August 2014 Issue 22

## SoldiersCarePackages.com

First Baptist Church, 85 Main Street, Hingham, MA 02043 fbc.hingham@verizon.net 781-749-2516

#### **CURRENT POINT LEADERS**:

Keith Jermyn in Somalia NEW Karen Nichols in Kuwait NEW Luis Barrera in HI NEW Bryan Z. Meyer in Afghanistan Millie L. GreyTheriot in Afghanistan Adam G. Maltos *in Egypt* NEWL John W. Beal on USCG Mohawk Curtis Dittmer in Afghanistan NEW Reginald Lane in Afghanistan NEWH Anna S. Craig *in Qatar* NEW NEW Carl Watson in Afghanistan Jonathan Magee *in Egypt* NEW Steve Wagner in Kuwait

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#### Cumulative Stats

28,500 lbs. of donations have been shipped since 2005.

**\$50,434 raised from community donations since 2007.** 

93 Point Leaders since 2005 (some serving multiple times).

Point Leaders who we are now serving:

13

Thank you to everyone who has continued to donate precious supplies for our deployed Soldiers. Some only live in tents and cook over fires. Others live in wood huts. Numerous units have poor PX's. And many still beg for coffee. Things that we can take for granted in daily life, they hold dear.

#### We appreciate all of you for continuing to help for so long.





## Did you know ..

Our Director of Veterans Services (for Hingham and Cohasset) has been deployed and is a Care Package Point Leader. He is answering the call again.... for the SIXTH time. This time he is stationed in Somalia. Keith is a highly decorated Navy Seabee who is in the Navy's "selected reserve." Please keep him in your prayers.



Congratulations to the following Point Leaders who have returned home to the US safely since our last update:

Andrew Calvert from Afghanistan Michael Rowland from Afghanistan Donovan Swain from Afghanistan Doug Wercinski from Afghanistan Jonathan Laton from Egypt Crystal Wray from Afghanistan Will McPherson from Afghanistan James Yourell from Afghanistan Jessica Kidder from Afghanistan Timothy Houldcroft from Afghanistan David Marriott from Afghanistan Mark Cazeault from Afghanistan Jennifer Shippy from Afghanistan Cliff Houde from Kuwait William Lopez from Afghanistan Clayton Bridges from Afghanistan Nicholas Ordonez from Korea John Cullen from Afghanistan Stephanie Robertson from Afghanistan Karrisa Browne from Afghanistan Celenia Faulk from Afghanistan Pamela Rubon from Afghanistan James Alexander from Afghanistan Jonathan Magee from Egypt Jodi Sharp from Kuwait Donald Norton from Kuwait Lakeisha Lowery from Egypt Jon Richardson from Afghanistan Sean Smith from Afghanistan Max Olson from Afghanistan



#### THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE AND SACRIFICES!

# Did you miss us...

Dear Supporters,

Did you miss us? Being the editor responsible for producing this newsletter, I have had some very unexpected delays since last year which affected my communications with you.

I have been diagnosed with leukemia and am enduring all that entails. Thankfully I have great doctors and a good prognosis. Not only is this letter to you an explanation of circumstances but also a promise of continued faithfulness to our Care Package Outreach.

Thank you to those who have continued to share and give ... small children's handmade cards, trunks full of Girl Scout cookies, school projects, and generous financial contributions. All of your donations have been shipped in a timely manner with the help of devoted volunteers. The core of this operation has been running smoothly. I hope this reassures you.

I will not give up my loyalty to our Soldiers' aid. I'm in this for the long haul; this outreach will continue as long as there is a need. And, as always, I request and deeply appreciate your donations that keep us busy.

Our outreach will continue to be strong and I send a personal and deep thank you to each and every one of you for what you mean to our Soldiers, and me.

Joy Thomson, Coordinator

### **Great Notes From Our Point Leaders:**

On behalf of the 108th Sustainment Brigade, we thank you for your donations to the troops! All the packages serve as small pieces from back home in which we treasure. Knowing that our communities back home are looking out for us means the world. Your contribution has improved the morale of the soldiers and therefore our mission here. You make us proud to be Americans and even prouder to be American Soldiers.

Our program provides various items free of charge to soldiers through your care packages. A soldier can walk in our tent and grab whatever items they need. Soldiers also use our tent to relax and get a peace of mind away from their day to day work operation. Think of us as a small USO right in the middle of the operation, but without funding.

The generosity you have expressed is cherished by all of us. Your kind hearts will be in our prayers. Your support. For our military personnel is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely, SGT Tate, Jonathan Resiliency Program Manager

Greetings from the front lines of medical care aboard the NATO Role 3 Multinational Medical Unit (MMU) in Kandahar, Afghanistan. On behalf of our entire staff, made up of the finest medical professionals in the world, thank you for the wonderful items you send to us. We were very pleased to receive your gracious support.

Today and each day here, we endeavor to care and provide for the medical needs of those who enter our doors. Our patients are young and old and have suffered illness or injury in the harshest environments. Your donated items are a wonderful reminder of a more peaceful and safer place. When we shared your donations, we felt those who received them were very appreciative of your kindness.

Again, our team at the NATO Role 3 MMU thanks you for your special service to our mission. Please know that your hard work and devotion are deeply appreciated.

Sincerely, Barth E. Merrill, Captain, Medical Corps, US Navy Commanding Officer



....The beginning



The end....

We also want to thank all of you wonderful people who donated **financial contributions** to our Care Package Outreach. It is equally important to have funds with which to ship Packages. Many of you are faithful and generous and we are

## empowered and grateful

We must never forget who gets the credit for the freedoms we have, of which we should be eternally grateful.



### **Current Donation Requests:**

Protein bars, cans of fruit (small), baby wipes, hand sanitizer, air fresheners, Icy Hot patches.

All donations are sent immediately.

For other suggestions go to: *http://www.SoldiersCarePackages.com/html/needed\_items.html* 



The First Baptist Church will pack and ship items for you. Donations may be brought to the FBC Office in the building to the right of the church. There will be a donation box on the porch. FBC is in Hingham Square on the corner of Elm and Main Street, 2 doors up from Loring Theater.

Our "Point Leaders" are soldiers who receive our Care Packages and always have a connection with Hingham. They distribute donated items to their unit, focusing on the greatest need.

For those who prefer a financial contribution toward postage and additional supplies, it will be gratefully accepted. Please make a check out to First Baptist Church Benevolence Account and note "Care Packages Postage" on the memo line. Mail to 85 Main Street, Hingham, MA 02043.



