



June 2024

Volume 4 Issue 11

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER
Patriot Keith Gray

Patriots,

Summer Schedule: This summer many of our chapters will go dark as temperatures get hotter. Your Department and Chapter officers will still be available to assist with any needs or issues that arise. You can contact us by email. We will also hold a monthly Commander's Call/Department Executive Committee each month by Zoom. Members are welcome to attend the meeting.



Events: Even though the chapters are dark there will still be some events on the calendar. If you are staying in the area, please represent the order where you can. Your presence is important because you represent a special group of citizens. Less than one tenth of one percent of the Nation's population are living Purple Heart recipients. I will be attending the **Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community 3rd annual Purple Heart Day fun run/walk on August 3rd**, even if you can't

participate, your moral support will go a long way in showing appreciation for this event that is hosted in our honor as Purple Heart recipients. There will be opportunities to pass out water to the participants. I will also be attending the **Diamondbacks game on August 8th**; I will encourage anyone in the area to attend. We have asked them to become a Purple Heart sports team, they want to see that we will support them as well, so if there is nothing currently on your schedule consider joining us. These are some events that are in addition to regular meetings, which is something that was asked for by members so let's capitalize on the opportunities and hopefully, they will lead to many more. Also participate in the Purple Heart Day events planned by your chapter. If engaged in outdoor activities please be aware of the heat, take breaks, and drink plenty of water. If traveling this summer, please be safe. I look forward to seeing you at an event this year.

Program Development, as highlighted last month is our main priority. **Suicide Awareness** is the first program we are developing. We have formed a department Suicide Prevention Committee, and they are starting work on a Department program. We need to develop a good **Fundraising Plan** and the DEC is working on a fundraising plan. More information will follow.

The Commander's Call/DEC is every month on the Fourth Wednesday. A member of the chapter command group must attend. Open to all members. Please bring your suggestions so we can make the best possible decisions for the department.

Time: 06:30 PM Arizona Time, July 24, 2024

Zoom Meeting ID: 842 2842 9701

Passcode: 879117 or Dial in: 669 900 6833.

Yours in Patriotism,
Keith Gray
Commander

DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT
Patriot Larry Leighton



Political Events and the MOPH: I hope everyone received and read the National Commander's June 14th message (Subject: National Commander's Message Regarding Politics/Political Endorsements and MOPH Legislative

Authority). The bylaws and procedures are intended to protect the non-political nature of Order. You can always wear the medal at any time and at any place; you can be a candidate; you can support a candidate in person or with signs on your property -- as long as you are not wearing any article of clothing, including a hat while campaigning (letterhead, posters, etc.) and your signs do not include Military Order of the Purple Heart or include the Order's logo. If you have any questions, feel free to give me a call.

Suicide Awareness and Prevention Committee.

During the Convention, we formed this committee, to be chaired by Chaplain Blehm, to develop a program that we all can get behind to reduce the number of Veteran suicides in our State. Each Chapter has a representative to the Committee but anyone with a desire to help formulate and drive our program home is encouraged to contact your Chapter Commander or Chaplain Blehm (jblehmsr@gmail.com, 623-628-6330) and offer your help.

Suicide Awareness and Prevention is not just a week or a month on the calendar. It is a daily mission for all of us.

Purple Heart Fun Run/Walk/Run: The Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community, an Arizona Purple Heart Community, is hosting their **Third Annual event to honor the service and sacrifice of all Purple Heart recipients.** Registration

Tanner Thomas Veteran Village: The department has financially pledged to support the development of this village. We will provide them with a check as soon as the ground-breaking ceremony is scheduled. This [link](#) and QR Code provide a short briefing on the background and how the Veteran Village will address Veteran Homelessness.



Veteran homelessness is a pressing issue that affects not only the individuals who have served our country but also our society. According to the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, on any given night, there are over 37,000 veterans experiencing homelessness in the United States. This number represents a staggering 11% of the total homeless population, despite veterans making up only 7% of the general population.

The reasons for veteran homelessness are complex and multifaceted. Many veterans struggle with PTSD, traumatic brain injury, and other mental health issues that can make it difficult to maintain stable housing. Additionally, the transition from military to civilian life can be challenging, leading to unemployment, poverty, and family separation. The lack of affordable housing, inadequate mental health services, and limited access to healthcare also contribute to the problem. Solving veteran homelessness is not only our patriotic moral obligation, but it is also essential to the well-being of our society. As the adage goes, "we are only as strong as our weakest link." Veteran homelessness is a vulnerability that affects us all, and addressing it is crucial to upholding the social contract we have with those who have served our country.

Tanner Thomas Village for Veterans will be a beacon of hope and a necessary haven in the Phoenix region, providing a safe and supportive community for our nation's heroes. As veteran homelessness continues to rise, this vital endeavor

starts at 06:30 AM and the event starts at 7:00 AM on Saturday, August 3rd at the Lehi Community Center in Mesa (1231 E. Oak St). If you are in the area, come out and support the event with encouragement or as a participant.

Your profile (Chapter, Department, and National): Remember to keep your personal profile up to date with any changes to your mailing address, email address, or phone number. Any Chapter or Department Officer can give you a hand with an update if you should need help.

Be SAFE!

If you are traveling for fun, business, or just going back to your “other home,” be SAFE.

honors the sacrifices of those who have served by offering a stable and dignified living environment, empowering them to rebuild their lives and reclaim their place in society. By supporting Tanner Thomas Village, we not only uphold our moral obligation to our veterans but also strengthen the fabric of our community, demonstrating that we value the bravery, resilience, and freedom they have fought to protect.

Yours in Patriotism,
Larry Leighton
Adjutant

DEPARTMENT JR. VICE-COMMANDER
Patriot John Moore



July 4th is Independence Day which commemorates the Declaration of Independence, which was ratified by the Second Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, establishing the United States of

America. Let us celebrate this great country, the blessing of freedom, and the privileges that come with it. On this day, we celebrate our freedom, and salute each of you who has made our Freedoms possible and have helped to keep our Nation safe. Happy 4th of July to all our members.

July 27th is Korea War Armistice Day. 5.8 million Americans served in the U.S. armed



services during the Korean War. From June 25, 1950, to July 27, 1953, 54,246 Americans died in the Korean War. A very special thanks

goes out to our 55 members that served in the

June was PTSD Awareness Month: To our veterans, your courage extends beyond the battlefield. Seeking help and talking about your



struggles takes immense strength. Know that you are not alone—there's a community that stands with you, ready to offer support and understanding. If you or someone you know is

struggling, reach out—help is available!



Cody

Congratulations to Patriot Cody Phipps from Chapter 442 who was elected Department Sergeant-at-Arms at the June 26th Department Executive Committee meeting. Thank you for serving.

On August 8th to honor Purple Heart recipients the Diamondbacks are providing free admission to PH recipients for the game against the Phillies. Contact us if you desire tickets. Your guests will have to pay but will receive a MOPH discount.

“Forgotten War”. Thank you, Korean War Veterans!

MOPH members also get a discount on all home games this year if you use this [link](#) to purchase tickets.

John R. Moore
Jr. Vice-Commander

DEPARTMENT INFORMATION

Purple Heart Combat Wounded Veterans of AZ



The Purple Heart Combat Wounded Veterans of Arizona is our department 501c3 entity. If for tax purposes, you or a donor is required to donate to a 501c3 use our online portal to make your donation. Funds designated for a chapter will go in their entirety to the chapter. Use the

“Add/Write NOTE” field to specify the purpose of your donation. Thank you in advance for supporting Veterans! **Donate Online:** [Donations Appreciated](#)

The Purple Heart Fund

The MOPH Fund, Inc., (“the Fund”) a 501.c.3 non-profit public charity, is separate and not subordinate to the Military Order of the Purple Heart. The Fund Inc. is the official fundraising arm of the Military Order of the Purple Heart (the



Order). Our sole purpose is to raise funds for programs executed by the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

We in the Fund hope the Order’s members and associate members will embrace the Fund’s programs to raise funds for CHAPTER and National Headquarters programs.



To learn about the specific Fund’s fundraising projects currently available, simply click on the logo above or scan the QR Code.

If you have any questions about the Fund or the Fund’s fundraising projects, please contact me.

Department Officers 2024/2025

Cdr: Keith Gray commandermophaz@gmail.com
Sr. Vice Cdr: Jimi Sallmen juggy64@aol.com
Jr. Vice Cdr: John Moore
mophchapter442@comcast.net
Adjutant: Larry Leighton
adjutant.mophaz@gmail.com
Finance Officer: Jim Starkman karen4357@att.net
Sgt-at-Arms: Cody Phipps
cody.phipps@outlook.com
Inspector: **vacant position**
Judge Advocate: **vacant position**
Americanism Officer: **vacant position**
Chaplain: John L. Bhelm jblehmsr@gmail.com
Legislative Liaison: Jim Muhr

Update Your Contact Information

Keep your snail mail address, phone & email address up to date. Go to the [MOPH National website](#). You need your membership number to log-in. You can then update your contact information. You can also email us at adjutant.mophaz@gmail.com and we can update your snail mail, phone & email address for you.

Officer Vacancies

We need your help to fill vacant officer positions. The current vacancies are **Judge Advocate, Inspector, Americanism, and three Finance Committee members**. Members can self-nominate or nominate another member. When we have nominees, the DEC will schedule a special election for the position. Help the Order by serving. Most meetings are held on Zoom.

Larry Leighton
Treasurer, MOPH Fund, Inc.
treasurer@mophfund.org
844-MOPHFUND (667-4386)



Challenge Coins



Challenge coins are back in stock. Coins are available from the Department or from the Chapters. They cost \$20 and \$10 is the net for each coin the chapters and the department sell. Buy one and help support the state Order.

FORT LOWELL CHAPTER 442 – TUCSON, AZ

Welcome to Chapter 442. Chapter 442 hosts bingo each month for patients at the Tucson VA Hospital. The next Bingo session will be held on July 27th. Join us in hosting Bingo. In June, we provided \$250 of food for homeless veterans housed at the Esperanza En Escalante Project.



At the May meeting we approved the annual budget for the chapter.

On August the 7th the chapter will visit the Purple Heart recipients in the Arizona State Veterans Home Tucson and honor them on Purple Heart Day.

On August 14th the chapter will make a presentation to the Rotary Club of Tucson about the Military Order of the Purple Heart and how we help the veterans in the local community.

The chapter will be dark for the months of July and August. We will still be available if you have items that we need to be aware of or act on. Email one of the officers in the listing in the section below. The next meeting is on September 16th.

Yours in Patriotism,
Mike Dyer
Commander

Commander Mike Dyer – mrdyer@comcast.net
Sr. Vice-Cdr Richard Perkins - rperkins823@gmail.com
Jr. Vice-Cdr: Cody Phipps - cody.phipps@outlook.com
Chaplain: Danny Lemon - ddlemon@outlook.com
Adjutant: John Moore – mophchapter442@comcast.net

Website: <https://442.mophaz.org/>

Facebook: [Chapter 442 Facebook Page](#)

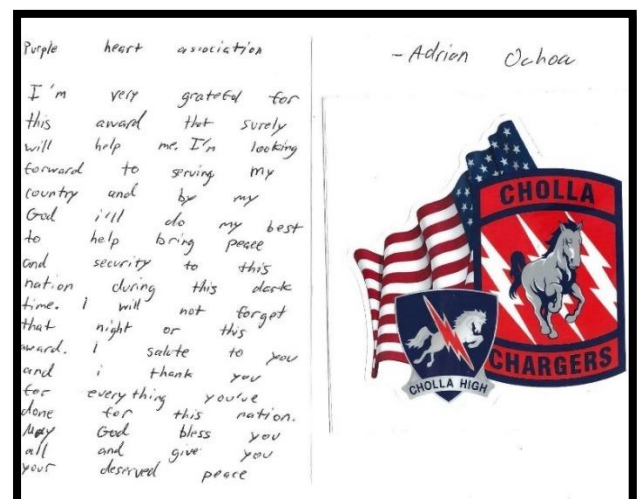
Donate online: [Donations Appreciated](#)

Meeting date: 3rd Monday (no meetings February, June, July, or August)

Time: 5:00 PM

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

Cadet Adrian Ochoa, Cholla High School, sent the chapter a nice thank you note for the MOPH JROTC Leadership Award he received from MOPH.



Spencer Construction LLC of Tucson has provided Chapter 442 a generous \$5,000 donation for veteran welfare. Thank you, Spencer Construction, for your support of veterans. **Commander Mike Dyer** presented a patriotic chest to **Patrick Spencer** of **Spencer Construction** as a memento for their generous donation. Patrick was also given a challenge coin and a replica Badge of Merit



Patriot Dyer and Patrick Spencer

Patriot John Moore authored a PowerPoint and video presentation that explains who we are and what we do. You can view the video at [this link](#) or click on the photo below. Enjoy!



Chapter 442 hosts bingo each month for patients at the Tucson VA Hospital. Bingo is held at 2:00 PM the last Saturday of each month. **Patriot Dave Bertagnoli** is our POC for bingo. He can use help with passing out prizes and assisting the players. If you can help, meet Dave at bldg. 60 at 1:30 PM. Join us in hosting Bingo.



The Tucson VA Hospital will hold a **summit on Homelessness on July 9th**. It will be held in building 4 rooms A & B or also by Zoom. See the flyer for more information. Topics of discussion and more information is to follow.





Cdr: Jason Duren jason@cidercorpsaz.com
Sr. Vice-Cdr: Ramiero Del Rio (602) 818-0796
Finance: James Pomush landjpomush@gmail.com
Adjutant: Stephan Bobby veteranairborne@yahoo.com
Chaplain: Ignacio Rivera - 480-926-2278

Meeting date: Last Thursday 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

Patriot Jim Pomush was nominated for the **City of Mesa's Hometown Heroes Banner Program**. His banner was unveiled on the program's June 7th kickoff. Jim's banner is located on Main Street and Robson. Congratulations Jim!

"I am humbled to have been nominated and then selected for this year's **City of Mesa Hometown Heroes Banner Program**. The program honors military veterans with a banner that is displayed downtown in June and again in November. The city selects veterans who give back to their community through volunteerism and leadership. I have resided in the City of Mesa for 55 years. I was acknowledged for my military service years, volunteer and leadership roles with the Purple Heart, Commander of the Jewish War Veterans Red Mountain Post 128, Master of my blue lodge-Oriental No. 20 Free and Accepted Masons and the Mesa Hohokams raising funds for local youth sports programs."



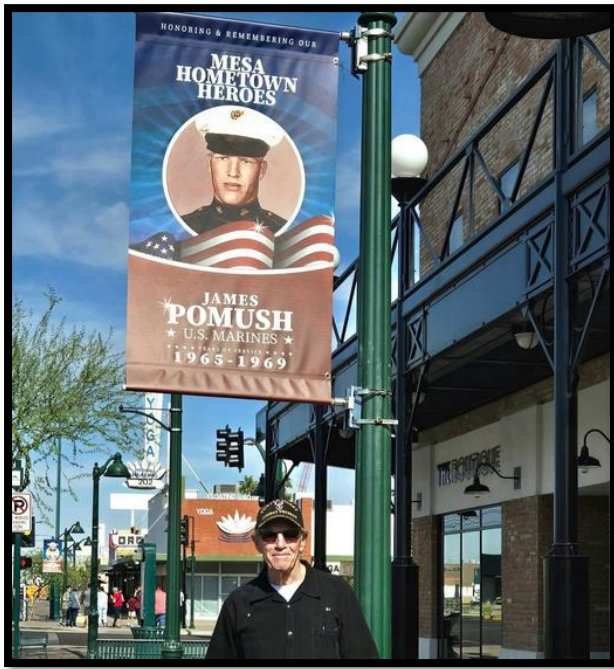
Sally Jo Harrison, President/CEO City of Mesa Chamber of Commerce and Patriot Pomush



Patriot Stephan Bobby, Chapter 472 oversees the **Purple Heart Memorial Brick Program** for the Department. The next group of bricks **will be installed on Purple Heart Day, August 10th** at Wesley Bolin Plaza at the state capital. Order a 4"x8" Purple Heart Brick 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 & sent to:

Patriot Stephan Bobby
MOPH AZ PH Brick Coordinator
4543 E. County Down Dr.
Chandler, AZ 85249-7339
or Download Order Form: [PH ORDER FORM](#)



Patriot Pomush and his banner



Bricks at Bolin Plaza



MICHAEL E. MAHONEY CHAPTER 691 – SURPRISE, AZ

Remember we are NOT having a formal meeting in July or August! Our next meeting is **Saturday, September 14th** at Sands Chevrolet in Surprise.



Even if you think watching baseball is like watching grass grow, don't forget the Arizona Diamondbacks are honoring Purple Heart recipients with **free tickets for ALL Purple Heart recipients (do not have to be a member of the Order) at their home game on Wednesday, August 8th in honor of Purple Heart Day** (no game on August 7th). They also have **discounted tickets for recipients, guests, and friends on their other home games**. If you want tickets for the game, give me a call at 623-776-5443.

We have several fundraising events planned for this fall and will need your help and participation. While "don't ever volunteer" may have been a clever idea while you were on active duty, it is not good now. For those who cannot stand too long, we'll provide chairs, but I won't rub your feet! A couple of hours of your time will further our mission immensely.

Feel like telling your story? There are several opportunities to do just that, including being a speaker at one of our meetings. If you don't want to do it but you have an idea for a topic or a speaker, give me a call.

Are you doing "okay"? If you are sick or in distress or know of someone who is, please reach out to Chaplain Blehm (jblehmsr@gmail.com, 623-628-6330).

Don't be a stranger! Put our meetings on your calendars. A couple of hours, one Saturday a month spent with your fellow combat wounded Brothers and Sisters will be good for you!

Remember, if you have not talked to another Vet from your past lately, pick up the phone and make his or her day! If you'd like to make a new friend (I've got a roster) or if you just want to talk to someone, you can always call me – I am a good listener (623-776-5443).



Stay safe and I hope to see you at the meeting on Sep 14th. You can always get the latest meeting information and video connection on our website at <http://691.mophaz.org/#meetings>; or by scanning the QR code at the left.

Yours in Patriotism
Larry Leighton
Commander

Cdr: Larry Leighton -
commander691moph@gmail.com
Sr. Vice-Cdr: James Starkman -
karen4357@att.net
Jr. Vice-Cdr: John Ballenger Jr. -
ejballenjer22@msm.com
Chaplain: John Blehm (623-628-6330)
Adjutant: Larry Leighton -
commander691moph@gmail.com

Meeting date: 2nd Saturday

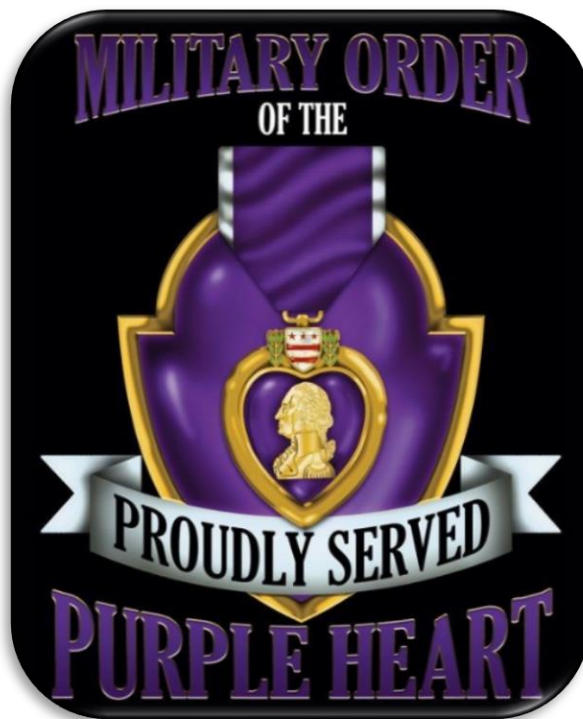
Meeting time: 9:00 AM

Meeting location: Sands Chevrolet Surprise
Conference Room (16991 W Waddell Rd, Surprise,
AZ 85388) Enter parking lot from N Cotton Lane.

Website: <http://691.mophaz.org/>

Facebook: [Chapter 691 Facebook](#)

Note: Meetings will also be via Zoom. Enter the meeting ID (842 2842 9701) and the password (879117). By phone, call 719 359 4580 and enter the id/password.



DALE E. CRICK CHAPTER 793 – FLAGSTAFF, AZ

Fellow Patriots,



Welcome to Chapter 793. Our chapter participates in patriotic and welfare activities throughout Northern Arizona. Chapter 793 supports the Northern Arizona Stand Downs in several Northern Arizona communities.

The chapter hosted the Department of Arizona MOPH convention on May 11th in Williams, AZ. It was an excellent convention. A wonderful time was had by all in attendance. Sunday after the convention attendees took the Grand Canyon Railway for a visit to the Grand Canyon.

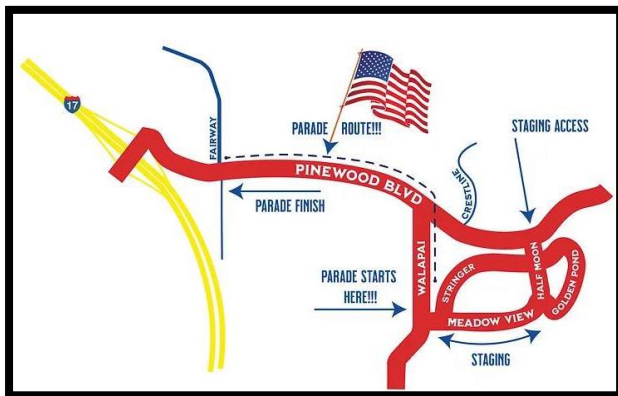
Join with us and **the Purple Heart Truck at 2024 Munds Park 4th of July Parade** sponsored by the Pinewood Property Owners' Association. The parade starts at 10 am, but road closures are in effect at 9:45 am, so get out early to avoid roadblocks and ensure you get an excellent place to sit and enjoy the fun. A detour route goes from Pinewood Blvd and Fairway Dr and goes via Oak Dr and Crestline Rd back to Pinewood Blvd. This year's Grand Marshalls will soon be announced, and there will be an Army Color Guard and a large group of Army vehicles! An excellent place to watch the parade is Walapai Rd, with parking available in the residential areas.

You are always welcome to join us!

Roger Ely
Commander

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
Facebook: [Chapter 793 Facebook](#)
Next Meeting – Contact the Chapter
Meeting time: 12:30PM
Meeting location: VFW Post 1709
409 W Santa Fe Ave, Flagstaff, AZ 86001
Meeting date: Bi-monthly on 4th Wednesday.

Munds Park 4th of July Parade will start at 10:00 AM. Road closures are in effect at 9:45 am, so get out early to avoid roadblocks and ensure you get an excellent place to sit and enjoy the fun. See map below.



The Twin Arrows Stand-Down was held on 27 June at the Twin Arrows Navajo Resort in Flagstaff, AZ. A variety of services were available to veterans including VA enrollment.

Flagstaff Veterans VBOC: Every 1st Tuesday of the month, 10:00am to 3:00pm the Flagstaff Veterans CBOC will have a VA representative to help with various VA issues and help file disability claims.



The Moving Wall was at Twin Arrows Navajo Casino Resort May 30th to June 3rd. There was excellent turnout from the community and veterans' groups. Thank you to all who attended.



Remembrance ceremony at Twin Arrows



Opening ceremony



Remembrance ceremony at Twin Arrows

CHAPTER 2560 – APACHE JUNCTION, AZ



Cdr: Michael Overmeyer > moverme48@gmail.com

Sr. Vice Cdr: Chuck Byers > seagb@cox.net

Jr. Vice Cd: James King > kingjs6@live.com

Adjutant: Sandra King kingjs6@live.com

Meeting date: 2nd Saturday of the month.

Meeting time: 10:00 AM

Meeting location: Mesa Buckhorn Elk Lodge #2656 at 6718 E Avalon St, Mesa, AZ 85205

The chapter took part in Congressman Andy Bigg's 4th Annual Drop Zone on June 1st at the American Leadership Academy in Mesa. A variety of services were available to veterans.



Congressman Bigg at the MOPH table

Honorary Chapter Member Nancy Fassbender was nominated for the City of Mesa's Hometown Heroes Banner Program. Her banner was unveiled at the program's June 7th kickoff.



Nancy with her banner



Commander Overmeyer, Congressman Biggs & Nancy Fassbender



POTPOURRI

The Purple Heart Magazine



The current issue of the Purple Heart Magazine is available [online](#). Enjoy!

MyVA Hotline

The Whitehouse VA Hotline and MyVA411 have merged. [1-800-MyVA411 \(698-2411\)](tel:1-800-MyVA411) is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to serve veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors.

Arizona StandDown Alliance

The Arizona Veterans StandDown Alliance (AVSA), established in 2013, is a program of the Arizona Housing Coalition that holds annual events and resource fairs in 13 of Arizona's 15 counties. These events allow veterans and their families who are experiencing housing instability and homelessness to get and stay connected to housing and supportive services.

White Mountain StandDown

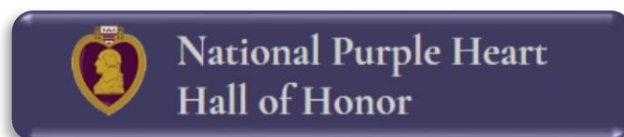
Saturday, August 17, 10am - 3pm
Show Low City Gym

NATIONAL CONVENTION

The **National Convention** will be held in **Orlando, FL** this year from **July 15-18th**. Hotel information is available on the [National website](#) or the Department of [Florida website](#).



The Purple Heart Hall of Honor



Add your story to the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor. Enroll at the url below:

<https://www.thepurpleheart.com/enrollment/>

760 E White Mountain Blvd
Show Low, AZ 85902

Williams StandDown

Friday, September 13, 9am - 2pm
Williams Recreation Center
300 W Railroad Ave
Williams, AZ 86046

Yavapai County StandDown

Friday and Saturday, September 20-21
US Vets
1040 Whipple Street
Prescott, AZ 86305

Navajo County StandDown

Saturday, September 28, 9am - 3pm
455 N 8th St
Holbrook, AZ 86025

Pinal County StandDown **October TBD**

HOHP/Eagles Landing Veteran Center
100 E. Florence Blvd.
Casa Grande, Arizona 85122

Cochise County StandDown **Friday, October 18**

The Million Veteran Program



The Million Veteran Program is on a mission to redefine the future of healthcare, and we need YOU to be a part of this monumental journey. MVP is assembling a community of over 1,000,000 Veterans to uncover how genes, lifestyles, military experiences, and exposures impact our health and wellness. Help revolutionize medicine and enhance the lives of Veterans worldwide. Join here: <https://www.mvp.va.gov/pwa/>

Free Tuition for Veteran's Spouses

Purple Heart License Plates

HB 2062 Vehicle license tax exemption for PH veterans: Many of our members are still not aware of this benefit. On registration of a vehicle, if the veteran submits satisfactory proof to ADOT that the person is a veteran and a bona fide Purple Heart medal recipient and was honorably discharged vehicle registration tax fee is waived. Can only be used on one vehicle. Specialty plate and personalization fees still apply.



Purple Heart Scholarships



Applications for the scholarship program are due every July. Information is available on the Purple Heart Scholarship Program at this [link](#).

Bills in Congress

The Veterans Spinal Trauma Access to New Devices (STAND) Act (H.R. 6373/S. 4009) seeks to enhance health care for veterans with spinal cord injuries by mandating that VA offer them annual yearly preventative health evaluations for the purpose of improving consideration of and accessibility to assistive technologies that could help maximize their independence and mobility when medically appropriate. There are close to 42,000 veterans with spinal cord injuries (SCI). New assistive technologies like the exoskeleton can empower certain individuals with spinal cord injury to stand, walk, turn, and navigate stairs, which can enhance their health, socialization, independence, and participation in community activities.

Please contact your representatives and urge them to co-sponsor and support H.R. 6373/S. 4009,



Spouses of honorably discharged veterans enrolled at an Arizona public university or participating community college are eligible to receive free tuition on a first-come, first-served basis. Learn more at the [AZ Board of Regents](#).

VFW Post 1709 in Flagstaff is hosting a 4th of July celebration at 12:30 PM at the post at 409 W. Santa Fe Ave, Flagstaff, AZ. All are welcome.



the Veterans Spinal Trauma Access to New Devices (STAND) Act.

H.R. 3644, the Addressing Care Timelines (ACT) for Veterans Act would provide an additional 24-hour period for veterans to inform the VA when receiving care at a non-VA facility under the Veterans Community Care Program. Currently, a veteran must contact the VA within 72 hours of receiving non-VA emergency care; otherwise VA may deny payment for these services even if the veteran is eligible for treatment. Veterans suffering medical emergencies should not have to worry about whether VA will deny coverage or refuse payment because of administrative notification time requirements.

Contact your representative and urge them to co-sponsor and support H. R. 3644, the ACT for Veterans Act.

The Veterans Cannabis Analysis, Research, and Effectiveness (CARE) Act would require the VA to conduct and support research on medicinal cannabis for treating veterans with PTSD, chronic pain, and other conditions. Our nation's veterans deserve access to the most effective treatments available, including alternative options available under the law. Currently veterans can talk about their cannabis use with their medical provider, however, VA clinicians are not permitted to provide veterans recommendations or prescriptions for medical cannabis. It is imperative that safe and effective innovations for the purpose of delivering new evidence-based treatments to improve veterans' health and quality of life are available.

Contact your representatives and urge them to co-sponsor and support H.R. 3584, the CARE Act.

H.R. 3225, the BUILD for Veterans Act, aims to enhance the VA's capital asset program by improving planning and oversight, providing more consistent funding, and strengthening capabilities to start and complete projects to better serve veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors. For VA to maintain its role as the primary provider of timely and quality care, it must address the challenge of an aging infrastructure through the construction and modernization of facilities. Unfortunately, VA medical facilities have a median age of nearly 60 years. Facilities this old were not designed to accommodate the technological and design innovation needs that support modern health care delivery systems.

Newsletter Information



Please send information & photos that you would like included in the newsletter to mophchapter442@comcast.net. We would like to get the newsletter out on the last day of the month. Get news

information & photos to us by the 25th of each month.

John R. Moore
Jr. Vice-Commander



Contact your representatives and urge them to co-sponsor and support H.R. 3225, the BUILD for Veterans Act.

The Veterans Flight Training Responsibility Act of 2024 (H.R. 7613) would help veterans who want to become airline or commercial pilots to overcome a potential employment barrier by authorizing the VA to pay a public institution of higher learning up to \$100,000 for a veteran enrolled in flight training. This would remove the current restriction and cap of \$26,000 per academic year. There are about 16,800 projected openings for airline and commercial pilots each year. These positions make great career opportunities for veterans following military service. However, costs for flight training can be expensive and act as a deterrent for seeking this career path.

Contact your Representative and urge them to co-sponsor and support H.R. 7613—the Veterans Flight Training Responsibility Act of 2024.