

## **MVMGC Humanitarian Fund (Fiscal Year 2011/12)**

At least twice a month we solicit donations to our humanitarian fund. For those tournaments, one of the par three holes is designated as the "humanitarian" hole and the closest to the pin prize for that hole is only given to those who have donated to the fund. Prize winners get 30% of the total humanitarian proceeds for that day.

The board of directors has consistently asked for suggestions regarding worthy charities but seldom gets any responses. As a matter of policy, the board tends to favor local charities and charitable causes, and also considers making donations to especially needy individuals in our own community. If you have any preferences for making donations, please contact any member of the board. As a charter club, we are not permitted to make donations to efforts which are religious or political in nature; however, we do make donations to religious groups, such as the Coachella Rescue Mission, that provide assistance on a purely non-religious basis.

Listed below are all the donations we have made during fiscal year 2011/12. We hope to keep this list up-to-date during each fiscal year to inform all our members of where their humanitarian donations are going.

### **Helping the Homeless Now (\$400, July 5, 2011)**

This is a group that goes out on weekends to locate homeless individuals wherever they might be to bring them necessary supplies and food.

### **Fish Food Bank (\$200, August 2, 2011)**

This is a food bank that serves mainly agricultural workers in the Coachella, Mecca area.

### **Folds of Honor Foundation (\$300, August 17, 2011)**

Folds of Honor Foundation provides post-secondary educational scholarships for children and spouses of military service men and women killed or disabled while serving our nation.

### **Soldiers Organized Services (\$300, September 22, 2011)**

This is a group of dedicated volunteers who provide free rides for our military men and women stranded at the Palm Springs International Airport to return them to the Twenty- Nine Palms Marine Corps Base. They have recently had a significant shortfall in their funds for gasoline.

### **Soldiers Organized Services (\$400, November 3, 2011)**

This was in response to a special appeal from SOS as their gas funds were running very low. Even though we had just donated on September 22, the board deemed it important to help keep this worthy organization going.

**Child Development Center (Even Start Literacy Family Program) (\$750, November 15, 2011)**

Donation to this cause has become a Men's club holiday tradition. The purpose of the Even Start Family Literacy Program is to help break the cycle of poverty and illiteracy by improving educational opportunities for low-income families in our community. Even Start is a four-component family literacy program. It integrates (1) early childhood education, (2) adult literacy and adult basic education, (3) parenting education, and (4) parent-child interactive literacy activities.

**Soldiers Organized Services (\$555, February 2, 2012)**

In January the board voted to donate the net proceeds of humanitarian funds to SOS in recognition of their continuing pressing need for funds to pay for gasoline and other expenses. The board felt that this program is of great importance to our 29 Palms Marines and deserves our continuing support.

**Malificent Page (Client of Pegasus Riding Academy for the Handicapped) (\$500 February 7, 2012)**

Ron Wolke has been working the Pegasus Riding Academy as a volunteer and was made aware of a family, a mother with five kids, that was in desperate need of funds. Ron will deliver our check to the family.

**Helping the Homeless Now (\$431, February 25, 2012)**

At their February 7 board meeting, the board voted to donate the month's humanitarian proceeds to the Helping the Homeless Now group. We have donated to this group before and may again in future months. This is the group that takes things directly to homeless persons in our valley who are living out in the open in tents and other such shelters. They bring them small things such as sunglasses, stove fuel, toothpaste, food, baby wipes (for bathing) and clothing. The work of this group is described in their website, <http://www.helpingthehomelessnow.com/>.

**Salvation Army: Coachella Valley (\$494, April 3, 2012)**

The local Salvation Army was selected as the recipient of the March humanitarian fund proceeds. The money will be used to support the Salvation Army's many charity efforts in our valley.

**Find Food Bank (\$430, April 26, 2012)**

Our net humanitarian donations for the month of April have been awarded to the Find Food Bank in Indio. This is a well established organization that distributes surplus and purchased food stuffs to needy residents in our valley.