



www.ourfallensoldier.com

www.ourheroesjourney.com

www.standandsaluteamericanheroes.com

February 2012

Happy New Year to each and every one of you! We hope that 2012 will be a year full of peace, happiness and growth for you. We are excited about the year ahead and all the exciting things we hope to accomplish with our organization. We have many great things to look forward to as we continue to HONOR and serve the nation's military and their incredible families!

As we face 2012, we are very aware that for many of our military coming home from Iraq... they are facing a new world that they might not be accustomed to. One of the principle goals of our major project of Our Heroes Journey is to help these soldiers, whatever branch of service they may be from, to integrate them back into family life, civilian life and life in general after combat. It is our wish that together with the support of our programs and our nation of caring people that we can help make these transitions as smooth and comfortable as possible! We will be working with the military, the families and children and other support systems to make this a peaceful and a much supported transition for the service members.



Santa Arrives with lots of toys & goodies for the children and Marines at Camp Pendleton

It was a very fun time at Camp Pendleton last month, as we hosted a "Breakfast with Santa" at Camp Pendleton for the children, families and Marines of Squadron 469. Santa came prepared with toys and goodies for over 1000 children, thanks to donations by Carlsbad Country Day School of Carlsbad, CA and a large toy donation from Mattel Toys! The Marines and their families were also treated to a fabulous breakfast thanks to our good friends of the Temecula VFW post # 4089. They provided a home cooked meal for the thousands that attended. It was wonderful to see all the marines and their families relax and have a good time together. There was plenty to do for everyone with a full gaming station, Velcro climbing wall, bubble wrap alley, jumpy balloon and massage therapists available to give much needed massages to our hard working marines and their spouses!

Stand & Salute American Heroes

Honors Veterans at Nursing Home in Chicago....



Stand & Salute American Heroes has become painfully aware that there are many veterans across the country that are living in Nursing homes and are often alone. We have decided to expand our "Honor Program" beyond the fields and arenas of baseball and hockey to include nursing homes around the country. There are several World War II veterans out there that we have discovered. On Sunshine Roth's recent visit to a nursing home in Chicago she came with stockings for the veterans and SASAH's comfort blankets for each of them! They spent their time together singing patriotic songs and telling lots of great stories of their days in the service. We plan to return to this same home in the spring and visit our new veteran friends! It was truly amazing to share this time with them.

National Hospitalized Veteran's Day in February 14th

We are looking for volunteers from each state to participate in our national "Card Campaign". It is a very simple thing to do. Each volunteer will be asked to send just 10 valentine cards to a VA hospital in their state for Veteran's that are currently staying there. We provide each volunteer with the address of the VA, and it is about as simple as that! It is our wish that we can get a group of volunteers in place to send cards in each state periodically to our veterans throughout the year. Such a simple gesture has a life changing effect on those in the hospital and is so appreciated. If you are interested please email Sunshine at SASAH218@gmail.com.

Addressing the needs of our homeless Vets in 2012

It has become a top priority for Our Heroes Journey to address the issues facing homeless veterans in 2012. As many of our military are coming home from combat, and facing a very uncertain economy, paired with their apprehensions, anxiety and transition back into civilian life... many too will face homeless. It is time for us all to recognize this growing population and acknowledge the fact that more has to be done. Our organization is making a commitment to provide meals, clothing and basic needs to as many veterans in 2012 as we possibly can. Together with participation in "Stand Downs" and homeless veteran shelters across the country, we will become part of the solution!

Operation Military Brat is continuing to cloth many..

Children, spouses and Marines at Camp Pendleton, CA, Marine Corp. base. This program that started last year has proven to be a very BIG success and a much needed program for our military families. These families have all faced tough economic times like those of us in the civilian world. Through very generous donations of clothing and other items, such as strollers, high chairs and baby seats by Spin Again Resale Store of Encinitas, Ca we have been able to provide clothing to hundreds of Military families over the last several months on a regular basis. This event has grown in popularity as well. In 2012 we are looking forward to expanding this much needed program to other military bases around the country and working on getting other clothing companies big and small to donate clothing to this much needed program. The Marines and their families really appreciate the clothing and the financial relief this program is providing to their family!

Goodbye to our dear friend Lt. (JG) Frank Spatuzzi who was our “Honoree” of the “Stand & Salute American Heroes award in Florida last year at the Tampa Bay game last September. Frank passed away in early January after complications with a hip replacement surgery. He will truly be missed!!!



Would you like to send a “Care Package” to Afghanistan?

There are many men and women serving in Afghanistan that would love to receive care packages from home! Many people are unsure of where to send a care package... but we are here to help you! We would be happy to provide you with a address of where to send something. It's as easy as emailing us at kluisi214@gmail.com. The boxes for shipping are best to get at the United States Post Office. We recommend the Medium size priority boxes, that are FREE as long as the weight of the box is less than 70lbs. It costs just \$10.58 cents to ship. You will need to fill out a APO Customs Declaration and Dispatch Note (CP-72). This form is simple to fill out and is just a declaration of what you are sending. We remind you that there are strict laws in Afghanistan against pork, pornography and alcohol. All packages are subject to being search, so please be respectful of the laws! Care packages being sent have definitely slowed down lately as many of our troops have come home from Iraq. We do however still have thousands of service members serving in Afghanistan that really appreciate care packages from home!

Upcoming Events:

- January 22 : Stand & Salute American Heroes HONORS Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Team in Orange County, CA
- January 25th: Operation Military Brat visits Marines and their families at Camp Pendleton, CA
- January 31st: Stand & Salute American Heroes HONORS Sgt. Emily Pesta US Coast Guard at Minnesota Wilds game.
- February 14th: National Hospitalized Veterans Day
- February 15th: Stand & Salute American Heroes HONORS 35 Veterans at Nursing home in Chicago.
- March: Honor event being planned with the Dallas Stars.

Check out what's new ... online...



Visit our STORE at ourfallensoldier.com

We have lots of great merchandise. Whether you are searching for a Patriotic shirt to wear to the next July 4th Barbeque or shopping for that perfect gift for a patriotic friend or family member... we have got some great stuff. All donations are tax deductible as well and support our great programs!

The Facebook logo, consisting of the word "facebook" in white lowercase letters on a blue rectangular background.

Join our “Stand & Salute American Heroes” group out today and follow us as we HONOR veterans all across the nation!

To Make a Donation Online

Visit ourfallensoldier.com

Or Check or Money Order can be sent to:

Our Fallen Soldier

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