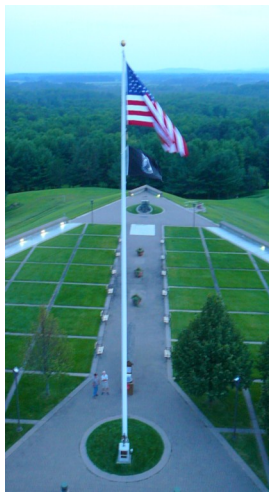


The Highground Veterans Memorial Park

1. The **Flagpole** was the first permanent structure on The Highground. It was brought here by the Clark County Area Veterans Council. They also voted to keep flags flying here forever.



The **Nurse** pays tribute to all women who served our nation. She has a place of honor in front of the flagpole.



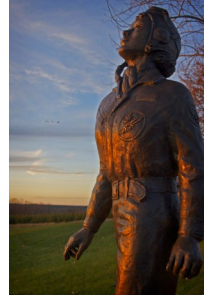
2. The **National Native American Vietnam Veterans Memorial** is the first National Memorial to come to The Highground. Mounted on a ten ton piece of red granite symbolizing the blood that was shed, the sculpture depicts an American Indian soldier in jungle fatigues, holding a rifle in one hand and an Eagle feather staff in the other. At the base is a circle of white stones depicting a field of honor. The names of all American Indians who died as a result of the Vietnam war are etched into the black granite base which skirts the entire statuary.



3. The **Korean Tribute** honors those from "The Forgotten War". The three bronze figures depict Cold, Heat, and Anguish, the conditions that made living and fighting in Korea

an unending nightmare. The figures are on granite slabs shaped like the peninsula of Korea in the midst of the Ying-Yang circle, the symbol on the South Korean Flag. Water surrounds the peninsula emphasizing the distance these men are from home, friends, and family.

4. The **Meditation Garden** has 4 rooms for reflection and meditation: the Family Arbor Room, the Prayer Stone, the Fountain of Tears and the Meditation Shelter. The pathways join into one at the Ascension of Doves sculpture greeting visitors as they enter the garden from the west. Sponsored by a Gold Star Family in memory of their son who died in Iraq. Seven doves were released at his funeral and seven doves rise from their earthly ties to soar toward the heavens in this memorial.



5. The **WWII Women Airforce Service Pilots** or WASP are proud of the role women pilots played during WWII even though the US government did not recognize the women as service veterans until the late 1970s. During WWII over 1100 WASP served as test pilots, flying instructors, and transport pilots allowing male pilots to be used in combat.



6. The **WWII Globe** features stained glass campaign ribbons to reflect the different areas of service. These ribbons match the soldier's blouse decorations worn by World War II veterans. This tribute is the result of two designs: the

five foot diameter globe and the 4-sided black granite base. The base lists the major battles in the Pacific Theater and European Theater. The "Kilroy Was Here" inscription on the west side of the base tells a story worth reading.

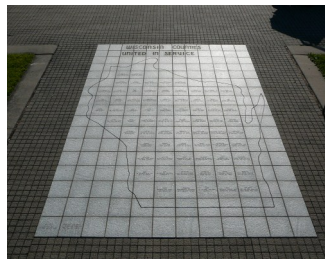
7. The **Dove** honors Prisoners of War (POW) and those who remain Missing in Action (MIA). It is made up of the earth from all 72 counties in Wisconsin; many states in the US, North and South Vietnam and 18 countries. A second MIA is recognized on The Highground: scarred physically, mentally, emotionally, these are people we recognize as Missing in America.



8. The Wisconsin's Vietnam Tribute is called **Fragments**, located at the point on the plaza. From there you can view a half a million acres and many of the tributes. See inside for more of the story.



9. The **WI Counties United in Service Tribute** is meant to remind all of us how important our communities and families are when our veterans come home. We are all united because the human cost of war is shared by everyone.



10. The **Gold Star**, a living tribute, honors all those families, who not only lost a member as a result of their service, but those who supported their loved ones when they came home. The shrubs and bushes were planted with soil added from families' yards, gardens or locations they last saw their loved ones alive. We know that many veterans give every day of the rest of their lives as a result of their service.



11. The **Stone**, combined with **The Registry** creates the true legacy. The Registry allows the stone honoree (or family) to tell the rest of the story—there is a story that is behind every stone, whether a Legacy Stone, Meditation Stone or Korean



Tribute Stone. Families are encouraged to continue to update the story for generations to come and read.



12. The **Doughboy**, our WWI tribute, is unique as it reflects The Highground's commitment to healing and education. It honors the service and sacrifice of our veterans and their families. The Doughboy's rifle is at parade rest, rather than at ready. His right hand is outstretched and open in greeting instead of raised in anger as though holding a grenade.



13. Our **Liberty Bell** is an exact replica of the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia, PA. Visitors are encouraged to ring the bell by the words on the large white oak beam across the entry: "Let Freedom Ring". The Liberty Bell Foundation was founded in 1976 by a group of businessmen from Minnesota. The Liberty Bell was taken to thousands of schools throughout the United States, allowing over a million children in 36 states a first hand opportunity to learn about freedom. The foundation decided that the best place for the Liberty Bell to continue its patriotic mission was at The Highground.

14. The **Timberframe/Information/Gift Shop** is framed with 258 interlocking white oak timbers weighing an impressive 51 tons and held together with 720 oak pegs. Equally impressive is that, except for the roof and basement which were contracted out, this structural masterpiece was designed and built by Highground staff and volunteers. Every inch was either donated or paid for with donated dollars.



15. The **Learning Center** became a reality with the acquisition of property adjacent to The Highground. The Learning Center features a library, media center and a gallery. Exhibits and displays will be changed throughout the year, making it a continuing learning experience for all our visitors. The Learning Center promotes the mission of education for all of us.



16. Nestled among the four miles of hiking trails is the best example of flora in Clark County going from swamp area to rolling hills replete with a broad brush of wildlife. The **Treehouse** is handicap accessible for "kids" of all ages within the 146 acre park. Uniquely structured around a 160 year old green ash tree which over looks our developmental forest. This is a magnificent example of how volunteers and contributors come together to make The Highground a place for all of us.

Volunteers & Contributors are the Heart of The Highground