



SPARTAN SOCIETY NEWS WINTER 2019



A Word from Our President



SPARTANS,

At the close of each year, we pause for moments of reflection on our growth and challenges, excitement for what lay ahead, and gratitude for what we've received.

2018 was a milestone year for Travis Manion Foundation. More than 14,000 veterans and families of the fallen participated in our programs honoring the legacy of our fallen heroes and supporting dozens of communities in need. More than 1,000 veteran Character Does Matter Mentors inspired and impacted 250,000 youth across the nation. And we welcomed you, our Spartan Society members, whose generous giving makes our vision a reality.

Looking to 2019 and the exciting opportunities that lay ahead, I'm grateful to all our Spartan members, the thousands of veterans, families of the fallen and inspired civilians who have taken our mission to heart. "If Not Me, Then Who..." is our mantra and we don't shy away from our vision of an America that celebrates character and selfless service.

Thank you for your passion, for your generous support, and for helping us build the next generation of leaders.

From our family to yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan Manion".

Ryan Manion
President
Travis Manion Foundation

travismanion.org/spartansociety



Spartan Society Member Spotlight_



**John Whang
& Helen Chong**

Spartan Society Members

**TWO MARINES WHOSE CAREERS
FIRST INTERSECTED AT THE
NAVAL ACADEMY IN THE EARLY
2000S CROSSED PATHS AGAIN IN
FALLUJAH, IRAQ.**

John Whang, three years ahead of Travis Manion, served a part of his third and final deployment alongside 1stLt Manion with the 1st Reconnaissance Battalion.

John came home in 2008, but Travis had given his life the previous April. Since then, John has committed to honoring his classmate's legacy. A Character Does Matter Mentor and Spartan Society member with Travis Manion Foundation, John is a strong supporter of veterans and the families of those who pay the ultimate sacrifice.

"Our service members make unparalleled sacrifices, but it is not theirs alone; it is very much shared amongst their respective families," John says. "Too often the recognition for families is short-lived when it can serve as a powerful source of inspiration for others."

"TMF ENSURES THAT LEGACY LIVES ON IN A PROFOUND AND IMPACTFUL WAY."

John and his wife Helen Chong reside with their children near San Jose, CA. After leaving the Marines in 2008 to pursue his MBA at University of California - Los Angeles, John now manages Worldwide Retail Supply Chain Operations for Apple. He and Helen, founder and owner of Haylen Group, have been Spartan Society members since the recognition program's launch in 2015.

"With children of our own, instilling that singular message of 'Character Does Matter' can have a lasting impact and should start at an early age," John says. "The impact of positive leadership has no scale and it is generational. Take action to be a positive influence on someone, and that will carry forward."

TMF's mission of uniting communities to develop character in future generations is one that's personal and meaningful to the couple.

"Programs like Character Does Matter [are] a relentless pursuit to make a positive impact in our communities," John says.

Achieving the Mission_

250,000 Inspired Youth

In 2018, we hit a historic mark: 250,000 youth across the nation have been impacted by our Character Does Matter initiative, hearing those 5 words that embody the selflessness of our nation. Veterans and families of the fallen are leading this charge, exemplifying their strength of character, challenging students to leverage their strengths, leading by example, and making a positive difference in honor of fallen heroes.

This movement would not be possible without the generosity of our Spartan Society members and sponsors, whose gifts help TMF empower and train veterans and families of the fallen to bring impactful programs that inspire youth, develop character and unite our communities.



JHONNY CHINCHILLA, a former Marine Gunnery Sergeant, connected with Travis Manion Foundation through a Character & Leadership Course in San Diego, CA. Through eight-week program with 20 middle schoolers, Jhonny challenged himself and his students to think outside their comfort zones. Together with the students he mentored, Jhonny continues to give back; the group recently spent a Veterans Day serving breakfast to San Diego's homeless community.



MICHAEL PONENTI, 16, first sparked his passion for TMF after reading "Brothers Forever," and quickly got his father, New Jersey State Police LTC Al Ponenti, and friend Jacob Glantzman, to join the cause. Michael and Jacob now organize the annual Wall Township 9/11 Heroes Run and rally their classmates for an Operation Legacy project that clears away invasive plants to save threatened natural land.



MADISON SIDNEY first participated in TMF's programming through Character Does Matter at her Houston high school, Energy Institute, where her mentors say the senior is the first to step up to volunteer. She's also an enthusiastic participant in Operation Legacy, and led her own project to establish a community garden in one of Houston's food deserts in the Third Ward.



TOREY CHARPENTIER is the Gold Star Sister of Petty Officer Third Class Andrew Charpentier, and has dedicated herself to the "If Not Me, Then Who..." mantra in honor of her brother. She's attended three survivor expeditions, most recently in Alaska with her parents, where she worked tirelessly to rebuild veterans homes and motivate others. She also is an active member of the 9/11 Heroes Run - Great Falls, MT, planning committee.



MIKE LORUSSO got involved with TMF's Character Does Matter initiative through his employer, Becton, Dickinson & Co., and says involvement with TMF has "filled a void" in his life after leaving the tight-knit military community. A Navy veteran, Mike now mentors students in his Northern New Jersey area, passing along lessons of selflessness and humility.

TMF Events Recap_



Operation Legacy Fall 2018

Asking themselves, "If Not Me, Then Who..." volunteer leaders from across the country led more than 130 service projects, ranging from park clean-ups to building restoration to serving local veterans and the elderly, as part of TMF's bi-annual Operation Legacy throughout the month of November.



Ithaca Service Expedition

Families of the fallen gathered in Ithaca, NY, to honor their loved ones by building tiny houses for homeless veterans and community members in need. The October 2018 expedition was TMF's second survivor trip to the region, and provided an environment for survivors to form common bonds and share memories of their heroes.



Regional Expansion

TMF welcomed 7 new regional staff members to its ranks in 2018. Regional teams head up programs throughout the country, including Character Does Matter, aid with Operation Legacy, and 9/11 Heroes Runs, and promote regional expansion. TMF's regional staff gathered for two days of workshops, training, and set-up ahead of TMF's presence at the Marine Corps Marathon in D.C.



2018 "If Not Me, Then Who..." Gala

Spartan members gathered for a special evening at Philadelphia's historic Union League. TMF awarded an inspired teen with a college scholarship, welcomed guests of honor Secretary of the Navy Richard Spencer and Gen. Stanley McChrystal, and honored Jimmy White (above, second from left), a CDM Mentor, with the "If Not Me, Then Who..." award. Thank you to our sponsors who made the event a great success!

Spartan Society Event Calendar_



PRUM PHILLY March 30, 2019

Join Philadelphia-area Spartans for a black-tie gala benefiting Travis Manion Foundation, hosted by Crossfit University City at the Franklin Institute.

Franklin Institute
222 North 20th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Reserve your tickets today
at www.prumphilly.com



12TH ANNUAL 1ST LT TRAVIS L. MANION MEMORIAL EVENT April 29, 2019

Our annual memorial event returns in 2019 at Doylestown Country Club in Doylestown, PA. In the morning, join us for a golf outing, lunch, and cocktails, then a fun evening of dinner, prizes, and an exciting auction.

Check our website soon to reserve your seat!



Spartan Society Overview_

SPARTAN SOCIETY_

Spartan Society is Travis Manion Foundation's elite recognition program to honor and thank our major donors who help advance TMF's mission through generous financial support. Spartan Society members are individuals, companies, foundations, and independent fundraisers who donate a cumulative \$1,000 or more within TMF's fiscal year: *April 1 - March 31*.



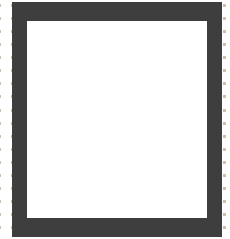
SPARTAN SOCIETY WELCOME PACKAGE_

- Invites to exclusive regional Spartan Society meetings and receptions
- Special Invitation to annual "If Not Me, Then Who..." Gala and VIP recognition (with printed name recognition in Gala program book)
- Name recognition in TMF's yearly Annual Report
- Spartan Society Seasonal Newsletter
- Additional perks specific to your membership level (visit travismanion.org/spartansociety for more details)

GIVING LEVELS_

BRONZE	\$1,000 - \$2,499
SILVER	\$2,500 - \$4,999
GOLD	\$5,000 - \$9,999
EMERALD	\$10,000 - \$19,999
PLATINUM	\$20,000 - \$49,999
TITANIUM	\$50,000 - \$99,999
DIAMOND	\$100,000 - \$249,999
CHARACTER CHAMPION	\$250,000 - \$999,999
"IF NOT ME, THEN WHO..."	\$1,000,000 +

Travis Manion Foundation
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Doylestown, PA 18901



“IF NOT ME, THEN WHO...”

TRAVISMANION.ORG

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