



All gave some, some gave all

Chapter Officers
Commander: Grant Beck
Sen. Vice: Joe Houle
Jun Vice: Stan Walker
Adjutant: John Cooney
Finance: Mike Rooney
Comm.: Tim Haney
Alt Comm: John Holmes
Trust 3 yr: Bill Treadwell
Trust 2 yr: Tristan Rorie
Trust 1 yr: Prentiss Campbell
Service Off: Jim Foyil
Chaplain: Donald Clinger
Sgt at Arms: Pending

Meeting second Tuesday of the month
at 1900, Military Relocator Realty
building, 1923 Lejeune Blvd.
Jacksonville NC 28546



FRATRES AETERNI
(Brothers forever)

Official chapter website: www.ncmoph.org

E-mail: purpleheart642@ec.rr.com

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Beirut Memorial Chapter 642

Serving the Combat Wounded

Volume 3/15

May/June 2015

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Chapter membership statistics as of 4/30/15

Lifetime members: 738 Help us save postage, send me
Associate Members: 4 your email address
Total Membership: 742

Semper Keeping You Informed

Direct all praise, comments or gripes to the editor at
910 455-1353, 1006 Oak Dr, Jacksonville NC 28546

Military Order of the Purple Heart Mission Statement
The mission of the Military Order of the Purple Heart is to foster an environment of goodwill and camaraderie among Combat Wounded Veterans, promote Patriotism, support necessary legislative initiatives and most importantly, provide service to all veterans and their families

Welcome New Patriots

We want to welcome the new patriots who have joined us since the last newsletter, please come out and participate in our meetings and activities you are now part of the combat wounded brotherhood.

"We few, we happy few, we band of brothers. For he today that sheds his blood with me, shall be my brother." - William Shakespeare, from "King Henry V"



HAVING TROUBLE READING COMPUTER TEXT? HERE'S A TIP -

To make text bigger or smaller hold down the Ctrl key on your keyboard and turn the small wheel in the middle of your mouse. This will change the print size to either larger or smaller depending on which way you turn the wheel.

Calendar of events

- 5 May -- Executive meeting at 1300, Marinas Café**
- 6 May – Purple Heart award ceremony for Korean War Cpl. Robert F. Daily at 1030 at the Freedom fountain downtown Jacksonville ***
- 7 thru 9 May – Annual NC Department Convention, Charlotte NC ***
- 12 May – Monthly PH meeting at 1900 at the Meeting place.**
- 15 May – Museum of the Marine Ground Breaking at the Memorial Garden Location at 1000**
- 16 May – Corpsmen Memorial Dice Run from Lejeune Motor Sports starting at 0900, Need help on this.**
- 16 May – Run for the Warriors Water Stop at Jacksonville High School**
- 20 May – Corpsmen Memorial Meeting at 1800 at the meeting place**
- 22 May – Set up for the Memorial Day ceremony at the Cemetery Time TBA**
- 25 May – Memorial Day ceremony at the Cemetery at 1100 ***
- 2 June – Executive Meeting at 1300, Marinas Café**
- 9 June -- Monthly PH meeting at 1900 at the Meeting place**
- 13 June – Dedication ceremony of Bldgs 59 and 60 at 1000, to be named for Randy Reichler**
- 17 June -- Corpsmen Memorial Meeting at 1800 at the meeting place**

NOTE: * Denotes full Purple Heart attire

Patriots –Since 2005 over one rifle company has been lost to suicide. Let's put that in perspective, more than a rifle company over 200 Marines. That's a company of Marines that could have been fighting the enemy and killing the enemy, instead they took their own lives. For a period of time, here at Lejeune, every Battalion returning had a suicide. If you feel that you are having trouble coping, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255), a free, 24-hour hotline available to anyone in suicidal crisis or emotional distress. Your call will be routed to the nearest crisis center to you. You can also go online to: www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org. Of course you can always call one of our officers for help. Don't be another non-combat statistic, life is too precious and you mean way too much to our chapter and your family.

Chapter Van

The Chapter van is available for chapter members or spouses that are Wheel chair bound, for transport to medical appointments and chapter functions. Any other use needs to be approved by the commander.



Chapter Happenings

March began with a Field Medical Training Bn. Graduation where we presented a plaque to the honor Corpsman honor student. – Also that same day we presented the Take Pride in your Flag award to Lowes food for the month and received a proclamation from the Kettle Restaurant. – During the period members of the chapter attended Patriot Lazzar's retirement ceremony at the Wounded Warrior Bn. (see pic below)



Also at the Wounded warrior Bn. we attend a spring veterans expo where we passed out applications and explained the mission of the Purple Heart.

April picked up a bit attending a fund raiser at the Ale House for the 7 MARSOC Marines killed in the Helo accident. – The van was utilized transporting our Wheel Chair bound veteran to his VA appointment. – Patriots Clinger and Reddick (a new member) presented a First Responders plaque to a firefighter in Farmville NC. (see pic above right)



Above: Patriot Clinger, First responder coordinator, and brand new chapter member Reddick Present a first responders plaque to firefighter Charles Tripp for injuries received in the line of duty.

The chapter was represented at the Marine Expo South at the field house on base and several patriots attended the Vietnam Appreciation Ceremony held at the Wall in Memorial Gardens.



Patriot Terry Moore, on right and guest speaker places wreath at the Vietnam Appreciation ceremony.

May and June proves to be a period of increased activity, we kick it off by

honoring a Korean War veteran, who will receive his long overdue Purple Heart. -- Later that week we will attend out annual NC Department meeting in Charlotte NC, 7 Members are scheduled to attend. – At the May meeting on the 12th we will have two guest speakers one being Jason Lowery, assistant to Congressman Jones. This should prove interesting, plan on attending. Also the two scholarship recipients– Also a groundbreaking ceremony for the Museum of the Marine and a Corpsmen Memorial Annual dice run fund raiser. – Run for the Warrior Water stop at the Jacksonville High School, we will need patriots to pass out water and Gatorade to the runners, put this on your calendar. -- At the end of May we host the annual Memorial Day ceremony at the Veterans cemetery, our guest speaker this year will be Doctor Lingle of Coastal Carolina Community College. – We all knew and respected Randy Reichler who passed last year. He was a go getter and did so much for the veteran community. Buildings 59 and 60, mainside will be named the Randy Reichler. Let’s plan on having a good turnout to honor him. That about takes care of the scheduled items of course there will always be the last minute stuff that comes up.

“Those who hammer their plows into guns will plow for those who do not.”
Thomas Jefferson

Hotlines for Military

If you are struggling with thoughts of suicide, the following resources are designed to assist troops in crisis. More info about all programs is available at: usmc-mccs.org/suicideprevent.

-National Suicide prevention lifeline -- A 24 hour hotline for those considering suicide. 1 800-273-TALK (troops and vets press #1)

- Military onesource – Free counseling and telephone consultation for troops and their family members:militaryresource.mil or 1-800-342-9647.

- Real warriors program – maintained by the defense centers of excellence to support and sustain active-duty troops in building resilience and helping recovery: realwarriors.net or 1-866-966-1020.

- Camp Lejeune MCCS resilience programs -- Includes classes on stress management, anger management, suicide awareness, prevention and more for families : mccs-lejeune.com/health or 910 451-2865.

Be Alert for Scams and Rip-offs

Some door-to-door salespeople are selling real products and services, but quite a few are pushing scams. The most important thing to remember is that, when a person comes to your door selling something, you don't know who the person is or where you would be able to find him if the deal goes wrong.

Always ask for a physical address and for references, and then take time to check the information. Businesses in Texas are required to register with the Secretary of State (SOS). You can check with the SOS for a physical address or the name of the registered agent of a business. You can also check with the Better Business Bureau.

If you buy from, or contract with, a reputable local business, you can always take the product back or dispute the work done. If you buy from a fly-by-night seller, chances are you'll never see him or her again. Don't put yourself in this position.

Don't be pushed into signing a contract or giving your money to a salesperson unless you're sure you want the product. Take

time to think about it. You should always do some comparison shopping. Remember, any time you get a "once in a lifetime" or "today only" offer, you should be suspicious.

An armed man is a citizen, an unarmed man is a subject!

Thomas Craigg Scholarship Award

The chapter has finally revived this award, some 6 or 7 years ago this award was founded and never implimented. This year we have reestablished it and are giving two \$500.00 Scholarships to two seniors from the local high schools. This is a start and we will proceed from here. This year we only had these two apply and both were approved by the committee. These two have been invited to the May meeting to accept the scholarship and read their Americanism Essay. Hats off to Rosie Noel who revived the award and Stan Walker for getting it rolling again this year.

Newly released VA reports include cases of veteran harm, death



(Photo: H. Darr Beiser, USA TODAY)

WASHINGTON — Almost 140 investigative reports newly released by the inspector general at the Veterans Affairs Department offer a

litany of instances of dysfunction or mistreatment of veterans at VA facilities across the country and show that in many cases, the department's chief watchdog trusted the VA to correct problems on its own rather than make findings public.

The cases range from missed diagnoses to failures during surgery — one veteran's face was set on fire during an operation in Lebanon, Pa. — and from misuse of funds to personnel issues — an intensive care unit at the Tucson VA was beset by a "cauldron of interpersonal tensions and management difficulties," the inspector general found.

They also included reports involving concerns about providers prescribing potentially questionable amounts or combinations of narcotics to veterans in Tampa, Fla., Valdosta, Ga., and Lexington, Ky. Five months after the inspector general reached similar findings about providers in Tomah, Wis., but did not release a public report last year, a 35-year-old Marine Corps veteran died from mixed drug toxicity as an inpatient at the facility.

The range of outcomes in the newly released reports indicate the inspector general may have lacked a uniform standard for deciding when to issue public findings. Roughly 50 reports dismissed allegations of wrongdoing, but more of them — 59 — contained substantiated claims.

Joanne Moffett, a spokeswoman for Richard Griffin, the interim VA inspector general, maintained Wednesday that there was a standard — public reports were not released when a potential lawsuit

was pending, when complaints were unfounded or when inspection officials decided VA officials had or would take care of the problems. Since USA TODAY first reported last month that his office did not publicly release the findings of the 140 health care probes since 2006, Griffin did direct that in the future, only he or his immediate staff would be able to make such decisions.

A gun in the hand is better than a cop on the phone!

From the Commander

I'm taking this opportunity to thank those of you who have re-elected me to the position of Chapter Commander. I'm not sure if it was because you all feel I'm doing such a good job or no-one else wants the job. In any case, thanks for your confidence and, as before, I will promise to uphold the purpose and mission of the MOPH and this Chapter to the best of my ability. I have asked our Adjutant to stay on in that billet and he has graciously agreed (even *without* the threat of bodily harm). I will continue to request your help in keeping this Chapter the best that we can be. We lead the State Department in many areas and we want to continue to do that. It CANNOT be done, however, by only a handful of us. Please keep in mind the Chapter needs participation from as many of you as possible. I request your help whenever you can give us a little time.

Semper Fi,
Grant
gbeck3@ec.rr.com
910-353-8247

From the Adjutant/Editor

Patriots, another newsletter, a few years ago we cut this newsletter to every other month instead of every month. I don't know how I kept up with it every month, I can barely keep up with it bi-monthly now.

Our recruiting is waning, only a couple new members signed up since the last newsletter and a couple transferred out so we stand about where we were two months ago. Let's get out and sign these wounded warriors up, you all know someone that is not a member.

Recently we had a two day event at the field house and only three patriots held down the fort for those two days, thank you Doc Matt, Rooney and Marshall. They were not in good health and at least could have used help setting up and tearing down. We need help at some of these events, some of you active duty could have helped out at this event even coming out in uniform. Helping out for a couple hours can make a difference.

We have some activities coming up in May where we will need quite a bit of help. The Run for the warriors, passing out water and Gatorade to the runners. Also setting up and tearing down of the Memorial Day venue.

We are in the process of doing some good things. We are presenting two \$500.00 scholarship awards to two deserving Seniors from area high schools. Read the article about the scholarships on page 5.

Patriots, as I always say; without you we would have no chapter, thanks for what you do. God Bless and Semper Fi, John

From the Chaplain/Welfare officer

Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in THE MOUTH OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES EVERY WORD MAY BE ESTABLISHED.

And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it to unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

Donald Clinger, Chaplain

Corpsmen Memorial Foundation CMF

Below is the Maquette sculpted by Abbe Godwin the originator of the Beirut Memorial and the Vietnam Memorial in Raleigh.

Donations can be sent to CMF PO Box 12641 Jacksonville NC 28546-2641. The Website is: <http://nccorpsmenmemorial.net/>.

The Maquette is on display in the Physical Therapy wing of the Wounded Warrior Battalion East aboard Camp Lejeune.



Ladies Auxiliary Unit 642

From the Adjutant

Temporary steps have been taken to keep the ladies Auxiliary afloat, an interim president has taken over with a skeleton staff with her. We are really trying to keep this unit going as we feel that it is important to the chapter and the Order. We worked hard to get this ladies auxiliary chartered and it would be a shame to give up the charter. The auxiliary exists to support the chapter.

We have seen increased interest by some of the younger spouses to join and become involved. Patriots talk it over with your spouse and see if she would want to join. The

ladies meet at the same time and place that we do.

We recently had a setback, the acting President, Barbara McGee broke her leg and has been down for a while. She is rehabbing and getting better so she should be back with us shortly.

I know that we have had some new interest in the unit, don't get discouraged, it'll get up and running again.

S/F John

Gun control is not about guns; it's about control!

Unit 642 Officers - Ladies Auxiliary

<u>Positions are interim</u>	<u>Name</u>
President	Barbara McGee
Sen Vice pres	
Treasurer	Alice Houle
Parliamentarian	
Secretary	April Barber
Sgt at Arms	Jean Blick
1 yr trustee/	
2 year trustee	
3 year trustee	
Chaplain	
Historian	
Patriotic Instructor	
Total members 35	

1. How can you catch a unique rabbit? Unique up on it.
2. How do you catch a tame rabbit? The tame way.
3. How do crazy people go through the forest? They take the psycho path.
4. How do you get hot holy water? You boil the hell out of it.
5. What do Eskimos get from sitting on the ice too long? Polaroids.
6. What do you call a boomerang that doesn't work? A Stick.
7. What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire? Frostbite
8. Where do you find a dog with no legs? Right where you left him.