

## MEDAL OF HONOR PARK DONATION FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

ON BEHALF OF THE USA RIVER RATS & THE VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER, WE SAY "THANK YOU" FOR YOUR DONATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ \_\_\_\_\_ THAT WILL BE USED TO BUILD & MAINTAIN THE MEDAL OF HONOR PARK, HONORING ALL RECIPIENTS OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR... "OUR NATIONS HIGHEST AWARD" & HONORING ALL VETERANS.

MAIL TO:  
MEDAL OF HONOR PARK  
C/O USA RIVER RATS, INC.  
4411 CAPRON ROAD  
TITUSVILLE, FL. 32780  
501(C)3 IRS CODE  
ID# 20-3954190

OR  
MEDAL OF HONOR PARK  
C/O VETERANS MEM. CENTER, INC.  
400 SYKES CREEK PKWY.  
MERRITT ISLAND, FL. 32952  
501(C)3 IRS CODE  
ID# 59-3070304

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## VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER MUSEUM, LIBRARY, PLAZA AND PARK



FREE TO THE PUBLIC  
OPEN MONDAY THRU SATURDAY 8:30 - 4:00,  
SUNDAY 12:00 - 4:00  
TOURS CAN BE SCHEDULED BY CALLING  
321-453-1776 EXT. 3

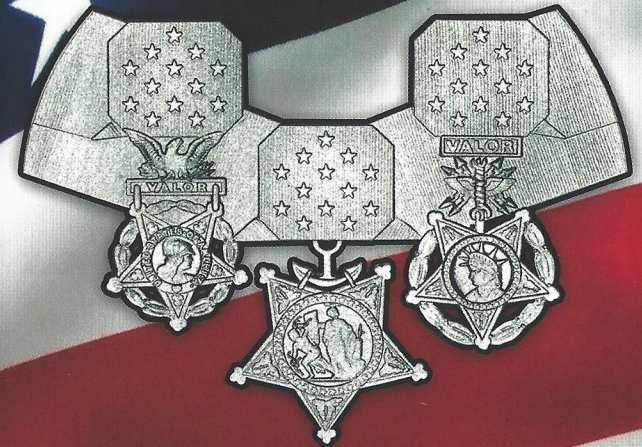


400 S. SYKES CREEK PKWY  
MERRITT ISLAND, FL 32952  
321-453-1776

WWW.VETERANSMEMORIALCENTER.ORG  
FACEBOOK.COM/VETERANSMEMORIALCENTER

## USA RIVER RATS PRESENTS

# MEDAL OF HONOR PARK

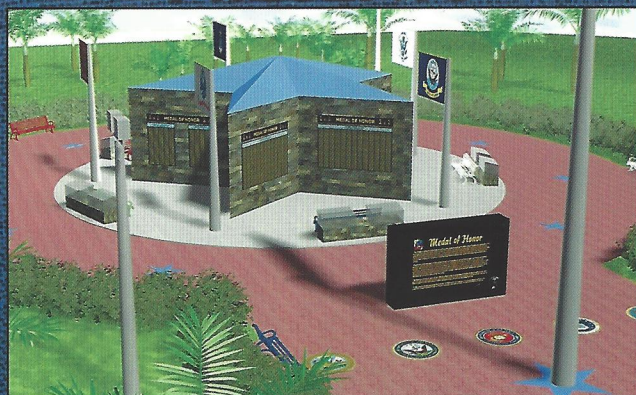


**THOSE AWARDED THE MEDAL  
OF HONOR NEVER STOPPED  
TO THINK THEY WERE PUTTING  
THEMSELVES IN HARMS WAY**

WWW.MEDALOFHONORPARK.ORG  
WWW.USARIVERRATS.COM



# USA RIVER RATS INC. PRESENTS

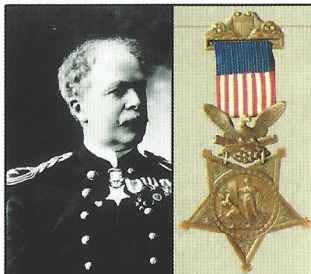


## MEDAL OF HONOR PARK

THE MEDAL OF HONOR, REFERRED TO AS THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR SINCE 1946, IS THE HIGHEST HONOR THAT CAN BE BESTOWED ON A MEMBER OF OUR ARMED FORCES.

SINCE FEBRUARY 1861, WHEN THE FIRST MEDAL WAS AWARDED, 3517 MEDALS HAVE BEEN AWARDED TO 3498 INDIVIDUALS OF WHICH 19 ARE DOUBLE RECIPIENTS OF THE MEDAL. IN DECEMBER 1861, CONGRESS PASSED A BILL TO ESTABLISH A NAVY MEDAL OF HONOR AND PRESIDENT LINCOLN SIGNED THE BILL TO APPROVE 200 NAVY MEDALS. IN FEBRUARY 1862, CONGRESS INTRODUCED ANOTHER BILL TO CREATE AN ARMY MEDAL OF HONOR AND PRESIDENT LINCOLN SIGNED THE BILL IN JULY.

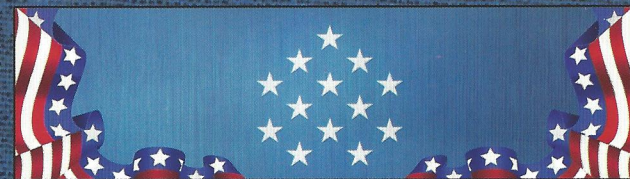
DURING THE APACHE WARS, ASSISTANT ARMY SURGEON BERNARD JOHN DOWLING IRWIN RESCUED 60 SOLDIERS AND BECAME THE FIRST MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT



OVER THE COURSE OF TIME THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL CHANGES TO THE DESIGN OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR AND EVEN MORE SO THE CRITERIA THROUGH WHICH THE MEDAL COULD BE AWARDED TO AN INDIVIDUAL. THE CIVIL WAR RECORDED 1,522 RECIPIENTS OF THE MOH; HOWEVER 683 OF THOSE MEDALS WERE AWARDED BETWEEN 1890 AND 1899 DUE TO CHANGES TO THE AWARD CRITERIA.

IN OCTOBER 1916, A REVIEW BOARD WAS ESTABLISHED TO EXAMINE EVERY AWARD FROM THE CIVIL WAR TO THE CURRENT TIME PERIOD. THE BOARD RELEASED THEIR FINDINGS IN FEBRUARY 1917, RESULTING IN THE REMOVAL OF 911 NAMES.

DURING JULY 1918, CONGRESS ENACTED A NEW BILL THAT WOULD PERMANENTLY DEFINE THE MERITS AND THE FUTURE OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR. THIS WOULD ALSO ESTABLISH OTHER AWARDS, SUCH AS THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS, THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL AND THE SILVER & BRONZE STARS. IN ADDITION THIS LEGISLATION ESTABLISHED REQUIREMENTS MANDATING THE LENGTH OF TIME A RECOMMENDATION COULD BE MADE AFTER THE ACTUAL INCIDENCE OF HEROISM AND THE MEDAL HAD TO BE PRESENTED WITHIN 3 YEARS. ALSO, NO INDIVIDUAL WOULD IN THE FUTURE BE AWARDED AS A DOUBLE RECIPIENT.



IN 1946 THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR SOCIETY WAS FORMED AND ON SEPTEMBER 16, 1948 THE SOCIETY WAS FORMALLY INCORPORATED.

THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE WAS BORN ON JULY 26, 1947, BUT NOT UNTIL AUGUST OF 1956 WAS IT AUTHORIZED TO HAVE ITS OWN MEDAL DESIGN, SEPARATE FROM THOSE OF THE ARMY AND NAVY. THEIR DISTINCTIVE DESIGN WAS INTRODUCED IN 1965.

JULY 1963 SAW THE LAST SIGNIFICANT CHANGE TO THE CRITERIA BY WHICH AN INDIVIDUAL COULD BE CONSIDERED FOR THE MEDAL OF HONOR.

DURING THE LAST QUARTER OF THE 20TH CENTURY SEVERAL PRESIDENTS HAVE PRESENTED MEDALS TO THE FAMILIES OF SEVERAL INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE EARLIER DENIED THAT HONOR ON THE BASIS OF GENDER OR RACIAL BIAS. THE MOST PROMINENT OF THESE WAS DR. MARY WALKER, THE ONLY FEMALE RECIPIENT.

