



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

jfisher@hrmgroup.net



MONTHLY REPORTS FOR February 2016
Washington, D.C.

The following from the Executive Director of the Korean War Veterans Association is given for the month of February 2016.

1. **MEMBERSHIP & RECRUITMENT REPORT:** Submitted by
Mr. John “Sonny” Edwards - As of 2-26-16

New members recruited Past 30 DAYS	56
New members recruited February 2015	39
New members recruited TYTD	100
New members Recruited LYTD	113
Active members LYTD	14,270
Active members TYTD	13,546
Decrease	724
Deceased comrades reported this year	220 ~ Jan 96 ~ Feb 124

There are several Departments that recruited 1-4 members this Month.
We also had Departments that recruited none.
Thanks to those of you that are recruiting to keep the KWVA active.

Departments with 4 or more recruited last 30 days
CA-4 FL-10 NV-6 PA-5 TX-4

2. **AMBASSADOR FOR PEACE MEDAL:** Since the beginning 2016, my office has submitted 169 applications for the Korean War Veterans to receive The Ambassador for Peace Medal. All requests for the medal have been processed and have been approved. They will be sent out by the Embassy of the Republic of Korea sometime this week.

The State of California will be conducting a ceremony on the weekend of April 17 – 18, 2016 in Los Angeles, California for approximately 100 American Indian Korean War Veterans to receive the Ambassador for Peace Medal. Governor Jerry Brown and Major General Shin, Defense Attaché from the Embassy of the Republic of Korea will be presenting the medals to each individual. Point of contact for this ceremony is Mr. Don Loudner, Korean War Veteran and President of the American Indian Veterans Association of the USA. His contact info is as follows: Phone: 605-770-7106 email: poisonarrow32@yahoo.com

3. **LEGISLATIVE:** The bill to authorize a Wall of Remembrance to be added to the Korean War Memorial in Washington, D.C., passed by voice vote in the House on Wednesday. H.R.1475, ***Korean War Veterans Memorial Wall of Remembrance Act of 2015***, would memorialize the names of more than 33,700 American battle deaths, and at the VFW’s recommendation, include the names of the 2,835 non-battle but still in-theater deaths. The bill, which now moves to the Senate, was introduced by Korean War veterans Rep. Sam Johnson (R-Texas), Rep. Charlie Rangel (D-N.Y.), and Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.).

The next step for HR 1475 is as follows: Instructions are furnished on what Senators need to be contacted from each State.

Here are the three groups we need to target:

Group A - both Senators are cosponsors in six States. You do **NOT** have to contact Senators in Arizona, Maryland, Montana, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, or West Virginia.

Group B - only one Senator needs to be contacted in each of the following 11 states: Alabama-Sessions, Alaska-Murkowski, Arkansas-Cotton, California-Feinstein, Illinois-Kirk, Massachusetts-Warren, New Jersey-Booker, New York - Gellibrand, Ohio -Portman, Oklahoma-Lankford, South Carolina-Graham.

Group C - both Senators should be contacted in each of the following 33 States: Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming.

For detailed information about your Senator(s), go to www.senate.gov If you do not have a computer, go to your local library and ask for help from one of their information specialists (librarians). There is no charge for such services.

- Former legislation H.R. 5903 “To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat recipients of the Korea Defense Service Medal as war veterans for purposes of determining whether contributions to posts and organizations of war veterans are charitable contributions.” Mr. David Eiselsberg and Mr. Jett Thompson whom both work in Representative Sam Johnson’s are in charge of making this H.R. happen quickly. They stated to us that after H.R. 1475 is through mark-up, they will be putting a “full court press” on to make the old 5903 legislation up to date.

Congressman Johnson strongly stated that he will be personally pushing this legislation through. He firmly believes that it will be passed.

He also stated that he will need **ALL OF OUR HELP** in reaching out to his colleagues on the Hill encouraging them to support this Bill.

It is **VERY IMPORTANT** that when the new House Resolution is ready to be introduced **ALL KOREAN WAR VETERANS, DEFENSE VETERANS AND FAMILIES** will need to flood their Congressman’s office with requests to support this new House Resolution (HR). We will keep you informed once the new HR is published.

We will be publishing a one page fact sheet on this legislation with talking points to share amongst all our members and chapters to say when contacting their Congressmen and women.

4. 2016 ANNUAL MEETING AND BOARD MEETING:

As we all know, we will be heading to Las Vegas Nevada for our annual Korean War Veterans Association Membership meeting and Biannual Board Meeting.

- The dates for the meetings will be October 10-14, 2016.
- The venue for the meetings will be the Gold Coast Hotel and Casino, 4000 West Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, NV.
- The website for the venue is: www.GoldCoastCasino.com
- Room Rates are as follows:

Deluxe Rooms

Sunday- Thursday \$35.00 plus tax and resort fee = \$53.75

Friday & Saturday \$99.00 plus tax and resort fee = \$125.43

Premium Rooms

Sunday – Thursday \$42.00 Plus Tax & Resort Fee = \$ 61.58

Friday & Saturday \$ 114.00 Plus Tax & Resort Fee = \$ 142.23

- To make reservations on-line go to <http://www.goldcoastcasino.com/groups>
- To receive your special KWVA group rate, you will need to enter the assigned **Group Reservation ID: A6KOREA**
- If you are calling to make reservations, please call 888-402-6278 and identify yourselves as members of a group convention. **Group Reservation ID: A6KOREA**

ATTACHED IS AN UPDATED FLYER

- **CUT-OFF DATE** September 9, 2016 – It is HIGHLY recommended that you make your reservations now. We are expecting a large contingent of Korean War Veterans and their families to attend this year.
 - Parking is free
 - Swimming Pool and Jacuzzi is free
 - 73 Lane Bowling Alley on site
 - Restaurants on site:
 - Cortez Room
 - Ping Pang Pong
 - Noodle Exchange
 - Port O'Call Buffet
 - T.G.I. Fridays
 - Red Zone
 - Java Vegas Coffee
 - Bowling Snack Bar
 - Free shuttle bus every 30 minutes to the Las Vegas Strip and back to the hotel
 - Shuttle Bus to and from airport \$9.00 each way
 - Day trip/tour to the Hoover Dam and Grand Canyon
 - Evening show on the strip. To Be Determined
 - Major General Shinn and his wife have already RSVP'd along with that they will be attending.
 - Minister Park (MPVA) and Congressman Kin have received invitations to attend.
5. **ELECTIONS:** Chairman of the Elections Committee, Albert H. McCarthy has published in the next copy of the Greybeards magazine the ballots for those seeking election to the following positions: Korean War Veterans Association President, First Vice President, Second Vice President and four Directors.
- President to serve from June 25, 2016-June 25, 2018
 - First Vice President to serve from June 25, 2016-June 25, 2018
 - Second Vice President to serve from June 25, 2016-June 25, 2018
 - Four (4) Directors to serve from June 25, 2016-June 25, 2019

The following members of the Korean War Veterans Association have applied to run for the following positions:

President: Mr. Thomas Stevens

1st Vice President: Mr. Warren Wiedhahn and Mr. George Covell

2nd Vice President: Mr. Jeffery Brodeur and Mr. Stanley J. Grogan

Directors: Mr. Dave Clark
Mr. Narce Caliva
Mr. William Bishop
Mr. George Bruzgis
Mr. Paul Cunningham
Mr. Luther W. Drappen
Mr. Bruce Harder
Mr. Wilfred Lack

PLEASE VOTE FOR THE CANDIDATE OF YOUR CHOICE!!!!

6. **REVISIT TO KOREA PROGRAM:** Quotas for the Revisit to Korea Program are due out any day. All inquiries pertaining to participating on this program should be directed to 1st Vice President Warren Wiedhahn or to Mr. Jamie Wiedhahn. If interested in participating in the Revisit program, please have members contact them directly.
7. **HONOR FLIGHTS:**
The 2016 Honor Flight schedule has been formulated. We hope to have a master copy of all 2016 Honor Flights that will be visiting their War Memorials in Washington, D.C. soon. Ron Rothberg and myself attended the annual Honor Flight Summit on Friday, February 19, 2016 at the Hilton BWI Airport located on 1739 West Nursery Road, Linthicum Heights, Maryland, 21090. We had many Honor Flight Hub Stations visit with us. Ron did an excellent job of encouraging all Flights to visit the Korean War Veterans Memorial
8. **TELL AMERICA PROGRAM:**

The Map Poster of the Korean War continues to be requested. The map is available to those participating in the Tell America Program. If you would like maps for your presentations, please contact:

Director Roy Aldridge
Chairman, Tell America Program
6544 Grand Ridge, Dr
El Paso, TX 79912
Phone: 915-581-4725
email: Royaldrige@sbcglobal.net

9. **FUND RAISING:** Director Tom McHugh has published the 2016 flyer for the Korean War Veterans Associations annual fund raiser. The goal for 2016 is to raise \$70,000.00 to be applied toward administrative costs to run our organization. PLEASE help and sell the fund raising tickets below.



"Freedom Is Not Free"



1950-1954



1954-Present



KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION INC.



KWVA Coins - \$20
Bulk Sales 25/50 Available

Winners to be drawn at October banquet 2016.
Donation \$20 for each ticket. To enter this fundraiser,
complete the attached form. Winners will be
announced on www.KWVA.org and in the Graybeards.



Special KWVA Coins - \$20
20th Anniversary Memorial

Deadline for ticket donations is Sept 15, 2016

Super Cash Prizes!

1st Prize	2nd Prize	3rd Prize	4th Prize	5th Prize
\$1,500	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000



FIVE ALL CASH PRIZES FIVE HAPPY MEMBERS
This (ALL CASH DRAWING) will allow the winners to: Enjoy life.
Go on vacation. Buy a rifle. Fix a car. Get an item of your choice.

Most importantly, SUPPORT THE KWVA

For more tickets, copy or go to www.KWVA.org For applications click "HOW TO JOIN" link
KWVA INC. Korea War and Korea Service Veterans

Contact: Thomas Mc Hugh, Director Chairman Fundraiser Committee, tomchugh@msn.com for info.

Make check payable to: KWVA or Pay by Credit Card Visa Master Card

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date ____/____/____ V-Code _____

You need not tear the page out of the Graybeards magazine. You may copy the page and send tickets
with your payment to: KWVA Membership Office, P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407

Return this ticket with donation of \$20

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, ZIP: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Membership No: _____

Return this ticket with donation of \$20

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, ZIP: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Membership No: _____

Return this ticket with donation of \$20

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, ZIP: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Membership No: _____

Return this ticket with donation of \$20

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, ZIP: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Membership No: _____

Return this ticket with donation of \$20

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, ZIP: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Membership No: _____

Return this ticket with donation of \$20

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, ZIP: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Membership No: _____

10. GENERAL NEWS:

- President Larry Kinard will be the keynote speaker at the State of Florida's Korean War Veterans Association State Meeting on April 16, 2016.
- President Kinard and his wife along with Director Tom Stevens and his wife have been invited to Korea by Elder Kim of the Sae Eden Presbyterian Church in Seoul Korea to attend the annual Remembrance Day commemorating the start of the Korean War. The event will take place during the week of June 18 – 23, 2016. A group of MIA/POW families from the United States will also be attending the ceremony
- The KWVA Virginia State Commander, L.T. Whitmore will be conducting Virginia's state meeting at the Virginia War Memorial in Richmond. The meeting will take place on the afternoon of **Saturday, 16 April 2016**. The largest meeting room at the memorial will hold over 150 when set up Theater Style. He will arrange catering for light snacks and drinks.
- For those individuals planning to come to Washington, D.C. over the Memorial Day weekend, I have secured rooms at the Comfort Inn located on South Glebe Road in Arlington, VA. The room rate for one night is \$119.00 plus tax. This rate also includes a FULL American breakfast each day, transportation to and from Reagan International Airport, free parking and van transportation to the METRO station. I will need to know **SOONEST** if you would like for me to secure a room for you at this hotel. This rate applies for May 28th, 29th and 30th with departure on the 31st.
- If any Korean War Veterans would like to march in the National Memorial Day Parade in Washington, D.C. on Monday, May 30, 2016, Please let me know soonest. If any KWVA Chapter Honor Guard would like to march in the one mile long parade, I need to know ASAP.
- Mr. Les Bishop and KWVA Chapter 312 is planning to host a regional get-together of Maryland and Virginia Korean War Veterans Association chapters. The gathering will be conducted on April 13th at their American Legion home in Funkstown, MD. Specific plans are still being made, but they wanted everyone to put the date on your calendars in order to ensure a great turnout.

The plan is: We will open the doors at 11AM for a social time. Please arrive when you can. There will be beverages available and we can just chat and renew friendships. It has been a long time since we have gathered and we need to catch-up on things. At noon (1200), there will be a light lunch buffet (no menu yet) and we are going to ask for a small donation to cover costs (probably \$5). After lunch, we will introduce some special guests, big wigs or just anyone who has something to share with the group. This is not a meeting, but since we haven't been together for a while, I am sure there is some good information to be shared.

Resignation of Director: I received notification from Director Richard Brown, Sr. that effective immediately; he is resigning from the Board of Directors for the Korean War Veterans Association, USA. His resignation is due to health problems.

- Prayer List:
 - Director J.D. Aldridge – presently going through medical tests for undetermined illness.
 - Virginia Edwards (Sonny's wife) – Cancer – Healing
 - COL Bill Weber – recovery from a broken leg, new prosthesis
 - Director George Bruzgis – Now at home recovering
 - Director Richard Brown – Heart trouble
 - Director Tom McHugh – Possible pneumonia

11. **UPCOMING EVENTS:** On Friday, February 15, 2016, the parade committee met with Executive Director Tim Holbert and Project Director Wes Smith from the American Veterans Center, to discuss the KWVA and ROK's participation in this year's Memorial Day Parade. The American Veterans Center is responsible for the National Memorial Day Parade which will take place in Washington, D.C. on Monday, May 30, 2016.

The Korean War Veterans Association and the Korean American community are very enthusiastic pertaining to their participation in the parade. To participate in the parade it will cost approximately \$30,000.00 for two floats in the parade: one for the KWVA and one for the Republic of Korea.

I continue to seek sponsors to cover the cost of the floats. As of this time no organization or person has stepped up to say they will contribute to this parade.

All Korean War Veterans, Korean Defense Veterans and Korean American War Veterans are allowed to participate in the parade. Anyone with vintage Korean War vehicles are also welcomed to participate.

The parade will be nationally televised on a cable station and for the Armed Forces Network around the world.

Additional areas covered in our monthly meeting were:

- **Korean Memorial Day Ceremonies** – Saturday, June 25, 2015. The Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation in partnership with The Embassy of Korea will conduct a memorial ceremony at the Korean War Veterans Memorial on Saturday, June 25, 2016 at 9:00AM. This year's ceremony will pay tribute to the Korean Augmentation Forces (KATUSA's) who fought with the United States during the Korean War and continue to work side by side with American Forces in the Republic of Korea. KATUSA's from both the United States and the Republic of Korea will be in attendance for this special event. The children's choir from the Far East Broadcasting Company-Korea will be performing at both of these events at the Korean War Veterans Memorial.
- **Armistice Day** – Wednesday, July 27, 2016 at 10:00AM. A wreath presentation and a special speaker will be commemorating the Armistice of the Korean War with a ceremony at the Korean War Veterans Memorial on Wednesday, July 27, 2016. Korean War Veterans who reside in the surrounding Washington, D.C. area are encouraged to come to this special event.
- **Peace Vigil** - Wednesday, July 27, 2016 at 10:00AM. Miss Hannah Kim from Congressman Rangel's office will conduct her annual Peace Vigil at the Korean War Veterans Memorial on July 27, 2016 at 6:00PM. All Korean War Veterans are encouraged to attend.
- **Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation Fund Raising Gala:** Tuesday, October 4, 2016, Building Museum, Washington, D.C. Gala is raise money for the maintenance program at the Korean War Veterans Memorial.

12. **CONCERT IN NEW YORK CITY**

- **Dr. Billy Kim**, Chairman of the Far East Broadcasting Company-Korea "Christ to the World by Radio" will be conducting a concert at 7:30PM, Carnegie Hall in New York City on Friday, June 24, 2016. President Larry Kinard and his wife will represent the Korean War Veterans Association along with over 140 Korean War Veterans and their wives at the concert.

- This organization was founded by American Missionaries just prior to the war breaking out. They hold American Korean War veterans in high esteem. This group is legit. I have researched them and they are above board. They have conducted numerous concerts in the past in the United States honoring our Korean War Veterans.
- They have invited all Korean War Veterans and their families to attend a free concert in their honor at Carnegie Hall in New York City.
- Mr. Sal Scarlato is the KWVA point person for this event. I consider him our liaison with New York City. Sal will take the lead in getting Korean War Veterans and their wives to attend the concert.

13. **COMMUNICATIONS:** No report given.

14. **SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

The Scholarship committee has done another wonderful job in presenting the qualifications for the 2016 American Veterans of Korea Foundation scholarship program. Please make distribution to families, students and schools who can use this scholarship. Please note the deadline as to when ALL applications are due to the committee. (April 15, 2016)

**AMERICAN VETERANS OF
KOREA FOUNDATION
Honorable KIM, Jung Hoon, Chairman
Korea Veterans Scholarship Program**

The Korea Veterans Scholarship Program is an outreach of the American Veterans of Korea Foundation (AVKF), a foundation founded by the Honorable Representative Kim, Jung Hoon, member of the Republic of Korea National Assembly. The AVKF's mission is to provide support to American Veterans of Korea and their families in appreciation for the selfless sacrifices of United States veterans for Korea's peace and freedom during the Korean War and to honor their legacy.

Scholarship Program

This Scholarship Program consists of multiple \$2,000 non-renewable scholarships. The funds may be used for any term during the next academic school year following receipt of the scholarship. Although this scholarship is not renewable, the applicants may reapply for the scholarship in subsequent years.

Qualifications

- The applicant **MUST** be a descendant (child, grandchild, or great-grandchild) of a Veteran of Korea who is a Regular Member, currently in good standing, of the Korean War Veterans Association. Descendants of deceased veterans are eligible to apply with proof of Veterans service.
- Must be a citizen of the United States.
- First year students must have a Letter of Acceptance as a full-time student from the applicant's university or college.
- Must be pursuing an Associate, Bachelor, or Advanced Degree in any discipline.
- Must have a minimum 3.5 on a 4.0 scale. GPA stated on application must be verifiable from transcript. High school and college transcripts must be submitted and must have school name printed on it.
- For high school students entering college this is cumulative GPA for grades 9-11 and first semester of 12th grade.

- For students currently at a freshmen level in college it is cumulative GPA for grades 9-12 and first semester of college.
 - For college students who are sophomores or higher, it is their college transcript for all semesters completed.
 - Must submit a 200-400 word personal essay entitled, *“My future goals and aspirations and how I can use my college education to help achieve them”*.
- Descendants of current Korean War Veterans Association officers and board members and descendants of members of the Scholarship Selection Committee are not eligible.

Deadlines

All scholarship applications and requested materials must be submitted via US Postal Service and **RECEIVED** by April 15, 2016.

- The Scholarship Selection Committee will not acknowledge receipt of applications. For verification that it was received, send the application via U. S. Postal Service Certified Mail.
- Faxes or emails will not be accepted.

Notification to Recipients

All scholarship recipients will be notified by June 1, 2016. Only recipients will be notified. Checks will be delivered to the Financial Aid Officer at the recipient’s college or university to be credited to the student’s account.

No notification means the student did not receive the scholarship.

All decisions made by the Scholarship Selection Committee will be final.

Scholarship recipients will be recognized at a banquet to be held either in the Washington, D. C. area in July 2016 or at the KWVA Annual Meeting Banquet that will be held in October 2016 in Las Vegas, NV. Scholarship recipients will be notified of the date and location of the recognition banquet at a later date. Although attendance at the banquet is not mandatory, scholarship recipients are encouraged to attend. Underage recipients are encouraged to travel with an accompanying adult.

Required Materials

The following items are required to complete the application process. These items must be submitted in a single envelope in the order listed. All items received separately will not be considered.

- Application – must be on the original form, printed legibly or typed and signed.
- Essay – must be typed (double spaced) consisting of 200-400 words.
- GPA – submit all applicable high school and college transcripts.
- First year student’s Letter of Acceptance.
- Proof of service for applicant’s deceased Korea Veteran ancestor.

Mailing Address

American Veterans of Korea Foundation
 Scholarship Selection Committee
 310 Clay Hill Drive
 Winchester, VA 22602

**AMERICAN VETERANS OF
KOREA FOUNDATION
Korea Veterans Scholarship Program**

Application Form for Academic Year 2016-17

Student Information

Applicant's Full Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Name of Applicant's Korea Veteran Ancestor _____

Applicant's Relationship to Veteran _____ KWVA Member # _____

Note: If Applicant's Ancestor is deceased, applicant must provide proof of service.

College or University Information

School the student will be attending or is currently attending on a full-time basis leading to an Associate, Bachelor or Advanced degree.

In the 2016 Fall Semester I will enroll as a:

() Freshman () Sophomore () Junior () Senior () Advanced Degree

School _____ Degree Sought _____

School Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Financial Aid Officer _____ Email _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Current Information

Cumulative GPA (as described on information sheet) _____ /4.0 scale.

In the space provided in each of the following categories, list your activities, leadership positions held and honors/awards received.

Scholastic Activities

In-School Extracurricular Activities

Community Activities

Employment History including Military Experience

By my signature, I certify that all information and documents included in my application for this scholarship are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Further, my signature certifies I understand that if the terms of the scholarship are violated, the scholarship will be withdrawn. (Terms: I understand that I must be officially accepted for enrollment in 2016 classes at the school stated.)

Signature _____ **Date** _____

It is an honor to work with each of you and I hope we continue to look forward to continuing our progress in the coming year.

May God Bless our Korean War Veterans, our Korean Defense Veterans and our families and may God continue to Bless the United States of America.

Respectfully submitted,

James R. Fisher

James R. Fisher
Executive Director
Korean War Veterans Association

Korean War Veterans Association Annual General Membership Meeting



**October 10 – 14, 2016
Gold Coast Casino and Hotel
4000 West Flamingo Road
Las Vegas, Nevada 89102**



Room Rate Deluxe Rooms

**Sunday- Thursday \$35.00 plus tax and resort fee = \$53.75
Friday & Saturday \$99.00 plus Tax & Resort fee = \$125.43**

Premium Rooms

**Sunday – Thursday \$42.00 Plus Tax & Resort Fee = \$ 61.58
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**If you are calling to make reservations, please call 888-402-6278 and identify yourselves
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CUT-OFF DATE September 9, 2016**

Make your reservations NOW as we are expecting a large amount of attendees

Come join the fun in Las Vegas!!!

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