



To honor those who have sacrificed for us all

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Tony Hake, 303-563-7046

Helicopter War Museum to Appear at Traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall Event

The Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association to Educate Visitors

THORNTON, Colorado – The Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association (RMCVHPA) will be showcasing the Helicopter War Museum (HWM) at the Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall event from July 3 to July 7. This museum provides an excellent opportunity to be educated on the contributions helicopters and their pilots and crew have made in defense of this nation.



Construction of the Helicopter War Museum began in 2003 by RMCVHPA and was completed in 2005. Housed in a 48-foot Great Dane trailer, the museum affords a tremendous educational opportunity. In addition to numerous artifacts and photos from the Vietnam War from members of the RMCVHPA, the museum has audio and video capability to play educational DVDs, VHS, CD, or presentations from a Laptop PC. Four large map boards cover the entire operational area of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. The HWM has made many trips to air shows, memorial sites, and dedications of Vietnam memorials on Veterans Day, Memorial Day, and Armistice Day.



Of all the war memorials, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial - *the Wall* - arguably invokes the strongest emotional reaction of any and it is the single most visited memorial in the country. The Foundation, working in conjunction with the city of Thornton, has arranged to bring a 3/5 scale version of the memorial to the city from July 3 to July 7, 2008. The Wall will be available for public viewing 24 hours a day on those dates at the multipurpose fields at the Margaret W. Carpenter Recreation Center (11151 Colorado Boulevard, Thornton, CO 80233).



**The Vietnam Traveling Memorial
Wall Will Be Coming to Thornton,
July 3 – 7, 2008**

Photo courtesy Welsh Photography

About the Vietnam Helicopter Pilot Association

The Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association (VHPA) is a non-profit war veterans organization filed under Section 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Service. It is dedicated to the fulfillment of the following purposes:



To enhance and accredit the cohesiveness, esprit de corps, and traditions of valor of rotary wing aircrews that flew in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam Era.

To seek out, using whatever means available, individuals who piloted rotary wing aircraft in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam era and inform them of the existence of the VHPA and encourage all eligible individuals to become members. Membership is open to all helicopter pilots who flew in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam era (1961-1975).

The VHPA has a membership of over 13,440 (7,500 dues current) helicopter pilots from around the world out of the approximately 40,000 who served as helicopter pilots in the Vietnam War.

You can learn more about the Vietnam Helicopter Pilot Association on their website at <http://www.vhpa.org/> or about the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association (RMCVHPA) at <http://www.vhparmc.com/>.

About the Thornton Veterans Memorial Foundation

Founded in 2005, the Thornton Veterans Memorial Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established by citizens of Thornton, Colorado with the sole purpose of building and maintaining a veterans memorial. Our nation's veterans have served and protected the United States for 230 years. They have made sacrifices small and large, all to ensure the freedom of this great nation. A fitting and proper tribute within our city is a small way of showing our appreciation for their service. Privately funded and created, the Foundation endeavors to make this memorial a reality for the city, its citizens and all veterans.

The memorial will pay tribute to all veterans of the past, present and future. Located near the Thornton Recreation Center at 108th Avenue and Colorado Boulevard, the memorial will be centrally located and easily accessible from anywhere in the north metro area. The design, based on a five point star with each point representing each branch of military service, will be over 150 feet in diameter. A pentagon and five-sided obelisk will be in the center of the memorial with individual monuments for the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard surrounding it.

To learn more about the Foundation and the memorial project, please visit our website at <http://www.thorntonveteransmemorial.org>.