

Munro hosts a charity event in support of *“Cigars for Troops”*



On Tuesday, May 25th 2010, The Cigar Factory in Troy Michigan was the scene of an evening of camaraderie and honor as Munro & Associates hosted a charity event with all proceeds to benefit the CIGARS FOR TROOPS campaign.

Munro & Associates wanted to show its support for our men and women overseas. As a small engineering consulting firm with vast experience working with the military in programs, both domestic and NATO, Munro has excelled. Experience on programs such as the Virginia Class Submarine, Excalibur, Challenger 2E tank, Stryker MGS and the SeaLift Command Ships makes Munro a leader in providing higher reliability and functionality with lower total accounted costs. Munro is helping lead the way towards A New American Industrial Revolution.

Joe Feord, VP Business Development for Munro & Associates, planned and organized the evening. With plenty of delicious food and drink, and many cigars enjoyed, the event was a fine success. Several items were raffled off, ranging from a silver cigar cutter to the Grand Prize of a Remington Rifle from Dicks Sporting Goods. In all, this event raised nearly seven hundred dollars to go towards the CIGARS FOR TROOPS campaign.

CIGARS FOR TROOPS is a five year old endeavor that seeks to supply our military men and women with a sorely missed element of home life. Considering the danger and risk that our brave soldiers face daily, being able to enjoy a cigar from home is considered to be precious time. Cigar aficionados have stepped up and provided an opportunity for us at home to deliver a chance for our boys to unwind.

At The Cigar Factory in Troy, owner Dan Jenuwine keeps the cigars fresh and real. Family friend John Czerewko explained that the program began small with a call from the Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard. Deputies had raided a warehouse and discovered a large amount of cigars. Sheriff Bouchard wanted to donate the cigars to the troops overseas. First, he wanted to know if the stash was counterfeit or legitimate. The Cigar Factory experts were called in. The most prominent cigar label used was the Altadis label. When contacted and asked to verify the legitimacy of the cigars, Altadis confirmed they were bogus. In trying to determine what to do with over 1000 illegitimate smokes with their label on them, Altadis, proud to be of service to our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, offered to replace the entire load with legitimate cigars and destroy the fakes. Thus began the CIGARS FOR TROOPS campaign.

Word of this project spread and the public, along with many military families, were quick to get on board. According to John, what was a 3000 cigar campaign when it began five years ago has grown to over 9000 cigars shipped to our soldiers in the last year. Military parents and families are appreciative of the opportunity to send anywhere from two cigars to five hundred cigars. Charity outings are a big part of the CIGARS FOR TROOPS campaign, giving a wider audience a chance to support our troops.

CIGARS FOR TROOPS is a success because it's a win/win for all. Families that have loved ones in the armed forces, as well as citizens that just want to support the troops, feel good when they can send a little happiness to their military members. Soldiers, meanwhile, get the chance to enjoy a little taste of home while serving to protect our great country.

