



MOPH Chapter 353 Newsletter and 2006 Chapter Election Notice MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART (MOPH) Greater Washington Chapter 353

Dear Fellow Patriot of MOPH Chapter 353:

March 2006

CHAPTER 353 MEETING SITE. We normally meet on the third Saturday of the month, except in August and December. A light snack may be purchased at the Post before our meetings, which begin at **1 p.m.**, and parking is **free**. A map with driving directions is on our Chapter 353 website.

2006 CHAPTER ELECTION. Our **April 15, 2006 meeting and election** of Chapter Officers for the year 2006-2007 will be held at **American Legion Post 139** located at 3445 Washington Blvd., Arlington, VA, 22201, at **1 p.m.** This notice is sent more than 2 weeks in advance to **ALL** Patriots of MOPH Chapter 353 in accordance with our National Bylaws, on page 21. Nominations may be made from the floor. MOPH Chapter 353 membership and personal attendance are required to vote.

If you would like to receive future bulletins, post cards, or newsletters **by e-mail**, please let us know at SCobb177@aol.com or webmaster@purpleheart353.com. You may also like to visit our **MOPH Chapter 353 website** at www.purpleheart353.com for news, announcements, and photo reports. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome! We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you for **your** service to our country.

Yours in Patriotism,

Stephen H. (Steve) Cobb
Commander
MOPH Chapter 353



Chapter 353 and Unit 353 Welcome Home and Support Combat Wounded and Injured Troops

Many military service members wounded or injured in the **Operations Iraqi Freedom (OIF)** and **Enduring Freedom (OEF)** return to the United States for medical treatment and rehabilitation. Since April 2004, we have been meeting them at least three times per week at Andrews Air Force Base (AFB) in Maryland. We have also been visiting and supporting OIF and OEF patients at Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC), National Naval Medical Center (NNMC), free steak dinners for patients at Fran O'Brien's Steakhouse in Washington, DC, and VFW and other Posts in Northern Virginia. We welcome our wounded and injured troops home and thank them on behalf of **all** Americans. We provide information about benefits and assistance available to them and their families from various sources. As of February 28, 2006, we have greeted and assisted over **10,659** OIF/OEF patients, including **3,470** wounded in action (**WIA**) and **7,189** non-battle injury (**nbi**). Our troops and their families can count on our support until everybody comes home.

Viola Drive at Fort Belvoir, VA



Operation Iraqi Freedom Veteran John Keith, Jr. (left) enjoys his first Viola Drive together with Chapter 353 Senior Vice Commander Ed Schnug (center) and Commander Steve Cobb (right) at Fort Belvoir, VA, on September 24, 2005. After almost a year of recovery from his combat wounds at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Patriot Keith continues serving in the Army.



**MOPH Chapter 353 - March 2006
Newsletter and Election Notice
c/o 5001 Seminary Road, #914
Alexandria, VA 22311-1914**

FIRST CLASS MAIL



According to the new Standing Rule #59, lineal female descendants of Purple Heart recipients from birth through age 13 may join the Ladies Auxiliary as Associate Members (Annual – \$10.00/year or Life – \$125.00). At age 14, they will become Regular Members. Associate Life Membership will be converted to Regular Life Membership. Annual Members will need to pay the appropriate annual dues (currently, \$20.00/year). Please visit www.purpleheart353.com for information about LAMOPH Unit 353 and encourage your Ladies to join our team. For assistance, please contact Unit President and Secretary Tanya Cobb at (571) 332-5310 or tcobb144@aol.com

Purple Heart Day 2005 at Mount Vernon, VA



World War II Purple Heart recipients from Maryland Chapter 2222 and (from center to right) Ralph Huston, Joseph Zimmer, and Ed Schnug from Chapter 353 salute after the wreath laying by the Purple Heart Monument.

Purple Heart Float Again Wins First Place in Alexandria Washington Birthday Parade



Members of MOPH Chapters 353 (Virginia) and 2222 (Maryland) salute in front of the Washington Birthday Parade reviewing stand from the Purple Heart float on February 20, 2006.