



SILVER STAR

The Silver Star Families of America ~ 525 Cave Hollow Rd ~ Clever, MO 65631-6313

February 2008

Silver Star Shining for Sacrifice

Welcome to the February Silver Star Newsletter

OFFICERS Visit Washington D C.

Janie Orman, SSFOA President, Terri Rager, Vice President, and Stephanie Orman, wife of Chaplain Michael Orman visited our nation's capital in January. They attended meetings at the Pentagon, and the Department of Veteran's Affairs, and visited Walter Reed Army Hospital. They also met with Major Mike who agreed to represent the Silver Star Families in the D.C. area, and who will also be our Wounded Hero Spokesman. At Walter Reed they were escorted from room to room meeting injured and wounded military personnel, and presenting banners. President Janie Orman stated, "How can we ever say what an awesome privilege this past week has been to come face to face with our Kids? To see our mission happening before our eyes. Thank you Family, for your heart, and your support and every effort you make to see our Wounded Heroes honored."

Alabama Governor Declares Silver Star Banner and Flag Official

On January 2, 2008, Alabama Gov. Bob Riley signed a commendation of the Silver Star Families, and declared the Silver Star Banner and Flag as the permanent official flag and banner for the wounded in the state of Alabama. Alabama joins the states of Missouri, Connecticut, Indiana and Delaware in recognizing the Silver Star Flag and Banner and making them the official symbols of those wounded in the service of our country.



In This Issue

- [Officers Visit D.C.](#)
- [ALABAMA](#)
- [SSFOA EVENTS](#)
- [NATIONAL SALUTE TO HOSPITALIZED VETERANS](#)
- [PROGRAMS](#)
- [SSFOA BOOKS](#)
- [NEW BOARD MEMBERS](#)
- [SSFOA PRESIDENT GETS AWARD](#)

*Click titles to visit SSFOA links

[SSFOA MySpace](#)

[Silver Star Flag](#)
[More Silver Star Flag Photos](#)

See photos of the Silver Star Flag

[Support for Wounded Assistance Request Banner](#)

[How you can honor a Wounded Hero Sponsor Banner Donate](#)

SSFOA operates solely by donations and volunteer workers Thank you for your continued support

[Silver Star Banner](#)

Links

Trinkets N Scraps

ArmyWifeWearcom

BANNER ALUMNI

HALL OF HEROES

NEVER FORGET

SSFOA MISSION

The Silver Star Families of America is a 501 (C) (3) organization and accepts donations thru our website. If you wish to sponsor a Banner for a Soldier please visit the SSFOA or contact Steve Newton stevenewton69@hotmail.com

UPCOMING SSFOA EVENTS

Paypal is donating funds to non-profits that reach a received donation amount of \$500.00 and this campaign runs thru May. So your pledges and general donations will help SSFOA make some extra cash when you use Paypal. You can use the donation button in this email or go to www.silverstarfamilies.org and follow donation link. Please help us get the word out. Thank you for your support both monetarily and prayerfully for the Silver Star Families and the wounded heroes that are touched by this wonderful mission.

On March 3rd the Louisiana chapter of the SSFOA will be presenting a Silver Star Banner to the Shreveport chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

The Alabama chapter of Silver Star Families will be holding a Pancake Breakfast fundraiser at Applebee's in Hoover, AL. on Saturday March 29.

Also in March, SSFOA in Germany will hold a BBQ fundraiser for Fisher House at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center.

NATIONAL SALUTE TO HOSPITALIZED VETERANS

Silver Star Families of America with the Veterans Administration participated in the "National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans" on the 14th of February.

The purpose of the program was to:

- * Pay tribute and express appreciation of hospitalized veterans.
- * Increase community awareness of the role of VA medical centers.
- * Encourage citizens to visit hospitalized veterans and to become involved as volunteers.
- * Provide an opportunity for the community to become acquainted with the volunteer opportunities with VA medical centers.

The goal was to send 5,000 Valentine cards to Veteran's Hospitals, VA Nursing Homes, Domiciliary facilities and Military Hospitals over the country and in Germany. The Silver Star Families in fact exceeded that goal and delivered 5,108 Valentine Cards to hospitalized veterans and military personnel.

Thank you to all members who made this possible.



SSFOA wishes to thank its members and friends for continued support of generous donations to purchase Silver Star Flags and Banners that will honor our Wounded and Veterans. We can only see this great mission accomplished with your help and we thank you! Please visit our website for more information

Sincerely,

Steve Newton and The Silver Star Families of America

stevenewton69@hotmail.com

www.silverstarfamilies.org

MAKE A DONATION

If you are interested in joining SSFOA, please visit the website www.silverstarfamilies.org

SSFOA JOINS VA CHALENG PROGRAM

The Silver Star Families is now a member of the Veterans Administration CHALENG program under the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans. CHALENG is a program designed to aid homeless veterans. SSFOA officers met in January with Peter Dougherty of the National CHALLENGE program. The Silver Star Families will participate in VA stand downs for homeless veterans. For more information about this program click on the following links:

For information on Homeless Veterans; <http://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-benefits/homeless-veterans-programs>

For information on CHALENG <http://www.va.gov/homeless/page.cfm?pg=17>

Silver Star Families Launches New Program on PTSD

On February 8, 2008 the Silver Star Families of America announced that it has launched another program to try and assist Military personnel and their families in dealing with the effects of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. The new program will provide a web site where those afflicted with PTSD and their families can post their thoughts and receive feedback from others dealing with syndrome. The new program compliments the SSFOA "Hear4You" program where member volunteers man a hotline to provide listeners for any military personnel who wish to talk. With these two programs, the SSFOA has become a leading organization fighting against the stigma attached to PTSD. Link to the new program is as follows: <http://www.silverstarfamilies.org/SSFOA-PTSD.html>

SSFOA Embarks On Operation Purple Heart

The Silver Star Families will take on Operation Purple Heart in 2008. This program will attempt to honor all Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapters across the Nation by providing Silver Star Banners and Certificates to 40,000 heroes. President of the SSFOA, Janie Orman stated, "We understand that these projects will strain our resources and manpower, but we are committed to doing the best job we can in honoring our wounded, past and present, and remembering our hospitalized veterans."

She also stated that if Operation Purple Heart is not completed this year it would be carried over into 2009 as an uncompleted project and given top priority.



LCpl Ryan Winslow
Memorial Flag to
Camp LeJeune



"National Native
Indian Tribes"
New Mexico

Thank you for
reading this issue of
the SILVER STAR
Newsletter

SSFOA BOOK OF POEMS AND SHORT STORIES

We are still taking submissions for the Short Story Book

SSFOA members, Veterans, military service members, family members, and wounded. We are still hoping to get contributions for the SSFOA Book of Poems and Short Stories. Maybe you have a funny story or an experience to share. Maybe you have written a poem about a family member or about one of our heroes. Maybe you have even written something Patriotic. Whatever it is, we want to read it! You don't have to be a professional writer to contribute.

We will edit as necessary, and you will be required to sign a release. Please send any contributions to Debbie Alderson: ocean-dreamer@tx.rr.com in Microsoft Word format ASAP.

Don't be shy! Share with us and help to benefit our wounded service members by contributing to our book. Please ask any service members or Veterans you know too. Once our book is published, all monies will go toward Silver Star Families of America programs.

SSFOA COOKBOOK GOES TO PRESS

The Silver Star Families cookbook is now complete with 200 recipes donated by members from all over the country and Wendy Masek, our representative in Germany. The cookbook cover has been approved, the recipes edited and the book has now gone to press. The cookbook should be available to purchase hopefully by April 1st. Please watch the official web site, and Yahoo organization site for further details. Thank you to each of you who sent in recipes. Without your help the cookbook would not have been possible. Keep in mind that once the cookbook is back from the printer, we will need for all members to participate in selling them. All proceeds from cookbook sales will be used to support the Silver Star Families of America programs for veterans and our wounded military, past and present.

Two Appointed To Silver Star Families Board Of Directors

Two new members were appointed to the Board of Directors in January. Debbie Alderson of Frisco, Texas became the National SSFOA Adjutant for the organization. Debbie is the wife of a retired Army officer and the mother of, Michael, a Silver Star Banner recipient, who was wounded in Iraq. Her son-in-law is also in service.

Cathy Storey took over the duties of SSFOA Historian, and author/editor of the SSFOA Newsletter. Cathy joined the SSFOA in 2006 and is the wife of a former USMC Sergeant, and the mother of USMC veteran Jamie, a Silver Star Banner honoree, who was wounded in Iraq.

SSFOA PRESIDENT RECEIVES AWARD

Congratulations to Janie Orman, SSFOA President, who was awarded the Distinguished Hoosier Award by Governor Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr. of Indiana.

