October 2014 Issue 23

SoldiersCarePackages.com

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

CURRENT POINT LEADERS:

Keith Jermyn *in Djibouti* Karen Nichols *in Kuwait* Luis Barrera *in HI* Millie L. GreyTheriot *in Afghanistan* Adam G. Maltos *in Egypt* John W. Beal *on USCG Mohawk* Anna S. Craig *in Qatar* Jonathan Magee *in Egypt* Steve Wagner *in Kuwait* Jonathan Canniff *in Australia* Salvador Coronel *in Afghanistan*

Cumulative Stats

28,600 lbs. of donations have been shipped since 2005.

\$52,200 raised from community donations since 2007.

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

Point Leaders who we are now serving:

11



Congratulations to the following Point Leaders who have returned home to the US safely:

Reginald Lane from Afghanistan Bryan Z. Meyer from Afghanistan Curtis Dittmer from Afghanistan Carl Watson from Afghanistan Steve Wagner from Kuwait



2014 Military Mail Holiday Mailing Dates

The holidays are just around the corner. If you are shipping Care Packages to deployed soldiers, you need to get your mind "in the groove" right now. The US Postal Service has issued the following guidelines to ensure that your gifts get to overseas military locations by Dec. 25.

Military Installations in Afghanistan (APO/FPO/DPO AE)

The Post Office will accept mail going to troops in Afghanistan as late as December 3 this year. Unfortunately, Express Mail is not a mailing option this year. Deadlines for shipment are as follows:

- Standard Post November 12
- Space Available Mail November 26
- Parcel Airlift Mail December 3
- Priority Mail December 10
- First Class Mail December 17

Zip 093

Please note that December 3 is the deadline for ALL mail going to zip 093, regardless of the mail service you are selecting. There is also no Express Mail Service offered to this zip code.

Other Overseas Military Installations (APO/FPO/DPO AE)

If you have a loved stationed on an installation elsewhere around, the following deadlines apply to you:

- Parcel Post November 13
- Space Available Mail November 26
- Parcel Airlift Mail December 3
- Priority Mail December 10
- First Class Mail December 10
- Express Mail December 17

Hanukkah

To get your Care Packages to overseas military location in time for the start of Hanukkah on Dec. 16, subtract nine days from the deadlines above.



Great Notes From Our Point Leaders:

★ This is an update from the IJC HSE. The packages and letters that we have received have been a huge uplift to our unit. We cannot thank you enough for what you do and the people who help with the effort. We appreciate everything that we receive and make sure that it is put to use in the best way possible. Once again thank you for the support. — James Alexander

We are currently deployed with the XVIII Airborne Corps. Our unit has both males and females, so personal hygiene products are always a great thing to receive. Protein supplements are also in short supply in our location (*Afghanistan*). We do not have a way to cook anything, but we do have dining facilities at our location. Morale boosters are great as well. Within our unit we play a lot of dominoes, and we are in the process of searching for disc golf products. . . . In advance we would like to thank you for whatever support we may get. Without the support that we receive from back home we would not be able to accomplish our mission.

★ First and foremost, THANK YOU! The packages made it safely and were immediately distributed to the Soldiers! I have 3 working for me directly but it just so happens we work in the same building as Battalion so we get to share with them! It is people like you who help make this process bearable. It's always nice to give a Soldier mail who doesn't normally get any! So thank you again! — Karrisa Browne

★ First and foremost I would like to thank you so much for the Care Packages you guys put together and sent out to me. It was an honor to receive them and pass on the contents with my fellow Marines. The packages couldn't have come at a more perfect time; we had just come back from two months straight in the field with little rest and no re-supplies of goods and essentials. When I received those packages people swarmed to get all the toiletries they exhausted and the snacks were perfect. Once again I can't thank you enough for them. These packages are beyond helpful to the morale and well being of all of us deployed overseas. Thank you so much for all you do.

From all of us at 1st Battalion 5th Marines, Bravo Company, Weapons Platoon thanks again and take care. — Jon Canniff

★ I received the two packages that were sent. They were opened and the goodies distributed out. :) Thank you so much for your support. I can't begin to tell you how much it is appreciated. You can most definitely use me as a "point person" for Care Packages. I will make sure they can pushed out to the other soldiers in the unit. I know they will appreciate them as much as I did. Our PX is small and limited. We have 2 man rooms with no fridge or any way to cook other then microwave. — Anna Craig

Sorry I have not had an opportunity to update my profile, things are very busy here as we continue on with our mission. Our airmen truly do appreciate all that your organization does. In my few months here I have learned that food really does change moods. On days when the chow hall has horrible food, (which is becoming the norm), we all rush back to our facilities and start bartering for anything we can pop into a microwave, crock pot or rice cooker. Our guys have gotten pretty creative with what we can do with a dry noodles and plastic jar of pasta or alfredo sauce and canned chicken! Basically our rule is if it can go in a crockpot we will eat it! Because we are moving into a dustier season, if you can believe that, we are still cleaning daily to try to reduce allergy irritations and accumulation of dirt. We do a pretty good job when we have cleaning supplies but they are a hot commodity. We still try to find whatever we can to make our folks feel at home. The front office hands out zip lock bags with detergent and fragrance boosters that seem to help with laundry since the water source is a little sketchy at times. I must say the "gain scent boosters" are a hit out here. The closest thing to April fresh we will get. Overall we are still a team that try to do our best every day and are proud to serve our country. It doesn't matter if the food is terrible or our clothes aren't as clean as we are accustomed to, what matters is the support we get from fellow Americans like you. We are blessed to be in your thoughts and prayers. *— Millie GreyTheriot*

Don't forget...

Don't forget that we accept excess Halloween candy from the community every year. It's hard to believe but Halloween is right around the corner. Candy is shipped to our Point Leaders who distribute everything to their units and even local children in Somalia, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Egypt, Qatar, and elsewhere.

Just bring your goodies to the FBC Office to the right of the church, 85 Main Street (Hingham Square), Hingham.



Did you know...

Due to the clever ingenuity of Jodie Toberer,

there are several donation spots now at the **South Shore Hospital**. Jodie is a SSH employee and staunch Care Package supporter. The soft spot in her heart is made even more personal due to the fact that her son, Nick, has just entered the Army. Jodie is very proud of her colleagues who have donated needed items and cards.

Thank you so much Jodie for supporting our deployed Soldiers!









N-4 PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT CAMP LEMONNIER DJIBOUTI 2014



Do you recognize the fourth soldiers from the left? That's our Hingham Director of Veterans Affairs, CPO Keith Jermyn. This is his SIXTH deployment. Here are some of his recent communications:

<u>8/10:</u> I am alive and well at Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, Africa. This will be my home base for the next year. To date, I have received 6 Care Packages, which we put to use almost immediately. My assignment is to provide Performance Assessments on electrical power generation stations for our base. This base is a strategic asset for America, and must be maintained to counter the growing insurgency in the Horn of Africa.... Thanks again for all you do, and the never-ending support you provide us around the globe. God Bless!!!

<u>8/31</u>: Hello from the Horn! Thanks again for all your prayers and support!!! I continue to receive your packages here at Camp Lemonnier. We are just a few short miles from the Somalia border. Temps here are crazy hot (110-120 deg F). I will bring the Beanie Babies to the Chapel tomorrow for distributions at Djibouti City. Severe poverty; 2nd orphans in that area. This kind of activity helps to bridge the gap with the locals and let them know we care. I am challenged by the work here, and hope that it will help to move the stay here faster. As always I am committed to the mission, and proud to serve my community, state and nation.

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.



Hingham Mother's Club donates



On Friday, October 3, a huge donation of Soldier supplies were delivered to the office of the First Baptist Church of Hingham which houses the center for the Soldiers Care Package Outreach. Another delivery occurred on Monday, October 6, with additional supplies. Both shipments were manned by Allie Christopher who spearheaded this service project with the HMC together with Old Colony Montessori School in Hingham. The OCMS Development Director was Courtney Palek.

We are so grateful for the quantity, quality, and variety of items that were gathered. Many needs will be met and many deployed Soldiers hearts will be touched.

Did you know ...

Always hold the US Flag carefully. NEVER LET IT TOUCH ANY-THING BENEATH IT: the ground, the floor, water or merchandise.





Please help our deployed Soldiers

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.



