

You've heard from the politicians and the pundits. Now hear from the men who were there.

A New Generation of Valor

Decorated Veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan

Thursday, February 7 - 2:00 PM

Ambassador Ballroom



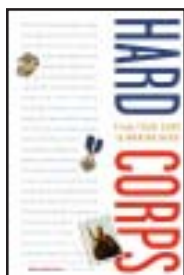
Staff Sergeant David Bellavia - Author of *House to House: An Epic Memoir of War*

On the night of November 10, 2004, U.S. Army SSgt. David Bellavia found himself facing off against six die-hard enemy insurgents, alone in a house during the Second Battle of Fallujah. Using every weapon at his disposal and engaging in hand to hand combat, SSgt. Bellavia single-handedly cleared the house, actions for which he has been awarded the Silver Star and recommended for the Medal of Honor.



Leading Petty Officer Marcus Luttrell - Author of *Lone Survivor: The Eyewitness Account of Operation Redwing and the Lost Heroes of SEAL Team 10*

It was a clear night in June 2005 when four U.S. Navy SEALs left their base in northern Afghanistan for the mountainous border with Pakistan on a mission to take out a notorious al Qaeda leader hiding among heavily-armed Taliban fighters. Following an ambush and desperate fight, only one - Luttrell - remained alive. Wounded and presumed dead, Luttrell eluded capture before being found by a friendly Pashtun tribe who protected him from the Taliban, until he was rescued by U.S. forces. Of the four men of SEAL Team 10, three, including Luttrell, were awarded the Navy Cross. The fourth, Lt. Michael Murphy, was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor in October 2007.



Sergeant Marco Martinez - Author of *Hard Corps: From Gangster to Marine Hero*

On April 12, 2003, after responding to a call to reinforce his platoon that was ambushed, then-Cpl. Marco Martinez led a counterattack against the enemy forces. Under intense enemy fire, and ignoring his own personal safety, Cpl. Martinez single-handedly assaulted the enemy's strong point, eliminating four of them while helping a wounded fellow Marine escape. For his actions, he was awarded the Navy Cross, one of the first Marines to receive this award for valor during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Panel Moderated by

First Lieutenant Pete Hegseth - Executive Director of **Vets for Freedom** (www.vetsforfreedom.org)

1st Lt. Pete Hegseth was commissioned into the U.S. Army upon graduation from Princeton University in 2003. He served at Guantanamo Bay for a year with his National Guard unit and, upon his return from Cuba, volunteered to join the 3rd Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division for their deployment to Iraq in 2005-06. Lt. Hegseth served as an infantry platoon leader in Baghdad during nationwide elections in October and December 2005, and as a Civil-Military Operations officer in Samarra at the time of the bombing of the Golden Mosque. He is the recipient of the Bronze Star and Combat Infantryman's Badge.

With introduction by James C. Roberts

President, American Veterans Center

Book signings to follow in the Exhibit Hall

3:30 PM - David Bellavia, *House to House* - 4:00 PM - Marco Martinez, *Hard Corps*

4:30 PM - Marcus Luttrell, *Lone Survivor*

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