



The Sentinel



The Newsletter of the Florida Medal of Honor Memorial, Inc.
Issue 17 – June 2024

Chairman’s Message

June was very busy at the construction site. We set trusses, put on a plywood roof, insulated, and framed the building. We ran underground electrical. We set flagpoles. We put peel and stick on the roof. This all involved the great work of folks such as Heartland Crane, Danny Parker Carpentry, Sabre Electric, and more. We also had fill dirt and topsoil provided by K&M Site Services, SOS Septic & Sewer, and Excavation Point. Most of this support was provided at no cost to us. WOW!

This month we were also blessed by Sara Pipal of the Pipal Realty Group in Lake Placid. She and her team ran an inaugural golf tournament at the Pinecrest Golf Course in Avon Park that generated over \$3,000 for our project! Sara said that she will do a tourney every year to support us. How grateful we are to Sara and her team.

Seeing progress on site is so gratifying. Heartland Crane helped lift the trusses and the 35-ft flagpole. Seeing the trusses and then the plywood roof, plus the interior framing and insulation lets you get a feel for how things lay out in the building. As we watched Danny Parker’s carpentry team do this work, we were amazed at their talents and skill. We also watched John Tolar’s Sabre Electric team run electrical infrastructure all over the place. Amazing to see!

This month we will “dry in” the building. There is much to do inside—plumbing, electrical, air conditioning, drywall, ceilings, and more. We will also finish up the sidewalks and the rest of the concrete work. All the fill dirt and topsoil will allow us to get set for the landscaping. In short,

lots to do, but we are on track for our September 11 grand opening at 10:00 AM. We are so excited! Please make plans to attend.

Thanks to you all for your continued support and encouragement!

Sincerely,
Michael R. Borders
Chairman



Calendar of Events

July 2024:

Construction On-going

August 2024:

Construction Complete

September 11, 2024, 10:00 AM:

Ribbon-Cutting and Grand Opening



Funding Status

State of Florida: \$250,000
Highlands County: \$93,000
Sebring CRA: \$20,000
Duke Energy: \$20,000
Private Donations: \$83,339
In-Kind Donations: \$331,850

These pictures show the trusses going up thanks to Danny Parker's carpentry team and Dalton McPherson's team from Heartland Crane. Heartland Crane also helped us put the 35-foot flagpole into the memorial star.



These pictures show some of the interior insulation and framing work, along with a couple of views of the plywood roof and the blue peel and stick. Danny Parker's team did the carpentry and Austin Hedrick's team from Quality Roofing put on the peel and stick.



These pictures show some of the underground electrical work done outside to help us light up the grounds, the memorial, and the Visitors Center. And we can't forget the Pipal Realty Group Inaugural Golf Tournament. Sara Pipal helps Mike with the awards and our golf team of Byron Oakley, Chad Gilman, and Jim Lange, were ably chauffeured by Heather Oakley.



Hero of the Month

Clarence Milville Condon

Sergeant, U.S. Army

St. Augustine, FL



Citation

While in command of a detachment of four men, charged and routed 40 entrenched insurgents, inflicting on them heavy loss.

Conflict: Philippine Insurrection

Location of Action: Near Calulut, Luzon, Philippine Islands

Date of Action: November 5, 1899

MOH Awarded: March 11, 1902

Buried: Arlington National Cemetery (Section 2, Grave 3834)





Our Mission

To construct and maintain a perpetual memorial that honors the Florida Medal of Honor recipients and ensures that they are never forgotten.

Our Vision

To inspire current and future generations about the ideals of courage, integrity, patriotism, leadership, and sacrifice; to help them understand the meaning and price of freedom; and to encourage them to embrace their responsibility as citizens in a democracy.

Our Goals

- Construct the Memorial and Visitors Center
- Provide educational outreach to K-12 school systems

What We Do

Honor Florida's Heroes

Preserve the memories of the 24 Floridians who have been awarded the MOH and inspire others to build on their legacies.



Inspire Our Community

Encourage our community, young and old, to embody the ideals of the MOH (sacrifice, commitment, courage, integrity, citizenship, and patriotism).

Educate and Inform

Work with K-12 schools to promote the virtues, behaviors, and choices of everyday heroes as exemplified by the MOH awardees through thought-provoking curriculum and active learning activities.



How You Can Help

Additional funds and help are needed to complete the construction, outfitting, and maintenance of this unique and special facility.

Volunteer

- Be a museum docent
- Assist with the K-12 educational outreach program.

Donations

Tax-deductible donations accepted:

- Online – shorturl.at/pzO01
- Phone – text "FLMOHM" to 44321
- Mail – See last page

Sponsorship Levels

- **Platinum** \$50,000.00 and up
- **Gold** \$25,000.00 – \$49,999.99
- **Silver** \$10,000.00 – \$24,999.99
- **Bronze** \$5,000.00 – \$9,999.99
- **Brass** \$1,000.00 – \$4,999.99
- **Founding Member** \$100.00 – \$999.99

Our Sponsors (Thus Far)

• **Platinum Level**

The State of Florida
City of Sebring

• **Silver Level**

City of Sebring CRA
Duke Energy Foundation

• **Bronze Level**

The Borders
The Christensens
In Memory of Bolivar Rivera
VFW Post 4300 Sebring
AVVA Chapter 1097
John and Janet Harbaugh

• **Brass Level**

Highlands County Veterans Council
Woman's Club of Sebring
Publix Supermarkets Incorporated
John McClure, Esquire
APEC Inc.
Glades Elect. Charit. Trust c/o Lee Hildreth
Quarters for a Cause c/o Staci Christmas
The Battle of the Bands Incorporated
Re/Max - Chip Boring
Therese Mendel
The Rotary Club of Highlands County
Avon Park Noon Rotary
Master Chief Petty Officer Eugene Kissner
BPOE Elks 1529, Sebring
South Central Florida Chapter of the Military
Officers Association of America
Robert Brooks
Ronald Sevigny
Kevn Roberts
Jim and Linda Sacco
Pipal Realty Group (Sara Pipal)

- **Founding Members**

Haywood Taylor
Alvin W. Pals
Moddie Desselle
Mr. & Mrs. Scardino
William Bond
Patricia Wilhelm
Brinker International
LuLaRoe Chantel Gilmore - Newly Inspired You!
Heritage Festival
Steven Albert
Avon Park Service Club
American Legion Post 25 Auxiliary
Fort Meade Baptist Church
Tanglewood Veterans Association
Lake Placid Noon Rotary Club
Dynamic Sales Associates, Inc.
Richard Uhrich and Karen Wiggins
Gayle Parker/Melissa Middleton

In-Kind Sponsors

- **Platinum Level**

Highlands County
North American Fence Contractor's Assn.

- **Gold Level**

Buddy Hopson

- **Silver Level**

Anderson Windows
Marmer Construction (est.)
Griffin's Carpet Mart (est.)
Quality Roofing

- **Bronze Level**

Crosson & Payne Tree & Land Service
Stidham's Rentals
Rick Perry

- **Brass Level**

Sunset Drafting
SGIS Surveying-Will Pyle
Chem-Crete-Larry Mroz
SGIS Surveying
Richard Siver
Red E Equipment Services
Gadd & Associates, LLC
Sunbelt Rentals
Heartland Exterminating
LOCINOX
Heartland Crane
K & M Site Services (est.)
SOS Septic & Sewer (est.)
Excavation Point, Inc. (est.)
Gettle & Associates (est.)

- **Founders' Level**

Junctions-Selvin Walker
Liberty Flagpoles
Blue Steel Fabrication, LLC
Central Florida Insulation

How to Become a Sponsor

Our organization is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit/non-profit. We rely on donations and fund raising. Our staff is all volunteer. But we do have administrative and operational expenses such as property and liability insurance, power, water, sewage, IT/telecom, maintenance costs, office supplies, etc. We need your generous support. Depending on your personal tax situation, donations are tax-deductible. Go to the "How You Can Help" section on the previous page to see how to donate or sponsor our organization and use the contact information on the last page.



Links

- The Florida MOH Memorial flmohm.org
- Congressional MOH Society cmohs.org
- National MOH Museum mohmuseum.org



Board of Directors & Other Volunteers

Chairman: Michael R. Borders
Vice Chairman: C. Raymond McIntyre
Junior Vice Chairman: Byron Oakley
Treasurer: Harry Marsh
Secretary: Sarah Carter
Comptroller: Erik Christensen
Construction Project Mgr.: Donald Laycock
Asst. Const. Project Mgr.: Judy Laycock
Marketing: Moddie Desselle
Marketing: Heather Oakley
IT: Shawn Nickel
Chaplain: Denise Williams
Landscaping: Mark and Marie Milia
Engineering Consultant: Clinton Howerton
Legal Advisor: John McClure
CPA: Bruce Lybarger



The Florida Medal of Honor Memorial, Inc. is an incorporated Florida non-profit organization. We are non-partisan, apolitical, and are a 501(c)(3), charitable, non-profit, tax-exempt organization. The FLMOHM is a 501(c)(3) / IRS EIN# 45-3798922 / State of Florida Corporation N16000001848 / My Florida Market Place 85-8017597686C-0 / vendor # F45398922001/ D-U-N-S Number 05-868-9165 / FL Tax Exempt #Registration #: CH56194 "A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling 1.800.435.7352. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the State."



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