

# OPERATION HELPING HAND



## Operation Helping Hand Newsletter & Dinner Announcement



**Thursday, 15 October 2015  
at 6:00 PM**

**Operation Helping Hand  
Website - [Click Here](#)**

**[Click here to view our  
dinner video](#)**

**Like us on Facebook **

*Since 2004, Operation Helping Hand has extended all necessary efforts to assist and support over 950 military wounded/injured being treated at the James A. Haley VA Hospital, and many of their visiting families. We've been blessed*

**Our address:**

**5022 Barrowe Dr.  
Tampa, FL 33624**

**If you have any questions,  
please contact me or the  
main Operation Helping  
Hand email address below:**

**Bob Silah, Captain  
USN (Retired)  
Chairman, Operation  
Helping Hand**

**[bsilah@aol.com](mailto:bsilah@aol.com)**

**[ophh2011@gmail.com](mailto:ophh2011@gmail.com)**

*with very generous donations from so many generous individuals, organizations, corporations, etc. We are indeed fortunate to have outstanding volunteers and the required support over the past 10 years, and we will continue our mission as long as we are needed.*

*It is important to mention that our main purpose in having our monthly dinners is to let the patients and their families know that we recognize, honor, support, and thank them for their sacrifices and for what they have done for us.*

*We have expanded our mission to include assistance and support to all poly trauma patients, both those presently in the VA Hospital and those "out patients" that are residing outside of the Hospital and still undergoing Hospital treatments, whether they are still on active duty OR are discharged or retired. As long as they have served OIF or OEF (meaning they have served in Iraq or Afghanistan), Operation Helping Hand will help them in any way possible.*

*Bob Silah, Chairman  
Operation Helping Hand*

**Here are the general driving directions to the  
James A. Haley VA Hospital SCI Building**

**THE LIVINGSTON GATE IS NOW OPEN**

### **From I-275:**

***Coming NORTH:*** From 275, exit at Fletcher. Take Fletcher east to stop light at LIVINGSTON AVE.

**Turn right and proceed straight ahead on LIVINGSTON into the VA Hospital grounds.**

***Coming SOUTH:*** From 275, exit at Fletcher. Take Fletcher east, to stop light at LIVINGSTON AVE.

**Turn right and proceed straight ahead into the VA Hospital grounds.**

### **From I-75:**

***Coming NORTH:*** From 75, exit at Fletcher. Take Fletcher west, past the light at Bruce B. Downs to stop light at LIVINGSTON AVE.

**Turn left and proceed straight ahead into the VA Hospital grounds.**

***Coming SOUTH:*** From 75, exit at Fletcher. Take Fletcher west, past the light at Bruce B. Downs to stop light at LIVINGSTON.

**Turn left and proceed straight ahead into the VA Hospital grounds.**

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**Park in the garage which is the large 5-story building on the right.**

**From the 5-story parking garage, we will have drivers and golf carts available after 5:15 PM to carry our attendees from the garage to the SCI building's new entrance.**

***Please use the golf carts for your ride over to the SCI building, and note that Operation Helping Hand has provided four golf carts to the hospital. If you're lucky you'll get to ride in one of the Operation Helping Hand's golf carts!***

**OR**

**The SCI parking lot is available on the right after passing the parking garage or in the lot to the left adjacent to the SCI building.**

**We Appreciate Our Sponsors!**

We are indeed fortunate to have so many sponsors committed to underwrite our monthly dinners and we humbly thank them. We've had a number of inquiries as to these sponsorships. With our large number of dinner attendees, all of our sponsors deserve our gratitude, and where possible, our patronage.

A special thanks to our sponsors. We could not have these dinners without your financial support.

### **Sponsor for This Dinner**

#### ***THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION***

***and***

#### ***AMERICAN MEDICAL RESPONSE***

***The Hillsborough County Public Transportation Commission (HCPTC)*** was created to regulate the safe operation of public vehicles upon the public highways of Hillsborough County and its municipalities.

*The commission is an independent special district that receives no tax payer funds. Our mission is to regulate the operation of "for-hire vehicles" in Hillsborough County; and provide safety and protection to the citizens and travelers of Hillsborough County that utilize taxicabs, limousines, vans, handicabs, basic life support ambulances and wreckers*

***American Medical Response (AMR)*** is a nationwide agency that provides emergency and non-emergency transportation services via ambulance, wheelchair van and air ambulance to healthcare facilities and government entities. Additionally, AMR provides paramedic and EMT

*training.*

### **Caterer for This Dinner**

#### ***BOSTON'S RESTAURANT AND SPORTS BAR***

*Boston's Restaurant & Sports Bar is located at 9316 Anderson Road in Tampa.*

*We are open for lunch, dinner and late night, offering take out, party platters and caterings customized to fit your needs. The menu specializes in gourmet pizzas, flat breads, pastas, ribs, salmon, burgers, salads and appetizers.*

*We have 25 TV's for your viewing pleasure in the dining room, lounge or patio.*

#### ***SPECIAL GUESTS ATTENDING THIS DINNER***

*We are honored to have the Bucs Cheerleaders attending this dinner welcoming our wounded troops and attendees.*

*Bucs calendars will be handed out and, upon request, will be autographed by the cheerleaders.*

#### **Desserts Provided By:**

Mike's Pies

*If you care to bring an additional dessert to share other than pies, it would be most appreciated.*

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:**

*All of our wounded/injured patients attending and their families will receive a gift bag and a bouquet of flowers as part of our appreciation.*

Gift Bags stocked and assembled by Ms. Kathy Silah

Flowers provided by Island Flowers;

Mario Gutierrez, Major, USAF (Ret), Owner.

Music provided by Bob Moore

## **ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES:**

1) Our dinner announcement list continues to grow, and we are averaging approximately 250-300 attendees at each dinner. Please plan to come early, enjoy the evening, and meet our wounded/injured heroes and their families.

**AND PLEASE REMEMBER....OUR DINNERS ARE NOT THE PLACE TO NETWORK OR PUSH YOUR PRODUCTS OR BUSINESS SERVICES.**

2) A special request: On arrival, it would be most appreciated if you would be seated as soon as possible rather than congregating in the entry area. Congestion in the entry area has caused serving problems, and delay in getting the evening's program started. Your cooperation would be most appreciated!

3) Please realize that this dinner is not intended for your personal socializing. **GET UP AND MEET THESE HEROES, AND THANK THEM FOR ALL THEY'VE DONE FOR US!** Your efforts in this regard would be most appreciated.

4) If you are receiving these announcements, have a comment or email change, or would rather be removed from our mailing list, please let us know.

5) This announcement is not for publication in daily and weekly newspapers. However, it may be published in daily command military emails or

bulletins.

- 6) There is NO COST for dinner attendees, and NO RSVP is required unless you plan to bring a group of four or more. If this is the case, please let us know via email.

### 2015 Sponsors

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SPONSORING FOR A DINNER IN 2016, LET US KNOW!!**

#### Monthly Dinner Date    Sponsor

Thursday 15 January	SOCIETY OF MILITARY ENGINEERS (SAME)
Thursday 19 February	MILITARY OFFICER'S ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (MOAA) Tampa chapter
Thursday 19 March	FERMAN AUTOMOTIVE DEALERSHIPS
Thursday 16 April	BOOZ ALLEN HAMILTON CORPORATION
Thursday 21 May	USAA
Thursday 18 June	CELESTAR CORPORATION
Thursday 16 July	BOOZ ALLEN HAMILTON CORPORATION
Thursday 20 August	BRIGHT HOUSE NETWORKS
Thursday 17 September	TAMPA BRASS AND ALUMINUM CORP.
Thursday 15 October	<b>THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION and AMERICAN MEDICAL RESPONSE</b>
Thursday 19 November	COALITION FORCES/CENTURY BUICK
Thursday 17 December	ARMA GLOBAL, INC.