

From the Fox Hole

As we continue to serve our Nation's Heroes there are many times when we are humbled. Quite frankly we are humbled just to be doing what God has called us to do. But, every group humbles us with their presence, the individual character of each warrior, and the opportunity to spend time with them. Our CEO, Shane Yates, was able to visit with some of these such men, the Firefighters of Fire Station 3 and 10 in Long Beach California. Also, after Shane visited with them in California, we had the privilege of having some members of their department here in Bozeman MT, for a 4 day retreat.

These brave men had recently lost one of their own. Fire Captain Dave Rosa was shot and killed while trying to put out a fire with the help of his crew. During this incident another firefighter was shot and wounded as well. Being a former Law Enforcement officer and Veteran you would think that Shane had seen or heard it all. But this was a shock to the department and to many across the country. A brave man and his Team just trying to help someone while attempting to save life and property. We are thankful that men and women like these exist and are willing to sacrifice it all for our communities. We honor all of you and we honor CPT Rosa and his family. We are praying for all of you.



PASTOR SHANE'S Point of View

Hello Ministry Partner,

Wow, what an awesome retreat season we are having here in Bozeman, Montana at the Task Force Heroes Renewal Center. So far we have had 31 attendees from numerous agencies and units across the United States to include Long Beach Fire, NYPD, Port Authority, LA County Fire, LA City Fire, Nashua Police Dept. New Hampshire, Federal Tribal Police, and Veterans from Orange County California, Oregon, and Montana. What an honor and privilege to have them here and we thank the Lord for that opportunity.

I want to take a moment to talk about something that we all need desperately and that is **forgiveness**.

Forgiveness is defined by Webster's dictionary as "the pardon of an offender by which he is considered and treated as not guilty"; "The pardon or remission of an offense or crime; as the forgiveness of sins or injuries."

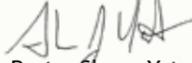
Forgiveness is an essential part of Christians life as commanded by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In fact, in the Gospel of Matthew (18:22), when Peter asked how often he should forgive, Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven."

Scripture tells us to forgive one another and to forgive our enemies. Often times we hold onto to wrongs and carry around bitter anger, hurt and disappointment. When we carry around this burden it becomes like a weight around our neck and can be tiresome and can even become a stumbling block in our walk with Christ.

For me the simplest way to think of forgiveness is to remember that we are forgiven. Yes, we are forgiven and Lord knows we need it! So, if we are in desperate need of it why would we withhold it from others? Paul's letter to the Ephesians describes it well, "Be Kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." Ephesians 4:32

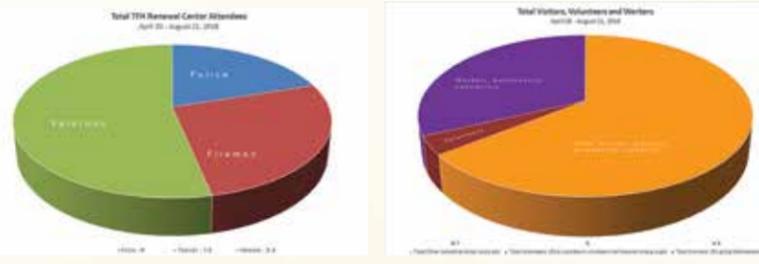
So, as hard as it is, I want to encourage you to embrace forgiveness and enjoy the freedom in Christ that only He can give!

Grace and Peace,


Pastor Shane Yates
OIF/OEF Vet
CEO Task Force Heroes



PS: I thought these attendance and visitor figures would interest you:



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WARRIORS HELPING WARRIORS TASK FORCE HEROES™ FORMERLY HEALING HEROES MINISTRIES

'SOLDIERS SUFFER THE DEEPEST WOUNDS AND SCARS OF WAR'

Lives are being changed and renewed here at our Heroes Renewal Center. This year alone, we have ministered to numerous veterans, law enforcement and firefighters from all corners of the USA.

Task Force Heroes, one of the few organizations to incorporate Christian teaching into their Heroes Retreat programs, has many testimonies showing that this makes a huge difference. Good work is happening. Help for our struggling Heroes is happening here, all for the Glory of God.

The soldier above all others prays for peace, for it is the soldier who must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war.

- Douglas MacArthur, five-star general

A few weeks ago, Port Authority Police Officers attended our event and presented us with 2 flags that flew over the 911 memorial site and a framed box with pieces of the marble floor from World Trade Center 1 with a printed inscription that read, "To Task Force Heroes in great appreciation for their continued support for Law Enforcement". It was a very emotional moment for all of our staff.

Shane Yates had planned some free time for them after our peer to peer group but they secretly went out and bought the ministry a weed and brush hacker that holds a blade. We were there to serve them but in the midst of our time together they blessed us.

These guys are the salt of the earth and we are so honored to serve them. One of these officers lost his police officer father in a World Trade Center building when his dad responded to get people down from the upper floors. The building collapsed and he was never found. Now the son is a police officer following in his father's footsteps, a next generation Hero.

All of these Heroes that we serve have are incredibly dedicated with their unique calling and passion. One note of appreciation in our guest book shows a changed life; "I am fortunate to have been part of this wonderful process. I know it has been a big help to me, but also to the othes who partook. After going through some rough times, this was the perfect outlet to relieve the stressors...this is something that possibly saved my career."

Fire, police or military, we are honored to serve our Heroes!



Port Authority Police Officers and TFH Team pose with one of the flags that flew over the 911 memorial site.



Port Authority Police Department attendees enjoy God's creation and the healing power of majestic mountain trails in Montana.

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Words cannot describe how thankful I am for you all and Task Force Heroes. I am beyond fortunate to have been a part of this wonderful process. I know that it has been a big help to me, but also to the others who partook. After going through some rough times, this was the perfect outlet to relieve the stressors. Also, being new/a rookie, this is something that possibly saved my career and I am so blessed for that. Thank you for opening up your beautiful home and making me feel like it was mine for the weekend. I aspire to have a family similar to yours in the future. Thank you for everything and I look forward to our future together.

A retreat participant wrote a note of appreciation in our public guest book, which shows how a weekend retreat at Task Force Heroes Renewal Center can impact a life.



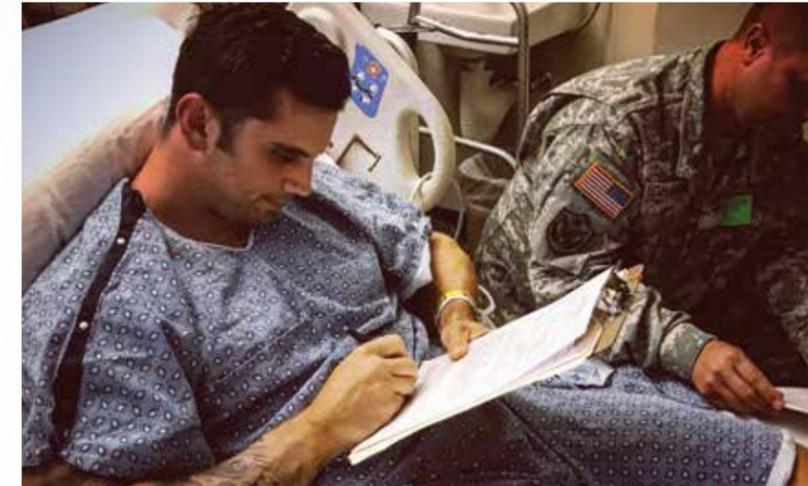
Marble from 1 World Trade Center lobby, presented to Task Force Heroes by Port Authority Police Department

Task Force Heroes Team News

UPDATE ON TIMOTHY YATES

Timothy is currently back on active duty and stationed in Bozeman, MT for rehab and any additional surgeries to his right femur. Last June he was involved in an accident during a combat training jump on the California/Mexico border in preparation for an upcoming mission.

As most of you know he ended up shattering his right femur. Since then he has endured three very extensive surgeries. Timothy has been stationed in three different states in the last year, all while separated from his family. During the last surgery on May 21, 2018, the doctors discovered a fairly serious infection in his bone. He was prescribed an extensive regiment of antibiotics for the last six weeks and at his check-up on August 1 and it looks like he beat the bone infection. However x-rays indicated that one of the screws in the head of his femur has snapped in half. In most cases he would have to go back in for another procedure to remove the broken screw and replace it with the new one. Since he has had so many surgeries, the doctors recommended they wait 30 days to let the bone continue to calcify. At the end of the month Timothy will be headed back to Salt Lake City to make a decision on another surgery or treatment.



Timothy has had multiple surgeries and is healing at last



The x-ray show a broken titanium screw, but Timothy soldiers on the long road to healing.

FINE TUNING OUR LEADERSHIP CURRICULUM

We were privileged to host Pastor Norb Oesch from PLI (Pastoral Leadership Institute) on August 11. Over the three days that Norb was at the TFH Renewal Center, we were able to fine tune the leadership curriculum he originally developed for Pastors and Educators called the Four C's of Godly Visioning (Core, Context, Courage and Capabilities). The adjustments now make it applicable for First Responders and Veterans as it relates to their lives and their frontline work environment.

Karon Yates, Director of Administration, Timothy Yates, Director of Field Operations and I, went through the training as a staff. We prayed together while reviewing the ministry structure and mission.

Pastor Norb was outstanding in leading the meetings. His presence was not only comforting but refreshing for the TFH Team. Having another Pastor onsite to pray and talk with is priceless. Norb has over 40 years of experience in teaching, preaching and developing various programs. His insight is extremely valuable, particularly with our blessed ministry growth this season.



Shane Yates, Norb Oesch, Timothy Yates and Karon Yates going over the Four C's curriculum

National Airborne Day

August 16, 1940 marked the first official Army parachute jump, validating the innovative concept of inserting United States ground combat forces behind a battle line by parachute. This National Day was created in 2001 by 43rd United States President, George W. Bush. In honor of National Airborne Day, August 16, 2018, we would like to recognize few of our very own paratroopers.

Gary Lewis

82 Airborne, 2 years fighting the Korean War. Gary is an instrumental part of Task Force Heroes with his 40+ years as a fly fishing guide. Gary Volunteers his time leading and instructing our fly-fishing classes here at the Heroes Renewal Center.

Jerome Timmons

Jerome served two, 13-month tours to Afghanistan. His first stint was in Kunar Province 2008-2009 where he was a specialist on an eight-man team. When he arrived in his province, his team found that the area was greater than they had planned, and had to split the team up into two-man teams. Jerome was suddenly put into an E-7 position as an E-4. Nervous, but confident, he tactfully planned out missions given to him from his team leader, assisted in implementing

projects for paved roads, schools, wells, and much more totaling over \$84 million.

Despite Kunar being the most kinetic area, at that time, his team was able to do great things. He was put in publications across the globe from Britain to Brazil. Jerome extended his contract to serve with his unit in 2012-2013 in Kandahar Province where he served as the Medical Operations NCOIC. After seeing his soldiers return safe and sound, Jerome departed the Army to continue towards his dreams of being a Venture Capitalist. He currently resides in Los Angeles, CA, has graduated with his Bachelors of Science in Business from the University of Phoenix, and currently holds both his Real Estate and Insurance License. Jerome is also one of Task Force Heroes© Golden Eagle Award Recipients.

Timothy Yates

Timothy Yates, Director of Field Operations for Task Force Heroes, has spent the last ten years working in both conventional and special operation forces. During this time, he has deployed to both Iraq and Afghanistan. He has served the last 7 years as a paratrooper and was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds sustained on his last deployment to Afghanistan.



Former paratrooper and fishing expert, Gary Lewis, chatting with today's airborne Heroes, paratroopers Timothy Yates and Jerome Timmons

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