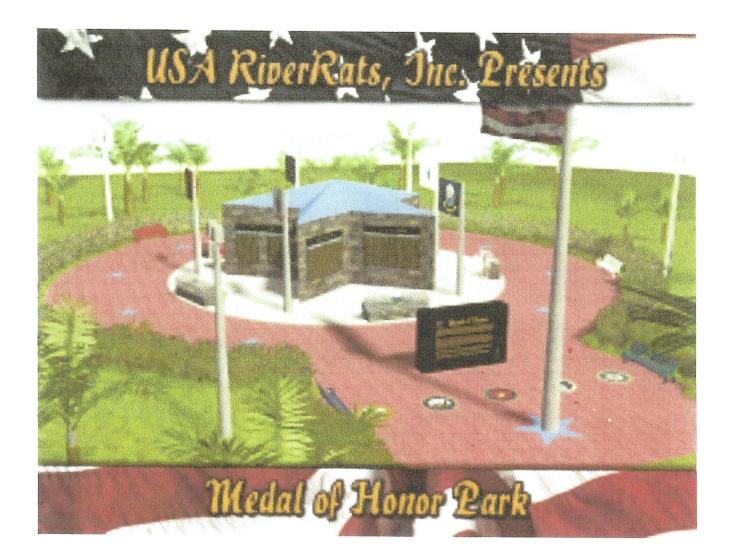
MEDAL OF HONOR PARK





HISTORY OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR

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, 3473 Medals have been awarded to 3454 individuals of whom 19 are doubled 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.

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 that 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 changes to the criteria by which an individual could be considered for The Medal of Honor. In 1964 an additional change provided for a \$100 per month pension for recipients over the age of 50.

During the last quarter of the 20th century several Presidents have presented Medals to the families of several individuals whom 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.

THE USA RIVER RATS, INC.

A group of veterans and non-veterans that started this organization in 2005 with the mission to help and support our veterans and active duty personnel as well as too foster community awareness in support of our goals.

Currently we have nearly 75 members in our organization. While the majority of our members are military veterans and their spouses, we are proud of the fact that some are members although not veterans and have seen what we do and have become active within our organization.

The USA River Rats, Inc. vision is to erect a lasting tribute to the bravest of the brave. The Medal of Honor is the highest military honor that can be bestowed on an individual. We believe that each and every recipient should be forever remembered for their unselfish acts of heroism. Not one recipient ever set out on a quest to receive a Medal of Honor. Their acts of bravery spoke loudly as to each and everyone's character and devotion to duty.

In 2014 the County of Brevard acquired approximately 80 acres of land adjacent to the Brevard Veterans Memorial Center, Inc. (operated by the Brevard Veterans Council, Inc.) and designated it as The Brevard Veterans Memorial Park. At this time, Brevard County designated 1.9 acres of the Veterans Memorial Park to The Medal of Honor Park.

As members of the Veterans Memorial Center, Inc. whose mission is structured as ours, we are proud to announce that we have partnered with them to complete our project.

BREVARD VETERANS COUNCIL, INC. &

VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER, INC.

The Veterans Memorial Center began in 1978 as a Veterans Support Center and it has grown to be the best of the best!

DAV Chapter 123 has offices here and helps thousands of Veterans and their families with assistance each year.

There is a Media Rich Military Library with research space and interactive devices to view and listen to surviving WW II and other Veterans who are participating in the Veterans History Project for the Center, the Library of Congress and their families. The Library is home to over 3000 military related books for Veterans and the public to view.

The Plaza continues to grow with monuments and displays honoring all Military Personnel that you will find in a beautiful paved and pristine kept area.

The Military Museum is a 6000 sq. foot two story building that displays thousands of artifacts showing our history of every War and Conflict to present day, displays of the Branches of Service and various Military Organizations.

The Meeting Room is used by numerous Veteran Organizations and local Private Organizations.

The Veterans Memorial Park is still a work in progress with walking trails, board walks, fishing and tranquil areas to sit and relax.

All facilities are open to the public free of charge 7 days a week.

VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER

&

PARK

400 S. SYKES CREEK PKWY. MERRITT ISLAND, FL. 32952



YOUR HELP & SUPPORT

The Medal of Honor Park we are building is a huge project that can only be accomplished with the help and support of all businesses and individuals. We fully realize the importance of seeking outside help to guarantee the success of the project. We are accepting monetary donations to help fund our project as well as any other assistance that can be of benefit to the completion of the Park.

To provide assistance or for additional information, please contact a Committee Member.

Chairman

George Golden, 321-693-4281/SANTAMOH@YAHOO.COM

Donald J. Flammio 321-652-0000/FLAMEMOH@CFL.RR.COM

MEDALOFHONORPARK.ORG VISIT WEB SITE VETERANSMEMORIALCENTER.ORG or

SEND DONATIONS TO:

MEDAL OF HONOR PARK C/O VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER, INC. C/O USA RIVER RATS,INC 400 S. SYKES CREEK PKWY. MERRITT ISLAND, FLORIDA 32952-1774

MEDAL OF HONOR PARK 4411 CAPRON ROAD TITUSVILLE, FL. 32780

TAXPAYER INFORMATION

VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER INC. IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION AS DESCRIBED IN SEC 501(c)3 IRS CODE—TAXPAYER ID #59-3070304

USA RIVER RATS, INC. IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION AS DESCRIBED IN SEC 501(c)3 IRS CODE----TAXPAYER ID #20-3954190

MEDAL OF HONOR PARK DONATION FORM

DATE:	
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CITY	STATE
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On behalf of the U	ISA RIVER RATS, INC. and the
	L CENTER, INC. we would like
	for your DONATION in the
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	that will be used
to build and maintain	the MEDAL OF HONOR PARK,
HONORING ALL THE	RECIPIENT'S OF THE MEDAL OF
HONOR "OUR NATION	VS HIGHEST AWARD" AND
HONORING ALL VETE	ERANS!
MAIL TO:	
MEDAL OF HONOR PARK	or MEDAL OF HONOR PARK
c/o USA RIVER RATS, INC.	c/o VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER
4411 CAPRON ROAD	400 S. SYKES CREEK PKY.
TITUSVILLE, FL. 32780	MERRITT ISLAND, FL. 32952
501(c)3 IRS CODE	501(c)3 IRS CODE
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