

Newsletter for SGT Michael A. DiRaimondo Chapter 750 Military Order of the Purple Heart

moph-chapter-750.com

Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude. America will never forget their sacrifices. Harry S. Truman, April 16, 1945.



..... **From the Commander**

July Outing

Saturday July 27 is our outing to Little Saigon. If you have not responded, call me or send an e-mail (805 565 3759) if you are joining us. We will rendezvous at 8AM at the Camarillo Park N Ride, like we did for the Getty Museum. We will carpool from Camarillo; outlying members decide what is in your best interest. The rest of us will rendezvous at 8:00 A.M. at the Camarillo Park N Ride: Los Posas Road adjacent to Route 101 on the ocean side. Contact numbers in case of lost Hap cell: (805) 455-0448, Jon cell: 805-216-8625, Michael cell 805/895-4233.

North and South bound: south of the Park N Ride meetup location is above the Union 76 gas station and car wash. In other words, on the southwest corner of the Los Posas Road and 101 is the Park N Ride and 76 gas station.

Northbound directions: exit the 101 at Los Posas Road; go left at exit and across the overpass; immediately upon crossing the overpass; go left into Park and Ride Road. 200-feet later you will see the parking lot entrance on the left.

Southbound directions: exit the 101 at Los Posas Road; go straight from the exit onto Park N Ride Road. 400-feet later you will see the parking lot entrance on your left.

Then head down to Westminster for lunch at a typical Vietnamese restaurant then a self-guided tour of the open market. Let me know if you and guest(s) are coming.

The address for your smartphone or GPS will be: 15420 Brookhurst Street, Westminster, Phone: (714) 839-9096: at the Pho 54 restaurant: No reservations are taken there, and Pho54 is cash only. So, lunch first then some can go shopping.

From Hap:

Parking is generally easy, if you can't find a space, we are going to the nearby Market afterwards, and there is usually plenty of parking there. Parking on the street may not be available. We should DEFINITELY plan to lunch at 11:00 or 11:30, as the lunch crowd in the good places is liable to render them ridiculous. I am trying for one of the better restaurants like Pho 54. Many places are cash only. ATMs are around, but seem not to be reliable.

Other sights.

Museum of the Republic of Viet Nam at 9842 Bolsa Avenue

War Memorial at 14199 All American Way

Pho 54 is opposite the Saigon City Market

Asian Garden Mall is at 9200 Bolsa

There's No Place Like Little Saigon

Orange County's Little Saigon is not the Vietnamese equivalent of Chinatown, Koreatown, or Little Tokyo. What sets Little Saigon apart is its significance to the first generation of Vietnamese refugees: When Saigon fell on April 30, 1975, it picked itself up and made a new home in Orange County. The area is a kind of sacred ground, evidence that South Vietnam still exists, not only in the mind of its people, but as a place in the world.

The Asian Garden Mall, or Phuc Loc Tho, is a mall which has everything from jewelry stores to knickknacks and even a spot for to get some freshly squeezed sugarcane juice. If you are feeling a little overwhelmed by the size of the mall, try some antique stores, toy shops or even shoe stores scattered throughout the area.

The August meeting will be a chapter outing in Malibu Creek State Park

Maps, driving directions and info were in the Flash Bulletin, which I will resend. It will be a unique and fun outing. The revised date is **Thursday August 15**. I suggest arriving about 11:30 A.M. Don't forget the cold drinks and lunch and boonie hat, it will be hot in the canyon. When you enter the State Park, the Ranger will have your name, proceed in without paying. There are picnic tables galore. Air conditioning may, repeat, may be available in a room in the Ranger building if it is not occupied. At this time, one recumbent electric vehicle is available, but everyone will get to drive it. We are a test bed for the Recon EV (electric vehicle). When you drive, keep a cell phone with you.

For future adventures on your own in the Park, Purple Heart recipients receive priority reservations at the Park Monday-Friday. Make reservations through program director Brian Rooney, Brian's phone number: (818) 665-5607. Brian requests that you present ID showing membership in MOPH; a V.A. photo ID card showing the words *Purple Heart* under your photo; Purple Heart plates on your car; or DD-214 showing *Purple Heart* in the Decorations box.

Purple Heart Day Anniversary coming soon

Anniversary date of its creation by General George Washington on August 7, 1782. Buy yourself a beer.

The Department of Veterans Affairs has information about a new benefit that's available through the VA Mission Act about obtaining urgent care outside the VA.

Urgent care is most commonly used for medical issues that require immediate attention, but do not necessitate an emergency room visit. While many VA Medical Centers offer walk-in clinics, the new benefit helps ensure veterans can receive immediate medical attention regardless of where they live. The information is available at:

<https://tinyurl.com/y4l4nyw4>

To find urgent care locations near you:

<https://vaurgentcarelocator.triwest.com/Locator/Care>

or call

V.A. Telephone Nurse Triage Unit at (877) 252-4866

I found the Website very slow and confusing so get your information now rather than in an emergency. Under this program there may not be urgent care within 50-miles. Get the information and address/telephone number and put in in your phone or wallet.

Chap. 750 Next Meeting

September at the Santa Barbara Veterans Memorial Building, we have reservations for MOPH and MOPHA to meet in Santa Barbara on September 12. At this meeting we starting planning our Thanksgiving Food Basket drive for Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties.

Chapter Meeting Schedule for 2019

July Outing in Little Saigon– August Malibu Creek – September 12 Santa Barbara