

#### **Commander's Corner**



Fellow Patriots of Arizona,

It is that time of year when mother nature turns the heat down from incinerate, to bearable. With the change in weather our fellow patriots that made a tactical retreat to cooler locations will be rejoining

our ranks. Welcome all back with open arms.

As you return to your chapters and begin discussing what you will do as a Chapter, remember to lean on other chapters for help, you don't have to do it alone. The only bad idea is the one you keep to yourself, offer up your ideas and use your wisdom to select the one that represents your chapter and let's make those events something for the record books. I want us as a department to be as successful as possible and it starts at the lowest level. My number one priority as Department Commander is to help chapter leadership get their members involved. I believe once we get our members engaged new members will join, so let's give them reason to want to join our beloved order.

Brotherhood was missing after we exited service, joining the order is how I filled that void. I challenge you to reach out to one other Patriot within your chapters and encourage them to join you for a chapter meeting. Getting involved at the lowest level is how we protect our order and ensure it stands the test of time and that we can pass it along to the next generation of service-members that will share the same common bond that we all do.

I won't ask you to do anything I'm not willing to do myself! I will do my best to be at as many events that I know about and can with my work schedule. Join me in showing why the MOPH is the best VSO.

Yours in Patriotism, Keith Gray Commander

#### **Department Officers**

Cdr Keith Gray - <u>commandermophaz@gmail.com</u> Sr. Vice Cdr Chuck Byers - <u>seagb@cox.net</u> Jr. Vice Cdr John Moore - <u>mophchapter442@comcast.net</u> Adjutant Larry Leighton - <u>adjutant.mophaz@gmail.com</u> Finance Officer - Ron Capek - <u>ronluccap@gmail.com</u> Sgt-at-Arms - Jimi Sallman - <u>jimisallmen@gmail.com</u> Inspector - Sylvestre Primous - <u>slysax85@gmail.com</u> Legislative Liaison - Jim Muhr - <u>jrmuhr@yahoo.com</u>

#### **Find Us Online**

Website: <u>http://mophaz.org/</u> Facebook: <u>Department Facebook Page</u>

#### **Donate to AZMOPH**

**Donate Online:** Donations Appreciated

#### **Update Your Contact Information**

Keep your snail mail address, phone & email address up to date. You can do this yourself at the MOPH National website at <u>https://national-</u> <u>moph.uc.r.appspot.com/#.</u> You just need your membership number to log-in. You can also email us at <u>adjutant.mophaz@gmail.com</u> and we can update your snail mail, phone & email address for you.

#### **Calendar**

- November 10 Marine Corps Birthday
- November 11 Veterans Day
- November 24 Thanksgiving
- **December 7** Pearl Harbor Day
- **December 13** National Guard Birthday
- December 17 Wreaths Across America
- December 25 Christmas Day
- December 31 New Years' Eve
- January 1 New Years' Day
- January 16 MLK Day
- **February 3** Four Chaplains' Day
- February 23 Iwo Jima Flag Raising
- March 25 Welcome Home Veterans

#### **Monthly Commander's Call**

Cdr's Call is every month on the Fourth Thursday, until Mar 23, 2023. In the absence of the

## From the Jr. Vice-Commander

During November the Department and Chapters will be focusing on Americanism. Chapters will participate in Veterans' Day Parades in Northern Arizona, in Tucson, and in the Phoenix area. Members will be placing flags on Veterans' graves in our state veterans' and local cemeteries. Our Patriots will be speaking about Veterans' Day, the MOPH, and military service in a number of schools in the state. Our Patriots will participate in a variety of other Veterans' Day related ceremonies throughout the state. Thank you to our membership that participates in these activities. It is appreciated.

> John R. Moore Jr. Vice-Commander



# \* December 17, 2022 \*

National Wreaths Across America Day Help place wreaths or sponsor wreaths for the Wreaths Across America Program. Find participating cemeteries at the <u>Wreaths Across</u> <u>America website.</u>

## Fort Lowell Chapter 442 – Tucson, AZ



Fellow Patriots: This month we have welcomed 3 new members to the Chapter. Patriot Deidra Estrada transferred from Alaska. Patriot Cody Phipps transferred from Dallas, TX.

And Patriot Mike Riley transferred from New

chapter commander someone from the chapter command group must attend. Open to all members. Time: 06:30 PM Arizona

Nov 24, 2022 06:30 PM (subject to change) Dec 22, 2022 06:30 PM Jan 26, 2023 06:30 PM (Executive Committee) Feb 23, 2023 06:30 PM Mar 23, 2023 06:30 PM Zoom Meeting ID: 842 2842 9701; Passcode: 879117 Dial in: 669 900 6833

## **Arizona Cardinals to Honor PH Recipients**



On November 6<sup>th</sup> at half time of the Arizona Cardinals football game the team will honor Purple Heart recipients. Ten of our department members will be on the field to receive the honor and represent our nation's PH recipients. Thanks you to the Cardinals' organization.

## Michael E. Mahoney Chapter 691 - Surprise, AZ



Chapter 691 Patriots,

Let's continue to work to make our chapter better. Bring us your ideas on where you would like to see our chapter go. I am hoping we can start doing more as a chapter, and getting more involvement

from our members. I know change can be difficult; but change is needed to continue to improve the Order. Please reach out if there is anything you need and we will do everything we can to make it happen.

> Yours in Patriotism, Keith Gray Commander

Cdr Keith Gray - commandermophaz@gmail.com

Jersey. They were given a hearty welcome from the membership during the September chapter meeting. Each received a PH challenge coin, a Purple Heart Wood pen and a Badge of Merit. During this past month Chapter 442 has donated \$525 to support Camp Corral's Camp in Oracle, AZ & \$800 to support two veterans in need. We provided \$1800 for 20 food boxes for needy veterans in the Tucson area for Veterans Day. Chapter members will speak at several elementary schools for Veterans' Day.

> Yours in Patriotism, Mike Dyer Commander

- Nov 4 Presents MOPH certificate to Bernita Gallagos-Barfield for service as a Red Cross Worker in the Vietnam War > Desert Diamond Casino at 1:00PM
- Nov 10 Place flags on graves at Arizona State Veterans Cemetery Marana at 8:00AM
- Nov 10 Chapter will support Pima Colleges Veterans' Resource Fair at Pima College's main campus.
- Nov 11 Tucson Veterans Day Parade > downtown Tucson at 11:00 AM.
- **December 23** Christmas Visit to residents of State Veterans Home Tucson on the VA Hospital grounds.

Commander Mike Dyer - <u>mrdyer@comcast.net</u> Sr. Vice-Cdr Richard Perkins -<u>rperkins823@gmail.com</u> Jr. Vice-Cdr John Grand - <u>jgrand5@cox.net</u> Adjutant John Moore mophchapter442@comcast.net

Website: https://mophtucson.webs.com/ Facebook: Chapter 442 Facebook Donate online: Donations Appreciated

**Meeting date:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday (no meetings June, July, August)

Meeting time: 5:00 PM

**Meeting location:** Bridge Church at 8150 N Sandy Desert Trail, Tucson, AZ 85741. This is just off of I10 & Cortaro Farms Rd. Go east on Cortaro Farms Rd to N. Sandy Desert Trail.

Chapter 442 participated in the Missing in

Sr. Vice Cdr James Starkman - <u>karen4357@att.net</u> Jr. Vice Cdr Harold Thomas -<u>haroldrobthomas18@gmail.com</u> Adjutant Keith Gray - <u>commandermophaz@gmail.com</u>

Meeting date: 2nd Saturday Meeting time: 9:00 AM Meeting location: Sands Chevrolet Surprise Conference Room (16991 W Waddell Rd, Surprise, AZ 85388) Enter parking lot from N Cotton Lane. Website: <u>http://691.mophaz.org/</u>

**Note:** Meetings will also be via video conference using Zoom on a computer or tablet. When prompted, enter the meeting ID (842 2842 9701) and then the password (879117). To join by phone, call 719 359 4580 and, when prompted, enter the meeting id and the password.

Patriot Jimi Sallmen participated in the Purple Heart Riders meeting last month.







Commander Michael Overmeyer <u>moverme48@gmail.com</u> **Sr. Vice Cdr** Phil Yin <u>philyin@msn.com</u> **Jr. Vice Cdr** Chuck Byers <u>seagb@cox.net</u> **Adjutant** James King <u>kingjs6@live.com</u>

Meeting date: 2nd Saturday of the month Meeting time: 10:00 AM Meeting location: Mesa Beckhorn Elk Lodge #2656 at 6718 E Avalon St, Mesa, AZ 85205 America Project. The remains of 19 unclaimed/homeless veterans including one PH recipient were interred in a ceremony at the Arizona Veterans' Memorial Cemetery Marana on Oct 13.



Chapter 442 Jr. Vice-Cdr, John Grand, was honored with a Quilt of Valor from the Northwest Tucson Quilts of Valor group. Nationwide the Quilts of Valor organization has presented over 300,000 quilts to veterans who have served in combat. All quilts are different but have a red, white, & blue theme. Congratulations, John.





Community event to honor Vietnam Veterans on November 13<sup>th</sup> at Gold Canyon United Methodist Church. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Vietnam War pins to be presented to Vietnam Veterans. Proceeds benefit chapter 2560.



Nancy Fassbender, AZ Veterans Hall of Fame Inductee and Honorary Member of MOPH Chapter 2560 is working on two grants to support veterans' activities. She has written a grant request to Blue Cross Blue shield to support Wreaths Across America. A second grant request was to AZ Department of Veterans Services to help fund the March 25th Welcome Home Veterans Ceremony.

## Dale E. Crick Chapter 793 – Flagstaff, AZ



Commander Rodger Ely juggy64@aol.com Sr. Vice Cdr Daniel Reich daniel\_r\_reich@msn.com Jr. Vice Cdr Elmer Sangster sangster333@hotmail.com Adjutant William Weldon baseballbillpaul@npgcable.com

# John Suardini Chapter 790 – Scottsdale, AZ



The November meeting is scheduled for Mon, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM MST. (Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, or Adjutant) <u>are REQUIRED</u>

to attend. All other members are invited to participate.

# Chapter Officers: If you cannot make it,, please CALL the Commander ((210 663 6072) to let him know.

# Initial Agenda:

- What is a Zoom meeting?
- What is a Regular meeting?
- What is a Social meeting?

If you have additional topics to be discussed, please let him know.

Time: 6:00 PM Arizona

Every month on the first Monday of the month, until Aug 2023,

- Nov 7, 2022, 06:00 PM regular meeting
- Dec 5, 2022, 06:00 PM social meeting
- Jan 2, 2023, 06:00 PM zoom meeting
- Feb 6, 2023, 06:00 PM regular meeting
- Mar 6, 2023, 06:00 PM social meeting
- Apr 3, 2023, 6:00 PM zoom meeting
- May 1, 2023, 6:00 PM regular meeting
- Jun 5, 2023, 6:00 PM so
  - social meeting zoom meeting
- Jul 3, 2023, 6:00 PM zoo
- Aug 7, 2023, 6:00 PM regular meeting

No meetings in September.

Monthly: Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/6983434344?pwd=eXBJK2lqYl JObWdjMm1UNHZ4YnVQdz09 Meeting ID: 698 343 4344 Passcode: 738329

Commander Ian Parkinson -<u>790commander@gmail.com</u> Sr. Vice Cdr Sylvestre Primous – <u>slysax85@gmail.com</u> Jr. Vice Cdr Stephan Bobby – <u>veteranairborne@yahoo.com</u> Adjutant Woody Glaudel - <u>woodyglaudel@cox.net</u>

## Facebook: Chapter 793 Facebook

Meeting date: Bi-monthly on 4th Wednesday. Meeting time: 12:30PM Meeting location: VFW Post 1709 409 W Santa Fe Ave, Flagstaff, AZ 86001

Patriot Billy Weldon serves as a crossing guard for his local elementary school. Thank you Billy!



Chapter 793 participated in the Missing in America Project. The remains of 16 unclaimed/homeless veterans were interred in a ceremony at the Arizona Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Camp Navajo.





**Chapter 472 – Mesa, AZ** Cdr James Pomush <u>landjpomush@gmail.com</u> Jr. Vice Cdr Ramiero Del Rio -(602) 818-0796 Adjutant James Pomish <u>landjpomush@gmail.com</u>

Meeting date: Last Thursday

Meeting date: 1st Monday of the month (No Meetings in September) Meeting time: 6:00PM; Dinner: 6:00PM (optional) Meeting location: American Legion Post 44 7145 E 2nd St, Scottsdale, AZ 8525

## Some Gave All - All Gave Some!

Order a 4" x 8" Purple Heart Brick to be placed at Wesley Bolin Plaza at the State Capitol to commemorate being a Purple Heart recipient or order one to commemorate a family member or friend who received the Award. The cost of the brick, engraving, and placement costs are: \$35 Purple Heart recipients and \$40 for other veterans.

Checks, along with a copy of your order form, should be made out to MOPH AZ and sent to this address:

Patriot Stephan Bobby MOPH AZ PH Brick Coordinator 4543 E. County Down Dr. Chandler, AZ 85249-7339 or

Download the Order Form: <u>PH COMMEMORATIVE BRICK ORDER FORM</u>





## **Department Fundraising**

Support The Purple Heart Combat Wounded Veterans of Arizona by shopping at SMILE.AMAZON. (https://smile.amazon.com/ch/82-1286505).

of the month (No meetings: Jun Jul & Aug) Meeting time: 10:00AM Meeting location: American Legion Post 26 505 W 2nd Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85210-1202

Chapter 472 will participate in the East Valley Veterans' Day Parade in Mesa, AZ on November 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM.



## Chapter 1598 - Sun Lakes, AZ



Commander Dominic Digiovanni <u>kmjjd1958@gmail.com</u> Sr. Vice Cdr Joseph Delligatti joethebullet@msn.com Adjutant Joseph Delligatti <u>kmjjd1958@gmail.com</u>

Meeting date: 2nd Friday of each month (No meetings: Jun Jul Aug & Sep)

Meeting time: 9:30AM Meeting location: Sun Lakes Country Club 25601 South Sun Lakes Blvd, Chandler AZ 85248

## Signed by the Governor

HB 2062 Vehicle license tax exemption veterans: A. Notwithstanding section sections 28-2003 and 28-5801, the



registering officer shall not collect a vehicle license tax or registration fee from a veteran for a personally owned vehicle or a veteran and another party owning

#### American Dream Ambassador Program



American Dream Ambassador Program gives registered homeowners access

to deep discounts to products and services needed to renovate or remodel their home, they can even help renovate or purchase a home. <u>Become an</u> <u>American Dream Ambassador **TODAY**</u>!

Registration is a one-time fee of \$50! After payment a \$25 tax-deductable donation will be made to the Department of Arizona, MOPH of the USA, Inc in your name. Get all the details and buy your subscription on our website at <u>American</u> <u>Dream Program</u>.

#### **Purple Heart Coins U.S. Mint**



The 2022 National Purple Heart Hall of Honor Commemorative Coin Program commemorates U.S. service members who have been wounded or killed by enemy action. Public law directs the U.S.

Mint to produce \$5 gold coins, \$1 silver coins, and half dollar clad coins as part of the program. Coins come in several designs. Up to \$35 of the cost is donated to the Purple Heart Hall of Honor. Coins can be ordered at the <u>U.S. Mint's website</u>.

HEROES PATRIOTIC LUNCHEON

VMLC 20th Annual HEROES PATRIOTIC LUNCHEON on November 10<sup>th</sup>. Our featured speaker is MOH Recipient, Major General Patrick Henry Brady. Get tickets <u>online</u>



a vehicle. The **exemption allowed by this subsection applies only to one vehicle** and only if all of the following apply:

1. the veteran is a bona fide **PURPLE heart medal** recipient.

2. The **veteran was honorably discharged** from the United States military.

3. On initial registration of the vehicle, the veteran submits satisfactory proof to the department that the person is a veteran and a bona fide purple heart medal recipient and was honorably discharged as required by paragraph 2 of this subsection.

\$25 initial application fee/ \$5 annual renewal. Applicant must be a veteran and a Purple Heart recipient and provide a copy of a DD214 or 215, WDAGO forms 53-55 or 53-98, NAVPERS 553 or NAVMC 78, or provide an original letter from the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services (ADVS) verifying eligibility. The initial application fee goes to the Department of Veterans' Services.. May be personalized for an additional \$25 initial application fee/ \$25 annual renewal fee.

**H.B. 2701** reduces fees for hunting and fishing licenses issued by the Arizona Game and Fish Department for veterans. Under the new law, veterans with a service connected disability will



receive a 25 percent reduction on their hunting and fishing licenses and **Purple Heart recipients** will have a 50 percent reduction.

**H.B. 2741** waived **state business licensing fees for military spouses and honorably discharged veterans.** The move adds to the current rule that agencies must waive any initial business licensing fee for an applicant whose income does not exceed 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines.

## The PACT ACT

VA information on the newly passed PACT Act can be found on the VA website link below: https://www.va.gov/resources/the-pact-act-and-your-

va-benefits/

<u>Newsletter</u>

Please send information and photos that you would

#### VA Camp Lejeune Information

VA has established a presumptive service connection for Veterans, Reservists, and National Guard members exposed to contaminants in the water supply at Camp Lejeune from August 1, 1953 through December 31, 1987 who later developed one of the following eight diseases:

Adult leukemia; Aplastic anemia and other myelodysplastic syndromes; Bladder cancer; Kidney cancer; Liver cancer; Multiple myeloma; Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma; & Parkinson's disease.

Go to the <u>VA Website</u> for more information.

## **From the Archives**

The first Purple Heart organization in Arizona was the Arizona Chapter #73 Military Order of the Purple Heart chartered in 1939. It was the only PH organization in the state at that time.

Arizona Daily Star 12 Mar 1939, Sun - Page 2

# PURPLE HEART IS BASIS FOR GROUP

A charter for a Tucson chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, composed of men who hold that military decoration was received yesterday from national headquarters in Chicago. The group of charter members and other eligible persons will meet Tuesday at 7:30 in the library of the Legion dugout.

The charter members and their potential rating, subject to a vote of the group at the first meeting is as follows:

John M. Graves, commander; Louis E. Young, senior vice commander and chief of staff; Edmont H. Basye, junior vice commander; C. Zaner Lesher, adjutant; Harold W. Preiss, sergeant at arms and color guard, Wilson Martin Roush, finance officer; Marshall Leavitt, inspector; Fred W. Fickett, judge advocate; Ralph E. Ellson, publicity; William Burns, welfare office; Emil L. Larson, chaplain and historian; Vance Norman Hamby, like included in the newsletter to

<u>mophchapter442@comcast.net</u> We would like to get the newsletter out the last day of the month. Get me news information & photos by the  $15^{\text{th}}$  of each month.

Respectfully, John R. Moore. Jr.Vice-Commander



## From the Archives

The first Purple Heart organization in Northern Arizona was chartered in Flagstaff in 1946. It was known as The Snow Bowl Chapter #253 Military Order of the Purple Heart.

> Williams News 12 Sep 1946, Thu - Page 1

# CHAPTER PURPLE HEART TO BE ESTABLISHED

A new chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart will be started September 26, 1946, at the American Legion Hall, Flgastaff, it was explained by William J. Bray, holder of the Purple Heart and member of the organization.

The Purple Heart was first established by General George Washington on August 7, 1782 at Newburgh, N. Y., during the Revolutionary War and was called the "Medal of Merit" in the figure of a heart in purple. It was revived by General Douglas MacArthur in 1932 to be a sacred tie between the soldiers of all our wars.

All veterans who hold the Purple Heart from any war are entitled to membership.