

RETURN THE FAVOR OPPORTUNITY: FLAME OF HOPE MEMORIAL

– VIRGINIA BEACH JAYCEES –

Lighting the way home for U.S. Service Members still POW or MIA

The Virginia Beach Jaycees are renovating and updating the Flame of Hope Memorial Park which reflects the deserved honor of our POW/MIA service members.



The Flame of Hope Memorial monument was originally conceived in 1972 as a volunteer project headed by Attack Squadron 43 at NAC Oceana. This monument provided squadron personnel with a means to express their concern for the Prisoners of War and those Missing in Action (POW/MIAs) of the Vietnam War. The monument was built by volunteers from Construction Battalion 415 and sponsored by the Virginia Beach Jaycees and Oceana wives of the “They’re Not Forgotten” committee. The Virginia Beach Jaycees coordinated contributions from the community which enabled VA-43 to obtain supplies for the memorial.

The Flame of Hope was formally dedicated on Friday, May 22, 1972.

This Memorial Park has become a beacon of hope in the Hampton Roads community. A beautiful monument where all people are welcome to come enjoy the grounds and reflect on the price of freedom, or remember and pray for a fallen comrade or a loved one who didn’t make it home. The Flame of Hope Memorial keeps it’s Eternal Flame burning to light the home until all American POWs and MIA are accounted for and brought home.



Wear and Tear

Over the years the splendor and glory of the park has surrendered to wear and tear. It is the intention of the Virginia Beach Jaycees to rejuvenate this beautiful green space that proudly memorializes those who have made sacrifices for our freedom. Project Restoring Glory is a fundraising opportunity to help achieve the Virginia Beach Jaycees’ renovation goals.

How can you help? There are four donation opportunities which can be purchased through PayPal. All donations are tax deductible.

Visit www.VBFlameofHope.com or contact their Project Manager Brandon Bledsoe at brandon.bledsoe@entercom.com or 616-308-0786.

- (1) POW/MIA FoHM Challenge Coin, \$30/each. *[If a quantity of 10 or more is purchased by an organization or individual, a dedicated brick will also be included. Please call the Project Manager for this option.]*
- (2) Engraved Brick for Memorial Pathway, \$250/each. The bricks are donated by someone like you and dedicated to a Hero or Loved One you would like remembered. Each dedicated brick will get 2 lines of text engraved on the brick for the new memorial pathway.
- (3) Engraved Cornerstone for Pathway, \$500.
- (4) Dedicate a Park Bench, \$1000+.
- (5) Cash donation of any amount *[call Project Manager for this option]*.



Virginia Beach and the surrounding Hampton Roads area is made up of the largest military community in the United States. Many of us are close to someone who served in the military or a loved one who didn’t make it home from deployment. It’s through remembering these individuals that they live on through us making the Flame of Hope Memorial so valuable to the Hampton Roads community.

Update on Project Restoring Glory: Phase One was an amazing success! The new flagpole was raised and the damaged sconce around the flame was replaced. Phase Two, now underway, will include the installation of the commemorative brick pathway (replacing the black asphalt) up to the Flame of Hope Memorial to make it handicapped accessible. Phase Two will also replace the narration on the stone monument leading up to the flame. The narration on the Flame’s descriptive monument will be in stone etching of the history of the Flame of Hope, replacing the fiberglass lettering. Your donation can help make these plans become reality and restore the glory of our beloved memorial.

Click here to see a drone flyover: <https://youtu.be/eYLI4TR3Yyc>
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