	1,437	53	1,384

Chapter	Total	AS	LM
1836-TX-5	807	22	785
0642-NC-4	768	7	761
1919-TX-5	571	28	543
2226-NC-4	497	16	481
0353-VA-1	434	14	420
0455-PA-1	406	8	398
1876-TX-5	386	8	378
0717-FL-4	365	10	355
1513-TX-5	364	25	339
1777-PA-1	335	19	316

MEMBERSHIP MOMENTS

REPORTS !!

DUE DATES !!!

TRACKER !!!



The Membership Department is working diligently to process all of the reports received at HQs. We sincerely appreciate all of our Members' efforts to complete and submit the required reports on time. To ensure that you receive credit, please submit your reports to Headquarters by the due date. Reports can be emailed to membership@purpleheart.org, faxed to (703) 642-1841 or mailed.

FINANCE REPORTS (Property listing, if appropriate) and 990-N filings are the next reports due at HQs:

Chapters—NLT 5/15/2018; **Departments** — NLT 6/6/2018

The Finance Report MUST have **LIVE** signatures for the Commander and Finance Officer. If you have any questions about the 990 filing, please see the 990-N FAQs on the website. Please allow 3-4 weeks for processing reports.

LOG-IN ACCESS: The Officer access to the online membership system is still **down**, but you can access your account, check the Tracker and go shopping.

If you require a member roster (Commanders and Adjutants), please submit the request to the Membership Department, include the chapter or department name, and the format (pdf or excel).



MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

CHARTERED BY CONGRESS
DEPARTMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN-PUERTO RICO
PO Box 2117 San German, PR 00683-2117
Cel (787) 257-2392



April 30,2018

Subject : Patriots visit to Puerto Rico after Maria

MOPH PR-Caribbean Department wish to thank everyone within the Military Order of the Purple Heart, USA for their support and let everyone within the organization know that National Commander Neil Van Ess and “the Order” were humbly and proudly represented by patriots JVC Felix Garcia III, Reg IV Commander Lee R. Brown III, Reg V Commander Francisco “Paco” Elizalde, Florida Commander Richard Hunt and Pub. Rel. Director John E. Bircher III. These patriots and brothers in the cause, brought besides and above financial relief the feeling of belief, trust, understanding, humanitarian love and support that emanates from a truly caring and loving heart. We saw the tears in your eyes. **“Big Men” do cry.** That’s what makes them big; when it counts and where it counts.

We understand that even if you wished and tried to be here before as Commander Van Ess planned to do in December or January, you would not have been able to make it. Means of communications were very bad in November, December, January. Required hotel and airlines accommodations were not available. Electricity and water services were from bad to none in many parts of the island and most of all in San Juan. The most significant point is that you finally made it and that your patriotic, individual and team effort is highly regarded and appreciated.

We are missing only a handful of PH recipients in Puerto Rico who are having travel, medical and/or communications problems to reach us. We have made every effort to contact them via telephone call and asking them to meet us at their convenience in the VA Hospital to get their share of the help provided. Those hard to reach we have contacted via their address of record or via reference provided by others. As of three days ago we were missing only three recipients from the list but, I understand that Department Commander Fontanez found out how to get in touch with them. So, your mission taken has been accomplished so far.

THANK YOU. You may have no doubt whatsoever that your efforts have not been a waste, in vain or short of expectations. What should be considered a waste is to think that it has been a waste. THANK YOU, patriots. We THANK YOU and “the Order”.

YIP as spoke person for the MOPH PR-Caribbean Department and approved by Department Commander Ramon Fontanez;

Richard Lopez-Past Commander
Chief of Staff, PR-Caribbean Department
Cell (787) 696-5635
PO Box 2117 San German, 00683-2117

NSP Closure Plan Rescinded

National Service Director Angelo Wider has rescinded the NSP Closure Plan on **May 14th** and advised NSOs to again accept POAs and process Veterans claims.



NSD Wider advises that MOPH will continue to work with the MOPH Leadership Team, and the Area Managers on program optimization and efficiencies. Fundraising is still a major issue and NSP Managers are encouraged to work with local MOPH Departments and Chapters to identify potential sources of funding, state grants, donations (no direct solicitations from Veterans clients) or contributions from Departments and Chapters.

NSD will however, continue to work with the MOPH Leadership Team, and the Area Managers on program optimization and efficiencies. HQ MOPH and NSD will continue to look at our locations, functions and resources. Changes will be made where it is economically beneficial to do so.

VA Announces Whole Health Flagship Sites

Personalized Plan Puts Veterans in Control of their Health Care

WASHINGTON – Today the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs released the names of 18 facilities designated [VA Whole Health Flagship Sites](#), which are spread around the country within the VA health-care system and are focused on empowering and equipping Veterans to take charge of their health and well-being.

As VA shifts from a health-care system focused primarily on treating disease to one guided by a personalized health plan that considers the physical, mental, emotional, spiritual and environmental needs of Veterans, the [Whole Health System](#) acknowledges that health care involves more than the physical human body.

“VA’s Whole Health approach helps Veterans live their lives to the fullest,” said VA Acting Secretary Robert Wilkie. “By developing a personal health plan that integrates many areas of their lives, Veterans can truly take charge of their well being and improve their health all around. I’m pleased to recognize these VA facilities that are helping our Veterans do just that.”

To view entire article, click: <https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=4059>

“On Wednesday, the House of Representatives passed the VA Mission Act of 2018. We thank all Patriots and supporters who participated in the Voter Action Alert for this important bill. Your voice makes a difference! The bill now moves on to the Senate for final passage. For more information, see the press release below.”

QUESTIONS: CONTACT NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR: ALEKSMOROSKY@PURPLEHEART.ORG



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON **VETERANS' AFFAIRS** *Chairman Phil Roe, M.D.*

For Planning Purposes
Wednesday, May 16, 2018

Contact: [Tiffany Haverly](#)
[View Online](#)

House Passes Roe's Bipartisan Legislation to Provide Veterans With Timely Access to Quality Care

Washington, D.C. - Today, Rep. Phil Roe, M.D. (R-Tenn.), Chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, released the following statement after the House passed his legislation, S. 2372, the John S. McCain III, Daniel K. Akaka, and Samuel R. Johnson VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks (VA MISSION) Act, on a 347-70 vote:

“The men and women who served this country deserve a VA that works for them. Over the last several months, we've taken great, bipartisan steps to reform the department, and this legislation is yet another strong step in the right direction. It keeps our promise to give veterans more choice in their health care while building on our strong investment in VA's internal capacity. Additionally, the legislation includes funding for the Choice Program to ensure veterans have continuity of care during the transition to the new, easier-to-use community care program established under the VA MISSION Act. This bill also paves the way for a non-partisan and comprehensive review of the department's assets. This review was a recommendation put forward by the bipartisan Commission on Care and will ensure VA has the resources needed to serve our nation's heroes for years to come. Finally, the bill expands VA's post-9/11 caregiver program to veterans of all eras, providing equity for all generations of veterans and their caregivers.

“It was a true privilege to honor Senators John McCain and Daniel Akaka and Congressman Sam Johnson by amending the title of this legislation. Each of these men have shown true statesmanship and bipartisanship in their advocacy on behalf of our nation's veterans, and their stories are examples to all of us. In changing the full title of the VA MISSION Act, we honor Senator Akaka's memory and the legacies of Senator McCain and Congressman Johnson.

“I couldn't be prouder of the compromise bill the House passed today, and I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for their support. I'm also grateful to President Trump and his administration for their input and assistance on this important legislation. I'm especially grateful to Senators Isakson and Tester for being invaluable partners throughout this process. Without their hard work, dedication and willingness to work together on a compromise, we would not be here today, on the verge of finally delivering the kind of health care veterans deserve. Finally, I thank our veterans service organization partners for their tireless advocacy. Their input has made this bill better, and I look forward to seeing the Senate send this bill to President Trump's desk.”

Background: Chairman Roe put forward a manager's amendment to officially change the full title of the legislation to the John S. McCain III, Daniel K. Akaka, and Samuel R. Johnson VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks Act of 2018. The short title will still be the VA MISSION Act.

Read more about the VA MISSION Act [here](#). The VA MISSION Act is supported by more than [three dozen](#) leading veterans service organizations and was passed out of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on a 20-2 vote on May 8, 2018. A section-by-section summary of the legislation can be found [here](#). On May 3, 2018, the day Chairman Roe introduced the legislation, President Trump [tweeted](#) he would sign the bill, “immediately.”

###



**86TH MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART
& 85TH MOPH AUXILIARY
NATIONAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION
July 30th - August 3rd, 2018
Spokane, WA**



REGISTER EARLY AND SAVE \$ 20.00 - DEADLINE JUNE 26TH, 2018

MOPH: ASSOCIATE: MOPHA: PNC / PNP:

Name: _____ Member ID: _____

Badge Title: _____ Chapter / Unit No: _____ Department: _____

(Current MOPH / MOPHA Title PLEASE)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Please Initial if this is your First Time Attending a National Convention: MOPH MOPHA

Guest: _____ Badge Title: _____

DATE	SESSIONS	MOPH	MOPHA		QTY	TOTAL
Now - June 26th	EARLY Registration Fee*	\$55.00	\$55.00	X		
June 27th Onwards	LATE Registration Fee* <i>*All members must pay registration fee to attend meetings and receive materials.</i>	\$75.00	\$75.00	X		
Monday July 30th	First Time Attendee Luncheon <i>No Charge - First Time MOPH Attendee ONLY!</i>	Free		X		
Tuesday July 31st	National Commanders Breakfast <i>No Charge - Current Department Commanders ONLY!</i>	Free		X		
	Past National Commander / President Luncheon <i>No Charge for PNC / PNP</i>	Free	Free	X		
	<i>Spouses and Guests ALL encouraged to attend - Pecan Crusted Chicken.....</i>	\$45.00	\$45.00	X		
	<i>New York Steak.....</i>	\$45.00	\$45.00	X		
	<i>Vegetarian Meal.....</i>	\$45.00	\$45.00	X		
Thursday August 2nd	Auxiliary Tea <i>(No Charge with Paid MOPHA Registration)</i> <i>Spouses and Guests Welcome with Paid Ticket - Auxiliary Tea.....</i>	\$50.00	\$50.00	X		
Friday August 3rd	National Convention Banquet <i>Cedar Plank Salmon.....</i>	\$60.00	\$60.00	X		
	<i>Mesquite Smoked & Roasted Angus Prime Rib.....</i>	\$60.00	\$60.00	X		
	<i>Vegetarian Meal.....</i>	\$60.00	\$60.00	X		
** Request for REFUNDS on any PAID Sessions Noted Above will not be Honored AFTER June 26th! **						Total:

Payment Options - Make Checks Payable to "MOPH National Convention"

**DEADLINE
JUNE 26th!**

Please Mail in your Registration Form to:
Military Order of the Purple Heart, 5413-B Backlick Road, Springfield VA 22151
PH: 703-642-5360 or 888-668-1656 Fax: 703-642-1841
[Online Registration for the 2018 National Convention](#)

**DEADLINE
JUNE 26th!**

Pay by Credit Card:

American Express: Visa: Mastercard: Discover:

Credit Card No: _____ Expiration: _____ Security Code: _____

Name on Card: _____ Signature (Required): _____

Registration DOES NOT include Hotel Reservations
Call Hotel RL by Red Lion Spokane at the Park Tollfree: 1-800-733-5466 or Local: 509-755-6644
Book online at: bit.ly/2018MOPHhotel
Rooms Must Be Reserved by June 26th, 2018 to receive the convention room rate.

**MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART
86TH NATIONAL CONVENTION
SPOKANE, WA
Monday July 30th – Friday August 3rd, 2018**

Hotel:

Hotel RL by Red Lion Spokane at the Park
303 West North River Drive
Spokane, WA 99201
Tel: (509) 326-8000
Fax: (509) 325-7329
Website: <https://www.redlion.com/park-spokane>



To make a reservation, please call:
Tel: 1-800-733-5466 or 509-755-6644
MOPH Convention Code: 20180726

or use link:

<https://reservations.redlion.com/ibe/details.aspx?hotelID=13746&langID=1&group=20180726&hgID=280&currID=0&dt1=6783&nights=7&rooms=1&adults=1&child1=0>

Room Rates include complimentary airport shuttle, parking, and access to Fitness Center. Free wifi throughout the hotel and refrigerator & microwave in ALL rooms. ADA rooms are limited, please make your reservation early and reserve if these are needed. Please sign up for the Hello Rewards Program at: <https://myhellorewards.redlion.com/Login/SignUp>

	Single / Double Occupancy	Triple Occupancy	Quad Occupancy
Room Rate	\$119.00	\$129.00	\$139.00
Occupancy Tax	\$14.28	\$15.48	\$16.68
Tourism Tax	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00
	\$135.28	\$146.48	\$157.68

Airport shuttle is complimentary. Please provide flight details to hotel after confirmation of hotel is received. Kindly also contact them regarding ANY special needs, ie: ADA shuttle or room requirements etc.

[Deadline for Convention Room Rate: Tuesday June 26, 2018](#)

[Any Questions or availability issues, please contact:](#)

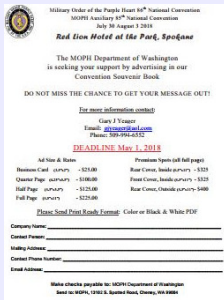
MaryJean Jacob
Hotel RL Spokane at the Park
H: 509-755-6644 or
Email: MaryJean.Jacob@hotel-rl.com

DEPARTMENT OF WASHINGTON

CONVENTION BOOK ADVERTISING

Please support the Department of Washington by purchasing an advertisement in the 2018 Convention Book. Don't miss the chance to get your message out! **Deadline Extended till June 1st, 2018.**

Various sizes/options are available. **CLICK HERE TO PLACE AN AD.**



SIGN UP TO PLAY GOLF! SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

Golf tournament will be at Indian Canyon Golf Course in SW Spokane. **VIEW THE COURSE HERE.**

- ◆ To sign up individually or with a team download **THIS FORM**
- ◆ Sponsorship opportunities available on 4 levels: **CLICK HERE**



CONVENTION COIN & LAPEL PIN

Please Support The Department Of Washington By Purchasing A Set Of Commemorative Items!

The 2018 Convention coin and lapel pin, set available for \$18.00 OR the coin, lapel and fishing lure for \$23.00, shipping included.

CLICK HERE TO BUY



SCOOTERS & WHEELCHAIRS: **RESERVE YOURS NOW!**

Scoters & Wheelchairs can be rented for the week of National Convention. Please call Scooters, Wheelchairs & More at 509-489-6879 to reserve one or email: sales@westernmedicalspecialties.com.

- ◆ Scooters rent: \$150/week
- ◆ Push wheelchairs rent: \$30/week

Online reservations here:
<http://www.westernmedicalspecialties.com>



Free time: CASINO — Sign up for shuttle to/from

Attendees not taking part in the Gold Tournament at Indian Canyon are invited by the Kalispel Tribe of Indians to their Northern Quest Resort and Casino.

To sign up early, e-mail Convention Chair:

GARY YEAGER gjeager@aol.com

[CLICK HERE TO SEE MORE DETAILS ABOUT THE CASINO](#)



AIRPORT:

Spokane International Airport (Code: GEG)
 9000 W. Airport Drive, Suite 204
 Spokane, WA. 99224
 Tel: (509) 455-6455
 Website: <http://spokaneairports.net/>
 Serviced by: Alaska, American, Delta, SouthWest
 & United Airlines (<http://spokaneairports.net/airlines/>)



REGISTRATION

Early registration: \$55.00
 Late registration: \$75.00 *(after June 26th, 2018)*

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER ONLINE](#)

If you prefer not to make an online registration, please download the

[CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM](#), and complete and

- (1) fax to 703-642-1841, (2) mail to MOPH National Headquarters: 5413-B Backlick Road, Springfield, VA 22151 or
- (3) Fill out, scan and email to Membership@purpleheart.org



Purple Heart Truck Run 2018

Click to download the following:

- 1) [Warning Order # 1](#)
- 2) [Proposed Route & Schedule Stops](#)

For additional information contact:

John E. Bircher III
 National Director, Public Relations
 Off/Home: 352-753-5535
 Cell: 352-250-9555



MOPH CALENDAR 2018

MAY 2018

21-22.....PURPLE HEART FOUNDATION SPRING BoD MEETING, JACKSONVILLE, FL.
28 MEMORIAL DAY (NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS CLOSED)

JUNE 2018

18.....NATIONAL FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING, DETROIT, MI
30 END OF FY 2018 GRANT YEAR

JULY 2018

4.....HQs CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY

NATIONAL CONVENTION

30 JULY TO AUGUST 3 IN SPOKANE, WA

HOTEL RL BY RED LION SPOKANE AT THE PARK
303 WEST NORTH RIVER DRIVE
SPOKANE, WA 99201

TEL: (509) 326-8000 & FAX: (509) 325-7329

WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.REDLION.COM/PARK-SPOKANE](https://www.redlion.com/park-spokane)

FUTURE CONVENTIONS

2018 NATIONAL CONVENTION, SPOKANE, WA.....JULY 30—AUGUST 3
2019 NATIONAL CONVENTION, BRANSON, MO.....JULY 15—JULY 19
2020 NATIONAL CONVENTION, CHARLESTON, WVJULY 27—JULY 31

KEY DATES FOR PURPLE HEART MAGAZINE

DEADLINE FOR ARTICLESFIRST DAY OF FEB, APR, JUN, AUG, OCT, DEC
DISTRIBUTION OF PURPLE HEART MAGAZINE.....JAN/FEB, MARCH/APRIL, MAY/JUN, JUL/AUG,
SEPT/OCT, NOV/DEC



**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
WILL BE CLOSED ON
MONDAY MAY 28TH
IN OBSERVANCE OF
MEMORIAL DAY.**

**WE WISH OUR MEMBERS A
HAPPY & SAFE MEMORIAL DAY
HOLIDAY.**