

*We thank all those who made
this memorial possible*

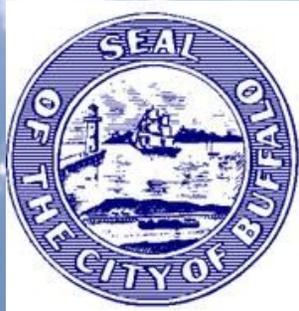
City of Buffalo

Mayor Byron W. Brown

Hon. Sean Ryan
Hon. Felix Ortiz



Buffalo Common Council



- Hon. David A. Rivera
- Hon. Darius G. Pridgen
- Hon. David A. Franczyk
- Hon. Bonnie E. Russell
- Hon. Joseph Golombek Jr.
- Hon. Michael J. LoCurto
- Hon. Christopher P. Scanlon
- Hon. Demone A. Smith
- Hon. Richard A. Fontana



Alexander Benitez
Mary Rodriguez



WNY Hispanic American Memorial Monument

*Planned Unveiling
June 14, 2013*



Stone Art Memorial

Architect: Brad Wales



*Historic Groundbreaking
November 11, 2011*

*VIP Reception USS Little Rock
Buffalo - Erie County Naval & Military Park
May 24, 2013 - 5 pm*



Families, Friends, Community who contributed towards the brick/paver project



WNY Hispanic Veteran's Memorial Committee

Through their tireless efforts and devotion these dedicated men and women will ensure the completion of one of WNY most prestigious places to recognize all Hispanic American Veterans past, present and future who defend & protect our great nation.

Jose C. Pizarro	Benigno V. Rodriguez
Angelo Otero	Ventura J. Colon
Col. Patrick J. Cunningham[R]	Juventino Mejia
Maj. Carlos M. Benitez [R]	Jose G. Rivera
Rosemary Caicedo	Felicia Cruz
Lourdes T. Iglesias	Margarita Rivera
Sergio R. Rodriguez	Casimiro D. Rodriguez Sr.
Miguel Roman	Dinorah Santos
Roque Pizarro	Eugenio Russi

Reception - Program

Welcome - Introductions - Casimiro D. Rodriguez Sr.

Invocation: Carlos Ramos

Reflections

Dignitaries / Officials

Jose C. Pizarro - Chairman

Angelo Otero - Vice Chairman

Photo Gallery : WNY Hispanic Veterans Memorial

Gratitude's

Conclusion

Musical Interlude: "Grupo Variedad"

The Committee express appreciation to the many community-base organizations that helped bring this project to the community we all serve.

Project Description

The Vision

This memorial site is the aspiration of a few dedicated Western New York Veterans known as the "WNY Hispanic American Veterans Memorial Committee" who came together as a result of an idea that resonated by a fellow comrade Ventura Colon. It honors all Hispanic American Veterans past, present and future. The memorial will be situated in front of the USS Sullivan Naval War Ship along the multiple promenades of other veteran memorials (between the Rust Bucket and Korean Monuments) located at the Buffalo and Erie County Naval & Military Park, at Buffalo's Waterfront.

Tribute Symbolizes

This arrangement is called the Battlefield Cross, Battle Cross or the Fallen Soldier Cross. The Battlefield Cross symbolizes a fallen warrior or hero. The rifle pointing downwards into the ground is a memorial of a soldier killed in action. The rifle is capped with a helmet and perhaps dog tags, and at the bottom, a pair of combat boots to represent the last march of the battle. These three items are essential gear for all service members, now the service member has no further need for them. A life size lone infantryman accompanied by a female war comrade is reverently kneeling in front of the Fallen Soldier Cross paying their last tribute to a comrade. The 2 bronze sculptures sit atop of a black granite ellipse which symbolizes eternity. The top of the ellipse will also have a written inscription in tribute to the Gabriel A. Rodriguez American Legion Post No. 1928 and the 65th Infantry Regiment also known as "The Borinqueneers". The ellipse rests on top of another black granite octagonal base with the inscription "**In Gratitude to All WNY Hispanic-American Veterans for Their Service**" the outer edge of the ellipse has 22 engraved flags; the United States of America (USA) flag and 21 Latin American flags from the Western Hemisphere where most Hispanic-American Veterans trace their Spanish Speaking ethnicity and races (roots). On the opposite side are the 5 engraved emblems of all the Armed Forces: Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard. Just opposite the monument between two benches will sit a marker displaying the listings of contributors, committee members and a brief narrative that will primarily serve as an educational display. The ground will be adorned with 330 personalized engraved brick pavers. This will allow public and private participation in the process of "leaving a legacy" while allowing time for respite and reflection.

Special thanks to Stone Art Memorial - Tom Koch, Architect - Brad Wales, volunteers that dedicated their time and resources led by Joe Mascia, Jeff Cornman, Grady Thompson, Sarafini Trucking, Iroquois Bar, Buffalo Ready Mix Concrete, Home Depot, Plywood Plastics, Atlas Steel Gernatt Material, Dewey Paving, Occhino and Battaglia Corp.