

LHCP Update

Second Quarter—Much Accomplished, Thanks to Many!

By Karen Grimord, LHCP President

With our second quarter of 2006 just ending, it's time for all LHCP supporters to stop and catch their breath! A flurry of activity on multiple fronts has definitely kept me on the run—and all of this wouldn't be possible without terrific support from many of you!

Simultaneously, or so it seemed, we welcomed new officers, updated our website with a new look and layout, became solely responsible for financial management of project funds, moved our 501(c)(3) application along, and enjoyed a period of unprecedented fundraising for Landstuhl Hospital Care Project. What an incredible three months!

Our new officers and Board of Directors have been invaluable during this period of growth. Each person became active with LHCP on her own and demonstrated skills and commitment needed for the Board. Vice president Dianne Sterling lives in New Jersey; treasurer Sharon Buck lives in Maryland, and secretary Rachel Hause lives in Minnesota.

If you haven't been to our website since May, check out: www.landstulhhospitalcareproject.org. Special thanks goes to David Bath in Alabama for volunteering his expertise and time in getting our updated website up and running. He is our new webmaster.

As April ended, LHCP transitioned financial management of project funds from Riverchase Church of Christ. When I first

started helping wounded military at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany, Riverchase was willing to handle "a few" donations that were expected to come in. They continued to help longer than any of us expected. Many thanks to the church and its members who helped LHCP in a very significant way.

Fredrikson & Byron, PA in Minnesota has been helping us file for 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status. We appreciate the *pro bono* work of attorneys Bob Stuart and Larry Hause.

All of us involved with LHCP are grateful for the funds raised to support our efforts to help wounded military personnel. In April, the 2nd Annual Hook & C's Karaoke benefit was held at the American Legion, Post 364, in Woodbridge, VA, and the American Legion Riders of Post 189 in Norwich, NY braved inclement weather for their May motorcycle rally to benefit LHCP. In late May and early June, the Upper Ohio Valley area responded generously to the "We Remember" campaign sponsored by the West Virginia High Technology Consortium Foundation, Main Street Bank, WTOV-TV9, and WOJK FM in Wheeling, WV. And most recently, on June 18 in Virginia, Whitt's Harley-Davidson, the Manassas HOG Chapter, and Woodbridge American Legion, Post 364 held a motorcycle rally benefit and LHCP invited special guests to this "Rally to Honor." Learn more about these fundraisers in this issue.

Whew! No wonder life has been so busy!

Supporting America's Largest Overseas U.S. Military Hospital
Landstuhl Hospital Care Project

"The nation which forgets its defenders will be itself forgotten."
 — Calvin Coolidge

And Field Hospitals in Iraq and Afghanistan

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LHCP Board of Directors

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LHCP.president@yahoo.com
- Dianne Sterling**
LHCP.vicpres@yahoo.com
- Rachel Hause**
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- Sharon Buck**
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- Karen Monk** Bluebird555@Comcast.net
- Rachel Hause** LHCP.secretary@yahoo.com



E-mails Received from Recipients of Our Donations

April 2006, Message from Afghanistan

My apologizes for not writing you sooner. Being xxxxxx we remain constantly busy. I'd like to start by saying thank you to you and all those who support you. I've received all of your packages and they have made a big difference. The guys loved the Batman blankets. It's not so much what's in the packages that's as important as that your sending them. You have improved the moral of my men. Thank you for that. That's not always easy to do. If you have some where to put a photo please let me know and I'll do my best to send one of the men you're helping. I don't have much time now, but thank you. You'll never know how much your time and effort means to men like me and the soldiers under me. Until next time. Take it easy.

XXXXX

This hand written letter is signed by 11 men, with remarks such as "Thank you so much!!" and a smiley face.

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April 2006, Message from LRMC

We did receive the clippers, powder, etc. Thank you so very much! You and your group are so supportive and so appreciated! All the things you are sending are just what we need. We're trying to target these things more and let folks know, as we have seen a marked drop in misc. donations that come in (containing these items).

Things are perking along here. Ongoing needs include many of the same things you've been sending. [See updated list on page 6.]

Thank you again, Karen, for all you and LHCP are doing to support the WWMC. Have a great day!

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May 2006, Message from Iraq

I would like to thank your for the resent shipment of items. We did receive

everything that we requested.

To the supporters of America freedom, I would like to take this time to say thanks for all of your support. Your support has helped to bring us some comforts of home and allow us the ability to accomplish our mission of bring democracy to the Iraqi citizens. We fight here a long distance from our shores so that our family and friend may sleep peacefully each night. For freedom has always had a price and we are the men and women of the XXX XXX Division that has answered that call of duty voluntarily. We are happy to defend our front door.

Thanks for not forgetting us. For we are the entrance to Freedom's Front Door for the Iraqi people.

Thanks again!

X/XXX Infantry REG, XXX XXXX Division

May God Bless You and Keep You All

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May 2006, Message from Iraq

My name is XXXXXX. I am a battalion surgeon for the XXXX XXX Division. I was recently re-deployed to FOB XXXXXXX to cover for their surgeons vacation/leave. While there, your care package arrived. The medic who it was mailed to, XXXX, shared its contents. It was definitely a morale booster in a very austere environment.

I am originally from West Virginia like CPL XXXXXX. I now live in Georgia in a small farming town named XXXX. It is about 45 minutes from Savannah. I live there with my wife, XXXX, and son, XXX. My family and I often miss the more mild weather in West Virginia and Virginia. There is no doubt that Iraq only worsens that longing. It is very hot, dry, and dirty here.

We are near XXXX, Iraq. The locals are mostly Kurdish and pretty warm to our presence. The Arabs are much less supportive. The local sites to see include the Actual Eternal Flame and

Daniel's Tomb, both sites are important to Judeo-Christians and Moslem's.

CPL XXXX is busier than I, but he wanted me to thank you for the package. We appreciate the time it took. It came right at the right time since the post store or PX burned down about a week ago. It is too bad the chow hall could not burn down. The meals they serve should be illegal.

Each package mailed is a reminder from the people of the U.S. we are not forgotten and the snacks soothe our taste-buds by allowing us to avoid the food of the chow hall.

Thanks Again

CXXXX XXXXXX

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May 2006, Message from LRMC

We've received the toothpaste, toothbrushes, ankle socks, floss, etc. Awesome timing, as always! Thanks so much for LHCP's continued support. You all are truly making a difference!

God bless,

XXXXX

LRMC WWMC

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June 2006, Message from Iraq

I can't thank you enough for all that you do for our deployed military members. XXXXXXXX has told me of all the great things you have done in the past. We will put your kind works to good use here at the XXX XXXXX.

Warmest Regards,
XXXXXX XXXXX, Colonel, USAF
Commander, XXXXX



“We Remember” Campaign Raises \$9000+ for LHCP in Wheeling, West Virginia and Upper Ohio Valley

By Gregg Warren, Outreach Manager
WVHTC Foundation

Hundreds of seriously wounded U.S. military personnel recovering overseas will have their spirits lifted as Upper Ohio Valley residents and businesses contributed more than \$9,000 to the “We Remember” campaign.

The fundraising effort was sponsored by: the West Virginia High Technology Consortium (WVHTC) Foundation; WTOV-TV9, Steubenville-Wheeling; Main Street Bank, Wheeling-Wellsburg; and WOVK-FM, Wheeling. The local fund drive was conducted with the Landstuhl Hospital Care Project (LHCP).

The funds raised during the three-week campaign will be used to purchase “comfort items” for patients at U.S. military hospitals and medical units in Iraq and Afghanistan in addition to the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany.

“If we’re this excited about the dona-

tion total, imagine how our injured military personnel will feel when they receive their comfort items and they realize that there are people who they’ve never met that care about them. We can’t thank the local residents enough for remembering those hospitalized individuals who are so far from their homeland and their loved ones,” said WVHTC Foundation Vice Pres. and General Manager Joseph Allen.

“Shortly after the news of the day explains how someone in a combat zone was injured, they are often forgotten. But for them, the recovery effort takes months, even years. This campaign was all about letting them know we remember them and care about them.”

The local donations will be forwarded to the LHCP where its president, Karen Grimord, will purchase comfort items needed by the various medical facilities and ship them there. “I’ve been to the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center and have seen the joy on the patients’

faces that people back home still care about them. I sincerely thank everyone from the Upper Ohio Valley who made donations. Please know you have touched someone’s life that is so far from home,” noted Grimord. “A special thanks to the local sponsors for taking time and working so hard on this project.”

Rich Lucas, Main Street Bank president, said he and his staff are proud to again partner with local organizations to help charitable activities. He added, “This is our fourth fundraiser working in conjunction with other local businesses and organizations. This one was really special and heartwarming. It was an honor to help the men and women who are protecting our freedoms.”

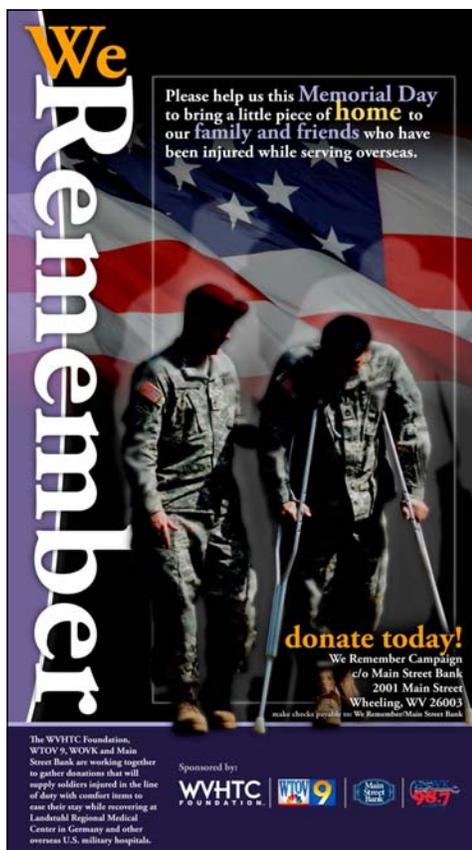
Kicking Off the Campaign

Karen Grimord and I went to Wheeling, WV in May to help kick off the “WE REMEMBER” campaign with the sponsors who wanted to make this Memorial Day extra special by conducting a drive to help wounded military service members through Landstuhl Hospital Care Project.

When we arrived at the headquarters of WVHTCF, Gregg, Joe, Thea, Cindy and others made us feel extremely welcomed. Such a warm and caring group of people.

We went to Independence Hall for the press conference. Four Legionnaires were presented. Joe Allen gave a moving presentation of the “WE REMEMBER” campaign and then introduced Karen. When she read an e-mail she had received from one of the patients, there was not a dry eye in the building, including the two of us.

Karen had multiple interviews for television, newspaper, and live radio. Remember, live is live—you answer the questions put to you. She did extremely well in avoiding controversy over political questions. She was there to represent LHCP and to be a voice for our wounded military service members and the hospital personnel who care for them. With in-kind and monetary donations such as those raised in Wheeling, WV, our wounded troops can be made more comfortable with basic quality of life items provided by those who remember “back home.” — Karen Monk



“We Remember” campaign poster
LHCP President Karen Grimord being interviewed by WTOV-TV9

WVHTC Foundation’s Gregg Warren with Karen Grimord

More photos are posted on our website:
www.landstuhlhospitalcareproject.org

Karaoke Night in Virginia Is Music to LHCP's Ears!

By Karen Monk

WOW! The April 7 Karaoke Benefit was a wonderful event. The participation for our wounded soldiers was fantastic.

"It was my first fundraiser for the group and it was exciting and emotional to see the support for the Project from the members of 364 and other American Legions who came to the event," said Sharon Buck, LHCP's treasurer. "Before the night was over, Karen Grimord was given checks written to LHCP from several posts and from LHCP members. She came up to me and we were calculating a total amount in our heads. Then Karen Monk came over with more, so there went calculating in our heads! A total of \$4,400 was contributed. What a reward for such a hard week. I want to thank the American Legions for all their hard work and dedication. It appears they take the mission of this

group as serious as we do. Their service to our country continues!"

Ed Graham, the Commander of Post 364 was asked why he was holding this benefit? He replied, "When I was in the 101st Airborne, I saw soldiers being injured and some of these were my friends. This benefit is one way to show our military how much we care, and I am very pleased to help support such a worthy cause."

When Rudi Williams heard about a benefit to raise money to purchase quality of life items for young men and women being treated at the Army's Regional Medical Center in Landstuhl, Germany for wounds suffered on the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan – he wanted to help. He explained, "As a retired Army sergeant major, these were 'my troops' and I wanted to spread the word about their needs during recovery from their wounds. I decided to best way to do that was to use



Hook & C led the karaoke event.

my expertise as a reporter and photo-journalist to broadcast the story to the millions of people around the world who read stories everyday on the Defense Department's website—www.defenselink.mil and in the American Legion Post 364 monthly newsletter and their website."

Major contributors included: AL Post 176 and Auxiliary Unit 176 (Springfield, VA), VFW Post 7916 (Occoquan, VA), and AL Post 364 (Woodbridge, VA) along with the many attendees. Thank you, one and all!

Norwich, NY American Legion Riders Host Rally

"Heartwarming" is a word that comes to mind when a passionate group of people decides it wants to hold a fundraiser for LHCP. "Determined" is a word that describes their efforts to persevere despite cold and rainy weather for this "first annual" motorcycle and classic car rally and poker run benefit, sponsored by the American Legion Riders, Post 189, of Norwich, NY.

The town of Norwich is a beautiful town full of the old homes tucked away in the hills of Chenango County, New York. On May 6, the day of the rally, the temperature was in the low 50s as set-up began and dropped as the rain and wind kicked up.

During set up, applications were available for those interested in joining the American Legion, the American Legion Riders, or the Sons of America Legion or the auxiliaries. A locked donation box was set out with LHCP story boards, brochures, and first-quarter newsletters.

Trophies for Best Bike in Show, Best Classic Car in Show, and Best Poker Hand were displayed. The ice cream truck drove up and got all set up.

Bikes started showing up slowly, but Mother Nature was not cooperating. A few more bikers came and a lot more rain. There was a short discussion about closing up shop, but the guys running the show had no hesitation to hold the event.

When the donations were counted up, Karen Grimord realized how many riders actually had shown up to ride in

such conditions to honor and support our troops. These riders from Norwich, NY American Legion Riders and the local American Military Veterans Motorcycle Club were true champions. They fought wind, rain, and cold to raise money to support wounded men and women, and they succeeded.

They also remembered to support the ice cream truck with hot fudge sundaes purchases. And since the weather was so bad and no classic cars dared to brave the weather, the ice cream man and his truck won the classic car trophy!



LHCP President Karen Grimord Honored with Member's Gold Star Mother's Pin

By Sharon Buck
LHCP Treasurer

Although LHCP Vice President Dianne Sterling was not able to attend the Rally to Honor and Motorcycle Poker Ride on June 18, she gave me an additional assignment beyond my treasurer's duties. This assignment was one which I felt honored to have completed.



Dianne's son, Hoby F. Bradfield, Jr., was killed in Iraq on July 9, 2005 defending our freedom. LHCP honored him during the month of August 2005

when we sent out a monthly shipment in his name. Dianne was searching the

Internet one day using Hoby's name and found Landstuhl Hospital Care Project's website. That was the beginning of Dianne's relationship with Karen Grimord and her own growing involvement with LHCP.

Hoby is buried at Arlington National Cemetery. Dianne was presented with a Gold Star Mother's Pin at his service in Virginia Beach, VA. She asked me to present her Gold Star Mother's Pin to Karen at the Rally to Honor and Poker Run. Here's what she told me and I tried my best to tell her story:



Here's my Gold Star Mother's Pin that was given to me the day of Hoby's service in Virginia Beach. I'm honored that Karen will wear it. I could have only hoped that if Hoby had been sent to Landstuhl that Karen would have been there for him. If any woman has "mother" stamped on the bottom of her foot, she does. I once was told by a very wise woman that when girls are born they either have mother stamped on the bottom of their foot or not. The "wise woman" didn't and she knew it...but she told me I did and wore it well. Well, Karen has been blessed with "mom," too. I know that Hoby would have loved her to death!

—Dianne Sterling

Honorees for 2nd Quarter 2006 Shipments

April



1LT Laura M. Walker, age 24, of Texas; assigned to the 864th Engineer Combat Battalion (Heavy), 555th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade (Provisional), Army, Fort Lewis, Wash.; killed Aug. 18, 2006 when an improvised explosive device detonated underneath her Humvee during ground assault convoy operations in Kandahar, Afghanistan. Walker graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 2003.

May



SSGT Robert Hernandez, age 47, of Silver Spring, Maryland.; assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 318th Regiment, 1st Brigade, 80th Division (Institutional Training), Army Reserve, Fort Meade, Md.; killed March 28, 2006 when an improvised explosive device detonated near his Humvee during combat operations in Taquaddum, Iraq. As a civilian, he was employed as a Police Officer with the Prince George's County, Maryland, Police Department.

June



SSGT Anissa A. (Shuttleworth) Shero, age 31, of Grafton, West Virginia; assigned to the 16th Special Operations Wing, Hurlburt Field, Fla.; killed in an MC-130H Combat Talon crash on June 12, 2002, in Afghanistan. The plane, a version of the C-130 outfitted for special forces missions, crashed and caught fire after taking off from an airstrip in southeast Afghanistan. Seven on board survived. Shero was the first Air Force woman to die in Afghanistan.

For more information on our Honorees, go to:
www.LandstuhlHospitalCareProject.org

Requests for the Wounded at LRMC & in the Field

Cash donations as well as donations of requested items are always welcome.

Please make checks payable to:
Landstuhl Hospital Care Project
and send to:
Sharon Buck, LHCP Treasurer
14101 Rectory Lane
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Mail packages of requested items to:
Landstuhl Hospital Care Project
Attn: Karen Grimord
29 Greenleaf Terrace
Stafford, VA 22556

Our 501(c)(3) application, which will allow tax-deductible contributions, is being processed. We cannot guarantee tax-deductibility until this process has been completed.

Recent Shipments

March

LRMC = 126 pounds
Afghanistan Med unit = 59 pounds
Iraq Hospital #1 = 27 pounds
Iraq Med Unit = 22 pounds

April

LRMC = 55 pounds
Afghanistan Med unit = 14 pounds
Iraq Hospital #1 = 39 pounds
Iraq Hospital #2 = 3 pounds
Iraq Med Unit = 230 pounds
Iraq Marines Unit = 19 pounds (socks)

May

LRMC = 109 pounds
Afghanistan Med unit = 12 pounds
Iraq Hospital #1 = 26 pounds
Iraq Hospital #2 = 12 pounds
Iraq Med Unit = 20 pounds

Items to Support Landstuhl Regional Medical Center for July 2006

*** Our July focus will be on athletic shoes and Gold Bond foot powder.**

Sweat Pants & Shirts: S-M-L-XL-2XL (do not currently need XL sweatshirts)
Sweat pants for women, S and M
Tear-away, snap-off athletic pants with snaps up both legs, M-L-XL-2XL
Athletic shoes for men, sizes 13-14
Fingernail clippers
Gold Bond-type powder (foot and body)
Toothpaste, travel-size
Toothbrushes, soft
Shampoo (Pert and dandruff-type, travel-size—NOT hotel-size)

Items to Support Hospitals in Iraq for July 2006

Drawstring bags (10" x 16" bags with 30" drawstring) for patients to carry meds and personal items (photo posted on LHCP Yahoo group page)
Wool Blankets, but cotton will work, too.
Jersey Shorts: M-L-XL
Pillows-50
Twin Flat Sheets (NO RED)
Orange/Blue Pads--15-20 (bed pads that go underneath patients)
Goggles--10 pairs (put on medevac patients so they don't get grit in their eyes)
Medical white paper tape
Mouthwash and Dental floss
Letters of support are always welcomed

Items to Support Hospitals in Afghanistan for July 2006

TWIN or TRIPLE Blade Razors
Jersey Short (M-XL)
Old Spice High Endurance (big hit with the men)
Pillows
Twin Flat sheets (NO fitted)
Phone cards
Blankets and electric blankets
Letters of support for the troops

Writing letters to troops—Talking to the guys and gals, they want to know what is going on here in America. They like to know what you are doing and about troop support back home. Tell them about this Project and how we support them. Tell them their buddies have not been forgotten, as we honor the fallen in each of our shipments. They want to know what the weather is like where you are from and what is going on in your state. They exchange letters, so if they are not from your state and someone else is, they will give that letter to that person. Follow up state and local items with a little bit about yourself and your family. Make each letter a little different because they do share letters. I hear it is frustrating to think you have a large box of new letters to distribute and find out they are all the same.
—Karen Grimord

Thank you to our friends at Riverchase Church of Christ! In the fall of 2004 when LHCP was just getting started, the church offered to receive incoming monetary contributions on behalf of LHCP so that contributors could make tax-exempt donations. Since that time, we have grown more than either founders Karen and Brian Grimord, the Riverchase Church, or the LHCP Board of Directors anticipated. We deeply appreciate the service the church has provided in accepting funds and taking care of reimbursements during the start-up phase and well beyond. As of May 1, we have transitioned financial management of Project funds in-house. Future contributions should be made payable to **Landstuhl Hospital Care Project** and be sent to:

Sharon Buck, LHCP Treasurer, 14101 Rectory Lane, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

LHCP Sponsors — Thank you for your generosity!

April Sponsors

American Legion Auxiliary 55,
Fredericksburg, VA
American Legion Auxiliary 176,
Springfield, VA
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 290,
Stafford, VA
American Legion Post 176,
Springfield, VA
American Legion Post 290,
Stafford, VA
American Legion Post 364,
Woodbridge, VA
BSA Troop 123, Edina, MN
Fredrikson & Byron, P.A., Minneapolis, MN
R. Stuart & L. Hause
Wal-Mart Good Works Program,
Bloomington, MN
Ms. B. Braband, CA
Mr. and Mrs. T. Buck, MD
Ms. C. Dales, SC
Ms. L. Eanes, VA
Ms. K. Grimord, VA
Mr. and Mrs. B. Grimord, VA
Mr. and Mrs. J. Grimord, HI
Mr. and Mrs. L. Hause, MN
Mr. and Mrs. L. Jacobs, MI
K. Kamisaki and W. Lill, CA
Ms. K. Monk, VA
Mr. and Mrs. T. Karlson, VA
Mr. and Mrs. J. Kingham, RAB, Germany
Judy O, OH
Sieradzki Family, NJ
Mr. and Mrs. K. Sterling, NJ
Ms. S. Timberlake, VA
Mr. and Mrs. J. Veneqiano, VA

May Sponsors

American Legion Post 364,
Woodbridge, VA
American Legion Riders, Post 189,
Norwich, NY
American Military Veterans Motorcycle
Club, Norwich, NY
Fredrikson & Byron, P.A., Minneapolis, MN
R. Stuart & L. Hause
Bernie, France
Ms. C. Dales, SC
Ms. L. Eanes, VA
Mr. and Mrs. B. Grimord, VA
Mr. and Mrs. L. Hause, MN
Mr. W. Jackson, VA
Mr. and Mrs. K. Sterling, NJ
Ms. S. Wilson, Karlsruhe, Germany

June Sponsors

American Legion Post 162, Lorton, VA
American Legion Post 364,
Woodbridge, VA
Fredrikson & Byron, P.A., Minneapolis, MN
R. Stuart & L. Hause
Main Street Bank, Wheeling, WV
Manassas Hog Chapter # 5297,
Manassas, VA
Allan Schlesinger, DDS, Arlington, VA
Ms. J. Suhoskey, Hospital of the Univ. of
PA, Philadelphia, PA
West Virginia High Technological
Consortium Foundation, Wheeling, WV
Whitt's Harley-Davidson, Manassas, VA
WOVK-FM, Wheeling, WV
WTOV-TV9, Wheeling, WV

Ms. M. Archer, AL
Ms. J. Badgley, MI
Mr. and Mrs. T. Buck, MD
Mr. J. Carlin, NY
Ms. C. Dales, SC
Ms. R. Ferrington, VA
Ms. S. Fowler, NY
Mr. and Mrs. B. Grimord, VA
Mr. and Mrs. L. Hause, MN
Mr. M. Lee, VA
Ms. J. O'Dell, OH
Mr. and Mrs. K. Sterling, NJ

Thanks
for your participation

*Our heartfelt gratitude to these
sponsors. Without you there would
be no LHCP. Thanks, from the
bottom of our hearts.
— Members of LHCP*

Donation Cards Available

Some of our sponsors make donations to LHCP with the thought of a loved one or respected friend in mind. We now have quarter-fold donation cards available on our website for self-printing. Simply go to SPONSORS, click on the card of your choice, save it to your computer, open it with Adobe Reader, and print it. Choices include: in support of our troops, to honor one who served, or in memory of a special person (2 cards to select). Each card explains the mission of LHCP. To see all options, go to:

www.LandstuhlHospitalCareProject.org



Front of card sample

One who served

*A monetary donation has been made
to honor the military service of*

[write in recipient's name here]

to

Landstuhl Hospital Care Project.

Inside of card sample

LHCP Update

**Landstuhl Hospital Care Project
29 Greenleaf Terrace
Stafford, VA 22556**

June Ride Raises Funds and Awareness in Virginia

By Karen Monk and Sharon Buck

The Manassas HOG (Harley Owners Group) Chapter, Whitt's Harley-Davidson of Manassas, and American Legion Post 364, Woodbridge, VA sponsored a Poker Ride to benefit LHCP on June 18. The weather was warm but not as warm as the hearts of the participants in contributing to the wounded soldiers.

The riders and their passengers were very generous with their donations and continuously made donations throughout the Poker Ride at the various stops. By the end of the day, the Manassas Harley Group donated \$1,887 to LHCP and three 100-minute phone cards!

Mike Lee, the coordinator of this ride, said "After Karen briefed my 40/8 group this past January about LHCP, I felt that more could be done to assist her efforts to provide comfort items to the wounded service personnel coming

out of Iraq and Afghanistan. So, I thought how about a fundraising Motorcycle Poker Ride. The idea was presented to my Manassas HOG and they jumped on it. We made a lot more people aware of the plight of our wounded service personnel, which is a good thing, plus we raised a good deal of money for LHCP. We hope to be able to do it again next year."

The highlight of the opening ceremonies was the introduction of Lance Corporal Justin Reynolds, a wounded warrior from the Iraq war. He and wife Jami traveled from North Carolina to participate in the event. He was joined by his parents, Ann and Bob Reynolds, of Ohio.

Justin gave a wonderful speech. He said he did not feel that he was a hero as he had been introduced. He was thankful for all the help Karen Grimord and LHCP does to support our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Justin's mother, Ann Reynolds explained that Karen Grimord was her

stand-in when Justin was hospitalized at LRMHC while Karen was there volunteering. "She has been instrumental in Justin's recovery. Karen has gone from Justin's surrogate mother to his second mother and my sister. She asked us to come to Virginia to honor Justin and of course we agreed. Everyone here has been great. Justin's father and I never expected any of this. We thank everyone from the bottom of our hearts."



Justin Reynolds

