



**THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC.
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

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MONTHLY REPORT FOR MARCH 2015
Washington, D.C.

The following from the Executive Director of the Korean War Veterans Association is given for the month of March 2015.

To: President and Board of Directors for the Korean War Veterans Association

LEGISLATIVE:

After numerous telephone calls with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) I finally found some positive information in regards to the 90% of the association membership MUST be war veterans to qualify for our organization to receive charitable contributions. Our recommendation to the IRS is that all Korean Defense Service Veterans who have served in the Republic of Korea from 1955 – the present be authorized to count toward the 90% authorized war veterans in our association.

After stating my case to three IRS personnel, they feel that we have a strong case for a authorized waiver to the present IRS regulation. The process for requesting this waiver is as follows:

1. Submit a “Private Letter of Ruling” to the IRS Commissioner located in Washington, D.C. requesting a waiver be submitted requesting all Korean Defense Veterans be authorized to count toward the 90% of veterans in our association be war veterans.
2. When applying for the “Private Letter of Ruling” we will need to enclose a check for \$10,000.00 for the processing fee.

I was a little taken back by the \$10,000.00 processing fee. This was the first time I have heard of a Federal Agency charging a nonprofit for a processing fee.

I will be working on the Private Letter of Ruling over the next few weeks and will staff it among some of our Directors before submission.

Proposed Name Change to the Korean War Veterans Association

- This past month I have received numerous telephone calls and emails, both for and against, in regards to the proposed name change to the Korean War Veterans Association. It was not the intent of the President of the KWVA nor myself to change the name. In the positions that we presently hold, we must remain impartial to the desires of all members of the KWVA.

It was recommended by many that we submit a submission to “discuss” a possible name change at the Board Meeting for the KWVA. In no way did we seek to come up with a decision to change the name. It was a discussion.

The administrative requirements to change the name of a nonprofit organization would be cumbersome and very time consuming. The process is as follows:

1. We would have to go back to the state where the KWVA was incorporated (New York) and request and receive approval to change the name.
2. We would have to amend the Articles of Incorporation for the KWVA

3. We then would have to submit a cover letter with the reasoning for the requested change
4. Once all of this paperwork was approved by the State of New York, we would then submit the paperwork to the IRS for approval to change the name.
5. The IRS then has 60 days to notify us of their decision.

Thank the Lord we live in America. Freedom of speech was exercised at this past Board Meeting in a professional and productive manner. It was the decision of the Board of Directors that we will not look to change the name of the Korean War Veterans Association at this time.

EVENTS/MEETINGS:

- The Korean War Veterans Association Summer Board Meeting and General Membership Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 23, 2015 at the Doubletree by Hilton Washington, D.C. 300 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA 22202 (Crystal City)
- Submissions for agenda items for the Board were due on Thursday, June 18, 2015. Secretary Frank Cohee will be producing the agenda for the Board Meeting.
- On Wednesday, March 4, 2015, I assisted LTC J.S. Hong, Assistant Defense Attaché for the Korean Embassy in planning a wreath presentation for Speaker of the National Assembly, Chung Ui-hwa, Republic of Korea. Five local Korean War Veterans attended the ceremony and were invited to lunch with Mr. Chung Ui-hwa after the event.
- On Tuesday, March 10, 2015 I represented President Kinard at the monthly meeting of the Korean War Veterans Association Chapter 313 from Winchester, VA. I was very impressed with the organization and camaraderie with the Chapter. I was warmly greeted by all the members and shared lunch with them. It was a wonderful visit and as I stated, they are very well organized and professional in their meeting structure. I know you would be impressed and pleased with this fine Chapter. Commander Caliva is doing a wonderful job of leading.
- On Saturday, March 14, 2015 I had the privilege to travel to Norfolk, VA to attend and speak at the Korean War Veterans Association, State of Virginia membership meeting. In one word it was "wonderful". Director Whitmore conducted a well organized and professional meeting. The Chapters in Virginia remain active and productive. The meeting was also attended by MG Shin and his wife. After the meeting closed, Director Whitmore and MG Shin presented a wreath at the Tomb of General McArthur. The day ended with a wonderful luncheon provided by Director Whitmore.
- We had a wonderful Board meeting on Friday, March 27, 2015. Much was accomplished and the main focus for all members of the Korean War Veterans Association is to continue to concentrate on recruiting inactive and new members into our association.
- I was able to secure the Korean War Veterans Memorial for the Republic of Korea's annual Memorial Day commemoration at the Memorial on June 25, 2015. Mr. Norb Reiner had previously held the permit for this day and was not going to allow the Embassy to participate in his event.
- We were treated to a wonderful evening of dining and fellowship at the residence of MG Shin and his lovely wife on Friday, March 27, 2015. The dinner was catered by Woo Lae Oak Restaurant.
- I met with Dr. Jongwoo Han President of the Korean War Legacy Foundation and the Korean Youth Corps pertaining to this year's KWVA Annual General Membership Meeting. He would like to combine with the KWVA on some of their activities at this year's gathering. I spoke with President Kinard and we will incorporate the Korean Youth Corps in as many of our venues as possible. Dr. Jongwoo Han, President of

the Korean War Legacy Foundation and the Korean Youth Corps will also be staying in the DoubleTree Hotel during July 23-27, 2015.

- The commemoration committee for the July 22 – 27, 2015 events taking place in Washington, D.C. met twice to construct the agenda for July activities. The Committee members are:
 - Jim Fisher – Executive Director KWVA – Committee Chair
 - Rick Dean – Director, Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation
 - LTC JS Hong – Assistant Defense Attaché, Republic of Korea Embassy
 - Ms. Dayne Weber – President, Korean Youth Corps
 - Mr. Jang, Jeong Gyo – Ministry of Patriot and Veterans Affairs
- The registration form and agenda for the Annual Membership Meeting is on the KWVA Web Site. I would highly encourage all members register as soon as possible to ensure their reservation for their room is confirmed. We are expecting a large crowd and we have a limited number of rooms in the hotel.
- The agenda listed for the meeting is as follows:

Wednesday, July 22, 2015	Registration
Wednesday, July 22, 2015	United States Army Twilight Tattoo
Thursday, July 23, 2015	KWVA Board of Director's
Friday, July 24, 2015	KWVA General Membership Meeting
Friday, July 24, 2015	United States Marine Corps Evening Parade
Saturday, July 25, 2015	Commemorative Ceremony at the Korean Veterans Memorial
Saturday, July 25, 2015	Gala Banquet
Sunday, July 26, 2015	Wreath Presentation at Arlington National Cemetery
Monday, July 27, 2015	Wreath Presentation at the Korean Veterans Memorial

FUND RAISING:

- The 20th anniversary coin for the Korean War Veterans Association has been minted and is ready for purchase. There are 400 of these limited edition coins minted and will be presented at the Annual Membership meeting for purchase. The cost for each coin is \$20.00. All proceeds will go to the KWVA fund raising campaign. Tom McHugh has done a yeoman's job to ensure that these coins were produced in a professional manner. These are definitely a keepsake as only 400 were minted. Please spread the word pertaining to the sale of these coins.
- Thomas McHugh, Director Chairman Fundraiser Committee has published the annual flyer for the Korean War Veterans Fund Raiser. The document is attached to this report. The price per ticket is \$20.00 for a chance to win one of the following prizes:
 - 1st Prize - \$2,500.00
 - 2nd Prize - \$1,000.00
 - 3rd Prize - \$1,000.00
 - 4th Prize - \$1,000.00
- Deadline for ticket sales will be October 15, 2015 with the drawing taking place on Veterans Day, November 11, 2015 in Washington, D.C. Winners will be notified in Greybeards and on the KWVA website www.kva.org
- Tom was able to save the KWVA over \$3000.00 in mailing costs when sending out the flyers this year. He did a great job in securing funding for the logistics of the fund raiser.

RECRUITMENT:

- I was able to recruit Mr. Ron Rothberg, a Vietnam era Veteran and an associate member of the Korean War Veterans Association. Ron is one of the volunteers at the National Park Service and his area of operation is the Korean War Veterans Memorial. Ron has a passion to ensure that our Korean War Veterans are properly thanked and honored when they come to visit their Memorial. Not only is Ron an excellent volunteer he is also a wonderful tour guide at the Korean Veterans Memorial. Ron has graciously accepted the role as liaison between the National Park Service and the Korean War Veterans Association. He would be our main point of contact at the Memorial.

An additional duty that Ron would cover is to ensure the increasing number of “Honor Flights” arriving at the Memorial with Korean War Veterans are properly greeted and escorted through the Memorial. Ron will rally other volunteers who work at the Memorial to help out when these Honor Flights arrive.

- I have reached out to the National Honor Flight Network located in Springfield, Ohio to let us know when they have a flight designated with Korean War Veterans coming to the Memorial. I would also like to request and enlist local Chapters of the KWVA to volunteer to come to the Memorial to meet their fellow veterans for whom many of them, this will be the first time that they have ever visited their Memorial.

I look forward to seeing you all on July 22, 2015 at the Summer Board meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

James R. Fisher

James R. Fisher
Executive Director
Korean War Veterans Association