

## HELPING OUR VETERANS (HOV) GRANT

### OHIO UNIT 3620



Ohio Unit 3620 went shopping for items to be donated to the Yellow Ribbon Center in Cincinnati Ohio, an organization that sends boxes to servicemen overseas. The boxes when completed, weigh 25 pounds each. All the donations and work in putting the boxes together is done by volunteers resulting in over 30,000 boxes delivered in the last 15 years.

The center was created by veteran Keith Maupin (Marine Corps). His son, Matt Maupin enlisted in the US Army after 9/11. His son was one of the first captured American soldiers (April 4, 2004) and later beheaded in Iraq. The military was not able to recover Matt's body until 2008. Ironically Matt's partial remains were flown back United States within weeks of the 5-year anniversary of his capture in April 2008.

Keith started to send care packages to deployed after Matt's capture to honor his son's memory and continues to send packages almost daily. He started talking to us after Matt was captured. Our MOPHA Unit was honored to visit the Yellow Ribbon Center, present our donations, show our support and to honor Keith Maupin who continues to support our community and military despite his own grief and loss.