



Second Annual Wounded Warrior Christmas Leave Fundraiser

Last December Henry J. Cook, III, National Director of the Military Order Of Purple Heart (MOPH) visited the Wounded Warrior Barracks at Camp Lejeune. He wanted to give each of the Wounded Marines a special gift for Christmas. Some of these brave men have suffered debilitating wounds. When asked "What do you want for Christmas?", most said they just wanted to spend Christmas at home with their families. Because many of the brave Marines could not afford the cost of an airline ticket and planned to spend Christmas in the Wounded Warrior Barracks, the Wounded Warrior Leave Program was born.

Last year there was a fundraiser that was held at New Bern Golf and Country Club. That fundraiser, along with an e-mail that was circulated throughout the United States, raised enough money to send every Wounded Marine home for Christmas. Donations to this project bought airline tickets, hotel rooms, rental cars, bus tickets, whatever was necessary to get the wounded Marines and Soldiers together with their families and grant them their Christmas wish!

SECOND ANNUAL WOUNDED WARRIOR CHRISTMAS LEAVE FUNDRAISER is organized by the Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH). Donations are needed to send approximately 125 Marines from Camp Lejeune Wounded Warrior Barracks and approximately 64 Soldiers from Fort Bragg Wounded Warrior Battallion home for Christmas. That's a total of 189 Marines and Soldiers.

Cash or checks should be made payable to:

MOPH Wounded Warrior Christmas Leave Fund

Mail To:

MOPH Wounded Warrior Christmas Leave Fund
c/o Steve Tyson
820 Broad Street
New Bern, NC 28560
tyson@century21.com
252-633-5720

Donations must be received by Dec. 10. For more information, please contact Steve Tyson of New Bern, NC at tyson@century21.com or call 252-633-5720. MOPH Christmas Leave coordinator is Jim Casti of Newport, NC at jcasti@ec.rr.com or call 252-223-5951.

All contributions are tax deductible. MOPH is qualified with the Internal Revenue Service as a charitable organization exempt from income tax under I.R.C. Section 501 (c)(4). See <http://www.purpleheart.org/page29720.html?Inum=15073#Section319223> to confirm that Jim Casti is with MOPH.

Sorry, but no PayPal payments. Many thanks to those who contributed last year.



Please copy the above information and email it to all of your friends, every dollar counts.



If you are going to be in the New Bern area on December 11, 2007



Please join us Tuesday, December 11th from 6-8 PM for a fundraiser at New Bern Country Club where our guests of honor will be several of these wounded Marines. There will be heavy hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. Bring a check payable to "MOPH-Wounded Warrior Leave".

Our donation goal is \$50 per person or more for attendees. Even if you can only stay a short while, please come by and meet these brave Marines and let them know we appreciate the sacrifice they have made! Ask anyone that attended last year, it was a truly special occasion, everyone was overwhelmed with the Christmas spirit, and we expect this year's event to be just as memorable.

If you have other obligations but are still willing to help with any amount of donation, please mail a check ASAP, payable to MOPH-Wounded Warrior Leave. Send to SteveTyson , 820 Broad Street, New Bern, NC 28560

We recognize this is short notice, but there is a deadline of December 12th in order to purchase plane tickets. The limited time-frame is why we are attempting to contact as many people as we can by email. Please forward this e-mail to everyone in your contact list. Last year, we were surprised at how much came in from the email that was circulated nationally. It was truly a team effort for a wonderful cause. Time is short, We must purchase tickets soon before the airlines get booked up with holiday traffic.

DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE AND 100% OF THE MONEY RAISED WILL BE SPENT TO UNITE THESE WOUNDED MARINES AND SOLDIERS WITH THEIR FAMILIES FOR CHRISTMAS!

If you can attend Please RSVP by email as soon as you can to Tyson@CENTURY21.com or call 252-633-5720.

Wounded Warrior Finance Group Mission Statement:

Our mission is to help the community show its support and appreciation to our volunteer Marines and Soldiers who reside in the Wounded Warrior Barracks at Camp Lejeune and Ft. Bragg. In partnership with the Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH), we will raise sufficient funds to allow the Marines and Soldiers to go home for the Christmas holidays. We will work closely the MOPH to ensure that 100% of the funds we raise will be used for transportation of those Marines and Soldiers whether by airplane, automobile, or rail. We will conduct one major fund raiser at the New Bern Gold & Country Club, and we will use multiple forms of media to offer the opportunity to participate through donations to all in our community and as far across the nation as we can reach electronically.

MOPH - Wounded Warrior Christmas Leave Program Guidelines

- Charitable Donations - All funds donated to the program are 100% charitable donations and income tax deductible.
- Utilization of Funds - 100% of all funds donated are to be used for the Wounded Warrior Christmas Leave Program. All administrative duties will be performed by volunteers at no cost to the fund.
- 2007 Christmas Leave - The Christmas Leave funding will be made available upon request for wounded Marines berthed in the Wounded Warrior Barracks in Camp Lejeune, NC and for wounded Soldiers billeted in the Warrior Transition Battalion Barracks, WAMC in Fort Bragg, NC so that they will be able to spend Christmas Leave with their families.
- Emergency Leave - Should there be any funds remaining after travel arrangements have been made for those needing funds for Christmas 2007, it will be held and disbursed to Marines or Soldiers residing in Wounded Warrior Barracks/Warrior Transition Battalion as outlined above to defray transportation costs for Emergency Leave during Calendar Year 2008.
- 2008 Emergency Leave - Emergency Leave is defined as leave authorized by competent authority as a result of American Red Cross verification of an emergency involving a family member, requiring service members presence at home. Family members are defined as 'local parentis' - mother and father or person(s) who reared service member; service members spouse, children, brothers, sisters, grandfather, grandmother and no others.
- Disposition of Remaining Funds - in the event that there are funds remaining following 2007 Christmas Leave and 2008 Emergency leave requirements, funds will be held for disbursement in subsequent Christmas Leave and Emergency Leave cycles.
- Dissolution of Warrior Barracks - When the MOPH - Wounded Warrior Christmas Leave Program is dissolved, or when both Camp Lejeune Wounded Warrior Barracks and Ft. Bragg Warrior Transition Battalion are no longer used for that purpose, any remaining funds will be divided equally between the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society and Army Emergency Relief.

s/Henry J. Cook, III
National Director
Military Order of the Purple Heart

MOPH - Wounded Warrior Christmas Leave Program Finance Group

Volunteers

Tom Braaten, MGEN, USMC (Ret.)
Director Craven Regional Airport

Jim Casti, Capt, USMC (Ret.)
MOPH Christmas Leave Coordinator
Purple Heart Trail Coordinator

Chuck Tyson
Mayor Elect, Trent Woods, NC

Frank Palombo
Chief of Police, New Bern, NC

Steve Tyson
Craven County Commissioner

Tom Meutsch
Senior Sales Manager, RSI Systems
trmeutsch@aol.com

Thea Morris
Owner, Theas Ideas

Joan Meutsch, Client Coordinator
Century 21 Zaytoun-Raines
joan@c21zr.com

Tammy Childers, Executive Director
Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, Inc.
"Proud Military Mom of a US Navy Sailor"

Brenda K Wilson
Keller Williams Realty

Charlie Mitchell, CW3, US Army (Ret.)
Webmaster, USAFNS.com

