

OPERATION ONE VOICE



PURPLE HEART OUTDOORS TOUR



The Purple Heart Outdoors Tour is a series of group hunts, fishing trips and other outdoors sporting events organized exclusively for military service members of all branches of the service who have served in the **Global War On Terrorism (GWOT)** combat operations since September 11, 2001.

OUR MISSION

To provide outdoor sporting opportunities for selected active military personnel, Reserve and National Guard, and or GWOT combat veterans in order to assist in convalescence, build self-confidence and morale, and expose them to different outdoor experiences and environments. A further goal includes the promotion of public awareness and mutual appreciation through interaction between military and civilian hosts and participants.

OUR VISION

The establishment of the Purple Heart Outdoors Tour as a permanent, self-reliant program that is approved of by the Department of Defense and available to those members of the United States Armed Forces who have sacrificed for their country.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Participant are selected upon the following criteria:

1. Must have served in GWOT combat operations.
2. Must be over twenty-one years of age.
3. Must have some experience and or a genuine interest in the outdoor sporting event he or she wishes to participate in.
4. Must be either an active duty service member, in the active Reserve or National Guard, or an honorable discharged veteran.
5. May either have been injured or wounded during combat operations or been commended for valorous action during combat operations.

6. Individuals who have been injured by other than enemy fire and have not been officially awarded the Purple Heart are eligible for selection given the degree of the injury.

BENEFITS

1. Opens a direct way for outdoorsmen, landowners, businesses and other U.S. citizens to assist their military and serve their country in a time of war.
2. Supports the morale and welfare of the Armed Forces by rendering rewards for valorous service and sacrifice.
3. Provides new outdoor recreational opportunities for deserving military personnel.
4. Provides a positive confidence-building opportunity and convalescence for injured participants.
5. Exposes participants to different civilian communities, rural regions and cultures they might not otherwise have seen or experienced.
6. Since these events are open to all branches of the Armed Forces, participants will meet other members of the military and will build fellowship and unit cohesion through common outdoor experiences.
7. Increases public awareness and enhances the image of the military through contact and involvement.
8. Exposes and exemplifies the patriotic and humanitarian works of outdoorsmen.
9. Expands the base for new outdoorsmen and conservationists to the ranks of the military.

PARAMETERS

1. The Purple Heart Outdoors Tour is a nonprofit coalition of landowners, businessmen, and organizations participating in this collective effort. No one within this coalition receives any direct or indirect contractual or financial benefit from the Department of Defense for participating.
2. The Purple Heart Outdoor Tour is not an official Department of Defense sponsored event.
3. The Purple Heart Outdoors Tour is nonpolitical.
4. The Purple Heart Outdoors Tours are not fundraising events.
5. At no time will active duty participants wear their uniform during field events but may be invited to wear dress uniform (at their discretion) at formal functions.
6. At no time will active duty participants officially endorse any given commercial product of business enterprise.
7. Active duty participants will receive no monetary gifts whatsoever. However, they will be given the opportunity to purchase products at a military discount.
8. These events are newsworthy stories and may occasionally be covered by the media. However, no participant will be interviewed, filmed or photographed without his or her consent, and any media contact will be strictly voluntary.
9. All venues will be surveyed and inspected by organizers to insure applicable safety guidelines. Survey and Risk Assessment reports can be forwarded upon request to participants' unit.

East Events

Dan Hammack III
Southern Wilderness Plantation
Edison, Georgia
Office (229) 835-2362
Cell (229) 881-5044
Email: southwildhq@alltel.net

Celebrity Liaison

Mike Talbott
Talbott Farms
Waverly, Iowa
Office (319) 352-3764
Cell (860) 428-1117
Email: farm2011@hughes.net

West Events

Ed Shields
Deer Valley Ranch, Ltd
Fortuna, California
Office (707) 725-4767
Email: eddeervalley@att.net
www.deer-valley.com

Southeast Event Coordinator

Ray Jennings
Albany Beverage Company
Albany, Georgia
Office (229) 435-5616
Cell (229) 344-1509
Email: rjennings@windstream.net

Bio of Purple Heart Outdoors Tour Founder

Dan Hammack entered the United States Army after graduating from the University of Georgia in 1983. He was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant and upon completing infantry officer training, airborne training and graduating from Ranger School, he deployed to the Republic of Korea. He served on the Demilitarized Zone as an infantry platoon leader in the 2nd Infantry Division and led thirty-two combat patrols on the DMZ. After completing his tour in Korea and a follow-on assignment with the 7th Infantry Division in California, Hammack volunteered for Special Forces selection and training at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Hammack completed the Special Forces Qualification Course, and thereafter, assumed command of a Special Forces A Team specializing in Military Free Fall (skydiving). As a SF A Team commander, Hammack led a number of covert missions throughout Central America and combat missions in Panama during *Operation Just Cause* 1989-90. After *Operation Just Cause*, he was re-assigned to Panama where he took his second command of a Special Forces Scuba Team and continued conducting missions in the region. In 1991, Hammack elected to leave the active duty Army to pursue another career in the private sector; however, he continued to remain active in the U.S. Army Reserve. Hammack would eventually become the founder and CEO of Southern Wilderness, Inc., a general contracting and heavy construction company based back in his home in Edison, Georgia. Hammack's military career also continued in the U.S. Army Reserve where he remained in Special Operations. Shortly after the terrorist attacks in September 11, 2001, he was activated for a series of Special Forces missions in support of *Operation Enduring Freedom*. In 2003, then, Lieutenant Colonel Hammack was fully activated and assumed command of the *Free Iraqi Forces* (FIF) – a unit of Iraqi Freedom Fighters recruited from the United States, Canada, and Europe. During the opening stages and major combat phase of *Operation Iraqi Freedom*, LTC Hammack led the FIF on combat missions throughout Iraq during the liberation. Following his tour in Iraq, Hammack returned home but he has continued to remain active as a Reserve officer in Special Operations. Secondary only to his devotion to his country is Hammack's passion for the outdoors and wildlife conservation. Hammack changed his family farm into Southern Wilderness Plantation and transformed it into a prime hunting property with an aggressive wildlife management and habitat restoration program. In 1998, he was recognized for his work by the Georgia Wildlife Federation and was given the *Wildlife Conservationist of the Year Award*. Hammack is also actively involved with conservation organizations like *Quail Unlimited* and is on the QU Celebrity Hunt Committee Board. During the 2007 Annual QU Celebrity Hunt, Hammack was instrumental in arranging to have a number of Wounded Warriors as guests of honor. It was also during this event, he was also given the *Freedom Award* for patriotism by Quail Unlimited. In 2008, Hammack began organizing the *Purple Heart Outdoors Tour*, commencing the program with the first annual Purple Heart Quail Hunt in Southwest Georgia. The *Purple Heart Outdoors Tour* has since grown into a national multi-event movement. The Georgia State Senate honored Hammack on February 26, 2008, passing *Georgia State Senate Resolution 1018* commending him for this and other efforts assisting disabled veterans.

