

America's Forgotten Victory!

# The Graybeards

Official Publication of  
**THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION**

July - August 2005



Vol. 19, No. 4

*State of Maine...*



Story on page 18

*...Honors Korea Service Veterans*

**NATIONAL CONVENTION, OCTOBER 2-5, 2005, IN BOSSIER CITY, LA: REGISTRATION FORM ON PAGE 21**

# The Graybeards

Official Publication of  
**THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION**



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## We Honor Founder William Norris

In loving memory of General Raymond Davis, our Life Honorary President, Deceased.

**Editor** **Arthur G. Sharp**  
152 Sky View Dr  
Rocky Hill, CT 06067  
Ph: 860-563-6149  
[sharp\\_arthur\\_g@sbccglobal.net](mailto:sharp_arthur_g@sbccglobal.net)

**Publisher** **Finisterre Publishing Inc.**  
3 Black Skimmer Ct  
Beaufort, SC 29907  
[finisterre@islc.net](mailto:finisterre@islc.net)

**Address Changes, Corrections, and Questions** **Nancy Monson**  
Administrative Assistant  
P. O. Box 101238  
Arlington, VA 22210-4238  
[KWVAMembership@verizon.net](mailto:KWVAMembership@verizon.net)  
Ph: 703-522-9629  
FAX: 703-528-5403

## National KWVA Headquarters

**President** **Louis T. Dechert**  
163 Deerbrook Trail  
Pineville, LA 71360  
[louisdechert@cox.net](mailto:louisdechert@cox.net)  
Ph: 318-641-8033  
FAX: 318-640-8312

**1st Vice President** **Dick Adams**  
P. O. Box 334  
Caruthers, CA 93609  
[damadams@juno.com](mailto:damadams@juno.com)  
Ph: 559-864-3196

**2nd Vice President** **Byron Dickerson**  
314 S Horne St  
Duncanville, TX 75116  
[jdi435@sbccglobal.net](mailto:jdi435@sbccglobal.net)  
Ph: 972-298-7462

**Treasurer** **Richard E. Hare**  
1260 Southhampton Dr  
Alexandria, LA 71303  
[HarePic@aol.com](mailto:HarePic@aol.com)  
Ph: 318-487-9716

**Asst Treasurer** **Clyde Durham**  
1016 Highway 3128  
Pineville, LA 71360  
[Cgbsdurham@aol.com](mailto:Cgbsdurham@aol.com)  
Ph: 318-445-3247

**Secretary** **Don Duquette**  
41 Overlook Dr  
Centerville, MA 02632  
[KWVA\\_Secretary@comcast.net](mailto:KWVA_Secretary@comcast.net)  
Ph: 508-775-7776

**Asst Secretary** **Richard E. Predmore**  
1309 El Camino Real #158  
Euless, TX 76040-6054  
[ddpredmore@msn.com](mailto:ddpredmore@msn.com)  
Ph: 817-399-0103

**Asst Secretary** **Frank E. Cohee, Jr.**  
4037 Chelsea Lane  
Lakeland, FL 33809-4063  
Ph: 863-859-1384  
[CoheeSan@verizon.net](mailto:CoheeSan@verizon.net)

**Membership Records Management** **Jake Feaster, Supervisor**  
(see Asst. Judge Advocate)

**Jim Doppelhammer**  
Webmaster

**Nancy Monson**  
Administrative Assistant

## Term 2003-2006

**James E Ferris**  
4311 Lazybrook, Cir. Liverpool, NY 13088  
[reddogferris@aol.com](mailto:reddogferris@aol.com) Ph: 315-457-1681

**Stanley J Grogan**  
2585 Moraga Dr, Pinole, CA 94564  
[SJGent@hotmail.com](mailto:SJGent@hotmail.com) Ph: 510-758-7534

**Larry McKinniss**  
31478 Harsh Rd., Logan, OH 43138  
Ph: 740-380-0181

**Joseph Pirrello**  
70 Turf Rd., Staten Island, NY 10314  
[JP12132@MSN.com](mailto:JP12132@MSN.com) Ph: 718-983-6803

## Term 2004-2007

**Lee Dauster**  
15444 Camino Del Parque, Sonora, CA 95370  
[leedauster@aol.com](mailto:leedauster@aol.com) Ph: 209-588-1529

**John G. Edwards**  
10346 127th Ave., Largo, FL 33773-1022  
[JJ.Edwards@verizon.net](mailto:JJ.Edwards@verizon.net) Ph: 727-582-9353

**Dean McClain**  
521 Westgate Blvd., Youngstown, OH 44515  
[kwbd@zoominternet.net](mailto:kwbd@zoominternet.net) Ph: 330-792-5928

**Bob Morga**  
PO BX 835, Bayport, NY 11705  
[salbalboa@verizon.com](mailto:salbalboa@verizon.com) Ph: 631-472-0052

## Term 2005-2008

**Robert S. Banker**  
516 Millwood Dr., Fallston, MD 21047  
[RobertBanker@comcast.net](mailto:RobertBanker@comcast.net)

**Jeffrey J. Brodeur**  
48 Square Rigger Rd., Hyannis, MA 02601  
[KVAMANE@aol.com](mailto:KVAMANE@aol.com) Ph: 617-323-6426

**William F Mac Swain**  
8452 Marys Creek Dr., Benbrook, TX 76116  
[billmacswain@charter.net](mailto:billmacswain@charter.net) Ph: 817-244-0706

**Warren Wiedhahn**  
4600 Duke St, Suite 420, Alexandria, VA 22304  
[JWiedhahn@aol.com](mailto:JWiedhahn@aol.com) Ph: 703-212-0695

## Appointed/Assigned Staff

**Judge Advocate (Acting), Legislative Director, & VSO:**  
Charley Price  
126 Dirkson Dr., DeBary, FL 32713  
[charleyprice@aol.com](mailto:charleyprice@aol.com) Ph: 407-221-6949

**Assistant Judge Advocate:**  
Jake Feaster  
22731 N Hwy 329, Micanopy, FL 32667  
[jfeaster@worldnet.att.net](mailto:jfeaster@worldnet.att.net) Ph: 352-466-3493

**Sergeant-at-Arms:** (ex officio)  
John Sonley  
15415 S 16th Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85045-1810  
[Jwscpd8@aol.com](mailto:Jwscpd8@aol.com) Ph: 480-705-8038

**Aide to President** (ex officio):  
Jake Feaster  
22731 N Hwy 329, Micanopy, FL 32667  
[jfeaster@worldnet.att.net](mailto:jfeaster@worldnet.att.net) Ph: 352-466-3493

**POW & MIA Coordinator:**  
Marty O'Brien  
27 Meadow Rd, #202, Augusta, ME 04330  
[CavKvet50@aol.com](mailto:CavKvet50@aol.com) Ph: 207-623-1103

**All appointive positions expired on July 26th. Appointments have been continued until August 15 on an interim basis, pending any changes and reappointments announced.**

## KWVA Liaison to KVA (Korea Veterans of America)

Jeff Brodeur  
16 Bertson Ave, West Roxbury, MA 02132  
[KVAMANE@aol.com](mailto:KVAMANE@aol.com) Ph: 617-323-6426

## KWVA Liaison to Canadian KVA:

Bill Burns  
105 Emann Dr, Camillus, NY 13031  
[bbbgliam@twcny.rr.com](mailto:bbbgliam@twcny.rr.com) Ph: 315-487-1750

## KWVA Envoy to UN Forces:

Tom Clawson  
953 Gorman Av, St Paul, MN 55118  
[TimClawson@charter.net](mailto:TimClawson@charter.net) Ph: 651-457-6653

## Chaplain:

Robert Personette  
7136 Oak Leaf Drive  
Santa Rosa, CA 95409  
[PamP@vom.com](mailto:PamP@vom.com) Ph: 707-539-7276

## Public Relations:

(Vacant) Contact Secretary  
[KWVASecretary@comcast.net](mailto:KWVASecretary@comcast.net) Ph: 508-775-7776

## National Director VSO/VAVS:

Charley Price  
[charleyprice@aol.com](mailto:charleyprice@aol.com) Ph: 407-221-6949  
Paul Fitzsimmons, VAVS Coordinator  
[PaulFit@optonline.net](mailto:PaulFit@optonline.net) Ph: 631-368-7020

## Committees

### Nominations/Election Committee

Dick Adams, Chairman (see 1stVP)  
**Members:** Dick Wainwright Ph:/FAX 520-298-1581  
[mrwainwright@juno.com](mailto:mrwainwright@juno.com)

### Membership Committee

Dean McClain, Chairman (see Nat'l Directors)  
**Members:** Sam Naomi (Field Organizer)  
202 N Washington St., Tingley, IA 50863  
[OkieSam@iowatelecom.net](mailto:OkieSam@iowatelecom.net) Ph: 641-772-4393  
Nancy Monson (see Membership)  
Howard L Myers, 13430 SW Cresmer Dr., Tigard, OR 9723 Ph: 503-639-8180  
[LuAllen@excite.com](mailto:LuAllen@excite.com)

### Budget/Finance Committee

James Ferris (see Nat'l Directors)  
**Members:** Bob Morga, Lee Dauster

### Resolutions Committee:

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**Members:** Ted Trousdale, Roger Haas, Larry McKinniss

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**Members:** Dick Predmore, Don Duquette, Bill Doyle, Stanley Grogan, Marty O'Brien

### Tell America

Dick Adams, Chairman (see 1stVP)  
Larry Kinard, Coordinator, [1ck1613489@aol.com](mailto:1ck1613489@aol.com)  
Ph: 682-518-1040

### Revisit Committee:

Tom Clawson, Chairman (see KWVA Envoy to UN)  
Warren Wiedhahn, Coordinator (see Nat'l Directors)

### Ethics and Grievance Committee

(Art III, Sect 7A & 7J, Bylaws)

Sim W. Goodall, Chairman  
5026 Pointclear Ct  
Arlington, TX 76017  
[Simgoodall@yahoo.com](mailto:Simgoodall@yahoo.com) Ph: 817-483-4443

# From the President

Louis T. Dechert



My last update was June 23, over a month ago, while I was in Seoul, Korea. That was a very successful visit for several reasons. To begin with, it was a pleasure to greet a good group of members, some with wives and one with a grandson, who were on the first return visit this year. I have urged them to write articles that we can print in *The Graybeards*, as well as place on the website. Again, I urge any member who is thinking about returning to visit to do so as soon as possible - we aren't getting any younger and the day will suddenly arrive when we can't travel anymore. Then it will be too late.

We had successful visits with the Chairman of The Korea Veterans Association (KVA, Seoul) and his senior in the government, The Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs. I found the Korean people anxious because of three primary facts:

- the known slow reduction of US troops in their Nation;
- reunification with or attack from North Korea; and,
- the future of US-ROK relations as their beloved "American GIs" age and pass away.

Thus our Korean friends are very much interested in the "youth movement" they have heard about in the KWVA, USA. This will provide for an educated group of successors to the "old graybeards" as they pass away. The KVA officials agreed with my proposals for post 1955 vets. One result was evident the next day when they told me they were submitting a request to increase the 2006 Return Visit budget by a significant amount.

I also met briefly with the U.S., U.N., and Combined Commander in

Korea, General Leon J. LaPorte, and look forward to further discussions with his headquarters concerning recruiting of military personnel presently serving in Korea to become KWVA Members.

Returning home, we were all busy getting ready for the Executive Council meeting scheduled for July 24-28, in Arlington. The meeting was in conjunction with the annual assembly of The Gathering. This was the twenty-first year for the group of Korea veterans and their friends to assemble in or near Washington to renew their friendships and recollections of the founding and founder of the Association. Jack Cloman (Maryland Chapter) and his wife Connie, are key leaders AND workers in this event each year. I appreciated the meetings and activities of this group and commend and thank them for hosting the Executive Council as it met.

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Secretary of Veterans Affairs addressing the audience at The Mall, July 27, 2005.



President Lou Dechert and General Leon J. LaPorte

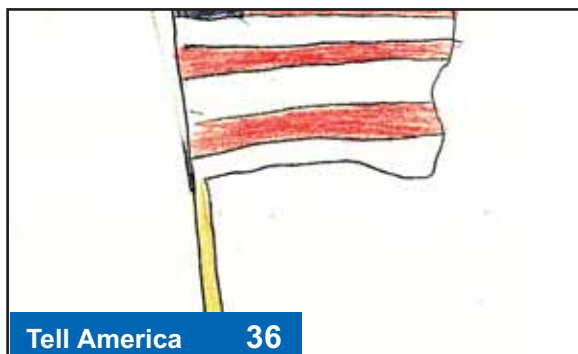


Korea National Observances, 06.25.2005, Seoul: Minister Park, Yu Chul, Assemblywoman Song Young-Sun, and General Lee, Sang-Hoon

**COVER:** On July 1, 2005, Governor John Baldacci of Maine, in a ceremony in his suite of offices at the State House in Augusta, announced that he had signed LD 1148, "An Act to Recognize the Recipients of the Korea Defense Service Medal," into law. Story on page 18. Photos courtesy of Marty O'Brien



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# The Editor's Desk

Art Sharp



**M**y anonymity is gone!

There is an adage among editors that as long as they remain hidden, no harm can befall them. Well, I cannot remain hidden any longer. (That's not really an adage: I just made it up.)

I had the great pleasure of attending the gathering in Arlington, VA, last month. The event gave me the chance to place names with faces, which I had not been able to do before the gathering. Sure, I have dealt with a lot of KWVA members since I assumed the editorship one year ago, but by phone, e-mail, and snail mail only. My appearance in Arlington changed all that. I finally got to meet some of those people and celebrate with them.

Actually, my appearance was a dual celebration. For one thing, on Friday, July 22, 2005, my surgeon informed me that all the tests from my July 14th "procedures" had come back negative. That means I am cancer free—at least for now. That alone was worth celebrating. (For those of you who don't realize it, I underwent follow-up surgery on July 14th to celebrate "Bastille Day." I believe the surgeon used a guillotine to perform the surgery as his peculiar way of celebrating this momentous day in French history.)

The second thing to celebrate was the 52nd anniversary of the signing of the Korean War Armistice back in 1953. This marked the first time that I had attended the ceremonies in Arlington—and it opened my eyes to a lot of things.

First, I was never quite aware of just how thankful the Korean community is for the Americans' help during the Korean War. And, it is not just the Americans to whom they are grateful. They mentioned during the ceremonies and to me in our conversations how much they appreciate **all** the nations that participated under the UN flag. But, they have a predilection for the U.S. troops, since they did the bulk of the fighting.

What made me most aware of their appreciation was when I saw a couple Korean Veterans Association (KVA Seoul) members thanking my wife Betsy for what she did on their behalf. In short, they were

**Contrary to popular belief, the administration is not in lockstep on all issues. Indeed, there was a good deal of healthy debate on some matters.**

thanking everybody.

Second, the gathering gave me the opportunity to see firsthand just how dedicated the KWVA's leadership is to the organization. As I sat and listened to the members of the Executive Council discuss the administrative matters that comprise Association business, I marveled at how they could disagree on a lot of issues without raising their voices or losing patience with one another (for the most part). If nothing else, they were passionate—but they always seemed to have the best interests of the organization at hand.

Contrary to popular belief, the administration is not in lockstep on all issues. Indeed, there was a good deal of healthy debate on some matters. The members resolved what they could, and tabled that which they couldn't—at least immediately. They were not rushed into making decisions, which is a good sign that none of them want to make hasty decisions that will come back to haunt the KWVA at a later date. Then, when the discussions were over, they socialized cohesively. But, that was not really why they were there.

Sure, there were social events, e.g., a buffet dinner complemented by dancing to the 1940's sounds of the 16-piece band the "Swing Command." And, there was the banquet on July 27th, attended by numerous

dignitaries from Korea and the Korean-American community, members from the KWVA and their counterparts in the aforementioned Korean Veterans Association, and a few others. The banquet gave everyone the opportunity to get acquainted and make new friends. That is something Betsy and I did in abundance.

There was the serious side as well. For example, there were ceremonies at the Korean War Memorial on the Washington Mall and at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington Cemetery. Certainly, they reminded everyone of the real purpose of the gathering: to remember and honor the millions of people affected by the Korean War. They certainly did for me.

As I reflect on the events of our visit to Arlington and our side trips to the Vietnam and World War II Memorials, I cannot help but believe the Korean War should never be forgotten. I know that Betsy and I will never forget it—nor will we ever forget our "up close and personal" introductions to the attendees at "The Gathering."

They went out of their way to make us comfortable. For that, we are grateful. But, from all appearances, we cannot be nearly as grateful to anyone as are the good people of Korea who will never forget the "Forgotten War," or the Americans who fought so bravely to keep them free—many of whom we had the opportunity to meet face-to-face for the first time. That alone made the trip worthwhile.

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# Last Call

All of us in the Korean War Veterans Association extend our sincere sympathy to the families and friends of those listed below. May they rest in peace.



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- ★ Cosby, James H.
- ★ Davis, Robert
- ★ Johnson, Allen E.
- ★ Kobe, Harold J.
- ★ Mehlmaff, Clarence
- ★ Praytor, Noah B., Jr.
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- ★ Richards, Frank W.
- ★ Scudero, Russell
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- ★ Chuman, Carlton D.

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- ★ Newcomer, John E.

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- ★ Spetz, Jerome C.

## ILLINOIS

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- ★ Tangney, Edwin J., Jr.

## IOWA

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- ★ Holles, Rob

- ★ Job, Donald L.

- ★ Kolpin, Harlan Duane

- ★ Nichols, Carl R.

## KANSAS

- ★ Ruttgen, Denzil

- ★ Rutz, George H.

## MARYLAND

- ★ Schmitt, Howard C.

- ★ Vick, James A.

## MASSACHUSETTS

- ★ McWilliams, Leo E.

## MINNESOTA

- ★ Anderson, Ralph (Andy) E.

## MISSOURI

- ★ Gardner, Glen

## NEVADA

- ★ Tieben, John K.

## NEW JERSEY

- ★ Barczak, Joseph A.

- ★ Meuser, John

- ★ Mupo, Bartholomew A.

- ★ Tannahill, Frederick G.

## NEW YORK

- ★ Carter, Clifford

- ★ Knoebel, Frederick

- ★ Pease, James F.

## OHIO

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## PENNSYLVANIA

- ★ Stine, Kenneth

## TEXAS

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## VIRGINIA

- ★ Dorrer, Walter

- ★ Oskey, Raymond T.

- ★ Wilmore, Charles C.

## WISCONSIN

- ★ Merz, Richard N.

## GOLD STAR MOTHERS

- ★ Anderson, Genevieve Selby  
Ontario, CA GS00001

- ★ Otten, Irene  
Pocono Summit, PA GS00015

## PRESIDENT from page 3

Along with The Gathering and hundreds of others, we attended the ceremonies at The Mall on July 27th. It was HOT!

The Executive Council addressed many items which had been neglected for too long, as well as attending to the on-going business of the Association. We including the unapproved Minutes of the Executive Council meeting in the July/Aug issue of *The Graybeards* as well as on this website and on the ad hoc discussion pages. A good preparation was laid for the next meeting, October 4th, in Bossier City/Shreveport, Louisiana, during the National Convention, October 2-5.

We said farewell to Directors Dorothy Wenzel and James Jones, and swore in Directors Bill Mac Swain (re-elected), Warren Wiedhahn (re-elected), Robert Banker (new), Jeff Brodeur (new) and Jack Edwards (new). All previous appointments expired at noon, July 27th. Last year's appointments have been extended until new appointments which will be

announced after August 15th, as we get on with the business of the Association.

## Federal Charter Status

Charley Price, the Legislative Director, had prepared a revised charter Bill several days before the Executive Council meeting. Through timely follow-up with key staffers, over several weeks, he was able to get the proposed bill accepted by Senator Sarbanes and Representative Hoyer, both from Maryland. The Bill was introduced on July 27th. I have been informed that the Bill Numbers for our National Charter are Senate: S.1512 and House: H.R.3476. Now all of *our members and friends* can begin contacting their senators and representatives on the passage of the bill.

With the newly written Bill, we believe that prospects for success are better than they have been for several years. You can read the press release introducing the Bill on the KWVA Website.

Be seeing you on the road, in *The Graybeards*, and on [www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org)!

Lou Dechert, President



National Korean Memorial Honors, June 25, 2005, Seoul

Visit the Korean War Veterans Association Website: [www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org)

# COMING SOON:

## Korean War Veterans Association 2006 Calendar!



On 25 June 1950 the brave men of the United States Armed Forces engaged in a conflict on the peninsula of Korea. To commemorate the honor, bravery and sacrifice that so many demonstrated in this war, the Korean War Veterans Association is producing a new 2006 calendar that will feature never before seen photos of the Korean War and highlight important dates of occurrence.

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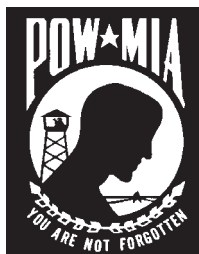
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# POW/MIA Update

by Marty O'Brien

## Army Board Considers USFKVO Resolution

On June 6, 2005, LTC William H. Johnson, Chief of the Army's Military Awards Branch, informed President Louis Dechert that the US Federation of Korea Veterans Organizations' recommendation of April 28, 2005, to upgrade the Distinguished Service Cross awarded to Chaplain Emil J. Kapaun in recognition of his extraordinary heroism during the Korean War to a posthumous award of the Medal of Honor, has been received and has been forwarded to the Senior Army Decorations Board for consideration.

Their decision will be referred to Department of the Army - leadership for a final decision.

## KWVA Turns Out To Honor Fallen Hero

On May 31, 2005, at Dallas, Texas, Air Force Captain Troy "Gordie" Cope, 4th Fighter Wing, was finally laid to rest more than 50 years after his F-86 Sabre jet fighter was downed over China during the Korean War. The KWVA was well represented.

Attending were National President Louis T. Dechert; 17 members from General Walton H. Walker Chapter #215 (Arlington-Ft. Worth); 18 members from Sam Johnson Chapter #270 (Richardson-Dallas); Jay Zo, from the Korean Community, who represented the Dallas Cultural Foundation; and a number of family members. About 80 people attended services at Hunters Glen Baptist Church in Plano, TX.

A bagpiper, color guard and honor guard accompanied the horse-drawn caisson that carried Captain Cope to his final resting place at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery.

In 1995, a US businessman spotted Cope's name on a dog tag on display in a military museum in the Yalu River city of Dandong, China. During a search of Russia's Podolsk military archives in 1999 by Pentagon analysts, documents describing Captain Cope's downing on September 16, 1952 were discovered. In May 2004, they were successful in recovering remains, which were identified in February 2005. There have been other recoveries.

On May 24, 2005, the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office announced that specialists from several Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) came out of North Korea with an unknown number of remains of men lost in two major battles there in November -December 1950; to date, two of them have been identified.

One was CPL John O. Strom, of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, a member of the 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, who was reported missing in the early days of November 1950 near Unsan. The other was PFC Lowell W. Bellar of Gray, Indiana, a member of Company M, 31st Infantry Regiment, who was killed on December 1, 1950 near Hagaru; he was buried on July 15, the date of his birth in 1931.

## Recovery Operations Shut Down

In late May, after 10 consecutive years of joint operations in North Korea, the Pentagon abruptly suspended all operations there, accusing the North Koreans of creating an atmosphere of danger to the personnel assigned to the recovery teams. The decision came at a time of rising tensions with the North Korean government.

Politics or no politics, former POW Nick Nishimoto and other Korean War veterans in Honolulu continue to meet the repatriated remains of our Korean War dead as they arrive in Hawaii and honor them in ceremonies at Hickam AFB. The last ceremony was on June 24. On April 6, Nick was presented with a plaque by MG W. Montague Winfield, the JPAC Commander at the time, for his remarkable record of meeting all the remains flown to Hawaii since the repatriation program began in 1996.

General Winfield said of Nick, "He is a superb example of selflessness, and is an inspiration to our country. He's been a blessing to the American people."

## New Purple Heart Bill HR 2389

This bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on May 16, 2005 by the Honorable Bob Filner of California. Known as the "Honor our Fallen Prisoner of War Act," the bill would amend Title 10, United States Code, to provide for the Purple Heart to be awarded to prisoners of war who die in captivity under circumstances not otherwise established for eligibility for the Purple Heart. The bill would authorize the award of the Purple Heart to all members of the Armed Forces who, on or after December 7, 1941, died, or will die, from freezing, starvation, prolonged exposure, torture, and other hostile acts by an enemy.

Rick and Brenda Morgan Tavares of Campo, California and Wilbert "Shorty" Estabrook of Murrieta, California, are the movers and shakers behind this bill. Brenda's uncle, CPL Melvin Morgan died of starvation and beatings in 1950 at the age of 20 in Korea, and "Tiger Survivor" Shorty survived a death march and three years in a prison camp. For more information, contact Shorty at (951) 600-7222 or [tigersurvivors@comcast.net](mailto:tigersurvivors@comcast.net)

## Veterans Radio [www.Veteransradio.Net]

On June 26, Historian LTC William Latham and Author Dr. Lewis Carlson presented Part 2 of their excellent series of discussions on the Korean War POW experience, this time focusing on irresponsible charges made by Eugene Kinkead in his book, *In Every War But One*, which accused the American POW of a host of charges without offering any substantive evidence to support most of them. Part 3 of the series is scheduled to air on September 4 and will focus on life for the POW after repatriation.

*Martin J. O'Brien, CavKVet50@aol.com,  
27 Meadow Road #202, Augusta, Maine 04330,  
[http://www.kwva.org/pow\\_mia/index.htm](http://www.kwva.org/pow_mia/index.htm)*

## KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC. ♦ ♦ EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

*These Minutes were taken by Ms. Nancy Monson and are intended to be summary in nature. They will not be official until approved by The Executive Council in accordance with the Bylaws. There will be a verbatim transcript available later, against which to compare and expand as necessary.*

**Quality Inn Suites**  
**Arlington, Virginia**  
**July 26, 2005**

### Call to Order:

President Louis Dechert called the Executive Council meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

### Presentation of Colors and Pledge of Allegiance:

The Colors were presented and the Pledge of Allegiance was rendered.

### Invocation:

In the absence of Robert Personette, Chaplain, the prayer was offered by Byron Dickerson, the Second Vice President.

### Administrative Announcements:

Chris Yanacos was introduced as acting Sergeant-at-Arms in the absence of John Sonley, who was unable to attend.

### Adoption of Agenda:

**Motion:** Director Lee Dauster moved adoption of the published agenda. Director Stanley Grogan seconded the motion.

**Approved.**

Roll Call and Introduction of Guests:

The roll was called by Secretary Don Duquette.

The following were present:

Louis Dechert, President  
 Dick Adams, 1st Vice President  
 Byron Dickerson, 2nd Vice President  
 Don Duquette, Secretary  
 Richard Hare, Treasurer  
 Lee Dauster, Director  
 James E. Ferris, Director  
 Stanley J. Grogan, Director  
 James F. Jones, Jr., Director  
 William F. Mac Swain, Director  
 Dean McClain, Director  
 Bob Morga, Director  
 Joseph Pirrello, Director  
 Warren Wiedhahn, Director

The following Directors were not present and were excused:

Dorothy "Dot" Wenzel, Director  
 Larry McKinniss, Director

The following advisors and/or chairmen were also present:

Director-elect Jeff Brodeur, Chairman, Recruiting Task Force  
 Bill Burns, KWVA Liaison to KVA, Canada  
 Tom Clawson, Return Visit Chairman  
 Frank E. Cohee, Jr., Interim Assistant Secretary  
 Jimmy Faircloth, Legal Counsel  
 Jake Feaster, Assistant Judge Advocate/Aide to President  
 Sim Goodall, Ethics & Grievance Committee Chairman

Boyle Henderson, CPA

Charley Price, Judge Advocate (Acting)/Director VSO/VAVS

Arthur G. Sharp, Editor of Graybeards

President Dechert announced the results of the 2005 election and introduced the following recently-elected Directors who will be sworn in on the 27th of July, 2005, at the banquet, as follows:

William F. Mac Swain

Warren H Wiedhahn

Robert S. Banker (was not present)

Jeffery J. Brodeur

John G. Edwards (two year term)

President Dechert congratulated Directors Mac Swain and Wiedhahn on their re-election and acknowledged the two out-going Directors, James Jones and Dorothy Wenzel.

He also recognized Past President Nick Pappas who was a visitor. There were approximately 15 other visitors present, mainly from The Gathering, which was hosting the Executive Council meeting. The President thanked The Gathering on behalf of the Executive Council.

### Approval of March 15, 2005, Minutes:

Secretary Duquette reported that there had been no corrections to the published minutes of the Executive Council Meeting on March 15, 2004, in Reno, Nevada.

**Motion:** Director Mac Swain moved that the minutes of the March 15, 2005, Executive Council be approved as distributed. Director McClain seconded the motion. **Approved without exception.**

### Chaplain's Character Guidance Time:

President Dechert announced that Chaplain Robert Personette had been in a very bad accident and could not attend the meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** (*Report is attached to Official Copy of Minutes*)

Treasurer Richard Hare presented the following reconciled balances report:

Checking Account .....	\$ 20,886.17
Savings Account.....	5,830.16
Smith Barney Account .....	516,711.14
Total .....	\$543,427.47

He reported that the funds in the Smith Barney account are starting to be tapped to meet expenses.

(*President Dechert distributed a report, copy attached to Official Copy of Minutes*)

Mr. Hare also presented a status of funds and the CPA's report for the first six months of the operating year (January, 2005, through June 30, 2005). The report states income and expense statements by breaking down the information into categories that are more readily identifiable for ease of understanding, particularly the sources of such income and expenses. The breakdown will now allow a better understanding how money is spent and accounted for. (Copy provided to each member and available to visitors)

Mr. Hare pointed out that the rate of expenditures exceeds the rate of income and that now is a time of the year when income from dues (cash flow) is at a minimum. He further explained that December and

## KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC. ♦ ♦ EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

the first three months of each year is the period when income is at its highest.

Director Grogan: Why is this happening?

Director Mac Swain: I would like to know if you have set aside life member funds. Do we get interest off of these funds?

CPA Henderson: The Life Members balance on books is the result of the 2003 audit. We haven't changed that. It is not a separate account—merely a bookkeeping entry. This account draws dividends and interest.

President Dechert: Until you sell stock(s) you don't realize any income or loss. There is caution about the risk of investments. Everything that is invested can go down just as fast as it has gone up. Until those investments are cashed all we get from our investments is the interest and dividends earned. He also pointed out that he had earlier passed out a paper regarding the responsibilities of and regulations affecting a 501(c) 19 organization, which KWVA is. Any violation(s) will result in non-issuance/revoking of a Federal Charter.

Director Mac Swain: Didn't we have a previous motion to look into what we might do regarding our Smith Barney account?

President Dechert: We have invited a fundraiser to appear before you that may present some new ideas. In addition, Director Dauster has asked to present some proposals. There was a referral at the last Executive Council meeting to the Budget and finance committee to examine this matter and report back to us.

Treasurer Hare: The fundamental problem is that people are passing away. Unless we bring others in we will begin to go down hill. There will not be enough money to pass along for the future of the organization. We have to get new members in. We will have to enroll those serving in Korea today. Chapters must begin to enroll the non-members within their chapters—this will improve cash flow but will not ensure the longevity of the organization.

Director McClain: I am concerned about the life membership funds being in the Smith Barney account. Smith Barney could go down the drain tomorrow. Isn't there a safer way?

CPA Henderson: Smith Barney only services the account. If that firm goes broke it wouldn't mean a thing to us. Our monies are in money markets. The biggest portion of our funds with Smith Barney is in the Franklin Income Fund, as approved by the Executive Council last year, in the previous administration. I will discuss this further in our budget presentation.

President Dechert: The audit which was presented to the previous administration and Executive Council last June specifically warned of the risk involved in our investments.

Director McClain: Are these funds protected by the FDIC? Is this a smart way to hold our money for the life membership obligation to serve those members? Point I am trying to make is: is there a better way to protect these funds?

Treasurer Hare: Smith Barney only buys what we want them to buy and/or sell.

Director McClain: Who picks and chooses?

Treasurer Hare: These funds were chosen by the last administration. The laws require that no more than 5% (of funds) be placed in any one investment.

Member Louis Gasparini, LR08367, Chapter 208, Brewster, NY: What is the difference between income and expenses each year?

CPA Henderson: There is a six-year history. In the past five years it about broke even. In 2003, if you take out investment earnings, minus expenses, there was a negative, based on the calendar year. Calendar year 2003, the organization had a deficit of operations of about \$6,000. (In the paper that was passed out the CPA stated: (there was a) *"net loss of \$32,062 for the year! [2003] Assets were \$608,975 at Jan 1 2003 and were \$576,913 at end of 2003. and this was with \$31,885 of investment income. Another way of putting it was that loss from OPERATIONS was \$63,947 in 2003."*)

Member Gasparini: What was it in 2004?

CPA Henderson: Approximately the same. A loss.

President Dechert: The end of year showed minus \$7,000.

Treasurer Hare: That is a ballpark figure the way I see it. It looks like with costs going as they are we will probably be pushing over \$100,000 deficit. In my opinion, in five years we will be out of business if we don't do something.

CPA Henderson: For 2004, including investment gains and losses, it's negative \$7,000.

Member Gasparini: This will only keep going (on)?

CPA Henderson: Dues receipts have gone down over six years and expenses have gone up; particularly Graybeards. It's a double whammy.

Member Bob Snyder [Not identified]: When we came back from Korea there was a speech that there are so many young men over there and we could get them to be the new blood of the organization. A few years ago Jim Ferris had a speech to get this done. This is a black and white organization—it's dated. Not a modern organization. We need new people like Jeff Brodeur. We need new blood. Bill Norris once said our organization will slowly dissolve. If we don't get new people the organization will slowly dissolve.

President Dechert: Four months ago we sent magazines to the day rooms in Korea. That is the first on the ground effort. Some are of the opinion that it is a waste of time. The young come home and they forget about us. We have to do what we can or that will be true.

Recruiting TF Chairman Jeff Brodeur: We have brought in about 60-70 new members. I'll give a report on that later. I have 253 (in KVA Maine organization) members who I am encouraging to join.

Member Richard Ziemba, LC00004, Chapter 141, West Wareham, MA: You're talking about chapters and having chapter members in national. When we made petition to start chapters...it was mandatory that chapter members be national members. There was no {such thing as} chapter members and don't know when it became effective that you could belong to chapters and not national. How and when did this separation take place and why was it allowed to take place?

Director Mac Swain: The earliest bylaws did not have anything that said you had to be a member of national to be a member of a chapter. People probably thought that any chapter formed would include only national members. So chapters got approved...the 2001 Bylaws changed where you must be member of national to be chapter member. Unfortunately, they did not follow bylaws as to how they were to be approved. We had to drop back to 2000. I have never found a set of bylaws that enforced membership in national. Chapters say

"I'm a corporation and you can't tell me how to operate." We are hopeful that they will incorporate for their own advantage. It is the fault of national that this has never been corrected. It is very difficult as many have been chapter members for 10 or 15 years.

President Dechert: There are 230 chapters that exist out of the 300 on the books. There were departments where no officers were members of national. For national (charter) certification, we will certify only those chapters who are properly chartered and operating. We had a department that said they were not going to be a part of the national. We have to whittle where we can do something about it. We have to try to carry out what this body wants done.

Member Ziembra: In its inception the rules for the chapter being organized and accepted, stated they had to have 10-12 members who were national members. How this (present situation) came about, I don't know; too much single mindedness.

President Dechert: We are not the same organization as when we began. But we weren't seeking a federal charter then. If the members want to step away from that, it is fine. We do have an opportunity this year to get our bylaws changed and properly enacted. I'm sworn to follow those bylaws. We can't dictate totally to the chapters. It has to start with department where there is one.

Past President Nick Pappas, LR06509, Chapter 013, Rehoboth Beach, DE: We looked at chapters who want to know what national has done for us. Some chapters have helped spread the word by memorials, etc.. They participate at the grassroots level. Without the chapters there would not be a KWVA today.

President Dechert: It was the Forgotten War—without the chapters it would have remained the Forgotten War. The chapters are a vital component of our organization and we do not want to give an impression that we don't need them.

Director Morga: You won't certify a chapter unless it is a national member?

President Dechert: We can't certify that a chapter is a national member (if it isn't a national member according to the bylaws).

Director Morga: One important thing about chapters is that they bring in the members. (About a 3 to 2 ratio, members in chapters versus members at large)

President Dechert: We want to be inclusive.

**Motion:** Director McClain moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as distributed. Seconded by 2d Vice President Dickerson. **Carried.**

### Reunions and Conventions: (No written report provided)

2d Vice President Dickerson reported on the upcoming reunion in Bossier City, Louisiana. He pointed out that room rates were \$79.00 + 21% tax. This means that rooms will be approximately \$100.00.

He reported that Steve dePyssler is optimistic about the meeting and estimates there will be around 950 people in attendance. If you haven't made your reservation, you are urged to do it.

Director Grogan: What airport services to Bossier City are available?

2d Vice President Dickerson: Bossier and Shreveport are twin cities and are serviced by American, Delta, Northwest, and Continental. [At this point the President directed Jake Feaster to get in touch with Steve dePyssler and website and *Graybeards* to ensure airport/air-

lines information is in next advertising]

2d Vice President Dickerson further reported that the next reunion is scheduled for Texas. He had responses from four hotels in San Antonio who were interested in providing rooms for under \$100.00 + tax. Several have quoted prices under \$100.00 + tax, but have tacked on a \$15.00 a day parking fee. This is unacceptable.

Director Dauster: Sacramento, California has been suggested for 2007, but thus far had not been able to secure reasonable costs.

Director Bob Morga (?): What's wrong with Reno? We had a great time there.

**Motion:** Director Grogan moved that consideration be given to a Nevada site for 2007. Seconded by Director Mac Swain. **Carried.**

Director Wiedhahn: I would like to suggest that a Reunion Committee be appointed to project meeting sites into the future.

President Dechert: We are required to have reunion sites be chosen three years in advance. When we assumed office there was only one chosen, Knoxville, 2004. Last year at Knoxville the members authorized sites for 2005 and 2006 (Louisiana and Texas). We're now looking at 2007. I might suggest instructions to seek a site within a state instead of a city. This would give more flexibility.

Director Dauster: Suggested densely populated areas. The West Coast feels that it has been neglected.

Director Pirrello: New York also needs consideration.

Director Morga: We had a good meeting in Atlantic City. Casinos seem to be a drawing point. We have to consider the wives. They seem to enjoy the one-armed bandits.

1st Vice President Adams: One of best places in Nevada is Laughlin. You can get rooms there for \$29.00. This is something to consider.

Treasurer Hare: Let's refer this to the committee.

**Motion:** Director Grogan moved that Nevada be given consideration for the reunion in 2007. Director Morga seconded. **Carried.**

The meeting recessed at 11:15 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 11:30 a.m.

### Budget and Finance: (No written report provided)

Director Jim Ferris: Budget is something put together from experience and with the knowledge that most budgets are not adhered to, to the penny. Most try to adhere to it. We in KWVA have the same dilemma. The income is not enough. Total income around \$257,000 a year...at least for last year and years prior that has not changed. There was a fundraiser used for the 50th anniversary. Somehow we have to raise more money and lower expenses. From figures I received from the Treasurer and CPA, if we continue on the path we want to accomplish this year, our expenses will be \$110,000 above our income. This means we must come up with new income to pay the bills.

I have a few suggestions: 1. Make the *Graybeards* a quarterly, savings of \$50,000 a year. 2. Two meetings a year would (annual and mid-year) save approximately \$40,000. 3. Cutting the Website at \$1,000 a month would save \$6,000. 4. Increase annual dues \$5.00 would increase income approximately \$45,000. This is up to you. Remember all that is put into the budget has to be paid for. That's the

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way it stands and we will see how it goes along.

You will recall that El Pozo Productions made a proposal for \$25,000 in assistance from KWVA to complete production of a video. This request was taken seriously and we contacted Mr. Cruz, who made a presentation, via a conference call. We wanted answers to the following questions: 1. How many times a year would it be shown? 2. What type of exposure would it have? 3. Who would be the audience? 4. How many minutes will the KWVA logo be shown? The bottom line is that committee is recommending that we do not contribute the \$25,000 as the answers to our questions did not substantiate our giving \$25,000. Therefore, the committee suggests that we not contribute \$25,000 toward the production of the video.

**Motion:** Director Grogan moved that \$25,000 not be given to El Pozo Productions to assist in the production of a video.

Director Morga seconded the motion.

Discussion: Director Ferris reported that the KWVA logo would appear for approximately 15 seconds and that no acceptable answer was given as to who would be the audience.

**Action on motion:** A show of hands indicated 11 in favor of not granting \$25,000 to El Pozo Productions for video production. **Motion carried.**

President Dechert: The *Graybeards* is biggest bargain in veterans' magazines. Therefore, tampering with the magazine would be ill advised. We can save \$22,000 to \$28,000 with each issue eliminated. Let's don't kick *Graybeards* around. Not getting new members fast enough is our problem.

Treasurer Hare: I mentioned \$100,000 deficits. If you take the cost at \$12.00 per year per person, that leaves \$8.00 for everything else that we do. We would have to recruit a lot of new members. If you could increase advertising that would be very significant. If you could raise membership by 20,000, cut the number of meetings, etc.... It would all be significant but you must do something. Would the members have objections to a quarterly? We need to control expenses now—not at some future time.

President Dechert requested Editor Art Sharp to address the question: In addition to *The Graybeards*, I also edit several other magazines. These considerations seem to be prevalent among veteran organizations.

Recruiting TF Chairman Brodeur: This is a great magazine! I'm trying to put the organization ahead financially. We also need to inject money in other ways, such as raffles, Rose of Sharon sales, etc. We have to find other ways to fund the organization.

Director Wiedhahn: We have to think about raising additional funds, i.e., raffle tickets etc.

President Dechert: We need to draw a line that says \$6,000 on ad revenue. I've tried all year. Other publications charge much more for their advertising.

Approximately \$1,800 can be saved by cutting eight (8) black and white pages in an issue; it is about double that for eight (8) color pages; cuts of sixteen (16) pages about double those eight page figures.

Past President Pappas: Related past experiences. Dues increases are a tough question.

Member Frank Bertulis, RO32814, Matawan, NJ: We have targeted

members. How much for an ad? I would be glad to help with that. You have a captive market.

President Dechert: The magazine zoomed 30 pages and stayed at that level through the first issue we proofed. It has stayed at 80-90...there may be some possibilities.

Civil Counsel Faircloth: I've listened to a lot of conversations about dues, etc., I will say this: you are running this organization on the cheap. You charge \$20.00 a year. Nobody should run from the organization on a \$5.00 increase. A \$5.00 increase is something that is a no-brainer. You should have an Executive Director. That should be somebody who is accountable to the organization based on return for investment. All of this is what you sell to the membership.

President Dechert: Little over \$3.00 to run the organization after membership costs and magazine. I've been very hesitant to weigh in on budget material. We don't have enough experience to say this is a trend. It is something you can't jump at quickly.

Director Grogan: I would like to concur with everyone's statements. We must interest members to support the organization. Financial statements would be helpful in getting membership support before the members. A combination of all these suggestions will help the organization survive.

Director Mac Swain: We are not cheap. We are in competition with American Legion and VFW as a special group. We are Korean War veterans and up against American Legion and VFW. Their dues are \$23.00 a year for membership also including post and state automatically. Difference is American Legion has 2.5 million members and with \$23.00 they have enough to operate a big organization. It's the same for the VFW. You also have to remember chapters have to exist and state departments and suddenly what you have is not \$20 its \$30-\$35. That's not cheap. When you raise our amount by \$5 we have essentially raised dues to \$40 because chapters will keep theirs at \$15. Some operate on fund raising. Others do not and would not look at it favorably. We have to educate the members that everyone who says dues are too much doesn't understand that *The Graybeards* costs such and such amount of money because it doesn't say that anywhere—\$1.41 for each issue. We need to inform the membership what all the costs are. I think we should look at what we are spending before we decide to raise the dues.

Director McClain: Chapter members may pay up to \$40 a year in dues. Chapters can be in business for themselves. When it comes to membership a lot of them are recruiting chapter members and don't support the national. They do this by associate membership. I would guess that every chapter would have at least 20% associate members—so there are probably 4,000 associate members. There are 350 associate members in national. Raising dues now would be foolish. As Chairman of Membership Committee, I would like permission to put together a program to send out mailing labels as a fund raiser to recruit new members. We have too many members who are not national members.

Recruiting TF Chairman Brodeur: Has anyone ever approached Hyundai or KIA for a car for a fundraiser?

Let's look at members available...there are 7M Korean War veterans. We only have 17,000. People don't know that they can join this organization. We've got 7M we can tap into. We're working on that. We need to think outside the box. If I was in Korea and had an organ-

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ization who was going to act for me, I'd join in a minute. Let's treat every Korean veteran as if they belong here.

Member Gasparini: I belong to 2nd Division and every year they send me a flyer to put in the local newspaper to seek new members. Press releases to local papers...they work.

Director Wiedhahn: We need to be thinking about a professional Executive Director and national office...if we are ever going to grow past 15,000.

President Dechert: There will be a new special committee to report to us at Bossier City. Committees don't solve anything they just make recommendations. We need an procedure to put together all of these things and we need to enlist younger veterans. That is the final test to the cash flow of this organization.

Treasurer Hare: The Budget Committee is required to present a budget in October—with \$100,000 or \$120,000 shortfall can you imagine what the reaction would be? What does Executive Council want us to present? We spend \$6,000 per issue of Graybeards just for mailing. The Postal Service talks about an increase in postage next year. Add that on to it. We have to have directions to present a budget that the group wants. That is why we brought up these things. We have to have something to present in October.

Director Jones: This will be my last time as Director but one thing we haven't discussed is cutting expenses of some unnecessary meetings we have. Maybe we should have two meetings a year. Also there is the matter of the advisers—legal fees, CPA, assistant judge advocate, judge advocate and all kinds of things that means travel expenses to all these meetings. We've never had these expenses before. I think you should address that issue.

President Dechert: We will take a lunch break at 12:30 and will reconvene at 1:30 p.m. I will recognize those requesting time when we reconvene. (Dauster and Pappas)

Lunch break was called at 12:30 p.m.

Reconvened at 1:30 p.m. (*Neither Dauster or Pappas recalled what they were going to say. Agenda continued*)

Director Ferris: As we did in Reno where it was suggested that Recruiting Task Force be formed, I would suggest that we now appoint a Fund Raising Committee who can receive all suggestions for raising funds.

President Dechert: With fund raising, cutting expenses, etc., an organization study committee will have a lot to work on.

President Dechert introduced Bruce Eberle, President of Fund Raising Strategies, 1420 Spring Hill Road, Suite 490, McLean, VA. [Mr. Eberle sat in on the morning session of the Executive Council]

Mr. Eberle: I have had an opportunity to learn about some of your concerns.

I have been in business for over 31 years and worked for about 40 national clients. Among those are several veterans and patriotic groups. Ever since September 11 there has been better support for veterans groups. I will tell you that a number of these groups have raised some significant funds.

I would like to suggest a no risk mailing to all types of potential donors. There is no obligation for you to continue after the results have been summarized. All funds from test mailing will all be yours. (An example) The museum in Rantoul, Illinois will receive about

\$250,000 from our support.

Direct mail has two drawbacks: 1. it takes too long—(six to nine months on returns) and 2. it costs too much (printing, mailing, etc.). However, there are advantages: advertising to people throughout the country. We want a successful program. If results are good, we will give you a three-year program off of that test mailing. We would feel comfortable with such a program. I can tell you that if it is successful you would be able to see in 2006 some net revenue maybe only \$100,000 and by 2008 \$400,000. You have to build up a base of supporters. You would make your revenue from second mailings.

I can say that with veterans groups, over 50% of veterans groups are successful. Annual revenue that is generated is from a few hundred thousand to a million and one-half.

Director Jones: What type of mailing list?

Mr. Eberle: Ones who have responded favorably to past veterans' appeals. Each consists of small segments of eight different lists. We would test the lists from all sorts of variables. There has been a lot of national focus on veterans and those who have served in WWII but that window now allows you to build successfully. As long as there is someone who remembers the Korean War, you will be able to raise money through the mail. This can be a partial solution to your problems.

Question: What is the down side?

Mr. Eberle: There are no strings attached. You can evaluate it after the test mailing.

We would need a sign up for this package. It would take August or September for the test mailing and another 45 days after that. Results would occur toward end of the year. We would launch full effort in 2006.

Question: Who designs, has input, etc., of what gets mailed.

Mr. Eberle: You have to sign off. Money would come to an escrow agent.

Counsel Faircloth: You would need to be careful that it says the message that you want it to say.

Mr. Eberle: This is an emotional business. You have to appeal to emotions. If it's on our nickel then we need to have a say as to what goes into the package.

Member Don Byers [LR03658, Woodbridge, VA]: Most fund raisings are designed to appeal for funds for building things. What would be our appeal?

Mr. Eberle: Just the fact that you are trying to pass along what happened in Korea—valor, service, sacrifice, etc. We also have groups we raise money for helping out families, etc. I can only tell you after the fact. We would need a design that would appeal.

Director Jones: It is an emotional time for people to be appealed too. President Dechert: Thank you, Bruce. You will need to discuss this further with Mr. Ferris. We won't be able to make a decision on this today.

Treasurer Hare: We have passed out a form designed for you to use in being reimbursed. Who have I missed with this form?

**Nominations and Election:** (*Written report attached to Official Copy of Minutes*)

1st Vice President **Dick Adams**, Nominating and Elections

## KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC. ♦ ♦ EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Chairman: We had nine people run for five offices. Our head count went to **Bill Mac Swain**, who garnered 1151 votes.

Altogether we had 1885 votes. We received 1999 ballots: 49 had no labels; members ineligible to vote-4; more than 4 votes-22; 7 were received with no votes marked. The following were also elected: Wiedhahn, Banker, Brodeur and Edwards. We will seat all five tomorrow night at the banquet.

President **Dechert**: Thanks to you, Dick, and Dick Wainwright for your efforts.

**Bylaws:** (Written report attached to Official Copy of Minutes)

Director **Bill Mac Swain**, Chairman of Bylaws Committee: I would like to propose the following motion:

**Motion:** I, **Bill Mac Swain**, make a motion that the Executive Council accept further changes proposed by the Bylaws Committee with only those areas the Council might have objections to brought up for discussion and amended before the next Bylaw objected to is discussed and amended. Seconded by Director **Ferris**. **Carried.**

**Issue:** *Membership change objections:*

Director **McClain**: Does this provide that a signed statement of eligibility for membership must be provided for approval and a Gold Star signed statement must be provided for approval?

Director **Grogan**: I question the elimination of providing a DD-214. If eliminated, anyone can join this organization.

Judge Advocate **Charley Price**: Maintaining a file of DD-214's is dangerous because the information therein is private. The new application (as appears in current issues of *The Graybeards*) must be filled out and it says in effect: I hereby, under penalty of law...and it bears the applicant's signature and if someone challenges it, I now know a short cut way to get the record. If he is not what he says he is.

Member **Bill Burns** [LC00251, Chapter 105, Camillus, NY]: Would just a signature hold up?

Counsel **Fairecloth**: Only after proving that it an authentic signature.

Director **Mac Swain**: Once bylaws are approved, all secretaries will be notified of the required signature.

Recruiting TF Chairman **Brodeur**: It enforces the fact that if anyone who signs into this organization is lying we are going to prosecute you.

Director **Mac Swain**: You will find we are using an application form where you are supposed to put time you served within or without Korea. You are signing this as truth. We don't want to make it hard for someone to join the organization.

Sergeant-at-Arms **Yanacos**: If we are not comfortable with holding the DD-214's, should we receive a signed paper stating we have returned them?

Director **Morga**: Some times having a DD-214 on hand is of great assistance to the family of a deceased. We had one such instance last week, where the wife needed the information thereon and didn't know where to obtain it.

Director **Mac Swain**: If you keep them on file, you are responsible for them. The Bylaws do not state that a DD-214 will be submitted with an application. The membership procedure says filled out and signed official application form.

**Issue:** *Article III (II) Section 3. National Elections, C, 1, 3*

Director **Morga**: I see no reason to provide my "home" phone number if I list a phone number at which I can be reached.

**Motion:** Director **Morga** moved that in Bylaws Section 3. National Elections. Section C, 1 Requirements, (3) the word "home" be removed. Seconded by 1st Vice President Adams. **Carried.**

**Issue:** *Article III, Officers Powers and Duties Section 7. I General*

Insertion of the words "guided by (The Board of Directors approved) Standard Procedure Manual and as outlined as follows: ... Is there any objection? (None expressed.)

*A. President:* All the way to the middle there is an quote mark on association membership meetings. He shall have the power to call the annual meeting and it should be association membership meetings. Any objection? (None expressed.)

*A. President:* To the bottom. All documents legally binding on the association shall be signed by him, except in the case of disbursements. Which will be done in accordance with the Executive Council Procedure Manuals. We wanted to give the Executive Council the ability to decide how the checks are going to be signed. That way we will be able to let the President sign or, depending on the situation, you will have the opportunity to approve it in the procedure manual. (No objection expressed.)

*D. Treasurer:* At the bottom. "...and disbursements shall be according to the Board of Directors approved Standard Procedure Manual." Then every treasurer will know what the procedures are.

The maximum number of persons you could have was three. It was suggested that three would be good but four would be better. Somehow they are going to have two appointed people. One officer and one appointed person. Four would help with that. There could be three officers and one appointed. Gives better opportunity to find someone to sign the checks. (No objections.)

**Question:** How would this affect our bonding situation?

Director **Dauster**: I handled the bonding. There is language in our documents to the effect that anyone designated by association to handle money is covered.

**Issue:** *Article V, Departments and Chapters, I Departments*

*Section 3.4. Officers.* We added Department bylaws to determine those appointed to council/board will have right to vote in department matters. Someone appointed does not necessarily have the right to vote. Department has been given the right to determine if they can vote. (No objections.)

**Issue:** *Article VI, Association Official and Fiscal Year*

With respect to January 1st to end of December. I put in Article 7 Official year on July 25 and fiscal year shall begin on January 1 and end on December 31. (No objections.)

**Motion:** Director **Mac Swain** moved that the proposed Bylaw changes by the Bylaws Committee and amended by the Executive Council be approved for presentations in *The Graybeards* magazine, for study by the membership per the existing 2000 Bylaws, before their vote at the October, 2005, Annual Membership Meeting. Director **Dauster** seconded.

## KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC. ♦ ♦ EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Director McClain: Regarding associate members who do not wish to belong to the organization, we've got nowhere. I think we had a divided consensus if associates should pay national dues. Some said "If they want to." If a person joins the organization that is national KWVA, Inc., they fill out an application. I don't believe chapters should recruit members for their personal needs. We need money and it should come to the national. We have an auxiliary group which wants a refund of their dues because they don't get anything out of the organization. They will receive no refund.

At this point there was a ten-minute recess.

**Resolutions:** *(Written report attached to Official Copy of Minutes)*

Director Lee Dauster, Chairman of Resolutions Committee: There have been several resolutions received since our last correspondence. I request that you read my brief description of each and then let me know your vote—Yes (you approve) or No (you disapprove) Please explain your position if you do not approve of any given resolution.

**Resolution #1.** Hocking Valley Chapter, Logan, Ohio—Unanimous chapter resolution:

Resolved—Do not allow a *Graybeards* name change.

**Resolution #2.** Chapter 255; submitted by 1st Vice President, Harold W. Harmon

Resolved—That Eugene Chin Yu be honored with a lifetime Honorary Membership and a plaque acknowledging the 30,000 plus large medallions Chin Yu has given to Korean War Veterans. Chin Yu has produced and distributed the large medallions at his own expense in grateful appreciation of Korean War Veterans' contribution Korea's freedom.

**Resolution #3.** Wilbert "Shorty" Estabrook (LP00060) and Steve Szekely (R010744) (co-sponsors) have submitted a resolution.

Resolved—The KWVA lend its support to House of Representatives Bill 2369. This bill is entitled "honor Our Fallen Prisoners of War Act." That the Korean War Veterans Association support Congressional legislation that authorizes the award of the Purple Heart medal to all members of the Armed Services who died or will die while captives of an enemy force, and who are not otherwise eligible.

**Resolution #4.** Resolution submitted by the Resolutions Committee members at the request of KWVA Cape & Islands Chapter 1, Massachusetts; Lloyd Sherwood, Commander. *(Copy of Resolution attached to Official Copy of the Minutes. May be viewed at [www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org))*

**Motion on Resolution #1.** Director Dauster moved that the name of the magazine not be changed.

**Discussion:** It was felt that the current Executive Council should not take action binding on future Councils.

**Motion to table Resolution #1.** Director Ferris moved to table action on Resolution #1. Director Grogan Seconded. **The motion was tabled.**

**Motion on Resolution #2.** Director Dauster moved support for enactment of the resolution to provide a certificate and plaque and honorary membership to honor Eugene Chin Yu to be presented at the October reunion. Director Mac Swain seconded the motion. **Carried.**

**Motion on Resolution #4.** Director Morga moved to support the enactment of the resolution regarding Chaplain Kapaun for presentation to the October reunion. Director Mac Swain seconded the motion. **Carried.**

**Motion on Resolution #3.**

**Discussion:** Many spoke against the matter for various reasons.

**Resolution #3 failed for lack of motion.**

**Ethics and Grievance Report:** *(No written report provided)*

Chairman Sim Goodall Ethics and Grievance Committee: It was reported that investigations are ongoing but have been delayed because of health matters. Past President Coon and Past Director Cook have received letters requesting response within thirty days, but have failed to acknowledge receipt of notification.

Yesterday received copy of inventory dated 1997 valued at \$143,000, which included \$12,000 worth of medals and ribbons, \$11,000 worth of watches, and many other items of value. There is no record of how these items were disposed of. Have no record of agreement between Executive Council and Cook and have no record of what was in inventory or what was paid, etc. *(During subsequent discussion it was disclosed that the inventory had reportedly been sold at 25 cents on the dollar to one of the officers.)*

**Question:** Do you have record of inventory from Mobile?

Dick Adams stated that he had this information and will share this inventory with Goodall.

Past President Pappas: This was approved by the board at Mobile meeting. He further stated that the accountant's (Stan Myrda) report might be helpful in this matter.

Chairman Goodall: We are continuing to review this matter. This introduced the report and advice of the Civil Counsel.

**Report of Civil Counsel:** *(Written copy attached to Official Copy of Minutes)*

Counsel Jimmy R. Faircloth, Jr.: I have a prepared report (attached to these minutes). We are trying to sort out some liabilities that affect this organization. I want to be frank in my comments. This is large, nationally prominent organization. I have never seen such corporate disregard. No litigation has been recommended due to expense that would be involved. Unfortunately we are just now beginning to find information and get to the bottom of matters. (Copy of report and recommendations was distributed to members and some visitors before copies ran out)

Director Jones: I understand there are allegations that ballots were illegally sent out to secure votes for the 2004 elections—approximately 300 illegal ballots. (Mr. Jones had not seen the Reno Report of the E&G Committee) Mr. Goodall affirmed that there had been such an allegation and that action was still being conducted. He cited the lack of cooperation in the investigation and the lack of records overall. He asked for any information which the members present might have.

Director Pirrello: I have video tapes of meetings that might be helpful to you and I will supply them to you.

Counsel Faircloth: I would like to have them. Any information will be appreciated.

Member and Director-Elect Edwards: I have copies of *The*

## KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC. ♦ ♦ EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

*Graybeards* that go way back and would be glad to share.

Counsel Faircloth: Pointed out the dangers of e-mail citing some recently containing pornographic materials that showed incorrect senders.

Chairman Goodall: We want to know the value of the inventory items, when sold, to whom, and where is the money?

**Motion:** Director Ferris moved recommendations contained in the Civil Counsel's report be approved. Director Grogan seconded the motion. **Carried unanimously, show of hands.**

Executive Council action approves and effects the three recommendations of the Civil Council's Report:

The EC should pass a resolution requiring all members to respond in good faith to inquiries by the E&G Committee.

The EC should pass a resolution establishing a rule of procedure that a refusal by an accused to respond within 15 days to a request by the E&G for information about a potential charge shall result in a presumption of validity in favor of the charge.

With regard to the pending charges of asset conversion and illegal ballots, the E&G should be instructed to re-request information from Mr. Cook and Mr. Coon, with notice of the above 15-day rule stated within the request. Additionally, because of the seriousness of these charges, civil litigation should be considered. Subpoena power will allow for depositions and written discovery that will produce the requested information.

**Membership:** (Written report attached to Official Copy of Minutes)

Director McClain acknowledged the work of Jacob Feaster and introduced him for his report.

Aide to President Jake Feaster: Reported that he had been given responsibility for oversight on the website. He expressed his sincere admiration for the work being done by the web master—Jim Doppelhammer.

He reported the following membership information:

- 36,355—Names in Database (Active and Inactive)
- 15,983—Voting Members
- 9,522—in chapters
- 6,461—not in chapters
- 6,750—life members (41%—are life members )
- 338—Ex-POW's
- 128—Ex-POW's are in chapters
- 41—Gold Star Members
- 25—Gold Star Members are in chapters
- 23—Medal of Honor Recipients
- 8—Medal of Honor Recipients are in chapters
- 350—Associate Members
- 243—Associate Members are in chapters
- 320—Charter Members of original 1,000 are members
- 200 of 245 Department and chapter presidents have internet capability and are able to view and print their unit rosters

He urged members to follow the web site, at least on a weekly basis, as it is constantly being up-dated. The web site address is [www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org)

**Membership Recruiting:** (Written report attached to Official Copy of Minutes)

Chairman Jeff Brodeur: The Recruiting Task Force was put together in Reno. We have 12 members on the Task Force.

We have designed a patch that all members can wear with pride. The younger ones can relate to this patch. It says: Since 1950—Korean service veterans. Patch is in 20 states. Sale of items will go into Task Force budget.

I would like to increase membership to 20,000 to 25,000 members.

We need to utilize The Graybeards and website to inform post war veterans they are welcome as members.

We need to keep the memory alive. We have been doing this by selling the Rose of Sharon at various places. This has attracted new members.

Director Grogan: The greatest impact is to appear on television—sporting events, races, etc..

**Revisit Program:** (Written report attached to Official Copy of Minutes)

Chairman Tom Clawson, Return Visit Committee, presented a written report (attached to minutes).

He asked for a show of hands of the members present who had made a Korea Revisit trip. Fifteen members responded that they had.

He complimented the staff at the Military Historical Tours. They have been very helpful over the years.

The Revisit Program started in 1991. Dick Adams and Kathleen Wyosnick were very active in promoting this activity in the early years. There have been 16,688 vets and/or their wives who have made the trip.

**Other Business:**

Director McClain asked permission to look into a **special label** to be used as a fundraiser.

President Dechert approved for him to develop as soon as possible and submit to the President for decision. (Without objection)

President Dechert : In answer to question from 1st VP Adams, called attention to the fact that the 2006 KWVA calendars are for sale on the national website. He noted that those who had purchased them would probably find them in the mail by the time they returned home.

Treasurer Hare: Clarified that investment policies will be discussed in further detail at the next meeting.

President Dechert: Responded, yes.

Director Mac Swain: Called attention to the need for contributions to the library. He had a report to present that was not presented. President Dechert asked that information regarding the library's request be sent to the web site for consideration. (Without objection)

**Adjournment:**

**Motion:** Director Dauster moved that the meeting be concluded. Director Morga seconded the motion. Carried.

The meeting concluded at 4:40 p.m.

Visit the Korean War Veterans Association  
Website: [www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org)

# Maine Honors Korean Defense Service Medal (KDMS) Recipients in State House Ceremony

By Marty O'Brien

On July 1, 2005, Governor John Baldacci of Maine, in a ceremony in his suite of offices at the State House in Augusta, announced that he had signed LD 1148, "An Act to Recognize the Recipients of the Korea Defense Service Medal," into law.

A few years ago, the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2003 established the Korea Defense Service Medal (KDSM) for veterans who served in Korea from July 28, 1954 to the present time.

Ironically, Governor Baldacci, when he was a U.S. Congressman, was a sponsor of the original House bill that proposed the award. Now, over 3.5 million (and counting) Korea Service veterans are eligible for the KDSM.

## Two States, Two "Firsts"

The passage of LD 148 in Maine comes just one year after the Massachusetts-based Korea Veterans of America (KVA) was successful in getting a bill in the Bay State signed by Governor Mitt Romney that also gave recognition to recipients of the KDSM.

Massachusetts led the way—but Maine had its own "first!"

The Maine bill not only provides recognition of the award but it also authorizes Korea Service veterans to display a decal of the KDSM on their Maine specialty license plates. Maine is the *first* state in the union to do this! The recognition is well deserved.

## The War is not over

The 1950-1953 Korean War ended in an armistice on July 27, 1953, but shooting continued, most notably between 1966 and 1969, a period of low-intensity conflict sometimes referred to as "The Second Korean War."

Since the truce in 1953, tens of hundreds of American and Republic of Korea troops have been killed and wounded in land, sea and air incidents on, near or off-shore from the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), the no-man's land that divides the



Bill Labombarde is congratulated by Governor John Baldacci for his great work in getting recognition for Korea Service vets in Maine

Korean Peninsula in half along the 38th Parallel.

## Korean War and Korean Service Vets – Shoulder to Shoulder

The credit for getting the Maine bill passed goes to William Labombarde of Lincolnville, Maine, the KVA Chapter #299 Legislative Officer. Bill served with the 2d Infantry Division's 1/9 "Manchu" Infantry Regiment in Korea in 1975-1976. He contacted State Representative Richard Brown of South Berwick, who wasted no time in getting the ball rolling as the bill's sponsor.

On April 1, 2005, the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation heard riveting, emotional supporting testimony from the public, committee members who had relatives who had served in Korea, officers of the CPL Clair Goodblood Medal of Honor Chapter, Augusta, Maine, and officers from the Maine Veterans Coordinating Committee, an organization made up of members from all of Maine's veteran groups.

The bill passed on a vote of 10-0; on June 23, Governor Baldacci signed it into

law. During a ceremony at the governor's office on July 1, KVA Chapter #299 members accepted a souvenir sample of the new plate from Governor Baldacci. Accepting were Jeff Brodeur; Bill Labombarde; Thomas Reed, Turner, Maine, who served with Battery F, 4/44 (Herc) in Korea in 1966-1969; Fernand Letellier, Sebago, Maine, who served with Company A, EUSA Signal Long Lines Battalion in Korea in 1958-1959.

Attending as an associate member of the chapter was Robert Grandfield, West Roxbury, MA, who recently returned from Iraq, where he was assigned to Company B, 23d Marines, attached to the 2d Infantry Division.

Representing Maine's Clair Goodblood [MOH] Chapter #79 were Commander Philip Tiemann; Kenneth Cyphers; Richard Chick; Martin O'Brien, representing the National KWVA as well as the chapter; Edward Hoyt; and former POW and KWVA member Robert MacLean, who was visiting from Florida.

President Gary Lawyerson represented the Maine Veterans Coordinating Committee.



**Robert Granfield speaks on the importance of recognition for all men and women who serve the United States on the front lines of freedom**

Honored guests were State Representative Richard Brown and Charles Fisher of the Transportation Committee, an old friend of the KWVA in Maine; and Catherine Curtis of the Department of Motor Vehicles, who designed the plate.

As part of the ceremony, Governor Baldacci was presented with the new KWVA/KVA challenge coin, as were Representatives Brown and Fisher, whose close friend and neighbor was captured and imprisoned on the USS Pueblo in January 1988.

As Jeff Brodeur proclaimed to the world, "It was a great day for the KWVA!" Certainly, he and KWVA President Lou Dechert both played instrumental roles in making it one.

## Special Credit Goes to Brodeur

Jeffery Brodeur of West Roxbury, Massachusetts, the KVA commander, tirelessly led the charge in Massachusetts to get recognition there and deserves special credit. He served with 4/7 Cavalry and 5/17 Cavalry, 2d Infantry Division, Korea in 1988.

On February 7, 2005, the KVA became Chapter #299 of the Korean War Veterans Association. Headquarters are located at the Massachusetts State House, Room 545-2, Boston, Massachusetts 02132.

## Getting in Touch with Brodeur

If you are a Korea Service veteran who served in Korea after the 1950-1953 war, Jeff would like to hear from you.

Your help in spreading the word among our postwar warriors that they are wanted and needed in the KWVA to join with their wartime brothers to continue the organization's legacy of remembrance of sacrifice and honor and service to our country in Korea in the defense of FREEDOM into the future.

Jeff can also be reached at (617) 323-6426 or KVAMANE@aol.com.

## National Commander Dechert Leads the Way

All through the process, the drive for recognition for Korea Service Veterans has had the full support of our National Commander Louis Dechert, who has been working tirelessly to forge ties worldwide among all of the organizations of veterans who have served in Korea since 1945.

In May of this year, he paid courtesy calls to both Governors Romney and Baldacci as part of a whirlwind tour of New England. In July, President Dechert visited Korea and met with top Korean and Army officials to discuss further awards recognition for Korea Service veterans and the KWVA Recruiting Project.

# How Chapters Got Their Names

In answer to your request in the November/December 2004 Graybeards for input from the Chapters on how they chose their names, I submit the following.

We are the 'War Dogs' Chapter #203, Turlock, California. Our Chapter name was suggested and adopted due to an article that was in the Parade section of our local newspaper on Sunday, April 1, 2001. It told of how the dogs who served in WW II, Korea, and Vietnam were 'Forgotten Heroes' which served their masters and country with unconditional love. They were left behind when their handlers were rotated.

Those which were killed in action were just buried as soon as possible. Those which were not considered as adoptable for civilian life were considered 'war equipment,' and ordered 'abandoned in place.'

Officially, no one knows what happened to the dogs. The only questions that really remain are how many died in battle, were euthanized, eaten or simply starved to death.

So, because our members fought the 'Forgotten War,' and to honor the dogs which were the 'Forgotten Heroes,' we tied it together and named our Chapter the 'War Dogs' Chapter.

*William E. Hoyle  
Chapter 203, Turlock, CA*

## CEREMONIAL RIFLES

We are happy to relay information received from the US Army concerning rifles for ceremonial uses.

According to the announcement:

The ceremonial rifle program has a web site again. The address is: [www.tacom.army.mil](http://www.tacom.army.mil). [To access the site:]

- Select the flash or non-flash version
- Select "Links"
- Select "Ceremonial Rifles"

All the current checklists and forms are on the site. Please feel free to share the web site address.

Audrey Clarke, Lead Donations Officer,  
(586) 574-8447/DSN: 786-8447

## LET'S GET A HEAD START ON THE 2005 KWVA CONVENTION

The KWVA will be holding its 2005 Convention at the Isle of Capri Hotel & Casino in Bossier City, LA, October 2-5. That may seem like a long way off, but it is really just around the corner. So, we will provide you with a bit of information, a few forms, etc, in this issue of *The Graybeards*. We will give you the complete package in the July/August issue.

Start making your plans now.



# Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA) 2005 National Convention 2 – 5 October, Bossier City, Louisiana



## ACCOMMODATIONS

Bossier City's premier luxury hotel and casino \* This Caribbean-themed hotel casino sizzles with the newest slots and the hottest table games. Discover a bigger and better paradise where the fun never stops. Relax in our 570-room all-suite hotel, experience fine dining, our lavish buffet or deli. It's the best place to play and star \* 24-hour casino action \* An all-luxury-suite hotel with jet tubs in every room \* New 36-space RV Park with full hook-ups and amenities \* \$2 million heated outdoor pool and Coconut Cay poolside bar \* Full service Palms Spa \* Fitness Center \* Kitt's Kitchen & Rum Mill \* Fantasy Isle Arcade, the region's best live entertainment in the all-new Events Center. Isle of Capri Casino & Hotel. 711 Isle of Capri Blvd., Bossier City. LA 71111 - I-20. Exit 20A - Bossier City. 877-465-3711.

## ACTIVITIES

### Red River Cruise

Take a ride on the Red River with the Spirit of the Red River Cruise. This enchanting tour-shows you the tranquil beauty of the Red River and Crass Bayou. Learn how the logging industry that once dominated the Red River in the 1800s has been replaced by the gaming industry. This one-hour tour will tell you the history of Shreveport-Bossier City, the bridges of the Ark-La-Tex, and the wildlife habitats along both of these scenic bodies of water. You will need your own transportation to the boat dock. Only 10 minutes from Isle of Capri Hotel.

### Eighth Air Force Museum

An historic journey from WWII for the 2nd Bomb Wing and the 8th Air Force, both of which are headquartered at Barksdale AFB. Twenty-five aircraft and vehicles are on display. Air Force films shown daily in a replica WWII briefing room. Open 7 days a week with free admission. A gift shop is available. Part of your Monday tour at Barksdale AFB.

### Traveling Museum – "Yesterday's Ladies"

A morning of very special entertainment awaits with the presentation of "Yesterday's Ladies!" This remarkable private collection of vintage and antique ladies' clothing and accessories is a "traveling museum" that has been featured on national television. An elaborate display will be presented by Jan Pettiet as she shows her authentic collection of rare fashions, including hats, clothing, shoes, and so much more. This program is always the most talked

about program of any event. Come and enjoy this hour of fun with fascinating facts and stories about life in the Victorian era.

### Centenary College Choir

For 63 years the Centenary College Choir has concertized throughout the world, giving concerts in 31 nations on six continents. The choir has sung for front-line troops in Korea, the Presidents of the United States and Switzerland, the Queen of Denmark, the leaders of NATO, and the Prime Minister of Thailand. This is in addition to most of the American military bases in Europe and Asia, and millions of people in between the wide-ranging audiences. This past December marked the sixth performance of the choir in The White House at Christmas. In May 2005, the choir made a concert tour to Europe, including concerts at Ramstein Air Base and other U.S. military installations in Germany. Playing Wednesday night Banquet.

### 156th ARMY BAND

The 156th Army Band began as the 156th Infantry Band of the Louisiana National Guard in 1937 and served with distinction during World War II. They have performed at West Point, New York; Forces Command in Atlanta, Georgia; the Fifth Army in San Antonio, Texas; Fort Lewis in Tacoma, Washington; and twice at the Army-Wide Bandmaster's Conference. The unit currently has over 60 personnel. Whenever they perform, the band's dedication to duty and professionalism brings great credit to themselves, their unit and the Louisiana Army National Guard. Playing Wednesday night Banquet.

### GUEST SPEAKER

Jim Nicholson, Secretary of Veterans Affairs and member of President Bush's Cabinet, will be the Guest Speaker at the Wednesday night banquet. Nicholson is a Combat Veteran of the Vietnam War, Ranger, Paratroop Officer, and Retired Army Colonel.

### KEY CONTACTS

• Co-Host Retiree Office, Barksdale AFB, Col. Steve dePyssler, USAF Retired, 866-544-2412 FAX: 318-456-3520 Email: [RAO@barksdale.af.mil](mailto:RAO@barksdale.af.mil)

• Isle of Capri Hotel: Sid Crump, Sales Manager 877-465-3711 Email: [SID\\_CRUMP@islecorp.com](mailto:SID_CRUMP@islecorp.com); [www.Isleofcapricasino.com](http://www.Isleofcapricasino.com)



# Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA)

## 2005 National Convention

### 2 – 5 October, Bossier City, Louisiana



#### REGISTRATION FORM

**DEADLINE 10 SEPT 2005**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Guest(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Arriving by: ☐ Air: ☐ Car:

Major Unit Assigned in Service: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ POW Medals: ☐ Army DSC ☐ Navy/Marine Cross ☐ AF Cross ☐ Purple Heart

KWVA Chapter No. \_\_\_\_\_ National KWVA Member: ☐ Yes ☐ No Member No. \_\_\_\_\_

Member Military Organization: ☐ VFW: ☐ Amer Legion ☐ MOPH ☐ DAV ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

*If you are KWVA MOH, fees will be complimentary*

#### REGISTRATION & EVENTS

	# of People	Price	Total
Registration Fee: _____	_____	\$15	_____

*(For those attending Council Meeting and/or Membership Meeting,)*

<b>2 Oct. Sunday</b>	Red River Cruise	_____	\$10	_____	\$	_____
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<b>3 Oct. Monday</b>	Breakfast and Opening Ceremony *	_____	\$10	_____	\$	_____
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<b>3 Oct. Monday</b>	Lunch and Tour of Barksdale AFB	_____	\$12	_____	\$	_____
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<b>4 Oct. Tuesday</b>	Lunch and Memorial Service *	_____	\$12	_____	\$	_____
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<b>5 Oct. Wednesday</b>	Traveling Museum 10 AM *	_____	\$10	_____	\$	_____
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<b>5 Oct. Wednesday</b>	Veterans' Seminar 3:30 PM *	_____	NC	_____		_____
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*(Lunch on your own at the hotel)*

<b>5 Oct. Wednesday</b>	Banquet	_____		_____		_____
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Choices: <input type="checkbox"/> Prime Rib	_____	\$30	_____	\$	_____
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<input type="checkbox"/> Chicken Parmesan	_____	\$20	_____	\$	_____
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*(Guest Speaker: James Nicholson, Secretary, Veterans Affairs)*

\* Denotes Functions that are held at Isle of Capri Hotel

**Total:** \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment by check only payable to: **Retiree Office - Korea.**

Mail to: **RAO, PO Box 134, Barksdale AFB, LA 71110**

**Payment due by September 10, 2005.**

For Information: Col Steve dePyssler, Toll Free 866-544-2412; Email: RAO@barksdale.af.mil. Phone number to call shuttle: 678-7777

#### HOTEL RESERVATION:

Make YOUR OWN reservation as soon as possible. Price \$79/night (single or double occupancy) plus tax. Call Isle of Capri Hotel at 877-465-3711 and advise "Korean Convention." Hotel has free airport shuttle and free Hotel parking.

# Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA)

## 2005 National Convention

### 2 – 5 October, Bossier City, Louisiana



#### Isle of Capri Casino Resort Bossier City, LA

Conveniently located just off Interstate 20 in Bossier City, Louisiana, The Isle of Capri Casino Resort is a full service destination catering to the needs of business and pleasure travelers alike. The Isle is both a tropical playground, and a meeting and conference destination. Whether your conference requirements are for 15 people or 500 people, The Isle of Capri offers approximately 22,000 square feet of state-of-the-art meeting space. Add the 24-hour non-stop casino action, 4 restaurants, pool, health spa and close proximity to all major area attractions, and the Isle of Capri Casino Resort is the premier choice when visiting the Shreveport/Bossier area.

#### Location

- 15 minutes from Shreveport Regional Airport. Bossier and Shreveport are twin cities. They are serviced by American, Delta, Northwest, and Continental Airlines.
- 5 minutes from Downtown Shreveport
- 5 minutes to Shreveport Red River Entertainment District
- 5 minutes from Louisiana Riverwalk

#### Airline Reservations

- American Airlines/American Eagle .....800-433-7300
- Delta Airlines/Delta Connection .....800-221-1212
- Continental Airlines/Continental Express .....800-525-0280
- Northwest Airlines .....800-225-2525

For more airport information: (318) 673-5370 [WWW.fly-shreveport.com](http://WWW.fly-shreveport.com)

Isle of Capri Airport pickup/no charge: Local number: 678-7777 or 1-877-465-3711

#### Accommodations

- 510 room all-suite hotel featuring:
  - Jet Tubs in every room
  - Data port
  - Coffee Maker Electronic keyed access
  - AM/FM Clock Radio
  - Iron/Ironing Board Hair dryer
  - Room Service
  - 3 Televisions with remote control,
  - Premium channels and on-demand movies
  - Voice mail

#### Dining

- Tradewinds Marketplace
  - 24-hour market, featuring sandwiches, salads and snacks
- Calypso's Buffet
  - All-you-can-eat buffet open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner
  - Sunday Champagne Brunch
- Farraday's
  - Open for dinner 7 days
  - Fine dining, featuring steaks and seafood
- Kitts Kitchen and Rum Mill
  - Serving dinner daily, featuring Caribbean style food with full bar

#### Recreation

- Tropical Outdoor Heated Resort Style Pool
- Health Spa
- Pool-side Cabana Bar
- Video Arcade
- Hal Sutton's Olde Oaks Golf Club
- Fred Couples' Stonebridge Golf Club
- Teague Parkway Boat Ramp
- Teague Parkway Jogging Path

#### Area Attractions

- Louisiana Riverwalk Entertainment Area
- Centurytel Center
- American Rose Center Sci-Port Museum
- Barnwell Center
- Meadows Museum of Art Norton Art Museum

#### Amenities

- 24-Hour on-site Casino
- Palm's Health Spa
- Banana Cabana Gift Shop
- Complimentary Valet Parking
- 24-hour Business Center
- Eno's Licensed Daycare & Arcade
- Dry Cleaning/Laundry Service
- Complimentary Airport Transportation
- Complimentary USA Today Newspaper
- Capri R.V. park on site



# 2005 NATIONAL KOREAN VETERANS CONVENTION SOUVENIR PROGRAM



The National Convention is being held in Bossier City, LA from 2-5 October 2005. The Guest Speaker at the Banquet will be the new Secretary of Veterans Affairs R.James Nicholson.

A Souvenir Program will be given to everyone making a reservation to any event. We expect greetings in front of the program from President Bush, Secretary of Defense, and the Governor of Louisiana. This will be a golden opportunity to let everyone know about your Chapter or personal greetings to the Convention.

**Deadline for submission is 15 August** in order for us to have enough time to typeset and print the Souvenir Program.

Help support our Korean National Convention and our veterans by buying an ad in the convention book.

You can use it (1) Greetings from your Chapter or Department (2) Identify your membership, location, etc (3) Running for KWVA position (4) Memorial (5) Honoring a Member, etc.

If you wish to place an ad in our 2005 Korean Veteran CONVENTION SOUVENIR PROGRAM for the convention to be held in Bossier City, Louisiana, October 2 through 5, 2005 complete the form below and return it by 15 August, 2005. Your support will be much appreciated.

• Ads must be in black and white (If you cannot submit camera ready copy, just furnish us the information)

• Page size: 8-1/2 x 11I

Full Page Ad.....\$200

1/2 Page Ad .....\$125

1/4 Page Ad .....\$75

Business Card Ad .....\$35

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Deadline for submission: 10 September 2005**

Make Checks payable to: **Retiree Office-Korea**

Mail to **PO Box 134  
Barksdale AFB. LA 71110**

## Nicholson Takes Oath as VA Secretary

VA Press Release, Washington - Jim Nicholson, a combat veteran of the Vietnam War, was sworn in February 1 as the nation's fifth Secretary of Veterans Affairs. For the last three and a half years, Nicholson had been the U.S. ambassador to the Vatican.

Nicholson succeeds Anthony J. Principi, who led the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) during the first four years of the Bush administration.

"I accepted this job because of the mission of VA," Nicholson said. That mission is to serve veterans with dignity and compassion and to be their principal advocate to ensure they get the care, recognition, dignity and support they deserve from a grateful nation."

"The challenge that is before us is to build upon the positive changes that have already been done and to bring VA fully into the 21st century to serve our 21st century veterans," Nicholson said.

A native of Struble, Iowa, he spent much of his adult life as a lawyer and businessman in Colorado. Nicholson graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He served eight years on active duty as a qualified Ranger and paratroop officer, then 22 years in the reserves, before retiring as a colonel.

He holds a master's degree in public policy from Columbia University and a law degree from the University of Denver. In 1997, he became chairman of the Republican National Committee, a post he held for four years before taking up duties at the Vatican in August 2001.

VA is the nation's second largest cabinet department, with approximately 250,000 employees.

Nearly 5.2 million veterans are expected to receive care this year in VA's 158 hospitals and 850 clinics. VA became a cabinet department in March 1989, replacing the Veterans Administration.

## KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL APPROVED THESE CHANGES TO THE 2000 BYLAWS AS OF JULY 26, 2005

The following changes to the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. 2000 Bylaws are presented to give the membership the opportunity to review those bylaw changes approved by the Executive Council at its meetings on 15th of March in Reno, NV and in Arlington, VA on July 26th. The membership will be asked to ratify the changes at the Annual Association Membership Meeting now scheduled on October 5, 2005 in Bossier City, Louisiana.

Only those Articles which have been approved for change are presented. The other portions of the 2000 Bylaws will remain the same with the inclusion of these changes to form a new revised 2005 Charter and Bylaws. There were necessary changes made at the July 26th and are included with the original changes approved in March so the Membership may see all the changes once again.

Please note that the following method for indicating changes or deletions has been used:

■ *Italics for words deleted in the original 2000 Bylaws.*

■ **Bold for words which have been approved for addition to the 2000 Bylaws at the March 15th Executive Council Meeting.**

■ **(Bold words in parenthesis added or changed and approved by the Executive Council at the July 26th Executive Council Meeting).**

■ ***Bold italics for words approved at the March Executive Council Meeting that are not now relevant and have been deleted.***

■ Normal for existing 2000 Bylaw wording which are still in use in the 2000 Bylaws..

■ Skipped wording between here and .....here.

You should note that the Charter has been separated from the Bylaws and Article Numbers in some cases have been changed. The Charter now has Articles I and II rather than Article I and IA.

• The Bylaws now start with Article I rather than Article II and an Article III has been added to separate the powers and duties of the officers from the election process. Article IV has a new title.

• The time for elections has been changed to get away from the 27th of July conflict that most of the Officers and a lot of Departments and Chapters have with projects that take place in their areas during the Armistice time period or those affairs that take place in Washington D. C..

• More guidance has been given to the National Executive Council, Department and Chapters as well as some relief for their operations and elections. This also applies to a greater flexibility to allow business to be conducted without travel and also to allow National to conducted business by ballot in case there is an emergency or lack of quorum at an Executive Council or Association Membership business meeting.

• The Executive Council has been changed to Board of Directors and the Bylaws now include the fact that the Board of Directors must adhere to a Standard Procedure Manual which

they have already approved. A lot of guidance is included in it to help the officers in their duties and to standardize the operation.

• The additional changes at the July Executive Council Under Article II I, Membership, Section 2 Membership Application were required when the requirement to submit a DD-214 to join the Association was eliminated due to a privacy problem. A signed agreement that all data furnished is true and accurate is to be used. See Application Form in the March – April *Graybeard Magazine*.

• Article III II, Election of Officers, Section 3. National Elections. The requirement to use a DD-214 Form has been eliminated here also because of Government Privacy Acts. A signed Application Form with all the data filled out including dates in or out of Korea will be used with the statement as shown on the now in use Application Form approved by the Executive Council.

• In addition one word eliminated under C., 1. Requirements, c., 3) stating home telephone number must be given was changed to delete home telephone so any telephone number may be used for a candidate to be located either at work or home or by cell phone not located in the home.

• Under Article III, Powers and Duties, Section 7. 1. General., A. President and D. Treasurer note that there are two additions of wording and one deletion of wording from the March Executive Council approved wording. All changes are for easier operation as to how the disbursements must be approved and who is allowed to sign the checks with the procedure still under the control of the Executive Council using the Standard Procedure Manual which they must approve any changes made.

• Under Departments and Chapters a few corrections were necessary when the original Bylaw had additional wording added to appoint/elect and this was approved by the Executive Council at the March 15 meeting. The wording change left some doubt as to who had the right to vote in both Department and Chapter areas. That oversight was taken care of in the additional Bylaw change approved July 26 by the Executive Council.

• Under Chapters it was also thought advisable to add a statement that Chapters are expected to cooperate with the State Department when one is available in their State. This was always expected, however it has never been a written statement in the Bylaws.

• Article VII, Association Official and Fiscal Year was added by the Finance Committee to clarify the time period for Financial matters and the Official time period for Association Operation. This of course will change the Article Numbers for the rest of the Bylaws if it is approved by the membership.

• The Bylaws Committee apologizes for the additional changes, but Government changes on Privacy for our individual members and the necessity to clarify some of the other changes had to be done so the new Bylaws for the Association might be placed in effect during the 2005 year.

## KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC.

## CHARTER CHANGES

## ARTICLE I

## CHARTER PREAMBLE

First: The name or title by which this *society* **association** shall be know shall be: KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED.

Second: The **Korean War Veterans Association** *term for which it is a* shall be perpetual **non-profit corporation issued a Certificate of Incorporation by the State of New York.**

Third: Its particular business and *objects* **objectives** shall be:

1. To organize, promote and maintain for benevolent and charitable purposes as **association** of persons who have seen honorable service during the Korean War at any time between *June 25, 1950* **September 3, 1945** and *January 31, 1955*, **the present time**, both dates inclusive, and of certain other persons, **with the particular qualifications for membership to be set forth in the bylaws of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. Bylaws.**

7. To do any and all things necessary or proper for the accomplishment of the foregoing business and *objects* **objectives**.....of a trust.

## ARTICLE IA II

## OFFICE

The corporation may establish offices, either within or without the State of New York, as the Board of Directors may determine.

The *principal administrative* office of the corporation shall be located in the Washington D. C. Metropolitan area **or such other place as the Board of Directors and the President may determine.** All communications shall be directed to that office.

## END OF CHARTER CHANGES

## KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC. 2005

## BYLAWS CHANGES

## ARTICLE II I

## MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Qualification of Members. Membership in this Association shall consist of **Regular, members, Associate, members** and **Honorary members**. No person shall be excluded from membership because of race, color, creed, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, or physical or mental disability, *so as long as* the individual meets the **criteria** of service requirements **as stipulated below.. Only Regular members as defined in A. below have a vote in National or Department matters.**

B. A. Regular Members.

1. Service in the United States Armed Forces. Any person who has seen honorable service in any of the Armed Forces of the United States, **defined as Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard**, said service being within Korea **including territorial waters and airspace** (September 3, 1945 - June 25, 1950) within and without (June 25, 1950 - January 31, 1955), or who, as *a member of the United States as defined by U.S.C. Title 10*, served honorably in Korea from February 1, 1955 **until the present time** is eligible for membership.

4. United Nations Command and Korean Armed Forces: Any person who served honorably in the Armed Forces of the United

Nations Command or in the Republic of Korea Armed Forces during the Korean War era and thereafter is eligible for membership. However, UN/Korean membership in the Association may not exceed 10% of the Total Membership. **(A signed statement of their eligibility for membership, must be provided for approval). Proof of service is required.**

5. Gold Star Parents. Any parent whose Son/Daughter was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War is eligible for Life membership. **A (signed) statement of their eligibility for membership, must be provided for approval.**

6. Gold Star Wives Spouses. Any *women* **person** whose *husband* **spouse** was killed in action, *or was* missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War is eligible for life membership. **A (signed) statement of their eligibility for membership, must be provided for approval.**

C. B. Associate Member. and A. C. Honorary Member.

## Section 2. Membership Procedures

Application. Any person qualified for membership, as set forth above, may present a written application to any member in good standing, on a form prepared and approved by the Executive Board of **Directors**. The application shall be an agreement that said applicant will agree, *and* abide by and conform to the charter, bylaws, and regular procedures of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.. **The (filled out and signed Official A)pplication (Form),** when accompanied with the **appropriate dues as set forth below, and DD- 214 Armed Forces Separation Form,** may be accepted by any **Regular** Member, Chapter, Department or National office **to be sent to the membership office address listed on the Official Application Form. Other (signed) proof of service information, showing dates of service (and relationship), may be provided for documentation listed under the various categories of membership (of 4, 5, and 6) in Section 1. above, as proof for membership approval.**

B. Termination of Membership. *The Executive Council, by a two-thirds vote of those in attendance,*

**Any member of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. may be admonished, reprimanded, suspended, or expelled, or removed from any office of the Association a member** for just cause after an appropriate hearing, **by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors. Charges shall be investigated by an Ethics and Grievance Committee following the guidelines in the Standard Procedure Manual. Facts will be referred to the Board of Directors, for their discipline decision. Such decision to be voted upon at the next general membership meeting. The Executive Council Board of Directors** may, without a hearing, but upon notice to the member, suspend or terminate the membership of any member who becomes ineligible for membership for non-payment of dues as set forth hereinafter. No Chapter or Department may take action **"For Just Cause"** against a member, but may so petition the **National Executive Council Board of Directors.** However, any such petition must show that the member complained about was served with the petition before its filing with the **National Secretary of the Association.**

## Section 3. Dues.

A. Amount of Dues Payment of dues is a condition of initial

and/or continuing National Membership.

*Dues shall be \$20.00 per year for regular members. Life membership dues shall be \$150.00. Dues required are published on the approved Application Form for each category of membership.*

Medal of Honor, *members POW, members Gold Star Parents and Gold Star wives Spouses may pay dues if they wish, but are not required to do so are granted Life membership with no payment, however they may pay dues if they so desire.* The Executive Council Board of Directors may, with the prior approval of the membership adjust the dues.

C. Payment of Dues. National dues shall be sent to the Membership Office listed on the Official Application Form and collated at the National Office by the National Treasurer. All dues, after initial application payment, shall be due and payable on January 1 each year and be valid for a calendar year (1 January - 31 December). **Dues shall be prorated for all new members the second year to bring all dues paying members to the calendar dues date.** Life Membership dues may be paid in a lump sum or in six (6) equal payments of \$25.00 each over a twelve (12) month period, all payable in the first year of life membership. All dues collected by any Regular Member, Chapter or Department shall also be paid to national headquarters sent to the Membership Office.

## ARTICLE III II ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers. Members eligible to vote shall, in accordance with the procedures set forth hereinafter and, prior to the appropriate Annual Association meeting, elect a National President, National First Vice President and National Second Vice President, whose terms of office shall be for two years. The National President elected at said meeting in June, shall appoint recommend a National Secretary and a National Treasurer at the called meeting following the election during the annual meeting for the new Board to confirm. Other officials shall also be appointed recommended as listed in ARTICLE III, Section 7, Committees. to wit: a Judge Advocate, Chaplain, Historian, MIA-POW, Chair Public Relations Chair, Assistant Secretaries and Assistant Treasurers, as well as other officials as needed for Board approvals. Only the Secretary and Treasurer positions may be held by one person. No officer or director elected by the membership shall also serve as Secretary or Treasurer.

Section 2. Executive Council Board of Directors.

D. Special Meetings. The President or eight (8) ten (10) elected members of the Executive Council Board of Directors may call a Council Board Meeting for one (1) purpose only, by giving two (2) weeks written notice to all members of the Council Board, stating the date and time, the exact location of the meeting place and the agenda of the meeting.

E. Business Without a Meeting. Any elected member of the Executive Council Board of Directors may call for business to be conducted without a meeting. The National Secretary and at least twelve (12) other members must be informed and asked to acquiesce by telephone, to a telephone conference meeting which is then followed by a written resolution sign by each voting officer: or by mail ballot from the Secretary, to every Board of

**Directors voting member, stating the motion(s) or request and their vote for or against.** Any such action must be ratified by a quorum at the meeting of the next Executive Council Board of Directors meeting.

Section 3. National Elections.

B. The National Secretary shall issue a call for election, which shall be published in the November - December GRAYBEARDS in the first issue following January 1 of each for the next election year.

C. No later than February 15 of each year when such offices are to be filled, any Regular Member in good standing of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc., seeking to run for President, First Vice President, or Second Vice President or Director shall make their intentions known to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee in writing using the following format:

1. Requirements:

a. Must present proof of service by submitting a (separate signed Official Application form) copy of a DD-214 or other document notarized as a true copy showing eligible service (years) and a statement releasing such document (the Application form) for verification by the Nominating Committee.

c.

3) Their current mailing address, home telephone number and KWVA membership number.

F. Members shall cast their ballots by marking thereon their choices and returning return the official ballot by July 10 to reach the specified address by June 10th, where a Certified Public Accountant shall count the ballots and render a report to the present Nominating/Election Committee Chairman and others, per the approved Standard Procedure Manual, at the appropriate time by June 15th.

Section 4. Term of Office.

The President, First and Second Vice Presidents shall have a term of office of two (2) years. Directors elected shall have a term of office of three (3) years. All elected officers shall assume office when on June 25th. This meeting shall be called by the outgoing President for Administration data exchange when necessary. The term of office of all appointed national officers shall be at the pleasure of the President, with Executive Council Board of Directors approval. There will be no set term of office for appointed positions.

Section 5. Removal

Any Officer of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. maybe may be expelled, or suspended, or removed from office. for just cause by two-thirds vote of the Executive Council after charges are preferred under oath in writing and a hearing held, after due notice, before the Executive Council.

**The procedure outlined in Section 2. Membership Procedure., B. Termination of Membership, shall be used.**

**Note: Section 7 Powers and Duties: has been made into Article III to get it out of the Election Article.**

## ARTICLE III OFFICERS POWERS AND DUTIES

Section 7. 1. General. The officers shall have powers and shall perform such duties as may from time to time be specified in resolu-

tions or other directives of the *Executive Council Board of Directors*. In the absence of such specifications, each officer shall have the powers and authority and shall perform and discharge the duties of the offices of the same title serving in nonprofit corporations having the same or similar purposes and objectives as this Association. The duties of the elected and appointed officers shall be *as follows guided by (the Board of Directors approved) a Standard Procedure Manual* and as **outlined** as follows: Note: (the use of the masculine gender in the following paragraphs should be taken to mean either masculine or feminine gender)

A. President. The President shall perform the functions conferred upon him by these Bylaws and shall generally be responsible for the execution of the policies and programs decided upon by the *Executive Council Board of Directors*. He *may shall appoint recommend regular members as Secretary and as Treasurer for approval by the Board of Directors*. He may appoint Standing Committees and *ad hoc* Special Committees composed of **Board of Directors members and regular members at-large, for Board of Directors approval**, to assist him in the execution of his duties. He shall have the power to call meetings (**Association Membership Meetings of members of the association at the Korean War Veterans reunions** and shall preside at such meetings, and he may call for meetings of the *Executive Council Board of Directors* over which he presides. He shall recommend to the Executive Council Board of Directors any action he considers necessary and proper for the welfare of the Association. All documentation which shall be legally binding on the Association shall be signed by him, except in the case of disbursements (**which will be done in accordance to the Board of Directors approved Standard Procedure Manual**.) *by check or draft from the funds of the association's own account or an account managed by it. Such checks or drafts will be signed and endorsed in accordance with Section 7D In the absence of both the Treasurer and the Assistant Treasurer the President shall approve payment of invoices and bills.*

C. Secretary The Secretary shall be *appointed recommended* by the President, and confirmed by the *Executive Council Board of Directors*. He is responsible for the management of the day-to-day business of the Association, and shall perform all administrative duties required of him by the President. He shall be responsible for recording the minutes of meetings of the Association and shall keep records of the Association. He shall maintain communications with the Membership and Reunion Committees, offering assistance as required to publicize their actions to include assisting in development of charter groups and in making arrangements for reunions. **A proposed agenda for the Annual Association Membership meeting shall be placed in the Graybeards for The membership to be notified of business to be conducted.** Thirty (30) days prior to each reunion he shall submit to each officer and member of the *Executive Council Board of Directors* an agenda for the Association **Membership** business meeting and an agenda for the **Council Board** meeting. *He or his assistant shall be editor of the Graybeards and, from material provided by the members and other official and unofficial sources, shall maintain quarterly communications with all members on matters of general interest, with specific attention to Korean War Veterans activities and chapter news.* In the performance of his duties, he may

hire clerical or other assistance for the proper and expeditious conduct of the Association affairs, as authorized by the *Executive Council Board of Directors*.

D. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be *appointed recommended* by the President and confirmed by the *Executive Council Board of Directors*. He shall be responsible for collecting dues and other monies in behalf of the Association, and for making timely and proper disbursements from the funds in his charge. He shall **be the maintain custodianship of certain funds** all accounts, accountable for same, and shall prepare *financial statements reports for publication at Korean War Veterans reunions and in the Graybeards as directed by the Board of Directors*. At the direction of the *Executive Council Board of Directors* he is to be bonded.. **A maximum number of three (four) persons shall be may have active authorized authorization** to sign for *expenditures of funds disbursing instruments of for the Association*. **Other signatures may be kept in reserve in the event an active signer becomes disabled. In order to be valid Each disbursement disbursing instrument must will have the two signatures, one of which must be an elected officer of two of the three authorized persons. (and disbursements shall be according to the Board of Directors approved Standard Procedure Manual.)**

**Note** E, F, Chaplain & Historian have been replaced with the Appointed Positions information and **Board of Directors** information, and **old E, F, G, and H** have been placed in the redone E. Appointed Positions.

E. Appointed Positions. All appointed positions (i.e. Chaplain, Historian, Judge Advocate (**who shall hold only one position**), **Graybeard Editor, Webmaster, POW/MIA (who shall be a POW member if available), VA/VS, Sergeant of Arms, and all Standing Committee Chairmen** will be published **responsibilities and duties are included** in the approved Standard Procedure Manual.

I. F. Executive Council Board of Directors. The National *Executive Council Board of Directors* shall consist of seventeen (17) members, being the President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and twelve (12) Directors. The President of the Association shall be the **Chairman**. The **Council Board** shall formulate policies and supervise the execution thereof **and The Executive Council shall have the control and management of the affairs, property and funds of the Association. and shall decide the policies of the association.** It shall have at least one **(1)** stated meeting *during the annual reunion* preceding the **Annual Association Membership** business meeting. It shall meet at other times as required and called by the President, and may **conduct business by telephone or mail without a meeting vote by mail upon call by the President when done in compliance with Article II, Section 2. Board of Directors., C. Special Meetings.** of these Bylaws. It shall establish *rules for itself and its internal committees and maintain a Standard Procedure Manual* and is responsible for timely actions between its regular meetings.

**All members of the Executive Council Board of Directors may make rules as to the manner of notifying its members of business and as to dispensing with such notices in the case of Council Members who are not within convenient traveling distance of the**

*place of the meeting. must be notified of the time, place and agenda for the meeting. The Board of Directors shall determine excused absence using definitions established in the Standard Procedure Manual. No person shall receive any salary for services as a member of the Executive Council Board of Directors or the services as President or Vice Presidents. The Executive Council Board of Directors may, from time to time, establish fees for services of Secretary or Treasurer. (The Executive Council shall have the control and management of the affairs, property and funds of the association and shall decide the policies of the association.)* [The deleted wording placed in parenthesis, placed in first paragraph.]

J. Committees. There shall be two (2) types of committees, to wit: (1) Standing Committees and (2) Special Committees. Standing Committees (1) shall include the following: Budget/Finance, **Bylaws**, Membership, Nominations/Election, Resolution, Reunion and "Tell America" Committees.

The membership thereof shall be appointed by the President, with the.....member.

The Special Committees (2) shall be appointed by the President as needed, and approved by the *Executive Council Board of Directors* and shall serve at his pleasure., *such committees include, but are not limited to: Publicity, Reunion operations-current year, and Reunion operations-future years.*

The duties and responsibilities of each committee are defined in the charge issued to that committee or **are outlined in the Standard Procedure Manual.** *A list of committees and a candidate acceptance form shall be published in the Standard Procedure Manual.*

**Article IV has a new heading and items have been rearranged in a better order as shown.**

## ARTICLE IV ANNUAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

Section 1. *The National Reunion will take place annually. The Annual Association Membership meeting of the corporation will be held each year. at the place of the reunion. Said date and place to be published in the Graybeards.*

Section 6. 2. At any a general Association Membership meeting one hundred (100) **seventy five (75) Regular** members in good standing and in attendance shall constitute a quorum. **Membership shall be checked and vote counts taken by an appointed Sergeant at Arms staff. Should no quorum be present, ballot by mail voting to complete any membership business is authorized, with ballots mailed to all Regular members eligible to vote and at least two hundred (200) votes received as a quorum requirement. Voting procedures shall be followed as outlined in the Standard Procedure Manual.**

Section 2. 3. The selection of the site and dates of the **following year's Annual reunion Association Membership Meeting** shall be *agreed by the Executive Council presented to the Board of Directors for approval* and ratified by a majority vote of the **regular membership. at the annual meeting. as outlined in Section 2. above.**

Section 3. This original Section 3. wording is deleted. *Election of national officers shall be in accordance with Article III, Section 3*

*and 4 of these bylaws. It serves no purpose and Proxy vote matter covered in new Section 4. now.*

Section 4. This old Section wording no longer required. See new Section 4. *The vote on all other matters shall be decided by regular members, in good standing, in attendance at the annual meeting.*

Section 5. 4. A simple majority of **Regular members** *those attending and voting* shall determine all issues, except when otherwise indicated in these Bylaws or Roberts Rules of Order **quoted as the Parliamentary Authority in Article VI.** Proxy votes will not be permitted.

Section 6. Deleted since it is covered in Section 2. above. At a *general meeting one hundred (100) members in good standing and in attendance shall constitute a quorum.*

Section 7. 5. A Special meeting of the **general Association** Membership may be called ..... to be conducted together with the time and place.

Section 8. Deleted since this Section is no longer valid with a Reunion Committee working.

## ARTICLE V DEPARTMENTS AND CHAPTERS

### I. Departments

Section 1. Locations. Each United .....upon the establishment of **two four (4)** or more ..... said Department.

Section 2. Organization. Upon certification of **two four (4)** or more chapters within a Department's Jurisdiction, the National Membership Committee will supply an organizational packet and select a Chapter to proceed with an organizational meeting. shall be called. A National Charter shall be applied for and Bylaws written for approval by all Chapter eligible regular members adopted, not inconsistent with these Bylaws.

Section 2. 3. Incorporation An application **shall be** made to the proper authorities for a Certificate of Incorporation for a nonprofit Corporation known as "Department of \_\_\_\_\_, Korean War Veteran Association, **Inc.** and **to preparations made** for a Department Convention and **Officer** election **within 180 days. A packet will be supplied by the National Association to guide the organizers on how to** make application to the appropriate authorities for a Certificate of Incorporation as a nonprofit Corporation, **an Employee Identification Number (EIN) for banking purposes, and for Internal Revenue Service Exempt Status as a 501(c)(19) Veterans Organization if the Department so desires.**

Section 3. 4. Officers. Each Department of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc, **shall will** elect a Department President, Vice President(s), and **elect or appoint** a Secretary, and Treasurer **and if so required Directors, during the annual meeting according to approved Department Bylaws, for said Department** prior to the end of the month of June each election year. The results of such **election** shall be transmitted forthwith to the National Secretary. The Department President shall appoint all other officers and committees as needed **with Council/Board approval. Department Bylaws will determine if those who are appointed to the Council/Board will have the right to vote in Department matters.) After their election to the office in the Department,**

The President and Vice Presidents title can be changed to Commander and Vice Commander(s), with the approval of the Department, during their time in office. No person may hold two elective offices, except for Secretary and Treasurer, which offices may be held by one person (if elected or appointed).

Section 4. 5. Department Council/Board. The Department *corporation* shall have a Department Executive Council or Board of Directors consisting of the elected Officers, *the appointed officers and Directors to form at least a Board/Council of ten (10) who are current members of KWVA, Inc. in good standing,* and each current Regular member of KWVA Chapter President or a current Regular member of KWVA selected by the Chapter President membership.

Section 5. 6. Time of Elections. The election of Department officers shall take place at the annual meeting of the said Department of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. prior to the end of the month of June, at a time and place agreeable to the *several majority of Chapters,* and upon a minimum of sixty days written notice of said meeting, unless waived in writing by *each a majority of the Chapters.* If the Department Bylaws so state, this does not preclude the use of a "mail-in ballot procedure" instead of voting at the annual meeting.

Section 6. 7. Term of Office. All elected Department Officers shall have a term of office of one or two years, as determined by the Department Bylaws, and each shall take office on the day of election.

Section 7. 8. Vacancies. A vacancy in any elected Department position office for any reason whatsoever, may be filled by the Department Board/Council at the next Board/Council meeting or by written request, for approval of a new Officer, received and returned by mail as long as the written vote is confirmed at the next Department Board/Council meeting.

Section 8. 9. Powers and Duties. The several ..... directives of the Department Executive Council/Board of Directors. In the absence.....this Association.

## II Chapters.

Section 1. Organization. Initially a Chapter shall consist of not less than twelve (12) National regular members in good standing or proposed qualified members who wish to form a chapter in their area. but may grow to any size thereafter. Effective October 5, 2005 each person who becomes a member of a Chapter must first become a National Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. regular member, and must maintain National regular membership to remain a member of a Chapter. (When a KWVA Department within a State has been formed, Chapters are considered to be a unit under the Department and will cooperate as a unit of the Department.)

Section 2. Incorporation. Upon representation to the Department, in the jurisdiction they intend to form their chapter if such exists, the National Secretary or National Membership Committee his designee that twelve (12) or more National regular members in good standing or proposed qualified members intend to form a chapter; and have submitted the proper documentation for the awarding of a National Charter, the proposed Chapter members shall hold an organizational meeting which shall

be called to adopt Chapter Bylaws, not inconsistent with these Bylaws and to form at least an Executive Council/Board of Directors of ten (10) who are current Regular members of KWVA in good standing. A packet will be supplied by the National Membership Committee to guide the organizers on how to make application to the appropriate authorities for a Certificate of Incorporation as a nonprofit Corporation, an Employee Identification Number (EIN) for banking purposes, and for Internal Revenue Service Exempt Status as a 501(c)(19) Veterans Organization if the Chapter so desires, and to preparations made for an organizational meeting preparatory to the annual meeting on or before the end of the month of June next occurring. officer election within 180 days.

Section 3. Formation Financing Loan. Chartered Chapters with twelve (12) to Twenty-four (24) founding members may seek monetary assistance from apply to National for prospective member lists, stamps, becoming Incorporated and obtaining Federal exempt status by applying for assistance. a formation loan of \$50.00, with twenty-five (25) or more founding members the loan is \$100.00. All loans to be repaid within one year. The National Board of Directors will establish amounts available for Chapters at the Boards meeting for budget approval.

Section 4. Officers. Each Chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. shall elect a Chapter President, Vice President(s), and elect or appoint a Secretary, and Treasurer and if so required Directors, to form at least a Council/Board of ten (10), according to approved Chapter Bylaws, during the annual election meeting, to be held prior to the end of the month of June each election year. The results of said election shall be transmitted forthwith to the National Secretary. (The President shall appoint) all other officers shall be appointed as needed (and committees with the approval of the Council/Board. Chapter Bylaws will determine if those who are appointed to the Council/Board will have a right to vote in Chapter matters.) After their election to the office in the Chapter, the President and Vice President(s) titles can be changed to Commander and Vice Commanders, with the approval of the Chapter membership, during their time in office. No person may hold two elective offices, except for Secretary and Treasurer, which may be held by one person (if elected or appointed.)

Section 5. Term of Office. All elected Chapter Officers shall have a term of office of one (1) or two (2) years. as determined by the Chapter Bylaws, and each shall take office on the day of election.

Section 7. Powers and Duties. Chapter officers ..... of the Chapter Executive Council/Board of Directors.

In the absence.....of this Association.

## (ARTICLE VII)

### (ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL AND FISCAL YEAR)

(The official year of the association shall begin on June 25th and end on June 24 of each year. The fiscal year of the association shall begin January 1st and end on December 31st of each year.)

## (ARTICLE VIII)

### CHARTER AND BYLAW AMENDMENTS AND RESOLUTIONS

Section 1. Charter. Any proposed amendment to the Charter may



be submitted by any **National** regular member in good standing. The proposed amendment shall be sent to the **National Secretary** to be read to the **Board of Directors**, for their approval or non-approval recommendation to the membership, and then shall be read at the next annual meeting by the Secretary, at which time it will lie on the table, be available for the consideration of the members and when published in the GRAYBEARDS, and voted upon at the following Annual Association Membership meeting for approval by two-thirds of a regular membership, or if no quorum is available, by ballot vote of the National Regular members with the ballots sent by mail or in the following GRAYBEARDS publication.

**Section 2. Bylaws.** Any Chartered Department, Chapter or Regular Member in good standing may propose amendments to the Bylaws by presenting them either in writing or in person to the Chairman of the Bylaws Committee at least thirty (30) forty five (45) days before the next scheduled meeting of the National Executive Council Board of Directors. Such proposal will be considered at that meeting and if approved by the Executive Council Board of Directors, then published in the next scheduled GRAYBEARDS publications for ratification by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of a regular membership quorum at the next scheduled annual Association Membership meeting or by ballot vote of the National Regular members sent by mail or in the following GRAYBEARDS publication. Referendum voting for any association business information is also authorized for guidance of the Board of Directors.

**Section 3. Resolutions.** No change in wording other than Executive Council to Board of Directors.

END OF BYLAWS CHANGES

### KOREAN WAR VETERANS CONVENTION

2 – 5 OCTOBER 2005

The Ark-La-Tex Chapter, Military Officers Association (MOAA) and The Retiree Activity Office, Barksdale AFB have been honored to Co-Host the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual KWVA Convention in Bossier City.

We cordially invite all our fellow Korean War Veterans to join us in what may be your best ever convention.

Your Graybeard Magazine will cover all the details, but if you need more information contact the undersigned.

STEVE dePYSSLER, Col, USAF Retired  
Director Retiree Activity Office, Barksdale AFB, LA  
1-866-544-2412  
RAO@barksdale.af.mil

### Record Funding Approved for Veterans

July 19, 2005

(Washington, DC) U.S. Sen. Larry Craig, Chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, said today that veterans should be pleased with a \$2 billion emergency supplemental approved by the Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, of which he is a member.

"This Congress, and this President, have put forth record amounts of money on behalf of our nation's veterans," Craig said. "Since George W. Bush took office, the budget for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs will have risen from \$48 billion in 2001 to nearly \$70 billion this year – a 46 percent increase in five years."

The overall federal budget has risen roughly 30 percent during the same time frame.

Just three weeks ago the Senate approved a \$1.5 billion emergency supplemental for veterans 2005 budget, which is a part of the Interior Appropriations bill.

"As we wait for the Interior Appropriations bill to be finalized, we have today made steps to ensure that there is adequate money to ensure that veterans are well taken care of," Craig said. "The \$1.5 billion approved earlier and the \$2 billion approved today will later be reconciled. But we have assured veterans today that there will be sufficient money to meet the needs of veterans. Clearly, we are going to reach a point where we cannot continue to keep spending at this pace, but the needs of veterans are being met."

In addition to the emergency supplemental of \$2 billion, the legislation approved today will provide more than \$70.7 billion in direct payments to fund the Department of Veterans Affairs in 2006.

That figure includes \$36.6 billion for mandatory veterans' benefits including pensions and compensation.

The subcommittee also included over \$34 billion in discretionary spending, more than \$1.25 billion above the president's budget request and more than \$3.3 billion above FY 2005. That amount includes \$23.3 billion for medical services, \$2.8 billion for medical administration, \$3.2 billion for medical facilities and \$412 million for medical and prosthetic research.

The appropriations legislation passed the House of Representatives on May 26th. It will now be sent to the full Senate Appropriations Committee before being considered by the full Senate.

Jeff Schrade, Communications Director  
U.S. Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs  
Senator Larry Craig (R-Idaho), Chairman  
412 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
Direct: 202-224-9093 Cell: 202-680-9552  
Fax: 202-228-5655 <http://veterans.senate.gov>

# Recruiting Efforts Continue

*Membership is a primary consideration for any association. That is certainly true for the KWVA. It was discussed at length at the Executive Council meeting in Arlington. Here is a summary of a report filed by Jeff Brodeur after the meeting.*

## **KWVA Recruiting Task Force Report for Executive Council Meeting**

**Washington DC 7/25-05-7/28-05**

**Chairman Jeff Brodeur**

**Deputy Chairman James Ferris**

Recruiting Task Force Members present for July 27, 2005 Executive Council Meeting;

- 1) Chairman Jeff Brodeur
- 2) Deputy Chairman James Ferris
- 3) Member Warren Wiedhahn
- 4) Member Bill Hutton

Accomplished as of date since conception on March 15, 2005 E.C meeting in Reno Nevada;

### **1. New Optional Patches Created**

a) Patches are now in 20 states, England, Canada, and Korea.

b) It was created as an optional patch to attract younger veterans into KWVA, although it is open to all members to wear.

c) KWVA Texas Sam Johnson Chapter now wearing new optional patches at all events in Texas. Many are wearing the patches for volunteer service at local VA hospitals. Sam Johnson Chapter is led by Task Force Members Ed Buckman and JD Randolph.

### **2. Why New KWVA Decals Were Created**

a) If everybody utilizes these decals, this gives KWVA free advertising and awareness of its presence in all 50 states.

### **3. Inroads Were Made in Korea With US Troups**

a) Major Ross and the Iron Triangle Club of the US Army's 2nd Infantry Division Troops in Korea were unaware of KWVA eligibility.

b) Mr. Perry and the USO is now a contact of the KWVA

c) Post-war veterans going to Korea with war veterans in future.

d) Korea Veterans Association (President Dechert June 25th trip) made aware of post-war Korea veterans presence in KWVA, thus ensuring a long future of relations between the two organizations.

e) Task Force Member Ken Buckley from Maine has sent several hundred copies of *The Graybeards* with recruiting flyers inserted in them to Korea.

f) Korean Diplomats now aware of post-war Korean Veteran participation in the KWVA. This was explained at the July 27th banquet by the new KWVA Directors and KWVA President Dechert to their Korean counterparts, thus establishing long relations between the two countries for decades to come. No one will ever forget the sacrifices made by the U.S., Korean, and UN Forces before, during, and after the war in the name of freedom.

g) A signed declaration by the leaders of KWVA, USFK-VO, KVA (Korea), KVA (U.S.), and KVA (Canada) was read by KWVA President Dechert recognizing the Armistice, adding that war has never truly ended and the price of freedom is very high.

### **4. Task Force**

A) Create budget, bring in revenue. How?

a) Set PX up at convention to bring in revenue with decals.

b) Decals for sale in Graybeards.

c) Tom Sunseri's KWVA Florida Website.

### **5. Increase Membership Numbers**

a) Goal is to increase KWVA membership to 20,000-25,000 by 2006-2007.

### **6. Graybeards/KWVA Website/Chapter Newsletters/Media**

a) Utilize both assets to bring in members. Both need more material on post-war veterans. Both entities are our greatest tools.

b) Many Chapters are including post-war and war material in their newsletters.

c) Media is good tool to get out the news on the new improved KWVA. Many Task Force members are utilizing the media.

### **7. Membership**

a) No way yet to tell how many post-war veterans joined due to recruiting efforts.

b) Projection of 17,500 – 18,000 members by Dec 31, 2005, an increase from the current 16,900 members.

c) KVA members. 254 Members / 51 New National Members / 40 post-war veterans / 80 National members / 20 Dual members of other chapters as of July 22, 2005 / 154 Chapter members not national members as of July 29, 2005.

Goal: 100-150 New KVA National members by 12-31-05.(8 months in KWVA)

### **8. KWVA National Flyers**

a) \$250.00–\$400.00 PDF file created on disc from professional printer. Email flyers to all Chapters. Chapters can print flyers, thus saving thousands of dollars. Chapters will also have recruiting tool to recruit Korea veterans of all generations.

### **9. Bills Passed and Ongoing**

a) Maine Bill LD 1148, which puts the Korea Defense Service Medal on the Maine license plate. This was passed through combined efforts of KVA Chapter#299 and Clair Goodblood Chapter#79.

b) Massachusetts Bill SB2136 recognizes all recipients of the Korea Defense Service Medal. Passed by KVA Chapter#299.

c) Both these bills can be used as recruiting tools for younger members.

d) Federal Charter Bill in Process.

*Jeffrey J. Brodeur  
KWVA Recruiting Task Force Chairman*

# Legislation Introduced to Recognize Korean War Veterans Association

**■ July 27 is “National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day”**

WASHINGTON, DC – Senator Paul Sarbanes and Congressmen Steny H. Hoyer today, National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day, introduced legislation in the House of Representatives and in the Senate which would grant a Federal Charter to the Korean War Veterans Association.

“On the day when we commemorate and honor the brave men and women who fought and gave the ultimate sacrifice during the Korean War, it is appropriate that we recognize their struggles and sacrifices on behalf of our grateful Nation,” said Sarbanes. “By moving forward and granting the Korean War Veterans Association this federal charter, we are acknowledging their commitment to the ideals of our democratic Nation and expressing our gratitude for their courage and their service.”

“Today we recognize and honor the 5.5 million Americans who fought and served during the Korean War and we commemorate the 52nd anniversary of the armistice agreement with North Korea,” said Hoyer. “Granting this Federal Charter, at no cost to the government, is a small expression of our appreciation for the extraordinary courage and sacrifice of our forces in Korea and will afford the Association the same status as other major veterans organizations,” Hoyer added.

Louis Dechert, President of The Korean War Veterans Association, today thanked Senator Sarbanes and Congressman Hoyer and said, “this important congressional action will take place on a significant date, July 27, the fifty-second anniversary of the

temporary ceasefire which suspended the Korean War. We strongly support this legislation and are grateful to Senator Sarbanes and Congressman Hoyer for their efforts on behalf of the Korean War Veterans Association.”

The Korean War Veterans Association has over 18,000 members and is the only veterans organization comprised exclusively of Korean War and Korean service veterans. It is one of the few such organizations of its size without a Federal Charter. A Federal Charter would allow the Association to expand its mission and further its charitable and benevolent causes. Specifically, it will afford the Korean War Veterans Association the same status as other major organizations and would allow it to participate as part of select committees with other Congressionally chartered veterans and military groups. A Federal Charter will also help the Association gain Accreditation with the Department of Veterans Affairs which will enable its members to assist in processing veterans’ claims.

The Korean War Veterans Association was founded and incorporated in New York State in 1987. It is the oldest and largest veterans group organized around common service in Korea.

**Note from Charley Price:** I have been informed that the Bill Numbers for our National charter are Senate: S. 1512, and House: H.R. 3476

Additional information will be forthcoming as to actions required by designated individuals and the general membership at large. We have our start, so everyone get on board for a successful ride to victory.

# The Naming of Chapter 270

It was a hot, humid July 2001 Reunion in Washington, DC. Ed Buckman and Miles Brown were in attendance. They met with Jerry Lake, who was on the National Board and in charge of membership. When he found that Buckman and Brown were from the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex, he indicated the area was large enough for two chapters and asked if we would be founders of a new chapter. He indicated that we just needed 12 members to form the new group. Since there had been some differences of opinion about the needs of the veterans in Dallas and the reluctance of the present chapter to serve that area, we agreed to the challenge. Jerry agreed to send all the information needed.

**The chapter was formed in less than 30 days with our state non-profit charter. The chapter has a solid foundation and has been doing many great things over the years.**

One of the reunion events took us to the National Cemetery for a service to remember the 24th Division and the fight they gave at the Pusan Perimeter. There, in the 105 degree heat, stood Congressman Sam Johnson and his wife, Shirley, paying homage to these brave troops of fifty years past.

Ed asked Miles if he knew who that was. Miles said he didn’t, but when he learned who it was, he got excited and wanted to meet this hero of Korea and Vietnam. Sam had flown an F-86 on many missions in Korea, and he flew 25 missions in Vietnam before being shot down, after which he spent seven years as a POW in the Hanoi Hilton. Ed and Miles went over and introduced themselves. As any Congressman would be, Mr. Johnson was very gracious.

Later, while making plans to do all the things that needed to be done to form a new chapter, we started talking about who the chapter should be named after. We thought maybe we should be different and name our chapter after a living

Continued on page 59

## All The Hands I Shook

We were three days out of Oakland, CA, aboard the George Pope en route to Japan. Then, over the loudspeaker came the news that the North Korean Army had crossed the 38th Parallel into South Korea. The announcer added that U.S. forces were going to the aid the South Koreans.

Let me tell you that all the GIs aboard the ship were sad and praying. We all had our orders, so we knew where our units were. Then, we learned that the 1st Cav and the 24th Division were headed to Korea with other units.

Everyone in my compartment on the ship had orders for Korea—except me. That’s when everyone started calling me “Lucky” for the rest of the journey to Japan.

It was not good for me to make close friends on this trip, as I would never know what happened to all the people whose hands I shook.

*Charles R. Bell, Korea, 8th Army, 865th A.W. Bn*

# In Tribute and Honor of all POWs and MIAs

By Louis E. Holmes

During September we recognize National POW/MIA Recognition Day; a day to remember those who are still missing and unaccounted for from several wars. Unfortunately, the number continues to grow as America is at war today with terrorism. We must never forget these brave men and women, and we must always remember the sacrifices they made for our country.

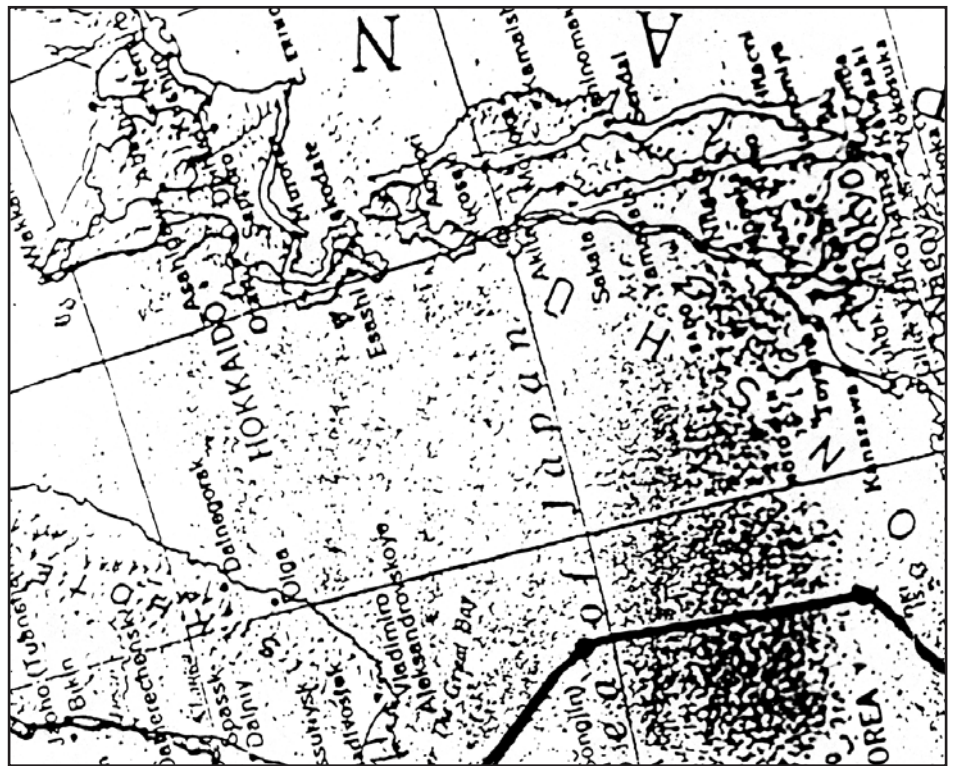
One form of remembrance is the POW/MIA Table, which can be—and has been—displayed in several ways. Many people have seen the table in one of its various modes, but have never learned its full meaning. There is the Round Table of Five, with all branches of service, including the Coast Guard. Then there is a Table of One. This very small table represents all branches of service; the chair has its back to the audience. Then there is a Table set for Four, which is the most common one used.

I received from the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) a poster which they use in their ceremonies on special occasions when they set up the table. I have displayed the table in churches, schools, and libraries. I even set one up once in a Barnes and Noble bookstore when the book *Texas Veterans Remember Korea*, by Mackey Murdock, went on sale. Inevitably, I receive many questions regarding the table's meaning, which I am always happy to answer. The poster reads as follows.

## REMEMBER

As you enter this field of honor, you may have noticed this small table here in this place of honor. It is set for four, representing the four branches of service: Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines. Please let me explain.

The Military is filled with symbolism. This table is our way of symbolizing that members of our profession of arms are missing from our midst. They are commonly called "POWs / MIAs." *We call them brothers.* They are unable to be with us, and so we remember them.



The POW/MIA Table, Poster, and flags

■ **This table set for four is small—**symbolizing the frailty of the prisoners alone against their oppressors.

**Remember**

■ **The table cloth is white** – symbolizing the purity of their intentions to respond to their country's call to arms.

**Remember**

■ **The single rose displayed in a vase** – symbolizes the families and loved ones who keep the faith awaiting their return.

**Remember**

■ **The red ribbon tied so prominently on the vase is reminiscent of the red ribbons worn upon the lapel and breast of thousands who bear witness to their unyielding determination to demand a proper accounting of our missing.**

**Remember**

■ **A slice of lemon is on the bread plate** to remind us of their bitter fate.

**Remember**

■ **There is salt upon the bread plate** – symbolic of the families' tears as they wait.

**Remember**

■ **The glass is inverted** – they cannot toast with us this season.

**Remember**

■ **The chairs are empty** – they are not here.

**Remember**

**Remember** – All of you who served with them and called them Comrades, who depended upon their might and aid, and relied upon them, for surely they have not forgotten you.

**Remember**

On this very special day, this day of remembrance of our POW /MIAs, let us stop and give thanks for those who paid the ultimate sacrifice, and who lie buried beneath us in their respective place of honor. Let us touch hands and hearts with those who stand with us and around us, and let us not forget those who are still missing and unaccounted for.

*Louis E. Holmes, US Army  
Korea 1950-51,  
7th. Infantry Division, 31st Reg.*

# Korean War Veterans' Mini-Reunions .....

## The Boys From Battery "B"

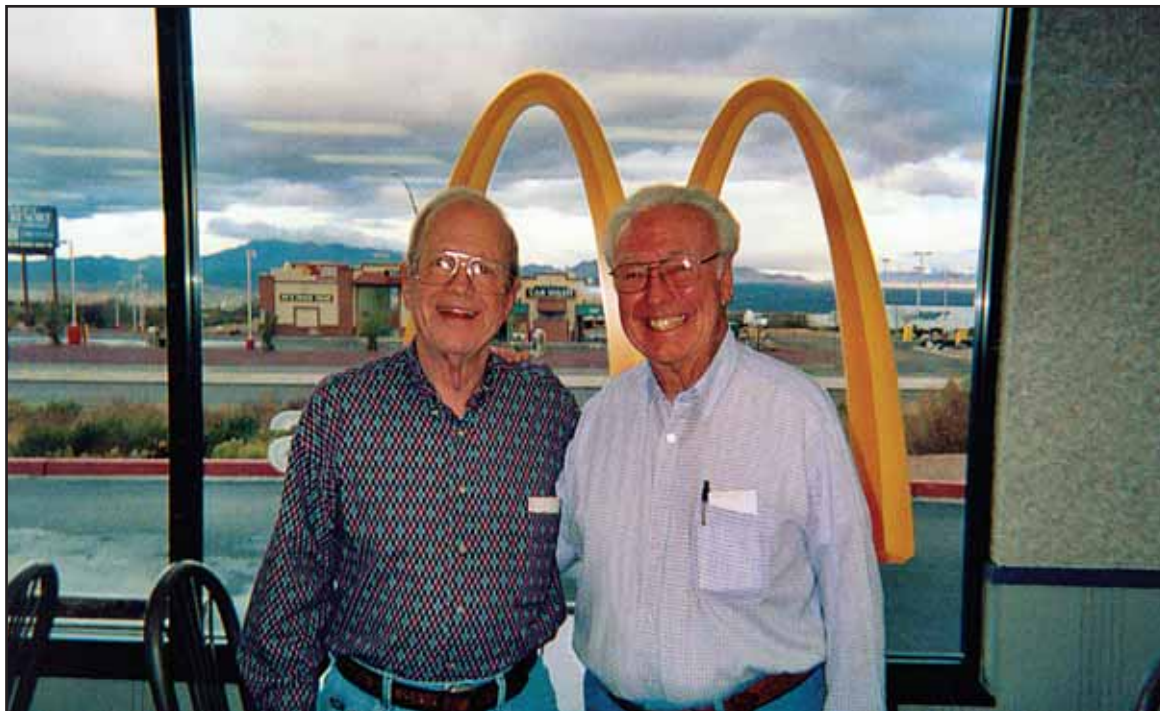
Several members of Battery "B," First Field Artillery Observation Bn., who served in Korea in 1952 in the Flash Section, approximately twenty miles above the 38th Parallel, got together in Milwaukee in October 2004. Four of them took basic training together at Ft. Sill, OK.

They all rotated out of Korea together after nine months of duty



Battery "B, FFAO Bn. in Milwaukee (L-R) Ray and Marie Motiff, Roger and Jean Meier, Kent and Vera Arnold, and Darrel and Rose Wehling

## 865th AAA AW BN SP



865th AAA AW BN Sp members gather in Las Vegas

The 865th held a reunion at the California Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, NV, May 15-18, 2005. The unit was stationed at Kimpo, Korea, 1950-54.

## 430th Engineer Battalion ("Tandy's Dandies")

The 430th held its reunion September 9-11, 2004 at the Millenium Maxwell House Hotel in Nashville, TN. Twenty-eight Korean War veterans and their wives attended. Some of the attendees had not seen each other for over fifty years.

Another reunion is in the planning stages for next year. Anyone who is interested can contact Charlie Wise, (818) 993-5876, or Ed Bradley, (818) 831-0040.

### Have a Mini-Reunion?

Send your photos and a short write-up to *The Graybeards* editor for publication! Mail to 152 Sky View Drive., Rocky Hill, CT 06067



"Tandy's Dandies" in Nashville (Front L-R) Norm Isler, Frank Burk, Martin Carigiet, Harold Munn, Stan Harpole (2nd Row L-R) Vergil Bonner, Frank Cummins, Anton Dudek, Charlie Wise, John Peters, John Heneman, Kenneth Paul, James Sluiter, Nick Sloan (3rd Row L-R) Dan Sebastian, Ed Shaw, Val Bednekoff, Harold Cowan, Ed Bradley, Paul Roberts (Top L-R) Roy Witt, Jim Utgard, George Hallenbeck, Dale Webb

## "L" Co., 279th Infantry, 45th Division



"L" Co. members who made it into the photo: (Back L-R) Charles Klenklen, Lawrence Gilbo, Gerald McCuan, Ralph Zerwas, Al Sylvester, Jack Rose, Bob Zeimet, Jack Cochran, Red Rogers (Front L-R) Charles Hicks, Gene Piontkowski, Dave Holloway, Don Pouk, Paul Elkins, Jim Bowman, John Sleeper, George Bussman

"L" Company held its 2004 annual reunion at Western Hills Lodge, near Wagoner, Oklahoma, in the eastern part of the state, October 21-24, in conjunction with the 279th Regimental reunion. We met one day early and stayed for the Regimental reunion.

The reunion was well attended, and everyone had a good time. We were thrilled to have two first timers. We have members who served throughout the war from the Chorwon sector in the west to the eastern front battles of Heartbreak Ridge, Punchbowl, Christmas Hill and many more.

We visited with old comrades and exchanged experiences since our reunion last year. Jack Rose and I, along with family members, toured Korea during April of 2004. We showed our pictures and discussed the trip. Finally, we planned the 2005 reunion, which will be in Branson, MO. (See the "Reunion Calendar" for details.)

# Tell America

## An Obligation, A Challenge, An Opportunity

Larry Kinard, National Coordinator

I haven't changed the central theme of this article because I still feel the same about our OBLIGATION, CHALLENGE AND OPPORTUNITY. The WEBSITE and the GRAYBEARD magazine articles have resulted in many e-mails, letters and phone calls about the Tell America programs.

I am still firmly convinced this is one of the best things chapters can do for their communities, and also one of the most rewarding efforts for chapter members. I have received several requests for material to help get the program started. One of the first chapters I heard from was Chapter # 288 in Anchorage, Alaska. B. J. Ide told me they were just getting the TA Program started and needed a little help on what to do.

In a recent newsletter from him, he says "Our activities call for preserving the memory of the Korean War, its cause, its cost, and its results. One of the ways we do this is by going into the classrooms of junior and senior high schools with our Tell America program, where we instruct the students on flag etiquette and patriotism, including civic responsibility. And, we tell short histories about our military experiences. The main theme is FREEDOM IS NOT FREE. This is just one of the many programs this very active chapter has going for them.

Keep up the good work guys; you are making a difference.

We have also received pictures, program material and stories about other programs that are doing very well. Dave DePew, a former Tell America Chairman, has given me more ideas and sent scripts that will be useful for any chapter in their program. Frank Shively, from the Western Ohio Chapter #108, sent an outline that has some very good ideas about how to conduct programs in the schools. He also sent pictures and stories that were published in the Graybeards magazine and placed on the website. I really appreciate the good things that his program and others are doing with the schools. Other chapters have provided material that will appear in our magazine in the near future.

It is still of great concern to me—and should be to all of us—that our students are growing up with essentially no knowledge of the sacrifices we and our comrades made 50 + years ago. When we get together in our meetings, we recite in our Creed never to forget those who made the ultimate sacrifice for the freedoms we enjoy in this country today. It is our OBLIGATION to make a valiant effort to help students and teachers remember the "Forgotten War." Again, I say the people who are the best equipped to do this are the veterans. We are the ones who were there and experienced

what it takes to assure our freedoms.

There is no question that it is a CHALLENGE to get organized and go to the schools with a program that is meaningful and acceptable, but I can assure you it is well worth the effort for you and the schools. All the chapters I have talked with are quick to say they feel they are making a difference in the lives

## The Benefits Of Talking Directly With America's Young Folks

Arthur Berzon

The Thomas Daley Chapter #54, in Gibbsboro, New Jersey, is a relatively small post, comprising a little over 50 paid-up members. We meet every month, and average around 25 members at each meeting. What keeps us at this high level of attendance is the camaraderie of its members and the many service projects that we perform.

We cover a great area of South Jersey. The majority of the members joined us as individuals, not as groups of friends. Our projects are numerous, and I'm sure other posts do a lot of the same ones. But, there is one project that brings the most pleasure to all of us. That is our visits to the area high schools.

This past year alone we visited 14 different schools. We usually have at least six members at each visitation, with different mixtures every time. We speak about who we are and of our personal experiences and observations as 18- to 21-year-old kids in a foreign land that we

of the students, and are glad they have made the effort.

We encourage those who have programs in place and are having some success to send us stories and pictures so we can publicize what you are doing. As mentioned above, I do have some material that is available for those who need information to help get the program started.

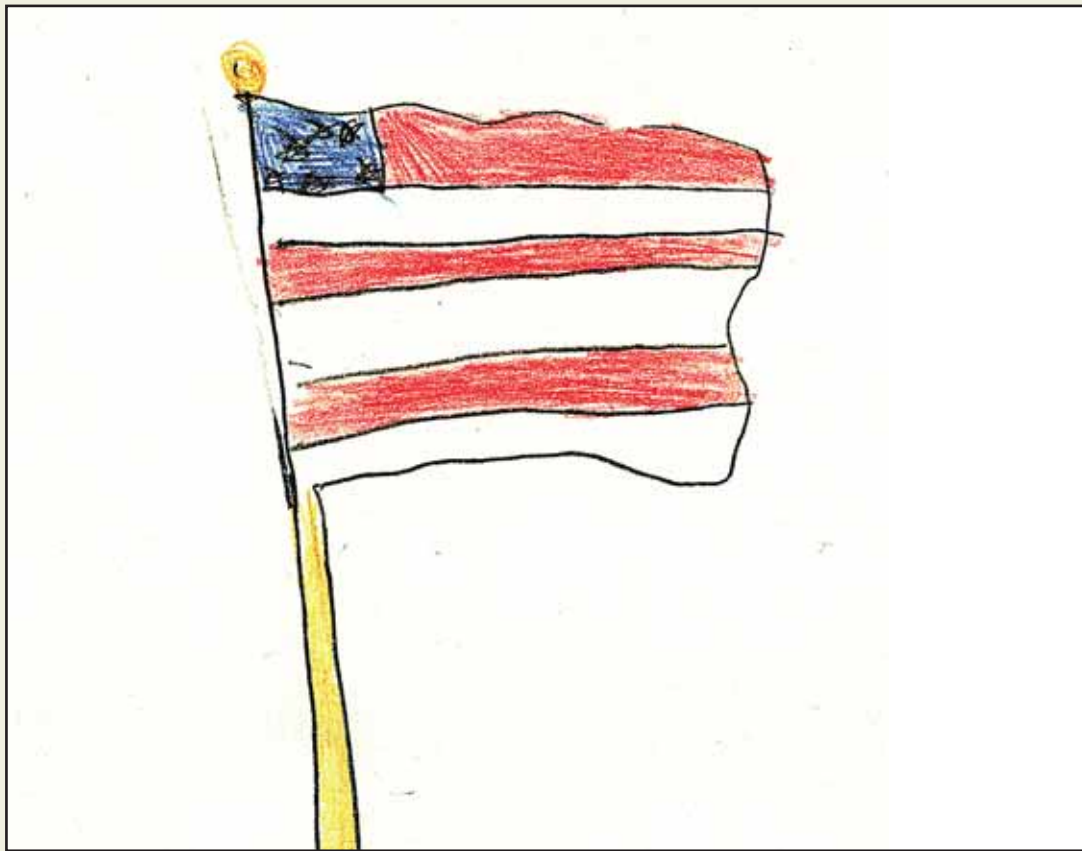
You may contact me at e-mail address lck1613489@aol.com or postal address 2108 Westchester, Mansfield, Texas 76063. I welcome pictures, program information or any help you would be willing to share.

never heard of, protecting our country from a vicious enemy. We tell them that we didn't ask questions about why we were there. We tell them we were there for them, the next generations.

Over the years that we have been doing this, we get numerous letters from school personnel explaining to us that this was the best reality situation these kids ever experienced. More importantly, they keep calling us back again for next year programs.

I must admit, though, that we are blessed by having one of our members, Capt. Andy Jackson, US Army (Ret.), running this program. He is dedicated 24/7 to its success.

I feel the direct communications with our youth has done more for the KWVA than all the banquets and all the presentations etc. we can dream up. I am a lover of communications. And the place to begin is with our youth.



### The "Instructors for a Day" at West Point Want To Speak At West Point?

For the past five years, the United States Military Academy, West Point, NY has run a program in which veterans talk to the cadets. They tell them of their experiences in service. Around the year 2000, I became the coordinator for this program. At that time, Major Chris Starling, a Marine attached to the Department of Military Instruction, was the OIC (Officer in Charge). He was responsible for the course, labeled MS201.

Chris and I became friends. He needed veterans to come to the academy and speak to the second year cadets about their experiences, and to tell them what it took to be a good officer. I was glad to help.

By 10 November 2004, the Military Science Department was again running the speaking program. As a result of the first program that I ran back in 2000, I

assumed the responsibility of getting veterans to come up for this one day. At the time this program started, we only had about 53 classes to cover. The department desired that at least two veterans attend each class.

From that date, the ranks of "Instructors for a Day" have been filled by veterans from the rank of E-2 (Pvt) to O-8 (Lt General). The program commences at 10:30 a.m. in the parking lot of Buffalo Soldiers Field, where the veterans board buses, which transport us to Washington Hall, on the main part of the academy grounds. We go to the 5th floor, Department of Military Science, where I, the OIC, and the Department Head deliver welcoming addresses. Once the speeches are completed, the veterans are assigned to a cadet, who takes them to the Cadet Mess Hall on the 1st floor of Washington Hall to have lunch with that cadet's company. It is truly amaz-

ing to see how the staff is able to handle in just 30 minutes the feeding of 4,500-5,000 cadets and visitors who are there for the day.

Once lunch is finished, we move out to our respective classrooms, escorted by the cadet guides, to start the 1½-hour program of talking to a class of 15-20 cadets. The dialog between the veterans and cadets has been exciting each year—so exciting, in fact, that some of the cadets have been corresponding with veterans after the program is done.

At approximately 2:45 p.m., each veteran returns to the Washington Hall conference room for a follow-up and another address by the Department Head.

After that, certificates and specially made commemorative mugs are handed out to each veteran in attendance. It has become such a popular event that those veterans in attendance look forward to seeing what the design will be each year. In fact, the mugs

have turned into collector items.

Since the event was held on 10 November last year, which is the Marine Corps' Birthday, the Marines in attendance asked why we do not have a birthday cake for them. The first year I informed some of the Marines with whom I was friends that I would have a cupcake for them and put a candle into it for them to blowout. The Department thought differently. They brought in a sheet cake!

The US Marine attached to the academy was Major Dean Bailey. He came out dressed in his full dress blues and used his saber to cut the cake. Major Bailey had a couple Midshipmen from Annapolis, who were on an exchange program, bring in the cake. After Major Bailey cut it, each veteran received an individual piece and coffee.

Before we had the cake we sang songs for each branch of the services. At about 3:30 p.m., we assembled at the front of Washington Hall for a group photo. Each veteran who attended was mailed a picture for his memories of the event. I am happy to report that we had participants from WWII, Korea, Viet Nam, and Desert Storm in attendance.

Some of the KWVA chapters represented were from Westchester-Putnam Chapter #91, Eagle Chapter #90 – Rockland County, and Central Long Island Chapter #64.

As the summer session is now upon us, I am getting letters ready to send out and invite those veterans back. This year's event is being planned for 9 November. We are scheduled to have 63 sections to talk to. That means we need 126 veterans. If there are any local veterans who desire to attend, please drop a line to IRVING M. BREITBART @ Eagle Awards & Trophy Co. Inc. 2051 East Main Street, Cortlandt Manor, N. Y. 10567, or email me at Eagleatci@aol.com



# Monuments and Medals

Korea: the Forgotten War, Remembered

## The Making of a Monument: From Start To Finish

The concept of a Richland County [OH] Korean War Memorial began in June 2000. As June 25, 1950 marked the beginning of the Korean War, our 60-member Chapter #51 decided to erect a memorial to the 23 young men from Richland County who made the ultimate sacrifice in Korea, and to honor all the other Richland County veterans of the Korean War Era, and from June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955, as well.

Our committee felt that a proper location for the memorial would be in Mansfield's Downtown Central Park. We held several meetings with Mayor Lydia I. Reid to present our proposal and ask for permission to place the memorial in Central Park. Mayor Reid took our proposal to Mansfield's City Council, which approved it.

One of our Chapter members, Robert R. Hutchison, a U. S. Marine combat veteran of the Korean War, designed a unique memorial concept. The idea was to make it one that would convey the memorial message and be utilitarian to the public.



Artist's conception of 51's memorial- by Robert R. Hutchinson.

The granite memorial is in the form of a bench with the names of the 23 men who died or are still missing engraved on the front; the words "FREEDOM IS NOT FREE" are engraved in large letters on the base of the bench. There is an

obelisk on top which features the crossed flags of the United States and South Korea, a map of South Korea, and the words:

### THE VETERANS OF THE KOREAN WAR

**They went, not for conquest and not for gain,  
but only to protect the anguished and the innocent.**

**They suffered greatly and by their heroism in a thousand  
battles, they added a luster to the codes that we hold most dear  
DUTY, HONOR, FIDELITY, BRAVERY, INTEGRITY**

Also included is the wording:

**This Memorial commemorates the 23 Richland County men who  
lost their lives in the Korean War and is dedicated to all other Richland  
County men and women who served in our Armed Forces in Korea and  
worldwide during the Korean War Era  
June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955**

To raise the estimated \$125,000 needed for the memorial, we embarked on several fundraising efforts, e.g., participating in the Ohio D.O.T. Safety Coffee Break program for two years, selling our version of the VFW Poppies, the "Rose of Sharon," at various locations around Mansfield, a raffle of an electric bicycle, and a spaghetti dinner with an auction of donated items of interest. As word spread about our project, several veterans organiza-



**ABOVE:** 51 memorial groundbreaking ceremony, April 16, 2003 (L-R) Richland County Commissioner Ed Olson, Chapter President Bill Woodrow, Mansfield Mayor Lydia Reed



**RIGHT:** Groundbreaking ceremony (L R): Mrs. Handu Kwak, Rev. Handu Kwak (Korean United Methodist Church), Frank Russo, Korean War veteran & 51 member

tions made contributions to help. Our local newspaper and radio and television stations were all very helpful in promoting the idea of the memorial.

By June 2002, our efforts had raised some money, but we were far from where we had hoped to be. We wrote grant requests to three county foundations. All three responded with significant grants, but we were still far from reaching the necessary goal.

Fortunately, a Mansfield businessman, Mr. Steve Cobb, became interested in the memorial project. After several meetings with him, we developed a fund raising plan which enabled us to proceed with confidence.



Digging 51's memorial foundation shape, April 28, 2003



**LEFT:** Preparing for the foundation footer cement – April 28, 2003

**BELOW:** Laying the foundation blocks - April 30, 2003 (L-R) George Schafffer, Phil Brumenshenkel, Korean War veterans & 51 members



**BELOW:** Pouring and smoothing memorial steps - June 5, 2003.



We held a press conference in Central Park on August 15, 2002. A large number of local and county businessmen, politicians, and dignitaries attended. We explained the reasons and the need for the

memorial, and asked for their help. This was followed by mailing the information about the memorial, along with a pledge card, to over 2,300 Richland County businesses and industries. As a result, pledges and contributions began to pour in.

A sizeable grant from the Ohio General Assembly and a Block Grant from the City of Mansfield were also immense aids to the project. All this financial support secured the necessary means to go ahead with the construction of the memorial.

Tim Alexander, a Mansfield architect, offered to do the architectural work pro-bono, and local suppliers of required materials



Members of 51 prepare to dedicate the memorial, Sunday, July 27, 2003



The Korean-American community assembled to assist in the memorial dedication program, Sunday, July 27, 2003



Memorial obelisk- dedicated Sunday, July 27, 2003

offered us the best prices they could. Phil Brumenshenkel, one of our Chapter members and a professional stonemason, served as our Memorial General Contractor and overseer. And, he did much of the actual memorial foundation work himself.



Korean War memorial with finished landscaping



**ABOVE:** Bill Woodrow, 51st President. **RIGHT:** Robert R. Hutchinson, memorial designer, Korean War veteran, and 51st member



Groundbreaking for the memorial occurred on April 16, 2003. A number of local and county dignitaries and supporters attended. Work began in earnest following that. The memorial, consisting of 19 tons of Vermont granite, was completed by July in time for the dedication ceremony on Sunday, July 27, 2003, the 50th Anniversary of the end of hostilities in Korea.

The dedication ceremony was a highly successful and well attended event. Well over 1,000 citizens crowded Central Park. Color Guards from many veterans posts were represented. Following the U.S. national anthem, a choir from the Korean Methodist Church sang the Korean national anthem. The main speaker was Retired Rear Admiral Tim Beard, who came from San Diego to be a part of the ceremony. Also speaking were State Senator Bill Harris, County Commissioner Edward Olson, and Mayor Lydia Reid, among others.

The theme of the program was "Our Place In Line," illustrating the succession in our military lineage into which the Korean War veterans fall. The program went progressively from the Revolutionary War, to the Civil War, World War I, World War II, and finally the Korean War. In each case, the dates, numbers of casualties and brief readings were presented. The name, unit, and date of death of each of the 23 who lost their lives or who are missing was read. Surviving family members of these men were presented American flags as the names were read.

Following this, the firing squad fired a 21-gun volley, taps was played, and there was a fly-over by the 179th Airlift Wing. KWVA president William Woodrow then officially presented the memorial to Mayor Lydia Reid and the City of Mansfield.

Prior to the closing, Postmaster Joseph Cinadr unveiled the Korean War Veteran stamp, which became available officially on July 27, 2003.

The ceremony closed with a benediction in Korean by the Rev. Hang Baek Cho, part of which included thanks to the Korean War Veterans for saving South Korea. A bagpiper playing "Amazing Grace" led the massed Color Guards from the area.

Since the dedication, we have made additional improvements to the memorial, i.e., adding illumination, landscaping, and a walkway featuring commemorative bricks with the engraved names of veterans to be remembered by area families and citizens.

*Note- all Chapter 51 photographs by Glenn Greenawalt*

## 94 – Hudson County [NJ]

The Chapter has two impressive monuments in its "back yard," one in Jersey City and another in Bayonne.



**LEFT:** Korean War Memorial in Jersey City, NJ

**BELOW:** The Bayonne, NJ, Korean War Monument



## 203 – Turlock, CA

On Monday, February 17, 2003, our Chapter dedicated a "War Dogs" Monument, which we designed and had made, in the Grand Army of the Republic Park in Turlock, California. The mayor of our town and all the Council members took part in the ceremony, which included a 21-gun salute provided by the VFW Post 5059.

The monument reads: "Unconditional Love: Man's best friend, served his Master and Country in the Wars of the 20th Century"



203 members at "War Dogs" monument ceremony (L-R) W. Herbert, D. Strand, R. Barboza, S. Regalado, E. Gonzales, W. Hoyle, T. Pontes, J. Guinn, L. Ramos, R. Gross, M. Evenson, L. Johnson

## 286 - Lee Roy Baty (Tyler, TX)

On May 7, 2005, 286 dedicated a Korean War Memorial on the Courthouse Square in Tyler, Texas. The ceremony was the culmination of a year-long effort to gather donations, gain Commissioner's Court approval, design a monument, and plan for its installation and dedication.



286's Memorial Committee (L-R) Ken Oxford, Bill Watson, Jim Gill, Richard Perkins

The monument was the brainchild of Korean veteran Bob Burnette, who worked tirelessly in all phases of the planning. His committee members were Ken Oxford, Bill Watson (the monument's designer), Jim Gill, and Richard Perkins. Before the fruits of his labor could be realized, Bob died suddenly, and Jim Gill took over as chairman.

The ceremony featured several persons who are important to the East Texas scene. Among them were Texas State Senator Kevin Eltife, a staunch supporter of the monument idea, and U. S. Representative Louis Gohmert, a veteran himself who has long been the friend of veteran causes both locally and nationally. Master of Ceremonies was Veteran Affairs Officer Mike Connors, Commander of Chapter 286.

Lee Roy Baty, for whom the chapter is named, led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Special guests were numerous members of the Korean national community, many of whom wore their native costumes to the delight of everyone present.

### And There It Was

I was visiting North Attleboro, Massachusetts, and I saw this Korean Memorial. I had to take a picture of it.

Alfred Dall, 80 Eastern Avenue, Brewer, ME 04412



The Memorial in North Attleboro

## And There Was Another One

I visited recently with my brother in Village Lakes, FL. Our wives took us shopping in the nearby little town of Mount Dora. There, I found this little memorial dedicated to the Korean War.

One small town does remember.

*Bernard & Lydra Baratta, 85 Malone Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10306-4109*



The "Little Monument" in Mount Dora

## Perkins, 2 Medics, and a Houseboy



Perkins, 2 Medics, and a Houseboy sounds like the title for a Korean-War based television melodrama. Actually, it's the caption for a photo taken by James L. Palsgrove, who took about 160 color slides while in Korea from March 1952 until June 1953. Some of them appeared on the back of the Nov/Dec 2002 issue about hospital trains.

Palsgrove was a maintenance person on train #104, 765 TRSB. He recalls one of the doctors, Captain Perkins, who is pictured here with two medics and a houseboy.

## Now Hear This:

All comments concerning, or contributions for publication in *The Graybeards* should be sent to Art Sharp, Editor, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT06067 or emailed to:

[sharp\\_arthur\\_g@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net)

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** To avoid confusion in this section, we will use Chapters' national IDs, rather than state Chapter numbers. For example, Kansas Chapter 1 will appear as Chapter 181, which is its national chapter designation. Similarly, Missouri Chapter 2 will appear as Chapter 43, etc.

## CHAPTER OF THE MONTH(S)

With each issue, we feature one Chapter that has been particularly active and which has interesting stories to tell that may be of widespread interest to KWVA members—and which might assist them in pursuing their own activities.

In this issue we honor two **Chapters, Missouri #44 and Florissant #96**, that combined to make the marriage of one Marine and his bride memorable under unusual circumstances.

### First Ever: Wedding Vows Exchanged At Korean War Memorial In St. Louis

By Don Gutmann

Chapter 44 member Tom Gilmore requested the use of our Memorial in Forest Park, St. Louis, MO, for a wedding ceremony on March 12, 2005. The Chapter was honored to assist in any way it could.

Letha Dorsey met Fields Black 11 years ago, and has been living with him for the past ten. Black was born in University City, MO. He enlisted in the Marine Corps at age 16. Several years later, he was involved in the Gulf War, where he was exposed to the burning oil fields in Kuwait. After the war, he was diagnosed with late stage emphysema and lung cancer. Doctors gave him six months to two years to live.



Rev. Lee Hull, Fields Black, and Letha Dorsey at wedding ceremony

Black applied for disability benefits, which were denied. He revealed that the Department of Veterans Affairs said he must have smoked several packs of cigarettes a day since he was fourteen years of age. But, he claimed he never smoked until he joined the Marines, and then he did so only on occasion. Eventually, however, he was approved for disability for post traumatic stress syndrome. Black does not regret his service. In fact, he said, he would do it all over again.

Once a proud, strong Marine, he has trouble walking up the

stairs. In fact, he is dependent on a tank of portable oxygen for every breath. As he felt death approaching, he wanted to make sure his family would receive survivor benefits. So, he and Dorsey were married in front of the Korean War Memorial in Forest Park—but not without the proverbial hitch.

Because of a scheduling problem, the original reverend who was to perform the ceremony was unavailable. Tom Gilmore made me aware of the situation. I contacted Reverend Lee Hull, who is the Commander of KWVA Chapter 96, located in Florissant, MO. His schedule for March 12, 2005 was extremely tight. However, when the situation was explained, he commented, "Anything for a veteran." Thus, the ceremony took place.

Junior ROTC unit members held their swords high for the newly married couple to walk under. Gunnery Sgt. Lowe swatted Dorsey lightly with a sword before she walked down the aisle. He said, "On behalf of the United States Marine Corps, welcome to the Marine Corps family, ma'am."

A great deal of thanks goes to Chapter 44 member Tom Gilmore. He worked tirelessly to see that even the smallest detail was attended to. This was truly a labor of love for Tom Gilmore—and a tribute to the camaraderie that exists among veterans of all wars and all branches of the armed forces.

## 15 Eddie Lyon [FL]

Joe D. Firriolo

Chapter members get together for various functions



**LEFT:** Members of 15 display their banner

**BELOW:** 15 members gather in front of Korean War monument



## 16 Col. Alice Gritsavage [FL]

Charles Carafano

Former Department of Florida President Jake Feaster installed the Chapter's new slate of officers



Past Department of Florida President Jake Feaster (right) installing 16's officers



Four of 16's Past Presidents, (L-R) Charter members Chuck Kiernan, Amelia Carafano and Charles Carafano, and current President Dick Merrill attending 16's officer installation

## 25 Greater Chicago [IL]

Niels Larsen

Chapter members participated in the annual Chicago Memorial Day Parade down State Street on May 28, 2005. We rent a bus to get us there. Chapter member Dave Martensen decorated the float.



25 is Unit 75 in the Chicago Parade



25 members ready to march in May



25's members are all smiles for the parade



25's Float

## 56 Ventura County [CA]

David Lopez

Chapter members remain busy performing a variety of activities. For example, our Ceremonial Rifle Squad performed at two schools on May 27, 2005, and we carried out another Stars and Stripes flag-folding ceremony as well.



**LEFT:** Four members of 56 get ready for a flag folding ceremony (L-R) Rudy Arellano, Manuel Saluzer, Frank Torrez, Mike Hidalgo

**BELOW:** 56's rifle squad (L-R) Richard Ruiz, David Garcia, Gregory Garcia, Everett Baca, John Campos, Manuel Adame, Bill Cobos



76 members' wives (L-R) Dorothy Mitchell, Janis Clement, and Gloria Huffman, visiting during the Memorial Day event



Harley Wedel, with Chuck and Mildred Creamer, at 76's Korean War Memorial.



(L-R) 76 Past President Chuck Lusardi, with Darlene and Ray Swan, in Cottage Grove, Oregon, before the start of the Armed Forces Day parade.



76 members (L-R) First Vice President, Ed Clement; Chaplain, Father James Arling; Second Vice President, Harley Wedel; and President Howard Myers, at the Korean War Memorial in Wilsonville, Oregon.



Father James Arling, a decorated veteran, prepares to address the crowd while pipers play at the Oregon Korean War memorial.

## 72 Oregon Trail

Loren Mitchell

Chapter members observed Memorial Day 2005 at the Korean War Memorial in Wilsonville, OR.



(L-R) Harley Wedel, Ed Clement, and Victor Veith, wait for 76's parade trailer for the Armed Forces Day parade in Cottage Grove, OR to start



76 members gather at recent service

Jackson, and John Barker.

Ralph M. Hockley, 37th FA, 182nd AAA (Korea), president of the 2nd Infantry Division Alliance, was the coordinator for the memorial. Korean Consul-General Min Don-Soek and Netherlands Consul Gert Visser presented wreaths. The ceremony ended with the reading of the last roll call and the ringing of a bell as each name was called.

The Chapter presented the colors and a wreath at Memorial Day services at Houston's VA National Cemetery in Houston. There were 19 members and wives present in uniform, along with guests and relatives. John and Georgia Jackson presented the Chapter wreath.

Also present were two Medal of Honor winners and several Iraq veterans.



Marine Corps air ace Colonel Ken Reusser and wife, Gertrude, at the Oregon Korean War Memorial on Memorial Day

## 76 Lone Star [TX]

Thomas Campion

On Monday, May 23rd, the Chapter's Color Guard had the honor of posting the colors for the 2nd Infantry Division Memorial Service held at Bear Creek Memorial Park in Houston. Color Guard members included Commander Henry Martinez, Don Napp, Buddy Blair, Travis Riley, Howard Nathan, John



76 members at Memorial Day service (Back L-R) Travis Riley, BG Jos. E. Martz, Ralph Hockley, John Jackson, Buddy Blair (Front L-R) Howard Nathan, Henry Martinez, Tom Campion, John Barker, Don Napp

## 94 Hudson County [NJ]

Larry Barulli

Ours is one active Chapter! We take part in many local activities. For example, we speak to school children, visit VA hospitals, and march in parades (as best we can) in Hudson County. We have a scholarship competition throughout Hudson County high schools, through which the recipients receive \$1,000.00 towards tuition. And, we publish a newsletter every three months.



94 members forming for the Hudson County Memorial Day Parade



School children attending Memorial Service at Korean War Veterans County Monument in Jersey City as 94 members look on



94 members participate in fundraising drive



Bayonne, NJ, firefighters being honored by Chapter 94



**LEFT:** (L-R) 94 President Ralph Pasqua and Community Affairs Officer Larry Barulli visiting seniors at Jersey City nursing home

**BELOW:** 94 members stepping smartly in 2005 Memorial Day Parade



94 members have a unique way of thanking folks for their help



Members of 94 who have difficulty marching in parades are always "in training."

## 99 Tall Corn [IA]

Vilas "Sid" Morris

The Chapter is alive and well, and recruiting is a priority. We elected new officers at the May 28, 2005 meeting:

- President – Leland Staker
- 1st VP – Bill Hartsock
- 2nd VP – Bob Sutfin
- Secretary/Treasurer – Vilas "Sid" Morris



99 officer (L-R) Leland Staker, Bob Sutfin, Vilas "Sid" Morris, Bill Hartsock

## 106 Treasure Coast [FL]

**Tony Ricigliano**

The Chapter presented its second annual concert to commemorate the contributions and sacrifices of all veterans of the military services and the men and women presently serving in the military, especially those who gave their lives for the cause of freedom and the MIAs. Music was provided by the Treasure Coast Symphony Orchestra. Soloist Sandra McNiff provided



106 Commander Tony Ricigliano

beautiful renditions of the National Anthem, "Let There Be Peace on Earth," and "God Bless America."

The purpose of the concert was to raise money to fund the Chapter's programs. The concert program featured military and patriotic song selections from "Oklahoma" and the "West Side Story." It included a rifle salute and taps for all who made the supreme sacrifice and those who are still missing and never returned to their loved



Advancing the Colors at 106's concert (L-R) Peter Popolizio, Charles Sauter, Robert Jocks and Connie Sue Nuckols



At left, 106's Commander Tony Ricigliano (l) and Treasure Ed Marmitt join in the Pledge of Allegiance, while above, vocalist Sandra McNiff sings the National Anthem



**BELOW:** The Treasure Coast Symphony Orchestra Conductor Mr. Michael Garaci



The Treasure Coast Symphony Orchestra. The concert was a sellout

ones.

Funds raised by the concert and other fundraising activities were used to provide:

- ♦ \$3,000.00 for two scholarships for graduating JROTC students
- ♦ \$500.00 in food gift certificates to be distributed to needy veterans
- ♦ \$1,000.00 contributed to a Homeless Veterans emergency fund to provide temporary lodging for homeless veterans
- ♦ \$500.00 donated to the Veterans transportation program which transports veterans to the VA Medical Center
- ♦ \$500.00 for telephone cards to be distributed to active duty troops over seas and those being hospitalized at Walter reed Hospital
- ♦ \$500.00 contributed to the Victory Forge Boot Camp for troubled teenage boys

That makes a total of \$6,000.00 in contributions for veterans and youth programs.

The Chapter was also able to set aside \$10,000.00 for a Korean War Memorial fund to design and erect a Korean War Memorial in Port St. Lucie, Florida.

The concert was an overwhelming success, and will continue to be an annual event for the Chapter.

## 108 Western Ohio

**Frederick R. Shively**

In March 1997, the Chapter passed a resolution by a 97-1 margin to award two \$500.00 student scholarships. We contacted several local neutral educators and found some willing to screen all the applications. We gave a ten point bonus in the scoring to applicants who were relatives of Korean War veterans. Once the ratings were completed, we took a floor vote on the recommendations.

♦ In May 2001 we increased the number of \$500.00 scholarships to be awarded to four. Two went to current year high school graduates. The other two went to current college students.

♦ Again, in 2005, we awarded four \$500.00 scholarships, raising the total number of scholarships awarded since 1997 to 28.



108 President Ken Williamson, scholarship winner Andrew Riffle, and his mother Mary Riffle



108 President Ken Williamson, scholarship winner Jason Kerns, and his grandfather and KWVA member Harvey Zimmerman

108 scholarship award winner Casondra Shively, her mother Felicia Gleyd, and proud grandparents Mary and Frederick Shively



108 scholarship winner Casondra Shively and Chapter President Ken Williamson



## 110 Miami-Dade [FL]

**Ainslee R. Ferdie**

The Chapter assisted some 77 runners last year in a run/walk with the Association of Army, Gulfstream Chapter as principal sponsor. It was the second annual tribute to the armed forces.

110 President Ferdie getting ready to start the runners





South Miami PD officer who sang the National Anthem at the run/walk stands with President Ferdie



137's monument is adorned with roses

## 137 Mahoning Valley [OH]

Joan Onstott

On Sunday, May 21, 2005, 12 Chapter members placed flags on veterans' graves at Lake Park Cemetery in Youngstown, Ohio.

The following week, on Sunday, May 29, 2005, at 1 p.m., the Chapter held a "Laying of the Roses" ceremony. As each name of the memorial was read, a red rose was placed on the memorial platform. The first name read was Thomas Tsoukras. His mother, Thomasine Tsoukras, is our Chapter's only Gold Star mother. She placed the rose for her son, assisted by her daughter and Chapter member Robert Brothers. There are 122 names of Korean War casualties from Columbiana, Mahoning, and Trumbull Counties.



The Lady Associates of 137 (L-R) Joan Onstott, Carol McClain, Sheryle Baringer, Pat Foley, Jeanette Giovanni, Mary Jane Dick. Seated is Jane Ponikvar



The 137 "Flag Team" at Lake Park Cemetery (L-R) Rocco Anobile, Pat Foley, Dot Cooper, Jeanette Giovanni, Commander Zeno Foley, Sheryl Baringer, Frank Sloat, Earl Harris, Dick Marshall, Richard Schulz, Jack Cooper, Harry Ponivikar. Richard Schulz's grandsons kneel in the front



ABOVE: Thomasine Tsoukras placing the rose at 137's ceremony

LEFT: Rocco Anobile salutes the POW/MIA Chair at 137's ceremony



137 Commander Zeno Foley offers opening remarks at the ceremony, as Chaplain Richard Koker hand signs

## 147 West Bay [RI]

Robert F. Hartley

On May 30, 2005, the West Bay Korean War veterans held a ceremony at our Veterans Cemetery at Exeter, Rhode Island. A group of Korean Navy trainees from the Navy War College in Newport, Rhode Island visited us.



147 members and guests gather at Veterans Cemetery in Exeter, RI



"Young looking" veterans display 147's banner at Exeter ceremony



Part of the crowd at 147's Exeter ceremony

## 199 Manasota [FL]

Richard P. Coalts

"You cannot join the Manasota Chapter, 199's Color Guard, in presenting the colors at McKechnie Field Ball Park in Bradenton, FL for the spring training game between the Cincinnati Reds and the Pittsburgh Pirates," is what Richard P. Coalts, the Chapter's Publicity Director, is telling the bird, which claims to be the Pirates' mascot. The Chapter's Color Guard did perform at the game on March 7, 2005.



The mascot tries to join 199's Color Guard

## 210 Brevard County [FL]

Charles Hackney

Chapter support to Korean War veterans of Florida's Space Coast has been very diversifying and rewarding. Our officers and members have been busy planning and implementing fund raising, color guard and memorial monument activities, as well as sending representatives to other Florida location KWVA events and conventions. We have also been supportive of projects that serve the veterans of all services, such as our annual support to



Recently elected 210 Officers (L-R) Jolene Farago, Jim Appleton, Nick Beninate, Ted Magill, President DOF KWVA, Paul Spescia, Julius Farago

the local Vietnam War and All-Veterans Reunion and Moving Wall ceremonies in Titusville.

New Chapter officers elected this month were sworn in and installed by honored guest Ted Magill, President of the Department of Florida KWVA. They are:

- President – Julius Farago
- 1st VP - Paul Spescia
- 2nd VP - Nick Beninate
- Secretary – Jim Appleton
- Treasurer – Jolene Farago

Working closely with the Florida Veterans Council organization located in Merritt Island, our continuing goal is to help all veterans in our area, not only Korean veterans, and to educate the young civilian populace about the past role and needs of these veterans.



210 folks (L-R) Mrs. Spescia, Paul Spescia, Mickey Tutolo, and Ted Trousdale at the Florida DOF KWVA Annual Convention in Jacksonville, FL



210's Nick Beninate (L) and Julius Farago (R) present Scholarship Fund check to Maurice Meisner, Chairman of the Brevard Veterans Council, administrators of the fund



210 display at Vietnam and All Veterans Reunion/Moving Wall Exhibit, Titusville, Florida

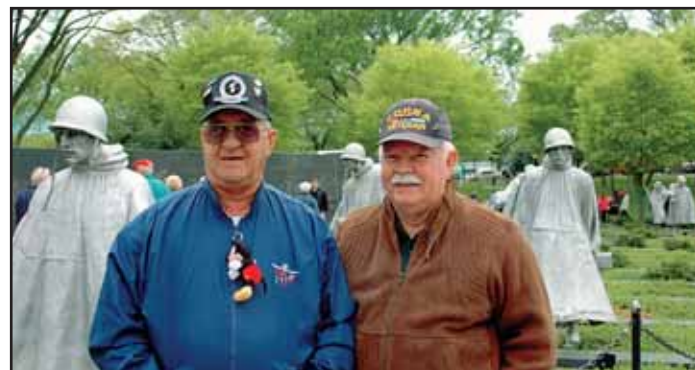
## 219 Central Kentucky

John Armacost

About a week prior to Memorial Day 2005, I received a phone call from Mr. Kim (restaurant manager) at the request of his boss, B. J. Huh, owner of the Hananoki Restaurant in Lexington, to invite the Korean War Veterans Association, Post # 219 members, their wives, family members to a celebration dinner with them on



Korean-born 210 Fundraiser volunteer and U.S. Army veteran Chyung Kim on the job



210 members Mickey Tutolo (L) and Nelson Ruiz (R) tour the Korean War Memorial in Washington DC



219 members pose during Memorial Day celebration

May 30th. (Ms. Huh is a Korean by birth.) Also invited were Mr. and Mrs. Greg Anderson, Director of the VA Medical Center Volunteers Services, and Mr. Wayne Pfeffer, who is acting VA Medical Center Director.

We had a wonderful celebration of “remembering Korea” and receiving the “thank you” of a grateful people for whom the United States, the Koreans themselves, and our allies fought to free the Republic of Korea. We thanked them for showing their appreciation and for what they had accomplished with their gift of freedom.

For us, this was a most memorable Memorial Day, one in which “they remembered.”

Graybeards members who attended included Jack Armacost, Earl Buckler, William Flannery, Harry Foreman, Ewell Fryman, Robert Hyndman, James Marshall, Bobby McCoun, James McKinney, Robert Niles, Stanley Schwartz, W.B. Stiles, Carl Tugate, Bennett Wasserman, and many wives and relatives. Also in attendance was Dave Lane (American Legion Service Officer).

Everyone enjoyed a great meal. At our request, Mr. Yongbeom Hur sang the Korean anthem, accompanied by his fellow Koreans.

## 256 Oakland, Macomb, Wayne [MI]

John Ruselowski

Chapter members participated in the May 30, 2005, Memorial Day wreath-laying ceremony to honor Dearborn, MI, Korean War veterans who lost their lives between June 1950 and July 1953.



John Ruselowski and George Harvey of 256 place a wreath to honor Dearborn Korean War veterans

## 259 Central Indiana

Tine Martin

We participated in the Fishers, Indiana, Freedom Festival Parade. The town of about 53,000 people is one of the most patriotic in America. Two to three thousand spectators line the parade route. We had the 1st prize float.



259's 1st prize float with new Indiana State Commander Don Ellwood on board



The start of the Fishers Freedom Parade



Part of the thousands of spectators watch 259 members march



259 Commander Tine Martin and great grandson Jordan Hamilton enjoy the parade

## 270 Sam Johnson (TX)

Glen Thompson

### The Great Hamburger Cookouts

On the third Wednesday of every month, over a dozen members of the Chapter, a few members from the local Purple Heart chapter, and a few members from KWVA Chapter 215 converge on the TCU dining hall to grill and serve hamburgers to approximately 120 veteran patients confined to the Transitional Care Unit (TCU) at the Dallas VA Hospital. Veteran patients look forward to our monthly hamburger cookout, which has become a tradition in the TCU. The patients enjoy the change from standard hospital food and the volunteers feel that they have helped their fellow veterans

270 member Doyle Dykes (center) grills hamburgers, while member Homer Mundy (left) and a volunteer from a local Purple Heart Chapter (right) assist



Glen Preston appreciates the food

President J. D. Randolph usually arrives first to gather the hamburger patties, the buns, the potato chips, the condiments, the punch, paper plates, the serving dishes and other supplies. Meanwhile, member Doyle Dykes fires up the barbeque grill on the patio in the TCU building.

### TCU Patient Comments And Profiles

Thaddeus Le Boeuf, a Louisiana native, currently resides in Mineral Wells. Thaddeus is a retired veteran with 24 years of service in the US Army. He was released from the Transitional Care Unit on June after a three-month stay. Thaddeus, who had his left leg amputated because of complications from diabetes, noted that he looked forward to the hamburger cookout..

Smokey Cleveland, a former Navy Corpsman, lives between Alvarado and Burleson. He spent one four-year tour of duty in the Navy. Smokey, who was confined to the TCU for five weeks, went home in June as well. "I appreciate all you've done for us," he said. "The hamburgers are a lot better food than what they've been serving here."

Glen Preston, a former US Marine, served from 1969 through 1975. Glen's knees lock up on him because of an injury he sus-

tained while in the Marines. Recently, while on an eight-foot ladder, his knees locked up on him and he fell across boat railings. The fall sheared off the quad-muscles and tendons on both legs. Glen reported that, "I'm a guinea pig because they haven't had any injuries exactly like mine." But, he added, "I really appreciate those hamburgers once a month."

Preston lives in Haltom City.

## 289 Mountain Empire [VA]

Carol Shelton



289 members at their memorial dedication

The Chapter dedicated a Korean War Memorial in Abingdon, VA on May 29, 2005 at their Veterans Memorial Park.

## 299 Korea Veterans of America [MA]

Jeff Brodeur

The new KWVA Chapter 299 monument was dedicated at Middleboro, MA, Veterans Memorial Park on Memorial Day 2005, with many Chapter members in attendance. The monument is the first in the country to have the dates 1945 to present and all four Korea Campaign Ribbons affixed.

Over 1,500 people attended the ded-



At left, USFKVO post in Middleboro. Below, (L-R) 299 members at Middleboro Memorial Park: Ed Gallant, Paul Fitzsimmons, Brad Chase, Creator Jack Barnicoat, Jeff Brodeur, John Gould



ication. KVA Commander Jeff Brodeur was one of the guest speakers.

The ceremony featured a fly-by by A-10 Warthogs.

National KWVA President Lou Dechert visited the park in May, where the USFKVO also has a granite post with the same dates of Korea service.

## DEPARTMENT of DELAWARE

The Department elected new officers for 2005:

- Commander – Dick Ennis
- 1st Vice Commander – Gene Rose
- 2nd Vice Commander – Russ Cunningham
- Secretary – Dave Hitchcock
- Treasurer – Roger Reeves

The retiring Commander is George Goss.



Delaware Department officers (L-R) Roger Reeves, Gene Rose, Dick Ennis, Russ Cunningham, Dave Hitchcock



Delaware Department Executive Council: (Front row) Jim Davis, Maurice Naples, Walt Koopman, Frank Haworton, Mick Schroeder (Back row) Bill Russell, Nancy Russell, Dave Gilliam

## DEPARTMENT of NEW YORK

The Department held its State Convention at Turning Stone Casino Resort, in Verona, New York. On Wednesday, May 11, there was an informal gathering of old friends in the Hospitality Room, where attendees share snacks and beverages while renewing old friendships. The following day, the meeting of the veterans was conducted by Jim Ferris, the Department of New York



Lou Dechert (standing at left) addresses the DNY membership, as Jim Ferris (standing at right) looks on



Bill Burns, National Canadian rep to the KWVA, speaks to the DNY membership



President Dechert installs the DNY officers



(L-R) Jim Ferris, Les Peate, and Lou Dechert at the DNY convention State President.

Ferris introduced two National Presidents, Lou Dechert, President of the Korean War Veterans Association, and Les Peate, his counterpart with the Canadian Korean War Veterans. During the meeting, several discussions were held regarding the revised Department of New York State by-laws. The issue was



(L-R) Les Peate, Howard Plattner (Nassau County Chapter Commander) Lou Dechert at DNY convention



(L-R) Jon Barwinczok (Auburn/Cayuga Chapter Commander), Les Peate, Lou Dechert at DNY convention

tabled for a vote at the fall convention.

Jack Lotz spoke about the Million Man March to be held in Washington DC on Memorial Day 2006, which is planned as a way for veterans to show their displeasure over the cutting of veterans' benefits.

State elections were held, and all of the incumbent officers were re-elected.

The names of 55 deceased veterans were read. This practice will be continued at each May annual meeting.



The DNY Convention takes the cake—baked by Baker Yancy and Pauline Fallico

## Korean War Veteran shares short stories from his life

*plus some weird stuff!*

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## COLOR AD

## Memorial for the Korean War Veterans

After five-years of ideology battles between capitalism and communism, the 38th Parallel grew into an Iron Wall between two Koreas. One day it burst into the flame of hostility and hate. In 1950, no Americans wanted to think about another war when the memories of the earlier war still haunted them. Also, to Americans, Korea was a faceless nation whose men fought against them, wearing the Japanese military uniform.

By Therese Park

In early 2004, the Bush administration awarded KWVA Chapter 181 (Kansas #1) \$371,250 for the construction of the Korean War Memorial in Overland Park, Kansas (119th and Lowell). The news excited the veterans, their families, and their supporters, and accelerated their fundraising efforts. Only six months later, they had raised 92% of the projected cost of \$600,000, and began waiting anxiously for construction to begin.

The veterans' long dream began to formulate when the City Council of Overland Park voted unanimously for the construction of the memorial in June, 2003. Two months later, on August 23, the site dedication ceremony took place, including a keynote address by U.S. Senator Sam Brownback (R-KS). Congressman Dennis Moore (D-3rd District, KS), County Commission Chairperson Annabeth Surbaugh, Mayor Ed Eilert, and many other local dignitaries were present, along with the KWVA supporters, including a few local South Koreans.

The fundraising campaign followed. Throughout 2004, the 60+ KWVA members contacted numerous foundations, corporations, and individuals. They held a pancake breakfast in March and a garage sale in August. Each time they were reassured that the community was behind their fundraising efforts. Donations came from over 100 sources, including the South Korean community. The Korean-American Society of Greater Kansas City delivered \$20,000 to the KWVA at the end of 2004, and the Korean American Ladies Foundation hosted a fund-raising luncheon in June 2004, which raised \$10,000. The women also performed

a Korean fan dance and folk songs for their 150 guests.

At a KWVA monthly meeting on May 16th, 2005, the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation awarded the veterans with a "Leadership Gift" of \$50,000. Another \$50,000 has been pledged by the Overland Park Arts Commission.

Any war is evil, but the Korean War was one of the worst in history due to its massive destruction of human lives and civilization. When 95,000 North Korean Communists launched a surprise attack across the 38th Parallel on a Sunday morning in June, 1950, South Korea was defenseless. Korea had been under Japan's colonial ruling between 1910 and 1945, during which time the Japanese severely impoverished the Koreans, materially and spiritually, stealing everything and forcing them to use Japanese names and speak only Japanese. With Japan's surrender to the allied forces at the end of World War II in August 1945, Korea became a free nation, but freedom was short-lived. Within days, the country with a 5000-year recorded history was divided into two—the Russians occupying the North and the Americans the South.

After five-years of ideology battles between capitalism and communism, the 38th Parallel grew into an Iron Wall between two Koreas. One day it burst into the flame of hostility and hate. In 1950, no Americans wanted to think about another war when the memories of the earlier war still haunted them. Also, to Americans, Korea was a faceless nation whose men fought against them, wearing the Japanese military uniform.

In 1950, General Douglas MacArthur couldn't worry about Korea, either. He was

the "king" in Occupied Japan and was too busy reconstructing the "new Japan" from rubble and introducing democracy to the Japanese. After the news of the North Korean invasion of the South reached him in Tokyo on June 25th, MacArthur reported to President Harry Truman that it was a "police action" and asked the President to grant him authority to mobilize the Occupation Army in Japan to control the "Korean conflict."

When the US soldiers on occupation-duty in Japan arrived in Korea, they were no match for the well-equipped, well-trained North Koreans who crossed the 38th Parallel with modern Russian tanks and ammunition. Thousands of Americans were killed or captured or vanished within days, as were countless South Koreans who were lost in the "conflict."

The UN troops' successful amphibious landing at Inchon Harbor two months later reversed the war situation, and the UN troops triumphantly crossed the 38th Parallel and marched farther north, only to be mauled by the Chinese "volunteers," who had stepped into the Korean War Theater without notice. Until the war ended with the truce two years later, Americans bled and died.

Today, South Korea is a vibrant nation proud of its modern cities, financial security, and high-tech industry. Its national per-capita in the 1950s was only \$50.00. It is now \$10,000, an explosive growth since the war. Without Americans' help, South Korea would have merged with the North more than a half century earlier. Had that happened, 45 million South Koreans would be Kim Jong-il's mindless puppets today.

Is the Korean War "forgotten?" No—and it never will be. Even after those who fought in the war and who lived through it are long gone, the Korean War Veteran's Memorial at 119th and Lowell, Overland Park, Kansas, will stand tall, reminding its visitors of what the Korean War was all about, who fought in it, and what the world learned from it.

*Therese Park is a freelance writer living in Leawood, Kansas. She has written two published novels and dozens of articles. Her second book "When a Rooster Crows at Night" is based on her childhood experience during the Korean War. She can be reached at 10500 Lee Blvd., Leawood, KS 66206, [tspark62@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tspark62@sbcglobal.net)*

# The Russian Role In Korea

Often, soldiers go off to war with no real understanding of why they are there or what started it. Not that it matters! After all, it is a soldier's job to "do or die." It is only later that those who survive ask why they went in the first place and how they ended up fighting folks who they didn't even know were on the opposite side, e.g. Russia in Korea.

Granted, the Russians were not the overt enemy in Korea. But, they had a major influence on the events there. With that in mind, we asked in a previous issue what role the Russians played in the Korean War. Here is what we have learned so far.

Here is what I know about the role the Russians played in Korea. It started when Korea was occupied by the Japanese and Manchurians after August 1910. In 1943, allies promised Korea independence. In August 1945, Japanese troops north of the arbitrarily chosen 38th Parallel surrendered to Soviet occupying forces; those in the south surrendered to the U.S. Army. Thereafter, the Soviet-American "Cold War" intensified.

In August 1948, President Syngman Rhee proclaimed the "Republic of Korea" (ROK) on behalf of the 21 million South Koreans. In September that year, as the result of a declaration by Communist President Kim II Sung, the "Democratic Republic of Korea" was created. It comprised nine million North Koreans. Both states claimed sole legitimacy over all Korea, leading to suspicion on both sides and border tension.

At 4 a.m. Korean time, Sunday, 25 June, 1950, North Korean forces invaded South Korea. ROK troops resisted bravely, but they were crushed. Later that day, the U.N. Security Council condemned the aggression. In July, General Douglas MacArthur was appointed to command U.N. forces, which would be sent to save South Korea.

The Soviet Union, which had been boycotting U.N. meetings, missed the chance to veto the decision. On 23 June, Jacob Malik, the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, proposed a cease fire. On July 10, talks opened at Kaesong, in "No Man's Land," just north of Seoul.

By 1 November 1951 there was a stalemate. Then, in 1952, the Chinese became more aggressive. The armistice in place left the western democracies with a sense of anti-climax. North and South Korea were utterly devastated, and totally

dependent on the USSR or the United States for economic survival. Enter guerilla leader and communist Kim II Sung (formerly Kim Sung Chu), who had opposed the 1931 invasion of China, and who had formed the Korean People's Revolutionary Army in China.

In 1932, Sung combined nationalist groups in China to form the Anti-Japanese Guerilla Army. He was captured in 1940, and escaped to Russia in 1941. He returned to the Soviet zone of Korea in 1945 as a Soviet Army major. In 1948, Soviet troops left Korea, but some "advisors" remained, and the Maoist guerilla model was rejected in favor of the Soviet military organization. While all this was going on, subversion and border raids continued against South Korea.

Military units comprising 6-7 battalions of Koreans originally living in the Soviet Union were formed in North Korea. KPA generals were battle-hardened China veterans, skilled in Soviet-style mobile warfare. They were leading well-armed, disciplined, motivated troops. The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) was also trained by the Soviets. About 3,000 Soviet military advisors trained the PLA in modern mechanized warfare. The Russian influence was pervasive.

There was Russian-style field dress in North Korea in 1950. Some of the uniforms worn by the Chinese PLA may have been Russian. Tank crews, helmets, etc., were Russian style. North Korean equipment resembled the Soviet World War II pattern. And, there were Russian MIG 15s in "MIG Alley."

That is some of the Russian role in Korea as I recall.

*Paul A. Keim, 25 S. Wall Street, Spring City, PA 19475-1941*

## They Did Have Pilots In Korea

In the January-February issue of *Graybeards*, I noted on page 61 a request you made concerning the Russians and the part (if any) they may have played in the Korean War. I'd like to shed some light on the subject.

I first went to Korea with the US Navy in May 1951. I had a total of three deployments over the next three years, a total of 27 months, many in combat. I returned to the states for the final time in June 1954, and was honorably discharged in Sept. 1954. Much of the time spent there was in support of the US Army and US Marines on the east coast of Korea, all the way to Vladivostok.

Some of the time was spent in protecting the fleet in the same general area. There were times we were attacked by Mig-15 jets. We had orders to shoot down any that approached. Having had much experience with the fleet, launching planes and supporting the troops on land, I feel I can speak out today about those experiences and beliefs.

Our ship, a heavy cruiser, the *USS Los Angeles* (CA 135), a capital ship (as we called fighting ships), was next in size to a battleship, with a crew of 1200 sailors and 90 officers, along with the 2-star admiral of the ComCruDesPac. Many times we thought there were Russians flying the Mig-15's. It just had to be, because of their excellent flying skills—skills that we believed the North Koreans and Chinese did not have.

We rescued many American pilots from the sea daily. Our ship picked up many of them by helicopter. We returned the pilot to the aircraft carrier he had flown from. Still, that thought was always in our minds: those pilots who shot down our American planes were just too good. Something was amiss.

Several months ago, I was watching a very interesting film on the History Channel, titled *Heavy Metal, Mig-15 Russian Stealth* (AAE 43449). The story verified that the Russians were indeed flying the Mig-15s. The film even included interviews with the Russian pilots, who said it was *them*, and not the Chinese. The Russians were even taught

Chinese, so to confuse the Americans into believing the Migs were being flown by Chinese. One Russian, a WWII ace, said he shot down 6 American F-86s in one day. The American F-86 was too slow. The Mig was much faster, and our defense department had not supplied our pilots and troops with much more than WW 2 equipment and aircraft, as we all well know.

The US Navy was still flying prop pilots, F-4Us, and Skyraiders. There were damned few jets until later in the war. The point here is that our assumption that the Russians were flying the Migs was not just our wildest guesses.

Lastly, the Russians were told to stay away from the DMZ, so as not to get shot down and captured by Americans. That might have started WWII.

*Richard J. Fischbach, P.O. Box 648,  
Shelbyville, IL 62565-0648*

## Northern Patrol in a Submarine: Taking Pictures Of Russian Ships

In 1952 I left San Diego, California, with 85 crewmen on the submarine USS Blackfin (SS-322) for Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, where we outfitted for extreme cold weather. We took on 20 torpedoes, as much food as could be stored on board, and diesel fuel for at least 90 days.

On a special operations patrol, our mission was classified as secret. Naval intelligence officers removed all world maps and geographical references from the sub. We were even given a cover story in case we were captured and questioned.

It took about 10 days to get into the Sea of Japan. Next, we went north to the Sea of Okhotsk, off the coast of Russia. Then, we went through the Kurl Islands straits. At this point of the trip, we submerged to get out to the open sea.

The submarine started to slow down for no reason. Through the periscope, we saw that we were caught between two Japanese fishing boats in their fishing nets—and we were pulling them behind us. So, we had to surface to get loose. We had no marking to show our country of origin, so they did not know who we were. The Japanese fishermen were jumping up and down and pointing to their flag. I think they had a big story to tell the grandchildren about the giant fish that got

away.

We continued to snorkel north to the Bering straits. Russia and Alaska are 20 miles apart at this point. Both picked up the snorkel and sent fighters out, so we quit snorkeling and continued under battery power into the Artic Ocean. I was a lookout, helmsman and torpedo man, and I lived in the forward torpedo room. Sometimes we spent up to 48 hours at our duty stations while the Russian fleet went over us in about 200 feet of water. We took hundreds of pictures through our periscope of Russian ships heading south.

We stayed at battle stations for a long time. At battle stations, I was a planesman, which meant I controlled the depth of the sub. The lookout men could only stay 15 minutes at the station, as our eyes would freeze shut and we could not see. Below decks we had on all the clothing we could wear and still get around.

It is a strange world up there. The sun would come up for about 3 to 4 hours, and then go back down. The moon would take up about 45 degrees of the sky; it looked enormous. The only life we saw were some birds we called sea parrots because of their bright colors. The sea began to turn into ice mush, and we could not go much further north. The Russians had to get their ships out of port to keep from getting frozen in for the winter. We were up there to take pictures and record descriptions of their naval fleet.

At one point, we had a crewman who came down with acute appendicitis. He

was getting really sick. Something had to be done fast, as he would die if not treated. The only solution was to radio an American carrier and have it steam north while we headed south as fast as we could. The plan was for us to get in range of a helicopter, as surface ships could not get that far north.

When we were close enough to try to make the transfer, the sea was terrible. During one try, our bow went up and the helicopter dropped out of sight below the bow. The deck was about 35 feet wide, and there were no rails to hang on to. We did have a line to slide along a track to keep us from falling over board.

We finally got the crewman attached to the line from the helicopter, and we started to pull away. But, he was pulled a long way through the very cold water before they finally got him aboard.

We went back up north and finished the northern patrol. Later, we returned to San Diego. I have hated cold weather ever since.

The Korean War ended while we were on this patrol, so we finished it in the Cold War. The patrol was classified as secret, and we were told that if we revealed it to anyone, we would spend the rest of our lives in Leavenworth Prison.

I never tested it.

*John J Banion, 29588 Backbone Rd.,  
Sedalia, MO*

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## CHAPTER 271 from page 32

hero and active Congressman, rather than a deceased general. Miles came out of his chair, dialed Congressman Johnson's office, and stated our request.

The Congressman was on the floor of the House at the time. Shortly thereafter, a call was received from the Congressman to tell us that he would be in Dallas for the month of August and would meet with us at that time. We were so excited we did not know what to do. We could not think of a single reason he would decline. In August, about six of us went to a meeting with the Congressman. He told us he would be deeply honored to have his name on our new chapter.

This has been important to the new

chapter, as it was the start of many things that have gone toward making our chapter outstanding. We attend the Congressman's meetings, and many times he has been the keynote speaker and attended our chapter meetings. We take great pride in Congressman Johnson. Likewise, he has indicated great pride in our organization and its accomplishments.

The chapter was formed in less than 30 days with our state non-profit charter. The chapter has a solid foundation and has been doing many great things over the years. Our KWVA Charter was dated September 11, 2001.

*Submitted by Ed Buckman, Co-founder*

# As I Was On My Way To St. Ives...

## Statement of Lt Jg Burdett L. Ives concerning loss of F9F-5 Aircraft Buno 126152, MODEX D-111, due to enemy aircraft fire in the vicinity of Wonsan, North Korea on February 2 1953

Weather and miscellaneous conditions:

- (1) Weather: CAVU.
- (2) Wind: west, 10 to 12 knots.
- (3) Sea: 2 to 3 foot waves with some whitecaps.
- (4) Water temperature: 31 degrees F.
- (5) Air temperature: approximately 25 degrees F.
- (6) I was in the water 13 minutes.

As I tightened my shoulder straps, the plan (sic) skipped on the flaps, flew another three to four seconds, then the right wing dropped, hit the water and the plane skidded 180 degrees to the right. I hit the water at 1250 at CU 7146 downwind with an estimated airspeed of 120 knots. (Witnesses state that the plane seemed to break up on impact and exploded several seconds after I left the cockpit.)

The landing shock wasn't as bad as I had expected. but evidently I hit my head on something, because I tried to open my safety belt 3 or 4 times before I realized that I had opened it on the first try and my nose was bleeding. I threw off my radio cords, oxygen supply tube, and shoulder straps, stood up in the cockpit and stepped into the water with my parachute attached. I had no trouble clearing the cockpit.

The water was covered with gasoline on fire, but it was mostly aft of the cockpit and I either missed it or splashed it aside as I swam from the plane. From previous experience I knew that I should inflate my life jacket and get out of the chute before my hands got numb from the cold. This was easily accomplished. I removed the chute, inflated my life jacket, removed and inflated my raft without too much difficulty. I climbed into the raft over the small end, lying face down until I got enough energy to turn over. My hands were getting quite numb by now and I tried to remove my MK4 gloves from the bottom pockets of the suit, but my cold hands plus the fact that there was some other survival gear in the pockets with the gloves almost prevented me from utilizing them. After several anxious moments I got the left glove out and warmed my left band with it. Using this partially warmed band, I removed the right glove and put both gloves on.

I observed members of my flight making low passes at me, and every time one flew north of my position I heard rifle fire. As I was near the supposedly friendly island of Mo-do CU 7247, and the fire seemed to come from it, I became quite concerned as I was slowly drifting toward it. (I later learned that this island is friendly, and the fire was presumably coming from Hado-Pando Peninsula CU 7351, about two miles distant).

I saw a destroyer approaching from the east and tried to get out a smoke flare. I had some difficulty getting it out of my life vest due to the condition of my hands, but finally got it out and it fired off ok.

The skipper of the can saw it immediately and it helped him to my position. (Although the lookout on the destroyer had me in sight, the bridge didn't, and until the smoke flare was sighted, the lookout was calling out my position to the bridge.)

CDR Hall, the captain of the USS Hailey (DD-556) did a wonderful job, stopping the ship so that I was within reach of a ladder thrown over the side. I didn't think I could make it up the ladder due to the condition of my hands, so they lowered the whaleboat and pulled me aboard.

I felt woozy when I was in the boat and lapsed into a state of shock for five or ten minutes. I came around in sick-bay, and the doctor fixed my nose and treated me for shock and minor exposure. I soon felt good enough to help remove my immersion suit. Things were pretty routine from here on; the captain and crew were very cordial and friendly. Two days later I was transferred to the USS *Nicholas*, (DDE-449). and thence back to the Oriskany.

This completed my 99th mission and second ditching in the Korean area.

## ■ The Rescue of a downed US Navy pilot

There is an old nursery rhyme that starts with "As I was on my way to St. Ives, I met a man with seven wives...." A paraphrased version from the February 2, 1953, deck log of the USS *Hailey* (DD 556) might read, "As we were busy saving pilots' lives, we rescued Lt. J.G. Burdett L. Ives...." Well, let's let Lt. Ives tell it through his own statement of the event.

It is amazing how such a harrowing event can be reduced to such simplicity on paper. Note, for example, how blasé Lt. Ives sounds with the last six words of his report: second ditching in the Korean area (emphasis added). Second ditching? Those words certainly show that the life of a Navy pilot was anything but easy. (Remember our book review on *From the Cockpit* in the Nov/Dec 2004 *Graybeards*) Indeed, that same simplicity comes through in the entry in the ship's log:

### United States Ship U.S.S. HAILEY (DD556) Monday 2 February 1953

12 to 16 Pick Up Of Downed Pilot Lt Jg  
B. L. Ives

Steaming as before. 1250 Downed aircraft reported sighted at coordinates 709459, Wonsan Harbor. Proceeding at various courses and speeds to pick up pilot. 1257 Alongside pilot, lying to. 1258 Number 2 motor whaleboat in the water, pilot aboard. 1303 Underway on various courses and speed, resuming patrol of EAST MUFFLER Annex. Pilot, IVES, B.L. LTJG, USNR....Plane sank at coordinates 709459

Certainly, the ship's captain, Harvey Hall, recognized that the rescue involved more than words. As the Hailey's Executive Officer, Lt. W. M. Moody, USNR, wrote in the February 3, 1953, Plan of the Day:

Note 1: The Captain was most pleased with the performance of all hands during the recovery of LT IVES, a pilot from the

USS ORISKANY. The engineers deserve particular credit for their responses to the engine-room telegraph. The pilot is in perfect health, his plane having been hit by AA fire over Wonsan City.

To be sure, Captain Hall deserves a great deal of credit as well. As Ron Bennett, ship's historian, recalled:

We picked up Lt. Ives on Feb. 2, 1953 [Groundhog Day] just two days before our ship, USS Hailey, was leaving our tour of duty in N. and S. Korean waters in the winter of 1952/53.

When the pilot was spotted our Captain Harvey Hall took over the con, ordered flank speed in reverse, going into an area uncleared of mines to rescue Lt. Ives. We got to him in seven minutes.

Thus ended the rescue of one downed U.S. Navy pilot. Even though the incident sounded so matter-of-fact on paper, it was anything but. In truth, it was a classic case of a group of sailors whose concern for one another motivated them to take chances to save one of their own. Indeed, that is the story of the Korean War—and all wars in which U.S. military men and women serve together.

Our thanks to Ron Bennett, who furnished the material for this article.

## WE NEED MORE NEW MEMBERS



A KWVA Membership form is included on page 87 of this issue. Make copies and distribute it wherever you believe a fellow Korean War or Korea Service Veteran might be see it.

# Smoking Can Be Hazardous To Your Health

By Douglas C. Gamage

In early April, 1953, my unit, the 17th Infantry Regiment of the 7th Infantry Division, was deployed in the Chorwon Valley area of Korea, a few miles north of the 38th Parallel. We held positions on Pork Chop Hill, Old Baldy, the Alligator Jaws, and other lesser-known hills in the area. The war had stagnated along a snaking line across the Korean Peninsula from Panmunjom on the west coast to somewhere around the 39th parallel at the Sea of Japan.

There were a few major battles, but mostly the action comprised skirmishes and patrols to feel out the enemy. At night, searchlights played across the rice paddies in front of the MLR, and music and propaganda were broadcast from Chinese speakers set up on hills a few hundred yards away. An occasional parachute flare would burst, lighting up an area the size of a baseball field, to reveal any enemy patrols trying to sneak up on us. We had most of the terrain mapped out, and we could call in artillery on a target by simply giving its coordinates. We sometimes called it in just for the heck of it just to relieve the boredom during a long night on watch. The Willy Peters were like 4th of July fireworks.

Even with all that, the brass decided to maintain outposts in the valley in front of the MLR. Two men would go out after dark with a basic load of ammo and a reel of commo wire, to which they attached a field phone so they could report any suspicious activity. We were warned never to fall asleep, because the enemy could follow the commo wire and find us.

I thought they were just trying to frighten us when they told us that several times in the past few months soldiers had fallen asleep never to wake again, bayoneted by Chinese patrols. But, just to be on the safe side, I took the time on the way out to splice several branches of commo wire that went nowhere, usually burying the ends. I hoped it would mislead them.

The bitter Korean winter had passed, and the once frozen furrows were mushy. Sometimes, in the morning, a skim of ice would form on standing water, but it would melt quickly as the sun came up. In the val-

**The two men were dead. Their weapons and boots were gone. Several American cigarette butts lay near them.**

ley, we often could see traces of an enemy patrol in the frost that had passed undetected in the night, very often within yards of an outpost.

We could expect to pull outpost duty about once a month, and combat or recon patrols at least once a week. My turn for outpost came on a drizzly, cold night. I and another soldier were shown a topographic chart by the executive officer, who pointed out the approximate area to which he wanted us to go. He also pointed out places where G-2 suspected were enemy units. They seemed uncomfortably close together on the chart.

We headed out just after sunset, down the northeast ridge of Pork Chop. We walked for about fifteen minutes, until we found a relatively safe shell crater where we would spend the night. I spun the handle of the field phone and reported in. Then, I checked my M-1, laid out several hand grenades with the pins straightened, and took off my backpack. We sat back to back, huddled under our ponchos, and talked in whispers.

Our orders were not to engage the enemy unless we were attacked first. And we were forbidden to smoke. The glow of a cigarette could be seen from a great distance at night, and the odor of American tobacco could be detected downwind for a hundred yards.

Because we were scared, nervous, and bored, we decided to take a chance anyway. We both needed a smoke. Pulling our ponchos tightly over our heads, my buddy lit his Zippo and I cupped my hands around it, while we both quickly lit our cigarettes and snapped the lighter shut.

After 51 years, I can still remember how I savored the taste of that Lucky Strike as I inhaled the smoke deeply. Not wanting to take a chance on firing up the lighter again,

Continued on page 79

# Book Review

## *Fire For Effect: Artillery Forward Observers In Korea.*

Sobieski, Anthony J

AuthorHouse, Bloomington, IN, 2005. 259 pp.  
\$19.95 (Soft Cover) ISBN 1-4208-3836-9 (sc)

July 14, 2005. I am sitting in the Ambulatory Surgery Center of St. Francis Hospital awaiting surgery. I am searching for something to take my mind off the upcoming procedure. I find it in the form of a book: *Fire For Effect*. In fact, I become so engrossed in it I almost forget why I am there. (Unfortunately, the surgeon did not.)

Sobieski's book is a perfect example of my long-held belief that the best military history is not found in overviews. Rather, it is in the books written by the participants, whether in entire volumes or a series of vignettes, such as Sobieski presents.

The author has some knowledge of artillery. His father was an FO in Korea, which is known not only as the "Forgotten War," but the "Artillery War" as well. In fact, his father, 2nd Lt. Henry J. Sobieski, 213th Field Artillery Battalion (1953), presents his own story (pp. 220- 225), with an intriguing account of events on July 27th, 1953—the "end of the war."

*Fire For Effect* presents the story of artillery forward observers (FOs) in Korea. It includes the experiences of over 100 individuals. They look at the war from their little spheres of influence, which gives readers a broad view of the entire war as the FOs relate their experiences from virtually every battle, major or minor (as if there is any such thing as a minor battle when the bullets are flying).

The writers' stories address every aspect of the war in Korea, e.g., the sadness at seeing friends and even enemies destroyed by artillery fire, the humor they detect in different circumstances, and the relationships between and among allied units. They often express their respect for the enemy and analyze the strategies used by both sides. In total, the writers present a balanced view of the artillery war with-

in the war through their personal insights and observations.

To be sure, there are some interesting stories to tell. For example, 1st Lt. Richard Kirk, 58th Armored Field Artillery Battalion (1950-51), recalls a time at the Chosin Reservoir involving ROK soldiers, Spanish-speaking Puerto Ricans, and American FDC (fire direction center) troops. Kirk spoke Japanese, which he had learned during WWII. As he described his relationships with the ROKs and the Puerto Ricans (members of the 65th Infantry Regiment), "It was more interesting because no one could talk to the ROK troops except me and none of the Puerto Rican troops could master anything in Korean." (p. 41)

Describing one fire mission, he wrote, "I heard the flares pop and that gave me five seconds to tell my ROKs to freeze, speaking in Japanese, when it occurred to me that the PR troops are going to hear my Japanese and think I am a Chinese or NK infiltrator and my fanny is in deep doo-doo." (p. 43) That is just one of the dilemmas in which FOs found themselves.

Sergeant Conard Blevins, 11th Marine Regiment, HQ Flash & Sound section (1952-53) noted in his story (pp. 152-153) that war could become a personal thing.

I had a little duel with a Chinese mortar crew one day and I prevailed because I was using [ a ] 105mm howitzer with VT [variable time] fusing....The duel...was interesting. I was in a fairly substantial OP [Observation Post] bunker and the Chinese mortar crew as in an open dugout. They were putting those rounds right around the OP and I was adjusting that 105. After about three or four rounds I got a battery round of Variable Time fuse and that took out the mortar crew.

More often than not, though, the stories revolved around broader events and the not-too-pleasant conditions in which the FOs often lived.

Consider, for example, 2nd Lt. Wally Woods', 37th Field Artillery Battalion (1952-53), description of his living con-

ditions:

The living quarters were about six feet long and were as wide as the front end five feet (sic). In these quarters, we rigged up a double deck bunk arrangement made from approximately six-foot poles that were strung with commo wire to support our bedrolls. The lower space was used as our 'sofa' and a place to stow our personal gear while the upper portion was for sleeping. The roof was made of logs laid in two directions perpendicular to each other and then lined with ponchos for weatherproofing before piling on about five or six layers of sandbags. It is interesting to note that it only took a matter of days before the rats could be heard scurrying around all throughout the overhead. And when the smell of rat excrement became too bad, our option was to sprinkle Mennen's aftershave lotion sent up from the Battalion PX to mask the stink.

Well, that doesn't sound very pleasant. Indeed, the lives of FOs in Korea in general were rather unpleasant. But, they had a job to do, and they did it well. Sobieski manages to depict just how significant their role was in his compilation. The stories are well worth reading for anyone who has an interest in the role of artillery in Korea—and even for those who do not.

Readers need not be experts in artillery to appreciate the FOs' stories. Sobieski does include a glossary to define terms peculiar to the FOs. An index would have helped as well, since there are so many references to different places, battles, allied troops, etc, but there is none. Nevertheless, the gripping stories compensate for that one omission.

So, the next time you are undergoing surgery, or are just trying to find a book that will take your attention away from the mundane things of life, pick up *Fire for Effect*. It's a blast.

*TO ORDER THE BOOK, contact AuthorHouse Publishers, 1663 Liberty Place, Suite 200, Bloomington, IN 47403, (888) 280-7715, [www.authorhouse.com](http://www.authorhouse.com), or order from Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Borders book stores.*



***When a Rooster Crows at Night*  
Park, Therese**

iUniverse, Lincoln, NE, 2004. 183pp. ISBN: 0-595-30876-7. \$14.95 U.S.

The problem with war is that no one understands fully its causes, who it affects, how it affects them, and the plight of the combatants and non-combatants in the “theater.” That is one of the lessons inherent in *When a Rooster Crows at Night*.

For example, how many Korean War veterans know that while they were actively engaged in attempting to push the communists out of South Korea, folks in Pusan were staging demonstrations outside the 8th Army base in favor of reunification, as Park reveals in Chapter 19? Probably not many. Most of them were too occupied with the ferocious combat in which they were unwitting participants to worry about what the people whose independence they were fighting for were doing—or why they were there in the first place.

Park explains that on p.75, as she recounts a conversation with a Catholic priest driven into hiding in her family’s home by the approach of the communists. “We can’t wear our religious garb because of the communists,” he said. “So many of our bothers have been killed and so many more taken North since last June [1950].” He added that, “The communists only believe in their own power. They don’t love anyone and don’t trust anyone, not even their friends and families. That’s why it’s dangerous if the communists take over the country, and that’s why so many foreign soldiers are fighting for us, so that some day, the world is a safe place to live for everyone.” As Park suggests, not everyone in South Korea was convinced.

“Confused?” one of her teachers who, ironically, had fought with the Japanese in WWII, said to her one day. “Who isn’t confused here in Korea today?” (p. 146) And why shouldn’t the South Koreans rally for reunification for their “brothers” and “sisters,” some of whom at the time were massacring their brethren in South Korea? After all, as psychologists would say, the Koreans were “conflicted.” The UN troops, on the other hand, were simply participants

in a conflict—aka the Korean War.

Okay, so there was an oxymoronicaly named “civil war” going on in Korea, which drew in combatants from 21 UN countries, Russia, and China. While they waged war, civilians tried to make sense of what was going on—and survive in the midst of it. That is where Therese Park’s book comes in.

Park, who was nine years old when the North Koreans invaded South Korea, provides a vivid insight into what life was like for civilians who were caught in the resulting war. She uses a combination of humor and pathos that depicts the ups and downs experienced by rich and poor people alike. Park describes in detail how the impact of deaths on individual families, shortages of food and household goods, cruelty of the North Koreans, mysterious disappearances of military-aged young men, etc., affect society overall. She addresses the uncertainty the South Koreans felt as the war dragged on, their feelings pro and con about the Americans, the sadness surrounding the large numbers of newly created orphans...in short, just about every aspect of the deleterious effects of war on civilians.

As a resident of Pusan, Park knew firsthand about the effects. In one chapter, she writes about her separation from her family as they moved from Pusan to Cheju Island (the “Island of Three Manys...many winds, many women, and many rocks) to escape the North Koreans. She ended up in an orphanage—albeit temporarily—and experienced what it was like for many of her peers whose parents were killed by the North Koreans or who simply abandoned their children in the hopes that kindly Americans would rescue them. She mentioned more than once that warm-hearted Americans did just that.

In one part, she writes about the increasing number of orphanages, eight of them in one town on Cheju, where suddenly orphaned children lived lives of loneliness, boredom, and deprivation—where simple things like roasted sweet potatoes and chestnuts became for them coveted treasures, even though they were as elusive as peace between the two Koreas. A room mother at the one in which Park was lodged until her

family found her explained:

I also want you to know something about the orphanages here on the island. We are the newest. A generous American pilot single-handedly rescued lost children from Pyongyang, Shinuiju, and other North Korean towns and brought them to Seoul. But since Seoul was evacuated last January, he moved them here to Cheju City. Thanks to him and his pilot friends, we have about two thousand children scattered in the city. (pp. 102-103)

Those 2,000 children certainly did not have it easy during the war—nor did anyone else, as Park reveals in her book.

Park’s insights show readers that war in not the best solution to problems. It does, however, have a positive side, as she noted in an essay she wrote in class.

War brings people closer, too. The Americans in our country are our friends, because they believe that destroying civilization and human lives is wrong. They are fighting for us, risking their own lives. Because of their sacrifices in our country, someday South Korea will be a stronger nation, and the Americans will be remembered by all Koreans, as well as people all over the world. (p. 139)

Well, maybe that someday hasn’t arrived yet, but at least we can get a better appreciation through Park’s book of what the people of South Korea went through over fifty years ago as United Nations troops poured into their country to help preserve their independence. *When a Rooster Crows at Night* provides that appreciation, as people who take the time to read the book will learn.

In fact, people who start reading the book at night might become so immersed that they will find themselves still absorbed in it when the rooster crows at dawn—and more appreciative of the disrupted and uncertain lives that so many South Koreans led in the middle of a war that technically hasn’t ended yet.

*TO ORDER: Check with any book store or order on-line through amazon.com. barnesandnoble.com, etc.*

# Key Bills in Congress

With this issue we begin a new regular feature. The information is graciously provided by the National Association of Uniformed Services (NAUS). We are grateful to Marcy Genest of NAUS for her willingness to share the information with our members.

*Throughout the 109th Congress, NAUS will identify and track certain bills that address issues important to our members. Over time the list will expand to include newly introduced bills replacing older or less comprehensive bills. We must do this because of space limitations. While we support any and all bills that lead towards the achievement of a legislative goal, we place the most emphasis on the more comprehensive bills. Since the art of passing legislation is "doing the possible" we may have to compromise on the approach to the final goal but will not compromise on the principle. **Note:** While space limitations may preclude a special write up on a bill, it does not mean that no action is taking place on the bill. Readers are encouraged to write members of their congressional delegations to cosponsor and support the enactment of the bill's provisions. Also appearing will be some bills for information purposes to readers interested in the issue so that they can make their position known to their congressional delegations. During the legislative process, we can expect to see some of the pro-visions of both House and Senate stand-alone bills included in a bill that Congress sends to the President for his action. This is especially true about large authorization bills involving national defense or veterans' benefits.*

*The Library of Congress provides free online information concerning Congress and the legislative process through a website named THOMAS, located on the web at [thomas.loc.gov](http://thomas.loc.gov). This is an especially useful and easy to use tool to help you track bills in which you are interested but we do not list due to space limitations. This is especially true about bills involving veterans' issues. For veteran bill tracking we recommend you go to the Senate and House Committees on Veterans Affairs Websites at [veterans.senate.gov](http://veterans.senate.gov) or [veterans.house.gov](http://veterans.house.gov). THOMAS also provides access to other congressional committees for you to do independent research.*

## Authorization/Appropriations

**H.R. 889** – Rep. Don Young (R-At Large-AK), 04/07/2005 – Referred to the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation. Markup scheduled for 7/13/2005. Authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for FY06, to make technical corrections for various laws administered by the Coast Guard.

**H.R. 1815** – Rep. Duncan Hunter (R-52-CA), 04/26/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Armed Services. Authorize appropriations for FY 2006 for military activities of DoD, to prescribe military personnel strengths for FY06 and for other purposes.

**H.R. 2528** – Rep. James T. Walsh (R-25-NY), 05/26/2005 – Passed the House. Making appropriations for military quality of life functions of the DoD, military construction, the Dept. of Veterans Affairs and related agencies.

**S. 1042** – Sen. John Warner (R-VA), 06/02/2005 – Reported by the Senate Committee on Armed Services. To authorize appropriations for FY06 for military activities by the DoD, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths and for other purposes.

## Defense

**H.R. 771** – Rep. Edward Markey, (D-7-MA), 02/10/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Amend Title 37, US Code, to require that a member of the uniformed services who is wounded or otherwise injured while serving in a combat zone continue to be paid monthly military pay and allowances, while the member recovers from the wound or injury, at least equal to the monthly military pay and allowances the member received immediately before receiving the wound or injury, and to continue the combat zone tax exclusion for the member during the recovery period.

**H.R. 1406** – Rep. Tom Latham, (R-4-IA), 03/17/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 37, US Code, to increase the authorized weight allowances for the shipment of baggage and household effects of senior non-commissioned officers of the uniformed services.

**H.R. 2874** – Rep. Harold E. Ford (D-9-TN), 06/14/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Government Reform. A bill to provide for a program under which postal benefits shall be made available for purposes of certain personal correspondence and other mail matter sent from within the United States to members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty abroad who are engaged in military operations.

**S. 11** – Sen. Carl Levin, (D-MI), 01/24/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. Amend Title 10, US Code, to ensure that the strength of the Armed Forces and the protections and benefits for members of the Armed Forces and their families are adequate for keeping the commitment of the people of the United States to support their service members, and for other purposes.

## Guard & Reserve

**H.R. 558** – Rep. Tom Latham, (R-4-IA), 02/02/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to revise the age and service requirements for eligibility to receive retired pay for non-regular (Guard & Reserve) service.

**H.R. 783** – Rep. Jim Saxton, (R-3-NJ), 2/10/2005 – Referred to

House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to reduce the age for receipt of military retired pay for non-regular service from 60 to 55.

**H.R. 1102** – Rep. Steven Jay Israel, (D-2-NY), 03/03/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Ways and Means. Amend Title 10, US Code, to protect the financial condition of members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces who are ordered to long-term active duty in support of a contingency operation.

**S. 1142** – Sen. Mary Landrieu, (D-LA), 05/26/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. Provide pay protection for members of the Reserve and National Guard (Hope at Home Act).

**H.R. 2060** – Rep. Dana Rohrabacher, (R-46-CA), 05/03/2005 – Referred to House Committee on the Judiciary. Amend the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005 to exempt from the means test in bankruptcy cases, for a limited period, qualifying reserve-component members who, after September 11, 2001, are called to active duty or to perform a home-land defense activity for not less than 60 days.

**S. 32** – Sen. Mark Dayton, (D-MN), 01/24/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Armed Services. Enhance the benefits and protections for members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces who are called or ordered to extend active duty, and for other purposes.

**S. 38** – Sen. Patty Murray, (D-WA), 01/24/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. Enhance and improve benefits for members of the National Guard and Reserves who serve extended periods on active duty, and for other purposes.

**S. 337** – Sen. Lindsey Graham, (R-SC), 02/09/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to revise the age and service requirements for eligibility to receive retired pay for non-regular service, to expand certain authorities to provide health care benefits for Reserves and their families, and for other purposes.

### MGIB & Educational Benefits

**H.R. 197** – Rep. David Scott, (D-13-GA), 01/04/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to require a State to charge in-State tuition rates to active-duty members of the Armed Forces domiciled or stationed on active duty in that State and to the dependents of such members.

**H.R. 269** – Rep. David Camp, (R-4-MI), 01/06/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to provide for certain service-members to become eligible for educational assistance under the Montgomery GI Bill.

**H.R. 772** – Rep. Jim Matheson, (D-2-UT), 02/10/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Provide entitlement to education assistance under the Montgomery GI Bill for members of the Selected Reserve who aggregate more than 2 years of active duty service in any five-year period.

**H.R. 2248** – Rep. Lane Evans, (D-17-IL), 05/11/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 38, US Code, to improve benefits under the Montgomery GI Bill by establishing an enhanced educational assistance program, by increasing the amount of basic educational assistance, repealing the requirement for reduction in pay for participation in the program, eliminating the time limitation for use of benefits under the program, expanding the opportunities to transfer educational assistance benefits to dependents and for other purposes.

**S. 615** – Sen. Mark Dayton, (D-MN), 03/14/2005 – Referred to Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to improve benefits under the Montgomery GI Bill by establishing an enhanced educational assistance program and by repealing the requirement for reduction in pay for participation in the program.

**S. 1162** – Sen. Maria Cantwell, (D-WA), 06/06/2005 – Referred to Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Titles 10 and 38, US Code, to repeal the 10-year limits on the use of Montgomery GI Bill educational assistance benefits.

### Increase in Military Death Benefits

**H.R. 292** – Rep. Spencer Bachus, (R-6-AL), 01/20/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code to increase the amount of the military death gratuity from \$12,000 to \$100,000.

**H.R. 377** – Rep. Terry Everett, (R-2-AL), 01/26/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Titles 10 and 38, US Code, to improve death benefits for the families of deceased members of the Armed Forces, and other purposes.

**H.R. 447** – Rep. Marsha Blackburn, (R-7-TN), 02/01/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to increase the amount of the military death gratuity to \$100,000.

**H.R. 502** – Rep. Christopher Smith, (R-4-NJ), 02/01/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Increase the amounts payable under the DoD death gratuity program and the Servicemember's Group Life Insurance program.

**H.R. 832** – Rep. Maxine Waters (D-35-CA), 02/15/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. To amend Title 10, US Code, to increase to \$100,000 the amount payable under the Department of Defense death gratuity program and to amend Title 38, US Code, to increase to \$400,000 the maximum coverage under the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance program.

**S. 42** – Sen. George Allen, (R-VA), 01/24/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to increase the death gratuity payable with respect to deceased members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

**S. 44** – Sen. Chuck Hagel, (R-NE), 01/24/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to increase the amount of the military death gratuity from

\$12,000 to \$100,000.

**S. 77** – Sen. Jeff Sessions, (R-AL), 01/24/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Armed Services. Amend Titles 10 & 38, US Code, to improve death benefits for the families of deceased members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

**S. 121** – Sen. Mike DeWine, (R-OH), 01/25/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Armed Services. Amend Titles 10 & 38, US Code, to improve the benefits provided for survivors of deceased members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

## Flag Amendment

**HJR 10** – Rep. Randy Cunningham (R-50-CA), 01/25/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing the Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States.

## Health Care & Medicare

**H.R. 201** – Rep. David Scott, (D-13-GA), 01/04/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Amend Title XVIII of the Social Security Act to stabilize the amount of the Medicare Part B premium.

**H.R. 218** – Rep. Cliff Stearns, (R-6-FL), 01/04/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction for amounts paid for health insurance and prescription drug costs of individuals.

**H.R. 322** – Rep. Jo Ann Emerson, (R-8-MO), 01/25/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable credit to military retirees for premiums paid for coverage under Medicare Part B.

**H.R. 376** – Rep. Jo Ann Emerson, (R-8-MO), 01/26/2005 – Referred to the House committee on Ways and Means. Amend Title XVIII of the Social Security Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to negotiate fair prices for Medicare prescription drugs on behalf of Medicare beneficiaries.

**H.R. 602** – Rep. Chris Van Hollen, (D-8-MD), Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Restore health care coverage to retired members of the uniformed services, and for other purposes. (Keep Our Promise to America's Military Retirees Act)

**H.R. 836** – Rep. Charles Norwood, (R-9-GA), 02/16/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to take such actions as are necessary to change the reimbursement rates and cost sharing requirements under the TRICARE program to be the same as, or as similar as possible to, the reimbursement rates and cost sharing requirements under the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Standard Plan provided under the Federal Employee Health Benefit pro-

gram under Chapter 89 of Title 5, United States Code.

**H.R. 994** – Rep. Thomas M. Davis, (R-11-VA), 03/01/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Ways & Means. Amend Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Federal civilian and military retirees to pay health insurance premiums on a pretax basis and to allow a deduction for TRICARE supplemental premiums. Companion Bill: **S. 484** – Sen. John Warner, (R-VA), 03/01/2005 – Referred to Senate Committee on Finance.

**H.R. 1478** – Rep. Michael R. Turner, (R-3-OH), 04/05/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Ways & Means. Amend Title 10, US Code, to provide limited TRICARE program eligibility for members of the Ready Reserve of the Armed Forces, to provide financial support for continuation of health insurance for mobilized members of reserve components of the Armed Forces.

**H.R. 2824** – Rep. Dana Rohrabacher, (R-46-CA), 06/08/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to provide TRICARE Standard coverage for members of Reserve Components of the Armed Forces who serve at least one year on active duty overseas.

**S. 18** – Sen. Mark Dayton, (D-MN), 01/24/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. Amend Title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make improvements in the Medicare program for beneficiaries.

**S. 123** – Sen. Russell Feingold, (D-WI), 01/24/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. Amend part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for negotiation of fair prices for Medicare prescription drugs.

**S. 160** – Sen. Lisa Murkowski, (R-AK), 01/25/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. Amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow individuals a refundable credit against income tax for the purchase of private health insurance, and for other purposes.

**S. 184** – Sen. Judd Gregg, (R-NH), 01/26/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions. Amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to protect the public health from the unsafe importation of prescription drugs and from counterfeit prescription drugs, and for other purposes.

**S. 222** – Sen. Debbie Stabenow, (D-MI), 01/31/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. Amend Title XVIII of the Social Security Act to stabilize the amount of the Medicare Part B premium.

**S. 239** – Sen. Olympia Snowe, (R-ME), 02/01/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. Reduce the costs of prescription drugs for Medicare beneficiaries, and for other purposes.

## Social Security

**H.R. 80** – Rep. Jo Ann Emerson, (R-8-MO), 01/04/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Amend Title II of the Social Security Act to provide for an improved

benefit computation formula for workers affected by the changes in benefit computation rules enacted in the Social Security Amendments of 1977 who attained age 65 during the 10-year period after 1981 and before 1992 (and related beneficiaries) and to provide prospectively for increases in their benefits accordingly (Notch Reform).

**H.R. 147** – Rep. Howard McKeon, (R-25-CA), 1/04/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Amend Title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

**H.R. 266** – Rep. Ginny Brown-Waite, (R-5-FL), 1/06/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Rules. Amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to protect Social Security beneficiaries against any reduction in benefits.

**H.R. 276** – Rep. Gene Green, (D-9-TX), 01/06/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Amend Title II of the Social Security Act to remove the limitation upon the amount of outside income which an individual may earn while receiving benefits under such title.

**H.R. 615** – Rep. Ralph Hall, (R-4-TX), Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Amend Title II of the Social Security Act to allow workers who attain age 65 after 1981 and before 1992 to choose either lump sum payments over four years totaling \$5,000 or an improved benefit computation formula under a new 10-year rule governing the transition to the changes in benefit computation rules enacted in the Social Security Amendments of 1977, and for other purposes (Notch Reform).

**H.R. 1164** – Rep. Walter B. Jones, (R-3-NC), 03/08/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Ways & Means. Guarantee the right of individuals to receive Social Security benefits under Title II of the Social Security Act in full with an accurate annual cost-of-living adjustment. S. 275 – Sen. Maria Cantwell, (D-WA), 02/03/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. Require the establishment of a Consumer Price Index for Elderly Consumers to compute cost-of-living increases for Social Security benefits under Title II of the Social Security Act.

**S. 292** – Sen. David Vitter, (R-LA), 02/03/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on the Budget. Establish a procedure to safeguard the Social Security Trust Funds.

**S. 568** – Sen. George Voinovich, (R-OH), 03/08/2005 – Referred to Senate Committee on the Budget. Balance the budget and protect the Social Security Trust Fund Surpluses.

**SJR 2** – Sen. Larry Craig, (R-ID), 0/24/005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to require a balanced budget and protect Social Security surpluses.

## Taxes

**H.R. 64** – Rep. Christopher Cox, (R-48-CA), 01/04/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Repeal the Federal death tax, including the estate and gift taxes and the

tax on generation-skipping transfers.

**H.R. 66** – Rep. Christopher Cox, (R-48-CA), 01/04/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve health care choice by providing for the tax deductibility of medical expenses by individuals.

**H.R. 321** – Rep. Jo Ann Emerson, (R-8-MO), 01/25/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable credit to certain senior citizens for premiums paid for coverage under Medicare Part B.

**H.R. 443** – Rep. Michael Bilirakis, (R-9-FL), 02/01/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit to employers for the value of the service not performed during the period employees are performing service as a member of the Ready Reserve or the National Guard.

**S. 78** – Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, (R-TX), 01/24/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. Make permanent marriage penalty relief.

## Veterans

**H.R. 76** – Rep. John Duncan, (R-2-TN), 01/04/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to improve access to medical services for veterans seeking treatment at Department of Veterans Affairs outpatient clinics with exceptionally long waiting periods.

**H.R. 170** – Rep. Juanita Millender-McDonald, (D-37-CA), 01/04/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to improve benefits for Filipino veterans of World War II.

**H.R. 302** – Rep. Randy Cunningham, (R-50-CA), 01/25/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to deem certain service in the organized military forces of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines and the Philippine Scouts to have been active service for purposes of benefits under programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

**H.R. 303** – Rep. Michael Bilirakis, (R-9-FL), 01/25/2005. Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 10, US Code, to permit certain additional retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of the years of military service or Combat Related Special Compensation and to eliminate the phase-in period under current law with respect to such concurrent receipt (full Concurrent Receipt). Companion Bill:

**S. 558** – Sen. Harry Reid (D-NV), 03/08/2005 – Referred to Senate Committee on Armed Services. **H.R. 515** – Rep. Lane Evans, (D-17-IL), 02/02/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to

provide for an assured adequate level of funding for veterans health care. Companion Bill: S. 331 – Sen. Tim Johnson, (D-SD), Referred to Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs.

**H.R. 531** – Rep. Ed Case, (D-2-HI), 02/02/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to increase the allowance for burial expenses of certain veterans.

**H.R. 616** – Rep. Joe Baca, (D-43-CA), 02/08/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Provide for reduction in the backlog of claims for benefits pending with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

**H.R. 693** – Rep. George Butterfield, (D-1-NC), 02/09/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to require the Department of Veterans Affairs pharmacies to dispense medications to veterans for prescriptions written by private practitioners, and for other purposes.

**S. 13** – Sen. Daniel Akaka, (D-HI), 01/24/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Titles 10 and 38, US Code, to expand and enhance health care, mental health, transition and disability benefits for veterans, and for other purposes.

**S. 146** – Sen. Daniel Inouye, (D-HI), 01/25/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to deem certain service in the organized military forces of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines and the Philippine Scouts to have been active service for purposes of benefits under programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

**S. 331** – Sen. Tim Johnson, (D-SD), 02/09/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to provide for an assured adequate level of funding for veterans health care.

**S. 481** – Sen. Daniel K. Akaka, (D-HI), 03/01/2005 – Referred to Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to extend the period of eligibility for health care for combat service in the Persian Gulf War or future hostilities from two years to five years after discharge or release.

**S. 614** – Sen. Arlen Specter, (R-PA), 03/14/2005 – Referred to Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to permit medicare-eligible veterans to receive an outpatient medication benefit, to provide that certain veterans who receive such benefit are not otherwise eligible for medical care and services from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

## Pay and Compensation

**H.R. 808** – Rep. Henry Brown, (R-1-SC), 02/15/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to repeal the offset from surviving spouse annuities under the military Survivor Benefit Plan for amounts paid by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs as Dependency and Indemnity Compensation.

**H.R. 968** – Rep. Jim Saxton, (R-3-NJ), 02/17/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to change the effective date for paid-up coverage under the military Survivor Benefit Plan from October 1, 2008 to October 1, 2005.

**H.R. 995** – Rep. Jerry Weller, (R-11-IL), 03/01/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to provide for the payment of Combat-Related Special Compensation under that title to members of the Armed Forces retired for disability with less than 20 years of military service who were awarded the Purple Heart.

**H.R. 1366** – Rep. Michael Bilirakis (R-9-FL), 03/17/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to expand eligibility for Combat Related Special Compensation paid by the uniformed services in order to permit certain additional retired members who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for that disability and Combat Related Special Compensation by reason of that disability.

**H.R. 2046** – Rep. Steve Buyer, (R-4-IN), 05/24/2005 – Passed full House on May 23 and sent to Senate for action. Amend Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to limit premium increases on reinstated health insurance on servicemembers who are released from active military service.

**H.R. 2076** – Rep. Michael Bilirakis, (R-9-FL), 05/04/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to permit certain retired members of the uniformed services who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or CRSC.

**H.R. 2832** – Rep. Sue W. Kelly, (R-NY), 06/09/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Establish certain conditions on the Secretary of Veterans Affairs implementing any recommendation of the CARES Commission that would have the effect of eliminating or severely reducing any medical service provided to veterans throughout the United States at Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities.

**HRES 270** – Rep. Jim Marshall, (D-3-GA), 05/10/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Rules. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill H.R. 303, to amend Title 10, US Code, to permit certain additional retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or CRSC and to eliminate the phase-in period under current law with respect to such concurrent receipt.

**S. 185** – Sen. Ben Nelson, (D-FL), 01/26/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to repeal the requirement for the reduction of certain Survivor Benefit Plan annuities by the amount of Dependency and Indemnity Compensation and to modify the effective date for paid-up coverage under the Survivor Benefit Plan.

# Graybeards "GEMLETS"

A compilation of little gems of information that are of significant importance

**Richard Coate** informed us that former AP photographer James Martenhoff has answered the "Last Call." He died on June 2, 2005, after a long illness. As you may recall, Martenhoff took the famous photo referred to as "Korea Watch" or "Soldier's Watch," in which Coate was the subject. (See *The Graybeards*, Jan/Feb 2005, pp. 72-74).



Richard & Betty Coate visit the Rensselaer County Korean War Memorial situated behind City Hall in Riverfront Park, Troy, New York.

"Korean Watch." — Richard Coate



"will earn a footnote in the history of two wars when he plays Taps...at the burial of Civil War Corporal John Peyton Byrne...a volunteer with the Union Army's 21st Missouri Infantry." Ericson had "provided the ending notes to a war as a U.S. Marine in Korea [when] he directed his bugle over the United Nations Truce Camp at Panmunjom at 10 p.m. July 27, 1953." As he did so, the paper reported, "the truce ending the Korean Conflict took effect." He was also the "official bugler" at the dedication of the National Korean War Memorial on Capital Mall in Washington DC.

♦ ♦ ♦

**Stanley Klekot**, a member of Chapter 29, displayed a symbolic flag representing Korean War vets at the June 2003 dedication of Community Veterans Memorial Park in Munster, IN. The park is billed as the only park of its kind in the United States, because the memorials to the different wars of the 20th century are all in one place.

♦ ♦ ♦

**Marty O'Brien** was mentioned in a June 23, 2005, *Wall Street Journal* online article, "A Korean War Stat Lingers." As the article suggested, he and Burt Hagelin, two veterans from Maine, "led a campaign to correct the historical record, which

the Department of Defense blames on a faulty counting methodology and, also, on a fire at the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis that destroyed many records and delayed research."

As it concludes, "Their efforts led to the update by the government, followed by articles in the Veterans of Foreign Wars' magazine and the *Washington Post* leading up to the 50th anniversary of the start of the war..."

♦ ♦ ♦

**Lou Dechert** was quoted in a July 18, 2005, Shreveport [LA] *The Times* article,

"Korean War group nails convention details," advertising the KWVA's upcoming convention in Louisiana and its role in recruiting new members for the Association.

"In the beginning you had to have been in Korea during the war, from 1950 to 1953, but that was later changed to 1955, and now anyone who has served in our armed forces or in the United Nation's contingent forces is entitled to membership, up through the present day," Dechert says. "I just signed up a command sergeant major from Fort Polk whose most recent service was in Afghanistan. He's still in the Army and was in Korea four years ago. Most definitely, we are trying to reach the current-era soldiers."

As he noted in the article's tagline, "We're going to start emphasizing it as 'the war never ended.'" More significantly, he revealed that "Up to 1,000 may attend October gathering."

Hopefully, most of you reading this will be among them.

♦ ♦ ♦

**Bob Simon**, of Chapter 251, wrote a guest column that appeared in the Saginaw [MI] *News and Saginaw Township Times*. In it, he explained what the Chapter does with the money it receives from "Roses of Sharon" sales. In brief, he explained that "Almost 100 percent of the money goes to needy organizations or to an organization's maintenance or survival."

## GRAYBEARDS DEADLINES

Articles to be published in the *Graybeards* must be sent to the editor no later than the 15th day of the first month of that issue. —Editor.

<b>Jan-Feb</b>	<b>Jan 15</b>
<b>Mar-Apr</b>	<b>Mar 15</b>
<b>May-June</b>	<b>May 15</b>
<b>July-Aug</b>	<b>Jul 15</b>
<b>Sept-Oct</b>	<b>Sept 15</b>
<b>Nov-Dec</b>	<b>Nov 15</b>

**Alex Berger**, KWVA member and newspaper columnist for 16 New York City newspapers included in his June 2, 2005, *TimesLedger* article a reference to *The Graybeards*, "the official magazine of the Korean War Veterans Association," an "anonymous Memorial Day story." The story, in the form of a poem, is entitled "A Letter Home."

♦ ♦ ♦

**Bob Ericson**, of Quincy, MO, was featured in the *Quincy Herald-Whig*, May 25, 2005, edition. As the article noted, Ericson



# Recon Missions

## Nothing But Information Wanted About Henry Torres

I am helping my mother look for her father, Henry Torres. I have attached the only picture I have of him, and included a letter that my mother wrote. If you can guide me and help me in any way, it would be appreciated.

My Mother's Letter



Henry Torres

Hi, my name is Hannelore Bodendorf (Torres). I am now living in the United States in Gainesville, Florida, where I am a Resident Alien of the U.S.A.

I am looking for an American citizen by the name of Henry Torres. (I do not know a middle initial, badge number, Social Security number, or birthdate). He was a corporal in the U.S. Army stationed in Furth by Nurnberg, West Germany, for approximately four years during the period of 1951-1955.

As far as I know, his home state is California. He was also in the 102nd Inf. Regt. (The 43rd Inf. Div. was then shipped to Germany in October 1951). The 169th Inf. Regt was at the Monteith Barracks in Nurnberg, stationed near Furth, Germany. I know at least he was there in 1954.

Henry Torres was my real father. My mother's name is Frieda Huhnerkop (nee Lechner). Her address is Sudetenstrasse 24, 91413 Neustadt/Aisch, Germany. I was born out of wedlock to them on May 29, 1955, in Dachsbach, near Neustadt ad Aisch.

The only photograph I have of my father shows:

- He was a corporal
- He was wearing a single hash mark
- He was wearing 2 (two) Combat Marks
- He had the Combat Infantryman Badge
- He was wearing a ribbon indicating he had been awarded the Bronze Star.

The time sequence, combined with the awards, would suggest he served in Korea. However, late WWII could be possible.

To the best of my knowledge, he was transferred to a base in California in late 1954 or early 1955. That is why I believe he probably lives there now.

If you can help me locate Henry Torres, please contact either of us:

Hannelore Bodendorf  
3850 NW 11th Place  
Gainesville, FL 32605  
Phone # (352) 378-6002  
harleyhanne40@aol.com

(Daughter) Heidi Bodendorf  
4501 NW 41st Place  
Gainesville, FL 32606  
Phone # (352) 745-6368  
ahbaby18@aol.com

I want to find my birth father mainly to learn about my family's medical history. I also would like to know about him to close a fifty-year period of wondering about him. I want nothing from him but some information.

Heidi Bodendorf

## Anyone From C Battery, 8th FA Bn?

Allen M. Smith is looking for members of "C" Battery, 8th FA Bn., Korea 1950-51. Folks can reach Smith at 3338 Dupont Ave. N, Minneapolis, MN 55412-2512, (612) 529-4567

## Looking For Raoul Archambault

I am looking for information about a former Marine who was on Iwo Jima in WWII. He may have been from Rhode Island.

Joe Caouette, P.O. Box 8  
Rollinsford, NH 03869, (603) 742-8721

## L Co., 3rd Bn., 14th RCT: Anyone Around?

I went into the Army in August of 1950 with Wallace J. (Hezzy) Axelson, of Englewood, Colorado. We had not been in contact for over 50 years, but we sat down together and reminisced about our experiences during basic infantry training. As I was getting ready to leave, he gave me a photo of the graduating class of L Company, 3rd Battalion, 14th Regimental Combat Team. It was taken at Camp Carson (now Ft. Carson) Colorado in December 1950.

Everyone in this picture, except four of us who were too young (17 years old) to be sent overseas, were shipped out—not as a unit, but as replacements for the decimated fighting units. Most of them went to the 31st Infantry Regiment. A great many of these young sol-



L-3-14th RCT

diers were either KIA or WIA during their first six months in Korea.

I wasn't sent over till June of 1952 as a replacement for the 45th Recon Co., 45th Division. I was returning home ETS on the USS Marine Phoenix. We were in Seattle Harbor, ready to debark, when we got the word that an armistice had been signed.

In the picture, Axelson is 6th from the left, front row. I am center, 4th row, with the arrow pointing to me.

Incidentally, Axelson's rank was SFC. He was awarded the Bronze Star and CIB.

If anyone recognizes himself in the photo, please contact me.

*Jerry L. Herring, 1756 So. Dahlia St.  
Denver, CO.80222, (303) 756-3294  
jandphering@earthlink.net*

### Anyone Remember Sgt. James Fred Johnston?

We desperately need your help. Sgt. James Fred Johnston of Coeburn, VA was serving with the 7th Infantry Division, 32nd Infantry Regiment in Korea in December 1950. His service number was RA 13016933. He was reported MISSING IN ACTION December 2, 1950, and declared KIA in 1954. If anyone knew this man or knows of what happened to him, his son would sure like to hear from you.

The son is James Johnston Moore. He was just a baby when his Dad went off to war. His phone @ home: (423) 247-8048; Cell: (423) 416-3614; Business: (423) 224-5043; Address: 204 Loveleaf Court, Kingsport, TN 37664. James would like to know what happened to his father and find out what he can about him.

### Looking For A "Hardy" Ex-POW

I am looking for anyone who may have known my grandfather, S/Sgt. Martel Hardy. He was a former Korean War POW. I am trying to find anyone who may have served with him.

My grandfather passed away in 1993. I was heartbroken, because he was my hero—not just because of his military service, but because of the wonderful man he was.

I am writing our family history for my children so they will always know how he served our country with honor and dignity. Any help is appreciated.

*Dee Fortier, 702 New Bern Ave., Hampton, VA 23669, (757)719-2629, THEREALDEEVA1@msn.com*

### Let's Hope Sheldon Shuster Knows It's "Ski" Season

I was with the 7th Division, 3rd Regiment, Item Company from June 1952 to March 1953. I am looking for Sheldon Shuster, from New York, or anyone from my company.

*Leroy "Ski" Sikorski,  
27235 Bunert Road,  
Warren, MI 48088,  
(586) 776-9392*



"Ski" Sikorski on the right

### MPs Sought

We are a group of men who have found each other in the past five years. Most of us are from the 40th Military Police, Korea 1953-54. One member is from the 160th Regiment that was in the white Horse area. But, we also have men who went from the 40th MPs to the 558th MPs. Regardless of their units, I have gotten all of them to subscribe to the *Graybeards*.



2005 Korean War Buddy Reunion attendees (Back L-R) Asber Turner, George Zotti, Jim Rice, Harold Burson, Paul Wright, Robert Duprey, Frank Maccarino, Gene Tornatore (Front L-R) Richard Fastaneau, Ray Fore, Dean Wiseman, George Pratt, Bill Harrington

All the men got together for the first time in 2001. They just enjoyed their 5th reunion, in Louisville, KY. Our 2006 reunion will be in Baton Rouge, LA; the 2007 gathering will be in New England.

We are always looking for buddies. Hopefully, someone will see our picture, recognize some of the men, and contact us. You can reach us at Paul Wright, P.O. Box 699, Heathsville, VA 22473, (804) 580-4049, [nwright@crosslink.net](mailto:nwright@crosslink.net)

### Not Necessarily A Mink, But A "Sable" Will Do

I am looking for a very good friend from Korea, Frank Sable, a sergeant from Brooklyn, NY. He was my platoon sergeant, 936th Field Artillery Bn., Commo Sect., around 1953/54. Frank left Korea about three weeks before me, but we both reported in to the 74th RCT, Fort Devens, MA, on the same day.

If anyone knows his whereabouts, please contact Robert Fisher, P.O. Box 694, Indian Lake, NY 12842, (518) 648-5070.

### Can We Help Her Find Out About Her Father? Mabus, Mabus Not

Ms. Nita Mabus Lindsey is trying to get additional information about people who served with her father, Billy Purvis Mabus. Billy was in Korea in 1950-1951; he passed way in 1998. She writes:



Billy Purvis Mabus

I am looking for anyone who may have served with Billy Purvis Mabus, ER 14299657. He was born on 6/9/29 and entered the service 10/16/1950, from Tremont, MI. He was discharged as a Cpl (T) 22 Aug 51—light vehicle driver. His most significant duty assignment was 3440, ASU Separation Detach. Fort Benning, GA.

Continued on page 83



# Canadian Corner

During a conversation with Les Peate, National President of the Canadian Korean Veterans Association, Bill Burns, KWVA liaison to the Canadians, was invited to lay a wreath at the Canadian National War Memorial in Ottawa on 26 June 2005. This was preceded by a ceremony at the Canadian Korean Veterans Association memorial to their 516 dead a short distance away.

Garry Rockburn, a Korean veteran of the RCAF and the US Army, a native of Ottawa, now residing in the US and newly minted second vice president of Central New York Chapter #105 agreed to be a co-presenter at the ceremony. Several members of the chapter and some wives traveled to Ottawa to attend. Members included John Barwinczok, National Director Jim Ferris, Ed Grala and Tom Kelly.

An impressive ceremony was highlighted by a march by the ceremonial troops of the guard company at Parliament Hill, Canadian Army Band, and an inspection in ranks of Korean War Veterans by Ambassador Yim Sung-joon, ROK and Canada's top General, General Hillier, Chief of the General Staff.

Each nation that participated in Korea laid a wreath at the National War Memorial through representatives of their respective embassies. The KWVA, Canadian KWV, and Royal Canadian Legion presented their tributes along with the national tributes.

Following the ceremony participants attended a reception at the Embassy of the Republic of Korea.

## An Old "Conflict" Still Remains

We captured this off the internet. It demonstrates the fact that some people still haven't gotten the word that the conflict in Korea was actually a war, not a "police action."

We have edited the piece slightly for *The Graybeards*.

**Subject:** On Canada Day, did the Governor General call the Korean War a conflict???

Korea Vet News *Independent Internet Publication* - July 5, 2005

### Dedicated to the sacrifice and indomitable spirit of Canada's Korean War Veterans

*Were you tuned to CBC on Canada Day?*

Did Our Governor General call the Korean War the *Korean CONFLICT*?

Will somebody *please* tell us that Her Excellency Adrienne Clarkson, Governor General of Canada and Commander in Chief of Canadian Forces, did not actually read the following text in her Canada Day address in Ottawa?

Seriously, did she actually say it to the tens of thousands present in Ottawa and the millions watching on TV or listening on radio? Korea Vet News tuned in but because of scheduling problems (ours) only saw her leaving the stage at the conclusion of her address.

Tell us that she did not say it in the same breath in which she extolled that it was "The Year of the Veteran." Say it wasn't so!!! (The entire text of the Governor General's Canada Day speech can be found at <http://www.cnw.ca/fr/releases/archive/July2005/01/c8059.html>)

Luckily for us, if the Governor General did call the Korean War

Korean War veterans  
gather in Ottawa



Guests assemble near the Korean Veterans Association of Canada Memorial to the 516 Canadians who died in Korea. (A duplicate of this memorial stands in the UN Cemetery in Pusan.)

(L-R) Mrs. John Barwinczok, Bill Burns, and Jim Ferris at the Korean Embassy reception in Ottawa for Korean War veterans



the Korean *conflict*, the nature of Canada's print news reporting kept it out of virtually all of the major Canadian daily newspapers that we reviewed.

Hopefully, the Canadian Press reporter checked the text of the Governor General's speech against her actual delivery and also hopefully the phrase that included "Korean conflict" was not actually spoken by her. In the CP report it's just a dotted line (three dots) to show that words were deleted from the quotation:

*"Our veterans. . . have left behind them a trail of international goodwill and admiration for Canada," Gov. Gen. Adrienne Clarkson told a group of veterans showered with red and white confetti as Canada Day celebrations expanded beyond the usual July 1st itinerary.*

It may have been that the reporter copied the words from the printed speech text because they are precise and follow it exactly, and merely eliminated the phrases which reference "Korean conflict" to shorten up a very long quotation. If so, that reporter did all of us an enormous favor. The quotation with the dotted line and with no "Korean conflict" reference appeared in such newspapers as the

National Post, Ottawa Citizen, Toronto Star, Montreal Gazette, Calgary Herald, Edmonton Journal, Vancouver Sun and others. Some broadcast media used the same quotation in their news reports.

Except for the “dotted line” they may all have reported on the “Korean *conflict*” once again, opening old wounds all over Canada. However, did the Governor General actually say “Korean conflict”? And was that picked up by CBC, CTV, other TV concerns and by Canada’s no-less industrious radio reporters who were on the scene?

To the speech writers and news media representatives in Rideau Hall, *Puleez* watch the nomenclature when it comes to the Korean War and to Korean War veterans.

*It took us three years to win the war and 50 years to win the battle with the Canadian Government to quit calling it the Korean Conflict.*

How do we convince the news media that it was the Korean War, a real full-scale, terrible war, when they receive communications from Rideau Hall calling it a “conflict” which, at the very least, downgrades it semantically and perhaps in many eyes, officially?

Once a phrase becomes part of the national vernacular or psyche, it becomes very difficult to remove it.

Obviously the phrase “Korean conflict” should no longer be used by working staff within Rideau Hall and it saddens us to see that it is still resident there. Our Governor General might do wonders in helping us remove the term from popular usage by authorizing Canada’s Korean War veterans to accept the Korean War Service Medal that was proffered to them in 1951 by the Government of the Republic of Korea.

Heretofore, all 30,000 Canadians who served have been deprived of that medal which, in most cases, was very hard won. By contrast, veterans from most other nations were authorized by their countries to accept it and to wear it with honor and pride!

Canada’s Korean War veterans have had to suffer the humiliation of actually purchasing the medal from peddlers and wearing it on their right chest as though it is a souvenir instead of a significant medal awarded for service in the very significant Korean War.

It is a medal for which Canada should be proud. Canada sent her volunteers to Korea - some 30,000 of them - and they earned for our Nation the undying respect not only of the Korean people but of all the nations we served with on land, sea and air.

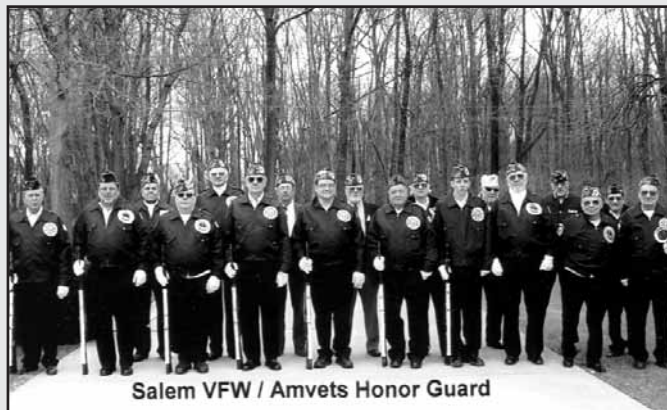
## Errata

### *Wing, Not Squadron*

There was an error in the Jan/Feb 2005 GB, p. 14. The unit identified as the 51st Fighter Interceptor Squadron was actually a Wing. The Wing contained three fighter squadrons: the 16th, 25th, and 39th.

*Jeremiah G. Crise (a member of the 16th)*

The article and picture identified on pg 45 & 46 as: “181 Kansas #1” in the May/June *The Graybeards* was incorrectly identified as such and was erroneously posted. The “Kansas Korean War Veterans Association,” as described in the article and picture, is not chartered, sanctioned or a part of the “National Korean War Veterans Association.”



Salem VFW / Amvets Honor Guard

## Veterans Pulling Together

The Salem VFW/Amvets Honor Guard in northeast Ohio includes seven members who belong to the KWVA. Our members have served in WWII, the Korean War, Vietnam, Desert Storm, and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Our oldest member is 82; the youngest is 22

We stand ready to give a final salute to any veteran in our tri-county area. Last year alone we did so at the gravesides of 49 of our departed comrades.

## LOOKING FOR COMBAT BUDDIES?



**NOW HAVE  
FOUND 28,122  
KOREAN WAR  
VETERANS. TO  
ADD TO THIS  
LIST OR DIS-  
COVER WHOM I  
HAVE FOUND  
GIVE A CALL.  
KOREAN WAR  
VETERANS WHO  
WANT TO FIND**

**BUDDIES NOW MAY DO SO. NO FEES. IF I HAVE  
GUYS FROM YOUR UNIT, I PRINT AND MAIL  
THEM TO YOU. USUALLY HAVE THEIR NAMES,  
ADDRESSES, PHONE #'S AND UNITS SERVED IN.  
THIS MAKES MY LIFE ALL WORTHWHILE.**

**CALL OR MAIL TO: DICK GALLMEYER  
PO BOX 8946 VIRGINIA BEACH, VA. 23450-8946  
1-800-523-4715 MSG1GAL@aol.com**

**NATIONAL 11<sup>th</sup> REUNION 3-6 OCT, 2005  
LAUGHLIN, NEVADA**

# The Rabbi Guides A Lost Patrol

By Ben Farnan

After reading an enlightening article in a recent *Graybeards* describing the constructive impact of chaplains during the Korean War, I feel compelled to share my experience on this subject.

Originally, I was a member of the 3rd Reconnaissance Company, Scout Section, part of the 3rd Infantry Division. I served in Korea from July 1952 to May 1953. Our basic function was to assist in providing patrols for the various infantry regiments within the 3rd Division. During my stay our company became more closely aligned with the 65th Regiment.

At the end of September 1952 I was assigned to a night ambush patrol within the valley and proximity of Outpost Kelly in the Yonchon region. One night, after we applied body camouflage at the mine-field safe lane entryway, as was customary, a chaplain—a rabbi—bestowed a blessing on our squad. This was the first time I had encountered a rabbi conferring a “well-being” on our group.

Since I was from New York, I had more experience and association with friends of the Jewish faith than did any of my buddies. Before we started down the safe lane at dusk, I assured them that we were in good hands, and I was confident that everything would turn out all right.

Outpost Kelly was manned by a platoon from the 65th Regiment. We arrived at our set-up point just after dark. Approximately two hours later, we could hear frequent intervals of small rocks rolling down from the slopes of Kelly. Shortly thereafter, the Chinese horns and bugles began blaring and flares launched

from Kelly lit the sky. Suddenly, we were ambushed.

Almost immediately, our artillery began to bombard the outpost from behind the lines. It felt and sounded to us as though the shells would drop on our heads as they slammed into the mountain.

At that moment, our trooper in charge became completely disoriented, and fled. When he left, two ROKs followed. I tried to stop them, but I was unsuccessful. I picked up the commo phone and moved the squad slowly to an adjacent ravine through which ran a large stream of water. I asked my buddy, Sgt. Jim Wheelles, to assist me in getting everybody back safely.

Then, I deployed the remainder of the squad on both banks of the ravine. Shortly, a grenade landed in our midst. Fortunately, it landed squarely in the middle of the waist-deep water. The percussion blew us all back, but only one soldier took shrapnel—into his mouth.

It was apparent that we had to move upstream, where we could take cover in the reeds, which we were able to do. The following day we were lucky enough to work our way back to the MLR. We learned that our company had given us up for dead.

Recently, I reconnected with Jim after fifty years. He was residing in Anchorage, AK. I believe firmly to this day that those solemn words from the rabbi/chaplain guided us back to our lines. Someone watched over us—and I am sure the rabbi had a lot to do with it.

*Ben Farnan, 30 Francis Terrace, Glen Cove, NY 11542*

## A Medal Awarded for Getting Medals?

■ **Maybe There Should Be A Medal For Trying To Get A Medal!**

Addison King found out recently what Joseph Heller was talking about in his novel *Catch 22*. He was trying to get the Purple Heart and the medals which he was awarded for his service in Korea and Army service in general. Here is what happened, based on his attempt.

In August 2001 he wrote to National Personnel Records to get his DD214 updated. So, he wrote:

In response to my request I was to complete a Form DD149 and return it with my original DD214 [Report of Separation from the Armed Forces of the United States], along with a Form DA 1577 [Authorization for Issuance of Awards]. The National Personnel Records Center informed me that they were still working on “processing requests” from February 2001.

In September 2002 I requested another update of my DD214.

In November 2002 I received a letter stating that the Army Board for Correction of Military Records reviews cases in order received and that it may be 10 months before I would receive notification of the final outcome.

In May 2003 I received their decision. Part of my request was granted. The approved proceeding was forwarded to the U.S. Army Review Board Agency Support Division, St. Louis, MO.

In April 2004 I learned that my military records were requested from the repository in St. Louis—without success. Therefore, a decision could not be made.

In May 2004, I finally received my DD215, Correction to DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge From Active Duty.

Not bad. Only three years to get a correction to a DD214. Does anyone know what form has to be filled out in quintuplicate and submitted to National Personnel Records to get a medal for trying to get a medal?

### ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

**The mailing address for sending/requesting information relative to membership in the KWVA has changed. The new address is:**

**Nancy Monson**

**Recording Secretary**

**PO Box 101238**

**Arlington, VA 22210-4238**

**Email: kwvamembership@verizon.net**

**Please make a note of this address and use it when paying dues and/or requesting information concerning receipt of “The Graybeards” or your membership in the Korean War Veterans Association.**

*Socrates Said...*

*"Children today are tyrants. They contradict their parents, gobble their food, and tyrannize their teachers." Maybe some do—but not all of them. Some, like Brian Schmitt, have their priorities in order, as the essay below demonstrates. That is often because they have great role models—such as grandparents who fought in wars to make sure the younger generations have the opportunity to thrive in a free world.*

*Richard Matthews, the chaplain of the General Matthew Ridgway Chapter—Western Pennsylvania, submitted this essay written by his 17-year-old grandson, Brian. The young man read it at his Johnstown school's Veterans Day program, which was aired on a local public TV station. Read it and you can understand why.*

## You're a Grand Ol' Parent

As a child, I vividly remember my grandfather sitting me on his knee and recalling the times that he spent overseas during the Korean War. I patiently sat, dazzled by his remarkable tales of foreign lands and people. I can gladly say that even today I enjoy listening to those stories, even ones I heard in the past. Some might feel cursed while sitting through one of these "war stories." I, on the other hand, consider it a wonderful privilege and blessing to have such a fascinating firsthand account of the most heroic and harrowing times of human history. I feel especially blessed because I have not one but two grandfathers that joined their fellow brothers in arms to honor our country in the noblest and most courageous fashion and each have a different medium to convey their message. My "Pap" on my mother's side was a minefield engineer in the Korean War and my Grandpap Ray on my father's side was an aerial photographer in the Second World War. One still tells me his stories while the other can only let his photographs tell the tales.

My Pap, Richard Matthews, took part in the Korean War. This war has had many names and some deem it a mere conflict rather than an actual war. I find this absurd and degrading to all of the soldiers sent over to fight the first battle against communism. My pap was one of those soldiers to go overseas and thankfully make it back over. I know I sometimes fail to realize the impact he has made on my life, especially by teaching me about his service. He was a member of the 1st Calvary Division and his area of expertise was in the fortification of defensible positions with minefields, but he also found himself embroiled in deadly combat at times. Not only do his combat tales interest me, but he also recalls the good times he had while on his tour of duty. These stories

are my personal passport to various countries and different lifestyles that I will never get the opportunity to experience personally.

He vibrantly tells of the venues he visited on weekend passes and the situations he found himself in at the many different bases during active duty. I think I am impressed the most by his humbleness when he speaks of his adventures. He tells me all of his accounts truthfully and never gloats about his actions. I know that if I told him I would wish to be like him he would laugh and say that I didn't know what I was talking about. I find it amazing that this seemingly ordinary man decided to drop his personal life in a heartbeat to fight among other seemingly ordinary men who turned out to be not so ordinary after all. My pap ended his military career as a Private First Class and to this day still takes part in ceremonies with his color guard unit. Sadly, most of these ceremonies he attends are held to lay his fellow brothers to rest. He is still active and healthy nowadays and I look forward to every opportunity to learn something new from him.

One of the names given to the Korean War was the "forgotten war." Soldiers, like my pap, who fought, do not want to be forgotten, and I hope they can be comforted to know that at least one person has and will never forget the story of their plight.

On the other side of my family, my Grandpap Ray was a veteran of World War II. Unfortunately, he passed away when my father was 16 and I never had the opportunity to meet him personally. But I do have two very special links to him. They are two photo albums filled with beautiful photographs from various countries around the world. These stunning black and white photographs cling to deteriorating pages in the two large books.

I am honored to have such a wonderful view of some of the best-recognized heroes of the time. One photograph depicts General Eisenhower pinning medals on soldiers for their duty in the D-Day operations. Many people have seen "Ike" during their lives but this one snapshot gives me a feeling that only shaking his hand could beat. A couple pages later show a large windmill in Belgium with two operators in front dwarfed by the massive size of the contraption. More photos reveal the massive array of weapons being assembled before the invasion of Normandy. They show runways filled with countless gliders and tow planes and the seas packed with diesel vessels and battleships. And there are plenty of P-36A's and P-26's, flying in majestic formations with dazzling white clouds just below. But not all of his pictures follow this suit.

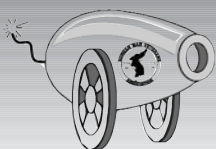
Many of them show shots of the snow-capped peaks of Alaska or of a frost-covered pub in the brisk English January. And finally I reach the photographs of him and I can finally see the face of the grandfather I've never met. My favorite photo reveals him during the Christmas of 1944 in England. He is seated on a tabletop, smoking his pipe, and a small pine tree, decorated meagerly, is beside him. He came back home as a Sergeant and lived until 1976 when he died of failing health. He left my grandmother these two photo albums and she eventually bestowed them on us. Before these gifts, I could only view the grave that marks his resting place in Pittsburgh. Now I know the face and the man that I had always wanted to meet.

Both of my grandfathers are an inspiration to me. Their valor and tenacity through the trials and tribulations they faced have helped guide me through the beginning course of my life. As I grow older I will still look to them for answers to the moral questions troubling me. They, like the others before, with, and after them are the true embodiment of what this country stands for. In many aspects, I wish my actions could resemble theirs and I pray that someday they will.

I would like to end with a quote from General George Patton: "Wars may be fought with weapons, but they are won by men. It is the spirit of men who follow and of the man who leads that gains the victory."

Thank You.

.....Thank you, Brian.



# Feedback/Return Fire

This section of *Graybeards* is designed to provide feedback—and generate more feedback. It gives readers the opportunity to respond to printed stories, letters, points of view, etc., without having to write long-winded replies. Feel free to respond to whatever you see in the magazine. As long as it's tasteful and non-political, we will be happy to include it. If you want to submit ideas, criticisms, etc. that you prefer not to see in print—at least with your name attached to it—then we will honor that. Make sure to let us know, though.

Mail your "Return Fire" to the "Feedback Editor" at 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067-2859. E-mail it to: sharp\_arthur\_g@sbcglobal.net, or phone it in to (860) 563-6149. Whatever the medium you choose, we welcome your input.

## Cover Charge

For what is worth, the May-June cover of *The Graybeards* does NOT make it. I came close to throwing it away when I received it in the mail along with all the other free periodicals sent to me. The only thing that stopped me was the photo in the lower right corner. Then I knew it was my long awaited latest edition of *The Graybeards*.

To coin an old adage, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it!"

*Grant Raulerson, 409 Lotus Path,  
Clearwater, FL 33756*

## There Were No Drugs At Kimpo

In one of your issues you discussed drug use in Korea and asked for information pertaining to this subject. Here goes:

I was earth moving platoon leader in the 809th Engineer Aviation Battalion located at Kimpo Airbase. Our CO had been picking up rumors of drug use in the area.



"Poppa San" crosses the runway at Kimpo

It was decided to have an all-out inspection. It was kept top secret until all troops were called out in formation. All troops were required to have their arms inspected while other officers made a thorough search of their living quarters. This included a prolonged search of footlockers, bunks and all areas that could conceal drugs.

This inspection took over four or five hours and turned up NOTHING.

As an officer, I never saw or suspected any of our troops of any sort of drug use. In fact, I don't even know if drugs were available.

I hope the foregoing is of interest to you.

*Ted Morford, 3457 Carbondale Ct.,  
The Villages, FL 32162-7145*

## At Least Chesterfields Were Good For Something

In the last couple issues, the question of personal cameras, liquor and cigarettes has been very much in the forefront. The following are my experiences.

I was a Service Co. mechanic assigned in support of Tank Company, 224th Infantry, February 1952 through October 1952. We operated in Kumsong, Pyongyang, Kumgong, Kumhwa, and hills in between.

We never had to pay for any beer or cigarettes. We were just issued these items free—gratis. Most of my buddies did not drink beer, so they would give their case of beer. I loaded them in my Dodge weapons carrier, and when I went to the local tank graveyard, I usually found someone willing to trade their fifth of "VO" for 3-4 cases of beer. When you figure I was carrying about 20 cases of beer, I would return with 4-5 bottles of "Canadian." We would usually keep the

few cases of Pabst Blue Ribbon and trade off the more plentiful, tongue-biting Ballantine beer.

On the cigarettes, we would get as many as four cartons per man every two weeks. There were the usual few cartons of Lucky Strike and Camel cigarettes, and the over-abundance of terribly green Chesterfields. I never did discover any good trade-offs on the Chesterfields, so I ended up using the cartons of them as insulation against the cold by lining the inside of our five-men tents with those cartons. The only drawback here was that as the weather warmed up and the snow melted, the Chesterfields got soaked, and everything in our tent stunk of wet tobacco.

Regarding personal cameras, as far as I remember, no one prohibited our use of cameras. My buddies and I still show off all our photos at our 224th Infantry Regiment reunions, which take place every two years.

*Arnoldo A. Muniz, 1214 Vivian Lane,  
San Antonio TX 78201-6813*

## Pilot With 100 Missions Dies

Selden Blakemoore Hickenlooper died May 11, 2005. I met him on the Korea 2000 Korea revisit, which was actually his second revisit.

According to his obituary, he was assigned to 18th Fighter Bomber Wing, 12th Fighter Bomber Squadron, better known as "The Foxey Few." He flew the P-51 for 72 missions, and then went on to the 45th Tactical Recon Squadron at K-14 in Seoul. There, he flew another 28 missions in the F-86, F-51, and F-80. He was awarded one Air Medal with an Oak Leaf Cluster and the Distinguished Flying Cross.

His was a very interesting obituary.



Selden Hickenlooper on 2000 Revisit

*Daniel Harrington Chattanooga, TN*

## More About The Russian Involvement In Korea

In the Jan-Feb issue of *Graybeards* you had a note about Russian involvement in the Korean War. It has lain there on my desk every since as I pondered how to reply.

When the March 26, 2005, Portland Oregonian arrived, I was shocked into action. I'll have to tell a bit of my story to focus in on the event described and how I was involved.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** *The newspaper to which the writer refers carried an article, "Persistence, DNA bring spy pilot home," pp. B1 and B2, which discussed the fate of Robert Snoddy, a CIA pilot shot down over China in 1952.*

In late 1951 I was an Airman 2nd class working as an inspector (lowest rank in the whole Material Command) in a Japanese camera factory on the outskirts of Tokyo. I did contract repair on cameras etc., for the USAF. After hearing for the second time that one night-recon camera was not working properly, on 2 July 1952 I jumped on a shuttle bus to Yakota Air Base and rode out to Operations of the 91st SRS. The Operations officer was Major William Baumer. I introduced myself and told him of my quest. (I think you can already see that I don't always use the right smarts.)

He called to an approaching captain, Ted Harris, and told him to take me along on a mission to check equipment. So, about midnight 3 July 1952, we were shot down someplace northwest of Pyongyang, North Korea. I was the odd man with a crew of twelve on a RB-29, and I had no training on even how to put on a parachute. And, I did not even know the names of the crew members except Ted Harris

and aerial photographer Chuck Johanson.

Later in July 1952, Major Baumer and Colonel John Arnold were shot down while supposedly dropping leaflets over North Korea. The Chinese said they were spying over China and kept them there for 10 years. It's been said that the Chinese moved

their plane north over the Yalu. Our RB-29 was burned to pieces, so it could not be moved. Of course, [former POWs] Downey and Fecteau were there for 20 years. It seems to me that the November 29, 1952 shoot-down had something to do with me being moved. Or, maybe not.

I was kept in solitary confinement in North Korea, i.e., a hole or under the eaves of a house (never inside) until 28 January 1953, when I was strapped down in the back of a Russian jeep for a 28-hour trip to Mukden, China. I was still not aware that any of the rest of the crew had survived. Some had. I was locked in a cell there until 4 September 1953, and allowed to leave only once per day for the toilet hole—on their schedule (you can learn to hold it)—except during my "so-called" spy trial, at which I was declared a "war criminal" and sentenced to life at "hard labor." Eventually, I was released. We came out on the last truck. Ted Harris was the last man to be exchanged- 6 September 1953.

In January 1996 I got a letter from Paul M Cole, who was doing research for the Rand Corp. at the Kremlin in Moscow. He asked me about some statements he read there.

Dr. Cole ended up sending to me much information, copies of which got there via Peking, China and forwarded to Moscow. For example, there were copies of Major Karelin's flight record in his MIG-15 as he shot us down that night. There was even information about the kind of ammo and how much of each. He also informed me that Russians were sitting in at my trial

I protested that they looked Asian, to which he said, "Don't you realize that the USSR is over two-thirds Asian?"

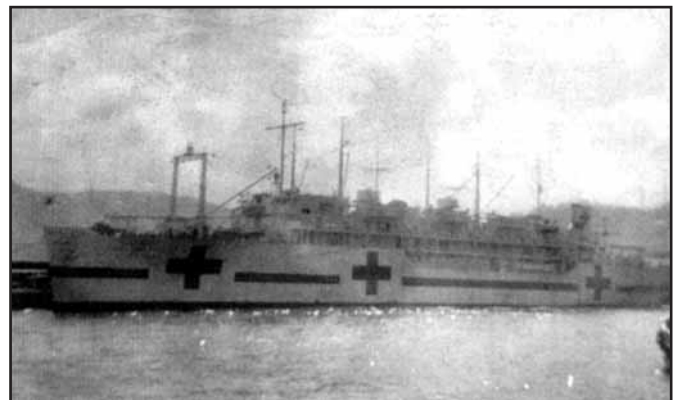
If you get a copy of *Last Seen Alive*, by Laurence Jolidon, much of the USSR's involvement is documented. Paul Cole's research and testimony also talks about that, and I'm sure that is available. If I remember correctly, he had some Russians who testified over here. For too many years I have tried to forget some of this stuff, so it may not come back all straight.

*Eugene Evers, 39439 N W Osterman Rd., Forest Grove, OR 97116  
e-jeve@spiritone.com*

## "Repose" In Korea

There was an article in the March/April 2005 *Graybeards*, p. 51, titled "Serving Aboard Hospital Ships," by Tony Ybarra. He mentioned serving on the hospital ships *USS Haven* and *USS Consolation*.

While serving in the USAF at K9, Pusan, I saw the *USS Consolation* and the *USS Haven* in Pusan Harbor. But, you ought to mention that the U.S. Navy hospital ship *USS Repose* was also serving in the Pusan Harbor.



The *USS Haven* in Pusan

*Tom Largent, 10478 U.S. 50, Aurora, IN 47001*

## Call For A CAB.

One item that caught my attention in the May/June 2005 *The Graybeards* was the picture at the bottom of Page 51 showing Ralph Martin standing at the 38th Parallel. I noticed it as the sign was by Nathan Hale, 1st Field Artillery Observation Battalion. I was privileged to serve with that unit from September 1951

through June 1952 as A Battery Sound chief.

We spent many months on the front lines (actually, ahead of it), and I have often thought we should have been recognized with a Combat Artilleryman Badge (CAB) such as they have for the infantry and medics.

*Walton J. Tully, Chaplain  
KWVA Chapter #137*

## Beer Rations Matter Has Not Come to a Head Yet

I remember getting beer rations while we were at the Pusan perimeter. I used to save mine and would put them in a gunny sack and either put them down a well or stream, if there was one.

I had been out of basic training in June 1950, and my combat boots were too tight.

So, I told the supply sergeant that I need a new pair. He would always say that he would trade my beer for the boots, which I never did.

While we were in North Korea, I told him I needed the boots. He hollered at me: "What do you want me to do, write the President?" So, I answered, "If that was the only way to get them." What did he do? He told our battery CO that I was insubordinate. My CO took away my PFC stripe. From then on all the NCOs blackballed him because of what he did.

By the way, the beer was Ballantine and/or Red Cap. I forgot the alcohol content, I know it wasn't much.

*Oscar Cortez, 2931 White Tail Dr.  
San Antonio, TX*

## "Negative" Comments

I spent 14 months (5-21-52 to 7-21-53) in the 3rd gun section of Baker battery of the 780th F.A. Battalion, which was 8" guns. Our battery was in "Artillery Valley"; I was Chief of Section for 6 months, which brings me to the main reason for this email.

The picture of the 8" artillery piece on page 27 of the May/June *The Graybeards* caught my eye. Even though it has been over 50 years since I have seen any of these 8-inchers, something didn't look right. After digging out my pictures and checking, I found that that picture must have had the wrong side of the negative up when it was printed.



The 200,000th round fired in Korea. Right hand opening breach in background.

In the picture, the breech opens to the right, not to the left, as shown in the magazine picture. Also, the picture below it and the two on page 26 of the female correspondent and "Able's XO. Lt. Smith" are also incorrect. To me, at least, it appears that the negatives were wrong side up when they were printed.

The nearby picture of Cpl. Romanelli, me, Sgt. Holt, and the 200,000th round fired by 8" guns in Korea shows that the breech opens to the right. The picture was taken sometime in early 1953.

*Winton Holt*

## Robert Sanders: A Dedicated Soldier

The narrative by Robert Sanders (*The Graybeards*, May/June 2005, pp. 30-31) shows a dedicated soldier. He refused to let an American soldier, Ramirez, lie in an unmarked grave and have a family wondering for years about the fate of a loved one.

Sanders deserves the highest praise for his sensitive and diligent performance of duty in a frequently unrecognized, but essential, service.

*Jack Kime, 25th Inf. Div. (via e-mail)*

## What About The KIAs?

I have read and seen a lot of stories about different wars, but Robert Sanders' story is the first of its kind I have ever read. It is unbelievable what they were able to do physically.

I landed in Korea Oct. 8, 1951, right after Operation Commando of Oct. 3, when the second battalion of the 7th Cav was wiped out. So, I never had to help take any territory...just patrol, dodge artillery and mortars—and pray a lot.

We were told not to leave any wounded in front of the MLR, but nothing was said about the KIAs.

*Leroy Rogers (via e-mail).*

## A Great Experience

My old Korea vet buddy, John, and I had a really nice experience today. We were having lunch with our wives at a northern Michigan resort when a large party of Orientals, men and women, sat down near us. It's been a long time, but I still recognize Korean when I hear it and I heard it then.

So, after lunch, as the four of us were leaving, I stopped and said, "Excuse me, but are you from Korea?"

"Yes, we are," answered one of the older men, probably wondering why I was asking.

"I just wanted you to know that my friend and I were in your country 50-some years ago. He was a Marine; I was Army."

He translated this for the others, and they all broke into big, friendly smiles. They were obviously delighted.

"Thank you, thank you," said the older gentleman, pumping my hand, "Thank you for saving our country!"

"Yes, thank you," said another younger man, "We wouldn't be where we are today if it weren't for you."

Everyone was still all smiles and nodding in agreement. They were truly grateful.

It was unexpected and a bit embarrassing. All we could say was, "It's been nice to meet you. Thank you for coming to our country."

John and I left feeling more than a little proud of ourselves. It was something I wish every Korea vet could experience for themselves.

*Don Hart (via e-mail)*

## POWs, VOH, and KUDOS

I have been doing interviews for the Veterans Oral History Project (VOH) of the Library of Congress, where they take recorded stories of vets' experience and make them available to the public. One interview was with a former POW (Lyle Gordon), who spent about 27 months with Chicom captors. My tour was about 17 months in the Air Force radar sites,

and, man, did I have a vacation compared to what he went through.

The series you are running about the ex-POWs is magnificent. What a touching account of men at the mercy of other men. The kindness of the Chinese and North Korean captors the writer describes is eye-opening. Lyle also tells of some kindness given by his captors between punishments. In one story he told, the Chinese soldiers shot a North Korean for bayonetting American prisoners after they had told him to stop abusing them.

If you'd like to check out the VOH go to [www.loc.gov/folklife/vets](http://www.loc.gov/folklife/vets). If you think you can give a plug for this project we'd appreciate that. Many of the WW2 and Korean War vets are dying without leaving their stories behind.

*John M. Quinn*

## Why Ether Wouldn't Work

In reference to Richard Beauchamp's story, "A Peculiar Use of Ether," in the May/June *The Graybeards* (pp. 58-59), I can tell you why it didn't work!

My surgical career began in 1953, a few months after I returned from a 15-month tour with the First Marine Division in Korea. At that time we were using ether in the operating room for general anesthesia. It took 20-30 minutes—not seconds—to put a patient to sleep with just ether. So, we used nitrous oxide and then later sodium pentothal to put the patient to sleep quickly. Then, we gave ether from a machine, through tubes and a face mask, until the patient's system had taken on enough ether to keep him asleep without nitrous oxide or pentothal.

So, even a rag saturated with ether would never put a struggling man to sleep.

*J. Birney Dibble, M.D. W  
4290 Jene Rad,*

*Eau Claire, WI 54701 (715) 832-0709  
dibble@discover-net.net*

## GB In Libraries

I have taken the last two issues of *The Graybeards* to the Cedar Falls [IA] library.

They seemed glad to put them out for us. We have not had any input from anyone yet.

*Lorain. F. Adams, 34304 160th #128,  
Cedar Falls, IA 50613*

## SMOKING from page 61

we took turns lighting new cigarettes from the butts as they burned down.

We spent a miserable night in those clammy damp ponchos, jumping at every sound and peering into the darkness through squinting eyes to see if a nearby rock was moving toward us. Adding to my apprehension was the fact that I wore eyeglasses that kept misting up, and I had no way to clean them.

We continued to check in to the MLR every hour on our field phone.

"Outpost Charlie. All's well."

MLR: "Roger"

The eastern horizon at last began to brighten and we prepared to "go home." We rang up the MLR to tell them we were coming in, but they had other plans for us. We were ordered to find and check on Outpost Baker, four or five hundred yards away to our west. They had not reported in since about 0300. It was getting lighter now, and there was no way we could get there without coming under enemy observation and probably enemy fire.

We crouched low, finding whatever cover we could, moving from one position to another, expecting at any moment to be fired on.

It seemed like we had walked ten miles through those rice paddies when we came upon a strand of commo wire. We followed it in a direction away from the MLR for about a hundred yards until we came upon the break. The wire had been cut. Picking up the loose end, we continued to follow it for another few hundred feet and it led us direct-

ly to Outpost Baker.

The two men were dead. Their weapons and boots were gone. Several American cigarette butts lay near them. They had been run through with bayonets. One was holding the field phone in his hand, apparently not having had the chance to replace it on the power pack. The other man lay face down in a fetal position, and both were soaked in blood.

I went back and spliced the wires, then called the MLR to report what we had found. We were told to stay with the bodies until a patrol could come out and bring them back.

By now it was daylight. I knew that at least one of the nearby hills was enemy occupied, and that we were sitting ducks with no place to hide. The patrol finally arrived after about a half hour, put the bodies on litters, covered them with ponchos, and carried them back. We returned with them, expecting at any moment to come under some kind of fire. But it never happened, and I wondered why.

It dawned on me eventually that perhaps they wanted us to find those men and to tell others about what happened for propaganda purposes.

I had to do two more outposts, and I took part in battles for Pork Chop Hill and Old Baldy before the fighting ended in July. I never smoked on an outpost again.

But I never told anyone about Outpost Baker, so the Chinese at least didn't get that satisfaction. You, reading this, are the first to know.

## VA Benefits

# Cold Weather Tape Available

*By Byron W. Dickerson*

**A**re you aware of the benefits you have from the VA? Maybe you are like me and know something has been wrong with you. For example, I have known something was wrong with my feet, hands, and face for 50 plus years. But, I knew I did not have frostbite.

I heard a VA doctor talk about cold injury about three years ago. He said this was different from frostbite. I became convinced this was my problem. So, I went to the VA for a cold weather physical.

I had damage to all three extremities. I

was awarded 50% for the cold injury and was encouraged to have a PTSD exam. I did—and I was awarded 30% for it. Based on my experience, I encourage you to have an exam at the VA.

We have a cold weather tape put out by the VA. The break-even price on this tape shipped to you—tape, postage, etc.—is \$7:00. I suggest that Chapters buy the tape and show it at their meetings. Please be patient as I can only duplicate one a time.

*Byron W. Dickerson 2nd VP, KWVA,  
314 S. Horne St., Duncanville, TX 75116,  
(972-298-7462), Fax# (972) 296-8211*

## APPLICATION FOR KWVA REVISIT TOURS

**KVA (Seoul) Revisit Purpose:** *"To express the gratitude of the Korean Government towards Korean War Veterans of the United States who took part in the Korean War from June 25, 1950 to Oct 15 1954."* (Eligibility below).

### VETERAN'S PERSONAL HISTORY (Please print or type)

Veteran's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_  
KWVA Membership # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of family member and relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
Passport # \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Expiration # \_\_\_\_\_  
Companion Passport# \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Expiration # \_\_\_\_\_

*If you do not have a current passport, insert: "Passport applied for"*

Have you previously received the Korean War Medal from the Korean Veterans Assn in Seoul, Korea? ☐ No ☐ Yes

Have you received the medal elsewhere? If so, where? \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### VETERAN'S MILITARY BIOGRAPHY

Branch of Service: \_\_\_\_\_  
Period of Service in Korean War, from: \_\_\_\_\_ (Month/Year Arrived) to \_\_\_\_\_ (Month/Year Departed)  
Unit Assigned: \_\_\_\_\_ Location of Unit: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rank Achieved in Korea: \_\_\_\_\_ Highest Rank Achieved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Personal Military Decorations: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I hereby certify that I have never previously accepted a KVA (Seoul) Revisit Tour.

Veteran's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete and mail, with deposit of \$300 per person, (check or money order), made out to Military Historical Tours. (This deposit is fully refundable at anytime and for any reason, since there are more applicants than the limited amount of Revisit space available.) KWVA Revisit Program, c/o Military Historical Tours, Inc., 4600 Duke Street, Suite 420 Alexandria, VA 22304, Tel: 703-212-0695 Fax: 703-212-8567.

## Background and Eligibility - Official Korean Veterans Association KVA (Seoul) Revisit Program

### Background

The Korea Revisit program was begun by the Korean Veterans Association (KVA, Seoul) in 1975, the 25th Anniversary year of the outbreak of the Korean War, to express their gratitude to veterans of the Korean War and to show them the bountiful results of their sacrifices and devotion.

### KVA Eligibility

A. Korean War veterans and/or war correspondents of the 21 nations which came to the assistant of the Republic of Korea between June 25, 1950 and October 15, 1954.

B. Immediate family member of those killed in action in the Korean War.

*Note: You are eligible to take a spouse or one immediate descendant with you.*

The family member must be housed in the same hotel room with you in Seoul. (Descendants must be over 18).

### Privileges Extended Courtesy of KVA

A. Hotel accommodations (2 persons per room), meals, tours, and transportation while in Korea for 6 days and 5 nights.

B. Tour of Seoul and its vicinity: itinerary includes visits of Panmunjom, North Korean

Invasion Tunnels, Korean War Memorial Monument, National Cemetery, National Museum, Korean Folk Village, Korean War Museum, plus other cultural/industrial facilities and activities in the Seoul area. (Other tours of battles sites and/or Inchon may be made through the local tour guide).

C. A special reception and dinner hosted by the President of the Korean Veterans Association (KVA) during which the Korean War Medal and Certificate of Ambassador for Peace will be awarded to each veteran. (Who have not received it before!).

### Miscellaneous

A. The KVA Revisit Program privileges are provided for scheduled groups only.

B. Participants are required to be in possession of a valid passport. (A visa is not required for visits to Korea of 15 days or less.)

C. KVA (Seoul) is not responsible for any loss of, or damage to personal or other items, medical expenses, injuries, or loss of life due to any accident of whatever nature during the revisits. Trip insurance is available and recommended.

D. The cost of the airline ticket must be

borne by each individual visitor who will fly with the group.

E. Applications will be received/accepted on a "First-come, First-serve" basis.

*Note: If you have previously accepted an official KVA (Seoul) Revisit tour from any sponsoring association or group - you are not currently eligible to participate again. The reason for this is obvious; there are many veterans that have not gone before so, they get their "first right of return!" KVA Seoul now has all former revisit returnees in a computer database, so please don't try and beat the system. We may not know it, and submit your name to KVA (Seoul), only to have it rejected. This could cause embarrassment for all of us, as well as, create a delay that could cause a bonafide Korean War veteran to miss the opportunity.*

F. Those desiring to use frequent flier miles (or other means of "Free" air transportation) will be required to pay a \$ 300.00 (per person) administrative processing fee. Caution: Not traveling with the KWVA group air contract, can result in much higher Post Tour costs to China and other Pacific locations!

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Long Sleeve Neck Size 15 - 17 1/2				28.95	
Long Sleeve Neck Size 18 - 19 1/2				33.95	
Long Sleeve Neck Size 20 plus				38.95	
<i>Order shirts by neck size /sleeve length</i>					
<b>Sew Patches on Shirt(listed below)</b>				3.00	
<b>KOREAN SERVICE Embroidered Patches</b>					
3 1/4" Round KWVA (Left shoulder)				3.75	
15" Round KWVA (back of jacket or shirt)				15.00	
2 1/4" X 3 1/4" United Nations Flag				3.50	
2 1/4" X 3 1/4" Korean Flag				3.50	
1" X 2 1/2" "KOREA" green with black outer trim				2.00	
2 1/4" X 3 1/2" American Flag (right shoulder)				1.75	
Life Member - Navy Blue with white letters- curved for shoulder or cap				2.00	
<b>EAGLE CREST BASEBALL CAP "Korea Veteran w/3 ribbon bar front"</b>				11.00	
<b>BRASS &amp; PINS</b>					
Collar Brass Set "KWVA"				6.00	
KWVA Clutch Pin with Korea Service Ribbon Top & Korea Presidential Citation				4.00	
on bottom w/red background & gold engraving. A HOT ITEM. 12 or more				3.75	
Worn on name badges of national & department officers, also super hat pin.					
<b>RIBBONS (Not Mounted) Circle your ribbon number</b>					
Commendation: Navy (479), Air Force (403); Achievement: Navy/USMC (477)					
Good Conduct: Navy (456), Army (453), Air Force (452) and Marine (455)					
Prisoner of War (490), Air Medal (405), Silver Star (493), Bronze Star (426)					
Purple Heart (491), Distinguished Service: Army (445) & Air Force (444)					
Army Oversea (552), Army Service (551), United Nations Korea (496),					
Korea Service (461), National Defense Service (474), United Nations Observers (497)				1.00	
Navy Presidential Unit (566), Vietnam Presidential Unit (594)				2.00	
<b>ADD FOR MOUNTING BARS (We will mount ribbons) 1st Ribbon Mount</b>				1.00	
<b>ADD .75 for each additional ribbon to be mounted</b>				.75	
<b>Korean Presidential Unit Citation (brass enclosed) includes mount</b>				4.00	
<b>Bronze Stars includes mount .75 for each star</b>					
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# Reunion Calendar

**NOTE: There is no fee required for entries to be published in the "Reunion Calendar." Entries are made on a "First-come, first-served, as space allows" basis. Korean War-related reunions are given preference. Of course, contributions to the KWVA are always welcome.**

## SEPTEMBER 2005

**45th Div. 279th Reg., Fox Co.** Korea 1950-53, Sept 2005. Tennessee. I am also looking for addresses of all vets of Fox Co. POC: J. Trefts, (805) 934-4406, 295 N. Broadway - 178, Orcutt, CA, jct178@cs.com

**USS Waldron (DD 699)**, Sept. 7-10, Atlantic Beach, FL, Sea Turtle Inn. POC: RADM Tim Jenkins, 309 Ponte Vedra Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082, (904) 285-4446, tmjenkins@pclient.com

**3650th Basic Military Training Wing**, Sampson Air Force Base Veterans Association, Inc. (and all veterans of Sampson Air Force Base, Women's Air Force (WAFs), perspective members, Permanent Party, Basic Trainees, and Special School Trainees, 1950-56), Sept. 8-11, Sampson State Park (formerly Sampson Air Force Base), Seneca Lake, Romulus, NY. POC: Chip Phillips, P.O. Box 331, Williamsville, NY 14231-0331, (716) 633-1119 (Phone), (716) 633-9118 (Fax), chip34@aol.com

**14th Combat Engineer Battalion Association**, Sept. 8-11, Des Moines, IA. POC: Stanley H. Schwartz, 313 Hollow Creek Road, Mount Sterling, KY 40353, (859) 498.4567, shs313@bellsouth.net

**Army Security Agency**, 10th Annual Reunion of all Korean ASA Personnel, Sept. 8-11, Williamsburg, VA; Radisson Fort Magruder Hotel. POC: Jackie at All-In-One Tours Lancaster, PA, (Local (717) 581-5333 ext 109) or (Long Distance 1-888-681-5333 ext 109).

**18th Fighter Bomber Wing Squadron**, Sept. 8-11, Oklahoma City, OK. POC: George Banasky, 423 So. 105th Place E, Tulsa, OK 74128, (918) 437-5425

**Second Engineer Special Brigade** (Amphibs), Sept. 9-12, Washington D.C. POC: Paul Lieberman, 311 Dorset H., Boca Raton, FL 33434, (561) 482-9862, SeaHorse2esb@aol.com (All personnel who served with the brigade during WWII, Peacetime, and Korea are invited to attend, as are individuals who served with any of the Army Engineer Special Brigades.)

**USS Hawkins (DD/DDR 873)**, Sept. 11, Wakefield, MA. POC: Joe and Dottie Gall, 56 Amsterdam Avenue, Tonawanda, NY 74150, (716) 692-2697, 6 p.m. to midnight weekdays, anytime on weekends.

**38th ORD Co Assoc.** Sept 11-14, Branson, MO, Clarion Hotel. All veterans who served with this unit in WWII and/or Korea are invited. POC: Bill Smith, 3938 Oakhurst Dr., Fort Wayne, IN 46815, (260) 485-6369, HURST468@AOL.COM

630th Engineers Light Equipment Company, Korea, Sept.11-14, Branson, MO, Fall Creek Inn, POC: Oscar Viehland, 9587 Woodland Rd., Robertsville, MO 63072, (636) 285-4402, ogvccv@ruralcom.net

**U.S. Marine Corps 21st Special Basic Class** (1953), Sept. 11-16, San Francisco, CA (Marine Memorial Club). POC: Clark G. Henry (415) 337-8233, c03henry@aol.com

**USS Sphinx (ARL-24)**, Sept. 12-15, Branson, MO. POC: Frank Ironi, 954 Lilac Drive, Sauk Center, MN 56378, (612) 352-3271.

**712th TROB** (US Army), Sept 14-17, Washington, DC. Holiday Inn Rosslyn, Arlington, VA. POC: Robert Shannon, (910) 949-3920, rgshannon@ac.net

**USS Weiss (APD-135)**, Sept. 14-18, Norfolk, VA. POC: James W. Morton, 5205 Rte. 219, Great Valley, NY 14741, (716) 945-3679 or Bernard C. Miller, N2814 Cassidy Road, Mauston, WI, (608) 847-7409

**3rd Bn., 7th Marines** (Korea 1950-53), Sept. 14-18, Milwaukee, WI., Best Western Airport Hotel and Conference Center. POC: Al O'Connell, 30 Woodland Ave., Westhampton Beach, NY 11978, (631) 288-2243, awhbal@aol.com

**3/7/1 & Support Units** (USMC), Sept. 14-19, Milwaukee, WI, Best Western Airport Hotel and Conference Center (877) 461-8547. POC: Al O'Connell, 30 Woodland Ave., Westhampton Beach, NY 11978, (631) 288-2243, awhbal@aol.com

**USS Titania (AKA-13)**, WWII - Korea, Sept. 15-17, Amana, IA. POC: Caroline/Cliff Trumpold, (319) 622-3101

**780th Field Artillery**, Sept. 15-17, Olive Branch, MS. POC: George Ellis, 1020 Wildwood Park Road, Florence, AL 35630, (256) 764-5938

**7th Infantry Division Association**, Sept. 15-18, 2005 at the Atlanta Airport Marriott in College Park, GA (near Hartsfield International Airport). Reunion registration is being handled by Armed Forces Reunions, Inc, 322 Madison Mews, Norfolk, VA 23510, Phone (757) 625-6401. Hotel reservations should be made directly with the Atlanta Airport Marriott, (404) 766-7900. POC: Gene Peebles at President@7th-inf-div-assn.com or by phone at (727) 397-8801 if additional information is needed.

**Society of Third Infantry Division** (and attached units in war and peace time), Sept. 15-18, San Diego, CA, Red Lion Hanalei Hotel, 2270 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108, (619) 297-1101 or (800) 882-0858. Room Rates are \$99 per night plus tax. POC: Bruce Monkman (818) 343-3370, bruce-monkman@earthlink.net, or Linda Irvine (360) 663-2521, info@TheReunionBRAT.com

**999th Army Field Artillery Bn.** ("Never Die"), Sept. 16-18, Bloomington, MN (Day's Inn/Airport). POC: Eugene Nash, 103 13th St. West, Glencoe, MN 55336, (320) 864-5977, gden@hutchtel.net

**40th Inf. Div., 160th Regt., Co. A** (Korea), Sept. 19-21, Reno, NV, The Sands Regency Hotel Casino. POC: Roger Lueckenhoff, 208 Steeplechase Rd., Rolla, MO 65401-3784, (573) 364-4145, lueck@fidnet.com

**G -3 -1** (Korea), Sept. 19-23, Las Vegas, NV, New Frontier Hotel. POC: Tom Enos, 3220 Mirador Street, Laughlin, NV 89029-0130, (702) 420-0006, tndenos@laughlin.net, (An Association of veterans of the Korea War who served with G Co., 3rd Bn., 1st Marines, 1st MarDiv, 15 Sept. 1950 - 15 Mar. 1955)

**72nd Engineer Combat Company**, Sept. 19-23, Cleveland, OH, Baymont Airport Inn, (216) 251-8500. (Mention 72nd Engineers to get group rate). POC: Bob Mount, (301) 898-7952 (Phone), (301) 898-5549 (Fax), tax-preper@aol.com

**6147th Tac Con Gp. Mosquito Association**, Sept. 19-25, Biloxi, MS, Imperial Palace Casino Hotel, (888) 946-2847. Rate is \$62 per night—and includes breakfast. (Mention the Mosquito Reunion. POC: Tony Pascale, (601) 544-8248, tony\_pascale@yahoo.com, or Dick Souza, (978) 453-3887, Skeeterloc@aol.com (Association website is www.mosquitokorea.org)

**50AAA Aw Bn.** (SP) (All Batteries), Sept. 19-22, Pigeon Forge, TN. POC: Nelson Ruiz (321) 267-1106, amynel@695online.com OR Joe Harris, (530) 347-3381

**44th Engineer Battalion Association** (Broken Heart Battalion), Sept. 20-24, Fort Benning, Columbus, GA. POC: LTC Ken Jobe, (Ret) (757) 428-0328, kejo425@aol.com, or Bernie Resnick, (603) 434-6406, BigBMR@aol.com, for registration and hotel information

**86th Ordnance Co. Assn.**, Sept. 21-23, New Castle, PA. POC: Robert F. Spurr, 614 Bench Street, Galena, IL 61036, (815) 777-3814

**H-3-1** (USMC, Korea), Sept. 21-25, Denver, CO. POC: Jack Dedrick, 10 Donna Street, Peabody, MA 01960, (978) 535-5451, jfddedrick@aol.com

**How Company, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division**, Sept. 21-24, Canandaigua, NY. Canandaigua Inn on the Lake. POC: Richard Oakleaf, 2037 Meadow Drive, Palmyra, NY 14522, (315) 597-9568 (Home), (585) 314-7128 (cell).

**ERRATA:** In previous issues we noted that the 99th Army Field Artillery Battalion is holding its reunion September 16-18 in Bloomington, MN. The correct unit identifier is the 999th.

'B' Btry - 49 FA BN - 7th Inf Div

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**32nd In. Regt. Assn.** (The "Queen's Own"), Sept. 21-25, at San Diego, CA. POC: Helen Dyckson, P.O. Box 5930, Spring Hill, FL 34611-5930, (352) 597-5912, heland@bellsouth.net

**USS Algol (AKA 54)** Sept. 21-25 at San Francisco, CA. POC: Tony Soria (209) 722-6005, Art Nelson, artbets@cox.net, or the Algol web site, www.ussalgolaka54.org/

**75th Air Depot Wing** (USAF, Korea 1952-1955), Sept. 22-25, Asheville, NC. POC: Walt Walko, 13616 Paradise Villas Grove, Colorado Springs CO 80921, (719) 488-1106, wawlaw2@juno.com

**USS Bayfield (APA 33)** Sept. 22-26 at Branson, MO. POC: George Brewer (772) 288-1526, twobruz@att.net, or Art Nelson at artbets@cox.net

**MCB#4** (All Eras), Sept. 26-29. The Welk Resort, Branson, MO. POC: Nick "Mush" Marschauser, (518) 745-7753, nick@nickstents.com

**56th Amphibious Tank and Tractor Bn.**, Sept. 27- Oct. 1, Copperas Cove, TX. Plaza Hotel. POC: Bob Hawks, 508 Kate Street, Copperas Cove, TX 76522, (254) 547-2746, woodhawks@earthlink.net

**All Navy Minewarfare Sailors** Who Served On Minewarfare Ships/Depots/Stations, All Eras, 28 Sept. - 2 Oct., St Louis, MO. POC: David S. Christian, (636) 931-3568, dschristian2082@aol.com

**Chosin Few**, New England Chapter, Sept. 29-Oct.1, Milford, MA, Radisson Hotel. POC: John Gutermuth, 23 Kettering Road, Norwood, MA 02062, (781) 769-5656.

**45th Infantry Division**, Sept. 29-Oct.2, Oklahoma City, OK. POC Raul Trevino, 2145 NE Street. Oklahoma City, OK 73111, (210) 681-9134

**7th Field Artillery Association**, Sept. 29-Oct. 1, San Antonio, TX, Woodfield Suites. POC: Stanley C. Stankiewicz, 112 Bremer Street, Fayetteville, NC 28303-3602, (910) 822-0703

**VS-931 Anti-submarine Squadron**, Sept. 29-Oct. 5, Vancouver, WA. POC: J. Robert Wagner, 2996 Runnymede Drive, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462-7179, Phone/Fax (610) 277-4374, bobwagner@msn.com

#### OCTOBER 2005

**92nd Armored Field Artillery**, Oct. 2-4, New Orleans, LA, Double Tree Hotel, 300 Canal St. POC: Guy McMenemy, (281) 469-2819.

**17th Infantry Regiment**, Oct. 5-9, Ft Benning (Columbus, GA). Open to any veteran of the 17th Infantry Regiment peace time or war. POC: Donald Shook, (724) 334-8876, deshook@7thininfantry.com, <http://www.17thininfantry.com>

**11th Evac. Hosp.** (Korea 1950-53), Oct. 6-8, Palatka, FL, Moorings Motel. POC: Edward Elliott, 86 Malone Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10306, (718) 987-3557

**Heavy Mortar Co., 5th RCT**, Oct. 6-8, Louisville, KY, Executive Inn, 978 Phillips Lane, (800) 626-2706. POC: Bill Conley, (412) 885-2053, cop-con2@MSN.com

**68th AAA Gun Bn.**, Oct. 6-9, Grand Rapids, MI. POC: Victor Wayward, (616) 455-5962, janpw@wittetravel.com

**508th OPS Det.**, Oct. 6-9, Grand Rapids, MI. POC: Victor Wayward, (616) 455-5962, janpw@wittetravel.com

**USS Tingey (DD-539)**, Oct.6-9, Branson, MO. POC: Clarence Daniels, 14763 331st Ave., Unionville, IA 52594, (641) 452-6008, joydan@lisco.com

**1st Field Artillery Observation Bn. Assn.**, Oct. 6-9, at Double Tree Club Hotel, St. Louis Airport, 9600 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis, MO 63134. POC: Don Dust, (352) 799-2426 or Ralph Mueller, (724) 348-5359

**26th Inf., Scout Dog Platoon**, Oct. 7-9, Branson, MO. POC: Robert E. Fickbohar, 18113 Winkler Road, Newell, SD 57760, (605) 456-2636. Coordinators are: Buck Ferrell, (573) 333-1871, Jeanie Walker or Robin Webber, (800) 683-1122 (Ext. 173)

**USS Cascade (AD-16)**, Oct. 9-16, Branson, MO, Clarion Hotel at The Palace (800) 725-2236. POC: Lyle "Preacher" Burchette, P.O. Box 566, Hollister, MO 65673, (417) 334-5627 or Bob Croghan, Sr., 7827 Cassia Court, St. Louis, MO 63123, (314) 843-6615

**1st Ordnance MM Co., 328th Bn., 60th Group, 10th Corps**, Oct. 10-13, Warner-Robins, GA. POC: George Kvet, 812 Beverly Ave., Canal Fulton, OH 44614, (330) 854-9754

**Burtonwood Association** (Burtonwood Air Force Base, Warrington, England), Oct. 11-15, Shreveport, LA, Holiday Inn. POC: Richard Iwanowski, 4515 W. 55th Street, Chicago, IL 60632, (773) 767-1810.

**Veterans of the Korean War**, All Branches, Oct. 12-15, Virginia Beach, VA. POC: Floyd D. Newkirk, (757) 340-9801, fnewkirk1@cox.net. or Jerry

Brown (757) 237-4541, PGKpfn12117@aol.com Visit our web site: VKWR.org

**F-2-7 (USMC, Korea)**, Oct. 12-16, Branson, MO. POC: Bill French, (417) 739-5541

**USS Quapaw (ATF-110)**, Oct. 13-17, Springfield, IL. POC: Kenneth Kuhn, 2218 N. Bowman Ave., Danville, IL 61834, (217) 446-8440, kenkuhn2218@yahoo.com

**44th Inf. Div.**, Illinois (Korean War), Oct. 14-16, Moline, IL, Holiday Inn. POC: Charles W. Munie, 465 S. Linden Ave., Decatur, IL 62522, (217) 423-6265, cwmunie@munie.org (Anyone who served with the Division at Camp Cooke, CA, or Ft. Lewis, WA)

**90th F.A. Bn. Assoc.**, 25th Inf. Div., Oct. 19-23, N. Charleston, SC, Radisson Airport Hotel, (800) 333-3333, www.Radisson.Com/90thFAB. POC: Sam Dukes, (803) 786-0366.

**USS Cogswell (DD-651)**, Oct. 20-22, at Plaza Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, NV. POC George Overman, (760) 721-5730, USS-COGSWELL@DESTROYERS.ORG

**Coast Guard Combat Veterans**, Oct. 20-24, Tampa, FL. POC: Baker Herbert, (330) 887-5539, or (330) 887-5639 (Fax), USCGW64@neo.rr.com (We are inviting veterans of Korea, WWII, Gulf, Haiti, Panama, Grenada, Dominican Republic, and all other conflicts)

**"B" Co., 1st Bn., 1st Reg., 1st MarDiv** (Korea, Bunker Hill, Aug., 1952), 23-25 Oct., Las Vegas, NV. POC: Harry Brunke (949) 858-6620, or Phil Ackert (640) 712-9625.

#### NOVEMBER 2005

**"L" Co., 279th Inf.**, 45th Div., 7-9 Nov., Branson, MO, Settle Inn. POC: Paul Elkins, PO Box 348, Kasilof, AK 99610, (907)260-6612, p.s.elkins@att.net

#### MAY 2006

**I-3-1, 1st MARDIV**, (Korea, Sept. 1950 - July 1953), Branson, MO. POC: Victor ("Doc") Shepherd, 4586 Vermona Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45245-1017, (513) 528-4495, vshepherd@cinci.rr.com or [www.ItemCompany31.com](http://www.ItemCompany31.com)

### RECON from page 71



Above left, Billy Purvis Mabus. Above right, Billy Purvis Mabus (L) and an unidentified buddy

Billy did not talk much about his time in the war, and it bothered him when he was questioned about it. Since his records were burned in the fire at St Louis, it is hard to know much about his experiences. He did offer occasional stories, e.g., about dead soldiers packed in ice on a train.

He also spoke of a major or minor league pitcher who was in his unit who would practice throwing while in camp. He had a buddy from Rockford, IL, whose name I do not know.

*Nita Mabus Lindsey, 405 Bob Ridge Rd.,  
Fulton, MS 38843, 1-662-862-561  
countryautumnbrook@yahoo.com*

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Disabled Veterans  
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## THE SHOES OF A KOREAN VET

*By Jack D. Ross, 418 Mills Street, Sandusky OH 44870.*

It was fifty years ago in a place far away  
but the memories remain and surface each day  
of the mission of our platoon, to defend a barren hill  
from the North Korean soldiers and it was kill or be killed  
with artillery and machine guns carbines and men  
you fight off the enemy again and again  
you defend the damn mountain till the objective was met  
you're walking in the shoes of a Korean vet  
there are medics shooting morphine into a wounded man's vein  
to silence the cry and lessen the pain  
the stench of bodies, the unforgettable smell  
makes your whole body tremble and you're scared as hell  
a good friend you seek out, but he was in the wrong place  
for now an olive drab blanket is covering his face  
you look to the heavens and quietly pray  
but your prayers go unanswered day after day  
the chaplain is busy helping carry the injured men  
to the helicopter landing where fighting had been  
you recall when it ended, we've all held our ground  
and it's time to go home and there's hardly a sound  
if you often wonder is this as bad as it gets  
you're walking in the shoes of a Korean vet  
you were among the lucky, back on American soil  
but what you've been thru still makes your blood boil  
all this has turned you into an angry young man  
who committed legalized murder with blood on his hands  
you don't want to look at people passing by  
just want to be alone and you're too proud to cry  
there are times when you think you'd be better off dead  
and visions of suicide rush thru your head  
and you tell yourself that time heals all wounds  
after all these years you know it's not going away soon  
you don't watch war movies in the theater or on t. v.  
cause you know it could trigger another of these  
heartbreaking memories that you're trying to forget  
then you're walking in the shoes of a Korean vet  
there are more wars a coming, and I'm too old to fight  
but when I look at our great banner, it's stars and it's stripes  
it sends shivers thru my body, and I know right then  
for liberty and freedom, I'd do it all over again.

## Hold Onto That Beer

On July 6, 1952, the weather was hot and muggy. At sunset, the Chinese again attacked Charlie Battery of the 17 F AB.

Section One was called upon to return counter-battery. The gun immediately came under direct fire from the Chinese guns. A volley landed directly on the gun position, one round exploding in the parapet in front of the gun, and one fell just behind the trails. The position was enveloped in dust and smoke. The cannoneers found their way back to their bunker one by one. Miraculously, no one was injured. They returned to the gun and finished the mission.

The gunners returned to their bunker, huddling in the darkness as shells continued to land within the perimeter. The temperature began to rise, and I sought the cooler air of the slit trench which served as the entrance to the bunker. I was soon joined by another crew member, and then another. I then climbed to a position just over the door.

When another volley came down on the position, I hugged the ground as shrapnel whistled about me. I then ran into the squad tent and "liberated" several cans of beer belonging to the track driver. He was assigned to the motor pool when we were under fire, so he was not present to protest.

I took the loot back to the top of the bunker, where I tried to drink the liquid as rapidly as I could, seeking some respite from the incoming shells. Soon, I was joined by another member of the crew. As others sought the coolness atop the bunker, they were told that they had to take positions away from the door behind the first arrivals.

When another volley came down on the position, there was a mad dash for the safety of the bunker. I held firmly on to my beer, but found my hand locked in position by another crew member on top of me. The liquid poured slowly down on the men in the trench below me. With much groaning, we were finally able to disentangle ourselves and return to the safety of the bunker.

James A. Frowein, 24434 W. Lancelot Lane, Joliet, IL 60431, 17th FAB – "C" & "HQ & HQ", 4/1/52 to 5/13/53

# Thanks for Supporting The Graybeards

Many members have responded to the suggestion to help underwrite the cost of publication of *The Graybeards* by making voluntary contributions. Remarkably, *The Graybeards* is still being printed despite cost restraints. Happily, a change of printers and mailers has allowed us to reduce the cost per issue—and upgrade your magazine in the process.

Your heartening response has made it possible to increase the quality of *The Graybeards*, and make desired changes in subsequent issues.

We greatly appreciate your help—and we invite you to continue your

generous support.

Make checks out to KWVA, Support of Graybeards, or to KWVA with a note in the memo (Or “for”) section at the bottom of the check “Support of Graybeards.”

Send checks to Richard E. Hare, 1260 Southampton Drive, Alexandria, LA 71303. Every donation will be acknowledged in *The Graybeards*.

## Members & Friends

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Johnnie Johnson, 115	Ohio
#19 General Raymond	Georgia
G. Davis Chapter	

## In Memory of:

- Bonaiuto, Robert V., Sr. Connecticut  
Joseph Bonaiuto, Sr./Richard Bonaiuto
- Ruhe, Joseph G., M.D. Pennsylvania  
Aid Station, from 48th FA Bn., 7th Div.
- Young, Francis V. Florida  
KIA, WIA, & MIA, 25th Recon Company,  
Korea, 1950-51

## General Westmoreland Dies

Retired Gen. William Westmoreland, who was best known for his role as commander of U.S. forces during the Vietnam War from 1964 to 1968, died of natural causes on July 18, 2005. He was 91.

Westmoreland was promoted to Brigadier general during the Korean War, during which he was the commander of the 187th Airborne RCT. According to KWVA Director Warren Wiedhahn, “Generals Ray Davis, Dick Stilwell and ‘Westy’ Westmoreland were three of the ‘movers and shakers’ behind the ‘Remember the Korean War’ movement.

“We can’t let them down, no matter what. We owe it to them, and the millions of other Korean War Veterans, to continue the fight for adequate remembrance and recognition!” he observed.

## -Death Notice of a Member of KWVA

*The following notice is submitted for publication:*

Name of deceased \_\_\_\_\_

Date of death \_\_\_\_\_

Department/Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Army ☐ Navy ☐ Marine Corps ☐ Air Force ☐ Coast Guard

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Unit of service during Korean War

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to deceased \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Membership, P.O. Box 101238, Arlington, VA 22210

## National KWVA Fund Raiser Flower Rose of Sharon

The Rose of Sharon is the National KWVA fund raising flower. The Rose of Sharon is sold by the dozen.

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Make Checks payable to: **Maryland Chapter – KWVA**

## Membership Application

The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 101238, Arlington, VA 22210 (Telephone: 703-522-9629)

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Assigned Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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*All new members. please provide the following information if applicable*

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Battalion \_\_\_\_\_  
Company \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Branch of Service

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☐ Air Force  
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☐ Marines  
☐ Coast Guard

### Dates of service:

Within Korea were: (See criteria below)

From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

Without Korea were: (See criteria below)

From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the above information provided by me for the purposes as indicated, is true and correct."

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Name of Chapter (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Revised 04/03/2005 JLF

## CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Section 1. Qualification of Members. Membership in this association shall consist of honorary members, regular members, and associate members.

A. **Honorary Members.** Any person of good character may be elected as an honorary member by the vote of the Executive Council.

B. **Regular Members.**

1. **Service in United States Armed Forces.** Any person who has seen honorable service in any of the Armed Forces of the United States, said service being within Korea (September 3, 1945-June 25, 1950), within and without Korea (June 25, 1950-January 31, 1955), or who, as a member of the armed forces of the United States as defined by U.S.C. Title 10, served honorably in Korea from February 1, 1955 shall be eligible for membership. No person shall be excluded from membership because of race, color, creed, sex, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, or physical or mental disability, so long as the individual meets the service requirements.
2. **Medal of Honor.** Any Medal of Honor recipient, so honored for service in Korea during the Korean war era shall be eligible for life membership.
3. **Prisoner of War.** Any person held as a prisoner of war by the North Koreans, Chinese, or Russian forces during and after the period of hostilities from June 25, 1950 forward shall be eligible for life membership.
4. **United Nations Command and Korean Army.** Any person who served honorably in the armed forces of the United Nations command or in the Republic of Korea armed forces during the Korean War era and thereafter shall be eligible to membership. 90% of members must be United States Veterans, 10% can be others
5. **Gold Star Mothers.** Any woman whose son was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War shall be eligible for life membership,
6. **Gold Star Wives.** Any woman whose husband was killed in action or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War shall be eligible for life membership.

C. **Associate Members.** Any person with a legitimate interest in the affairs of this association and who wishes to support its aims, and not being eligible for regular membership and who agrees to accept the terms and conditions set forth in the charter and bylaws shall be eligible for associate membership in the association.

WEB PAGE: WWW.KWVA.ORG



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