Dear Friend of ThanksUSA:
It has been a busy and exciting time here at ThanksUSA. With help from supporters like you, we have made HUGE strides toward our goal for 2012: awarding 500 scholarships with a total value of $1.5 million. However, we still have a lot of work to do. With every donation, we are able to continue the ThanksUSA mission and say “Thanks!” to our military men and women.

**Take a look at what’s been happening with ThanksUSA**

On July 11th, military families and U.S. Senators John McCain and Joe Lieberman along with Goldman Sachs Gives were honored at the 2012 ThanksUSA Treasure Our Troops Gala at the Newseum in Washington DC.

The evening was truly spectacular with Fox News’ Bret Baier as the emcee and JCS Chairman General Martin Dempsey as the keynote speaker. Many ThanksUSA scholarship recipients also attended and students from each of the honored Senators’ state were presented with awards for 2012.

Thank you to all who attended and sponsored the evening!
Weren’t able to make it? Click here to watch the entire event and view photos here!

Rachel and Kelsi Okun with JCS General Dempsey leading the crowd in a rendition of “God Bless America”. Watch their performance here

Bret Baier, Senators John McCain and Lindsey Graham on stage with ThanksUSA scholar Shandiin Sam as she accepts her 2012 scholarship.

A special thanks to the Jackson Casey Fund for involving us in the first annual Jackson Casey Memorial Golf Tournament on July 16th. Players gathered from all over the country in memory of a loving and caring eleven-year-old named Jackson. The day began with a golf tournament and continued to a reception with both a live and silent auction. Over $200,000 was raised to benefit ThanksUSA. We are so grateful for their donation and are honored to have been involved.

In partnership with ThanksUSA, the Jackson Casey Fund was created to honor the women and men of the Armed Forces by providing need based scholarships for their children. This year 15 scholarships were awarded in Jackson’s name to military families from the Metro DC area. Visit the website for more information.
On Friday, September 21st, Members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) who served in our military were honored at the ThanksUSA/No Greater Sacrifice CBC reception at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in DC. Held in conjunction with the CBC’s 42nd Annual Legislative Conference, the event provided a great opportunity to say thank you to a very special group of Veterans. We were honored to have Members stop by and for two of our scholar recipients, Jaquel Barnes and Anteah Jones to attend.

ThanksUSA and No Greater Sacrifice honoring U.S. Representative Bobby Scott for his military service.

The second annual Stephen Curry ThanksUSA Charity Golf Tournament was held Monday, September 24th at the beautiful Presidio Golf Club in San Francisco. It was a terrific event! Members of the US Coast Guard, local sport VIPs, corporate sponsors and other individuals all came together to golf with NBA star Stephen Curry and his Golden State Warrior teammates. The day was a great success and we are thankful to everyone who attended and supported the tournament, including Stephen’s father, former NBA player Dell Curry, San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee and local ThanksUSA scholar Maria Barrameda. Thanks!

Visit our Facebook page to see photos from all of our events.

The Tennis Thanks the Troops campaign is still going on, so if you haven’t planned your fundraising event, it’s time to get started. Veterans Day is coming up November 11th and it’s the perfect time to host your own event to support ThanksUSA. Belong to a tennis club? Get a group together and host a charity tournament. It’s really easy and a lot of fun! Tennis champions Lisa Raymond and the Bryan brothers support the cause, so join them in remembering our veterans by raising scholarship funds for their spouses and dependants.
Visit our website for more information about Tennis Thanks the Troops and be sure to watch the PSA by Women’s Tennis Association No. 1 Doubles Player and US Open Doubles Champion, Lisa Raymond.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the very successful Homefront Heroes campaign! With your support, Hill Bros reached their goal and raised $150,000 in scholarship funds for ThanksUSA. We are thankful for the donation and greatly appreciate their continued support of our military families!

It’s Prize Time!

Prize drawings for Phase II of Treasure Hunt 7 and Tennis Thanks the Troops Trivia have taken place and the entries are being verified. Winners will be notified within the next two weeks so make sure that we have your current contact information. Login to TH7 and click “My Profile” to verify or edit your email, phone number, or mailing address.

Our appreciation to the ESA Foundation for their continued support in underwriting ThanksUSA’s annual Treasure Hunt. For all those anxious for the next installment, planning for TH8 is underway. To get the latest Treasure Hunt news, be sure to follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

2012-2013 Scholarship Recipients

Thanks to the generosity of our corporate sponsors, individual supporters, and fundraising campaigns such as Hills Bros. Homefront Heroes and Tennis Thanks the Troops, ThanksUSA was able to award over 300 scholarships, totaling almost $1 million, for the 2012-2013 academic year!

Though our scholarship recipients are very busy with their academics, many take the time to participate in ThanksUSA outreach. You can learn more about our amazing ThanksUSA scholars by visiting our weekly Scholarship News blog.

Keep up to date with all the latest ThanksUSA news by visiting our website, joining our Facebook page, following us on Twitter, or subscribing to our blog.

Wishing you a fun and festive fall!

The ThanksUSA Team