

Pease Greeters PO Box 22311 Portsmouth, NH 03802-2322

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It is an honor and privilege for the Pease Greeters to welcome and care for our Troops, Department of Defense employees and the Civilian Contractors and occasionally working Military Dogs as they return or deploy through Portsmouth International Airport at Pease located in Portsmouth, NH. The **Pease Greeters** organization has been a registered Non Profit in New Hampshire since 2005.

Greeting Our Troops

Pease Greeters provides refreshments and beverages during their layover at the airport. Troops are also provided with a selection of items to use on their deployments or assorted toys for the returning troops to bring home to their loved ones. All are provided at no cost to the troops. Each reception is at a cost of \$100 - \$300. The Pease Greeters use cash donations to pay for the donuts, snacks, cream & sugar, bottled water, etc. The Pease Greeters also have corporate donors that provide consistent support with products and / or donations.

Care Package Program

Along with greeting the Troops, since 2008, the Pease Greeters operate a **Care Package Program.** On a monthly basis, the Greeters ship packages totaling 600 – 700 pounds. Costs for shipping runs at \$800 - \$1000 per month. Among items included in the Care Packages are handwritten cards. The cards are especially appreciated by the Troops. Items collected for the packages are listed on the back of this page.

There are BIG Care Package shipments that go out to the Troops twice a year.

- Valentine's Day The Greeters ship over 5,000 Valentine's cards.
- Christmas The Greeters ship out 3500+ Red, White & Blue Christmas Stockings along with a baggie of small gifts to insert in each stocking.

Individuals or groups wishing to get involved with the Care Package Program with cards, stockings or 'Wish List' items may contact <u>peasegreeterscarepackages@gmail.com</u> for further information.

Calling Cards

The Greeters believe that no soldier should have to pay to call home. Deploying soldiers are each provided with a 60 minute Phone Calling Card. The Pease Greeters collect old, unusable cell phones of any kind. Those phones are then sent to an organization, <u>Cell Phones for Soldiers</u>, who in turn send the Calling Cards to the Greeters for distribution. Please remember to clear your donated cell phone of any personal information. Donated cell phones may be left at any of the Donation sites listed on the Care Package sheet.

Photographs

Photographs have been taken at most all greetings since 2007. Photos are not deleted and are available back to 2007. Photos of our Military Troops are NEVER allowed on social media and are therefore distributed via a **DropBox**. Contact the Pease Greeters in order to obtain a <u>Secure Link at thepeasegreeters@gmail.com</u> (this email for photos ONLY)

Homemade Knit Hat Program

Since 2008, deploying soldiers have received a homemade, knit or crocheted hat, when available. The hats are now sent in from all over the USA. If you or your organization would like to provide hats for the Troops, please email <u>troophats99@gmail.com</u> to request the knit or crochet patterns or for further information. Donations of yarn are accepted as well and may be left at any of the Donation Sites listed on the reverse side.

The 'Star'

The Greeters have given out over 650,000 Stars to Troops, Veterans and organizations in the USA. Embroidered Stars from retired flags are cut from the blue canton, then bagged with an inserted prose. Retired flags can be donated at any of the Donation Sites listed on the reverse page. Watch Pease Greeters Stars - https://youtu.be/E3m2WVKrgTk