

Newsletter for SGT Michael A. DiRaimondo Chapter 750 Military Order of the Purple Heart moph-chapter-750.com



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

January 9 Meeting at Ventura Veterans Home

The January 9 meeting is at the Veterans Home of California, Ventura. LAMOPH meets at the same time, same place as the Patriots. The December meeting is our Christmas Party.

Christmas Party

Our annual Christmas Party was December 21 at Jon and Gloria's lovely home. About 23 were there enjoying the comradery. John and Gloria hosted a great dinner and Gloria created an ice cream shoppe in her new kitchen where you design your own tower of ice cream along with other fixin's and sprinkles. People brought wine and other delights like Sally's chocolate turtle cheesecake. If you weren't there, make reservations for next year. Thank you, Jon and Gloria.

MaryLee Maline introduced everyone to the *MaryLee Game*. On slips of paper she wrote a series of questions possibly pertaining to someone in the group then that person read a question which relates in some manner to the next person then that person reads a question until the last question points to the winner. That person, Margaret Conran, received a bountiful gift basket. I forgot the question. Ask Margaret.

Recent Donors

Their mentions slipped past your newsletter editor.

Thank you to Mike Wenrich and Polly Bruskrud for being a Friend of Chapter 750.

Polly, thank you for your generous donation in honor of Bill Hutton. Your donation was earmarked for our annual Thanksgiving Food Basket drive. It is always surprising how many veterans and active duty and their families are in need.

December Donations to Veterans in Need and Their Families

Two compelling stories came to the chapter from patients in the office of Finance Officer Dr. Jon Williams, a podiatrist in Camarillo.

Korea Purple Heart recipient Raymond Porras, Army, who lived in Port Hueneme was in hospice and Jon was contacted by the family. Jon met with Hilda who was greatly in need financially, she showed Jon her checkbook and her remaining balance was four dollars. From the *The Ventura Star* interview, “All hell broke loose,” Porras said. “We got hit hard. They (Chinese communists) threw hand grenades in. I felt something hit between my legs. I didn’t see it because everything was dark. I thought maybe it was a rock. When I looked down there, that thing went off.” Two men on either side of him were killed. The force of the blast hurtled Porras backward, and he struck the trench wall. Read the full story and see Raymond photograph at <https://tinyurl.com/sqqis3a>

Chapter 750 donated \$1,000 to Hilda for groceries and general financial assistance.

Chap. 750 member and donor William Treadwell is a patient of Jon’s. He told Jon about a veteran in need, a retired Army SGT, 10th Mtn. INF, who served a tour in 2007 Iraq. As William Treadwell said he is the “son of a personal friend of ours...He was not awarded a Purple Heart...his wounds are internal”, meaning PTSD. Some MOPH members and others do not subscribe to PTSD wounds, but I know veterans who never left the United States, but lived through profound and horrific events that left an indelible scar. Based on Chap. 750 member and donor Treadwell request and after discussion with several chapter members at the Christmas Party, Finance Officer Jon Williams sent the SGT a meaningful check.

If you wish to see a photo on the SGT’s GoFundMe page:
<https://tinyurl.com/yxyq5vdy>

Don’t forget Chapter and Unit 750 in your donations.

We operate primarily on fundraising from members and Friends of the Chapter. We do not receive funds from National Purple Heart and for years nothing from the California Purple Heart. Send your check to me or go to <https://moph-chapter-750.com> using our GoFundMe page OR on the donations page where you should download the great song, *The Veteran* by Hollywood composer Barry DeVorzon and while you’re at it, add more zeros on the checkout page.

For those who do not attend meetings, Chap. 750 is a known charity and we are all about helping vets, all vets no just Purple Heart. You see, veterans or social workers or families come to us for help. The chapter receives veteran assistance requests that the chapter considers. Plus, our on-going chapter and unit charitable programs that are in place and are successful. All members are part of the decision process when attending a meeting where the request for help is considered. Some even kick in some manual labor to help. Maybe a donation, too.

Come to meetings and see what interests you, it's good to help others as you may need it someday. You probably have been helped sometime in your life. Someone did you a good deed which you cannot always repay that person so you repay it to others. This is what we do at Chapter 750. See you at the next meeting.

Next Month in the Newsletter

The documents you need to preserve. Where to get them if missing and how to store them for when they are needed. And make sure important people in your life have copies.

Chap. 750 Next Regular Meeting January 9 at 6:00 P.M.

Ventura Veterans Home, 10900 Telephone Road, 805-659-7500

Near where Telephone Road meets Route 118. MOPHA meets there as well.

January 9 -February 13 – March 12