



The Purple Heart

BOB HOPE



Dad would love to be remembered as someone who made people laugh. Particularly as somebody who embraced a country that was not the country of his birth and who loved it enormously and wanted to give back to those people that were willing to put their lives on the line for their country. —*Linda Hope*

CHRISTOPHER VEDVICK

CANDIDATE NATIONAL COMMANDER

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Patriots, Auxiliary Members, and Associates,
First, let me begin my message by thanking you all for your tireless commitment and support of the Military Order of the Purple Heart. Your passion for assisting veterans and their families strengthens our organization. Your continued sacrifice and service help set this great organization apart from all others.

Every day I receive new stories from all levels across our great nation, whether it is a Chapter helping homeless veterans, a Department honoring a fallen Patriot, or even the National providing disaster relief to those veterans affected by natural disasters. We could not do what we do without you.

As leaders within the MOPH, it is incumbent upon us to improve our fighting positions and leave things better for our successors. This year, we will enhance professionalism in conducting business and facilitating our mission.

Change is not easy; leaders can grow comfortable and complacent, but we must adapt and embrace positive change. We will work on improving our organizational processes, brand recognition, and the overall membership experience.

I have set the following goals for this year:

Improve our organizational processes. The MOPH has been around for 90 years, and we tend to do things the way we have always done them because that is how it has always been done. We

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will ensure that our processes are routinely reviewed and systematically updated so that we can continually get better.

Promote our brand identity. The MOPH has a great history, and we are respected by many, but we need to do a better job of telling our story. We will focus on enhancing our public relations efforts to ensure that the public and the media are aware of the great work we do as an organization.

Enhance our membership experience. Our membership is the lifeblood of our organization, and I want to ensure that we offer the best possible experience for our members. We will do a better job of communicating with our members and provide more opportunities for our members to get involved.

Refocus on our mission of assisting all veterans and their families. They are our primary mission, and we must ensure that programs are executed with vigor to do the most good in our communities.

I am thankful to work with each of you as we accomplish our goals, and I look forward to witnessing the great things we will achieve together. ♥

Have a blessed holiday season and a healthy and happy New Year.

Christopher Vedvick

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CARDER FERGUSON
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Fellow patriots, I hope all is going well since the MOPH National Convention in Rapid City, South Dakota. I hope all is well with you for several of us who got an unexpected departing gift. It took almost a month to get my strength up and overcome the Sinus issue. I do pray all is well.

I want to thank everyone who supported me as MOPH National Senior Vice. I will do my best and support the National Commander and the Staff to move the Order Forward. It takes a team, and we will move the Order to a better future as a team.

We are working on the MOPH Website and making some changes. Such as appearances, more straightforward navigation, and where to log in to use the information provided for reports and rosters and update your profiles.

This year we are requesting that all reports for MOPH be submitted electronically. Having reports turned in electronically will save time and money for the Order.

We are working on a Bad address and an updated email list to save us time and money so the Chapters and Departments can make contact with the patriot and update their profile.

The MOPH FUND now has its own website, so you can see what we are starting and how we are moving forward. Under the about tab, look at the benefits and scroll to the bottom. You will see Discount Hotel rates for members (***you have to log in to sign up***), and it does not cost anything to sign up. You can receive some great discounts as a member of the MOPH. We are working on getting more partners for the MOPH.

October 4-8, 2022, the Command staff went to MOPH Headquarters in Springfield, Virginia. We hand over jobs to the new Leadership.

The team discussed what needed to be accomplished, and took the time to learn their Jobs.

The National Commander and his staff met to streamline how the Headquarters employees and the leadership of the MOPH work together. The Headquarters employees briefed us on what they do and listened to any concerns about completing their job. A lot was accomplished, even helping to clean up some of the storage areas to make us more room and be better organized.

This year the National Commander appointed me as the By-laws Chairman. Our first Committee meeting was on 18 October 2022. At the meeting, we sat down and discussed the Commander Battle rhythm for the bylaws and what we will accomplish this year with the committee.

All By-laws committee members are from different departments and spread across the Order. In addition, we only had three members that are from last year's By-law committee and a total of seven new members.

The By-laws committee is tasked with updating the Procedure Manual and Job Description. We will be asking for some support on Job Descriptions and items for the procedures manual. We appreciate any help on this.

It will be a busy year, and we will get things in Order. It will take some time to accomplish some items, but it will get done. I will have another letter talking about the MOPH FUND and where we are at with it. ❤️

I appreciate all that you do for the Order!!

Yours in Patriotism

Carder Ferguson

The Purple Heart Magazine

ISSN: 0279-0653

November/December 2022

Official Publication of the
MILITARY ORDER of the PURPLE HEART of the U.S.A., Inc.
Chartered by an Act of Congress

MOPH National Headquarters <https://www.purpleheart.org>. communications@purpleheart.org

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The Purple Heart Magazine (TPHM) and the Elected/Appointed Officers of the MOPH have a mutually shared responsibility.

TPHM assists, edits, & completes Layout & Design. The others submit their comments / articles & pictures that highlight their respective Office duties & program details for broadcast to the membership. To publish a 'Digital,' much less Hardcopy / Print Edition, all need to use access this electronic format by submitting Copy, Pictures, or story ideas **early** and often. We all are successful when all are informed, up-to-date, and achieving the goals & objectives of the Order.

Our success is only a reflection of our input. Welcome are news items and articles from

Chapter, Department, Region and Nat'l submissions. Please observe the submission deadlines highlighted in each edition forecasting the next edition date. Call if you need assistance with articles, photo selection, type of story idea or future event. This Digital magazine's is a medium to show who we are and how we'd like to present ourselves to those outside the MOPH fraternity.

We are your asset, your workers; committed to assisting the Order's Patriots, Associates, & Auxiliary. ♥ Let us serve...

Christopher Smrt

Chairman National Publications Committee

E-mail NPCmoph@hotmail.com

We need your material to produce an engaging and informative magazine.

If you are not comfortable writing a story or article,

I will help you. ThePHmagazine@gmail.com I will help you.

DEADLINE for article submissions
January / February Magazine **DECEMBER 15TH**

IN THE EYE OF THE STORM

Dispatch from the Beach

by Jerry Frease

September 28th, it began. We left the Island and went inland the day before the hurricane arrived; we knew a slow-moving cat four meant a huge surge. Ian turns toward the Island instead of staying offshore and toward Tampa. We were 14 miles inland at a friend's second-story condo. The leading eyeball hit us, followed by the eye, then the trailing eye wall.

We had the same experience with hurricane Irma which was faster moving; therefore, a shorter time passed with less surge. Ian, on the other hand, was a slow-moving hurricane. Even 14 miles inland, the relentless screaming winds lasted almost 8 hours, with a short respite when the eye passed over.

We watched through bending, rattling windows as old-growth oak trees, 40-foot coconut palms, etc., bowed and broke. This created heavy airborne missiles crashing into buildings and cars, carports, community trash dumpsters, and so on.

Power went out about an hour in, and cell service dropped to 2 bars, then nothing, making us prisoners, isolated victims all awaiting our fate. You literally do not know what will happen next. It is exactly like a firefight; the stakes are life and death. You are in something you cannot control.

The eye starts with a 15-minute transition from an incredible roaring velocity of the eye wall. It sounds like you are too close to a passenger jet, but it is constant for the entire time, minus the 45 minutes as the eye passes over you.

The trailing eye wall was just as bad as the leading eye wall. The windows were bowing, airborne

trees, debris slamming into buildings and cars but now blowing in the opposite direction out of the west. So it subsides, two trees are blown down, and the outside stairway is blocked by them. There's no way over them and none through them, so I waited till the following day to try to escape.

A guy shows up the next morning, cutting people out of being trapped. Between the two of us, we cut a tunnel of sorts through the trees. I got to my truck, got out my battery-operated saws, and finished what we had started.

Still, no cell service, then intermittent at best.

Only television broadcasts are over the air (rabbit ears) some neighbors had, which "fed us some information about the extreme destruction." I listened to

the radios in my vehicles. It was the only information we had other than the over-air television.

We were in the third world again without water, power, or sewage. Fortunately, sewage did not back up right away, and we were near enough to a pond that I hauled water from that allowed me to flush the toilets.

A few days later, water came on first; then, power was restored. Our attention turned to our home. It was apparent from the information we were getting that there was a good chance that we were homeless. Our home would no longer be there or, at best, completely flooded and in dire straits. ♥

Jerry Frease

To be continued Jan/Feb 2023 in the "Aftermath of Ian."

PATRIOTS STILL SERVICING

Helping Others After a Disaster

by Jerry Frease

EDITOR'S NOTE

Patriot Jerry Frease lives in southwest Florida. After the hurricane hit, Jerry Frease went to work helping others. I was privy to Patriot Frease's e-mails organizing a relief effort. The following is an excellent example of how Patriots at the local level can make an impact in the community.

It looks like the Island will open certain sections for daylight only. Sections that have been thoroughly searched for bodies are designated by Alpha sections. If you live in a cleared section, you will have daylight access only. I will run a recon (provided my small neighborhood is one of the cleared ones). I will report back to all of you my findings and plans.

Some of you have graciously offered donations. I am not about money but boots on the ground. I do understand good people want to do good things. So I belong to a 501 C (3) charitable organization that has agreed to handle the donations.

I am not a clerk, as those who know me can attest. I am on the ground and want boots on the ground for actual work for people in dire need of our help.

I will copy and paste the address for the donations. I personally know and trust our LOCAL COMMANDER AND OUR FINANCE OFFICER.

No monkey business there. They know the consequences.

Donations were sent to Combat Infantrymen Association.

I am the Florida State Commander below are our local commanders agreeing to handle donations for my efforts to help my neighbors directly. No middlemen 🤔🇺🇸🙄.

Jack said, "I agree with Pasquale about sending all donations to our local Dan Sankoff A-1-1 Combat Infantrymen's Association SWFL.

We can separate these funds on paper by designating these donations specifically to Hurricane Relief while remaining under the non-profit 501(c) protections.

Jack

An excellent example, for instance, is when our MOPH 696 donated to Hurricane Assistance to the Florida panhandle through the State MOPH to properly distribute these funds.

Some of you have graciously offered donations. I am not about money but boots on the ground.

The Combat Infantrymen's Association, Inc
RE: Hurricane Ian Relief Fund
P.O. Box 150702
Cape Coral, Florida 33915-0702".

I have not gotten a warehouse yet; several no's but no yeses. I will get one; please email me if YOU CAN PUT BOOTS ON THE GROUND.

I will then have a short list to get lodging for if practical. Two of my local buddies with boats volunteered to help. Combat Wounded Veterans both. One USMC infantry Vietnam, the other Special Forces Medic Vietnam combat wounded.

These are real men our country should honor and respect. Bob Johnston and Roger Murray. Talk to me, people. I need a platoon on the ground to kick some serious ass !! ♥ *Jerry Frease*



CARLTON L. CANNON CHAPLAIN

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“VETERANS DAY 2022”

In the civilian world, many people misunderstand the military mission and those who have unselfishly served with dignity and honor. J. Frank Culpepper-USN, John D. Nichols-USMC, Wallace J. Sibley-USAF, Julian Robinson-USAF, and Gerald McGinnis-USA are but a few distinguished Bishops in our Church of God Movement who have served honorably.

I remember a speaking engagement where I was challenged with a question: How can I wear the uniform that symbolizes war and also be a Saved-Sanctified-Holy Ghost-filled Pentecostal preacher?

It was effortless for me to tell them that, by law and by statute, the mission of the military of these United States is, first, to preserve peace. Second, to provide for the security of our country, its borders, and internal security. And third, to implement national policy concerning peace treaties with friendly nations that cannot repel avaricious neighbors' aggression. I see nothing in this mission that does not

appeal to the highest ideals of any man or religious affiliate.

We currently have an increasing problem with ENTITLEMENT and DISRESPECT taking center stage in our Nation! Once upon a time, it was about GOD, DUTY, HONOR, and COUNTRY! No one had to tell you to stand for the National Anthem. You knew to bow your heads or take a knee when the coach led the team in prayer.

I can remember doing the pledge of allegiance to the Flag and morning devotions (now absent) in grade school. We understood that FREEDOM IS NOT FREE!

The preservation of peace, establishing justice when lost, and providing security with protection for the weak and the innocent is priceless! If you love AMERICA and your FREEDOM, remember to pray for our Troops; thank a Veteran and PRAY FOR AMERICA! ♥

Dr. Carlton L. Cannon, Sr

TIMOTHY FELIX

NATIONAL FINANCE OFFICER

nationalfinanceofficer@purpleheart.org

Good Day Patriots, Auxiliary Members, and Associates,

I am Timothy Felix, and I was elected as the MOPH National Finance Officer at the National Convention 2022 in Rapid City, South Dakota.

I am a Marine and served in Operation Iraqi Freedom. I am a Purple Heart Combat Veteran. I served from 2000 until 2004. I did two tours in Iraq and one tour in Okinawa, Japan. As a Corporal, I served in the First Marine Division with Units K-3/5 from 2000 to 2004. For the rest of my tour I was in the G-2/4

As the newly elected Finance Officer, my number one priority has been the Audit and establishing better networking with available resources. The Orders' Bookkeeper has been doing a diligent job. Our audit process has been working to develop an updated Management Report with Findings and Documents, resulting in transparency within the Order.

I am proud to have served with my fellow comrades and for the sacrifices that we have made for our country. The Order is an Organization with a Ready to Serve mentality of which I am proud to be a part of. I am excited to serve in the capacity of National Finance Officer. I am looking forward to better serving Veterans and their families. ♥

Timothy Felix

"A Land So Far Away"

In an instant it was present
And I remember well the day
When the flight had finally ended
In a land so far away

Sometimes you never saw it
But it was always there nearby
I never saw its pleasant side
Its existence answered why

I never saw any perked-up ears
Never heard its mournful cries
I never detected its need for love
No tears were in its eyes

Nothing in its soul cared
It never would convey
Any attachment to humanity
In a land so far away

Not everything waits craving
A human hearts embrace
Self-reliance was its lifestyle
In such a troubled place

It didn't have a caring side
That humans like to feel
Its acquaintance wasn't typical
But its touch was always real
Its actions soured your conscience

In every single way
Nothing quelled its growing rage
In a land so far away

It owned the time you thought was yours
It's presence always known
It had no fear of coming near
And it left no one alone

I often searched its actions
Hoping only for its smile
But It never found life's harmony
Not even for awhile
Some things in life bring comfort
Some things in life dismay
Sometimes there were no answers
In a land so far away

Not soon enough, the day arrived
The day that I could leave
Joyously I departed from
What was painful to believe

Long ago it left its mark
Still now wherever I roam
War remains within my soul
It followed me back home

Parts of all, that was and is
Reminds me every day
That War residue was not confined
To that land so far away.

Ron Siebels

November, 2022

THE NEW AGENT ORANGE

PATRICK WILBERN
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Thousands of America's veterans are returning from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and falling ill. Some are even dying from what Federal Officials are calling the new *Agent Orange*.

Open-air burn pits are the culprit, and it is actually a common United States military practice to dispose of waste and garbage in combat zones in this manner. The pits are ignited by jet fuel and burn continuously for days at a time.

Once lit, the waste secretes toxins into the air that our soldiers breathe. Some Forward Operating Bases in Iraq and Afghanistan burned as much as 280 tons of trash per day in an open pit.

According to a USA Today analysis of military morbidity records from 2001 to 2010, the military has seen rates of cardiovascular, neurological and respiratory disorders rise, 34%, 47%, and 251% respectively.

The military replaced the majority of burn pits with incinerators in 2014, but the inspector general of Afghanistan found banned material which, through a 2009 law, included aerosol cans, tires, mercury, asbestos batteries, and munitions had still been burned in open-air pits from 2011 to 2015.

The VA has a plan of action for service members who may be concerned about one or more of these issues. The Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry allows eligible veterans to document their exposure and report health problems through an online questionnaire.

Veterans can also talk to a Primary Care or Specialty Care physician about any symptoms they may be experiencing.

As of Today, the VA has approved Major changes in the Gulf War Illness by the passing of The PACT ACT.

The PACT Act is perhaps the largest health care and benefit expansion in VA history. The full name of the law is The Sergeant First Class (SFC) Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act.

The PACT Act will bring these changes:

- Expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War, and post-9/11 eras
- Adds more than 20 new presumptive conditions for burn pits and other toxic exposures
- Adds more presumptive-exposure locations for Agent Orange and radiation
- Requires VA to provide a toxic exposure screening to every Veteran enrolled in VA health care

- Helps us improve research, staff education, and treatment related to toxic exposures

If you're a Veteran or survivor, you can file claims now to apply for PACT Act-related benefits.

What does it mean to have a presumptive condition for toxic exposure?

To get a VA disability rating, your disability must connect to your military service. For many health conditions, you need to prove that your service caused your condition.

But for some conditions, we automatically assume (or "presume") that your service caused your condition. We call these "presumptive conditions."

We consider a condition presumptive when it's established by law or regulation.

If you have a presumptive condition, you don't need to prove that your service caused the condition. You only need to meet the service requirements for the presumption.

Presumptive cancers:

- Brain cancer.
- Gastrointestinal cancer of any type.
- Glioblastoma.
- Head cancer of any type.
- Kidney cancer.
- Lymphatic cancer of any type.
- Lymphoma of any type.
- Melanoma.
- Neck cancer.
- Pancreatic cancer.
- Reproductive cancer of any type.
- Respiratory (breathing-related) cancer of any type.

Presumptive illnesses:

- Asthma that was diagnosed after service.
- Chronic bronchitis.
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).
- Chronic rhinitis.
- Chronic sinusitis.
- Constrictive bronchiolitis or obliterative bronchiolitis.
- Emphysema.
- Granulomatous disease.
- Interstitial lung disease (ILD).
- Pleuritis.
- Pulmonary fibrosis.
- Sarcoidosis.

Don't wait! You can file these claims now. Talk to any County Veterans Service Officer, National Service Officer or anyone accredited to file VA claims. They can help you file it properly, so you have no problems. ♥

MAJOR STAR ACT

FINALLY AN INJUSTICE IS RECTIFIED

When Service members retire from the military, they are entitled to both retired pay from the Department of Defense (DoD), and disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) if they were injured while in service. Unfortunately, only military retirees with at least 20 years of service and a disability rating of at least 50 percent are able to collect both benefits at the same time.

For all other retirees, current law requires a dollar for dollar offset of these two benefits, meaning they have to forfeit a portion of the benefits they earned in service. It is time to fully honor veterans who were medically retired as a result of injuries incurred in combat or combat-related training. Regardless of time in service, these veterans have earned all their benefits through their extraordinary sacrifice in defending our nation.

This Bill has Bipartisan support. The Major Richard Star Act would allow over 50,000 combat-injured veterans to receive full disability compensation and retired pay. The Bill has secured over 310+ co-sponsors, enabling the bill to be added to the Consensus Calendar.

WHAT DOES THIS BILL DO?

In 2004, Congress eliminated the offset for military retirees with at least 20 years of service and disability ratings of at least 50 percent. • The Major Richard Star Act would expand this

policy to the 50,000 retirees whose military careers were cut short due to combat-related injuries, finally allowing them to collect hundreds of dollars per month that they have been denied up until now.

This critical legislation will rectify an injustice that keeps combat disabled Veterans from receiving full military benefits. Currently, over 50,000 medically retired veterans are forbidden from receiving their full retirement pay and disability compensation. The Major Richard Star Act would repeal this unfair offset, allowing these disabled Veterans to receive both their retirement pay and their disability compensation.

The bill is named in honor of Major Richard A. Star—a father, husband, and decorated war veteran who, as a result of his combat-related injuries, was medically retired. Major Star sadly lost his battle with cancer on February 13, 2021.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Under the Major Richard Star Act, former Service members who were medically retired from the military with less than 20 years of service (Chapter 61 retirees) AND are eligible for Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC) would no longer have their benefits reduced by the offset. This includes those who were retired for injuries sustained in combat and combat-related training. ♥

BOISE VETERANS DAY PARADE & BANQUET

Chief Joseph Chapter & Department of Idaho Patriots



*"Hear me my Chiefs! I am tired; my heart is sick and sad.
From where the sun stands, I will fight no more forever"*
Chief Joseph, Nez Perce



Bill Hamilton, Frank Ellsbury, Drew Hall, Blanca Taylor, John attended the Boise Veterans Day Parade.



Sol Invictus Vineyards Dept SVC, Bill Hamilton, Frank Ellsbury & DFO Henry Parker receiving donations



Back Row Drew Hall, Joe Bogart, John William, Bill Hamilton, Blanca Taylor, Georg Nickel, SFC Vieth Albert
Front Row Hayward Sawyer, Alexander Crown, Phil Hawkins, Henry Parker, Jorge Hernandez.

DEADLINE for article submissions

DECEMBER 15, 2022

Deadlines are the 15th of even numbered months.
February, April, June, August, October, December



Gold Star Mother's and Family Day dedicated a Gold Star and Blue Star memorial marker at the Bend, Oregon Heroes Memorial on September 25, 2022,

The ceremony was led by the 2021 National Patriot of the Year, Dick Tobiason. Local leaders read Gold Star Mothers and Families Day proclamations from the president and governor.

The Military Order of the Purple Heart Department of Oregon is purchasing one of the memorials from the National Garden Clubs for each of the four Oregon MOPH Chapters. These will be installed at locations around Oregon. ♥

CHAPTER 750 MILITARY ORDER PURPLE HEART

SGT MICHAEL A. DIRAIMONDO NEWSLETTER

Silent Ranks

I wear no uniform no Air Force blue no Army green. Even so, I am in the ranks rarely seen. I have no stripes no bars; salutes I do not do. The military world is where I live, even though not often noticed.

I am not in the chain of command, orders I do not get, yet my husband does, this I cannot forget.

I do not fire the weapon, nor lay my life on the line, but I do raise the family left behind. My husband is a genuine patriot, the call to serve is not all can do. My husband makes a sacrifice as do our kids and I. I love the man I married; the military is his life. So I vow to support my hero in the silent ranks as

The Military Wife. Author unknown.

Duty, Honor, Sacrifice

It is sometimes said that heroes are hard to find. People who understand the meaning of duty, honor and country need to look no further than those who fight for Freedom and Democracy.

Westminster California Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Courage is control of fear.

"It doesn't take a hero to order men into battle. It takes a hero to be one of those men who goes into battle."

Norman Schwarzkopf.

Combat soldiers do not act on their own. Voters elect their representation and those elected officials send us into combat. Taxpayers pay taxes to support the government, so their hand is on the shaft of the spear. Purple Heart recipients and combat soldiers are the tip of the spear. We are all in this together, civilian and combat soldier.

The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive the Veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by our nation.

George Washington.

To care for him who shall have borne the battle.

Abraham Lincoln's second inaugural address, March 4, 1865.

We must remember that one man is much the same as another and that he is best who is trained in the severest school. Thucydides, Athenian general, historian & philosopher.

Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude. America will never forget their sacrifices.

Harry S. Truman, April 16, 1945.

Let me bring you back in time courtesy of the book

Dear America: Letters Home from Vietnam.

Tissue alert.

Dear Mom & Pop,

still at the hospital here at Da Nang, and I'm doing fine. They have terrific chow here. The milk is real, and they even have chocolate just like the base at Le Jeune. Don't worry too much about me because I'm really doing great. I've been doing good since the guy in the hole with me put the bandage on after I got hit.

General Lewis Walt came in the ward the other day and passed out the Purple Hearts. Boy, it really looks good. I guess I'm a genuine veteran now, getting wounded and everything else. Well, that is the fifth ribbon I rate now. Seven more months and I'll be rotating. It's still a long time, but it sounds a hell of a lot shorter than 13!

If a couple of you could get together at any one time, I'd sure appreciate a picture. . . .

Love, Mike

Hi Family,

Well, Aunt Rose and Uncle Leo, I guess you know by now that I was wounded. Well, I'm doing OK. Right now, I'm in Japan. I'm at 249th General Hospital. I'll be here for about two weeks, then I'll be on my way home.

I can't walk yet, but as soon as they sew me up, I'll probably start walking. I received my wounds in both my legs, in my side, in my back, and in my butt, the right cheek. I'm going to have some pretty nice-looking

scars. The worst ones will be in my right leg. All my other scars are fairly small compared to my right leg. All together I think I have 13 wounds. Sounds like a lot, doesn't it? But I'm gonna be OK don't worry. If I know you, Aunt Rose, you'll be worried about me until you see me, but don't worry. I promise you I'm OK.

Well, family, I guess I'll be cutting out for now. Be good and take care. See you soon.

Joey

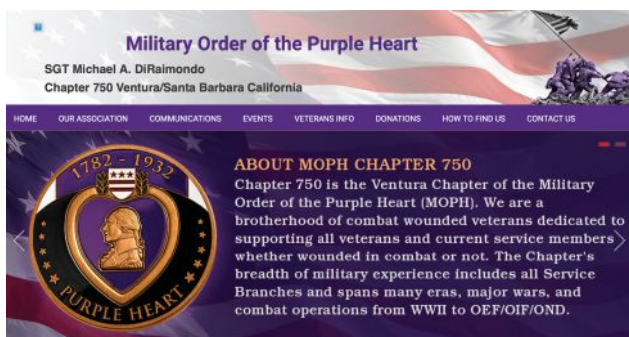
Dear Family,

Hello! How is everything? I'm doing pretty well. I guess you that I'm writing with my left hand, so please excuse the appearance of the letter.

Let me give you the extent of my injuries. I got a shrapnel in my shoulder and one in my knee. The one in my shoulder caused some nerve damage. The wound itself is not bad, but the nerve damage is quite a while to return to normal. . . .

All I do all day is lay around and heal. It's quite hard work. I wish I knew a little more about what's in store so I could let you know, but I don't. I'll try to write again soon 🍷

Love, Bobby



From the Commander

Renew, Recruit, and Reinstate!

Sign up eligible veterans in Chap. 750 now.

Let's Talk About Military Order of the Purple Heart and Why You Are A Member

Did you join seeking help with filing a claim with the V.A. or help with an existing claim? Did you join for comradeship or to help other veterans? And on the suggestion side, what do you think we should tackle as a chapter?

As you may know we don't sit around in chapter meetings and swap war stories, although you are always welcome to speak about whatever you want including a combat experience. Fundamentally, we are an active chapter in action and outings. Our basic mission is helping wherever we can. Generally, referrals are vetted through V.A. social workers or other recognized therapists and counselors.

For those who are active members, we work as a team, all members and friends of the chapter and unit can contribute to aiding Chap. and Unit 750's mission in our undertakings. Which range from simple to complex and sometimes it is personally poignant.

Like when the Marine who came to the Santa Barbara VA Clinic to pick up his Thanksgiving food basket, he was in tears with gratitude. Very touching to those who saw him.

And the grandmother veteran who raises her grandchildren and for whom we got her car street legal so she could drive to work.

Asking what you can do? Start with attending a meeting, either in person or pick up a telephone and call in. At in-person meetings we now have a conference-call two-way speaker. Know any-one with a Purple Heart? Bring them in, if they want to join and membership is a little much, we'll help them. Know a veteran in need; make sure you let us know.

We need you; we need all the members to make Chap. 750 stronger so pitch in, join in, help the chapter grow and continue on a positive trajectory. We need your participation and help to spread the load.

Patriot Hap DeSimone Medical Update, Written by Hap

I received the NALU Neurostimulation System Implantable Pulse Generator along with two 8-electrode probes. A hockey puck looking thing rests in a stick-on nylon clip over the pulse generator, giving it power and signal through simple coils. They call that a Therapy Disc but it is a small battery-powered computer that transmits to the implant. I talk to it via Bluetooth from my phone. I'm healing over the access incisions, and the pain is finally starting to ebb away.

The whole thing lasted about 29 hours before it up and quit.

They couldn't get it to work reliably, probably due to swelling. It is really low power stuff and transmits under 4 milliwatts of Radio Frequency energy. My Surgeon got it up and running again and gave me tips on placement of the adhesive clip that secures the puck to the left side of my back, right over the implant.

Things are working better now. It takes some of the pain away, and supposedly will do more of that as time goes on. The Surgeon says everything looks good. Thanks for being concerned! I'm doing well, and going snorkeling in Hawaii should improve my grumpy outlook! ♥

Bless you all,

Hap



NATIONAL HISTORIAN ~ TRANSITIONS

Nick McIntosh

PHM Editor

I was signed up by a WWI veteran in 1973. At the time, I remember thinking that it was incredible that someone that old was still writing Chapter 146's newsletter. Upon reflection, it dawned on me that I am older than the WWI veteran was and am not only the National Historian but The Purple Heart Magazine Editor.

My first convention was in 1985, and a few WWI veterans were in attendance. The last time I saw a WWI veteran at a convention was in 1995.

Over the years that I have been attending National Conventions, there have been demographic changes. When each succeeding war's Patriots became leaders, there were changes in attitudes and procedures.

The first WWII national commander was John Goodman in 1951. In 1979/80, the first Vietnam veteran, Jim Durkin, was elected commander. Also, in the 1980's Joe Hems, Korean War Veteran was elected commander.

The early 1990s saw the ascension of Vietnam Veterans. This transition continued until the election of a Global War on Terror veteran in 2019.

The combat theater for the GWOT is far more permissive to all—with assignments now placing every troop (from the front line to corps) in harm's way. Prior to this era, there were very few female Purple Heart Recipients.

The only Lady from WWII that I knew of was a nurse who had been wounded in the Philippines. Ironically, she had treated and gotten to know the MOPH Chaplain, Father Flannery. At conventions, they hung out together.

At the most recent national convention, there were five female department commanders. One of them, Frances Figueroa, is now the Region IV Commander.

As each wars veterans took on a commander leadership role, their actions were dictated by their life experiences. For example, the WWI Patriot who signed me up put out a mimeographed chapter newsletter. For those who have no idea about what I am talking about, follow this link <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mimeograph>

The process involved typing on special paper and then putting it in a printer. There was a strong order to the ink used, and the process was messy.

In 1986, Chapter 146 Department of Kentucky started putting out a newsletter that was Xeroxed. The articles was typed on a typewriter and then cut and pasted on the master sheet. This process was time-consuming (retying) because of errors in spelling.

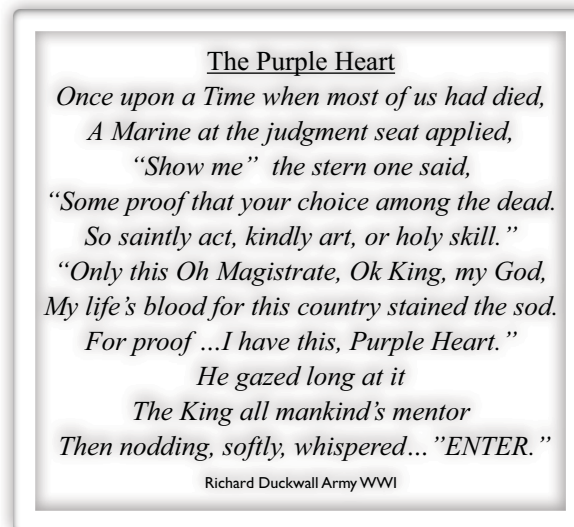
Now, chapters and departments putting out newsletters digitally can do them more manageable, more colorful, and have better layouts.

Chapter 750 Department of California's newsletter excerpts is on pages 14 & 15. They are an active chapter because their newsletter informs and motivates Patriots, Associates, and Auxiliary members.

Consider following their example to improve attendance at meeting and events. ♥

Semper Fi,

Nick McIntosh





Patriot Eggleston & Afghanistan MOH recipient Christopher Celiz, Arlington



Standing in for the NC Vedvick, Deputy Adj. Eric Johnson and Patriot Eggleston Honor Veterans with wreath at Vietnam



Patriots & Ladies arriving at the Arlington Memorial Amphitheater on Veterans Day



Veterans Day dignitaries gathered for the 2022 multiple Veterans ceremonies where the MOPH attended; here is SECDEF Austin Past Sec. Hagel & VA Sec. McDonough



Auxiliary President KayJo Arlington



Red White & Blue Bourbon Release 11.11.22, Jephtha Creed Distillery, KY, for Posting of the Colors.



Patriot Ennis, Ky Ch.146, Signs a 2022 Bourbon Barrel for the next batch of Red, White, and Blue Bourbon; ready to bottle Veterans Day 2026



National Flag Foundation, Marine Corps League, and MOPH host a Veterans Day "Light to Unite" ceremony in Western Ky where the Court House is lit Purple



Patriot Eggleston and Afghanistan MOH recipient former Army CPT Will Swenson, Arlington Memorial, VA



Eggleston is with the SECDEF Lloyd Austin and Kathy Roth Douquet Co-Founder CEO of the Blue Star Families



Representing NC Vedvick, Patriot Eggleston converses with Army Chief of Staff Gen. James McConville (R) and the Sec. of Labor Martin J. Walsh



Poignantly displayed at the foot of the Vietnam Wall are a pair of boots, helmet and Purple Heart Medal



With overcast skies MOPH/AUX wait with anticipation for the Veterans Day program



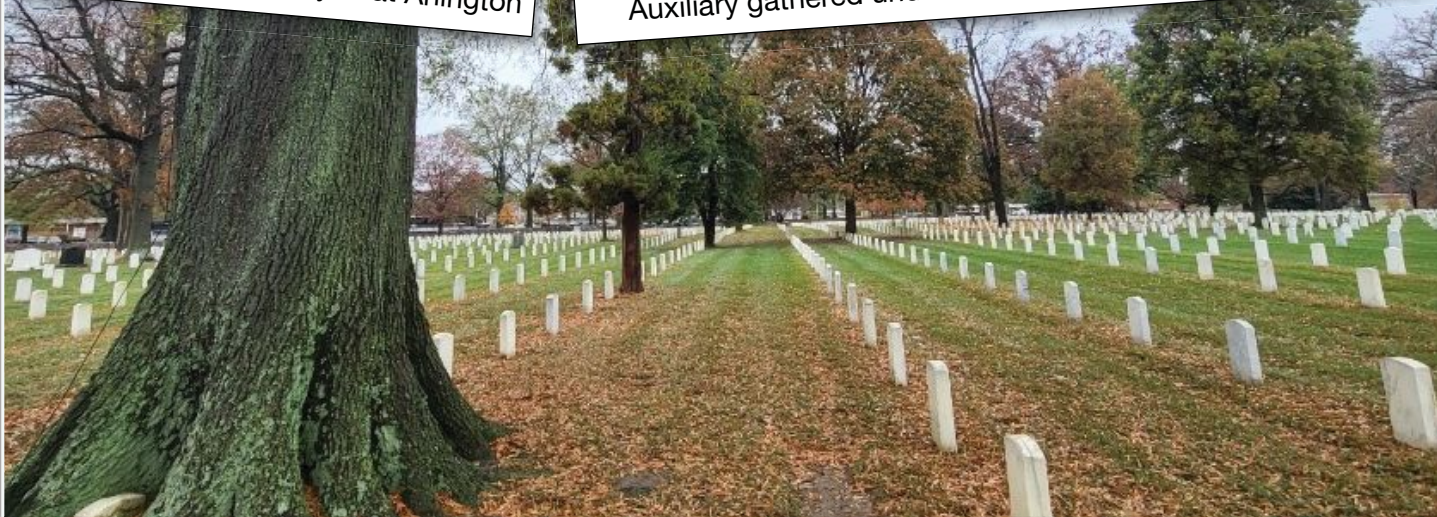
Standing in for the NC Vedvick, Deputy Adj. Eric Johnson, and AUX President Kay Jo Baucom honor the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns ceremony in Arlington Cemetery



Auxiliary President KayJo at Arlington



Veterans Day wreath where members of the Order and the Auxiliary gathered under cloudy skies and mist, 11.11.22



Before the ceremonies and programs it was peaceful to walk amongst the stones of Arlington, Veterans All

Fran Holtgreven

National Jr Vice President

Fran.Mopha@Gmail.Com

910-286-6424



What an exciting year 2022 has been. The Units and Departments of the Military Order of the Purple Heart Auxiliary have been very busy helping our Patriots and Veterans with all kinds of projects. As the holidays are quickly approaching, let's keep in mind other projects that we can do to help at the Veteran Hospitals, Veteran Homes, and your own Patriot Chapters.

Check your Veteran Hospitals and Veteran Homes to see if you could donate supplies, socks, and desperately needed underwear. You could ask to do some caroling, decorating, send cards or a note for the staff to hand out, anything to help make the Veterans feel in the holiday spirit. Many of the Veterans in the hospital or homes have no family to visit or give them support, so just a smile or card can mean a lot to them.

Ask your Chapters to attend or even help with a holiday party. Invite the children,

grandchildren, and maybe even great-grandchildren to attend. Give all attending a little surprise to make them feel special. It is always so much fun to see a child smile and feel important at this time of year, no matter how old they are. Have a breakfast buffet at the next meeting of the Patriots.

These are just a few ideas to thank your Patriots and Veterans.

Remember this is the season to be thankful and merry and remember all they have done for our

Country and you.

I wish all Patriots, Veterans, and Auxiliary Members a Happy Thanksgiving and Happy Holidays. I am very thankful for all your hard work and all that you have accomplished to help the MOPH and MOPHA. ♥

Thank you.

Fran Holtgreven

It is always so much fun to see a child smile and feel important at this time of year

Kay Jo Baucom

National President

Kjb531028@gmail.com

704-289-1986



The MOPHA President had the unique honor of representing the Order and Auxiliary on Veterans Day. Ceremonial wreaths were placed at the Tomb of the Unknown's, Arlington National Cemetery; along with recognition of the 40th Anniversary of the Vietnam Memorial Wall.

Walking the grounds of Arlington National Cemetery and the Vietnam Wall focuses one on the dedication and sacrifice of all the men and women who have worn our Nation's uniforms in all of our Armed Forces.

"America without her soldiers, sailors, and airmen would be like God without his angels."

Student at Sacred Heart Church Jeffersonville, IN.

BARB CHERONE

MOPHA LIAISON NPC

hillz95@yahoo.com

(910) 489-3545

Dear Officers:

As the current MOPH/MOPHA Liaison, I attended a Publication Committee zoom call on Friday, October 21, 2022. The MOPH Publication Committee is very enthusiastic and encourages the inclusion articles from MOPHA officers in the The Purple Heart Magazine.

There are six edition per year in odd months (Jan, March, etc.) Articles are due by the 15th of those months to Nick McIntosh. If you need help with ideas or editing, I will be happy to assist you (in advance of the deadline). There has been a glitch in the October/November issue, and they are working to fix it. I will keep you informed as I am informed.

As of now, you are probably thinking, how many articles do I have to write? We don't know how many of our Patriots have access to read the MOPHA Publications. My suggestion would be to submit your MOPHA Publication article (or a shorter form of your submitted article) to the MOPH Publication Committee, if you feel the article could be of interest to our Patriots.

The submissions of MOPHA articles to the MOPH Publication would enlighten the MOPH members of the vast amount of work on behalf of our veterans being done on various levels of our organization (prayers, HOV, Unit level activities, etc.)

I informed President Kay Jo of the need for a MOPHA Officer's attendance at the Washington DC Veterans' Day activities. Kay Jo will be in attendance. She would appreciate any information pertaining to the 2022 Veterans' Day Activities; she has not received any specific details to date. ♥

Barb Cherone



Application for Life Membership

Military Order of the Purple Heart Auxiliary



AUXILIARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP Eligibility is based on relationship to Purple Heart Recipient and is granted to a parent, grandparent, spouse, widow, widower, sibling, child, or grandchild of persons who have been awarded the Purple Heart by the Armed Services of the United States, and to those who served in the Armed Forces and have received the Purple Heart decoration in their own name. Life Membership is subject to conditions set forth in Article I of the MOPHA Bylaws.

ASSOCIATE LIFE MEMBERSHIP is available based on relationship to Auxiliary member and is granted to a parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, sibling, or spouse of a member in the Auxiliary. Associate Membership is subject to conditions set forth in Article XVIII of the MOPHA Bylaws.

Evidence of Purple Heart recipient's award and relationship to applicant must be verified.

Dues Schedule: Life Membership—\$50.00 Associate Life Membership—\$50.00

Dues submitted with Application for Membership are NON-REFUNDABLE

LIFE MEMBER APPLICATION (revised July 2020)

Based On Relationship to Purple Heart Recipient

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

Name _____ Date of Birth _____
 Address _____ City _____
 State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____
 Email _____ Unit Requested _____
 I am the _____ of _____
 Name of Purple Heart Recipient _____
 He/she is a member of MOPH Chapter _____ Life Member Number _____
 He/she is not a member of MOPH. Attached is the DD214 for certification of Purple Heart award.
 Applicant Signature _____ Date _____
 Sponsor: _____ Sponsor Unit # _____
Auxiliary member name & ID number signing you up
Membership eligibility must be certified by Chapter or Department MOPH Officer or DD214.
 I certify that the MOPH Member & ID Number is known to me & the Applicant is eligible for membership in MOPHA.
 Certified by _____ MOPH Officer Position _____ Chapter# _____

INTERNAL USE ONLY:

Date Rec'd _____ Member Type _____ Member # _____

ASSOCIATE MEMBER APPLICATION (revised July 2020)

Based On Relationship to Auxiliary Member

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

Name _____ Date of Birth _____
 Address _____ City _____
 State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____
 Email _____ Unit Requested _____
 I am the _____ of _____
 Name of Auxiliary Member _____ Life Member Number _____
 Who is the _____ of _____
 Auxiliary member Relation to Recipient _____ Name of Purple Heart Recipient _____
 Applicant Signature _____ Date _____
 Sponsor: _____ Sponsor Unit # _____
Auxiliary Member & ID number signing you up
Membership eligibility must be certified by Chapter or Department MOPH Officer or DD214.
 I certify that the MOPHA Member & ID Number is known to me & the Applicant is eligible for membership in MOPHA.
 Certified by _____ MOPH Officer Position _____ Chapter# _____

INTERNAL USE ONLY:

Date Rec'd _____ Member Type _____ Member # _____

Complete appropriate application and send with payment to:
 Cheryl Perez . PO Box 120085 . Chula Vista, CA . 91912 / Email: Members.MOPHA@gmail.com



THE PURPLE HEART MAGAZINE

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

Advertisements Rates

Online Combo Rates

Location in Magazine	Full	Half	Third
	7 1/2" x 10"	7 1/2" x 5"	7 1/2" x 3 1/2"
INSIDE PAGES	\$275	\$140	\$90
PAGE 3	\$425	\$215	\$145
Discount Multiple Issues: Four 20% ~ Three 15% ~ Two 10%			

The website hosting The Purple Heart Magazine is open to the public and is not restricted to our Combat Wounded Patriots. A .pdf copy is downloadable.

All of the links to websites and E-mail addresses are **live** links. An example of a live link is the E-mail address of the Editor shown below.

The Purple Heart Magazine is a **full-color** digital edition.

The six editions per year of The Purple Heart Magazine begin with the January/February issue.

Ads submission dates are the **15th** day of February, April, June, August, October, and December.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Chairman of the National Publications Committee with any questions.

Christopher Smrt

(502) 639-9655. npcmoph@hotmail.com



Application for Life Membership

Military Order of the Purple Heart

Purple Heart Recipient Eligibility: Any person of good moral character who is serving in or has served in one of the Armed Forces of the United States, or any foreign country, who can show proof of the award of the Purple Heart for wounds.

Evidence of the award of the Purple Heart must be submitted with the application. Certificate alone does not constitute proof of award. If discharged, discharge document such as a DD-214 must be provided reflecting character of service as honorable or general.

For active duty, provide PCS orders, Purple Heart Orders and Purple Heart Certificate.

There is no posthumous membership.

All applications are subject to verification with the National Personnel Records Center and/or Service.

Associate Member For a parent, spouse, sibling, lineal or adopted descendant (child, grandchild or great-grandchild) of either a living or deceased Purple Heart recipient, evidence of the award of the Purple Heart and the relationship must be submitted with the application.

If the Purple Heart recipient is living, the recipient must be a member in-good-standing of the MOPH and he/she must sign to acknowledge the relationship and consent for membership.

Dues Schedule

Military Order of the Purple Heart

Life Membership \$200.00
Associate Life Membership \$200.00

Fees may be paid in four equal payments of \$50. The first \$50 must be submitted with this application and the remaining \$150 within one year when using this option. If you want to use this option, initial here _____.

Fees submitted with Application for Membership are NON-REFUNDABLE.

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

Member# _____ Chapter# _____

Applicant Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (H) _____ (Work/Cell) _____ FAX _____ Email _____

Recruited by (Print Name) _____ Relationship _____

Next of Kin (Print Name) _____

Check one Life Member Associate Life Member

Credit Card VISA Mastercard Discover American Express CVV # (required) _____

Credit Card # _____ Expiration Date _____

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

(required even if not paying by credit card) *Typing my name above will constitute as my signature*

All applicants must complete the appropriate section below and send with payment to: MOPH National Headquarters 5413-B Backlick Road, Springfield, VA 22151 www.purpleheart.org membership@purpleheart.org 888.668.1656

Purple Heart Recipient MOPH Bylaws require that a copy of the document that supports the award of the Purple Heart medal must accompany each application. A copy of documentation submitted will be retained on file for future reference. Evidence of the award of the Purple Heart must be submitted with the application. Certificate alone does not constitute proof of award. If discharged, discharge document such as a DD-214 must be provided reflecting character of service as honorable or general. For active duty, provide PCS orders, Purple Heart Orders and Purple Heart Certificate. There is no posthumous membership. All applications are subject to verification with the National Personnel Records Center and/or Service.

DD-214 DD-215 (supported by DD-214) Orders plus PH Certificate WD AGO 53-55

Service Army Navy Air Force Marines Coast Guard

War Wounded WW2 Korea Vietnam OEF OIF OND Other _____

Date entered service _____ Active Duty (Provide PCS orders) Date Departed Service/Discharged _____

Date wounded _____ Location of Engagement _____

Commissioning source: _____ Have you been convicted of a Felony? Yes No

Associate Member Documentation of relationship and proof of Purple Heart award required.

Name of Purple Heart Recipient _____

Member# & Signature _____ Chapter# _____

I acknowledge the relationship and consent for associate membership (if applicable)

Purple Heart documentation DD-214 DD-215 Orders plus PH Certificate WD AGO 53-55

Relationship of Applicant to PH Recipient Parent Spouse Sibling Child Grandchild Great-Grandchild

Relationship documents Birth Certificate Adoption Papers Marriage Certificate Casualty Report

The National Adjutant will make the final determination on eligibility. Altered documents constitute automatic denial of membership. Payment for dues is not deductible as a charitable contribution according to the Internal Revenue Code. Dues include subscription to the Purple Heart Magazine.

All information and requirements are subject to change without notice.

(Effective 9/1/2021; Previous editions are obsolete.)