



# PURPLE HEART HOMES CONNECTIONS

2016 SUMMER EDITION

## Community and 'Corvettes for Vets' Come Together to Assist A Veteran



Lauren Hogan in Iraq

At the age of 18 Lauren Hogan joined the United States Army, proud to follow in the footsteps of her Great-Grandfather (WWI) and Grandfather (WWII) as well as many other family members.

After completing basic training at Fort Jackson, SC, Lauren soon found herself deployed to Iraq, based in Mosul attached to the 1/24th SB Stryker Brigade. On December 21st, 2004, the single deadliest suicide attack on U.S. forces throughout the Iraq war occurred when a suicide bomber detonated an explosive vest in the crowded chow hall on base, killing 22 people and injuring 72 others. Among the injured was 19 year old Lauren, her life forever changed.

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**Purple Heart  
Homes  
kicks off new  
Hearts  
of Honor  
Club**



*Read more on page 2*



Tim Parker, Purple Heart Homes COO, and Lauren Hogan, Army Veteran, greet Corvette enthusiasts at the annual 'Corvettes for Vets' recently held in Forest City, NC.

# Hearts Of Honor Club

*continued from front cover*



Purple Heart Homes is proud to introduce to you our new Hearts of Honor Club!

We have created Hearts of Honor as a special way of recognizing those people who are committed to keeping our mission successful by making recurring monthly donations.

It is our desire to let our Hearts of Honor Club members know how much of an impact they are making on the lives of the Veterans we serve.

Each monthly donation allows us to complete more Veteran projects each year, and we want to show our appreciation by creating a club just for those donors.

As a member of Hearts of Honor, you will receive updates on where your donations are put to work.

Also included in your membership package is a window decal and a personalized certificate. Depending on your giving level choice, you will receive special thanks and invitations to private events such as our annual



golf tournament and stakeholder's meeting. Most importantly, your membership gives you the opportunity to become a part of the Purple Heart Homes family of supporters making a tangible difference in the lives of our Service Connected Disabled Veterans!

Becoming a member of Hearts of Honor is easy! Visit our website [PurpleHeartHomesUSA.org](http://PurpleHeartHomesUSA.org) and complete the requested information. A gift of \$10 a month or more will secure your membership. Your Hearts of Honor package will arrive shortly after, thanking you for your participation in helping us improve the lives of Veterans!

If you have any questions about membership in Hearts of Honor, or would like to join over the phone or by mail, please contact Kerry Burdick at [kburdick@phhusa.org](mailto:kburdick@phhusa.org) or (704) 818-3424.

# Community Comes Together

*continued from front cover*



Fast forward 12 years. Lauren, along with her two young daughters, lives in Bessemer City, NC. Lauren reached out to Purple Heart Homes for help in turning her house into a home. With the generosity of many volunteers and donors, including the Rutherford County Corvette Club who sponsored the amazing "Corvettes for Vets" event, much needed funds were raised to turn a nearly condemned house into a home for Lauren and her girls.



## Purple Heart Homes Chapters

The Purple Heart Homes Chapter Program is growing strong. Already in 2016, we have added four new Chapters: Houston Texas, Southwestern New York, West Michigan and Atlanta Georgia. That brings our active Chapter count to nine!



Colorado Front Range Chapter

So far in 2016, fourteen Chapter projects have been completed. In Aurora, Colorado, Arthur, a Vietnam Veteran who lost his leg from wounds received in an enemy attack, gained improved accessibility with a wheelchair ramp, and a remodeled bathroom and kitchen. In Simpsonville, South Carolina, Navy Veteran Pamela's home underwent extensive repairs to provide her with a safe place to live. Both projects were completed with the help of the local Home Depot and Team Depot volunteers. We are only half way through the year and there are already twelve more Chapter projects in the works.

Chapters focus on Veterans Aging In Place projects, where repairs and renovations are made to homes already owned by Disabled Veterans. The common thread across all projects is to improve safety and accessibility for the Veteran and make life easier for the Caregivers and family. If you are interested in learning more about forming a Purple Heart Homes Chapter in your area, contact Dale Beatty - [dbeatty@phhusa.org](mailto:dbeatty@phhusa.org) or Cheryl Campbell - [ccampbell@phhusa.org](mailto:ccampbell@phhusa.org) to learn how to get started. Together we can make a difference for Veterans' lives in our communities.

# Credit Unions Join Forces With Purple Heart Homes

# Co-Founders Corner



Dale Beatty and John Gallina

Tim Parker, COO, Purple Heart Homes, Marshal Boutwell, President and CEO of Peach State Federal Credit Union, John Gallina, CEO, Purple Heart Homes, and Mike Mercer, CEO, Georgia Credit Union Affiliates

We hope this newsletter finds you prepared for a great summer! As co-founders of Purple Heart Homes, we are glad to have this opportunity to say thank you to all of our Veterans and their families for their service and sacrifices to the people of the United States.

Purple Heart Homes continues to grow, thanks to the tireless efforts of our staff and volunteers, as well as the generous contributions of our donors, sponsors and partners. We couldn't do it without each and every member of our team. So if you find yourself in one of these categories, THANK YOU!

As we consistently increase our capacity to assist more Veteran families every year, we hope to keep you updated. 125 projects have been completed since 2010, however, we see so much more in unmet needs through the diversity of our Veteran Population. World War Two, Korea, and Vietnam Veterans are still a large part of the United States Veteran population, yet their struggles with aging and injuries are often overshadowed by more recent conflicts.

When we started Purple Heart Homes, it was simple logic - *All Veterans are deserving of the respect and appreciation of their communities.* That thought still leads us to assist Veterans of multiple wars and eras to live in safe, accessible housing indefinitely. With your help, we ARE improving Veterans' lives one home at a time.

Again, we offer our most sincere thanks and hope you will share our mission with Veterans, caregivers, and those who want to make a difference in their community!



Purple Heart Homes has established a relationship with the NHB and developed a campaign called Operation: Veteran Home Renovation.

This campaign was introduced to Credit Unions throughout the country and their state trade associations asking them to assist older Veterans with specific home renovations to help make their lives easier so they can continue to live in their own homes.

The Cornerstone Credit Union League (serving 500 credit unions in Oklahoma, Texas and Arkansas) and Georgia Credit Union affiliates (serving 121 credit unions) partnered with Purple Heart Homes and they are encouraging their member credit unions to find older veterans that are in need of railings, grab bars, ramps, a yard cleaned up or a fresh coat of paint inside or out. All work that credit unions staff and community volunteers can do in a day or a weekend.

Tinker Federal Credit Union in Oklahoma City joined this initiative and is currently raising funds to help three approved older Veterans. Currently scheduled is a casino night fund-raiser for July 30

to complete the projects.

Peach State Federal Credit Union in Lawrenceville, GA placed an article in their newsletter asking members to identify a Veteran that could use some help. A member, after reading their newsletter, recommended their neighbor, and work will begin on that project in September.

Operation: Veteran Home Renovation officially kicks off August 8 with a national press release with local credit union tie-ins and concludes November 12. Credit unions will have that time to complete a project to help an older Veteran safely age in place.

"Credit unions philosophy of people helping people by encouraging employees and members to get involved in their communities, dovetails with the mission of Purple Heart Homes to engage community to provide housing solutions to eligible Service Connected Disabled Veterans," said John Gallina, Executive Director of Purple Heart Homes. "Together, we can help older Veterans."



I AM A *Friend*  
OF A VETERAN

**HOW ARE YOU CONNECTED?**  
There are over 21.8 million Veterans  
in the United States.  
Do you know one of them?

**Current Projects**

- Charles Harris - US Marines - MD
- James Jones - US Army - NC
- Robert LaBar - US Marines - NC
- Timothy Kramer - US Army - NE
- Robert Sasso - US Army - NC
- Jonathan Johnson - US Army - NC
- Roger Melville - US Army/Air Force - NC
- Lauren Hogan - US Army - NC
- Roger Melville - US Air Force - NC
- Ryan Foote - US Army - OH
- Thresa Marshall - US Navy - OH
- Jackie Drakeford - US Army - NC
- James Webb - US Marines - FL
- Jake Altman - US Army - NC

**Chapter Projects**

- Anthony Good - US Air Force  
Golden Corner Chapter, SC
- Christopher Jones - US Army  
Golden Corner Chapter, SC
- George Dickens - US Marines  
Colorado Front Range Chapter
- Edward Kerls - US Navy  
Houston Chapter, TX

**8th Annual Purple Heart Homes  
Golf Tournament  
September 12, 2016**

Larkin Country Club Statesville, NC



**Register online or call for details**  
**SPONSORSHIPS  
AVAILABLE**

