

KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

401 Van Ness Avenue,
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Newsletter May–June 2016

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This. . . We're Getting Close!



Photo courtesy of Michael Lamb, Historic Landscape Architect, Presidio Trust

Will soon look like this. . .



Artist's rendering of completed Memorial by Art Zendarski

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Progress on the construction of the Memorial is becoming increasingly visible and more striking every day, as you can see from the construction photographs that follow. The initial landscaping, irrigation system, and electrical and lighting features have now been completed, and concrete has now been poured for nearly all of the major structural elements. This includes the main curved Memorial wall, which will ultimately be sheathed in black granite panels inscribed with iconic images from the Korean War. These panels are now being fabricated at the Coldspring Company in Minnesota, and will soon be shipped to the Presidio for installation on the wall. Here is one of the laser-etched panels in Minnesota, awaiting shipment:



Major General O.P. Smith, CG, 1st Marine Division, among the graves of the fallen, Hungnam, Korea, December, 1950

All this progress is due to the creative plan conceived by the talented Presidio Trust design team, and the supervision and execution of that plan by the Plant Construction Company management team and their capable crew.



Presidio Trust Design Team: Genevieve Bantle, Paul Scardina, and Michael Lamb



Plant Construction Company Management Team: Marty Shoemaker, Mitch Magoshi, and Rick Flaster

The Plant Construction Company team is enthusiastic about the project. As Construction Manager Mitch Magoshi put it, “We know how meaningful this Memorial is for the veterans and their families, and it’s meaningful for all of us who are building it, too. It’s a challenging project for me and my colleagues due to the complex design and high level of detail. This keeps things interesting!”



Construction Manager Mitch Magoshi



May 6: Building the wooden forms in preparation for pouring the concrete



May 11: Concrete is pumped high over the site and down into the main Memorial wall form.



May 6: Putting the last of the wooden form on the main Memorial wall. (In the background is the Monterey cypress tree in memory of Corporal Santiago "Jimmy" Rosas: see story on pages 6 & 7.)



May 11: The crew directs the concrete into the wall form.

All elements of the project are on or ahead of schedule, and will be completed prior to the Opening Ceremony on August 1. One of the final steps will be the construction of the Donor Wall of inscribed tiles and bronze plaques, on the outer perimeter of the Memorial site along Lincoln Boulevard.



May 19: The wooden forms now removed, the concrete cures and grows stronger in the sun. Once the wall has reached its full strength, the inscribed black granite panels will be secured in place on the concave front surface.



**KOREAN WAR
MEMORIAL FOUNDATION**

We've Moved Our Office

Please note that as of June 1, 2016, we have now moved into our new office space in the historic War Memorial Veterans' Building in San Francisco.

The new mailing address and phone number are:

Korean War Memorial Foundation
401 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 313A
San Francisco, CA 94102
Phone: 415 817 1858

Please update your records. Our email addresses, website address, and Facebook page remain the same.



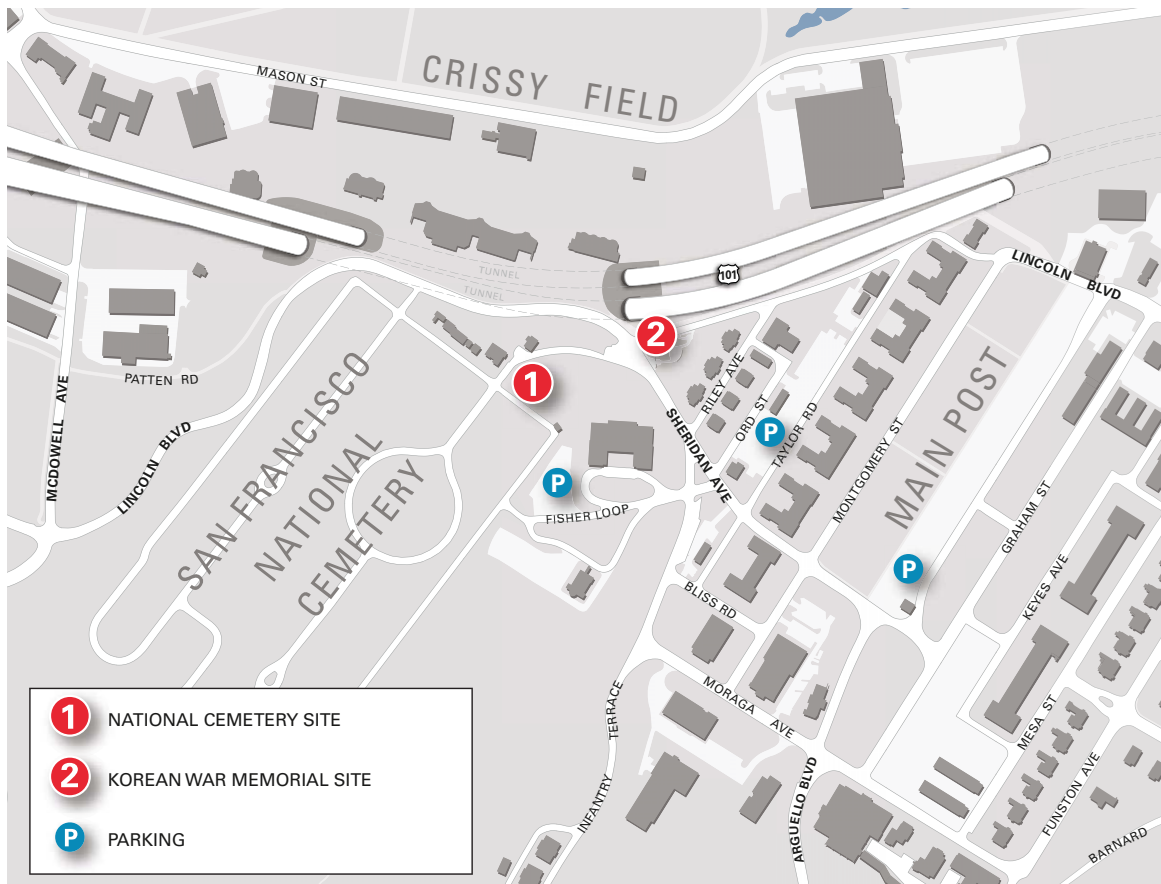
War Memorial Veterans' Building, San Francisco

Thank you, Lighthouse Worldwide Solutions

KWMF wishes to thank Dr. Kim Tae Yun and her staff at Lighthouse Worldwide Solutions in Fremont, CA — www.golighthouse.com — for their generosity in underwriting the costs of printing and mailing this newsletter.

Mark your calendar now — Korean War Memorial Opening Ceremony set for Monday, August 1, 2016

After more than six years of planning, fundraising, and hard work, and thanks to the generosity of hundreds of individuals and organizations, the Korean War Memorial will soon be a reality. The Opening Ceremony will take place from **10:00 am to 12:00 noon on Monday, August 1, 2016**. Activities will begin just inside the National Cemetery Main Gate, where Sheridan Avenue meets Lincoln Boulevard in the Presidio of San Francisco (see **Location 1** on the map below). Then, after brief remarks by the distinguished speakers, we will move down to the entrance to the Korean War Memorial on Sheridan Avenue (see **Location 2** on the map below) for a formal ribbon-cutting and official opening of the Memorial to the public.



Please join us in celebration of this long-awaited event. All Korean War veterans, their families and descendants, donors, members of the media, and other supporters and friends are encouraged to attend what promises to be a memorable landmark celebration. Full details on the program and guest speakers will be announced soon.

*** NOTE TO KOREAN WAR VETERANS:** If you have not yet received the Ambassador for Peace medal from the Government of the Republic of Korea, please contact Eleanor Zapanta of our staff, eleanor@kwmf.org, (415) 817-1858. Representatives of the Republic of Korea will be present at the Opening Ceremony to award these medals to eligible veterans.

Don't miss this landmark celebration – Join us on August 1!

A Tree Planted in the Presidio Sixteen Years Ago Takes on a Deeper Meaning Today

In July, 2000, Tony Cerda, Chairman of the Costanoan Rumsen Carmel Tribe (Ohlone), accompanied by several of his family members, planted a small Monterey cypress tree sapling. This took place at a memorial service on a small piece of undeveloped land in the Presidio of San Francisco.



Tony Cerda (kneeling, to the right of the tree) with his family and other tribal members at the original tree planting in July, 2000

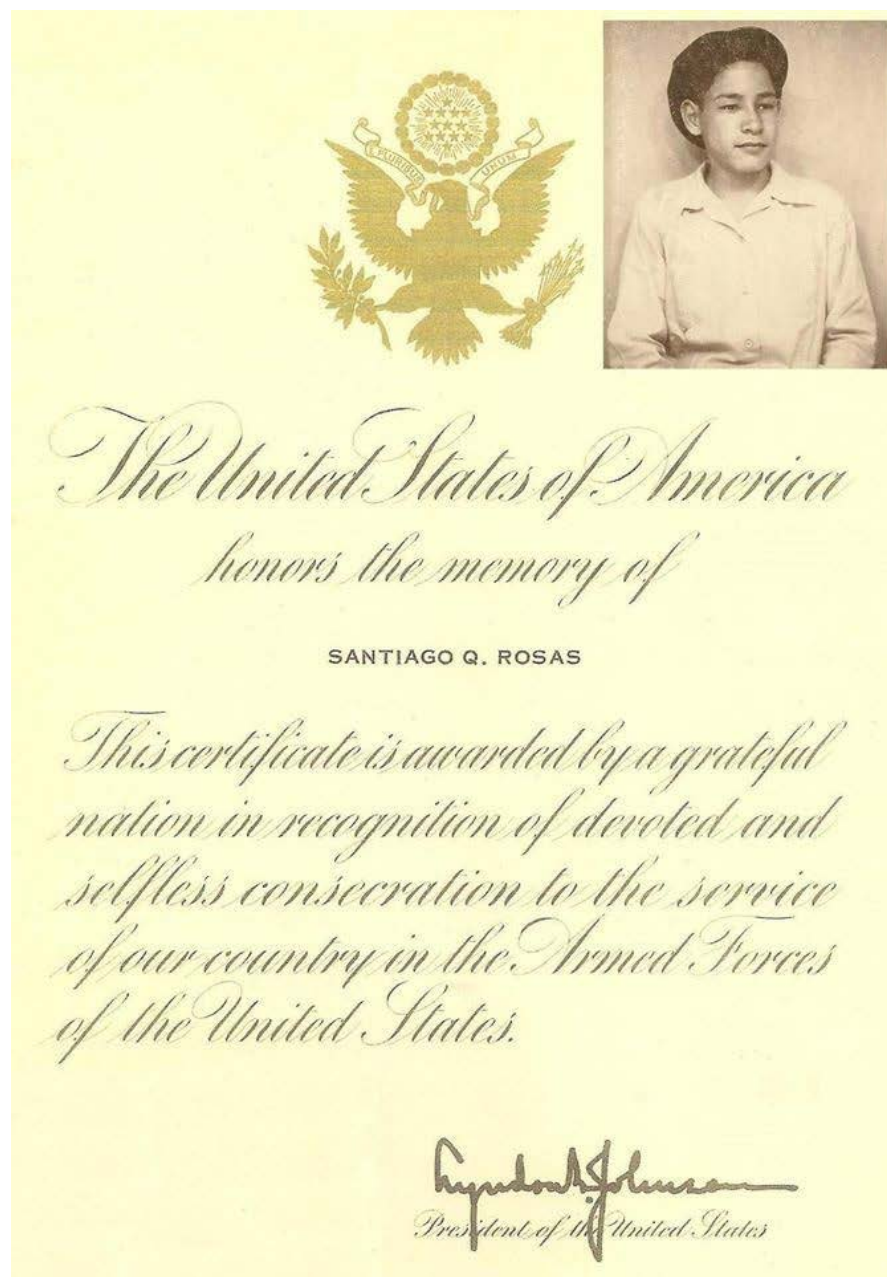
At that time, no one in the tribe or in the National Park Service knew that years later, this piece of land would be designated as the site of the Korean War Memorial. But that's exactly what happened. And it turns out that this unanticipated development gives that tree a much deeper significance today. This is because -- as we at the

Korean War Memorial Foundation only recently learned -- Tony had planted the tree in memory of his cousin, Santiago "Jimmy" Rosas, a nineteen-year-old U.S. Army corporal and Ohlone warrior who was killed in the early months of the Korean War.

Jimmy Rosas was a machine gunner in A Company, 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division. While defending his position against numerically superior hostile forces, Jimmy was seriously wounded at Changnyong on September 8, 1950, and subsequently died of his wounds on September 16.



Corporal Santiago "Jimmy" Rosas, U.S. Army



Letter from President Lyndon B. Johnson



Park Ranger Desiree Muñoz, Tribal Chair Tony Cerda, and Presidio Trust Architect Michael Lamb, standing in front of what will be the entrance to the Korean War Memorial

More than a decade later, President Lyndon B. Johnson sent the tribe a certificate honoring Jimmy's ultimate sacrifice. (See previous page.)

Michael Lamb, Historic Landscape Architect for the Presidio Trust. Coincidentally, it was Michael who had dug the hole for that small tree sixteen years earlier.

That tree is now more than thirty feet tall, towering over Tony.



Tony shows Michael a photo of the original tree-planting ceremony

On Memorial Day this year, Tony Cerda and his family returned to visit the memorial tree. Among the family members present was Tony's granddaughter, National Park Service Ranger Desiree Muñoz, who lives on the Presidio, not far from the memorial site. They were met there by



Tony under the Santiago "Jimmy" Rosas Memorial Tree



Tony Cerda and family

During their visit, Tony and his family held a purification ritual at the tree with a traditional smudge made of burning sage, one of the four sacred Native American herbs.



Tony's grandson Zachary Ippoliti purifies him with a burning sage smudge

Tony and his family plan to return to the site for the Opening Ceremony on August 1.

Finally, it should be noted that on the Costanoan Rumsen Carmel Tribal Seal is the motto: "Plant a Seed – Grow a Tree for America."

And a tree for Santiago "Jimmy" Rosas. May he rest in peace.





KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

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The newsletter is published by the Korean War Memorial Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, Federal Tax ID Number 27-2773272. Copyright © 2016, Korean War Memorial Foundation.

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