

**Operation: Care and Comfort
September 2021**



A Note From Operation: Care and Comfort

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Usually Julie writes our newsletter opening but this month she wanted me to do it, so hopefully I can live up to her poetic standard...

We are on the eve of the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 Terrorist Attacks and there already have been several radio and TV shows honoring and reflecting the day and years since. I have watched and listened to several and it was like scratching a scab off and starting to bleed again. Even thinking about what I was hoping to write and reflecting on the day brought goosebumps.

In these last 20 years our worlds have greatly changed for some of us who went off to wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, to others starting charities like OCC supporting those service members (and their families). Our daily lives had been shaken up, changed and forever altered. You will see and hear a lot of ceremonies and presentations to honor 9/11 and I want you to watch and remember, to Never Forget.

But despite the turmoil, pain and terror, it brought us together as Americans. Not as X-Americans, Y-Americans or this party or that, we bonded together for our common person, for good and to do good. So I want to change gears a bit and talk and focus on 9/12 and the days and months after. I want you to remember how you felt, the pride of being American, the joy in coming together as one, how easy it was to be nice and do something good. We did it in spite of what happened, we did it because it made someone else feel good and in turn made ourselves feel good. Winston Churchill said *"We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give."*

Now 20 years later where are we, 9/10? The strife, fighting and separation tearing apart the fabric of our country, what made us Americans is here again. We have lost that 9/12 feeling and we need to come together again, I'm not saying we need another 9/11 (though I believe what has transpired in Afghanistan and losing our 13 service members could be THIS generation's 9/11). Let's come together again, show the world what makes America great is that we can bounce back, UNITE and be the beacon of hope and force for good.

Never Forget 9/11, Remember the Good on 9/12.

Frank Keffer
VP
Operation: Care and Comfort
U. S. Army Combat Veteran



AMAZONSMILE

Supporting: Operation Care And Comfort



Shop Online With An Amazon Smile & Help OCC, Too!

(Click on the image or the text.)

2021 Poker Tournament — *Success!* Thanks to All Who Participated and Sponsored



On a beautiful Saturday afternoon on August 21, 2021 at Excite Ballpark in San Jose, military service members and veterans took part in a poker tournament - *free!*

Sponsors designated their participants. Other individuals signed up (paid) to play as well. A grand time was had by all,

Congratulations went to Anthony S. He won! His choice? Four tickets to see Brad Paisley that included a “tailgate” package.

Watch our Facebook page; you certainly will not want to miss the next one!



Care Kits for California National Guard Fighting Fires

THANK YOU to all who volunteered at OCC's storage units in Santa Clara on Monday, August 30! They are put 300 care kits together for California National Guard troops deployed on the fire lines.

We were fortunate to have received donated items but to ensure the effort was complete, our key volunteers (AKA the "Storage Warriors") all headed to Dollar Tree stores throughout the South Bay and Benito County and collected additional supplies, such as medicated foot powder, bug repellent, a washcloth, hand wipes, hand sanitizer, masks, sunscreen, Kleenex packets and more, paid by OCC.

Boot Barn socks and bandanas are also included in each bag.

OCC will also donate cases and cases of Girl Scout cookies as well as items for female troops. THANK YOU!

Click on the image below to see the OCC Volunteers in Action!



CFC Campaign On The Horizon

The CFC is coming. Operation: Care and Comfort is a proud member of the CFC (#77631.) We depend on your donation to help us continue our mission of supporting troops, veterans and their families. Why support OCC with your contribution?

Consider this.

Founded in 2003 in my garage in San Jose, OCC remains a 100% volunteer organization. NO ONE draws a salary and that is why our overhead has never exceeded 3 percent. That is extraordinary!

OCC CARE PACKAGES — we continue to mail care packages every month to forward deployed military units, and never stopped even during this pandemic.

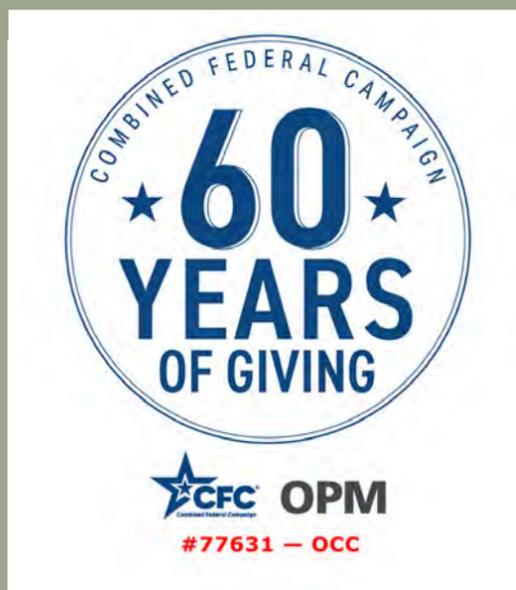
OCC TICKETS FOR TROOPS — starting with the SF Giants in 2004, OCC began to distribute tickets to troops and vets without ever charging any fees or service charges. Even when we purchase tickets we do not charge for them. We have distributed millions of tickets over the years and take pride in being able to send larger families and military units to events. We have also given hundreds of troops and veterans the opportunity to be honored on the field and stage over the years. I wonder how many military kids we have turned into Bay Area sports fans?

OCC ADOPT A MILITARY FAMILY — since 2005, countless thousands of military, veteran and Gold Star families have been assisted and supported throughout the years.

No donation is "too small." It takes about \$2 a pound to mail a care package overseas.

THANK YOU for your service and your consideration. We hope we have earned your trust and support! Please SHARE this if you love what we do!

Julie, President
Operation: Care and Comfort
CFC #77631



OCC Volunteers Throw a Boot Barn Sorting Party



Saturday morning August 14, we had OCC volunteers hosting youth volunteers from NCL and BCT at our Boot Barn sorting party.

By the end of this event we had cases and cases of presorted Boot Barn socks and clothing to distribute to military units, as well as to send in care packages overseas.

Many Thanks to our fantastic team led by **US Army veteran Mark!**



Blast From The Past — August 29, 2010

OCC co-founder Cookie reminded me that this was Aug 29, 2010. Old Navy held a nationwide donation drive for OCC and we received hundreds and hundreds of boxes of goods, including a mountain (literally) of flip flops (shower shoes.)

It took over a week to just sort through everything, read over 100,000 handwritten letters then begin the process of sending out the goods.

It was amazing and here we are, still an all-volunteer organization supporting those who serve. Oh, and we are MUCH OLDER than when we started OCC in 2003.

Thanks to all who have hung in there with us for nearly two decades.



Veterans Canteen Service - Discounts and more!



Did you know that the VA has their own retail store on-line and in various VA facilities?

Access to great deals! Discounts for veterans, VA employees, and their families!

Covid-19 Vaccines For Nor Cal Veterans

The VA Nor Cal Health Care System is now offering the Covid-19 vaccines to all enrolled veterans, regardless of age and their registered care givers.

Click on the VA image for link for all information and questions.



Read OCC news on Facebook
Don't forget to *Friend Us* and
Follow Us!!!



OCC is on
LinkedIn
Check us out!!!



Just a friendly reminder:

If you are receiving this email, chances are you are already on our Tickets For Troops list. No need to sign-up again!

OCC's Tickets for Troops

Click on Team Name

2021 Guidelines For Attending Games in Person

Check Before You Attend To Get Up To Date Information

**San Francisco
Giants**

**Oakland
Athletics**

**San Jose
Giants**

Last month, our Tickets for Troops program distributed tickets for events such as:

- Las Vegas Raiders vs San Francisco 49'ers - Aug 29
- Milwaukee Brewers vs San Francisco Giants - Aug 30, 31 & Sep 1, 2
- New York Mets vs San Francisco Giants - Aug 16, 17, 18
- Los Angeles Football Club (LAFC) vs San Jose Earthquakes - Aug 8
- Bottlerock Concerts (Napa Valley) - September 3, 2021

Follow our Facebook page for future events!!



Contact Us

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CONTACT US

OCC's nationally recognized programs support troops, veterans and their families while serving in conflict regions, while serving on humanitarian missions, and when they return home.

