Pho

Amount:

**LEST WE FORGET** 



... there is no group that comes to the aid of our Nation in times of crisis or who serves in record numbers as The American Indian Warrior."

> ~Donald E. Loudner (Hunkpati Sioux), CW4, U.S. Army Ret., National Commander, National American Indian Veterans, Inc.

### A MEMORIAL ON SACRED GROUND IS FITTING

Few know that during World War I, an amazing 14,000 American Indians volunteered to serve on the European front -- even though American Indians had not been granted citizenship in their own country. As a result of this tremendous show of patriotism, the U.S. Congress granted the returning Indian Veterans United States citizenship. This action set into motion the federal process which would culminate in citizenship for all American Indians in 1924.

In every foreign war, including today's Middle East conflicts, American Indians have continued to enlist in larger percentages than any other group. Currently, one out of every four Indian adult males serves in the military. **MAJOR SPONSORSHIPS INCLUDE** THE OPPORTUNITY TO RECEIVE A **BRONZE LIMITED EDITION OF** "THE GIFT" IN APPRECIATION FOR MONUMENTAL DONATIONS.

"The Gift" is meant to represent the Nation's gratitude to the American Indian for over 200 years of military service - it also symbolizes the sacrifices the American Indian endured throughout history.

- \$500,000 Donor receives a half life-size bronze sculpture of The Gift (a limited edition of six)
- \$1,000,000 Donor receives a twice life-size bronze sculpture of The Gift (a limited edition of three)

**AMERICAN INDIAN & ALASKA NATIVE VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE** 

> P.O. Box 202 Beaumont, CA 92223

> > 951.306.5656

www.AIANveteransMemorial.com www.schombergstudios.com

"For Indian people, whatever the differences in geography, languages, spiritual or cultural practices, there is one common value and that is to protect one's home and people. The warrior spirit is bred into Indians, and warriors are highly honored and respected. That's why we feel strongly that our veterans deserve recognition, a war memorial, to stand with the other sacred monuments dedicated to the many heroes who have served our country. ... a visible testimony where people will actually see and feel the sacrifices Indian people have made and continue to make for love of this country."

~Chairman Bo Mazzetti, Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians Honorary Chairman of the American Indian Alaska Native Veterans Committee

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# There is no **National Monument**

dedicated to American Indian & Alaska Native military veterans,



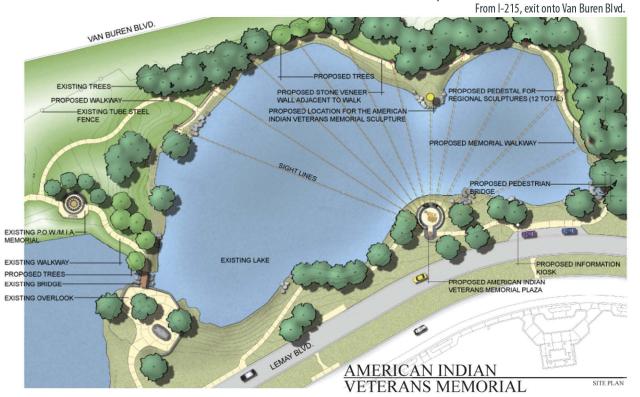
those who, through history, have demonstrated the highest sacrifice for freedom -according to their numbers.

We are diligently working to change this tragic fact. Initial efforts have already been accomplished to secure a nationally approved and prominent memorial site at the most active national cemetery in the United States – the sacred grounds of California's Riverside National Cemetery.



The monumental statue, *The Gift*, by A. Thomas Schomberg, SCHOMBERG STUDIOS, will be twice life sized on an approximate 10' to 12' pedestal.

#### LANDSCAPE DESIGN PLAN FOR THE AMERICAN INDIAN VETERANS MEMORIAL, RIVERSIDE NATIONAL CEMETERY



**ARTISIT'S RENDERING** — Two connecting lakes are situated near the main entry to the Riverside National Cemetery (RNC). These drawings depict the memorial's central entry, a circular terrazzo plaza which includes a large opening designed to give visitors a clear view of the monumental statue on the other side of the lake, **The Gift**. The view creates a visual invitation for visitors to walk along the memorial walkway.

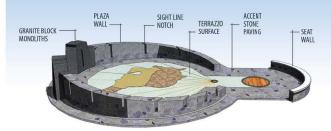
Along the walkway encircling the second lake, visitors will pass twelve eagle statues representing the twelve American Indian and Alaskan Native regions of the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs. The eagle statues will be depicted in a sequential series of poses; from perching position, to taking flight, in the air and landing. Each Tribal Nation's name will be engraved on its region's statue base with historical references to military honors awarded to American Indian and Alaska Native Veterans.

#### WHY CALIFORNIA'S RIVERSIDE NATIONAL CEMETERY?

- Sacred Ground Every one of the 151 United States National Cemeteries is the last resting place of our country's veterans locations that are all honored and sacred.
- RNC is the third-largest cemetery managed by the National Cemetery Administration, and since 2000 has been the most active in the system based on the
  number of interments. It is often cited as the west coast sister to Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C. Much of RNC's 921 acres is currently
  undeveloped. The space remaining is estimated to be sufficient to continue interments through 2050. Predictions indicate that future growth at the RNC will
  make it the largest land base of all U.S. National Cemeteries.
- RNC is one of the few national cemeteries that has an established memorials and monuments element. RNC's current major memorials include a National Medal of Honor Memorial Site, The Fallen Soldier/Veteran Memorial and The Prisoner of War, Missing in Action National Memorial.
- The National Cemetery Administration's "Veterans Legacy Program" was launched at RNC on Memorial Day 2016. RNC is one of two National Cemeteries which will initiate the Veterans Legacy Program. The program is designed to offer tools for educators and the public to focus on honoring the sacrifices of our nation's veterans.
- The 2010 U.S. Census determined the citizenry that identified themselves as "American Indian and/or Alaskan Native (AIAN) [in combination with another race]" number 5,220,579, of which 723,225 reside in California. The U.S. Census 2014 Fact Finder estimated California's AIAN combination population at 738,842 which includes 532,963 AIAN Veterans. Los Angeles' major urban area has the largest AIAN population than any other major urban area in the United States.
- California has the largest number of federally recognized Indian Tribes in the lower 48 states. There are over 30 tribes in five of Southern California's Counties —
  Riverside, San Bernardino, Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego. RNC is located within a 50-mile radius of the five Southern California counties named. Of the
  five counties named, each are populated with over 100,000 Veterans.

#### **DESIGN PLAN SKETCHES**

#### Main Plaza Design

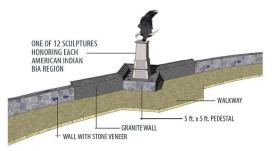


AMERICAN INDIAN VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA

### **View of Regional Statues Through Siteline Notches**



## Sample Design of Regional Sculptures Honoring Each American Indian BIA Region



AMERICAN INDIAN VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA

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