



September 2023

Volume 3 Issue 9

### Commander's Corner



Fellow Patriots,

We will have a busy fall season with Veterans Day activities throughout the state. We will be participating in the dedication of the Casitas Project at the November 9<sup>th</sup> groundbreaking. 35

Casitas to house homeless veterans will be built. We will present a check for \$10,000.00 to help fund this worthy project. More information is below in the newsletter.

I need your help. We have several positions that need to be filled. We need an Americanism Officer. Needs to be staffed by December to coordinate the ROTC/JROTC leadership programs in the spring. If interested let us know. Also, the Department Sgt-at-Arms resigned due to health issues. This position has mainly quarterly duties at the department executive committee meetings and the department convention. If interested let us know.

Please think about what we can do to improve the Order. All suggestions, remarks, comments & concerns can be sent to Chapter or Department leadership and will be evaluated at the monthly Commander's calls.

The Cdr's Call is every month on the Fourth Wednesday. A member of the chapter command group must attend. Open to all members.

**Time: 06:30 PM Arizona Time, Oct 25, 2023**

Zoom Meeting ID: 842 2842 9701

Passcode: 879117 Dial in: 669 900 6833.

**Patriot Billy Weldon**, the former Department & Region VI commander recently has been in the hospital. He had an infection that became sepsis. He is home now but receives antibiotics by PICC at home 3xs a week. Send get well cards to 806 W Grand Canyon Ave, Flagstaff, AZ 86001. Please

### Department Officers 2023/2024

Cdr: Keith Gray [commandermophaz@gmail.com](mailto:commandermophaz@gmail.com)

Sr. Vice Cdr: Rodger Ely [juggy64@aol.com](mailto:juggy64@aol.com)

Jr. Vice Cdr: John Moore

[mophchapter442@comcast.net](mailto:mophchapter442@comcast.net)

Adjutant: Larry Leighton

[adjutant.mophaz@gmail.com](mailto:adjutant.mophaz@gmail.com)

Finance Officer: Ron Capek [ronluccap@gmail.com](mailto:ronluccap@gmail.com)

Sgt-at-Arms: Jimi Sallmen [jimisallmen@gmail.com](mailto:jimisallmen@gmail.com)

Inspector: **vacant position**

Judge Advocate: **vacant position**

Americanism Officer: **vacant position**

Chaplain: John L. Bhelm [jblehmsr@gmail.com](mailto:jblehmsr@gmail.com)

Legislative Liaison: Jim Muhr [jrmuhr@yahoo.com](mailto:jrmuhr@yahoo.com)

### Find Us Online

**Website:** <http://mophaz.org/>

**Facebook:** [Department Facebook Page](#)

**National MOPH Website:** <https://national-moph.uc.r.appspot.com/#>

### Calendar

- Oct 1 – Life Membership Verification Due
- Oct 12 – Columbus Day
- Oct 13 – Navy Birthday
- October 31 - Halloween
- Nov 9 – Casitas Project Dedication
- Nov 11 – Veterans Day Activities

### Department Adjutant



Now that cooler weather has arrived, more opportunities are available to get involved with community projects and visit our other fellow Veterans. As reported in the latest issue of The Purple Heart Magazine,

we have entered into an agreement with the

keep Billy and his whole family in your thoughts and prayers.

Yours in Patriotism,  
Keith Gray  
Commander

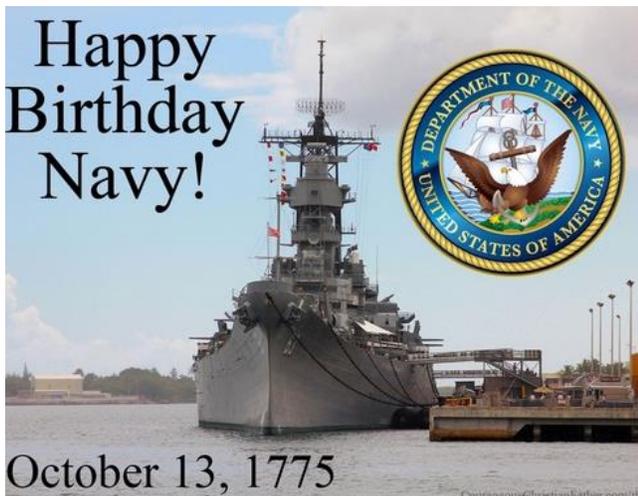
---

### Junior Vice-Commander



**October 13<sup>th</sup> is the U. S. Navy Birthday.** Thank you to our **55 members who received Purple Hearts** while serving in the Navy. For 248 years Sailors have been there to provide America with the

sea power it needs to defend the nation and to deter or to defeat our adversaries. Anchors Aweigh!



**The new department challenge coins** have been received. They will be available for sale this fall from the chapters at the chapter meetings. Cost is \$20. They are very nice coins and help fund the Order.



John R. Moore  
Jr. Vice-Commander

Veterans of Foreign Wars to develop a plan to increase availability of Service Officers through the Order around the Nation. When finalized, this will allow the Order to directly serve Veterans instead of having to refer them to other Veteran Service Organizations. Stay tuned for more information as details become available.

The Life Member Verifications have all been submitted and the National Finance Officer's goal is to have all Chapter and Department rebate payments sent out by November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Junior Vice Commander John Moore (Chapter 442) designed a GREAT Department "Challenge" coin and negotiated a very favorable contract for us which will allow Chapters to use them as a fundraising item or to use them as a small recognition of performance or service well done. More information on the pricing and availability is forthcoming.

The 2024 National Convention will be held in Orlando, FL from Jul 13-18<sup>th</sup>. As soon as registration details become available, we'll get them out to you for your "vacation planning". It would be great to have a good number of Arizona Patriots and families attend.

The 2025 National Convention will be hosted by Region VI in the third week of July. Although Reno, NV is the currently designated site, a possibility exists it may be moved to Las Vegas. Mark your calendars and plan to attend since it will be "virtually in our backyard".

The next issue of The Purple Heart Magazine will be published the first week of November and is our Nov-Dec Issue. As the magazine editor, I want to include lots of member input about their most memorable remembrances of Veterans Day or Pearl Harbor Day. Submit yours, preferably with a picture of yourself or your memory, to [publications@purpleheart.org](mailto:publications@purpleheart.org) by October 15 to make sure they get included.

Larry Leighton,  
Department Adjutant

---

### Update Your Contact Information

Keep your snail mail address, phone & email address up to date. Go to the MOPH National website at <https://national-moph.uc.r.appspot.com/#>.

---

---

**VA****U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs**

---

---

**MESSAGE FROM THE VA DEPUTY  
SECRETARY**

**Planning for Potential Lapse in Funding:**  
As many of you are aware, annual funding for much of the Government expires on September 30, 2023. The Administration will continue working with the Congress to complete appropriations for Fiscal Year 2024. We at VA are preparing for all contingencies, including the possibility that a lapse in funding could occur. A lapse would mean that certain Government activities would cease due to a lack of appropriate funding, and that designated pre-notified employees of this agency would be temporarily furloughed. We've prepared a contingency plan to execute an orderly shutdown of activities that would be affected by such a lapse. After the lapse ends, furloughed and excepted employees will receive retroactive pay for the furlough period as soon as possible. Most VA operations will continue without interruption if there is a shutdown. Health care through the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) and mandatory benefit payments to Veterans are funded through an advance appropriation. In addition, certain programs meet legal requirements to continue performing their designated duties and are considered "excepted." These include benefits processing at the Veterans Benefits Administration; interments through the National Cemetery Administration; and certain information technology functions at the Office of Information and Technology. The Department's Fiscal Year 2024 projection is that 97% of VA employees would be fully funded or continue to perform excepted functions during a shutdown. 407,599 (out of a pre-shutdown total of 456,067) VA employees are VHA employees funded by advance appropriations or multi-year appropriations. Others are considered "excepted." The total projected number of employees who would continue to report to work is 440,437. The 15,620 employees that are not exempted will continue to work until the carryover funds are depleted, then be furloughed.

You need your membership number to log-in. You can also email us at [adjutant.mophaz@gmail.com](mailto:adjutant.mophaz@gmail.com) and we can update your snail mail, phone & email address for you.

---

---

**The Purple Heart Magazine**

The **September/October issue of the National MOPH's Purple Heart Magazine** is available online at this [link](#). If you do not receive the magazine your email address is not correct or listed at MOPH National. We can update it for you.

---

---

**Casitas for Homeless Veterans Project**

On November 9<sup>th</sup> ground will be broken for the construction of 35 Casitas to house homeless veterans. 28 will be 600 square feet and 7 will be 400 square feet in size. The MOPH Department of Arizona will present a check for \$10,000.00 to help fund this worthy project at the groundbreaking ceremony. **Come join us for the check presentation at 10:00 AM on November 9<sup>th</sup>.** The location for the ceremony is 1803 E. Broadway, Phoenix, AZ.

---

---

**Michael E. Mahoney Chapter 691 – Surprise, AZ**

Chapter 691 Patriots, Thirteen Chapter sailors will celebrate their 248<sup>th</sup> birthday on October 13<sup>th</sup> along with the rest of the US Navy. Happy Birthday to all Sailors at home and abroad!

"Find A Buddy," or "Buddy Checks" as some call it, volunteers are needed. Members move, change email, or phone numbers and in the process, forget to update their profiles. If you'd like to help increase camaraderie amongst our members, let me

More details on VA's Contingency Plan for a potential lapse in appropriations can be found [here](#).

Thank you for your hard work, dedication, and patience through this process, and for all that you do for Veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors.

Tanya J. Bradsher  
Deputy Secretary



**VETERANS FIELD GUIDE TO GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN**  
As of October 1, 2023

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is committed to provide quality, consistent care and services to Veterans, families, Caregivers, and Survivors. VA's mission allows no exception to this standard even when operations are limited by the absence of appropriations (commonly known as a "Government shutdown").

 SERVICES TO VETERANS NOT IMPACTED:	 SERVICES TO VETERANS IMPACTED:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li> VA Medical Centers, Outpatient Clinics, and Vet Centers will be open.</li><li> VA benefits will continue to be processed and delivered, including compensation, pension, education, and housing benefits.</li><li> Burials will continue at VA national cemeteries.</li><li> Applications for headstones, markers, and burial benefits processing will continue.</li><li> The Board of Veterans' Appeals will continue decisions on Veterans' cases.</li><li> VA Contact Centers (1-800-MyVA411) and the Veterans Crisis Line (Dial 988, Press 1) are open 24/7.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li> VA will not provide veteran career counseling or transition assistance program activities.</li><li> VA education benefits contact center (GI Bill Hotline: 1-888-GBILL-1 or 1-888-442-4551) will be closed.</li><li> VA benefits regional offices will be closed.</li><li> Public affairs and outreach to Veterans will cease.</li><li> No grounds maintenance or placement of permanent headstones at VA cemeteries.</li><li> Applications for pre-need burial at VA cemeteries will not be processed.</li><li> No printing of new Presidential Memorial Certificates.</li><li> No outreach to state, county, tribal, municipal, faith-based, and community-based partners by VA Central Office.</li></ul>

**HAVE A QUESTION? CALL US!**  
The one number all Veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors can use to access VA resources 24 hours-a-day, 365 days-a-year.  
1-800-MYVA411 (1-800-698-2411)

In the event of a prolonged shutdown, VA will continue to review and update its plan in conjunction with the applicable legal requirements and circumstances. Please visit [www.whitehouse.gov/omb/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/) or [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) for updated information.

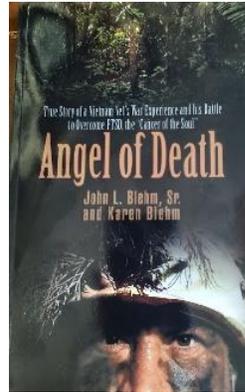
## American Dream Ambassador Program

American Dream Ambassador Program is a MOPH Fund partnership that gives registered homeowners access to deep discounts to products and services



needed to renovate or remodel their home. Registration has a one-time fee of \$50! After payment a \$25 tax-deductible donation will be made to the Department of Arizona, MOPH of the USA, Inc in your name. Get all the details and buy your subscription on our website at [American Dream Program](#).

know (623-776-5443) and we can talk about how we can work together on this project.



Patriot John Blehm and his wife Karen will be our guest speakers at our October 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Together they wrote *Angel of Death* which has been translated into other languages to help Veterans in other countries suffering from Post Traumatic Stress. Copies are available on Amazon.

Michael Tree and Ashley Paxton from the AZ 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District gave a short briefing on the capabilities and mission of the Veterans and Community outreach coordinators in each District office an encouraged members to contact their respective office if they needed assistance with ANY Federal agency.

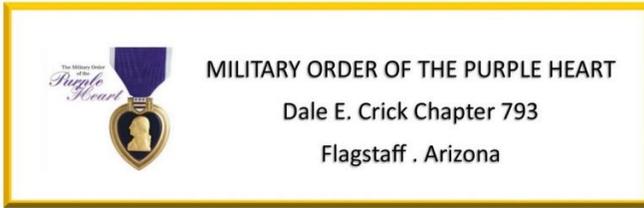


Remember to light your jack-o-lanterns with flashlights instead of candles as you go out "Trick or Drinking" - I meant "treating" - this Halloween. LOL



Yours in Patriotism,  
Larry Leighton Commander

## Dale E. Crick Chapter 793 – Flagstaff, AZ



**Commander:** Rodger Ely [juggy64@aol.com](mailto:juggy64@aol.com)

**Sr. Vice-Cdr:** Daniel Reich  
[daniel\\_r\\_reich@msn.com](mailto:daniel_r_reich@msn.com)

**Jr. Vice-Cdr:** Elmer Sangster  
[sangster333@hotmail.com](mailto:sangster333@hotmail.com)

**Adjutant:** William Weldon  
[baseballbillpaul@npgcable.com](mailto:baseballbillpaul@npgcable.com)

**Facebook:** [Chapter 793 Facebook](#)

**Next Meeting** – Sep 27

**Meeting time:** 12:30PM

**Meeting location:** VFW Post 1709  
409 W Santa Fe Ave, Flagstaff, AZ 86001

**Meeting date:** Bi-monthly on 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday.

MOPH 793 participates in patriotic and welfare activities throughout Northern Arizona. The chapter proudly Supports Initiatives of the Northern Arizona Veterans Stand downs (NAZVSD). In September the chapter supported the Williams, AZ Standdown and the Williams, AZ Patriot Day Parade.

You Are Always Welcome to Join Us!

Roger Ely  
Commander

### **On National POW/MIA Recognition Day**

As chapter commander I was proud to meet and listen to an inspiring speech by Former POW, Col. Edward L. Hubbard, a survivor of six and a half years of captivity in North Vietnam from 1966 to 1973, He considers his greatest accomplishment to be sharing his lessons of survival with others. As a motivational speaker, and president of Positive Vectors, Inc., Hubbard encourages others to overcome adversity and reach beyond their goals by developing a positive, focused state of mind. He served 28 years in the military. Since his release from captivity, Hubbard went on to achieve much success in his military career and as an author and motivational speaker. Hubbard's has more than 60 commendations and service medals,

Cdr: Larry Leighton  
[commander691moph@gmail.com](mailto:commander691moph@gmail.com)

Sr. Vice-Cdr: James Starkman  
[karen4357@att.net](mailto:karen4357@att.net)

Jr. Vice-Cdr: Kenneth Burns  
[ameriken81@gmail.com](mailto:ameriken81@gmail.com)

Adjutant: Larry Leighton  
[commander691moph@gmail.com](mailto:commander691moph@gmail.com)

**Meeting date:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday

**Meeting time:** 9:00 AM

**Meeting location:** Sands Chevrolet Surprise Conference Room (16991 W Waddell Rd, Surprise, AZ 85388) Enter parking lot from N Cotton Lane.

**Website:** <http://691.mophaz.org/>

**Facebook:** [Chapter 691 Facebook](#)

**Note:** Meetings will also be via Zoom. Enter the meeting ID (842 2842 9701) and the password (879117). By phone, call 719 359 4580 and enter the id/password.

## Fort Lowell Chapter 442 – Tucson, AZ



Fellow Patriots:

The chapter is again hosting bingo for the patients at the Tucson VA Hospital. The next Bingo session will be held on October 28<sup>th</sup>. Come join us in hosting Bingo.

In September we provided \$250 of food for homeless veterans housed at the Esperanza En Escalante project.

We provided \$300 assistance to a veteran in need who was going to lose his car.

We will partner again this year on the Charlie Skuhr Memorial Golf Tournament on November 11. Last year the tournament raised \$13,000.00 for the Tucson VA Hospital.

**Our chapter website** has closed. The hosting service changed their business model. Once we have a new website up and running, we will post the

including the Silver Star for combat service, the Legion of Merit for sustained exemplary service, the Distinguished Flying Cross for exemplary aerial combat, the Bronze Star with a "V" for valor, the Air Medal, and the Purple Heart for being wounded by an enemy force in combat.



Marine Corps Birthday Celebration and 2023 Veterans Day Ball at the Flagstaff Elks Lodge.

**FLAGSTAFF MARINE CORPS LEAGUE  
SAN FRANCISCO PEAKS DETACHMENT #912**

*Cordially invites EVERYONE to the*

**248th Marine Corps Birthday  
and  
2023 Veterans Day Ball**

**Saturday, November 11, 2023  
5:00 - 10:00 p.m.**

**Cash Bar • Raffles • Music  
\$50 per person**

**Flagstaff Elks Lodge  
2101 N San Francisco Street**

**For more information:  
Fred Martinez at (928) 310-2347 or Marinell Woolley at (928) 607-9613  
Email: 912mcisfp@gmail.com**

address. In the meantime, our Facebook page is the best place to get information: [Chapter 442 Facebook](#)

Our next meeting will be on October 16th.

Yours in Patriotism,  
Mike Dyer  
Commander

**Commander Mike Dyer** – [mrdyer@comcast.net](mailto:mrdyer@comcast.net)

**Sr. Vice-Cdr Richard Perkins**

[rperkins823@gmail.com](mailto:rperkins823@gmail.com)

**Jr. Vice-Cdr John Grand** – [jgrand5@cox.net](mailto:jgrand5@cox.net)

**Adjutant John Moore** –

[mophchapter442@comcast.net](mailto:mophchapter442@comcast.net)

**Website:** <https://moph Tucson.webs.com/>

**Facebook:** [Chapter 442 Facebook](#)

**Donate online:** [Donations Appreciated](#)

**Meeting date:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday (no meetings June, July, or August)

**Time:** 5:00 PM

**Meeting location:** Bridge Church at 8150 N Sandy Desert Trail, Tucson, AZ 85741. This is just off I10 & Cortaro Farms Rd. Go east on Cortaro Farms Rd to N. Sandy Desert Trail.

**Chapter Member John Grand is the National Purple Heart Honor Project Arizona Honoree for 2023.** In mid-September John represented his fellow Purple Heart heroes as Arizona's representative at a multi-day tribute to the courage and sacrifice of America's combat wounded. John received an all-expenses-paid trip that included visits to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, historic Washington's Headquarters, a special tour of the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor and other locations.



Chapter member **Stephen Alan Hall** of Flagstaff passed away on 6 September. Thank you, Stephen for your service to our Nation, her citizens, the military and most importantly to your fellow servicemen & servicewomen. R.I.P.



Williams, AZ held its Patriots' Day Parade on September 9<sup>th</sup>. Thank you, Williams, AZ for your support of Veterans.



**Chapter 2560 – Apache Junction, AZ**



**Cdr:** Michael Overmeyer  
[moverme48@gmail.com](mailto:moverme48@gmail.com)  
**Sr. Vice Cdr:** Chuck Byers  
[seagb@cox.net](mailto:seagb@cox.net)  
**Jr. Vice Cd:** James King  
[kingsj6@live.com](mailto:kingsj6@live.com)

John Grand and a 99-year-old Purple Heart recipient wounded twice when he landed on Normandy Beach during WWII. The 99 yr. old made every trip on the tour and was the star of the Purple Heart Project tour. During the final ceremony, we were all sitting on a stage, and he tried to straighten his jacket collar when the guest speaker, a 4-star General reached over and helped him, the master of ceremonies commented that our 99-year-old was most likely the only private that ever had a 4-star General for an aide.



To learn about the Purple Heart Honor Mission, go to url: <https://www.purpleheartmission.org/>

The University of Arizona is a Purple Heart University. At our chapter meeting **Mr. Bruce Grissom, Director of Veterans Education & Transition Services at the UofA**, spoke to the chapter. Mr Grissom highlighted the services and programs provided to the 5,500 veterans and military students at the university. The Arizona Tuition Waiver program provides eligible Purple Heart recipients with a tuition-free education (up to a Bachelor's degree) at the university. Eligibility is a current member of the Arizona National Guard who received a Purple Heart Citation after 09/11/01. Or a person who is a former member of the United States Armed Forces who received a Purple Heart AND was an Arizona resident or stationed in Arizona at the time of the injury that resulted in the Purple Heart AND has a VA disability rating of 50% or more.

*photo on next page*

**Adjutant:** Michael Overmeyer  
[moverme48@gmail.com](mailto:moverme48@gmail.com)

**Meeting date:** 2nd Saturday of the month.  
**Meeting time:** 10:00 AM  
**Meeting location:** Mesa Buckhorn Elk Lodge  
#2656 at 6718 E Avalon St, Mesa, AZ 85205

Thank you to chapter member, Patriot Chuck Byers for leading and coordinating the Department's participation in the **Casitas Project**.

### Chapter 472 –Mesa, AZ



Cdr: James Pomush  
[landjpomush@gmail.com](mailto:landjpomush@gmail.com)  
Sr. Vice-Cdr: Ramiero Del Rio (602) 818-0796  
Jr. Vice-Cdr: Matthew Beatty

[matthewcbeatty@yahoo.com](mailto:matthewcbeatty@yahoo.com)  
Adjutant: Jason Duren [jason@cidercorpsaz.com](mailto:jason@cidercorpsaz.com)

**Meeting date:** Last Thursday of the month (No meetings: Jun Jul & Aug)  
**Meeting time:** 10:00AM  
**Meeting location:** American Legion Post 26  
505 W 2nd Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85210-1202

**Patriot Jim Pomush & Patriot Jason Duren**  
at Cider Corps. Cider Corps in Mesa, AZ is a veteran owned business that supports & honors sacrifice.



### Purple Heart Combat Wounded Veterans of AZ

The Purple Heart Combat Wounded Veterans of Arizona is our department 501c3 entity. If for tax purposes, you or a donor is required to donate to a 501c3 use our online portal to make your donation.



Funds designated for a chapter will go in their entirety to the chapter. **Use the "Add/Write NOTE" field to specify the purpose of your donation.** Thank you in advance for supporting Veterans! **Donate**

**Online:** [Donations Appreciated](#)

### The Purple Heart Hall of Honor



Add your story to the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor. Enroll at the url below:  
<https://www.thepurpleheart.com/enrollment/>

### Bills in Congress

**H.R. 2818, the Autonomy for Disabled Veterans Act**, would increase the amount of funding available to disabled veterans for improvements and structural alterations provided to them for home improvements related to their disability. Rates have not been adjusted since 2010.

## Department Purple Heart Brick Program

Order a 4" x 8" Purple Heart Brick to be placed at Wesley Bolin Plaza at the State Capitol to commemorate being a Purple Heart recipient or order one to commemorate a family member or

friend who received the Award. The cost of the brick, engraving, and placement costs are: \$35 Purple Heart recipients and \$40 for other veterans. Checks, along with a copy of your order form, should be made out to MOPH AZ & sent to:

Patriot Stephan Bobby  
MOPH AZ PH Brick Coordinator  
4543 E. County Down Dr.  
Chandler, AZ 85249-7339

or Download Order Form: [PH BRICK ORDER FORM](#)

**Patriots Stephan Bobby & James Sparkman** recently installed additional PH memorial bricks that had been purchased for installation at the memorial at Wesley-Bolin Plaza at the state capitol.



However, the cost of home modifications and labor has risen more than 40% since then.

This legislation would increase the amount of funding for VA grants for disabled veterans to make necessary modifications to their homes to fit their needs, including wheelchair ramps, structural changes, medical equipment, and would adjust the amount to account for inflation.

Please contact your representatives and urge them to co-sponsor and support H.R. 2818, the Autonomy for Disabled Veterans Act.



**The MOPH Fund, Inc., (“the Fund”)** a 501.c.3 non-profit public charity, is separate and not subordinate to the Military Order of the Purple Heart. The Fund Inc. is the official fundraising arm of the Military Order of the Purple Heart (the Order). Our sole purpose is to raise funds for programs executed by the Military Order of the Purple Heart.



We in the Fund hope the Order’s members and associate members will embrace the Fund’s programs to raise funds for CHAPTER and National Headquarters programs.



To learn about the specific Fund’s fundraising projects currently available, simply click on the logo on the left or scan the QR Code.



If you have any questions about the Fund or the Fund’s fundraising projects, please contact me.

Larry Leighton  
Treasurer, MOPH Fund, Inc.

## [AZ Department of Veterans' Services](#)

Support the Stories of Our Heroes Project. See info below.



### **Stories of Our Heroes:**

#### **Keeping the legacies of Arizona Veterans alive**

At the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services, we want to keep the stories of our Veterans alive so that their legacies continue to be told.

ADVS is asking loved ones to share stories, memories and photos of their Veterans who have been laid to rest at one of our three Arizona Veterans' Memorial Cemeteries.

- Arizona Veterans' Memorial Cemetery at Marana
- Arizona Veterans' Memorial Cemetery at Camp Navajo
- Southern Arizona Veterans' Memorial Cemetery

The Stories of Our Heroes will be featured on all ADVS social media platforms and our website.

**To submit your Veteran's story, scan the QR code below:**



For more information or questions, please contact [socialmedia@azdvs.gov](mailto:socialmedia@azdvs.gov)

## [Purple Heart Scholarships](#)

Applications for the scholarship program are due every July. Information is available on the Purple Heart Scholarship Program at this [link](#).



## [The Arizona Talking Book Library](#)

A good resource for visually impaired veterans is the AZ Talking Book Library. They provide free audio book delivery/downloadable services to the

[treasurer@mophfund.org](mailto:treasurer@mophfund.org)  
844-MOPHFUND (667-4386)



## [Purple Heart License Plates](#)

**HB 2062 Vehicle license tax exemption for PH veterans:** Many of our members are still not aware of this benefit.



On registration of a vehicle, if the veteran submits satisfactory proof to ADOT that the person is a veteran and a bona fide Purple Heart medal recipient and was honorably discharged vehicle registration tax fee is waived. Can only be used on one vehicle. Specialty plate and personalization fees still apply.

## [Pet of the Month](#)

Send photos to us and we will select one as the pet of the month. This is **Rico**, Patriot John Moore's, Yorkie-poo. He is a wonderful lapdog & weighs all of 7 pounds.



visually impaired, physically limited, and print disabled throughout the state; any person who cannot read standard print, hold a book, or turn pages is eligible for this free service. For information go to url:

[www.azlibrary.gov/talkingbooks](http://www.azlibrary.gov/talkingbooks)

All business is conducted by phone, email, fax, and USPS postal service. Each person has direct access to their own personal librarian, and receives materials, including the player and headphones, free of charge. The Talking Book Library is a full-service library. Materials either come in audio or braille formats. Medical or education professionals can certify the application for service. Once an application is completed and signed, please email it to [apply@azlibrary.gov](mailto:apply@azlibrary.gov).

Christine Tuttle  
Outreach & Community Engagement Librarian  
Talking Book Library  
Email: [ctuttle@azlibrary.gov](mailto:ctuttle@azlibrary.gov)  
Office: 602-255-5578  
Fax: 602-286-0444

---

### Newsletter Information

Please send information & photos that you would like included in the newsletter to [mophchapter442@comcast.net](mailto:mophchapter442@comcast.net). We would like to get the newsletter out on the last day of the month. Get me news information & photos by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

John R. Moore  
Jr. Vice-Commander



---

### Classic of the Month

Send photos to us and we will select one as the classic of the month. This is Patriot Johnny Thompson's 1936 Ford Army Staff Car. This car served in WWII with the 314<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Wing 93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Squadron in the Pacific Theater. The engine is the Ford flathead V8. Johnny has PH plate number 1.



---

### Thank You MOPH

Good morning, Sir,

My name is Jessica and MOPH recently helped my family during a very hard time. I wanted to express my appreciation for your generosity and let you know how much it truly helped. Losing my fiancé has taken a toll on my kids and me. Your blessing helped tremendously by allowing me to focus on grieving. He left us in a tremendous financial bind and with your financial help I was able to keep my vehicle. This also me helped with the new job I am starting. I cannot express enough how grateful I am. If I can do any volunteering to help pay it forward, please let me know.

Jessica  
Air Force Veteran