



All gave some, some gave all

Chapter Officers

Commander: Grant Beck
Sen. Vice: Joe Houle
Jun Vice: Ryan Anderson
Adjutant: John Cooney
Finance: Mike Rooney
Comm.: Neil Lathrop
Alt Comm: John Holmes
Trust 3 yr: Eric Johnson
Trust 2 yr: John Holmes
Trust 1 yr: George Reiter
Service Off: Jim Foyil
Chaplain: Donald Clinger
Sgt at Arms: Prentis Campbell

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

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 5/13

September/October 2013

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Chapter membership statistics as of 08/30/2013.

Lifetime members: 653 Help us save postage, send me

Associate Members: 3 your email address

Total Membership: 656

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. We had a few patriots join during this period but I did not get the report. Welcome to all of you newly joined patriots, please come out and participate in our meetings and activities you are now part of the combat wounded brotherhood.

last



**FRATRES AETERNI
(Brothers forever)**

"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

- 2 September -- Labor day, enjoy the long weekend
 - 3 September -- Executive Meeting, 1300 at the Marina Café
 - 7 September -- NC Department meeting at Pembroke NC at 1100, Dress Casual will leave 0800 in Chapter van from McDonalds in Richlands
 - 10 September – PH meeting at 1900 a the Military Relocators
 - 11 September – 9/11 ceremony at the beam at 0845 *
 - 14 September – PH Riders, 9/11 ride from Elks Lodge in Morehead city, dedicated to the wounded warriors
 - 18 September – CMF Meeting at 1800 Military relocators bldg
 - 20 September -- Rolling Thunder’s MIA/POW Flame of Freedom at the Vietnam Memorial At 1830
 - 28 September -- Vietnam Vets Motorcycle run (time and location TBA)
 - 28 September -- Retiree Appreciation Day at Marston Pavilion from 1000 to 1500
 - 30 September thru 5 October -- Onslow County Fair at the American legion for 1 week, will need volunteers
 - 1 October – Executive Meeting at 1300 at the Marina Café
 - 4 October – CMF Golf Tournament, scarlet course on Base, need volunteers
 - 8 October – Purple Heart meeting at 1900 at the Military relocators
 - 16 October – CMF Meeting, 1800 at the Military relocators
 - 23 October – Beirut Ceremony at 1030 at the Beirut Memorial *
- Note : * Wear 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.

New Chapter Van

The Chapter received a van through donations. It is a 2008 Chevrolet with about 67000 miles on it. It’s in great shape but a 15 passenger, the only drawback, uses gas like crazy. The criteria for use remains the same, Chapter members or spouses, only for Wheel chair bound, and chapter functions. Any other use needs to be approved by the commander.



Chapter Happenings

July found us busy presenting Americanism classes to the Onslow County School System. We instructed about 400 youngsters on the history of our flag, flag etiquette and some of the basic freedoms guaranteed by our Constitution. During the month we also honored the Corpsmen and Religious programmers of the Filed Medical Training Bn. by presenting a plaque to their honor graduates. We also continued to pursue the ever elusive placement of the Purple Heart Monument at the Wounded Warriors barracks. As you can see below the slab has been poured. Realization of the monument should take place in September.



Above: progress made over the past year plus, this is where we are now with our monument at the Wounded Warriors barracks.

August was a little busier in that it began with a proclamation by the town of Topsail, declaring it a Purple Heart Community.



Pictured left: Several Patriots attended the proclamation ceremony at Topsail, dedicating that community as a Purple Heart community

We attended a National Night out in downtown Jacksonville at the River walk park and took in donations for the chapter. The next day, 7 August, Purple Heart day we held a Viola fund raiser at the local Sams club. It was a fruitful couple days and we took in about \$800 for the chapter, the Sams Club donations going to the scholarship fund. At the August meeting a new Alternate Executive Committeeman was named, Patriot Holmes volunteered and a new Sgt of Arms was elected, that being Patriot Campbell. This was due to Patriot Renard Singleton spending much of his time in Chicago and unable to attend meetings. Back in June the chapter received a very generous donation from Southwest Elementary School to the tune of \$750. On 19 August at a staff meeting of about 100 teachers and staff, the chapter presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the school for the donation. We were received with great enthusiasm.



Above: Five chapter members present a certificate of appreciation to the Principal of Southwest Elementary School.

On 20 August the chapter presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Marine Chevrolet for the month of August as part of the "Take Pride in Your Flag" Program. This program rotates between 5 vets organizations and honors a business or individual monthly with a plaque or certificate.



Above: Chapter members present a Certificate of appreciation to the manager and staff of Marine Chevrolet for enthusiastically participating in the "Take Pride in Your Flag" Program.

We will be getting busy in the next two months, kicking off with a NC Department Meeting in Pembroke NC on 7 September. This will be the first meeting after the National Convention held in August. We will take our van and meet at the McDonalds in Richlands at 0800. The 9/11 ceremony at the Memorial Gardens will commence at 0845, let's get there early to get seats together. Also, honoring 9/11 the Purple Heart riders have an event in Morehead city on 14 September with the proceeds going to the Wounded Warriors. Rolling Thunder's "Flame of Freedom" will visit Jacksonville on 20 September and there will be a ceremony at 1830 at the Vietnam Veterans memorial.

Toward the end of the month there are two events taking place on the 28th. One is Retirees Appreciation day at Marston pavilion from 1000 to 1500, with a free fish lunch. We will have a table set up with our wares. The other is the annual Vietnam Veterans Motorcycle Ride also on the 28th, location and time TBA.

On 30 September the annual Onslow County fair will commence at the American legion. This goes for one week and we help the legion out at the gate taking tickets in exchange for a booth. We man the booth for the week promoting the Purple Heart and the Corpsmen Memorial Foundation. We need volunteers for this event an hour or a few days, that's all we ask.

In October we begin with the Corpsmen Memorial Golf Tournament on the 4th. This will take place at the Scarlet course aboard the base. Come on out and support our effort to erect this lasting memorial to those who saved many of us. The Beirut Memorial Ceremony, the 30th year, will take place on 23 October. We usually have a good turnout for this event, anywhere from 12 to 15 Patriots attend. Let's continue that great attendance to honor our fallen brothers.

Of course there will be more activities pop up throughout this newsletter period and as usual I will let you know when they occur. Look for the dedication of our Purple Heart Monument at the Wounded Warriors barracks to become a reality real soon, will keep you informed.

"There are two theories when arguing with a woman, neither works." Will Rogers

TRICARE For Life Beneficiaries May Have Higher Costs When Using VA Facilities for Care Not Related to Service Connected Disability

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – Many TRICARE For Life (TFL) beneficiaries use Veterans Affairs (VA) facilities for care related to their service connected disabilities. But, as TFL is a comprehensive Medicare wraparound coverage, beneficiaries are reminded they run the risk of unexpected out-of-pocket costs if they use a VA facility for care not related to a service connected disability.

By law, Medicare can't pay for care at a government facility, such as the VA. When a TFL beneficiary chooses to obtain care from a provider that Medicare can't pay, TRICARE can only pay up to 20 percent of the TRICARE-allowable charge. The TFL beneficiary is responsible for paying the VA the remainder.

Beneficiaries who have been getting care at a VA facility that is not related to a service connected disability should talk to a VA representative about other VA options, including how VA can work with other health insurance (OHI) plans.

As part of the intake process at VA facilities after October 1, 2013, TFL beneficiaries will be asked if they're using their VA or TFL benefit or if they have other health insurance (OHI). When electing to use their TFL benefit at the VA, they will also be informed they must pay the remaining bill after TRICARE pays its portion of the TRICARE-allowable charge. They may be asked to sign a form indicating they understand their responsibility.

TRICARE and the VA recommend getting care for service-connected disability at a VA facility. For other care, TFL beneficiaries may still consider using their VA benefit or they should use TFL with a Medicare-certified provider. When using Medicare providers, TFL beneficiaries typically have no out-of-pocket costs for services covered by both Medicare and TRICARE.

For more information about TFL, beneficiaries may contact the TFL support contractor Wisconsin Physicians Service (WPS) at 1-866-773-0404 or visit www.tricare.mil/tfl to learn more about using TFL. To find Medicare-certified providers visit www.tricare.mil/findaprovider. For more information about the VA, visit www.va.gov/health.

“Letting the cat out of the bag is a whole lot easier than putting it back in.” Will Rogers

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.

Questions Emerge About the Future of the GI Bill

The Post 9/11 GI Bill recently celebrated its four-year anniversary and Veterans Affairs (VA) officials are trying to figure out how student veterans are using the money in order to determine how effective the program truly is. The results will help to determine how long the generous benefit survives, and in what form.

VA Deputy Undersecretary for Economic Opportunity Curt Coy told reporters recently that the VA will launch a series of new tools in the coming months to help student veterans evaluate career paths, compare colleges and make sure they're using their education money wisely.

Prior to now, the VA has been spending most of its time making sure students were actually getting their money. Problems during the implementation phase in 2009 were widely reported at the time.

New automated systems that VA has put in place have simplified the process, and dramatically cut down on delivery times for most veterans' checks. The department now averages processing of payments for enrolled students in about seven days according to VA Undersecretary for Benefits Allison Hickey.

The post-9/11 GI Bill, passed by Congress in response to veterans complaints that the legacy GI Bill programs hadn't kept up with tuition inflation, grants a monthly living stipend and a full four years' tuition at any state school to veterans who served at least three years since September 2001.

Service members who stay in for 10 years can transfer their benefit to a spouse or child.

Since August 2009, more than 1 million veterans and dependents have used the benefit for a total cost of nearly \$30 billion.

But VA officials can't point to any clear results from that spending yet. So VA announced its new effort to track student success in using the new GI Bill, compiling data on graduation, degrees earned and job placement.

TREA: The Enlisted Association has argued that the Post 9/11 GI Bill, along with many other veterans' benefits, are earned benefits and not optional assistance or "entitlements." However, even the original GI Bill was cut down 12 years after its passage in 1944. If it happened in the past, it can happen again and that is something that TREA will be constantly guarding against.

Since service members have up to 15 years from the time of their separation from service to access the education benefits, over the upcoming years even more veterans and dependents will seek to access the tuition money, which would only increase congressional focus on the program.

That will mean tracking not just traditional college graduation rates but also usage of vocational programs and success rates for non-traditional students, who tend to balance family and full-time jobs with schooling.

"The quickest way to double your money is to fold it and put it back into your pocket." Will Rogers

From your Commander

Patriots,
Busy time of the year with a lot of non-related things going on. If you've been reading the Adjutants emails you should be aware of all we've been involved in since the last meeting. Viola sales on the 7th of August went pretty well. Made a few dollars for the Scholarship Fund. National Night Out on the 6th brought in a few more dollars for the kitty. 1 August saw about 8-10 of us at N. Topsail Beach receiving a proclamation designating them a "Purple Heart Town". Speaking of proclamations, we have two of our members

that said they would go after Richlands and Swansboro to get them designated. How's that coming guys?). 19 August a few of the members went to SW Elementary School and presented them with a certificate of appreciation for their most generous donation to the Scholarship Fund of \$750.00. 20 August was the Take Pride in Your Flag presentation to Marine Chevrolet (kind of funny that after we presented the certificate, Don Clinger happened to look up at their huge flag and noticed that the one corner was ripped and tattered about 8" from the end. I tried to get the certificate back, but the President wouldn't let go. The flag was replaced in a few hours). I appreciate those members who have made almost every one of these events, or at least a few. Folks, that doesn't mean we don't need some more help. Granted, some of these events were during the week and made it difficult for those that work to get off. Some, however were on weekends or in the evening. Don't be a "MINO" (member-in-name-only). Each meeting the Adj. reads off up-coming events. Please take notes and decide which ones you can help out with (No paper? No problem...I always have extra). State Department meeting is Saturday, the 7th of September. We're taking the van. Sure would like to fill that baby up and show the other Chapters what pride and participation REALLY is. It's IMPERATIVE you let the Adjutant or me know before 4 September so we can let the host chapter know how much food to have. Oh, did I tell you they'll feed us, also?

Semper Fidelis, Grant

From your Senior Vice Commander
No Report

From your Junior Vice Commander,
No Report

From your Adjutant/Editor

Patriots, we continue to march with our membership program, we gain a few and lose a few. If you are keeping track, we are down 3 since the last newsletter. There are various reasons for this mostly, those getting out and transferring to another chapter closer to their home. Being located near a base we will always have these fluctuations. We just need

to keep our nose to the grindstone and recruit at every opportunity. I do that, as I have said before I follow Purple Heart tags into Wal Mart and other locations, if I am going that way, and recruit. Now that we have these handy pamphlets available, I have been slipping one under the windshield wiper of a vehicle with PH tags. Over all we are doing alright, hanging in there. We won't know until our Department meeting on 7 September, if we won the National Recruiting Award again this year. We did not do near as well as we have in the years past. For the past two years we have won that award which mainly stems from the Christmas Leave check signing event.

Keep up the good work, be proud of your Purple Heart and as I always say; if it wasn't for you we would not have a chapter.

Semper Fi, John

"There are three kinds of men: the ones that learn by reading, the few that learn by observation and the rest of them have to pee on the electric fence and find out for themselves." Will Rogers

From your Chaplain/Welfare officer

In the Lord put I my trust: how say ye to my soul,
Flee as a bird to your mountain?

For, Lo, the wicked bend their bow, they make ready their arrow upon the string, that they may privily shoot at the upright in heart.

If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?

The Lord is in his holy temple, the Lord's throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.

The Lord trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth.

Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be a portion of their cup.

For the righteous Lord loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.

Don Clinger, Chaplain

Corpsmen Memorial FoundationCMF

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 at the US Naval Hospital aboard Camp Lejeune. It has been moved from the quarterdeck to a protected area while renovations are going on.

Be part of history and purchase a brick to be displayed in the walkway forever. Credit Card purchases are now available.

Contact Patriot Cooney for the forms or go to the CMF website above.



"If you're riding ahead of the herd, take a look back every now and then to make sure it's still there." Will Rogers

Ladies Auxiliary Unit 642



From your Unit President

Ladies – We would like to see you at the meetings if at all possible and if enough of them are interested I would like to start meeting once month for lunch just for fellowship and support.

Thanks, Liz Anderson

Unit 642 Officers

Position	Name
President	Elizabeth Anderson
Sen Vice pres	
Treasurer	Alice Houle
Parliamentarian	
Secretary	Liz Anderson
Sgt at Arms	
1 yr trustee/	
2 year trustee	
3 year trustee	

Chaplain
Historian
Patriotic Instructor

Note: List not complete

Lifetime Members: 35

Total Membership: 35

Purple Heart riders

Patriots – Many of you do not know about the Purple Heart Riders Assn. The chapter has members that have recently joined. Read the info on this page, also below is the back patch of the Assn. If interested, contact me or come to one of our functions and talk with a member of the group.

We are getting more and more activities for the Purple Heart riders. Let's Ride!!!

Purple Heart plates are available now for our motorcycles.

S/F John



Purple Heart Riders Association

The Purple Heart riders were formed about three years ago by a Chapter in New Hampshire. The organization was formed by Motor Cycle enthusiasts that wanted to have a riding group within the Purple Heart. They first went to the MOPH and requested to use the circular logo owned by the Order and were told that they could not use it and furthermore if it was worn as a group it would signify Purple Heart sponsorship and therefore liability, which they would not accept.

With that knowledge obtained from National, the New Hampshire chapter set out to establish a Purple Heart riding

group with our own constitution and bylaws and in no way part of the Purple Heart Order other than the members must have a Purple Heart. There are Purple Heart Riders now in 38 states and the patch worn on the back of a black denim or leather vest is awesome and in my estimation far better looking than the Purple Heart logo.

Patriot John Holmes is your NC President and President of the Jacksonville Based Blood Brothers chapter. The initial cost is \$80, which includes the patch and a \$10 annual dues. After getting the patch the dues are \$10 per year to primarily maintain the website. The website is:

www.purpleheartriders.us.

Al Grow in New Hampshire is the President and JC Allen is the vice Pres out of Texas, both former Marines.

Please send all applications to me at 1006 Oak Dr, Jacksonville NC 28546. Don't worry about sending a DD-214 as proof just make a copy of your Life membership card and that will suffice. If I know you I will verify you without documentation. It will take about two weeks to get your patch
Semper Fi, John Cooney

Patriot Jenkins performs for the Members at the July Meeting. Little did we know that he was a violin virtuoso. He is a man of many talents, also a supperb flag folder as demonstrated at several Americanism classes.



Note: On the next page there is a flyer for Ruby Tuesday's. It is a give back program where they return 20% of the cost of the meal to the Corpsmen Memorial Foundation. Just present the flyer to your server on one of the three days on the flyer.