

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART NEWSLETTER CHAPTER 758, TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA



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NEWLY ELECTED CHAPTER OFFICERS ARE SWORN IN TO OFFICE



At the monthly meeting of Chapter 758, Military Order of the Purple Heart in Tallahassee, FL, the newly elected chapter officers were sworn in and assumed their chapter duties. Pictured above from left to right are: Mike Ford, the New Chapter Commander, Thomas Cleveland Jr, the Senior Vice Commander, Matthew Speights, the Junior Vice Commander, Jim Holland, Adjutant & Finance Officer, Rick Stanford, Trustee (3 year), Jose Alecia, Sergeant at Arms, Clarence Farris, Chaplain & Welfare Officer, Norman Thomas Trustee (2 year), and C. Paul Nelson, Member at large.

JUNIOR ROTC CADETS HONORED

During the months of April and early May, members of the chapter participated in several Junior ROTC recognition programs and presented several cadets with the Purple Heart Leadership Medal and certificate, recognizing their outstanding performance and leadership. The schools involved were, Leon High, East and West Gadston High Schools, Lincoln and Richards High Schools & Bainbridge, GA High School.



PURPE HEART DAY IN FLORIDA

Veterans bill heading to Governor Rick Scott for signature -
TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – The Florida House of Representatives unanimously passed legislation establishing an annual Purple Heart Day in Florida, beginning in 2012. The legislation, which designates August 7 of each year as Florida Purple Heart Day, now goes before Gov. Rick Scott for signature.

The Purple Heart Bill represents Florida's outstanding commitment to veterans both past and present that have made sacrifices on behalf of our great nation, said Washington Sanchez, state commander of the Military Order of the

Purple Heart. We also salute those Purple Heart recipients throughout our history who have made the ultimate sacrifice. They will never be forgotten.

Sen. Maria Sachs sponsored the bill (SB 276) in the Florida Senate, which passed unanimously in that body last month. Its companion, House Bill 469, was sponsored by Rep. Jimmie Smith. The Purple Heart, established by General George Washington, in 1782, is the nation's oldest military decoration still in use. The contemporary Purple Heart, reestablished in 1932, is a combat decoration awarded to military and civilian members of the U.S. Armed Forces who are wounded by an instrument of war in the hands of the enemy and posthumously to the next of kin in the name of those who were killed in action or die from wounds received in action. According to the Military Order of the Purple Heart, there have been about 1.7 million Purple Heart recipients in the nation's history. Once signed, Florida would join seven other states in commemorating the annual observance

CHAPTER 758 FUND RAISER

Members of Chapter 758 braved the heat and conducted a Memorial Day weekend fund raiser at the Wal*Mart store on North West Capital Circle.

The Tallahassee community was very generous in their donations. The chapter provided Purple Heart Support pins and American vehicle flags for individual donations above what would normally be expected.

As a token of the chapter's appreciation for Wal*Mart allowing us to used their property to solicit donations, Military Order of the Purple Heart Florida State Commander , Washington Sanchez and (pictured on the right) and new Chapter 758 Military Order of the Purple Heart Commander Mike Ford (shown on the left) presented one of our chapter's unique Certificates of Appreciation to the assistant store manager.



LEON COUNTY'S "OPERATION THANK YOU" A MAJOR SUCCESS



Leon County invited the entire community to the Operation Thank You block party on Friday, May 18 to honor and recognize the service of post-9/11 local armed forces members and veterans. Leon County government strongly believes support for our military and veterans starts and ends at the local level with neighbors, care givers, and veteran organizations. Similar to other downtown block-party events, Operation Thank You included live music performances, food and beverage booths, vendors and entertainment for children. The event took place in Downtown Tallahassee on South Adams Street between Jefferson Street and Park Avenue.

Organizations, programs, and groups specifically focused on the military and veteran communities were represented at the event. Chapter 758 of the Military Order of the Purple Heart enjoyed participating and helping to inform the public of the significance and meaning of the Purple Heart Medal.



Chapter 758 members representing our chapter at the "Operation Thank You" block party in downtown Tallahassee on May 18th.

Pictured Left to Right:
Chapter Commander, Mike Ford,
Patriot Jose Alicea-Ortiz and our
newest member and Afghanistan
Marine veteran, Adam Twomey

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART NATIONAL CONVENTION
MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART 80TH NATIONAL CONVENTION - LAMOPH
79th 7-11 August 2012

The Scottsdale Plaza Resort

7200 North Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85253

<http://www.scottsdaleplaza.com>

Reservations: 1.800.832.2025 - - Identify as Military Order of the Purple Heart

Deadline for reservations: Friday, 7 July 2012

NO Reservations at the group rate will be taken after this date.

REGISTRY



Our chapter is organizing and putting together a member directory / registry of all active members. The directory will include a general information page about each member, to include their current photograph and any personal information they wish to provide. Additionally, each member will also have the opportunity for a separate personal page, in which they can included highlights of their military and civilian careers, awards, decorations and any honors they have received. Also on this latter page will be photographs of them while serving in uniform, if they so desire. Anyone interested in being listed in the directory is encouraged to attend our next monthly meeting on June 1 9th. We would like to make our registry fully representative of the Purple Heart recipients in our community and share their military background and experiences with other MOPH members and (with individual member's permission),the community.

**CHAPTER 758
MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART
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address label