



# Fall Newsletter

November 8, 2011

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CFC # 93327  
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OPERATION SECOND CHANCE

## President's Message

Welcome to our official first E-Newsletter! We are reaching our 7<sup>th</sup> year of existence; each of us at OSC wants to thank you for your generosity and your continued support. With your help, we have had the great honor of serving thousands of wounded, injured and ill veterans and their families and have provided more than \$930,000.00 in specific assistance and morale activities. We could not have done this without you!

Even though the war in Iraq is coming to a close, we must remember that our troops are still in dangerous territory within the borders of Afghanistan. Most are on foot patrol and we have seen an increase in injuries as well as the severity of those injuries. As if that's not bad enough, first responders are being targeted with secondary explosions. Our veterans will need our help for a very long time to come.

We are proud to be part of the Combined Federal Campaign, and this year marks our first year in the national CFC. With the help of our Colonel's on board and volunteers, we have been able to get to as many CFC meetings as possible.

Thank you for allowing us to provide assistance and support to our brave men and women. We take our mission very seriously, and do our best to treat our heroes with dignity, love and respect. Winston Churchill once said, "We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give." You make a difference! Consider honoring a vet with a Veteran's Day donation; we humbly thank you for your support.

Sincerely,  
Cindy McGrew  
President, Operation Second Chance

## Sun and SWAT—The Ultimate Combo

By Adam Kisielewski, Sgt/USMC/ Ret, WIA Aug 2005  
Vice President, Operation Second Chance

Operation Second Chance has always recognized the value in getting our troops and their families out of the hospital. Though many, or even most, of our trips are geared toward giving families a chance to reconnect in a stress-free environment.

This week, November 5th—10th (yes, the Marine Corps birthday for all of my fellow Devil Dogs), we are hosting a trip to Orlando, FL.

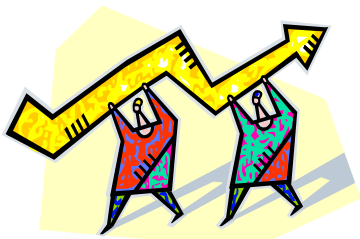
The purpose of this trip has some



recreational aspects (VIP access to Universal Studios, awesome dinners and, a chance to relax with family and fellow veterans) it is also meant to inspire our guys with an interest in law enforcement.

## **Operation Second Chance**

**We're on the Web!**



**Celebrate Veteran's Day!**

**Help Operation Second Chance Soar on Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup> with your online donation**

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

- **November 19<sup>th</sup>**—Dinner at St. Michael's Church in Mt. Airy for 8 families
- **December 6<sup>th</sup>**—Taking our families to cut Christmas trees
- **December 17<sup>th</sup>**—Holiday luncheon in Grasonville, MD for 30 families with a secret guest

Related Links  
[Ride Allegheny](#)  
[US Army News](#)

## **SWAT continued...**

The 2011 Swat Round-Up International is celebrating its 29th anniversary and is hosting OSC veterans for a week of Special Weapons and Tactics fun.

Our troops are meeting with numerous law enforcement agencies and will have the opportunity to check out some of the coolest and newest gear as well as training.

With such similar training done in the military SWAT, and law enforcement in general, is often still

an option for many of our motivated warriors despite having serious injuries and in some cases even amputations or traumatic brain injuries (or TBI).

As a veteran with a strong interest in law enforcement I can tell you personally that this trip will have a lasting impact to the our Veterans and promises to be one of OSC's most exciting trips.

## **Ride With Pride, Ride Allegheny 11**

By Walt Ellenberger, RA11 Commissioner

On several fronts this year's 11th anniversary ride in support of Operation Second Chance was truly special event! We had amazing weather characterized by cool foggy mornings that gave way to "Indian Summer" afternoons unveiling the beauty of autumn in the Allegheny Highlands.



Photo – Cindy McGrew

After a decision to expand our rider base in order to make Ride Allegheny a marquee Washington, DC bike fundraising event we successfully recruited and managed safe passage of 50 diverse and dedicated riders. We had unprecedented media coverage and heartwarming local community support along the entire trail like an old friend greeting us with open arms, a few laughs, a refreshing drink, and some good old home cooking.

At the end of the day our proudest accomplishment was raising over \$150,000, doubling previous years' records in arguable the worst economic times, for Operation Second Chance in support of their relentless efforts to help our wounded warriors and their families.

If anyone is questioning the American Spirit we found it alive and well along the trails in local communities, through numerous friends and families donating hard earned money and 50 dedicated riders making a physical and fiscal commitment to make a difference in young men and women's lives.

We are onto something big ladies and gentlemen and look forward to what lies ahead for RA12 and Operation Second Chance.