

# final thoughts...

## UFC Fight Night Promotes Fellowship

Service members and their families face a number of challenges while undergoing treatment and recovery in military hospitals. They are often reassigned to a Warrior Transition Unit, temporarily losing contact with their network of friends at their home duty station. Many end up transitioning out of the military after treatment. To help prevent social isolation, Cause hosts a number of social activities for service members and their families.



Cause UFC Fight Nights give wounded, ill and injured service members and their families a chance to socialize and enjoy competitive mixed martial arts competitions. The military has incorporated various forms of mixed martial arts in hand-to-hand combat training, "combatives", since the early 1990's. The Modern Army Combatives Program (MACP) started in 1995 with the 2nd Ranger Battalion and has spread at the grass roots level around the Army and through the other branches of service.

Cause sponsors UFC Fight Night every month at Ft. Belvoir and Walter Reed USO Centers. We serve refreshments and interact with participants while enjoying the pay-per-view features. *If you are interested in Volunteering for our UFC Fight Night events, please contact Kayla for details: [programs@cause-usa.org](mailto:programs@cause-usa.org).*



**Comfort for America's Uniformed Services**  
4114 Legato Rd, Suite B  
Fairfax, VA 22033



Each year, Cause receives nearly \$10,000 from individuals across the nation who participate in the Combined Federal Campaign or other workplace giving programs.

**CFC #33011**

**coming soon >>>**

- ⇒ **2016 in Review**
- ⇒ **Conference for Cause Practitioners**

Get the latest news and information:

[www.cause-usa.org](http://www.cause-usa.org)



A Quarterly Insight into Cause Programs and Events

November 2016

# Cause SALUTES

Issue  
Six

## Volunteer Spotlight: Corinne McCullough

Administrative Volunteer, Bethesda MRR Program

The Bethesda Massage/Reiki/Reflexology (MRR) program is fortunate to have a wonderful group of volunteers who come each week to help ensure the program runs smoothly.



Corinne McCullough has volunteered for two years, making her the longest serving MRR Administrative Volunteer at Walter Reed! Every week she arrives on time ready to help set up, manage appointments and greet everyone with a welcoming smile. Through Corinne's dedication and warm personality, Walter Reed has a group of "regular" patrons who know they can count on a sympathetic ear as they wait for their massage that evening. Many wounded warriors enjoy visiting, even if they don't have an appointment. They tell us over and over that "Wednesday is their favorite day of the week" and when they leave they thank us by saying, "We appreciate your service."

Each time we watch a service member turn their wheelchair around to go home that night, we are truly touched by the generosity of their words. It is through volunteers like Corinne McCullough that the Bethesda program receives such praise.

**We want to thank Corinne for helping make the Bethesda MRR program what it is today and for being such an important and integral part of our Cause team!**

## Cause to Present **The London Medal for Distinguished Service** to General Pete Chiarelli, US Army (Retired)

The Cause Board of Directors will present the inaugural **London Medal for Distinguished Service** at the Veterans Day Benefit Gala on Thursday, November 10, 2016, at the Army Navy Country Club in Arlington, VA.

The Medal is named in honor of Dr. Jennifer Burkhart London and Dr. J. Phillip London to recognize their personal and professional commitment to serving our community, our nation, and those in uniformed service. The Londons serve on numerous philanthropic, charitable, and educational Boards, sponsor and establish special recognition programs, and raise essential funding for dozens of organizations serving military, veteran, and local communities. Their tireless efforts directly improve the lives of service members, veterans, and their families.

The purpose of **The London Medal** is to recognize exemplary, distinguished service and continued support of wounded, ill and injured service members, their families, and those supporting their recovery. The Medal highlights a record of service and noteworthy achievement in advocating for the needs of those undergoing treatment and recovery. The award is presented to an individual, organization, or group that has made significant contributions to improving the quality of life and long-term outcomes for those who serve.

The 2016 Recipient of **London Medal for Distinguished Service** is General (Retired) Peter Chiarelli in recognition of his ongoing work addressing TBI, PTSD and the invisible wounds of war.



## Volunteers in Action >>>

# 6th Annual Bridge Game for Cause Raises \$11,000

The main ballroom at Congressional Country Club was filled to capacity on Tuesday, September 20th as more than 120 players gathered for the 6th Annual Bridge Game for Cause event. What began as a small gathering of players to raise awareness and funding for Cause programs at Walter Reed has grown to an annual effort to inform and involve the local community.

Cause Board Member and Bridge Event Chair Lesley Lavalleye assembles a committee of dedicated volunteers each year who manage every aspect of the event. In 2010 she recruited Professional Bridge teachers Leslie Shafer, Charlie Williams, and Hank Meyer to conduct the tournament and promote the event among their students. It has become an annual tradition for many of their students. Leslie Shafer was recently recognized as "Bridge Teacher of the Year" by the American Bridge Teachers' Association so her involvement in the annual event makes it very popular with local players.

"We had people waiting at the door to see if they could play," said Lesley. "Someone who flew in from out of town was waiting on the phone hoping to get a spot!" Lesley and her team are considering expanding the event next year to accommodate all who want to play.

"Some people in the local community forget that we still have wounded, ill, and injured service men and women here in our community undergoing treatment and recovery," said Lesley. "Bridge for Cause allows us to raise funds for some very important programs while enjoying fellowship and card play."

Cause extends a special THANK YOU to following Volunteers for their time and effort: Beth Baker, Alice Burr, Helen Chaikovsky, Donna Duvall, Sheila Greco, Robin Hammer, Brenda Holt, Lesley Lavalleye, Sheila Katz, Sandra Maddock, Cheryl McGinniss, Sherry Phillips, Moira Schoen, and Leslie Shafer.



# 2016 Veterans Day Gala: Renewing Hope...Lifting Spirits

**Thursday, November 10, 2016**  
**Army Navy Country Club, Arlington, VA**

**5:30 pm Reception • 7:00 pm Dinner**  
Special recognition of Vietnam Era Veterans  
by the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War Commemoration

**Just one week left to get your tickets!**  
[www.cause-usa.org](http://www.cause-usa.org) or call (571)465-6048

We will be returning to the Army Navy Country Club in Arlington for an evening of fine dining, inspirational presentations, and an exciting silent auction. Proceeds from the event support Cause programs and activities which serve thousands of wounded, ill and injured service members and their caregivers. This event would not be possible without our corporate sponsors:

Presenting Sponsor



**HONORARY CHAIR**  
Honorable Joe Reeder  
Former Under Secretary of the Army



**GALA GUEST SPEAKER**  
General Jack Keane, US Army (Retired)  
Former Vice Chief of Staff of the Army



**GALA EMCEE**  
Jennifer Griffin  
Fox News National Security Correspondent



**GALA WARRIOR SPEAKER**  
Captain Larkin O'Hern

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## Lyon Conklin/Ferguson Hosts Benefit Golf Tournament



For the second year in a row, our friends from the area Lyon, Conklin & Company office in Chantilly hosted a client Golf Tournament at Stonewall Golf Club in Gainesville, VA. This year's event was held on September 28th. Area Branch Manager Brandon Morgan and his local Team collected direct donations and raffle proceeds generating more than \$5,700 to support Cause programs and activities!

"We are honored to be able to support your work with our service members," remarked Morgan. "We appreciate all that Cause does to help our wounded, ill and injured service men and women."

Cause Board Chair John Caldwell, Director Ed Sullivan, and longtime Cause supporter George Newman had the chance to participate in this year's event. Despite the sudden rain shower that forced several teams to suspend play, everyone had fun and looks forward to next year's event.

Brandon shared the success of the event with fellow managers in the region. Cause received

another \$4,435 donation from the Ferguson area office in Halethorp, MD with a note from Area Manager, Brock King: "Merry early Christmas! Sorry for the surprise but this is the first time in many years we've held a tournament up here in Maryland and I just piggy backed off of what Brandon was already doing. Glad we could help out such a great cause!"

## Cause Receives Grant to Honor Ed and Mary Sullivan

A longtime Cause supporter made a special contribution in October to honor the hard work, dedication, and longstanding service of Ed and Mary Sullivan and their West Point Classmates.

MajGen Arnold Punaro, USMC (Retired) and his wife Jan wanted to publicly thank the Sullivans for their work serving Wounded Warriors and our nation. Their selfless service and dedication to Cause is the reason our organization continues to flourish.

Ed joined the Cause Board of Directors soon after its founding, providing strategic guidance and fiscal oversight. Mary serves on our Gala Committee, Chairs our Auction events, and works tirelessly to support a variety of special events, raising thousands of dollars to support our Cause programs. They are true Ambassadors for our mission!

The donation gave us an opportunity to recognize the behind-the-scenes work and the tremendous impact of their actions. Ed and Mary credit the compassion and dedication of their fellow West Point Class of 1967 Team for establishing Cause to care for the next generation of our Nation's Hero's. **They exemplify our motto: "...here for those who are there for us!"**



Cause Board Members Harry Rothmann, Ed and Mary Sullivan, John Caldwell and Lesley Lavalleye accept the grant from the Punaro Foundation.