



Sunny Jones Chapter 49

P.O. Box 1068

Lemon Grove, CA 91946

February 2011

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER



Gentlemen, as I write this from a deck filled with late afternoon sunshine, I can only conclude that this has been an extremely successful year for Chapter 0049. This report to the Ship's Log addresses the communications aspect of Chapter 0049. Late last year, approximately mid-October 2009, I decided

that a better communication tool would be a web site to get messages, information and veterans issues out to a mass audience. Previously, we relied on the Chapter Bulletins (paper) and the e-Bulletins to get information out to chapter members. The problems were by the time we progressed through the publication process, the information had become stale, or, it required a lot more room than we could put on 4-pages (front and back). And, the additional pages would only increase the costs of printing and postage. So, the solution to reaching out to a mass audience of 290+ members with some level of frequency, the decision was made to implement a Chapter web site that would reach approximately 40% of chapter members with computers and we would use the published (paper) Bulletins for non-computer users.

By December 27, 2009, the Chapter and Executive Board had planned, designed and completed a "dry run" of a prototype site. We started off the year 2010 with the goal of making this a communication tool

with some great Purple Heart products that we would use to establish our e-commerce bona fides. The products would consist of flags, scrolls, table runners, bow flags, and other Purple Heart mementos for sale as "non-profit" items to benefit the chapter and other veteran programs. We officially launched the site on January 4, 2010.

Well, we know what happen to that vision. It was smashed (quashed) in less than 45 days. We discovered a great manufacturing source and the data shows that we had defined a great market for our products. The traffic to the e-commerce tab was simply "terrific." In the first 45-day period, we had 587 visits to the Purple Heart products tab alone.

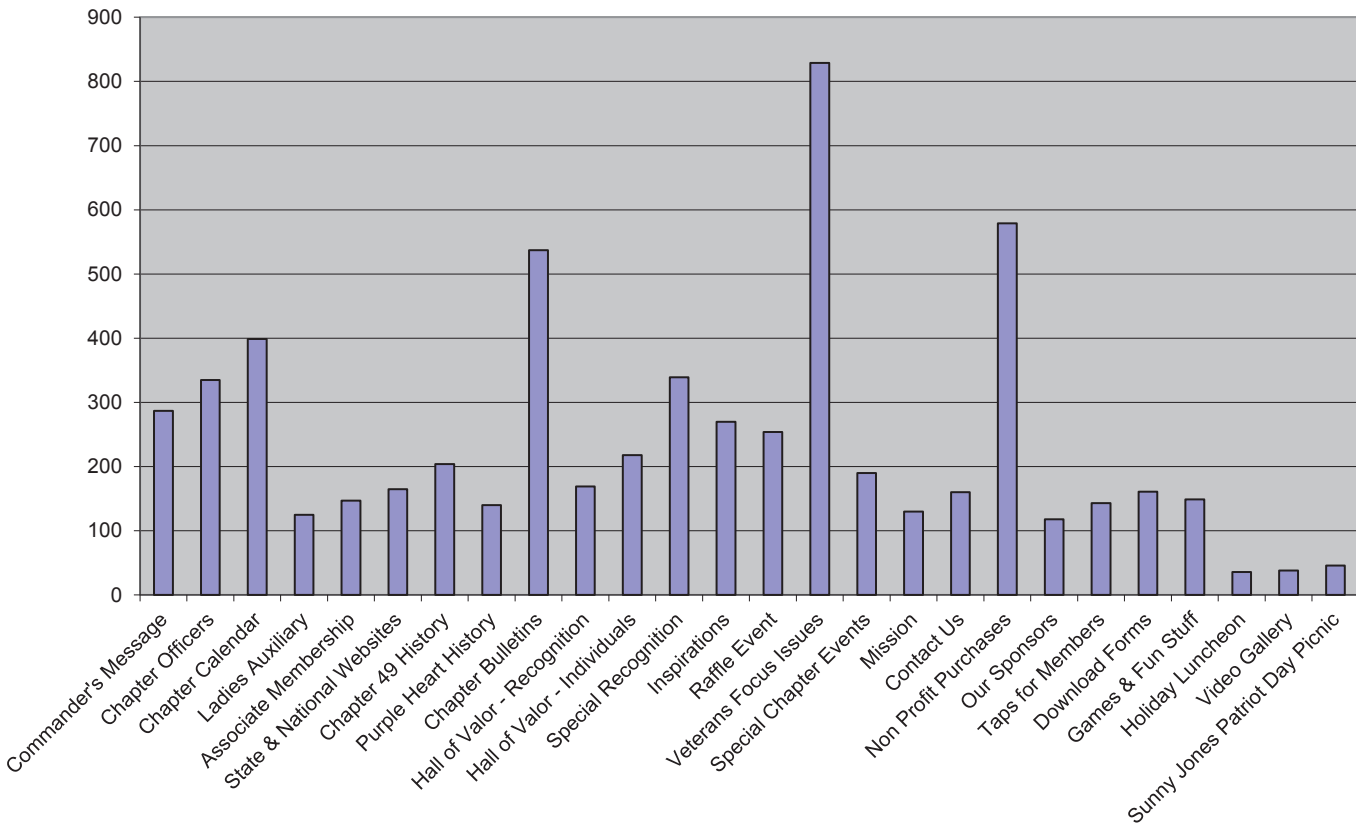
Unfortunately, other factors in the MOPH community found it necessary to smash the dream.

So, we revised our vision. Instead of a multi-focused approach based on information about veterans issues and e-commerce sales, we focused on making the web site more MOPH-centric and the San Diego veteran community. This approach resulted in a more sharpened and honed approach.

Surprisingly, when I asked Yahoo! Small Business for some annual statistical data on the traffic to our web site, I was "blown away" by the information that they provided back to me. The site pages were visited more than 7,800 time in the year ending January 3, 2011. In fact, the actual number is 7,867 page visits over the 12-month period.

Chapter 0049 looks forward to a similar year in 2011 as we focus on improving information flow to our Purple Heart members and other interested veteran audience

Chapter #49 Website Hits 2010



VETERANS DAY PARADE SAN DIEGO COUNTY

On November 11, 2010, the day turned out to be another in a series of "blue sky" days that only the Chamber of Commerce could order from the heavens. The azure blue of the sky and the water along Harbor Drive was simply magnificent.

However, there was one outstanding issues which would tend to mar the well-planned day. Getting downtown to the Pacific Coast Highway is an atrocious task on any Veterans Day Parade because the normal routes are blocked or unexpected detours pop-up where none had ever been. November 11, 2010, was one of those days in spades.

I live seven (7) miles east of downtown and it took me 2.5 hours to get the the jumping off point at the County Administration building. On a normal Veteran's Day, it takes approximately 60-75 minutes to get to the same point.

What was so "special" about this Veterans' Day? A misbegotton ship called the " Carnival

Splendor." This cruise ship was stranded off the Mexican coastline, "dead in the water," and had to be towed back to the closet port for repairs. The ship had 4,500 passengers aboard and it arrived in San Diego - you guessed it - on November 11, 2010.

Not only did it arrive in San Diego at 09:00 a.m., but every news crew and television truck with an antenna capable of transmitting a signal was poised and positioned one (1) block west of the parade route. Every tourist with a camera and all the relatives from out-of-town were there to meet the the misbegotten Carnival ship.

Late Tuesday, November 9, 2010, the Navy executed a military-style airdrop by helicopter from the deck of the USS Ronald Reagan to the Splendor of nearly 10,000 pounds of food and supplies, including what appeared to be hundreds of cans of Spam, along with Pop "Tarts, croissants, crab meat, bread, cups and other utensils.

So this is how November 11, 2010, started off in San Diego, CA. But like many military-planned operation, the Parade stepped off smartly at the appointed hour of 11:00 a.m., without a number of participants.

Chapter 0049 of the Military Order of the Purple Heart and the Ladies Auxiliary, Unit 0049, had eleven (11) members participating in the parade. We were assigned to the bell-ringing tour bus that originates out of Old Town and we had a rousing good-time aboard the vehicle.

Estimate for the crowd along the parade route was in excess of 15,000 people. No doubt the televisions crews and the additional relatives of the Carnival Splendor added to the normal crowd.

All in all, it was a great patriotic day and the sky and the water remained an azure blue for all the Patriots. It was just another typical day in paradise.



L-R: Assoc. Mbr. Torrin Merrill; Patriot Joe Petrini; Patriot Bob Quimby; Patriot Toby Todd; Cmdr. U. Miller; Patriot Robert Hernandez; Patriot Bob Holloway; and Patriot Ki Kim.

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA: (The Fort Rosecrans Project)

On October 25, 2010, Commander Ulysses Miller, Jr., of Chapter 0049 wrote an email to the Patriots of the Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) with the following information:

“Chapter 0049 - Military Order of the Purple Heart is proposing to participate in the laying of wreaths at Fort Rosecrans, CA. Last year, Wreaths Across America, laid 250 wreaths at Fort Rosecrans. This December 11th, the organization is planning to lay approximately 2,000+ wreaths at Fort Rosecrans”

“I believe that Chapter 0049 should be a part of this effort. It is anticipated that only 3-4 hours will be needed



A section of Fort Rosecrans dressed in Holiday wreaths.

by the volunteers to complete this mission assignment.”

“I am actively recruiting members ... TODAY.”

With this clarion call to duty, the patriots of Chapter 0049 answered and the response was one of the most inspiring days among comrades. We met at the entrance of Fort Rosecrans in a blinding, pea-soup, fog that encased Point Loma for a couple of hours. Soon the sun would break through and burn off the fog and we would experience a brilliant, azure-blue sky.

The ceremonies would begin at 09:00 a.m. sharp with the presentation of the Colors, the processions of the Services and their wreath presenters, the chilling sound of bagpipes against the damp fog, and the musket fire



USMC Firing Detail

of soldiers in period costumes. The ceremony was concluded with the fly-over of a lone MH-60Y Jayhawk helicopter from the U.S. Coast Guard.

With ceremonies ended, the real work of unloading the tractor-trailer with boxes and boxes of wreaths would begin and the duty to pay homage to those who have gone before us.

Chapter 49 would have 15 members present along with the presence of our National Senior Vice Commander, William (Bill) Hutton and our California Department Commander, Jon Williams. The distinctive “purple caps” would stand out in the fog-based morning as well as among the more than 1,000 volunteers that showed up to witness the ceremony.

Chapter 0049 would first set off to find its progenitor and chapter-namesake, 1st Sergeant Henry (“Sunny”) Jones of the 97th Company, 6th Regiment, U.S. Marine Corps. 1st Sgt. Jones was born January 29, 1888 and was killed-in-action at the Battle of Blanc Mont, in the Champagne Region of France on October 8, 1918.



Thanks for a magnificent effort to all.

1st Sgt Henry “Sunny” Jones resides in Section PS-7, Site 233, on a hill overlooking San Diego Bay to the east. 1st Sgt. “Sunny” Jones is well-positioned to feel the fog and dew of the early morning as well as the afterglow of the afternoon sunsets. Rest well, Henry Jones, for you have served above and beyond the “call of duty.” “Semper Fidelis!!

Ladies Auxiliary Essay Contest

The Ladies held their second annual, “It’s More Than A Day Off From School” Veterans Day Essay contest on “Why It Is Important To Thank Our Veterans”. The essay was open to Fifth Grade students in the Chula Vista Elementary School District. We had 130 entries this year from 10 schools. Semi finalists were chosen by LAMOPH members, finalists were chosen by MOPH and the winning, second and third place essays were chosen by residents at the Veterans Home of Chula Vista. Every student who submitted an essay received a MOPH bookmark and book cover.

Honorable Mentions (one from each school) received a certificate with a coupon for a free pint of Ben and Jerry’s ice cream. Second and Third Place received \$10 Borders gift cards. The winning essay, written by Milena Calcagni received a \$25 gift certificate to Oggi’s. Ms. Calcagni was also recognized at the Chula Vista City Council meeting where she read her essay and was presented a certificate by City Councilman John McCann, an Afghanistan veteran. Ms. Calcagni’s mother is a Navy veteran and her dad is currently in the Navy waiting for deployment to Afghanistan.



Essay contest sponsored by Ladies Auxiliary, Military Order of The Purple Heart, San Diego, Sunny Jones Unit 49

Winning Essay

Why It's Important To Thank Our Veterans

By: M. C.

A Fifth Grader in The Chula Vista Elementary School District

Military veterans are the reason why we, as Americans, are able to wake up in the morning, make our own choices through the day and sleep peacefully at night. My dad says, "We sleep under a blanket of freedom each night".

A military job consists of many advantages and disadvantages. Advantages include: good pay, privileges on military bases, various discounts and your guaranteed safety while on those bases. The disadvantages are why I respect veterans so much.

First, you could be deployed at a moments notice and if you were, you would be putting your life on line for the security of others. This is especially difficult for those members with families. While their families at home are busy with daily routines like, eating together, laughing and shopping, their deployed family members are waking up to a different atmosphere away from their loved ones.

I understand that when military service members have signed up for this job they are well aware of all circumstances, good and bad, that might come. Yet, they are still willing to sacrifice their everyday lives for the well-being of their country. The appreciation of the freedom Americans enjoy is the reason why they're willing to make these sacrifices.

Memorials like Pearl Harbor and the Vietnam Wall are symbols of the cost it means to be free. My mom still gets teary when fighter jets do fly-bys at the football stadiums. When I ask her why, she just smiles, hugs me, and says it is just so awesome to live in America. Without our men and women in the military, none of this would be possible.

Military service is an honor and we should remember those who have served, are serving and have paid the ultimate price for the freedoms we all share each day.

Annual Holiday Luncheon

On December 12, 2010, from 12:00 p.m. to 15:00 p.m., the Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH), Chapter 49 and the Ladies Auxiliary of the Military Order of the Purple Heart (LAMOPH), Unit 49 held their annual Holiday Luncheon. The event was held at the Best Western Hotel, 7 Seas Restaurant, in Mission Valley.

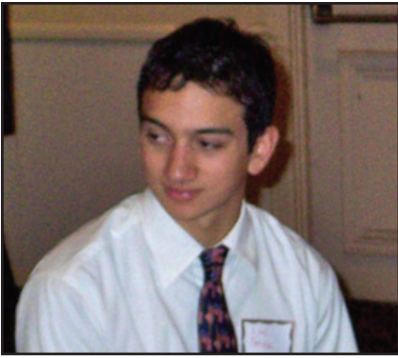
The event would be attended by some 46 Patriots, Auxiliary, Associate members and guests. This Sunday afternoon luncheon was blessed with San Diego's usual azure-blue skies and warm ambience (both inside and outside). The program was opened with a welcome by Unit 49 President, Cheryl Perez, who also led the gala members in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Invocation was led by MOPH Chaplain Allen Wissenger. Then each table of Patriots, Auxiliary Members, Associate Member and honored Guests were asked to stand and introduce themselves.

Among this year's honored Guests were the following: National Sr. Vice Commander, Bill Hutton, who joined the Chapter in our Ft. Rosecrans event on Saturday; CA State Commander, Jon Williams, who also helped lay

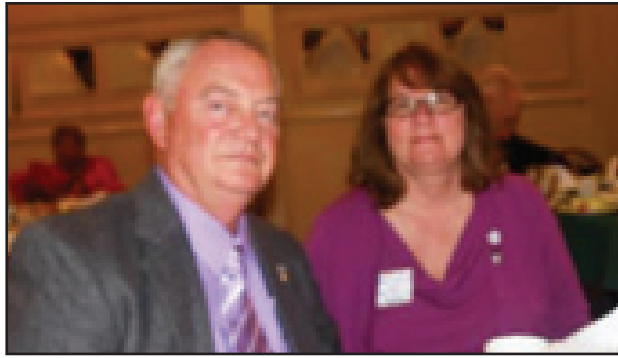
2500+ Christmas wreaths at Ft. Rosecrans; Region 6 Commander, Ladies Auxiliary, Mrs. Debbie Sweet; and CA Department Sr. Vice Commander, Carroll Sweet; among many, many other past and present dignitaries. It was great to see such a distinguished group of luminaries from far and near who help to grace the local crowd of Patriots.

The Chapter and our officers thank each and every one of you for the extraordinary effort you made to join us.

With introductions out of the way, we all settled down to a luncheon that featured Chicken Cordon Blue or tender Pot Roast and "good cheer." We were entertained by Patriot Bob Holloway and the local group called "The Fourth Dimension," a barber shop quartet. Everyone enjoyed the music and the intro remarks by the "king of one-liners," Mr. Bob Holloway. Bob Holloway had threatened to use a one-liner joke about the Commander's weight but I counseled against it because I would write a writhing review of his tenor/baritone voice. I didn't hear the joke, did you??



Assoc. Member, Luc Perez.



Sr. Vice Commander Carroll Sweet & Regional Commander, Debbie Sweet, Ladies Auxiliary.



Patriot Alex Quintanar past CA MOPH Commander



Assoc. Member, Rachel Perez and Patriot Robert F. Quimby.



L-R: Ladies Auxiliary Members Myrna Ringen and Mrs. Diane Petriini.



National Sr. Vice Commander Bill Hutton and CA MOPH Commander Jon Williams



Chapter 49 Commander Ulysses Miller and Mrs. Charlotte Miller



The Ladies Auxiliary in close consultation.



Joe, Alex and Torin.

Ladies Auxiliary Hosts the First Annual Afternoon Tea for Women Veterans

The Ladies Auxiliary, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Unit 49, hosted an Afternoon Tea for the Women Veterans of the California Veterans Home, Chula Vista on Thursday, November 18th, 2010. The catered event was held in the Rose Garden Café at the Veterans Home. LAMOPH members transformed the room into a Victorian looking tea shop decorated in purple. LAMOPH members filled old fashion tea cups with fresh flowers for center pieces which were given to the residents at the end of the tea. Twenty eight women veterans attended the tea that included the traditional tea sandwiches and desserts. LAMOPH provided beautiful Victorian silk fans to each attendee. One of the highlights of the Tea was a Victorian Fashion Show presented by the Victorian Ladies Society of San Diego. In addition, the Canyon Quilters Group provided each veteran with a lap quilt. Victorian dressed ladies delivered desserts and a fan to the women residents

who were unable to attend. The residents were very excited about the tea and spent the morning getting ready for it. We heard from staff that the ladies were like young girls as they tried to decide what to wear, how to do their hair and what jewelry to wear.

The idea for the tea came about as LAMOPH President Cheryl Perez and Vice President Diane Petrini spoke at the Veteran Homes of Chula Vista Founders Day Event about wanting to do something to honor the women veterans residents there. The afternoon tea was a huge success in every way and we look forward to making this an annual event. The Tea would not have been possible without underwriting by The Haehn Foundation and the personal support of Jacquie Haehn. The Chula Vista Star News also covered the afternoon tea and the article can be read at: <http://www.thestarnews.com/latest-news/remembering-the-first-ladies-of-war/>



Jacquie Haehn and Joan DeMunbrun



Alice Barrett



Cheryl Perez and Barbara (Bobbie) Stephens, Canyon Quilters Veteran Quilts



Diane Petrini and Model from Victorian Ladies Society of San Diego



We Need Your Participation!

A message from Sr. Vice Commander, Joseph Perini

In the past year, Your Chapter Number 49 has accomplished an impressive number of tasks, led by our esteemed Commander Ulysses Miller, Jr.

On February 13, 2010, a Purple Heart Monument Dedication Ceremony was held at the Veteran's Museum & Memorial Center at Balboa Park. The Purple Heart Monument is dedicated to recognize the sacrifices of all of our members to keep Freedom and Democracy for our citizens. As has been said: "If you can read this message, Thank a teacher; if you are reading it in English, Thank a Veteran!"

On April 17, 2010, Chapter 49 re-elected Commander Ulysses Miller, Jr. who has done an excellent job revitalizing our Chapter, creating an enthusiastic leadership team, and getting members involved in implementing our purpose. He has been instrumental in helping fellow veterans and looking out for Purple Heart recipients, who have given of themselves to protect our country's future and place in history.

On May 8th, our own Chevalier Orlow F. "Buzz" Garrett was awarded the French "Legion of Honor" Medal at the French Consulate in Beverly Hills. Our Commander Miller and his wife, Charlotte, were present in support of Sir Orlow F. "Buzz" Garret.

In Early June, Commander Miller and his wife, Charlotte; Max and Judy Tadlock; and Joe and Diane Petrini, participated in the Department Convention in Monterey, Ca.

On July 4th, 10 of our members served as the "Grand Parade Marshalls" for the Rancho Bernardo Spirit of the 4th Parade. Our members participating were Bobby Cheatom, Ernest Collier, Esequiel Leos, Philip Bishop, William Whiteman, Doug Elmore, Torain S. Kelley, Orlow S. "Buzz" Garrett, Bob Holloway, Soloman Espinda, Joseph Petrini, and our Commander Ulysses Miller, Jr.

As a result of efforts by our Chapter Adjutant, Robert F. Quimby, August 2010 was proclaimed "Purple Heart Month" by the City of San Diego. On August 7th, we celebrated Purple Heart Day with a ceremony at the Purple Heart Memorial at the San Diego Veteran's Museum & Memorial Center in Balboa Park.

On September 11, we enjoyed a Patriot Day Picnic at Balboa Park, through the efforts of Patriots Nick Pylypowycz, Toby Todd and Commander Ulysses Miller. September also was the Kick Off of our Chapter Raffle to support our general operating budget. Financial support is needed to produce, print and mail our chapter newsletter to keep communications alive with our members. Our raffle did not produce the total income we had hoped for, but it was successful enough to put our chapter in the black. It will be up to our members to decide if the raffle should be continued in the future.

On November 11, we participated in the San Diego Veteran's Day Parade. We had a great turnout and after the Chapter 49 participation in the parade, Purple Heart book covers and bookmarks were distributed to the children attending the parade.

On December 11th, Chapter members participated in the Wreaths Across America activity at Rosecrans National Cemetery in Point Loma. We helped place 2,500 wreaths at graves at our local National Cemetery. In addition to our chapter members, we were honored to have Bill Hutton, National MOPH Senior Vice Commander and Jon Williams, California Department Commander participate in the Wreath laying.

On December 12, 2011 we had our annual Holiday Luncheon, with great attendance and camaraderie.

Throughout the year we have sponsored Bingo at the VA Hospital in San Diego every 5th Thursday throughout the year. Past Commander Alex Quintanar organizes the program in conjunction with the Ladies Auxiliary. We provide entertainment, good food and treats as well as concession coupons to our fellow veterans currently in the care of the VA Hospital San Diego.

Over the past year our Chapter has been extremely active, we have provided support to a two-time Purple Heart recipient with 2 daughters who needed help with utility bills and rent. We have supported Veterans for Peace in providing sleeping bags and ponchos to the homeless on the streets of San Diego, the San Diego Veteran's Museum & Memorial Center, and the Bingo services at the VA Medical Center in San Diego. In addition, the Ladies Auxiliary, Unit 49, sponsored a Veterans Day Essay for fifth graders and sponsored an Afternoon Tea for the Women Veterans at the Veterans Home of California, Chula Vista.

We need your support and participation. We have almost 300 members and yet only about 40 members have carried on the activities throughout the past year. We need more volunteers to continue the work of Chapter #49. We are here to support our fellow veterans, to promote patriotism, to educate the public and to promote the ideals of Patriotism and the love of our country. You have done all of the above before, we ask you to do so again. Volunteers are needed for all levels of involvement – from Chapter Leadership to Committee members. Please consider running for a position of Leadership and, if you can, support your chapter financially, and make every effort to vote for next year's officers at our meeting on April 16, 2011.

The Purple Heart Medal

The award we have come to recognize as the Purple Heart actually found its roots not so much in the desire to create a new medal for military men to wear, as it was in the desire to honor a great American hero of the past. George Washington was born on February 22, 1732. Nearly 200 years later the American public was preparing for the bi-centennial of his birth, complete with commemorative events and celebrations. In the process of researching the life of the Father of our Country in order to plan the celebration, General Washington's Executive Order of August 7, 1782 was found. Along with it was the record of his purple Badge of Military Merit and the accounts of the three men who had received it. On October 10, 1927 Army Chief of Staff, General Charles P. Summerall drafted a bill to send to Congress in an effort to revive the Badge of Military Merit. For whatever reasons, the bill received little support and was withdrawn early the following year.

As the bi-centennial celebration drew closer, General Summerall was replaced by General Douglas MacArthur, a hero of service in Mexico and World War I, and the son of a Civil War Medal of Honor recipient. With little public fanfare, General MacArthur began work anew on General Summerall's proposal to re-establish the Badge of Military Merit. Throughout 1931 the Army quietly designed and created the new award. It was announced on February 22, 1932...the 200th anniversary of George Washington's birth. In honor of the Father of our Country and the man who established our military's first medal, the Purple Heart would bear the profile on George Washington on its face.

The Army quickly embraced the new medal, authorizing its presentation to any soldier whose "wound...necessitates treatment by a medical officer and which is received in action with an enemy." The award itself was made retro-active, allowing World War I Army veterans who had been wounded in action to exchange previously received Meritorious Service Citation Certificates for the new Purple Heart Medal. In the early days of World War II, soldiers received the Purple Heart not only for wounds, but also in some circumstances, for meritorious service.

The Navy was not so quick to accept the Medal, and not until a year after Pearl Harbor was it authorized for sailors and Marines. On December 3, 1942 President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued an Executive Order authorizing the Purple Heart to sailors and Marines

wounded or killed on or after December 6, 1941. This made all those injured or killed at Pearl Harbor eligible for the Purple Heart. At the same time he established the Legion of Merit medal for meritorious service, restricting the Purple Heart for award only to those killed or wounded in combat. Later, President Truman extended the time period for the award back to April 5, 1917, allowing Naval and Marine Corps veterans of World War I to receive the award.

Today the Purple Heart is perhaps, the most unique of all United States military awards. Though low in the order of precedence on the Pyramid of Honor (it ranks below the Bronze star), it is one of the most widely recognized and respected medals. It can not be earned by courage or by exceptional service or achievement. The Purple Heart signifies one thing... SACRIFICE. Whenever you see the Purple Heart, know that it represents either a combat death or a combat wound. It represents the blood that has been shed in defense of liberty.

The Purple Heart is awarded in the name of the President of the United States to any member of an Armed force who, while serving with the U.S. Armed Services after 5 April 1917, has been wounded or killed, or who has died or may hereafter die after being wounded. A wound for which the award is made must have required treatment by a medical officer.



Military Oder of the Purple Heart
PO Box 1068
Lemon Grove, CA 91946-1086

Calendar of Events

The following is a schedule of upcoming events & activities for Chapter 49:

February 16-18, 2011 *CA Dept. Mid Term Convention in Bakersfield.*

February 21, 2011 *Presidents Day. Ceremony to honor President George Washington as the founder of the Purple Heart Medal. 1:00 PM at the Veterans Museum & Memorial Center in the outside area.*

February 26, 2011 *Chapter #49 General Meeting at VFW on Othello Street in Kearny Mesa area of San Diego. 12:00 PM Luncheon 1:00 PM Meeting*

March 2, 2011 *Draft of postcards to be mailed announcing annual elections at April 16 meeting. Postcards to be printed & mailed by March 14.*

March 31, 2011 *Bingo at the VA Hospital. 6:00 PM*

April 16, 2011 *General Membership Meeting and annual elections. To be held at VFW on Othello Street in Kearny Mesa area of San Diego. 12:00 PM Luncheon 1:00 PM Meeting*