



**US ARMY WARRANT OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION
GOLD RUSH CHAPTER
9800 Goethe Road
(Attention Box 57)
Sacramento, California 95827**

On December 4, 2007 the Gold Rush Chapter of the US Army Warrant Officers Association officially dedicated the Wall of Heroes, a memorial to the California National Guard personnel killed in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other locations in support of the Global War on Terrorism. The memorial is located in the lobby of the California National Guard's Joint Force Headquarters building at 9800 Goethe Road, Sacramento, California 95827 and is open to the public seven days per week.

Sadly, the California National Guard has lost 22 soldiers due to hostile fire in the Global War on Terrorism. Previously we honored these heroes by placing a photo of each on a wall in the building entry. Unfortunately we were almost out of space and the reality was that we would probably experience more casualties. Therefore our Chapter's project was to create a new memorial using an LCD monitor as the centerpiece.

The monitor is a 52" LCD screen that displays a PowerPoint-type presentation; each slide includes a soldier or airman's photograph and biography. The photos and biographies rotate while a narrator reads the biographies. The audio can be heard while standing in the immediate area. The memorial includes a touch panel so family members and others can call-up any hero's display at the touch of the screen. The color scheme is purple to match the Purple Heart. The memorial also includes a granite wall with each fallen hero's name and relevant dates; a "Battlefield Cross" (bronze boots, helmet, and upside down rifle display); a remembrance book that guests and visitors are encouraged to sign, and an American flag that was flown over the State Capital in honor of our fallen heroes. Our chapter raised nearly \$25,000 in monetary and in-kind donations to design and build the memorial.

In addition to the Wall of Heroes project, our chapter has a proud history of supporting the service members of the California National Guard, veterans, and our local community. Annually we donate over \$3,000 to support various charitable causes such as the Sergeants Major/Chaplains Fund, which provides emergency financial aid to soldiers and airmen in need; providing Christmas gifts to every veteran at the Mather VA Hospital, and providing over \$1,000 in new shoes to children at the Sacramento Children's Receiving Home. We welcome you to look at our website (www.goldrushchapter.org) to see the many ways our chapter supports our community.

Contributions to maintain the Wall of Heroes and to continue our charitable support to our community are welcome. To find out more about the Wall of Heroes or our many other charitable causes, please call Chief Warrant Officer Three Mario F. Garcia at (916) 417-5929 or Chief Warrant Officer Five Brian L. Peterson at (916) 854-3703.