

## Newsletter for SGT Michael A. DiRaimondo Chapter 750 Military Order of the Purple Heart [moph-chapter-750.com](http://moph-chapter-750.com)

The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive the Veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by our nation. George Washington.



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

### **May Annual Family Picnic**

The June 13 meeting and MOPHA meeting will be at the Veterans Memorial Building in Santa Barbara; 6:00 pm.

The May 11 Annual Family Picnic was a huge success thanks to Jon and Gloria and their beautiful home. The chapter elections resulted in continuance of the current officers into 2019-2020. Former Navy Captain and Chap. 750 member Bob Quinn swore in the 2019-2020 officers of MOPH and MOPHA.



**Donor**

Thank you to Chap. 750 member William Treadwell for his generous donation; Bill sold his Toyota Camry to a veteran in need and donated the proceeds to Chap. 750.

**Unit 750 MOPH Auxiliary**

Attention all Auxiliary Members – kindly confirm that you are receiving the newsletters sent out on a monthly basis. Please email me at [jdhieter@aol.com](mailto:jdhieter@aol.com) or call me at (805) 967-3824 to confirm that your contact information has not changed. We want to hear from you and any suggestions you have for how the Unit can better support our Patriots, Veterans in need and our Auxiliary Members.

Please join me in welcoming our newest members: Cameron Hernandez, granddaughter of Patriot Fred Contreras; Judy Quinn, wife of Patriot Bob Quinn, and their daughter Diane Quinn.

Congratulations to Cameron Hernandez on receiving \$1,000 scholarship from the Department of CA MOPH Auxiliary! She is in her second year at University of California Santa Cruz with 3.5 GPA. Thank you to Susie Seydel-Pitman for presenting the check to Cameron on campus. Attached is her essay “Should the Selective Service System of America be Abolished?”

The sun shined on our annual meeting and family picnic, generously hosted by Gloria and Jon Williams in their beautiful newly renovated home. The surprise ice cream sundaes bar was a huge success that brought big smiles. Thank you very much Gloria and Jon.

Our June 13th meeting will be at the Veteran’s Memorial Building in Santa Barbara. Sally Irving will lead the potluck that follows with the Patriots. Drinks or snacks would be helpful. Be kind and let us know in advance that you will be attending.

The Department’s mid-term conference will again be in Bakersfield and is scheduled for October 8th to 11th. Participation by all Members is encouraged. Thank you for all you do in supporting our Patriots and caring for all Veterans. Jane Hieter, Unit 750 President.

**WWII Patriot Sergeant Major Robert Forties**

Newsletter and Google Drive photos of Bob in uniform credit: Adam Lewis.

Online photos of the funeral at  
<https://tinyurl.com/yy6olwc9>



Chap. 750 member Sergeant Major Robert Forties passed away May 19, 2019 and Unit 750 charter member Joan May Forties passed away September 17, 2018. They met in England during WWII where Bob was stationed, and Joan was raised. Married on March 11, 1944; within days Bob was deployed. Bob served 26 years in the US Army. A veteran of World War II and the Korean War, he was a highly decorated war veteran with Six Purple Hearts, Silver and Bronze Stars. Bob jumped into Normandy as part of the D-Day invasion. Veteran of the WWII Normandy Invasion as a paratrooper with the 101st.

They came to Santa Barbara in 1964 when Bob retired from the US Army.

Services were held May 24, at the Santa Barbara Cemetery.

### **Job Training**

Debbie Berry's friend Mercy is the Asst. Manager for Bentley Forbes Security Training Academy. They offer Security Guard Training semi-weekly and. They have partnered with WorkSource Centers in L.A. County who can sponsor training cost to low-income families and military veterans and people collecting or out of unemployment benefits. Also, we have job placement resources after completion of their Security Training. They provide classes in Oxnard, Los Angeles, Culver City, Camarillo, Lancaster, and San Diego. Attached are 2 Flyers:

Pre screening is required. The candidate would give Mercy a call first, to see if they can help them with the no cost training. Then you meet with a case manager to get approved and enrolled. Call Mercy C: 818-388-6961. Debbie Berry 818-404-4346..

### **Santa Barbara Job Opportunity at Leading Home and Hardware Center**

Santa Barbara Home Improvement Center (SBHIC) wants to hire veterans who may be seeking work. SBHIC has high standards of friendly customer service and a commitment to diligent effort in the workplace. If you or know of someone who may be a good fit, please come by to pick up an application or speak with Tom Richards, Operations and Human Resources Manager.

SBHIC full-time start pay is \$15.25 minimum and can be higher depending on prior experience. We offer almost unmatched dental and health coverage with no co-pay and minimal co-pay, a 401K company co-pay plan, and all the usual benefits including merit bonuses for those who have excelled potentially equaling 10% of their annual pay. You must be prepared to work weekends to start. We seek individuals with interest in sales in all our departments including cashiers and even part time stockers. A warm and outgoing disposition of an applicant represents a solid plus in our review process. Pass this on. Santa Barbara Home Improvement Center, 415 Gutierrez Street, Santa Barbara. Phone: (805) 963-7825; [www.sbhicace.com](http://www.sbhicace.com).

**Thank you note from Patriot Pitman for the card we signed at the Annual Picnic**

Greetings to all of you from our Santa Cruz Mountains with my heartfelt thanks for your thoughtful card and good wishes. I was deeply touched by your loving words - it really helps to know how much my brothers & sisters of the MOPH/MOPHA care and I hope to have better news to share as time goes by.

Susie and I are definitely planning to come down sometime this summer to participate in one of your meetings and/or outings, if at all possible. We shall, therefore, keep perusing your newsletters. You are doing a great job with keeping your chapter/unit informed, Michael. Thank you for always including us in your mailing list.

Trust you are enjoying the springtime, Susie and I are sending our best wishes and love,  
Jerry

**West L.A. V.A. Advisory Board Seeking Members**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is seeking nominations of qualified candidates to be considered for appointment as a member of the Veterans and Community Oversight and Engagement Board for the VA West Los Angeles Campus. Applications for nomination should include the following:

- (1) A letter of nomination that clearly states the name and affiliation of the nominee, the basis for the nomination, and a statement from the nominee indicating a willingness to serve as a member of the Board;
- (2) The nominee's contact information, including name, mailing address, telephone numbers, and email address;
- (3) The nominee's curriculum vitae, not to exceed three pages and a one-page cover letter; and
- (4) A summary of the nominee's experience and qualifications relative to the membership criteria and professional qualifications criteria listed above.

Nomination packets are due by June 15, 2019 and can be sent electronically to the Advisory Committee Management Office at [vaadvisorycmte@va.gov](mailto:vaadvisorycmte@va.gov).

**Disabled Veterans eligible for free National Park Service Lifetime Access Pass**

Good for entry into 400+ U.S. National Parks and over 2,000 recreation sites. The Lifetime Access Pass is another way a grateful nation says thank you for the service and sacrifices of Veterans with disabilities.

The Access Pass admits disabled Veterans and any passengers in their vehicle (non-commercial) at per-vehicle fee areas; and, the pass owner plus three additional adults where per-person fees are charged. In addition to free entry at participating parks, the Access Pass includes discounts on fees; such as camping, swimming, boat launching and guided tours. Veterans who have a VA disability rating, (10 percent or higher) are eligible for the Lifetime Access Pass—with two ways to apply.

First, disabled Veterans can apply in person at a participating federal recreation site. Simply present photo identification (driver's license, state id, passport) and documentation proving a permanent disability (VA awards letter, VA ID with service connected annotation, VA summary of benefits, or receipt of Social Security disability income). That's It. The Pass is free and issued at the time of entry.

Second, if applying by mail, send a completed packet and \$10 processing fee to the United States Geological Survey (USGS). The packet should include:

- The Access Pass application form (find online)

- Proof of residency

- VA disability award letter, VA summary of benefits, or proof of SSDI income

Pass delivery expected 10-12 weeks after receipt.

Make sure to have photo ID available when using your Lifetime Access Pass.

**Chap. 750 Next Meeting**

The management of the Santa Barbara Veterans Memorial Building in responding to reservation request we have the following reservations for MOPH and MOPHA to meet in Santa Barbara: June 13, August 8, and September 12.

**Chapter Meeting Schedule for 2019**

June 13 – July 11 – August 8