

Support Our Troops Raises \$9,521 at Charity Golf Tournament By Sam Goodrich

The Fourth annual Support Our Troops charity golf tournament raised a record \$9,521 for our mission of supporting those who sacrifice and serve so much for all of us. Twenty-eight soldiers, sailors and airmen, along with their families, made the trip from Fort Hood this year to participate in the tournament. Thanks to the unique and generous partnership between Robson Corporation, Robson Ranch residents and SOT volunteers, the golf tournament continues to be the second major fundraiser for SOT each year. The tournament also provides a personal way for many Robson residents to say thank you to the men and women serving in the military. Volunteer Robson Ranch residents host the visiting military members and their families (48 total this year) in their homes during tournament weekend. Robson Corporation donates the golf, lunch and dinner for all visiting military and SOT members plan and staff the tournament venue.

Bill Moore, executive vice-president for SOT, who developed the idea of having soldiers participate in the tournament has again flawlessly executed the necessary coordination between Fort Hood, Robson Corp, and Robson Ranch residents. He has done so for the past three years. In addition to his coordination activities Bill meets with early Fort Hood arrivals on Thursday, conducts the military honor dinner on Thursday night, hosts a visiting military member, plays golf with a visiting military member during the tournament and participates in a post tournament potluck dinner on Friday night.

Just one of the many highlights of this year's tournament was the presentation of a Certificate of Appreciation to the Residents of Robson Ranch by Third Corps & Fort Hood NCO academy which reads in part: "For your continued support of Fort Hood soldiers and their families. Robson Ranch has continued to host their Annual Golf Tournament ... Your generosity and kindness speak milestones for the Soldiers of Fort Hood. We truly appreciate all your efforts in making this Golf Tournament one to remember."

The generosity of our tournament sponsors and donors are also an integral part of how much the SOT charity is able to raise each year. SOT recognizes the following corporate sponsors: Robson Corporation, Encana Gas, P38 Enterprises, Fidelity Investments, Wal Mart, CW2 Christopher Chabot Martin Memorial Scholarship Endowment, Metro Golf Cars, and Sam Goodrich. Our raffle donors for this year's tournament were: Brown-Forman Beverages, The Robson Grill, Lake Park Golf Course, Denton Country Club, Iron Horse Golf Course, Trophy Club Golf Course, Lantana Golf Course, Indian Creek Golf Course, Oakmont Golf Course, Prestonwood golf course, Stonebriar Golf Course and The Cowboys Golf Club.

All proceeds from the tournament go to help fund the many charitable outreaches of SOT. In 2011, SOT has a donating budget of \$57, 000 which will be used to: a) pack and ship 400+ boxes of goods to deployed military, b) mail 100+ gift cards and pre-paid phone cards to the troops, c) mail 200+ written letters of appreciation and birthday cards to service members and, d) donate \$23,000 to other worthwhile military charities such as Iraq Star, Patriot Paws, Fisher House, Rebuilding Together, and the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund.

No article about the charity golf tournament would be complete without a heartfelt thank you to the many Robson Ranch residents and SOT volunteers who so generously give of their time and resources to make the tournament a success each year. God bless you all!