

## Field of Honor and Healing Field – A Patriotic Tribute normally features 1,776 American flags celebrating Armed Forces Weekend

"The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive the Veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation"

- *George Washington*

This proposal is for the National Color Guard Committee, National Society Sons of the American Revolution (NSSAR) to recognize the Field of Honor and Healing Field programs as NSSAR Color Guard Events. Traditionally the events are held in May on Armed Forces Day / Week. More than 20 states are represented by cities hosting a Field of Honor or Healing Field event in 2011. The Field of Honor and Healing Field programs were established and are coordinated by the Colonial Flag Foundation.<sup>1</sup>

The Field of Honor is a memorial and tribute to those men and women who have served our country in war and peace. Those who survived were forever changed. Those who died were forever young in their loved one's memories.



This sight was in part awe inspiring and very sad, flags blowing in the wind flapping across every step you took in May 2010. 1776 Flags lining a series of bicycle paths and walk ways that make their way atop a bluff overlooking Pacific Coast Highway and the Back Bay of Newport Beach, California.

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This year in cities and states all around the United States 1776 flags were a living display of heroism when they flew as a temporary patriotic tribute to the strength and unity of Americans, honored all military, law enforcement, fire service and all first responder men and women who have served and are serving our country and communities to preserve our security and freedom.

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the terrorists attacks of September 11th, and the Colonial Flag Foundation has been busy coordinating efforts to commemorate the tragic event with Field of Honor and Healing Field flag displays across the nation.

It all began as a simple way to visualize and comprehend the sheer enormity of human loss that occurred in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. But, as hundreds of volunteers gathered on the first anniversary of the attack to help, it soon became evident that something much more was emerging. The Sandy City, Utah 2002 Healing Field, the very first display, became a personal gesture of support, a tangible expression of mourning, and a very real healing experience.

In September 2011, Sandy City will host the tenth consecutive Healing Field on the three and one half acres of lawn located immediately south of the Sandy City Hall. Volunteers will come together to post three thousand flags in honor of those who died at New York's World Trade Center, the Pentagon and the field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

In coordinating the 2002 Sandy City Healing Field, the Colonial Flag Foundation developed a turnkey program that has made possible the creation of other Field of Honor and Healing Field displays. Today, hundreds of Healing Field and Field of Honor displays are organized throughout the country for a variety of reasons, including tributes of honor, celebration, civic pride and education. Through these programs, communities come together, awareness is generated and funds are raised in support of worthy causes; but most importantly, individual hearts are healed.



California Society, Sons of the American Revolution Joint Honor Guard consisting of compatriots from the Harbor, Orange County, Riverside and South Coast Chapters at the Field of Honor, Castaways Park, Newport Beach, California; 16 May 2010.



Field of Honor, Village Green Park, Northbrook, Illinois.



Greenlawn Memory Gardens, North Kingsville, Ohio.



The Sons of the American Legion sponsored memorial at Cohasset , Massachusetts.



Westerville Sports Complex on Cleveland Av., Westerland, Ohio.



Rotary Hill with the Moser Tower created an awe-inspiring setting for the Naperville Healing Field of Honor at Naperville, Illinois.

The programs of Colonial Flag Foundation have expanded beyond healing memorials to include moving tributes of honor, celebration, civic pride, education and more. A wide variety of civic, service and nonprofit organizations have adopted our programs to generate awareness and raise funds in support of their respective causes. Moreover, hosting organizations have learned that Colonial Flag Foundation

programs, bring communities together, educate and uplift visitors and most importantly, create an environment of healing.

More than 20 states are represented by cities hosting a Field of Honor or Healing Field event in 2011:

Flagstaff, Arizona  
Tempe, Arizona  
Newport Beach, California  
Savannah, Georgia  
Eagle, Idaho  
Carpentersville, Illinois  
Northbrook, Illinois  
Bryant, Indiana  
Davenport, Iowa  
Cohasset, Massachusetts  
Newburyport, Massachusetts  
Bryantown, Maryland  
Lewiston, Maine  
Trenton, Michigan  
Brandon, Mississippi  
Fayetteville, North Carolina  
Roswell, New Mexico  
Auburn, New York  
Horse Heads, New York  
Rochester, New York  
Findlay, Ohio  
North Kingsville, Ohio  
Springfield, Ohio  
Westerville, Ohio  
Hanover, Pennsylvania  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee  
Houston, Texas  
Racine, Wisconsin  
Huntington, West Virginia.

Since this is clearly a patriotic event observed in cities representing more than 20 states from New York to California and from Michigan to Texas I recommend the National Color Guard Committee, National Society Sons of the American Revolution recognize the Field of Honor and Healing Field programs as NSSAR Color Guard Events.