

Oregon Medal of Honor Exhibit, Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum, McMinnville, OR

Bend Heroes Foundation, Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum, Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation, BNSF Railway, and Pacific Standard Television have partnered to create the "**Oregon Medal of Honor Exhibit**" at Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum in McMinnville, Oregon. Evergreen has a large display of military aircraft and is home to Howard Hughes "Spruce Goose". Evergreen attracts about 150,000 visitors of all ages annually and conducts an educational program for local high school students.

Evergreen has hosted several large ceremonies honoring veterans including Medal of Honor recipients. It is an ideal location for honoring Medal of Honor recipients who have lived (25) and live (1) in Oregon. The Congressional Medal of Honor (CMOH) Foundation, CMOH Society, and MOH Historical Society of the United States will provide assistance as needed.

The exhibit will include the Medal of Honor citation and photograph of each of the 26 Medal of Honor recipients who received our nation's highest military award for valor above and beyond the call of duty during combat in 8 wars in 10 countries over a 108 year period beginning with the Civil War and ending with the Vietnam War. The awards were made to 21 US Army, 2 US Navy and 3 US Marine Corps recipients.

Dick Tobiason, Chairman, Bend Heroes Foundation (BHF) requested this project and will coordinate participation by all parties. Bend Heroes Foundation will provide pedestal tables to display the citations and photos for all recipients, history of the Medal of Honor, map of locations where the 26 MOHs were earned and American and Oregon flags. BHF will prepare the MOH citations and photos. Mr. Robert D. "Bob" Maxwell, our nation's oldest Medal of Honor recipient is an advisor to the project. Mr. Maxwell lives in Bend, OR where he is a Director of the non-profit Bend Heroes Foundation, a 501c3 entity.

Curator Stewart Bailey, Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum (EASM) is providing the necessary space, utilities and curator guidance.

Ronald Rand and Bruce Whitman, Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation (CMOHF) donated 2 interactive kiosks allowing museum visitors and students to learn the history of the Medal of Honor, criteria for receiving the award and citations of each of the nearly 3,500 American recipients from the Civil War to the present and listen to oral histories. CMOHF has already provided EASM with information on its "Character Development Program" for incorporation in EASM's education program.

Andrew Johnsen, BNSF Railway (BNSF) through a donation to Bend Heroes Foundation is funding the fabrication of the pedestal tables to display the framed Medal of Honor citations and photos.

Matt Simek, Pacific Standard Television (PST) and designer of other military exhibits at EASM will coordinate the overall design and layout with EASM and Bend Heroes Foundation.

US Representative Greg Walden and 7 Oregon legislators are donating the oversized American and Oregon flags enclosing the exhibit located near the "Spruce Goose".

The "**Oregon Medal of Honor**" exhibit will be a permanent exhibit and compliment Medal of Honor exhibits at the Oregon State Capitol, adjacent states California (Riverside), Nevada (Pahrump), Washington (Museum of Flight/Boeing Field), Idaho (Idaho Military Museum/Boise) and the national Congressional Medal of Honor Museum on the aircraft carrier USS Yorktown at Patriots Point, Mt. Pleasant, SC.

Dedication of the Oregon Medal of Honor exhibit is planned for 12:00 pm on Saturday, October 24, 2015.

The principals are Larry Wood and Stewart Bailey/EASM, Dick Tobiason, Bob Maxwell and John Frye/BHF, Matthew Simek/PST, Ronald Rand and Bruce Whitman/CMOHF and Andrew Johnsen/BNSF Railway,

Project partners include:

Bend Heroes Foundation
BNSF Railway
Bush Photography
Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum
Carlson Sign
Color Guard Photo
Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation
Congressional Medal of Honor Society
Havern Cabinetry-Design
Medal of Honor Historical Society of the United States
Michaels
Pacific Standard Television
Press Pros
Rainbow Threads
Red Hot Interiors
Solexx Adaptive Plastics
Ted Lyster
United States Representative Greg Walden
Oregon Senator Ted Ferrioli
Oregon Senator Tim Knopp
Oregon Representative Knute Buehler
Oregon Representative John Huffman
Oregon Representative Sal Esquivel
Oregon Representative Mike McLane
Oregon Representative Gene Whisnant

Web sites:

Bend Heroes Foundation web site: www.bendheroes.org
Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum web site: <http://evergreenmuseum.org>
Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation web site: <http://www.cmoFOUNDATION.org/>
Congressional Medal of Honor Society web site: <http://www.cmoHS.org/>
Medal of Honor Historical Society of the United States: <http://mohHSUS.com>

Prepared by Dick Tobiason

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