We Honor Founder William Norris

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This article was published on the website, www.kwva.org, several weeks ago. It was prepared for this election issue of The Graybeards (March-April). In this issue you will find information concerning all the candidates and a ballot. Please be careful to mark and mail the ballot exactly as instructed. Votes should not be wasted because of errors.

At the present time the KWVA has an exceptional system which allows as many people as qualified to run for office, and as many people as possible to vote. If you are an eligible voting member reading this article, you will have a ballot inserted in your magazine. Mark it and mail it in. It will be collected and tabulated by an impartial, professional, bonded, outside CPA. The CPA must receive the ballots prior to midnight, June 10, 2006, to be counted.

The mechanics of the election are fairly easy to carry out. Other things are not as easy.

This past week I received an angry email from a good member. He said, among other things, that his chapter commander had taken it upon himself to tell everyone who to vote for. The member was very angry, wanting to “take the jerk out to the woodshed!” In exasperation he asked if there was going to be a ballot in The Graybeards.

The member’s remarks struck a responsive chord in my spirit as I was surveying much of the unprincipled partisan drivel that is passed around among other things, that his chapter commander had taken it upon himself to tell everyone who to vote for. The member was very angry, wanting to “take the jerk out to the woodshed!” In exasperation he asked if there was going to be a ballot in The Graybeards.

The member’s remarks struck a responsive chord in my spirit as I was surveying much of the unprincipled partisan drivel that is passed around about the KWVA election—and the US election, for that matter. Men have died to preserve the vote; men and women are dying in IRAQ and AFGHANISTAN today to extend the vote, to extend freedom. Anyway, I offer my response to the member as appropriate for an election edition of our magazine.

Dear ________

Thank you for your concerned email. I do not know any of the personalities involved in your chapter, so I am naturally neutral with respect to each and every one of your members. Perhaps after I got to meet each one of you on an individual basis I might feel differently!

______, within our organization we have a lot of different personalities all of whom have different “say-so’s” – in my opinion all members have to be afforded equal time to voice their opinions, even those we may not necessarily agree with. That is the fair way to go. Yet, it is incumbent on a leader to use discretion when it comes to trying to influence a particular position or goal and meet his assigned Mission.

Sometimes, as individuals, we get very hot in our opinions and causes. As an organization, we were forced to do just that in the 2002 election, I believe, when the President of the organization ignored his Judge Advocate, and against the majority vote of the Executive Council, became a candidate for an illegal third consecutive term in clear violation of the Bylaws.

His election followed and the woeful inaction and failure by his Executive Council and the membership to subsequently remedy the illegal 2002 election procedure as null and void, led, unfortunately, to many bad effects which linger today, resulting in an erosion of civility between our members.

Because we are an aging membership, for the most part, we are confronted with many physiological problems as well. Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s both cause people to become increasingly combative and argumentative, the older we get. Senility and dementia may do so as well, to lesser degrees. Scientists tell us that all males will manifest more and more of these effects of aging the longer we live.

This, however, does not excuse leaders at all levels of our organization, from doing their utmost to act as leaders should. Roberts Rules of Order, mandated by our Bylaws, protects the rights of both the majority and the minority in any democratic assembly http://www.rulesonline.com/. When these Rules or the Bylaws are violated, members can lodge an official signed complaint with the Chairman of the KWVA Ethics and Grievance Committee.

All members are expected to conduct everything that they do for the good of the Order. If they do not do so they should be challenged to “get themselves in Order.”

As I said, I can understand your frustration. I get a lot of what you are experiencing, every day. I notice that you were a “Cottonbaler.” I’ve never met one who couldn’t handle the situation, so I know that you will do so as well.

Answering your initial question, yes, the prescribed Official Ballot will be in the March-April Issue of The Graybeards, exactly as provided for in the Bylaws. By the way, a copy of the Bylaws was provided to every member by an insertion in the November-December 2005 Issue of The Graybeards. A copy of the Annual Report was provided to every member in the January-February 2006 Issue.

Thank you, and good luck
Lou Dechert
National President

KWV FRIENDSHIP GATHERING SCHEDULED FOR JULY

The annual gathering of Korean War and Korean Service veterans, family members, and friends will take place 25 -27 July, 2006 in the Washington, D.C. area. It will include a salute to our Korean War Veterans Association founder, William (Bill) Norris.

For information on this annual event, contact Chairman Jack E. Cloman, 2702 Franklinville Rd., Joppa, MD 21085-2908, by phone at (410) 676-1388, by fax at (410) 676-3898, or email, connienjack@msn.com

Louis T. Dechert
National President

The Graybeards
March - April 2006
March - April 2006

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COVER: The Universal Soldier Statue, Battery Park, Manhattan, New York. This impressive statue overlooks New York harbor and frames the Statue of Liberty. Photo provided by Joseph Calabria, President, Cpl Allan F. Kivlehan Chapter, PO Box 120174, Staten Island, NY 10312.
ANNOUNCING THE KWVA 2006 CONVENTION

110 Lexington Ave. San Antonio Texas 78205

Oct. 8-9-10-11
Oct. 8 – Travel – Hospitality Room
Oct. 9 – Registration – Hospitality Room – Open day, do the river barge – See the Alamo
Oct. 10 9:00 am Memorial Service
         10:00 am Board of Directors Meeting
         12:30 Mexican Lunch Buffet
         1:15 pm - Reconvene Board of Directors Meeting
Evening on your own – Have dinner at one of San Antonio’s great restaurants
Oct. 11 – 9:00 am – General Membership Meeting
         12:30 Lunch break
         1:30 Reconvene General Meeting
         6:00 pm Banquet
Oct. 12 – Travel
Plan now to attend the 2006 KWVA San Antonio Texas Convention. All airlines serve San Antonio.
Room cost single or double $100 per night

The next Graybeards will have menus for Banquet, and suggested activities during the Convention.
Airport shuttle (no Hotel shuttle) Use SATrans Hotel Shuttle Service $24.00.
Roundtrip per person or share a cab $25 one way.
Room – Single or double $100 per night
Registration $25 per person

A REGISTRATION FORM AND MORE DETAILS IN THE NEXT GRAYBEARDS
May We Have Your Attention, Please?

Let’s stay ahead of your “Dues are due” date for this year and the years to come!

Note the following KWVA Bylaw relating to Payment of membership dues.

“Article I, Section 3, Par B. Payment of Dues.

National dues shall be sent to the Membership Office listed on the Official Application Form and collated 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 may be paid in a lump sum or in six (6) equal payments over a twelve (12) month period. All dues collected by any Regular Member, Chapter or Department shall also be sent to the Membership Office.”

Please look at the mailing label used to mail this magazine to you [See example below]. Right above your first name is your membership number. Your “Dues are due” date appears on the label to the right of this number and on the same line. This is the date that your membership in KWVA expires. You are no longer a member in good standing if your dues have not been received by that date. Payment of your dues will extend your membership or reactivate it, if your membership has been inactivated, due to non-payment of dues.

Many members do not renew their membership by the date indicated

It has been observed that many of the members whose dues are “past due” think that they are supposed to wait until they receive a dues notice before paying. This is not accurate! Don’t wait. Pay by the date indicated or as soon thereafter as possible.

Failure of members to pay their dues by the “Dues are due” date creates an unnecessary expense for KWVA, and an unnecessary consumption of volunteer time by staff at chapter, department and national levels of KWVA. Mailing of over-due notices, such as the one many members received recently, is expensive. Renewal of membership by or before the “Dues-due” date will help to avoid this expense.

Unnecessary telephone calls, failure to receive ballot in time to cast your vote, the voiding of your vote [if you submitted a ballot] and the like, are just some of the OTHER extra expenses and time-consuming activities created when dues are not paid on time.

Periodically, reminders are published in the The Graybeards to alert you to the need to renew if you want to maintain your membership. In addition to other times, this reminder is published in the Sep/Oct and Nov/Dec issues. This is done in anticipation that you will read it and pay your dues by the 1st of January, for those of you whose dues expire on that date.

Sample of “Dues-due” date: 01/01/06 – this means January 1, 2006

If the first letter in your membership number is an “R” or a “C”:

You are a “Regular” member and “Regular” members’ dues are paid on an annual basis.

• If your dues are due January through March, your dues are...
  $12.00
• If your dues are due April through June, your dues are...
  $9.00
• If your dues are due July through September, your dues are...
  $6.00
• If your dues are due October through December, your dues are...
  $3.00

If the first letter in your membership number is an “A”:

You are an “Associate” member and Associate members’ dues are paid on an annual basis.

• If your dues are due January through March, your dues are...
  $10.00
• If your dues are due April through June, your dues are...
  $8.00
• If your dues are due July through September, your dues are...
  $6.00
• If your dues are due October through December, your dues are...
  $4.00

If the first letter of your membership number is other than the ones listed above, none of the information above concerning dues applies to you.

Payment of your dues on the above schedule in the amounts shown will result in your “Dues are due” date being adjusted to the beginning of the year, rather than being at other times of the year, as yours may be.

Life Membership:

Life membership for a “Regular” member is $150.00, regardless of age. There is no charge for members classified as MOH, EX-POW, Honorary, Gold Star Spouse or Gold Star Parent, but an appropriate membership application and certification form is to be initially submitted.
Special Notice

If your chapter collects your national dues for transmission to national, please send your dues to the appropriate chapter officer. This will assist your chapter in determining which members are in good standing. If your chapter does not collect your national, or you do not belong to a chapter, send your dues payment directly to: KWVA, PO Box 101238, Arlington, VA 22210-4238.

Standard Dues Expiration Date

You are requested to pay the portion of the year indicated by the dates shown above to bring your membership “dues are due” date to January 1st. If your “dues are due” date is other than in January, February or March, you may either pay to the end of the year as indicated by the breakdown shown above, OR pay that portion of the year, plus the dues for the following year. This will put you on a calendar year schedule, the same as most of the other members.

Chapter officers

If you collect the dues from members at the chapter level and forward a list and a single check, it would benefit you and us to encourage your members to adjust their dues to the January 1st schedule.

Address Changes

If you move to a temporary location for an extended period of time or make a permanent move, always notify us of each address change at least three weeks ahead of the move. The post office will not forward your Graybeards, and does not give us a forwarding address. You are then shown as “away” on our records until we hear further from you. Graybeards that cannot be delivered are returned and cost us 90 cents each...so let us know. Plus, you don’t get your magazine!

The above is quite lengthy, but I hope it helps to clarify the dues payment process. Your participation and cooperation to reduce the time and expense of processing membership dues will be greatly appreciated.

Yours for a better KWVA,
Jake Feaster, KWVA Supervisor

COVER PHOTOS NEEDED

Once again we are looking for color photos that are suitable for the front cover of The Graybeards. It is important to note that we are not limited to printed photos. We can also use slides and negatives.

The photos, slides, negatives, etc. do not have to be from Korea. They can be of monuments, Korean War-related events, recent festivities…anything that is appropriate to KWVA activities. Witness, for example, the cover of the Jan/Feb 2006 issue, which carried a photo of the Soldiers Field Veterans Memorial in Rochester, MN, or the cover of this issue.

If you have any color photos (no inkjet copies or color copier reproductions please) in any form that you think might be suitable for our covers, please send them to our publisher, Dr. Jerry Wadley, 3 Black Skimmer Court, Beaufort SC 29907. He will make a determination regarding their suitability for the front cover. More than likely, they will be included somewhere in the magazine at some point.

The Wrong Place To Run Out Of Gas, er…Petrol

While the regiment was in reserve, we were driving along the main supply route. We came across a disabled vehicle. The apparent driver was walking aside the road.

We stopped and asked him what the trouble was. The driver, an “Aussie,” muttered in his unmistakable Australian accent, “The bloomin’, bloody @?!# ran out of petrol."

That may be funny in most places, but a war zone is certainly not the place to run out of gas, petrol, or anything else fuel might be called.

Walter D. Hinrichs, 133 Sandpiper Ridge, Ormond Beach, FL 32176-2245, who served in Korea in 1952 with E Co., 2nd Bn., 7th Regt., 1st Marine Division

Request From Australia Re MIAs In Korea

Gentlemen, I am hoping that one of your veterans can shed some light on the whereabouts of these missing in action Australians. I think that some may have been POWs and died during their captivity.

If any of your members can help to bring about a closure for the families, we will be eternally grateful. We/I do, of course, require as much detail as you can give.

Allan Murray
Publicity Officer / Committeeman
Korea Veterans Association of Australia Inc
KVAA.Inc

MISSING IN ACTION LIST

1950 —1956 KOREA WAR AND CEASE-FIRE PERIOD.

2/401173 ..................Lcpl Edmond George Bourke.
4/400156 ..................Pte Francis Brady.
5/2514 ..................Pte John King Christie.
2/401322 ..................Pte Thomas Randolph Foot.
5/400181 ..................Pte Joseph Whilliam Hodgkinson.
1/1641 .................Pte Willaim Rudolf Kunkel.
2/400437 ..................Pte William Thomas Henry Lord.
2/400919 ..................Pte John Lawrence Mc Kandry.
2/5124 ..................Pte Reginald Donald Rootes.
3/37672 ..................Lt Laurence Bonaventure Ryan.
3/400 ..................Pte John Phillip Saunders.
1/400304 ..................Pte Ronald William Shennon.
2/35020 ..................Lt Francis Charles Smith.
3/400608 ..................Pte Peter White.

BUSINESS

The Graybeards

March - April 2006
Specially Designed to Honor Korean War Veterans & Purple Heart Recipients

Exclusive Korean War Veterans Service Watches
Featuring your Service Emblem, Korean War Medal and Ribbon

We proudly present our Official Korean War Veterans Military Watches to honor your service to our Country. The unique watch dial is a replica of the Korean War Service Medal and is a powerful reminder of the bravery and sacrifice made by so many during this historic conflict.

The exclusive watch band features the Korean War Service Ribbon above the Service Medal dial. Your Service Branch Emblem or Purple Heart Medal, in full enameled colors, is set in the band below the dial. The caseback will be engraved with your initials and years served.

Watch features include a precision quartz movement for accuracy within seconds per month, water-resistant case and adjustable bracelet, both decorated with 23 karat gold.

Priced at just $125*, payable in two convenient, interest-free monthly installments of $62.50* each. See order form for details.

Your satisfaction is guaranteed or you may return your watch within 30 days for replacement or refund—no questions asked. So, order yours today!

Purple Heart Recipients May Have Their Medal in Place of the Service Branch Emblem.

For fastest service call toll free to order: 1-800-255-3048

Monday - Friday from 9am - 5pm EST Have Credit Card ready when ordering.

Order Form

Credit Card: □ VISA □ MASTER CARD □ AMEX exp.____/
CC# ________________________________

Signature

Daytime Phone # (__________) 

Shipping Address (We cannot ship to P.O. Boxes)

Name ________________________________

Address ________________________________
City __________________ State ________ Zip ________
Signature ________________________________

Phone # ________________________________

* Plus $7.95 per watch for engraving. S&H. * Parcels over 6 lbs: (See S&H).
Some People Just Don’t Get It©

Some people just do not get the connection between their freedom and the role of the military. Sadly, they never will. Luckily for them, the military will continue to protect their freedom, regardless of their naiveté.

I was on a flight to Charlotte, NC, recently, when I struck up a conversation with a woman sitting next me. It was one of those “small world” things. She is a teacher at our local high school, and a native of Columbia, South Carolina. That news led to the common denominator that often sparks conversations.

We started talking about South Carolina in general, and I admitted to her that I had a soft spot in my heart for the state. In fact, I told her jokingly, I am hoping to buy a condo on Parris Island because of my affinity for the place.

“Ah, a Marine,” she deduced.

Then, she told me about an article she had read recently detailing the drowning of a recruit at PI. “I don’t know why people in the military have to allow things like that to happen,” she said.

I started to explain that deaths in training are inevitable, and that training is designed as much to prevent deaths in combat as to lead them.

“I just don’t understand why military trainers try to force people to do things they don’t want to do, or can’t do,” she said.

At that point, I recognized that her opinion of the military was not high, and that additional attempts to explain the esoteric relationships among profound truths about the purpose of training, the role of the Marine Corps and the other services, and her freedom would be fruitless. I settled back in my seat and prayed for an early arrival in Charlotte.

Granted, the concept of freedom is difficult for some people to grasp, especially for those among us who accept it as a given without ever devoting any thought to who makes it possible. They do not stop to think that, as some veterans are fond of saying, “Freedom is not free.” These same people do not realize that they have to contribute to their own freedom—but that their freedom, and the freedom of others, e.g., South Koreans and Iraqis, is dependent to some extent on a strong outside military. Do they ever think about what their lives would be like if they did not have the freedom to pursue their own dreams?

Let’s face it: with personal freedom comes the opportunity to pursue individual dreams. Consider these words from the editorial page masthead of the Jacksonville [NC] Daily News:

“The Daily News is dedicated to furnishing information to our readers so they can better promote and preserve their own freedom and encourage others to see its blessings.

Only when man is free to control himself and all he produces can he develop to his utmost abilities.

We believe that freedom is a gift of God and not a political grant from any government. Freedom is neither license nor anarchy. It is control and sovereignty of oneself - no more, no less. It is thus consistent with the coveting commandment.”

Freedom has long been the hallmark of Americans, but they cannot guarantee it will always be there for them—especially without a strong military. Take away the military and their freedom is gone. Peace is gone. Virtues are gone. Heed what Theodore Roosevelt said about Americanism, virtues, peace et al:

“Americanism means the virtues of courage, honor, justice, truth, sincerity, and hardihood: the virtues that made America.

The things that will destroy America are prosperity at any price, peace at any price, safety first instead of duty first, the love of soft living and the get-rich-quick theory of life.”

Think of those virtues in terms of the military. They define the make-up of the soldiers, sailors, Marines, and other military personnel whose responsibility it is to ensure that the rest of us can live in freedom and peace and pursue our dreams. Some people just do not get that—but they do get the freedom that results from the military’s vigilance. That’s all that counts for them.

Come to think of it, I guess that is what defines freedom: the ability to enjoy something without thinking about who provides it or at what personal cost.

Now if I only had the freedom to retire to my condo at Parris Island!

Contents of this column copyrighted by Arthur G. Sharp 2006

Freedom has long been the hallmark of Americans, but they cannot guarantee it will always be there for them—especially without a strong military.

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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.

☐ Sample order is 4 dozen @ $12 plus $3.00 S/H.
☐ Minimum order is 20 doz. @ $60 plus $5.00 S/H.

Order from: Earl House
1870 Yakona Rd.
Baltimore, MD 21234
Phone 410-661-8950

Make Checks payable to: Maryland Chapter – KWVA
Recently, Tom Sensari, who manages the “Logo” program for the KWVA, was honored for his tremendous service as the exclusive distribution agent for the Korean War and Korean Service Veterans symbol. The decals and patches sale have provided the funding for the activities of the National Recruiting committee. Tom has worked tirelessly in responding to orders for these articles from all over the world.

Tom, a Korean War veteran himself, has been the quartermaster for the KWVA Department of Florida, and is very familiar with the sales and distribution of much Korean War merchandise. He is a life-long Florida resident, residing in Pinellas Park.

Recruiting Members In Minnesota

We are all members of the Korean War Veterans Club, Rochester, Minnesota. At present, time we have a membership of 167, and we are still growing.

Several of us meet on every Monday morning from 8-9 am at Grandma’s Cafe in Rochester. We meet for friendship and social activities. We usually have around 30 members every Monday morning, and we have breakfast. We have members from the Army, Air force, Navy and Marines—and some women members.

We also have a Color Guard, which consists of twelve members. We participate in parades, memorials, Veterans Day activities, and present the colors at one of the grade schools. We also march in the Rochesterfest parade and Western Days in Chatfield, Minnesota.

In addition to our other activities, we also furnish coffee “and” for the VA Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. I have handed out several applications for the Korean War Veterans Association membership. As Korean War veterans, we have waited a long time to get recognized. Several of us have applied for the KWVA (and The Graybeards), and I am sure there will be many more from the Club to apply.

One note of interest: Orrin Knutson, sitting in the vehicle in one of the nearby pictures, is the owner. He put the trailer together himself, and included ten chairs for veterans who can no longer walk. Now, they can ride and wave to crowds and throw...
I have been Commander of the Korean War Veterans Club since 2003. I served in the Army with Special forces (8240th Army unit “Wolfpack.”) I was at Kanghwa-do Island in 1952, and I was awarded the Bronze Star w/v, CIB, Good Conduct medal, and other awards.

Wayne R. Uptagrafft, 2324 Pinestar Lane SE, Rochester, MN 55904, (507) 288-8350, Upty@aol.com

Recruiting Members In Texas

KWVA Chapter #298 Commander Juan Gonzales, other chapter members, and KWVA Recruiting Team member Ed Buckman, V.A.V.S. National Director J. D. Randolph, National Secretary Bill Hutton, and Texas State Commander Marvin Dunn visited the San Antonio VA Hospital in an effort to attract new members to the Association.

J. D. Randolph reported that, “We had a very good meeting with the members of the chapter. We gave them posters, decals and pins. We were just veterans helping veterans getting started. This meeting involved members of the Recruiting Committee helping the chapter, and our help was well received. This was a mission well done.”

Ed Buckman added to the report. “We were greeted warmly by Alamo Chapter President Juan Gonzales and the brass of the VA,” he noted. “They very graciously provided a room for a meeting. Each of the individuals gave suggestions to Juan and the group how they could form a growing and vibrant chapter.”

Buckman’s report continued with ideas that might be helpful to other chapters as well:

Some of the suggestions made were to have Saturday daytime meetings to have better attendance. Several of those coming were anxious to help Juan. We also suggested uniforms that the chapter might wear with pride. Marvin told of their excellent “Tell America Program.” J. D. showed some of the things that have helped our chapter grow and prosper.

Several of the attendees were not in the VA system, and we took care of that on the spot. We told them to check out the “Cold Weather Film” in the VA library. Several of us had brought posters and I had the brochure with his name and phone number on the brochures, and a supply of stickers for the posters. I also gave him two dispensers for the flyer so he can locate them and refill them as needed. They have 38 VFWs in town so there are plenty of veterans in that area and, they should be thinking of multiple chapters in greater San Antonio.

Since Bill Hutton was in town for a business conference, he lent us a hand. We appreciated the time he took to give us his thoughts and views. J. D. had a chance to meet with important people in the VA and bring him closer to his VAVS National Director position to share ideas with the VA in San Antonio. It was a great pleasure to have State Commander Marvin Dunn along for this type visit to a new chapter in the state of Texas.

I shared expenses with J.D. and Marvin, and it was a productive trip. We would have liked to have had more of the members in attendance, but they had a meeting scheduled for that evening, and I’m sure Juan will pass the word and ideas that they might use to strengthen their chapter.

Overall, we were very pleased, and now we will follow up by phone to see how the chapter is doing. This is a great area for veterans, and we hope the future brings many chapters to this area. All in attendance liked the new patch and agreed that we need the younger veterans in our organization.

In the final analysis we enjoyed every minute of the meeting.

All Chapter and/or Department news for publication in The Graybeards should be mailed to Art Sharp, Editor, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or emailed to: Sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net
TO: The KWVA Membership and Nominees
SUBJECT: Certification of Nominees for the 2006 Election

The Nominating and Election Committee wish to inform the Membership and Nominees that the following have been certified to seek the positions available in the 2006 Election.

Mr. Richard Adams
P. O. Box 334
Caruthers, CA 93609
(559) 864-3196

Mr. Louis T. Dechert
163 Deerbrook Trail
Pineville, LA 71360
(318) 640-3884

Mr. Byron Dickerson
314 South Horne Street
Duncanville, TX 75116
(972) 298-7462

Mr. J.D. Randolph
1523 Pine Bluff Dr.
Allen, TX 75002-1870
(972) 359-2936

Mr. James E. Ferris
4311 Lazybrook Circle
Liverpool, NY 13088
(315) 457-1681

Mr. Larry G. McKiniss
31478 Harsh Road
Logan, OH 43138
(740) 380-0649

Mr. Nicholas J. Pappas
209 Country Club Drive
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971
(302) 227-1309

Mr. Michael J. Doyle
2418 Winewood Lane
Arlington, TX 76013-3332
(817) 459-2463

Mr. Marvin Dunn, Jr.
172 Briardale Ct.
Arlington, TX 76013
(817) 261-1499

Mr. Jacob L. Feaster, Jr.
22731 N Hwy 329
Micanopy, FL 32667
(352) 466-3493

Mr. James A. Fountain
14541 Soho Dr.
Florissant, MO 63034-2653
(314) 355-6499

Mr. William E. Hutton
4 Belleview Blvd, Suite 402
Belleair, FL 33756
(727) 443-6104

Mr. Christ Yanacos
6452 Brooks Boulevard
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 257-5395

I am enclosing a statement from the Nominating Committee members attesting to the fact that all requirements to be a candidate have been met by each person. I trust all is satisfactory.

Robert S. Banker, Chairman
Nominating Committee
CC: Mr. William Hutton, Secretary, KWVA

Call for Election

The members of the Nominating Committee have reviewed all letters, documents, etc., received from each Candidate for Office in the forthcoming election in the Korean War Veterans Association. It is our opinion that all of the requirements have been met as listed in the Association's By-Laws and published in the pullout in The Graybeards edition of November-December 2005.

Sincerely,

/s/ Robert S. Banker
Chairman, Nominating Committee

/s/ Anthony Cirincione
Member, Nominating Committee

/s/ Jack E. Cloman
Member, Nominating Committee

CC: Mr. William Hutton, Secretary, KWVA
Richard Adams: It is my intent to run for the position of President of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. for the year of 2006-2008.

Membership Number: 76 Life
Date of Birth: September 4, 1932
Service with U.S. Army: October 9, 1949 to December 31, 1952
Served with 25th Division from February 1950 to May 1951

1988-1994 National President, Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. (Life Member)
1988-1991 Director 25th Infantry Division Association (Life Member)
VFW Life Member
2001– VFW Commander Caruthers Post #6745
2000– Board Member Caruthers Veterans Memorial Committee

Past-President of:
- California Cotton Gin Association
- Caruthers Chamber of Commerce
- Caruthers High School Boosters Club
Director Ranchers Cotton Oil Company
Director California Agricultural Museum
Member California State University, Fresno, Alumni Association
Member National Society of Accountants
Delegate National Cotton Council of America

I will attend all called meetings of the Executive Council and I understand that two unexcused absences could be used for removal from Office.

This year's Election is very critical to the future of the Association.
A Profit and Loss statement should be published in each “Graybeards”

Expenses need to be cut, if they are not cut we will be bankrupt in three years or less.
The Association should welcome Veterans who have served in Korea since 1953; and keep the “Tell America Program going strong.

Submitted by:
/s/ Richard Adams
Richard Adams LC00076 Life

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Louis T. Dechert

KWVA Members, I, LOUIS T DECHERT (Lou Dechert), President of The Korean War Veterans Association of the USA, am a candidate for reelection. You may get a good idea of what I believe and how I conduct business by checking my personal website [www.dechertstreps.com], reading the "President's Update" as seen in the archives of the KWVA website [www.kwva.org] and reviewing the "President's Message" in The Graybeards, from November-December 2004 to the latest issue. These are the viewable records of KWVA History as it has happened, not hearsay.

I was born in Texas and spent my childhood years in Texas, Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma, due to my dad's moving in his assignments with the government. I graduated from high school in Kansas City, KS, 1948, and started college in Oklahoma. At that time I enlisted in the Oklahoma National Guard. Just as the Korean War was beginning I was discharged from the 45th Inf Div, Oklahoma National Guard, after having married and moving to Kansas. Subsequently, I enlisted in the Regular Army in Kansas City, MO, and entered the service on a freezing winter morning, January 31, 1951, at Fort Riley, KS. Two years later I finished OCS and was on my way to Korea as a 2LT. An outstanding man in my OCS class was Gene Tinberg who is now KWVA Member RR13807, Chapter 181. My highest enlisted rank was E5. My enlisted MOS was Infantry Squad Leader. My first officer MOS was Armor Unit Leader. My highest officer ranks were Lieutenant Colonel, RA, and Colonel, NG.

I retired from the Active US Army in 1973 after over 45 months of career combat experience in Korea, Vietnam and other assignments as a member of the US Army Special Forces. I was a recon platoon leader, tank platoon leader and tank company executive officer in the 40th Infantry Division in Korea. In Vietnam during several tours of duty, I was Special Forces Special Augmentation Commander (MAC-
SOG), Deputy Commander, 5th Special Forces Group, and ACS, G3 and DCS, G3, of IFFVN then USAFMR2. During my twenty-three year Active Army career I earned 15 awards and decorations. I earned the CIB in Vietnam in my first Special Forces assignment. I have the personal award of the Distinguished Unit Citation (“Presidential Unit Citation”) three times—once in Korea, and twice in Vietnam.

After Active Army retirement I worked as Vice President of an agribusiness corporation, defense consultant, state legislative lobbyist, manufacturing plant superintendent and manager, business development director and instructor, US Army contract employee, military aide to a state governor (NG), and owned my own consulting firm. Just prior to seeking the office of President of the KWVA I was employed by the US Army in preparing and testing US Army Special Forces elements deploying to Afghanistan and Iraq from Fort Polk, Louisiana.

I was a founding member of Central Louisiana (CENLA) Chapter 180, KWVA, in 1999, and have been President-now changed to Director and instructor, US Army contract employee, military aide to a state governor (NG), and owned my own consulting firm. Just prior to seeking the office of President of the KWVA I was employed by the US Army in preparing and testing US Army Special Forces elements deploying to Afghanistan and Iraq from Fort Polk, Louisiana.

I was elected to the position of First Vice President of the KWVA. I presently serve as the 2nd Vice President.

I have served on three non profit corporation Board of Directors. I presently serve on one now.

Some of the things that I would like to see in the KWVA is to continue seeking a National Charter. I would like to see a detailed Financial Report in every issue of the Graybeards. During my present term I have encouraged many to seek the benefits they have from the VA and also their State benefits. I had a small article in the Graybeards about Cold Weather injury and as a result I mail out about 120 tapes to individuals about Cold Injury. Most had never heard about this. If I am elected to the position of First Vice President I will continue to encourage everybody about their benefits. I believe that since we are a veteran’s service Organization this should be a top priority. I am asking for your vote to this position of First Vice President.

I was born, raised and attended School in Girard, Texas. I enlisted in the Army on the 3rd of August of 1948. I took basic at Ft. Ord, Ca. I then was assigned to Ft. Story, Va.

Shortly after the Korean War started I was shipped to Korea. I left the US on the 15th of December 1950 and arrived in Pusan on the 5th day of January 1951. This was shortly after the Chinese had entered the war and they were not sure we would be able to hold Korea. I was bounced around Pusan and Koge Do Island for a couple of months and then was assigned to Hq. Co. 2nd Bn, 23rd Inf. Regiment of the 2nd Infantry Division. I participated in several battles, the last one being Heart Break Ridge. I consider myself truly blessed to have survived. I rotated from Korea on the 25th day of November 1951. I tried to put Korea out of my mind for 50 years. When I learned there was a KWVA I joined. Then I was asked if I would be willing to serve in the formation of a chapter in the Dallas, Ft Worth area by Sam Naomi the National Organizer. I served as the Judge Advocate for 3 years in Chapter 215 the General Walton H. Walker. I also served one year as the Department State Judge Advocate.

My personal awards are CIB, Good Conduct, Nat. Defense, Korean Service with four Bronze Stars, US Presidential Unit Citation, and the Korean Presidential Unit Citation and others. I am a life member LR22282 of the KWVA, also life member of VFW, DAV, American Legion, CIA, 2nd Inf. Div. Assoc. and the 23rd Inf. Regt. Assoc.

I am 74 years old in good health and married for 53 years, to the same wife. I retired from the US Postal Service with 37 years service.

I consider it an honor and privilege to be a candidate for the First Vice President and I solicit your vote.

/s/ Byron W. Dickerson

If elected I will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors.
and I understand that two unexcused absences could be used for my removal from office.

I am a life member LR22282 of KWVA therefore my dues are current.

J. D. Randolph

I am submitting my name for the position of National 1st Vice President of Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. for the years 2006 - 2008. I am now the KWVA National VAVS Director and the National Representative to the VA National Advisory Committee, VA Dallas, Texas VAVS Executive Committee member and KWVA Deputy Representative, President of Sam Johnson Chapter 270 and Vice President of Greater Dallas Veterans Council.

My military career started January 1951 and retired February 1971. After basic and advance training at Camp Roberts, California I served 9 years in the Infantry and completed remainder of my career in the Signal Corps.

Military Awards:

- Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal w/ 1st Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Good Conduct Medal w/ Clasp Silver w/1 loop, Army of Occupation Medal (Germany), National Defense Service Medal w/ Bronze Star, Korean Service Medal w/ Three Stars, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Vietnam Service Medal w/ Three Stars, Korean Defense Medal, United Nations Service (Korea), Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal w/ Device (1960), Korean War Service Medal, and Combat Infantry Badge, Presidential Unit Citation w/ 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross w/ Palm Unit Citation.

My career after military service:

Using the education and training received in the telecommunication field in the military, continuing in the same field specializing in microwave, satellite and fiber-optic telecommunications.

I am a charter member that started Chapter 270, 09/11/2001 and now has over 100 members and still growing. Any week you can find members of Chapter 270 volunteering at many parts the VA North Texas Health Care System or at the DFW National Cemetery. The Blue Shirts indicate dedicated Korean War Veterans Volunteering to help other Veterans and their families, including Valet Parking, Wheelchair Repair, ER, Information Desk, Pharmacy etc. The Director of the Dallas VA Hospital knows KWVA is there to help anytime.

I bring to the table many years of management, organization, planning and team work to the office of vice president. When I am elected the first order of business will be helping the National President with any assignment needed.

I will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and I understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for removal from office. My dues are current (R030988) and will stay current through the period of the office.

/s/ J. D. Randolph

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James E. Ferris

I am submitting the attached resume showing my intent to run for election to the office of Second Vice President. I am a life member of the Korean War Veterans Association (LC00436), therefore my dues are up to date for the duration of the office for which I seek. I also understand that I must attend all meetings of the Board of Directors that are called by proper authority. I also understand that if I miss two (2) unexcused meetings this may be used to dismiss me from the office of Second Vice President. I have sent under separate copy an Official Membership Application Form (Adopted 10/04/2005) showing my eligibility years and I agree to release the application form for verification by the Nominating Committee. You will find this application in your files.

My Resume is as follows:

I have served the Korean War Veterans Association in many offices since the creation of my home chapter in Central New York. I was elected to the board of directors of my Chapter, served as Commander for two terms and have served as New York Department President for eight (8) terms, three years ago was elected to the National Board of Directors.

I have served under two administrations and was appointed to the Resolution committee by the previous administration and recently under President Dechert I have been appointed as Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee, Vice Chairman of the Recruiting Task Force and Chairman of the Fund Raising Committee.

I have dedicated myself to these tasks and will continue to do so if elected. Under my guidance the Budget and Finance committee has become a viable committee overseeing the finances of our organization and are now in a position to extend to all members a clear and precise account of all finances. This has been a difficult level to achieve because financial records were not readily available to my committee at the time of transition to the present administration. In addition I brought to the attention of the Board of Directors the need for a Fund raising committee and a recruiting committee which never existed prior to now. These committees were approved by the Board and are showing a great deal of progress in their first year of existence. I feel confident that I have fulfilled my responsibilities to my elected position and my appointed tasks. There is more to be done and if you elect me as your Second Vice President, I will do my best to see that the y are done.

I was employed by AT&T and served as a manager for most of my career. I was assigned to the corporate staff and was responsible for activities for the corporation throughout the New England States and New York State excluding New York City. I bring to the office of Second Vice President a great deal of experience in not only military but civilian expertise in management procedures.

I am married to my wife Felice, I have three daughters, two sons in law and five grandsons all of whom I am very proud of.
With the above in mind I ask you to elect me to the office of Second Vice President and I promise I will always have the good of the organization in mind in all my decisions.

/s/ Jim Ferris

Larry G. McKinniss

To my comrades at arms,

My intent is to run for the office of 2nd. Vice President. Having served two terms as a National Director I would like the opportunity to serve the K.W.V.A. membership as 2nd Vice President. I have served as a member of A.F.A.K. (Armed Forces Assistance to Korea) under the 7th I.D. Civil Affairs Section spring and summer of 1954. I have served on church boards on various committees. I have operated my own trucks & a drywall Co. & an excavating Co. I am presently working for an excavating co.

If I am chosen to serve I will, unless prevented by circumstances beyond my control attend all regular and legally called executive council (i.e. board) meetings, understanding that missing two unexcused meetings could be used for grounds to call for my dismissal from the office.

My signature below attests to the following statement. As a life member my dues are paid and current through the term of office that I am running for.

/s/ Larry G. McKinniss

Nicholas J. Pappas

I am submitting my name for the Office of 2nd Vice President. My record speaks for itself: KWVA President (1994-1998); IFKWVA 2nd V.P. (1996-2000); KWVA 151 V.P. (1992-1994); Founder/President Delaware State Department (1992); U.S. Army (1951-1953), including 16 months in Korea with 1343rd Combat Engineers; served in the 29th Infantry Guard Division (1948-1950); retired from the Federal government (1990) - the last 12 years in the Office of the CNO and awarded the Navy Superior Civilian Service Medal; extensive involvement with trade union, civic, veteran organizations; life member KWVA and VFW; member of American Legion and 29th Division Association.

My resume as KWVA President:

• Increased Graybeards to 6 issues per year;
• Membership increased from 9,400 to over 14,000; Chapters 64 to 150; Departments 4 to 12; 7 chapter chartered auxiliaries;
• Initiated action/dialogue with DOD for ROK Service Medal, approved 8/20/99, thanks to members Les LeCompte, Ed McQuay and John Kenney;
• Supported Illinois concept for the KWVA National Memorial Museum/Library;
• Kept the KWVA “financially stabilized” during our fiscal crisis ($3,144 cash in bank on 2/7/97) thanks to supportive efforts/advice of general membership, Executive Council and others;
• Paid off over $150,000 in overdue bills, “excluding” the Scholarship Program ($45,000) plus continuing to pay KWVA operational expenses;
• Fully funded “zero” Life Membership Reserves ($216,000);
• Left incoming president with no outstanding debts, except for the Scholarship Program, with “Total Assets” of $390,832 as per the 6/30/98 Financial Statement in July/Aug 98 Graybeards, page 35;
• Effected “dues increases” at 98 Reunion to keep the KWVA “futuristically” solvent as life membership “reserves” decrease because of age longevity, possible declining regular memberships & increased costs of mailings, paper, printing, etc;
• Introduced Council “motion” to place Resolution to cancel Scholarship Program (paid off) on the 99 election ballot, thus saving the KWVA about $ 14,000/year (approved);

The above “fiscal actions” enabled President Coon to proclaim, "I can tell the general membership that we are in the best financial condition we have been in for the last 5 years. As of 10/31/99 we have $375,705 cash in the bank in all funds. All bills are paid." (Nov/Dec 1999 Graybeards, page 4)

I will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and understand that 2 unexcused absences could be used for removal from office.

/s/ Nicholas J. Pappas

DIRECTOR 2006-2008

Michael J. Doyle

My name is Michael J. Doyle (Mike). I am announcing my intention to seek the office of National Director in the KWVA for the term 2006-2009.

I served in the U.S. Army from 1952-1954. I was a Machine Gun Ammo Bearer in Co. D, 23 Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division. I was present on the M.L.R. when the cease-fire took place.


Prior to entering the army I attended college, was then drafted and after basic training at Fort Dix, New Jersey I arrived in Korea in April 1953. After my tour of duty in Korea, I returned to college, graduated and mar-
ried my loving wife Betsy (50 years ago this year). We have been blessed with eight-great children and nine equally great grandchildren with all but one living near us.

My work career included duties as Liaison Engineer, Quality Engineer, Manufacturing Engineer, New Products, and other engineering responsibilities. I also served as General Manager, Plant Manager, and owner of Manufacturing Plants.

I believe my background in these disciplines (Engineering with its' step by step approach to solving problems), and People Management, my work in-Korean War Veterans Association and the Disabled American Veterans qualifies me to seek the office of Director in our Great KWVA.

I am currently President of the Walton H. Walker Chapter #215 of the KWVA in the Arlington, Fort Worth, and Dallas area of Texas.

Prior to serving as president I served on the Tell America Program, the Communications Committee, Finance Committee and other committees.

I am also in my second term as 2nd Vice President of the Texas State Association of the KWVA.

I am a member and officer of Buddies # 11 Dallas, Texas Chapter of the Disabled American Veterans.

COMMUNICATIONS:

My wish to be elected to a directorship in the KWVA is based on my desire to see our membership allowed to know all the information they want to know about "OUR" GREAT Association. I am running for' this office in the strong hope I can help all our members to get all the answers to any questions they may have, from the responsible Officers and or Directors. And not be ignored.

ACCOUNTABILITY: WE NEED MUCH MORE OF IT!!

I believe everyone is accountable for what they do. No body is exempt.

All elected officers of the KWVA take an oath of office and I think they should be constantly reminded of this oath and expected to obey it AT ALL TIMES AND IN ALL WAYS. WITH OUT EXCEPTION!

If elected I will do my best to get honest and correct information to ALL MEMBERS.

It is my intention to attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors.

And I understand that two unexcused absences could lead to my dismission from office.

My dues are paid for the 2006/2009 time period in full.

/s/ Michael J. Doyle

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Marvin Dunn, Jr.

This is to notify you that I am a candidate for Director of the National KWVA. I am presently serving as President of the State Department of Texas. I joined the General Walton H. Walker Chapter 215 at the first meeting because their mission was to help Korean Veterans. I was convinced that I needed to join the chapter and become involved and committed to helping Korean Veterans. My first position was Communication Officer and with the help of our members, we developed a telephone committee so we could stay in touch with our veterans and it served as a tool to contact our members when we have meetings or special events. We were having about 25 or 30 members until we developed the telephone committee. Now we have about 80 members who attend. Our chapter has about 115 members. I was president of the General Walton H. Walker Chapter 215 for two years.

If elected, I will always be committed to the Korean Veterans who fought so bravely to defeat Communism. We may be forgotten, but we will never forget what happened in Korea. I would never vote for anything that would have a negative effect on Korean Veterans. I would invite any Korean Veteran to call or e-mail me about any concerns you have. I have helped many veterans get their benefits and if elected I will continue to do that.

I was born in Wichita Falls, Texas on May 4, 1931. I was a freshman in college when North Korea attacked South Korea. President Truman was asking young men and women to join the Armed Services and help stop Communism. I decided to delay my college 2 or 3 years to serve our great country.

I joined the United States Marines on January 19, 1951. I took basic training at San Diego, California and advanced training at Camp Pendleton in Ocean Side, California. I departed for Korea the first week of July, 1951 and arrived in Pusan, Korea the last week of July, 1951. I was assigned to the First Marine Division, First Regiment, First Battalion and Able Company. I spent all my time in the Punchbowl area. I was involved in several battles because I was in a rifle company and my position was always on the front line with the exception of 4 days of R&R. My weapon was the BAR and it was one of the most effective in Korea.

I was wounded on October 25, 1951 when a heavy mortar landed near me. I lost my left leg below my knee and the eyesight in my left eye. I spent 7 months in a hospital in Oakland, California and had 3 surgeries. After I was discharged, I enrolled in college in August, 1952. I received my Bachelor of Science degree in English and education. I received my master's degree in Administration in 1956.

I worked for 34 years as a teacher and administrator for the Dallas Independent School District. I developed programs that are still being used as supplementary material I taught 3 years at the Federal Prison at Seagoville, Texas. If elected, I plan to represent all Korean Veterans to the best of my ability. I will look at all issues objectively and vote to help the National KWVA going in the right direction.

If elected, you can release my application form for verification. I will attend all meetings and I understand 2 unexcused absences is subject for removal. I have mailed Nancy Monson a check for my national dues through 2010. My telephone # is 817-261-1499. My number is R029232.

I have been married 53 years to the same fantastic lady and we have two daughters and five grandchildren.

/s/ Marvin Dunn, Jr.

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BALLOT ENCLOSED IN THIS ISSUE
VOTE ★ VOTE ★ VOTE ★ VOTE
Jacob L. Feaster

I, Jacob L. "Jake" Feaster, Jr, am submitting this request for nomination to be a candidate for election as KWVA Director. It has been my privilege to have been a member of the United States Military in some capacity since 1948, the year I began my military career in Basic ROTC at the University of Florida. The following information is provided to give you some background as to my qualifications and commitment to serve as one of your Directors for the term 2006-09.

I was born and raised in North Central Florida, having lived in the rural area of the small town of Micanopy, FL since the age of 6, except for the time of my university attendance and military service. After graduation from high school, I attended the University of Florida at Gainesville, graduated in 1952, received my commission as a 2nd LT, having completed the Advanced ROTC program as a Distinguished Military Graduate, Artillery, US Army.

Military Service: During my last year of ROTC, I was inducted as a Corporal in the Enlisted Reserve Corps at the local Armory, which was the beginning of my military career, which was followed by: Basic Artillery Officers' Course, Ft Sill OK - Aug '52; 198th FA Bn, Ft. Benning, GA as Btry Officer - Dec '52; 92nd Armored FA Bn, Korea, as Forward Observer, Asst S-3, Instr- NCO Academy, Btry Exec and Btry Cdr - May '53; 68th AFA Bn, Ft Hood, TX as Liaison Off and Btry Cdr - Sep '54.

Transferred to USAR Ready Reserve, Gainesville, FL- Sep '55; 766th FA Bn as Btry ~ Cdr - Nov '55; 446th FA Bn as Btry Cdr - Aug '57; 766th FA Bn as Btry Cdr- Aug '58; 3395th Rec Sta as Branch Chief - Jun '59; 3396th Rec Station as Mil Per Officer - Jul '61; USAR School, Jacksonville, FL, as Instructor and Staff Officer - Sep '64; 186th MobDes Det (R&D) Gainesville, FL, as Commander - Oct '75; Military Academy Liaison Officer - Jun 77; USAR Control Gp (Retired) - Sep '82; Military Traffic Mgmt Cmd (MTMC) - Sep '85; Retired: Colonel (AUS) - Oct '92.


Awards/Medals: Meritorious Service Medal, Army Reserve Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, UN Service Medal, ROK War Service Medal and ROK Presidential Unit Citation.

Civilian Schools: High School Grad - 1948; Bachelor of Science in Education - 1952; Master of Science in Education -1960; Education Specialist - 1965.


Organizations: I am presently the Lay-leader of our local church, having served as its Board Chairman and Treasurer for a number of years. I am a Lifetime member of the Reserve Officers Association (ROA) and a Lifetime member of the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA).

Since joining KWVA, I have always been a KWVA chapter member, serving as chapter president, treasurer and judge advocate. I also served two terms as the Department of Florida President. Four years ago I was instrumental in the "founding" of the GEN James A Van Fleet Chapter #267, KWVA, in Gainesville.

Family: I am married and my wife and I recently celebrated our 50th Wedding Anniversary. We have 4 children and 7 grandchildren. Both of my sons have served in the military, one of them being a Korea Service veteran of KWVA.

Current: Presently I am serving in an appointed capacity on the National KWVA Staff as Supervisor, Membership Records Management, for the past two years. I have been working an average of 30-40 hours a week in that capacity, in consultation with the KWVA Membership Records Secretary and the KWVA Webmaster to develop a records system that is able to provide current and more accurate information for National, Department and Chapter Staff, as well as the members. I hope to be able to continue with that function, if elected, and to further improve upon the direction that is being taken, utilizing my 25 years of database management experience in my civilian job. I feel that it is vital to adhere to the KWVA Bylaws; they are more than just a guide! Your support of my candidacy with your vote will be very much appreciated.

I will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and I understand that two (2) unexcused absences can be used as a reason to remove me from office. I am a Life Member of KWVA which qualifies me as a member through the term of the office which I am seeking. The information on the completed enclosed official application form is released to the Nominating Committee for verification as they may deem necessary.

/s/ Jacob L. Feaster

James A. Fountain

Please accept this notification of my candidacy for the National Directors office for the period of 2006 thru 2009.

I entered the army on 23 Oct 1951, sent to Camp Roberts, CA for 16 weeks of training. After that I was sent to leadership school on the post for 4 weeks. Volunteered for airborne, was sent to Ft Benning Ga. where I was injured and couldn't complete the course. Was sent to Washington, DC at Ft Myer Va. to do honor guard duties for 8 weeks. Shipped overseas Oct 52, was assigned to the 2nd Inf Div. 23Inf Regiment co "K". Received the combat infantryman's badge, Korean presidential citation and various other medals while serving in and around the Chorowan valley in 1952 and 1953. When I left my unit to come home I was the 2nd platoon sgt.

I am married with 3 grown daughters, 8 grandchildren. I retired from the teamsters in 1994. The company I worked for filed for bankruptcy in 1986, at this time I assumed the rights and operated the company until I was 65, at this time I sold all rights and equipment and took my full retirement.

I currently belong to the St. Louis County Veterans Coalition, which works to get all veteran units to work together on local projects.
I am a member of the Masonic lodge #542 in Hazelwood, Mo also the Moolah Shriners Provost unit in St. Louis, Mo.

I promise to attend all called meetings during my term as director, knowing that if I have 2 unexcused absences I could be removed from office. My dues are paid thru 2009 as per check dated Feb 1 2006.

/s/ James A. Fountain

William E. Hutton

I am hereby notifying you that I am a candidate for election as a Director of the Korean War Veterans Association, said elections to be this spring, for the period 2006-2009.

I believe I have met the requirements for responding to the Call for Election, and release the forms for verification by the Nominating Committee.

I have enclosed a recent photograph, and release it for use by the Nominating Committee.

A resume of what I believe to be my qualifications for office are as follows:

Currently, I serve as National Secretary of KWVA, a position appointed by the President. I plan to stay in this capacity, at the pleasure of the President, but, if elected as Director would relinquish that position and request a full time assignment as Chairman of a (hopefully) to-be-established Marketing, Public Relations, and Public Affairs Committee.

I have been a National Member of KWVA for 10 years, my primary Chapter is # 299 (Massachusetts), secondary is # 270 (Dallas, TX). The majority of my life has been spent in Connecticut, but I have lived in New Jersey, E. St. Louis, IL, Texas and Florida. I have personal involvement through family or business with most major metropolitan areas of the Country, particularly California, Wisconsin, Ohio, Washington D.C. as well as Canada.

I helped start a not-for-profit venture that had the potential to be a major fund-raiser for KWVA, that, for a variety of reasons, we had to close. I have been a member of Korean DEFENSE Veterans Association, and was their National Representative at the 2003 50th Commemoration of the Armistice in Seoul, Korea.

I enlisted in the Army Reserves in 1952, was not called up. Upon Graduation from the University of Connecticut, I was named a Distinguished Military Student and offered a Regular Army Commission.

I was Honor Graduate of my Armored Officer Basic class, and then served 16 Months as a Tank Platoon Leader, later Asst BTL S3 in Korea with 6th Tank Btl, 24ID.

I am a member of MOAA, serve on the Pinellas County Republican Executive Committee, The “Save the Biltmore” Committee, am a board member of the Caribbean Partnership Mission (Dominica).

I have been an ELK, Mason, and VP of the Dallas UConn Alumni.

My business career has been spent in bank technology services, was a Corporate SVP of Marketing for two Multi-Billion publicly held corporations, and President of a Division of AMR Corp.

I understand that I should attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors, but that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for my removal from office. My dues are current (I am a Life Member).

Thank you for your kind attention.

/s/ William E. Hutton

Christ Yanacos

This letter is to announce my candidacy for National Director of the KWVA. Presently, I am the Secretary of The Lake Erie Chapter #112 in Euclid, Ohio. I am also a member of the Ethics & Grievance Committee and Assistant Sgt. At Arms of National.

I enlisted in the USAF in January, 1950. I arrived in Korea in October, 1950 with the 6127th Air Terminal Group; Combat Cargo Command where I served there both on ground and in the air as Assistant Load Master until August, 1951. I was later stationed in Japan and was Honorably Discharged in January, 1954.

I am a retired Law Enforcement Officer; a Graduate of the Ohio Peace Officer's Training Academy and the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. I have also taken numerous courses from the Department of Justice with specialties in Evidence, Crime Scene Investigation, Court Security and many other specialties.

I am a Life Member of the KWVA, VFW and AMVETS. I am also a Member of the I'PA, Buckeye Sheriffs' Association, Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Association, F.O.E. and Blue Knights Motorcycle Club. Throughout the years, I have been both active and have served in leadership roles in all of these organizations.

Through my years in law enforcement and my numerous affiliations with these various organizations, I have the business experience and enjoy working with others and will address the memberships concerns in a professional manner.

I understand the KWVA By-Laws and will attend all called meetings. I understand if I have two unexcused absences I could be removed from office. I am proud to be a Korean War Veteran and a member of this prestigious organization.

/s/ Christ Yanacos

THE GRAYBEARDS DEADLINES

Articles to be published in the The Graybeards must be sent to the editor no later than the 15th day of the first month of that issue. —Editor.

Jan-Feb .................................................... Jan 15
Mar-Apr .................................................. Mar 15
May-June ................................................. May 15
July-Aug ............................................... Jul 15
Sept-Oct ............................................... Sept 15
Nov-Dec ................................................. Nov 15

The Graybeards March - April 2006
Key Bills Pending in the 109th Congress

This compilation of key bills in Congress is graciously provided by the National Association for Uniformed Services (NAUS). We are grateful to NAUS for its 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 provisions 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. 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’ interests. For veteran bill tracking we recommend you go to the Senate and House Committees on Veterans Affairs Websites at veterans.senate.gov or veterans.house.gov. THOMAS also provides access to other congressional committees for you to do independent research. The dates in each summary generally denote the time of the bill’s introduction.

### Defense

**H.R. 97** – Rep. Sam Graves (R-6-MO), 01/04/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Establish requirements with respect to the terms of consumer credit extended by a creditor to a service member or the dependent of a service member.

**H.R. 923** – Rep. Vito Fosella (R-13-NY), 03/17/2005 – Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute by House Committee on Government Reform. Amend Title 39, US Code, to provide for free mailing privileges for personal correspondence and parcels sent by family members from within the United States to members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty in Iraq or Afghanistan.

**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.


### 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.


**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).

### 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 servicemembers 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, 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.

H.R. 2365 – Rep Bob Filner (D-51-CA), 05/16/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to extend the time limitation for use of eligibility and entitlement for educational assistance under the Montgomery GI Bill.


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.

### Increase in Military Death Benefits


### Flag Amendment


### Health Care & Medicare


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), 02/02/2005 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) Companion Bill: S. 407 – Sen. Tim Johnson (D-SD), 02/16/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Armed Services.

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 program under Chapter 89 of Title 5, United States Code.


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. 160 – Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), 01/25/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. Amend the Internal Revenue Code 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.
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. 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. 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), 02/08/2005 – 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).


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.


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.


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. 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. 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.

H.R. 2832 – Rep. Sue W. Kelly (R-19-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.

H.R. 4727 – Rep. Sam Farr (D-17-CA), 02/08/2006 – the Disabled Veterans Tax Fairness Act of 2006, referred to House Committee on Ways & Means. Amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an extension of the period of limitation to file claims for refunds on account of disability determinations by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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.

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.

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 their years of military service or CRSC and to eliminate the phase-in period under current law with respect to such concurrent receipt.


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.

S. 185 – Sen. Bill 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.

S. 558 – Sen. Harry Reid, (D-NV), 03/08/2005 – Referred to Senate Committee on Armed Services. 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 Combat-Related Special Compensation and to eliminate the phase-in period under current law with respect to such concurrent receipt.

S. 845 – Sen. Harry Reid, (D-NV), 04/19/2005 – Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar. Amends Title 10, US Code, to permit retired service members who have a service-connected disability to receive disability compensation and either retired pay or Combat-Related Special Compensation and to eliminate the phase-in period with respect to such concurrent receipt.
KWVA National Recruiting Event In Florida: Don Struhar Honored

KWVA National Director Jeff Brodeur presented an Award of Recognition to Don Struhar, a member of South Lake County KWVA Chapter # 188 at a special meeting in Clermont, Florida on Tuesday, March 15th, 2006.

Mr. Brodeur acknowledged and presented a special Award of Recognition to artist Don Struhar for his outstanding achievements in design. Don’s work is known worldwide. For example, he created the insignia for the first Super Bowl Championship ring for Vince Lombardi and the Green Bay Packers, five NFL/AFL Championship rings, and designed a special crest for First Lady Pat Nixon. He has also designed many logos, including the patch for the US Federation of Korea Veteran Organizations. His work can be seen on the KWVA Monument erected at the Civic Center in Groveland, Florida.

Mr. Brodeur acknowledged and presented a special Award of Recognition to artist Don Struhar for his outstanding achievements in design.

This monument was detailed and designed by Mr. Struhar and donated by KWVA Chapter #188 of South Lake County. Don’s artistry has included designs for a multitude of leading corporations.

His background comprises 10 years as Director of Designs for Josten’s of Princeton, IL., followed by 20 years with Robbins of Attleboro, Mass, and two years as a freelancer. Struhar used his expertise in the pictorial and metallic design field to produce for leading corporations such as General Motors, Chrysler, Ford and a number of other Fortune 500 companies; two United States presidents, Ivy League colleges, Lafayette Foundation, the International Mint, Grand Old Opry, American Business Woman’s Association and a multitude of other clients.

We are truly fortunate and honored to have Don in our organization.

Recruiting Reminder

Keep in mind that KWVA members of all states are encouraged to join the National Korean War Veterans Association. Since promoting our new recruitment program, KWVA membership has already increased an additional 500 new members. Remember, there is power in numbers!
National KWVA Honors Eugene Chin Yu

By Harold W. Harmon, USNR (Ret)

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA – On December 3, 2005 Eugene Chin Yu and his family were honored by KWVA President Louis T. Dechert for their outstanding support of Korean War veterans during the Commemoration of the Korean War between 2000 and 2003.

During the ceremony, the Yu family, which includes wife Jonie, daughter Jodie, and son Eric, was presented several plaques, including a National KWVA Lifetime Honorary Ambassadorship to Chin Yu. Also, they were presented the “Resolution To Honor Eugene Chin Yu,” which was adopted unanimously at the National KWVA Annual Meeting on October 5, 2005.

The ceremony, which was held at the Korean War Memorial in Augusta, was sponsored by the local KWVA Sgt. Harold F. Adkison Chapter 255.

During the Commemoration of the Korean War, Chin Yu displayed a tremendous outpouring of love and appreciation for the Korean War veterans who fought and died to help save their country from communism. He demonstrated his sincere feelings by personally presenting the 50th Korean War Anniversary Medallions and

Continued on page 30
The life of a 40th Division pilot in Korea was far from easy, as Ketchum’s book suggests. That is not surprising, though, since, as the author points out, “The Army Aviation program was only a little more than two years old when it was tested in combat.” The pilots were pretty much flying by the proverbial “seats of their pants”—and then the rules changed.

“The original concept of the need to utilize light aircraft in support of the ground troops was to provide direct control of aviation activities at the battalion or regiment level, somewhat like the utilization of vehicles and tanks,” Ketchum explained. “The combat conditions in Korea immediately forced a change in that concept, but the support of the light aircraft proved invaluable to the ground troops and set the stage to revise Army Aviation as it now exists.” (pp. 183-84)

Ketchum does a good job of documenting those changes.

He describes in detail the conditions under which the pilots and support personnel operated, the hazards they faced, and the purposes for which the planes were used. He does all of this through the use of personal anecdotes, case histories, and a plethora of photos.

Here is an example, which shows that the North Koreans and Chinese weren’t the only “enemy” the men had to face. Lt. Neal Beebe described an attack on the Division Air Section carried out by…USMC Corsairs

We were just leaving our tent to go to breakfast when the Marines struck. They strafed the strip from the southeast to northwest and dropped a bomb on the northwest end of the strip. They missed all the planes and tents but killed a postal worker on the road just off the northwest end of the strip. (pp. 39-40)

As devastating as the attack was, at least Ketchum could see some humor in it.

Personnel at the airstrip concluded, thankfully, that the fighter pilots needed a lot more training on the execution of an air strike. Unquestionably, though, if they had strafed and bombed the tent and aircraft parking areas, there would have been a major catastrophe. (p. 40)

Of course, as Ketchum pointed out, there were other dangers. One was anti-aircraft fire. He recounts one story reflecting on this:

During the time the enemy was firing anti-aircraft weapons at almost every mission, one of the aviators asked another, “What altitude do you fly when adjusting a fire mission out there?” The other aviator replied, “I fly at 10,000 feet plus 1,000 feet for each dependent.” (p.95)

It is stories like these that help Ketchum get his thesis across: the life of the members of the 40th Division Army Aviation was anything but easy. Nevertheless, they took their responsibilities seriously. Readers will discover just how seriously when they peruse this educational overview of one unit’s role in the Korean War—a role for which many ground troops should be thankful.
KWVA Fund Raiser

WW II and Korean Basic Infantry Weapons

Get Your Tickets Today
**Korea Veterans To Build Monument**

Michael Sheehan, President of the Chosin Few of New Jersey, announced that the organization will build a monument to honor those local heroes who were Killed In Action in Korea (1951) and at The Battle of the Chosin Reservoir, Nov-Dec 1950 North Korea.

On September 7, 1950, Baker Company, 21st Infantry, USMC Reserve Unit, boarded trains in Bayonne and headed for Camp Pendleton, California for further transport to Korea. The Marines of Baker Company trained at the US Navy Base for many years.

The Marines who were KIA at the Chosin Reservoir were Anthony Acuri (Jersey City), Charles Brander (Bayonne), Edward Joachinson (Jersey City), John Lawton, Jr. (Newark), Robert Matusowski (Bayonne), Robert Sharpe (Jersey City), and Daniel Stiller (Bayonne). Philip Wisneski (Bayonne) was KIA elsewhere in Korea.

Sheehan appointed KWVA member John Sinnicki, veteran of Chosin, formerly of Bayonne (Class of 1949), as General Chairman. The goal is to build the monument and, hopefully, have it dedicated in the new Harbor View Park, Bayonne.

Members of the newly formed committee from Bayonne are KWVA member Al Czarnecki, Marty Wilk, and Lou Sangiovani, all veterans of the Chosin Reservoir. Brian Dugan, former Marine and Hudson County Freeholder, will act as Government Coordinator. The Nilan brothers, former members of Baker Company, will also participate as members of the committee.

Former members of Baker Company are requested to contact John Sinnicki at (609) 698-7534, as committees are now being formed to assist in the Memorial Event.

**Davenport, IA**

Richard A. Weeks submitted these photos of Davenport, IA’s tributes to the Korean War. Weeks, who served with the 20th Air Force on Okinawa during the Korean War, wrote in a recent letter to the editor, “I only wish more people would realize and thank all veterans for their service to our country. I do not feel it was a sacrifice on myself. The ones who were killed are the ones who sacrificed themselves for us.”

**Long Island, NY: The Unknown Memorial**

By Harold Krantz

As you walk through the “Memorial Walk” to the “Field of Honor” at the Calverton National Cemetery on Long Island, New York, you will see one particular memorial among many others.
This memorial is the "Korean War Veterans Association Memorial." The idea and inspiration came from one man, William Mach.

Bill visited the grave of his brother fairly often. When he walked through "Memorial Walk," he noticed that the other wars were given space to honor their dead, and he decided to do something so that there is one for the veterans from the Korean War. He spoke to the Superintendent of the Cemetery to receive permission, and to find out how to go about attaining this goal.

He had funds donated by various local chapters of the Association and contracted for the construction and placement of the memorial. Within six months everything was completed, and the dedication was held on Sunday, September 8, 1996. Now, the Korean War veterans have their place on "Memorial Walk," where they deserve to be.

Bill has passed on. He is buried at Calverton, where the memorial he inspired will always stand. When I attend ceremonies at the cemetery and pass through the "Memorial Walk," I always think of him.

Harold Krantz, 10 Fern Drive, Commack, NY 11725-4104

Port St. Lucie, FL

The front page of the Port St. Lucie Memorial dedication program

The Port St. Lucie Memorial is dedicated on a sunny day in Florida

The KWVA is prominently featured on the Port St. Lucie Memorial

A close-up of the Memorial
Letters of Appreciation to over 30,000 Korean War veterans at over 60 events throughout the USA.

These awards brought tears to many of the veterans because, due to the “Forgotten War Syndrome,” this was the only recognition they received in over fifty years for their service and sacrifices in the war. This was all done and provided for by the Yu family at a great monetary expense.

Eugene’s wife, Jonie, attended many of the events and assisted in the presentations. Also, the Yu family members were the motivating force and the principal sponsor of the Augusta Korean War Memorial which was dedicated on December 4, 2004.

What Chin Yu and his family have done for many of the Korean War veterans is considered awesome and way “Above The Call of duty.” Even though the Yu family has not sought personal honor for what they have done, they have earned the highest honor that could be bestowed by the KWVA.

The love and appreciation the Yu family has for the Korean War veterans is also expressed very eloquently in the message engraved on the front of the Korean War Memorial in Augusta, Georgia:

We, as Korean Americans, clearly understand that the Red stripes in the American flag symbolize the blood shed, not only in Korea, but in all the wars fought since the beginning of these United States of America for freedom around the world. We want to express, from our hearts, our love and gratitude, to the selfless many who gave their lives, and to the prisoners of war who endured so much torment and suffering, and to the ones who remain missing in action and unaccounted for. In the hearts and minds of the Korean people, those young men and women who fought for our cause, will never “fade away,” but will remain forever young, vibrant, and brave. As long as the Korean nation endures, they will always be remembered.

Eugene Chin Yu
December 4, 2004

Eugene Chin Yu was born in Seoul, Korea on July 27, 1953. His parents came to Augusta, Georgia when he was a teenager. After high school, Chin Yu served three years in the U. S. Army, including a tour in Korea.

He and his wife Jonie are U. S. citizens. Their daughter Jodie and son Eric were born in Augusta. The family owns and operates a successful Commercial Military Systems Company in Augusta, which provides renovated large-size military trucks to an international market.

The Yu family greatly appreciates the honors presented by President Louis T. Deichert and the National Korean War Veterans Association.

Photos courtesy of Porter Vaughan, Vaughan Photography, 104 Coventry Circle, North Augusta, SC 29860

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Thanks To The USO

It would be nice if we, the Korean vets, would give thanks to all the entertainers who did shows for us in the years of 1950 through 1954. I hope we haven’t forgotten their love for our country.

I like to thank Dick Contino with his accordion, who played at our unit at K-13 Suwon, and Paul Douglas and his wife Jan Sterling at the same air base on Jan 1, 1953, a 0 degree day.

And, I did see Piper Laurie at a stadium near Pusan in April, 1953. They were great shows—all of them. They did bring home to us, and they were very much appreciated.

A BIG THANK YOU, and we will never forget you for what you did with your time, your dedication for us soldiers — and for enduring the conditions.

A thankful Korean veteran (an unsigned email)

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Korea Commemorates Ethiopian Veterans

The Ethiopian Herald (Addis Ababa)
News, February 26, 2006
Posted to the web February 27, 2006
Addis Ababa

Korea commemorates today by inaugurating a memorial monument and hall for Ethiopian veterans who fought under the auspices of the UN peacekeeping force during the Korean War in the 1950s, a press statement indicated.

The press statement sent to the Herald by Korea International Agency (JOICA) yesterday said that a memorial monument was erected for Ethiopian heroes in Chuncheon city of Korea in 1968 and that the completion of a similar monument in Addis would be another icon for the vital roles the Ethiopian heroes played in the war.

The statement quoted Mr. Byung Kuck Jhung, South Korean Ambassador to Ethiopia as saying regarding the completion of the construction of the memorial monument, “I wish to solemnly dedicate the monument to the 122 souls who are staying over the Trinity Cathedral”.

The statement recalled that about 6,000 Ethiopian heroes were sent to the Korean Peninsula in 1951 and fought to keep peace, security and democracy out of which 122 were sacrificed and more than 500 were wounded.

It further said the completion of the two icons, which are built in Afincho Berr Park in Addis, are attributed to the long efforts exerted by the Association of Koran War Veterans of Ethiopia,...

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KWVA
Korean Collection Fund Raiser

Contribute to the Korean War Veterans Association and you could receive this collection of authentic Korean War infantry weapons.*

By purchasing fund raiser tickets you have a chance to receive this vintage collection of the basic infantry arms used by our troops in the Korean War. In addition, contributors will also receive a complementary 1 year "Associate" membership in the KWVA. You may purchase your tickets by calling 1-315-457-1681 or by mailing the order form below. Tickets are available for $25 (5 ticket minimum). The lucky recipient will be announced on Memorial Day, 2006. The collection will be presented during the Korean War Memorial services in Washington, D.C. on July 27th, 2006. You do not have to be present to receive the collection. A $3,000 cash gift is available in lieu of the collection.

For additional information please contact Jim Ferris at 315-457-1681, Bill MacSwain at 817-244-0706 or Bill Hutton at 727-443-6104.

* Receipt of the collection will be conditional upon a national criminal background check. All applicable laws apply.

Order Form

Last Name ____________________________  First Name ____________________________  MI ______
Street ________________________  City ______________ State ______ ZIP ______
Phone ________________________  E-mail ________________________  Member of KWVA  [Yes]  [No]

I would like to order:

[ ] 5 tickets ($25)  [ ] 10 tickets ($50)  [ ] 15 tickets ($75)  [ ] 20 tickets ($100)  [ ] 25 tickets ($125)

[ ] I would like to order the following amount, ______ tickets at $25 per 5 tickets for a total of $_____

Make checks payable to: KWVA

Mail To: D. Henderson Company, KWVA, PO Box 12025, Alexandria, LA 71315

Credit Card # ____________________________  Exp. Date ________  [ ] VISA  [ ] Master Card

Signature ________________________________

The Graybeards
March - April 2006
Coppersmith & Long

Two old friends, Walter F. Coppersmith Jr., of Aberdeen, MD, and Robert D. Long, of Huachuca City, AZ, got together at Exit 32 off I-10 in Arizona. They had not seen each other for 52 years.


Coppersmith, the historian of Chapter 271, Aberdeen [MD], found Long while searching the Internet. So, since he and his son were traveling from San Jose, CA, to Round Rock, TX, they arranged a meeting.

Walter Coppersmith (L) and Robert Long (R) get together after 52 years

2nd Ranger Infantry Co. (Airborne)

Members of the 2nd Ranger Inf. Co. (Airborne) met in October 2005 in St. Louis, MO. The company served in Korea in 1950-51, attached to the 7th Inf. Div. It was also attached to the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team for the combat jump at Munsan-Ni, Korea, on March 23, 1951.

The 2nd Rangers was the only all-Black Airborne Ranger Company in the U.S. Army. It was awarded the Korean Presidential Unit Citation, 4 battle stars, and 1 Spearhead Arrow.

Herculano Dias, 2nd Co. Coordinator, 8124 Woodward Street, Savage, MD 20763-0669, (301) 604-6148.
507th SIG SVC CO (OPNS)

Five members of the 507th SIG SVC Company reunited in Laughlin, NV, October 6, 2005. It was their first get-together in fifty plus years.

(L-R) Al Roberts, Dick Barak, Neil Lockley, Dennis Ambrose, and Anthony “Tony” Cozeck, 507th SIG SVC Co., get together in Laughlin, NV

New KWVA Decals for Sale

These decals are round and measure a full four inches in diameter, in full color, and adhesive backed.

Prices are:
- One (1) each decal @ $3.00
- Two (2) each decals @ $5.00
- Twelve (12) each decals @ $25.00

No handling fees, only stamp fees as delivered

To order, contact Tom Sunseri, KWVA Recruiting Task Force Quartermaster, 6160 82nd Terrace North, Pinellas Park, FL 33781-1307 <kwvafqm@tampabay.rr.com>
Phone: 727.547.1991 Website: http://www.kwvaqm.org

“A masterful job...enjoyable to read...large number of photos...does not pull his punches...sobering moments...runs the gamut of the Wing’s experience...When looking for a thorough, education history of the air war in Korea,” readers “cannot do any better.”

Graybeard Magazine

Truckbusters From Dogpatch:
The Combat Diary of the 18th Fighter-Bomber Wing in the Korean War, 1950-1953
www.truckbustersfromdogpatch.com
or call toll free 800-247-6553

712 pages, large 8 1/2 x 11 inch format
Over 1,000 never before published photographs
Revelations of formerly classified unit histories
Gripping accounts from F-51 Mustang pilots and ground crewmen
Extensive glossary
List of more than 3,500 Korean War veterans of the 18th Fighter-Bomber Wing
Ships in 24-hours. Easy on-line or telephone ordering.
Mayor of Seoul Visits National Korean War Memorial

The Mayor of Seoul, the Honorable Myung Bak Lee, visited the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington DC on March 16, 2006. A large contingent of American and South Korean veterans greeted him.

Commander John T. Edwards, Department of Virginia, KWVA, reported that members of three KWVA chapters, Northern Virginia (CIN 100), Edward Markart (CIN 128), and Tidewater (CIN 191) turned out.

The Association presented the mayor with a “Certificate of Recognition” as part of his visit.
This year’s ceremony was held on February 10. It was hosted by the 3d Battlefield Coordination Detachment, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10216, and the 51st Fighter Wing.

Curley Knepp, a member of the National KWVA and the Burton-Goode-Sargent and CPL Clair Goodblood [MOH] Chapters in Maine, represented the KWVA and provided the following information. Curley, who currently lives with his wife Mag Nai in South Korea, served with the 5th RCT during the Korean War.

David Teets, senior vice commander of Pacific Area Veterans of Foreign Wars, was the master of ceremonies. The guest speaker for the event was Army Colonel Ross E. Ridge, Chief of Staff for the 2nd Infantry Division. On behalf of the Millett family, Curley presented Colonel Ridge with a memento coin commemorating the occasion.

As reported in the MiG Alley Flyer, February 17 issue, Colonel Ridge had this to say:

“We came here today because of bonds we share with the men of Easy Company. Such bonds are not physical bonds, of course. They are the much stronger and enduring spiritual bonds that bind men and women together in the face of great danger. Determined and courageous men and women are willing to place their lives at stake for something of great and enduring value.”

When Osan Air Base was constructed, it was built around the legendary Korean War battle site. Today, the 51st Fighter Wing has its headquarters near the site. The street in front of the monument is named in Lewis Millett’s honor.

Continued on page 55
NOTE: Starting with this issue, whenever possible, we will include a chapter contact with each issue as a recruiting tool. The contact’s address, phone number, etc., will appear at the end of the chapter’s entry.

It would be helpful if correspondents would include as much contact information as possible, whether they are submitting material electronically or via regular mail.

19 GEN. RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

James Conway

Our chapter continues to work very closely with the Korean community and with the Korean Counsel General’s office in Atlanta. Members recently attended a luncheon at Georgia Tech at which Ambassador Marion Creekmore spoke about his book on President Jimmy Carter’s historic 1944 trip to North Korea and his meeting with former “Great Leader” Kim II Sung.

CIN 19 members (L-R) Robert Hendershott, Ronald Clark, Choong-Mok-Lee, Counsel General Office (Atlanta), and chapter member James Conway at Georgia Tech luncheon

At the CIN 19 Christmas appreciation dinner (L-R) Dr. Dae Yong Mun, President of Korean Veterans Association, holds a gift towel, Thomas Harris, Chapter President, Col (Ret) Kwang H. Kim, Korean Veterans Association Past President.

Members also attended a Christmas appreciation dinner in December 2005 sponsored by the Korean Veterans Association. Gifts of fluffy beach towels were presented to those in attendance.

25 GREATER CHICAGO [IL]

Niels Larsen

The chapter, along with South Suburban Chapter #23, had a booth at the 3rd Annual Turkish Festival, Sept. 14-17, 2005, at Daley Plaza in Chicago.

Turkish Consul General Koru speaks at the Turkish Festival at which CINs 23 & 25 had a booth

CIN 25’s booth at the Turkish Festival

(L-R) Leonard DeFabio, Bill O’Brien, and Larry Sassorossi staff CIN 25’s booth at Turkish Festival
Consul General Naci Koru has been kind enough to invite us to participate each year. Our participation enables us to honor the Turkish soldiers who fought in the Korean War.

Niels Larsen
5347 W. Waveland Ave., Chicago, IL 60614-3354,
(773) 545-4379

On September 9, 2005, our chapter hosted a reunion with the 45th Inf. Div. There were 72 people present for this great evening. This was the sixth year our chapter has hosted this event. We always look forward to this evening of fun and fellowship.

Mary Anna Roemke
Box 8795, Fort Wayne, IN 46898
(260) 485-7627

The Minnesota Korean War Memorial, St. Paul, MN

Herbert W. Parnow, one of the charter members of the Association, died on October 2, 2005. His KWVA membership number was N-00007. He was also a charter member of our chapter.

Chapter members have participated in various activities recently, as the following photos supplied by Hank Nowicki depict.

Hank Nowicki
897 Merillon Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590-6112
(516) 334-1025.
Members participated in the 2005 Santa Paula Christmas Parade.

KWVA Ventura County, Chapter 56
1121 New Street, Santa Paula, CA 93060
Chapter members gathered with Veterans Secretary James Nicholson, U.S. Congressman Michael Fitzpatrick, and other veterans at the site of a new national cemetery in Dolington, PA. Nicholson announced at the January 8, 2006, gathering that the 200-acre site has been chosen as the national Southeastern Pennsylvania veterans’ cemetery.

Joseph L. Trucks, Jr
853 Cornwells Ave., Bensalem, PA 19020

On Friday, September 30, 2005, Chapter 137 gave a donation of $1,000.00 to the Salvation Army of Youngstown, OH, for the hurricane victims in the south.

Members also attended the Canfield Fair.

Joann Onstott, Village Estates, 3022 St. Rt. 59, Lot E-6, Ravenna, OH 44266-1673

CID 137 members set up a tent and display at the Canfield Fair for the 9th year (L-R) Leo Taillon, Commander Zeno Foley, Quartermaster Steveve Firment, Jack Coper, John Pariza

Standing guard at CID 137’s tent at the Canfield Fair (L-R) John Pariza, Parade Chairman Rocky Anobile, Bob Markowitz

CID 137 Associates at the fair (L-R) Pat Foley, Associate Captain/Historian Joann Onstott, Dot Cooper

CID 137 officers and dignitaries at PA cemetery announcement: Secretary Joseph L. Trucks, Jr.; Judge Advocate John Keepers; Sgt-at-Arms Ed Papacyk; 2nd VP Ed Tinsman; Secretary Nicholson; and Congressman Fitzpatrick (Photo taken by William Anderton, courtesy of the Advance of Bucks County

Salvation Army rep Dr. David Ritchie accepts check from CID Commander Zeno Foley as (Back, L-R) Chuck Stepan, John Klamut and Frank Sloat (Front, L-R) Steven Firment, Bob Markowitz, Richard Koker, Bob Bakalik look on

CID 137 members set up a tent and display at the Canfield Fair for the 9th year (L-R) Leo Taillon, Commander Zeno Foley, Quartermaster Steveve Firment, Jack Coper, John Pariza
KOREAN WAR VETERANS [MD]

Richard L. Martin

The Frederick, MD Chapter’s Color Guard participated recently in a flag raising ceremony at the request of the Urbana, MD, Fire Company.

Richard L. Martin, 8113 Glendale Drive
Frederick MD 21702,
(301) 663-6360, RLMAEM@adelphia.net

CENTRAL FLORIDA [FL]

Patricia Chartrand

The chapter elected new officers on December 14, 2005. Past Department President Tom Gaffney swore in the new officers. They include Frank Nicolo, Frank Dragoun, Thomas Faas, George Chartrand, and Donald Smith. After the ceremony, everyone enjoyed a Christmas covered dish dinner.

159 SUNSHINE STATE [FL]

Larry Sassorossi, Executive Director of the Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library, was the guest speaker at the chapter’s January 26, 2006, meeting.

Jack Edwards
10346 127th Ave. N, Largo, FL 33773-1022

LEFT: Larry Sassorossi addresses 159 meeting.
BELOW: 159 members listen attentively as Larry Sassorossi speaks
169 **LAKE COUNTY [FL]**

On October 31, 2004 the Veterans Memorial Park, Lady Lake Florida, and Korean War Veterans Chapter 169, held a memorial service for Chaplain Charles Marcelle. He was a member of the Korean War Veterans Chapter 169; he had passed away the day hurricane Charlie came through Florida. Some would say it was fate, others would say it was ironic.

I heard rumors that the reason he became a chaplain, and eventually bishop, was that he made a promise to God one day during his stay at Korea. He promised God if he ever got out of Korea alive, he would spread the word and serve him. The Armistice was signed and Charles Marcelle became a minister. I guess you could say they both kept their promises.

The Veterans Memorial Park has never performed a memorial service to just one person before. Charles Marcelle has spoken at the park on several occasions, at several different events. Korean War Veterans Chapter 169 posted the colors, and gave him a 21-gun salute. Harold Sievers was master of ceremonies, and presented the flag to Mrs. Marcelle. It was KWVA Chapter 169’s way of saying thanks, and he will be missed.

(Back to Front) CID 169 officers Jackie Gleason, Charlie White, Paul Russell, Bill Taylor

The chapter also held elections for officers at an installation dinner in January. The new officers are Jackie Gleason (President), Charlie White (Vice President), Paul Russell (2nd VP), and Bill Taylor (Secretary).

170 **TAEJON [NJ]**

**Chapter Installs Elected Officers 2006-2007**

On January 13, 2006, the chapter held its annual installation of officers at a buffet-dinner dance held at Memories in Saddle Brook, N.J.

Dr. Richard Onorevole, past commander, welcomed the chapter members and honored guests. Adjutant Raymond Cohen ordered posting of colors, which was handled by Color Guard Captain Henry Ferrarini. Salvatore Altomare, Sgt. at Arms, led everyone in the “Pledge of Allegiance” and singing “God Bless America,” accompanied by Vincent Cupo with his harmonica.

The opening prayer was led by Chaplain John Ottina. KWVA New Jersey State Commander Thomas McHugh administered the oath of office to the following elected officers:

- Commander - Thomas Falato

Some CID 170 members

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159 President Jack Edwards (L) and Larry Sassorossi at meeting

Harold Sievers presents flag to Mrs. Marcelle
• Sr. Vice Commander - Alexander Atheras, Jr.
• Vice Commander - Henry Ferrari

There were eleven committee chairmen installed as well.

During the ceremony, past Commander Richard Onorevole and Commander Thomas Falato presented past Commander George Bruzgis with a plaque in appreciation of his excellent leadership after the death of Commander John Meuser in 2005.

George Bruzgis presented the chapter’s highest award, the “Commanders Medal” with certificate was given to 12 members for outstanding service in helping him achieve his goals to bring an awareness of the Korean War, the POW, and the Korean War MIAs by promoting Americanism through patriotic activities. Co-Chairman George Job (three time Purple Heart recipient) and William Burns were in charge of arrangements for this event.

Here is a little bit of history about Commander Thomas Falato. He served in the Korean War with the 25th Division from 1951-1952. He is a recipient of the Bronze Star and seven other medals, including the South Korean Presidential Unit Citation. He participated in the Battle of Old Baldy twice, Bloody Ridge, and other military encounters.

He is a recipient of New Jersey’s highest military award, “The Distinguished Service Medal.” Commander Falato is more than qualified to lead the Taejon Chapter and to make every one aware of the Korean War and the sacrifice of its veterans to be the first to stop communism.

Louis Quagliero, 142 Illinois Avenue Paterson, NJ 07503, (973) 279-6402

178 YORK COUNTY [PA]

On Saturday, July 30, 2005 at noon, Chapter 178 saw the culmination of approximately two years of work with the dedication ceremony of the Korean War Veterans Memorial for the York, PA area. The event was well attended by an estimated 650 persons.
Among those in attendance with local dignitaries were Governor and Mrs. Rendell. Also attending was Korean Deputy Consul General Kie Cheon Lee.

The Memorial is located in York City at the intersection of West Market Street and Pershing Avenue, directly across the street from the historic York County Court House, at the entrance to the York County Rail Trail.

The estimated $150,000.00 cost for the construction and perpetuation fund of the Memorial was derived from the sale of $100.00 memorial bricks for the patio and monetary contributions from approximately 600 individual contributors and from the 25-30 businesses which contributed enormous amounts of labor and monetary support.

Finances derived from Rose of Sharon Promotions were very meaningful also—and they afforded us many emotional moments, like the action of a very young girl who, when her parents were approached for a contribution to the memorial construction, promptly reached into her pocketbook and gave all the coins she had.

The Memorial was designed and built by the Chapter Planning Committee. Local artisans supplied the principles of the Memorial. Lorann Jacobs of Cherry Lane, Dallastown, sculpted the bronze statue, while the granite base was supplied by Neal Sunday of White Rose Memorials. Architect Stewart...
Cluck incorporated lighting in the Memorial to afford beautiful nighttime viewing.

William Frank
170 Sylvan Drive, York PA 17402

179 SAN DIEGO [CA]

James J. Whelan

Chapter members attended a press conference on November 4, 2005 in support of Congressional Bill H.R. 2369, the Honor Our Fallen Prisoners of War Act. It was held by Congressman Bob Filner, along with New York Congressman Michael McNulty. They are sponsors of the bill. World War II, Korea, and Vietnam veterans were in attendance. Among that group were former POW, Purple Heart recipients, and Korean War veterans from the Tiger POW group.

Chapter members helped in sponsoring the conference. The chapter’s President, James Whelan, and Sec/Treas. Donald Donnelly were in attendance.

One of the KWVA's members from Temecula CA, Shorty Eastabrook, attended. He gave a very informative speech on his experiences as a POW in 1950. He was a member of the famed Tiger Survivors who made it through the nine-day death march from Nampo-Jin to the mountain region. They spent the winter of 1950 in Hanjang-ni, where 222 POW died in captivity.

There has been an assumption throughout the years that the Purple Heart was awarded to POW who died at the hands of the enemy. This is not the case. The bill is designed to honor those who gave their lives as POW. The families of thousands of prisoners have long awaited the honor. It is our hope this bill will be passed in the next session to correct this omission.

James J. Whelan
1042 Ardilla Place, Chula Vista, CA 91910

183 NEBRASKA # 1 [NE]

William E. Ramsey

Chapter members have provided memorabilia for the Permanent Korean War display at the Air and Space Museum, west of Omaha, NE. The case includes weapons, division patches, uniforms, magazines, newspapers, etc.

Members attended the formal dedication of the Gomez Heritage Elementary School (grade school) in Omaha, NE, named in memory of PFC. Edward (Babe) Gomez, recipient of the Medal of Honor. He died while saving fellow Marines in September, 1951.

Speaking of Marines, two Marine veterans of the Iraqi Freedom/War on Terrorism, LCpl Allen Ellenberger and Cpl Justin Mueller, attended our recent dinner. Ellenberger was the guest speaker.

William E. Ramsey
307 South 51st Avenue, Omaha NE 68132
(402) 551-3951

Chapter members attend the formal dedication of the Gomez Heritage Elementary School (grade school) in Omaha, NE.
The chapter graciously hosted National KWVA Director and #188 member Jeff Brodeur, Florida State President William McCraney, Florida State 3rd Vice President Jim Bradford, State Legislator Charley Price, and State of FL Quartermaster Tom Sunseri to the March 15, 2006 general membership meeting and luncheon.

Charley Price provided information on new veterans hospitals and cemetery sites within the state of Florida. Thanks to Mr. Price for your continued dedication and support for the welfare of our veterans! You represent us well.

Jeff Brodeur presented two chapter members with awards. He presented Carol Becker with a Certificate of Appreciation for “Outstanding Personal Contribution for the good of all Veterans,” and Donald Struhar with a Certificate of Appreciation for his art-work and designs for several national logos and the KWVA Memorial erected at the Civic building in Groveland, Florida. (See the related story on page 24) State Quartermaster Tom Sunseri received an award for his time and efforts in promoting the Korea War and Korea Service Veterans Decal nationally.

Chapter members Armando Prado and Sam Cohen received Korean War Service Medals presented by William McCraney, who challenged each member of the chapter to recruit one new member this year.

There was a Korean War Memorial unveiled recently by Capital Lake, in Pierre, SD. Thousands of people attended the all-day ceremony that honored all Korean War veterans from South Dakota.

The day included a large parade, fly-overs, speeches, etc. Governor Bill Janklow delivered an inspiring speech honoring Korean War veterans, along with all military veterans.
In attendance at the ceremonies were two Medal of Honor recipients from South Dakota.

The chapter is named after MajGen Lloyd Moses, a South Dakota native. Moses, then a colonel, commanded the 31st Regt., 7th Inf. Div., with the Republic of Colombia battalion attached.

The 31st Regt. was engaged in the severe fighting for Hill 598 (Triangle Hill, Jane Russell, and Sniper Ridge). For this—and earlier actions—Col. Moses earned both the Distinguished Service Cross and the Silver Star. He retired as a MajGen in 1964 after 35 years of active military service.

Don Barta, P. O. Box 342, Wagner, SD 57380-0342

195 QUEEN CITY [CO]

Kenneth E. Camell

Several members participated in the November 2005 Veterans Day Parade.

Kenneth E. Camell
3120 Baylor Drive, Boulder, CO 80305-5802

Enjoying their refreshments (L-R) CID 195’s Joyce Keil, Abe Villarreal, Ray and Mrs. Ogaz, Charles Kammerer, Cal Keil, Marty Flor

The chapter donated an American flag to the Lakewood Ranch Medical Center Auxiliary in Bradenton, FL. Chapter member Earl Johnson presented the flag.

Auxiliary representatives sent a heartfelt thank you note:

Dear Commander Gillette:

Thank you so very much for the American flag.

We at Lakewood Ranch Medical Auxiliary appreciate your kindness and plan many years of use of our flag.

We honor you and all veterans for the service you have given for us.

Richard P. Coalts, 602 Crete Ct., Bradenton, FL 34207
Manasota Chapter 199, P. O. Box 3067, Oneco, FL 34264
(941) 722-7183

199 MANASOTA [FL]

Richard P. Coalts

Don Barta, P. O. Box 342, Wagner, SD 57380-0342
**George Washington Birthday Celebration and Parade**

On February 18, 2006 Laredo, Texas hosted its 109th George Birthday Celebration with a parade and many more activities. For hours, the 157 entrants in the grand parade marched and drove along San Bernardo Avenue. Floats, army trucks, marching bands, long limousines, fire engines, men on horseback and others flowed down the avenue.

A KWVA logo adorns 209’s float

CID 209 members ride their float (L-R) Jose Luis Munoz, Antonio Martinez, Nicholas Nanez, Reynaldo Reyna

One of the main objectives of our Association is to keep the memory of the Korean War alive by making presentations to history and civics classes about Korea. Our participation in the parade fits in with that objective.

Pedro Trevino, Jr., 3219 E. Lyon St
Laredo, TX 78043-1908

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**At the invitation of Mid-Florida KWVA Chapter 273, several Chapter 210 members attended the Korean War 52nd Armistice Anniversary Celebration in Orlando, Florida. This celebration was hosted by the Orange County VFW Post 2093. Other organizations at this gala event included the Republic of Korea Korean Veterans Association, The Korean Senior Citizens Society, South Korean dancers and singers (in colorful native costumes) and Post 2093’s Orlando Community Band, which put on an inspiring patriotic concert.**

Highlight speakers included KWVA Chapter 273 President Marlon Roberts, Korean Army Major (Ret), Kay Kim, of the

CID 209 members put the final touches on their float (L-R) Neto Sanchez and Adelberto Jaime.

The parade began at the International Bridge, with many dignitaries representing the two countries. As is customary, representatives exchanged greetings and performed the famous Abrazo (embrace). Speeches were given by dignitaries from the two countries.

Our chapter participated by entering a float. About fifteen members spent countless hours preparing the float for the parade. The float was decorated with the Association’s logo, displaying the American Flag, the Korean Flag and the POW/MIA flag. Braving a cold and a misty day, about fifteen members rode the float. Chapter President Jose Luis Munoz led the members in the parade.
Korean Veterans Association, and VFW Post Commander Glen Jackson. Authentic Korean food (including Kim Chee) was prepared and served by Korean Senior Citizen Volunteers.

Our chapter members brought over and erected our framed Korean War posters (designed and fabricated by our chapter), adding to a display of other posters that spread out over three walls of the Halliday Pavilion, overlooking beautiful Lake Fairview. Chapter 210 attendees were: Julius Farago, President, George Rosenfield, Secretary, Mrs. Rosenfield, Ted Trousdale, Quartermaster (who coordinated our participation), Mickey Tutolo, and Charles Hackney.

Charles W. Hackney
400 South Sykes Creek Pkwy
Merritt Island, FL 32952-3547

Chapter members participated in a “Greet the Troops” event recently. During the week March 6 through March 10, members greeted troops returning from Iraq at the Dallas Fort Worth (DFW) Airport.

Jerry Kasten organized the event. He gathered facts from USO and airport authorities, printed and distributed an information sheet, scheduled carpools, and updated members about schedule changes. Because of Jerry’s efforts, the first chapter sponsored “Greet the Troops” week was satisfying and fulfilling for both participating

270 SAM JOHNSON [TX]

Glen Thompson

On Monday, February 6, Congressman Jeb Hensarling (TX 5th) welcomed sixteen Korean War veterans and members of the chapter in his District Office at 6510 Abrams Rd. in Dallas. The veterans were there to seek support for bill H.R. 3476, which would grant a Federal Charter to the KWVA.

After Congressman Hensarling welcomed the members, he announced that he had already signed on as a co-sponsor for HR 3476.
chapter members and returning troops.

Chapter members who participated at least one day in this “Greet the Troops” week were Bob Bailley, Ed Buckman, Bill Carman, Billy Joe Denton, Keith Fannon, George and Darlene Fleming, Jack Hunter, Jerry and Deanna Kasten, George Kraus, Dick Lethe, Tilford Jones, Homer Mundy, Lawrence Odom, Paul Pfrommer, Epi Quintanilla, J. D. Randolph, and Glen Thompson.

Glen Thompson
1037 Rockledge Dr., Garland, TX 75043
(972) 279-7000, gthom@comcast.net

282 MAUI NO KA OI [HI]

Doug Halbert

At its January 18, 2006, meeting, the chapter installed officers for the year of 2006. They are:
- Clarence Okamura, President
- Al Spenser, Jr., Treasurer
- Gerald Tavares, 1st VP
- Royal Vida, 2nd VP
- Doug Halbert, Historian
- Toshio Seki, Secretary
- Ray Benarao, Sgt. at Arms.

The chapter meets on the third Wednesday of each month at the Kahului Community Center at 6:30 p.m.

187 WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS 2000

The chapter elected new officers for 2006:
- Richard Roepal – Commander
- Albert Arpin, Jr. - Vice Commander
- James Stathis – Director/Historian
- Richard Gagne – Director/Chairman
- Ken Usher – Secretary

Chapter members placed wreaths on various veterans memorial in Chicopee, MA, on November 11, 2005.

James K. Stathis
42 Pine Grove Drive, South Hadley, MA 01075-2196
(413) 535-1384

Individuals wait to place wreaths on WWI, WWII Korean War, and Vietnam War memorials in Chicopee
POW/MIA Update

by Marty O’Brien

IN ENEMY HANDS - TWICE

Of the universe of POW in Korea, a surprising number of them, both military and civilian, had endured imprisonment previously by our enemies during World War II.

As we recently learned, Korean War POW and Medal of Honor recipient Tibor Rubin of Garden Grove, California, had endured hardships as a civilian in an Austrian concentration camp during World War II. I asked Shorty Estabrook, a Tiger Survivor, if he knew of others who were in the Yalu prison camps with him, who also had been held POW during World War II. Shorty provided me with information about several very remarkable people - all now gone to glory.

Master Sergeant Jay Rye

Master Sergeant Rye enlisted in the Army in 1938. He was assigned to the 31st Infantry in the Philippines in 1941. Rye was captured during the fall of Bataan, endured the Bataan Death March, and was a prisoner of the Japanese for 42 months. In Korea, he was a member of Company K, 34th Infantry Regiment. He was captured on July 7, 1950, just two days after US troops were committed to battle.

A Tiger Survivor also, he was imprisoned by the Communists for 37 months. In January of this year, Master Sergeant Rye passed on. He was 85. Memorial services were held at Porterville, California.

Master Sergeant Frederick Stumpges

MSGT Stumpges, Sheboygan, Wisconsin, enlisted in the Marine Corps as a bugler prior to World War II. He was a member of the 4th Marines Band in China. Shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor, the band members were integrated into the 3d Platoon, 2d Battalion, Company E, 4th Marines in the Philippines. MSGT Stumpges was wounded in action and was a Bataan Death March Survivor and a POW of the Japanese for many months.

In Korea, he was WIA and held as a POW until his release in 1953.

Sergeant Martin Watson

The Ranger Hall of Fame at Fort Bragg, NC, is named after SGT Martin Watson, Brooklyn, NY. He fought with the 1st Ranger Battalion in World War II and survived 15 months as a POW. In Korea, he was a member of the 4th Ranger Infantry Company (Airborne). He and several others were captured while on a long-range mission some 65 miles behind enemy lines.

SGT Watson attempted to escape on three separate occasions. Already a holder of the Silver Star for valor, SGT Watson was awarded the Bronze Star for his heroic behavior while a POW. Interestingly, he was the last US POW to be repatriated.

DOD STATISTICS NEED FINE TUNING

Tom Chilcott, of Brighton, Michigan, wrote to say that he believes that the DOD statistics that were posted in an earlier issue of The Graybeards still need fine tuning. I agree. Although a careful piece of work, the published DOD database contains only deaths incurred in the Korean Theater during the 1950-1953 war period.

I also agree with Tom’s observation that the Korean Theater boundaries may have been too narrowly defined by Executive Order 10195, dated December 20, 1950 [15 FR 9177], and as a result men who died outside of those boundaries, who had actually fought in theater, were not included in the DOD database (see map).

Not included, for example, were 129 men killed in the June 18, 1953 C-124 Globemaster crash in Japan. The plane was ferrying troops back to combat in Korea from R & R in Japan. Instead of being counted as Korean War casualties, the out-of-boundary deaths were lumped in statistically with a total of some 17,000+ plus non-hostile deaths incurred worldwide - names yet to be published by DOD.

Also not included in the 1950-1953 totals, were an unknown number of post-Armistice hostile and non-hostile deaths on the peninsula incurred through midnight January 1, 1955. That was the date defined by Presidential Executive Order 10585, dated January 1, 1955 [20 FR 17], as the end of combatant activities in the Korean Theater and waters adjacent thereto.

KOREAN WAR MIA “FAMILY OUTREACH PROJECT”

In July 2004, I wrote about a small group of veterans—Ed Moynagh, Art Lajeunesse, Sylvia Bailey-Munoz, Lance Ayers and Ray Sestak—who are engaged in the important work of locating families of Korean War MIA that have no current next of kin or family contact information in their official DPMO records, and putting them in touch with the appropriate DPMO officials. (See http://KoreanWarMIAs.com)

Art reported that since then they have contacted approximately 541 families. Not all contacts were directly attributable to the group’s efforts; however, between 25 and 30 percent had been “works in progress,” with the balance of the contacts made directly by the families.

ROK POW STATISTICS

According to Dr. Thomas Y. Chung, chairman of the Korean POW Rescue Committee, some 500 Republic of Korea POW are still alive in North Korea out of a total of 69,047 captured. The committee is located at 5525 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036.

Dr. Chung fought in the war with the allied forces, mostly with the U.S. Army in the Kumhwa area, where he was wounded. He was hospitalized for 13 months. He can be contacted at (323) 931-7311 or by email at thomasychung@hotmail.com

Martin J. O’Brien, 27 Meadow Road #202, Augusta, Maine 04330, (207) 623-1103, CavKVet50@aol.com. Please visit www.kwva.org/pow_mia/index.htm
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.

ALABAMA
★ Harold F. Doucette
★ Willie B. Harris

ARIZONA
★ Samuel E. Shaffer, Jr.
★ Frederick W. Hopkins
★ Johnathon C. Layton

CALIFORNIA
★ Richard J. Barkley
★ Donald L. Barrett
★ Roger Biederstadt
★ Hector V. Borrego
★ John D. Godina
★ Lupe Lopez Prado

COLORADO
★ Ellsworth (Dutch) Nelsen

CONNECTICUT
★ Thomas H. Meagher
★ Phillip Haddad

DELAWARE
★ William R. Green

FLORIDA
★ Richard C. Andrews
★ Edward A. Brandt
★ Edward A. Clapp
★ Andrew W. Segda

GEORGIA
★ Wilbert L. Monroe

HAWAII
★ Tamotsu Marumoto
★ William Joseph Barrozo
★ Joseph R. Souza

ILLINOIS
★ Clarence W. Arnold
★ Robert E. Davidson
★ George W. Everitt
★ Alfred H. Gillespie
★ Juanita B. Veer
★ Robert D. Voorhees
★ Wesley J. Waterhouse

INDIANA
★ Raymond A. Bird
★ Marvin S. Grzelak
★ Eugene Runser

KANSAS
★ Earl R. Flesher
★ Till O. Lecian
★ Alwyn B. Petty

MAINE
★ Burton M. Hagelin

MARYLAND
★ Glen R. Mueller
★ Ronald L. Rue

MASSACHUSETTS
★ Lloyd C. King
★ Thomas B. Lyons
★ Leo H. Marquis, Jr.
★ Edward S. Skura

MICHIGAN
★ Leland P. Baley
★ Harold E. Bordeau
★ Bert Outland, Jr.
★ Harlan D. Smith

MINNESOTA
★ Sidney Esensten

MISSOURI
★ Johnnie R. Hackworth
★ David R. Jepson
★ James J. McGuire
★ Kenneth L. Young

NEVADA
★ Wesley L. Quinn
★ Leo H. Marquis, Jr.

NEW JERSEY
★ George Tosi

NEW YORK
★ Richard H. Bauer
★ James B. Carollo, Jr.
★ David J. Carrier
★ Frank A. Castagna
★ William L. Davis
★ Jerome J. Lake
★ Edward J. Weeks
★ John Welch

OHIO
★ Donald James Kurt
★ William (Doc) Duffy
★ Paul J. Kelly, Jr.
★ George F. Kiernan

RHODE ISLAND
★ John Campbell
★ Alfred N. Gosselin
★ Charles J. Harrison

SOUTH CAROLINA
★ F. L. McIlvried
★ Joseph F. Bernardin
★ Charles D. Bradley
★ William E. Defoor
★ Wayne F. Murphy
★ Murrell M. Pitts, Jr.

TEXAS
★ Thomas G. Coan
★ Edward S. Baran
★ Berkeley S. Boyd
★ Alice L. Preston
★ Walter J. Warner

LUXEMBOURG
★ Raymond M. Beringer-Mohnen

When A Korean Vet Dies
Curtis Farley Jr. explains that when a Korean War veteran dies in the St. Charles [MO] area, “We go to the visitation and present the widow or immediate survivor a Rose of Sharon. And, with permission, we put one on the deceased’s chest, salute and say, ‘Farewell, comrade.’”

(L-R) Curt Farley, Don Neff, Gene Stark, and Bob Osborn at funeral home
An Update On CID 130’s Program

Indiana Chapter One (CID 30) has been asked to give an update on our Tell America Program. We are now in the full swing of visiting local and surrounding schools, with more scheduled for later.

As for our programs that we are televising, we are now scheduled to start taping number four. The series opened in October 2005 with the filming of some of our veterans telling of their experiences while stationed in Korea. We then taped one of our veterans having a round table discussion and answering questions from our viewers.

On December 18th we taped a visit to Korea with the local pastor of our Korean Community, Pastor Han, and three wonderful ladies from the congregation. Their stories and native costumes were simply beautiful. The series continued in January 2006 with the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier; in February, survivors of the Battle of the Chosin Reservoir provided personal accounts of their experiences during the combat there. We also scheduled a taping of the proper care and folding and handling of the American flag.

The future of the Tell America program for our chapter looks very bright. We will have each series available for sale on DVD for $15.00, including shipping and handling. To order, go to our Web Site at http://members.aol.com/kwvafw/fwkwva.html or http://mysite.verizon.net/kwvafw/fwkwva.html. Mail in the order blank provided. All proceeds will be going to the upkeep of our beautiful monument here in Ft. Wayne.

James Yaney, Chairman, 1349 N. Wilson Lake Rd. Columbia City, IN 46725-9120, (260) 248-2203, jamesyaney@hotmail.com


In keeping with the School Visitation Program, on November 9, 2005, at the invitation of Mr. Donald Gillett, Principal of Wrightsville Elementary School, Wrightsville, PA the following members of the chapter participated in the School’s Veterans Day Program: Commander Ronald Busser, 1st Vice Commander William Frank, 2nd Vice Commander Ralph Ashton, Historian Robert Casbeer, and Victor Aldinger.

The Chapter presented the Colors of our Country for the
Assembly of kindergarten through grade five students. A flag etiquette class was conducted, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our country, which included the phrase “Under God.” A student choir led us in the singing of our national anthem. If that sight and sound doesn’t move you, there is something wrong with your national spirit.

After the opening ceremony, the kindergarten and first grade students retired to the library where we read an appropriate Veterans Day story. The other students remained in the assembly area, where we conducted a show and tell of various pieces of Army equipment and related stories of our life during the Korean War. You can bet that we answered many questions.

After the program, we were invited to have lunch with the students. This was a unique experience, as the benches and chairs are not meant for older folks like us. The students were exceptional in respectful behavior.

This was a very moving experience, which we all enjoyed and will remember for some time. We have an invitation for this year already.

We received quite a few “thank you” cards after presentation.
Wayne Bohannan is looking for former members for a reunion. Contact him at 10617 East First Street, Tulsa, OK 74128-1403, (918) 437-5324

Milton Fowler is looking for a 1953 yearbook for the 62nd Troop and Carrier Wing, Larson Air Force Base, Moses Lake, WA. Contact him at 5108 Twitchell Road, Springfield, OH 45502, (937) 399-6895.

U.S. Liaison Officers Who Worked With The Turkish Brigade

Dear Mr. William Edward Alli and Lt. Col. John W. Alli:

I got your address from the Turkish Veterans Association in Ankara. I have seen the very nice calendar that you prepared for ATVA (The American and Turkish Veterans Association, based in Maryland, and sent to Turkey.)

I am a colonel in the Turkish Army now. I am doing research for a book about the Korean War. I want to make this book comprehensive. I have all the Turkish documents about the Korean War. But I need to include inputs from the very important US side – especially what US liaison officers and other US personnel have to say about the Turkish soldiers. For that purpose, I am trying to contact the US liaison officers who worked with the Turkish brigade. If I am not imposing on your time, I wonder if you would help me find the addresses of these valuable US liaison officers.

Here is some info that I have to begin this search:

When the Turkish Government decided to send a brigade to the Korean War, an advisory group was attached to the Turkish Brigade. This group was called “The Turkish United Nations Brigade Advisory Group.” It was composed of five US officers: 1. Col. Gummby; 2. Lt.Col. Viver; 3. Maj. Munson; 4. Capt. Michael J. Lorenzo; 5. Unknown.

The First Turkish Brigade was sent to South Korea on 17 October 1950. It was assigned to Eighth US Army command. Not too long afterwards, it was assigned to the Ninth US Army, as a reserve unit.

On 25 November 1950, it was assigned to the Second US Division command and participated in the Chongchon battle. On 25 January 1951, it was assigned to the 25TH US division and participated in the battle of Kumyangjang-ni.

Knowing the full name only of Capt. Michael J. Lorenzo, I want to start with him, if he is still alive. However, I do not know his address, or that of the other group members.

I urgently want to get his recollections and reminiscences. Also, I want the reminiscences of any other US military personnel, like you, who worked with the Turkish brigade or who have seen Turkish soldiers in action.

I thank you for your help.

With my respects,

Col. Ali Denizli
albayalidenizli@mynet.com

I am a Korean War veteran and a member of the KWVA. For a number of years, I have been trying to find a photo of a soldier from 57th Field Artillery Battalion. His name is Jimmie Jumbo and he is a Native American (Navajo). He disappeared east of Chosin in December of 1950. I have a photo of our other four KIA/MIA from San Juan County, New Mexico, but none seem to exist of Jumbo.

Jimmie’s niece was kind enough to furnish a DNA sample for the Army, so we always hope that one day he will be returned to the county between the four sacred mountains in New Mexico.

Bruce L. Salisbury
Master Sergeant, USAF (Ret.)
P.O. Box 744
Aztec, NM 87410
(505) 334-2398

NOTE: Information received from Byron Sims, Editor of the Chosin Few (Army Branch) Newsletter furnished the following data: Army CPL Jimmie Jumbo, MOS 04844 (Field Artillery Cannoneer), RA 38350506, Battery B, 57th FA Battalion. Year of Birth 1924. Home County San Juan, New Mexico. Reported MIA 6 December 1950. His name appears in the 31 July 1950 roster of B/57 and his loss is documented in the Loss Roster for B/57 dated 31 January 1951.

Fred Dale Helems

I need information to be able to honor Fred Dale Helems for a Memorial Day service. He was a U.S. Navy 3rd Class attached to the 1st Marine Division as a Marine combat medic. He was killed in action June 9, 1951.

Contact Bill Bloss, 3865 Hugh Street, Uniontown, OH 44685, (330) 699-3337, or (330) 819-3132 (cell), Loisbloss@netscape.com

Lt. Nellon, or Norlan, or Nolan, or Nalen…..

My grandfather’s Korean name is Kyu Won Kim. But, during the Korean War, the U.S. soldiers referred to him as Ross Kim.

My grandfather cannot remember his exact name or the spelling of the man he is looking for, but he is looking for a Lt. Dr. Nellon or Norlan or Nolan or Nalen.

He was in the 2nd Battalion Medical Co., 7th Regiment, 1st Calvary Division. The age of the person we are looking for...
should be around his early 80s.

The lieutenant for whom we are looking helped my grandfather with a severe bullet wound to his left wrist. If it weren’t for the lieutenant’s recommendation, my grandfather’s left arm would have been amputated. My grandfather would love to see him or talk to him to finally thank him for what the lieutenant has done. The place where he was wounded was Yeon Chun in Kyongki-Do, in the year 1951.

Thank you so much for all your help. I really appreciate this.

Susan Chung, 26-25 Union St. #3H Flushing, NY 11354, (646) 981-8198, susanchung@adelphi.edu

The French Croix De Guerre

I’m looking for information about the French Croix De Guerre medal, which was established by decree of the Republic of France in January 1952 to commemorate the services of the United Nations forces in the battle to maintain the Republic of Korea’s freedom against the invasion of the communist forces from the north. It was issued after the end of the war, but only upon application for it by individuals who had served under the UN organization’s command in Korea between 27 June 1950 and July 1954. This is all I know about it.

I am just wondering if anyone knows more about it. I have talked about the medal to many of my buddies who also served in Korea. They didn’t seem to know any more than I do about the medal or how and to whom it was issued.

Emilio F. Gusman, 1426 Erie St, Ottawa, IL 61350-3225

Can We Construct Some Engineering Data?

I contacted the US Army Engineer Museum at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO for any data re what the various Engineer units performed during the Korean War. Unfortunately, there is no such data on file there.

If all Engineer personnel who served in the Korean War would assemble their statistical data on what their unit performed during our war, i.e., identity of major projects, their locations, bills of materials, number of personnel involved, their leaders, and time to complete, and send it via email to Dr. Larry Roberts at larry.roberts1@us.army.mil, perhaps the museum could assemble a decent statistical history of the Engineer units in the Korean War like the ones which pertain to the Engineer units of WWII.

We Engineers did many things in Korea to support the war effort of the combat units and try to replace the ruined Korean infrastructure, while protecting ourselves in the process.

Lt. Col. Charles L. Collins, AUS EN. (Ret) 3931 Shamrock Dr Huntsville, AL 35810-4033.

HILL 180 from page 35

Millett enlisted in the Army as a private in 1942, earning a battlefield commission in World War II and many awards. After he returned home, he attended Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, before re-entering the Army for Korea service.

On February 5, 1951, as Easy Company was cautiously moving over frozen rice paddies as part of Eight Army’s “Operation Thunderbolt” to recapture Seoul from the Chinese, Captain Millett and his men were pinned down just south of what today is Osan Air Base by Chinese machine-gun fire from a small hill. Millett ordered two platoons to fix their bayonets, and then led the troops up the hill. He received the Distinguished Service Cross for his actions, but it was only a prelude to a bigger fight ahead.

Two days later, when Company E came upon Hill 180, a 600-foot knoll in Osan, they came under heavy fire. Millett ordered the tanks off the road, then grabbed the .50-caliber machine gun and began returning fire.

He told the tank’s gunner to continue firing. He leapt from the tank and ordered his men to fix bayonets. “We’re going up the hill,” he said. “Fix bayonets. Charge! Everyone goes with me!”

In the intense hand-to-hand combat, Millett personally killed at least three Chinese soldiers, but he was seriously wounded by an enemy grenade blast. By early afternoon, his Easy Company had taken the hill. Forty-seven dead Chinese lay on the forward slope, 30 of them killed with bayonets. On the reverse slope were another 50 Chinese bodies. Easy Company lost nine men.

Some historians have said that the Battle of Bayonet Hill was the “greatest bayonet attack by U.S. soldiers since Cold Harbor in the Civil War.” For his heroic action that day, Captain Millett was awarded the Medal of Honor at a White House ceremony on July 5, 1951. He retired from the Army as a colonel in 1973, after a career of 31 years that spanned three wars.

Colonel Millett now lives in Idyllwild, California. The Colonel did not attend the dedication ceremony in Korea this year due to declining health. However, Curley Knepp sent him pictures and copies of the program and articles for the mini-museum he has at his home.

Our best wishes go out to the Colonel, a great American. May God bless and keep him!

More information about Col Millett can be found at: MedalOfHonor.com and HistoryNet.com

Roberto Guerra

As I was going over the casualty list from my unit in Korea (35th Regt), I came across the name of my friend since childhood. What I had known for many years was that he had been with the 1st Cav. in Japan since before the Korean War started. He had been with “F” Co., 5th.Inf., 1st.Cav. His name was Cpl. Roberto Guerra, MOS 04812. He was born in El Paso, Texas in 1929.

I would like to make sure I have him with the right outfit. If anyone remembers him, that would be helpful.

Thank you

Raul Aguilar, El Paso, TX raul4928@sbcglobal.net
Those Tootsie Rolls Wouldn’t Freeze

By Marty O’Brien

The winters in Maine are cold and snowy, but Richard G. Chick, of Winthrop, Maine, will never forget how cold it was in December 1950 when he was fighting for survival in North Korea as a rifleman for the 1/1/1 Marines.

Chick earlier had survived the beach landing at Inchon in September and the subsequent hand-to-hand fighting in the streets of Seoul. He would also somehow survive the Battle of the Chosin Reservoir.

At one point he realized that he could not eat his C-rations because they were frozen solid. It occurred to him that he might starve to death. Luckily, he had a large stash of Tootsie Rolls in his pockets that were edible. That was his food for the next three days.

In December 2005, Dick wrote to the president of Tootsie Roll Industries in Illinois, thinking that the company might be interested in his story. It was. On December 7, he received a nice letter from President Ellen R. Gordon, who also sent him a very large box of Tootsie Rolls to put under his Christmas tree.

Dick Chick survived the Chosin campaign, but was later shot through the lungs in another battle in 1951. After a period of hospitalization, he was discharged in 1952.

Chick is a valued member of the CPL Clair Goodblood [MOH] Chapter #79 Augusta, Maine
Allegedly, if you want to learn anything about the military, you ask a “top sergeant.” Well, we are doing just that. Starting with this issue we are introducing a new feature, “Ask the Gunny.” If you have any questions about the KWVA and how it works, military protocol, etc., send them in to the “Gunny.” We’ll try to find someone to answer them—even if that someone is not a real “Gunny.”

Here is the first question.

What About the New KWVA Logo?

Well, that’s a wide-open question. But, National Secretary Bill Hutton answers it.

The new logo, in patch and cloth form, was introduced nearly a year ago. However, I am continually asked about the logo, whether it replaces the previous patch and decal, etc. Therefore, I felt it appropriate to send this update.

Officially, the logo is licensed to KVA Chapter # 299, and then granted to KWVA National as a part of Chapter 299 joining the Korean War Veterans Organization. It is the only patch that is under control of our organization. The patch or decal must be ordered through Tom Sunsari, kwvaflqm@tampabay.rr.com. Tom is the designated agent of the KWVA Recruiting Task Force for the patch, decals, and the new line of emblems and supplies he and the Task Force developed.

It is important to know that the logo, while “New,” is not a replacement, but a complement. The existing logo, with variations, prominently displaying the Korean Peninsula, is still an “official” patch. Many of you readers are already wearing the patch. Frequently, members wear both patches. In “uniform” I wear the “old” patch on my cap, and the new one on my shirt or jacket.

An important element of the logo is that it pays tribute to both the veterans that served during the active fighting period, June 1950-July 1953, and the Korea Service Veterans who served since the Armistice and up to today.

The designer of the logo, Don Struhar, did a tremendous job in developing the symbolism underlying the actions of Americans (and others serving with American units):

- The main elements rise above the mountains and valleys of Korea, showing the overcoming of the enemy in some of the most vicious fighting in the history of modern warfare.
- The symbol seal of South Korea—the “Yin and Yang” of the free Korean people—symbolizing their gratitude, is imbedded.
- The focal point is the American Eagle, with the stripes representing the 50 states of our country tying the symbolic elements together.
- The Eagle perches on citation ribbons of those who have held the DMZ since 1953.
- The 38th Parallel and DMZ are proudly proclaimed.
- The spell-out of our new name, and the binding of war and service Veterans, is lettered on an over-arching ribbon.
- The design is created by the original Korean War Veterans Association seal to symbolize our beginning over the elements signaling influence and guidance.

Every member of our organization should be able to identify with the logo, regardless of what period of service he or she served. Overall, the symbols show the continuation of service, from liberation to defense, which bind all Korean Veterans together.

“Top Ten” List Draws Veteran’s Ire

VFW Magazine included in a recent issue a list of “Top 10 Greatest War Movies.” Now, “Top Lists” are subjective at best and inane at least. They do nothing but create controversy—which is generally what they are intended to do. Certainly the VFW list raised the ire of at least one Korean War veteran, Frank Marcan, who is a life member of both the KWVA and the VFW. He wrote this letter to the magazine:

Gentlemen:

Well, you (VFW) did it again. Talk about being heated. I had to put this issue down for a couple weeks. For sure there were NO Korean War veterans at your water cooler. You’re telling me and my Korean War comrades that you could not find one movie about the Korean War worth a place in your “Top 10 Greatest War Movies?”

I can think of a couple that should rate consideration. Wasn’t “Pork Chop Hill” artistic and historical enough for you and your staff? “Bridges At Toko-Ri” was pretty good, too. After all, in 1954 it was awarded Best Visual Effects, and it was nominated for Best Editing.

The only one on the list I would have a problem with would be “Apocalypse Now.” It certainly does not have historical accuracy. I’ll say no more about it. Hollywood trash.

I feel that this list is another slap in the face to the Korean War veterans.

Sincerely,

Frank Marcan (fjm5thrc@earthlink.net)

NOTE: The VFW, under hostile fire from its readers, revised its list of “Top 10” movies to include several Korean War movies in the last issue of its magazine.
The 47th M.A.S.H.

He recalled that the terrain was harsh and the tents were the locations of numerous procedures in which wounded GIs and native civilians were “patched up.” Eventually, he noted, the unit moved to another location and into Quonset huts, where “life improved a little.” Unfortunately, he noted, he does not have pictures of the second location.

The 47th eventually was folded into another unit, but the Quonset huts remained. By 1953, the unit was located in Chunchon. As late as 1973, at least, the huts were being used to house a Republic of Korea Army radio/comm school.

Operating Room 47th M.A.S.H. Korea

This is a complete setting of a Mobile Army Surgical Hospital in Korea. Much of the equipment we used comprised items which could easily be left if we had to move in a hurry.
Some of the operating room tables were from WWII, maybe WWI. The scrub sink was constructed from gasoline barrels cut in half. Foot pedals were wooden clamps and latex tubing, which would turn the water on or off. There was NO hot water. In fact, you took a shower in cold water.

The lights over the operating tables were just light bulbs with deflecting shields. They were on sliding rope and wooden frames, and could be adjusted so the surgeons could see what they were doing. We did have a couple of spotlights, which we used on some occasions. They were on solid steel bases.

The small tables next to the operating tables were our prep tables. They contained green soap, merthiolate and alcohol, which was used to clean the area around the wounds.

Continued on page 60
At the head of the operating table was all the anesthetic equipment used by the Nurse Anesthetist. Yes, bless their hearts, they where all women. We did have one male anesthesiologist. Instruments and supplies were sterilized with kerosene Field Autoclaves. We used liquid sterilant to sterilize sharps.

There were ten enlisted men and one charge nurse, who was a captain. This nurse was also chief nurse of the unit.

I feel strongly that the helicopters and their pilots deserve a great deal of credit for saving lives. They would fly their helicopters up to the front lines, sometimes under enemy fire, to pickup the wounded and bring them to our M.A.S.H. It has been said by authorities that many times the wounded would be brought to us within fifteen minutes, or at least soon enough to give the severely wounded soldier a chance for life.

I am very proud to have served in Korea with this M.A.S.H. unit.

Walter O. Egli, 109 Elmwood Street, Lansing, KS 66043-1208,

Cpl. Klinger Wasn’t The Only One With A Fur Coat

Fans of the TV program MASH will no doubt remember Cpl. Klinger for the fur coat he sometimes wore. Sgt. Louis Gibbs, 1st MAW, VMF (N) 513, USMC, wore one as well. But, as he hastened to point out, “The coat was sent to me by an aunt as a joke.”

Louis Gibbs, P. O. Box 257, New Boston, MI 48164-0257

Dr. Sidney Esensten
By Irene L. Mandra

Dr. Sidney Esensten, life-long Twin Cities resident and noted physician, died of kidney failure on February 7, a day before his 83rd birthday, at his winter home in Rancho Mirage, CA.

His wife of 61 years, Gloria, survives him, as do his brother Jack, three sons, William, Richard and Tom, and their wives, and four grandchildren, Jeremy, Jennie, Joseph, and Benjamin.

Dr. Esensten was born in 1923 in St. Paul, MN, the fourth of five sons. His mother wanted him to become a rabbi. However, with the passing of his parents, he was raised by his oldest brother and sent to medical school.

Upon graduation from the University of Minnesota Medical School, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Army. He served his active duty time in Seattle, Kansas and Texas until discharged.

In August of 1950, he was called back to active duty and sent to Korea as a physician for the 25th Infantry Division.

He was captured by troops of the Chinese Communist Forces on November 22, 1950 in North Korea. They were marched to a temporary camp at Sombakol. Unfortunately for them, the winter of 1950 – 1951 was the coldest in Korea in 100 years.

A defining moment came on the day that he had to treat 50 POW suffering from pneumonia with enough penicillin for just one, so he gave placebos to 40 of them – all of whom died.

A defining moment came on the day that he had to treat 50 POW suffering from pneumonia with enough penicillin for just one, so he gave placebos to 40 of them – all of whom died.
One hundred and one. None of the people who died should have died. They were kids, 19 and 20 years old.” But, there were more horrors to come, as 75 percent of the U.S. soldiers captured during this time perished in the POW camps from starvation, disease and torture.

He and the other prisoners were moved to Camp 5 at Pyoktong, a bombed-out village on the banks of the Yalu River in North Korea that served as a major Communist prison camp. While there, he served as one of the camp’s physicians.

After three years of horrific internment, Dr. Esensten walked across the Freedom Bridge at Panmunjom on October 3, 1953. He continued his military service in the Army Reserve and retired as a Major.

He gave testimony to the U.S. Congress regarding treatment of POW by the Chinese and North Koreans and spoke about his experiences to anyone who would listen. In addition, he provided advice to the Army regarding recommended changes to rules of conduct for prisoners-of-war.

“I want to make it perfectly clear,” he said, “that except for the POW that were wounded at the time of capture, all the deaths in the Communist prison camps were caused directly or indirectly by starvation, exposure, torture, purposeful kill, and harassment by the enemy.”

On the long marches, it was all but impossible for any of the captured physicians to do much for the men except to offer encouragement. But, in the temporary camp at Sombakol, which the men called the “Valley,” he noticed that POW captured as a unit almost always did better than people who were captured as individuals.

Obstacle aside, he and another American physician, Major Clarence L. Anderson, managed to set up a temporary hospital. In the camps, they faced the daunting challenge of keeping men alive without proper facilities and little or no medicine. In one month alone, they lost over 1,000 men. Both men tried to keep a record of how many prisoners died and causes of death, but the Chinese would not allow it.

In spite of the many physical and psychological challenges he and his fellow POW had to endure, Dr. Esensten said that he came out of his experience a better man.

After Korea, he returned to his medical practice at the Belzer Clinic, later known as the Fairview Clinic. He was very proud of the fact that throughout his career he delivered over 10,000 babies.

He often spoke to medical groups about diseases and conditions he encountered as a POW. In addition, he took every opportunity to speak with groups and share his experiences with Communism and how it was really practiced.

As an active member of Temple Israel, Sidney made a bold commitment to youth when, in 1965, he and several others funded the purchase of a large Boy Scout camp on Lake Minnetonka, now known as Camp Teko.

In 1985, he was chief of staff at Fairview Riverside Hospital, where he gave a speech that was published as “Memories of Life as a POW 35 Years Later” in the July – August 1997; September – December 1997; and January – February 1998 issues of The Graybeards.

Major Esensten continued to practice medicine until he retired in 1999 at the age of 76. He continued to write about his personal experiences and on the chronic effects of POW life on former prisoners—and himself. In spite of his firsthand understanding of the POW experience, or perhaps because of it, Dr. Esensten admitted that he suffered from nightmares some three or four times a week.

We, the families of POW/MIA, wish to say goodbye to the good doctor who took care of our loved ones the best he knew how. In my heart, I know that many of those boys have warmly greeted him on the other side.

God Bless you, Doctor Sidney Esensten!

Excerpts taken from Remembered Prisoners of a Forgotten War, by Lewis H. Carlson, and several published obituaries.

Unless victims receive proper treatment, they will go through life battling distress symptoms.

Getting Help For PTSD

PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) is exposure to traumatic events such as those experienced in war or victims of disastrous events such as crimes, natural or industrial disasters, terrorist acts, or similar events. Following exposure to these events, victims experience many symptoms, e.g., nightmares, flashbacks, profound sadness, guilt, anger headaches, withdrawing from people, anxiety, fatigue, sexual problems, emotional numbness, lack of sleep, worry, and/or nervous fatigue.

Unless victims receive proper treatment, they will go through life battling distress symptoms. The good news for veterans is that PTSD can be treated successfully by their local VA Hospitals’ mental health clinics.

For more information on how to make a claim and suggested reading, please send me a self-addressed envelope and I will send you the information.

Byron W. Dickerson, 2nd VP
314 S. Horne St., Duncanville, TX 75116
(972) 298-7462

Choosing An MOS

It May Not Have Been Rocket Science

I joined the Army and went to Ft. Lewis for my eight weeks of basic training. After completing it, I was sent to Aberdeen, MD, for 12 weeks of training in Electrical Automotive.

In January 1952, as I was going to Korea, we stopped in Camp Drake, Japan, where they gave us our equipment. We stood in line, and they counted off every five men to receive a BAR. They changed my MOS to infantry and assigned me to Co. F., 17th Inf. Regt. I made my rank to Sergeant First Class.

John M. Chabala
1688 E. Los Altos Ave, Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 439-2910  arjochab@sbcglobal.net

The Graybeards  March - April 2006
The Mission Statement Says It All

MISSION STATEMENT

DEFEND our Nation
CARE for our Veterans
PERPETUATE our Legacy
REMEMBER our Missing and Fallen
MAINTAIN our Memorial
SUPPORT a free Korea

President Dechert’s letter in the January-February 2006 The Graybeards expressed the KWV A’s Mission Statement very well. Most importantly, he stressed that the honor and merit earned by the Korean veterans during the years 1950-1954 should go forth to the veterans serving on the DMZ during the Cold War years, which continues to this year and this century.

I am the wife of George Kinney, a combat infantry soldier who served in the 7th Infantry; 32nd Regiment in South/North Korea, 1951-1952. Together, he and I accepted the invitation from the South Korean government to fly to Seoul, where we participated in a memorial to the Korean War veterans, visited Korean historical monuments and, most importantly, went on a scheduled visit to the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) between North and South Korea.

We were indoctrinated by the Army Staff at the DMZ and learned about the Cold War phase of the Korean War, which is still going on today. We have all learned in our newspapers and on our TV screens about North Korea’s military strengths and the warrior posture that they present daily to us and the world. As visitors to the DMZ, we entered the negotiation room which is centered on the DMZ line, where we witnessed the armed North Korean guards monitoring our very presence. I believe I was about three feet from the North Korean guard, although we were separated by a glass window. There is no question that this war is a war. We learned about the many tunnels under the DMZ through which the enemy can enter South Korea, maybe even behind our soldiers’ positions. Seoul is only an hour’s trip from the DMZ.

Our soldiers on duty at the DMZ are always on alert and deserve full status in the KWVA. The Mission Statement reprinted above has as its number one point: DEFEND our Nation. Our service-men in Korea today are performing that mission.

As I close my letter, I choose to use a scene from American culture, namely, the movie entitled Camelot. I choose this scene because it is a very sentimental piece which depicts the role of our present day soldiers in Korea, as well as you and I, the citizens of America in the 21st Century.

King Arthur’s Organization, “The Knights of the Round Table,” has broken up and Arthur is himself a broken man as he prepares himself in the cold, foggy dawn to go to battle. All his dreams and hopes are gone. He stands alone awaiting the battle horns to sound. He is startled by the rustle of the bramble and stomping sounds approaching, and relieved when he discovers it is just a young lad appearing before him. He asks the lad where he is going. The lad responds, “I am going to join King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table.”

For the Defense of our Nation, and for the honor of those serving on the DMZ, I commend you for changing your policy on who to contact if they want to join chapters.

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For the Defense of our Nation, and for the honor of those serving on the DMZ, I commend you for changing your policy on who is qualified for KWV A membership.

Jane Kinney
117 Wild Horse Valley Rd, Novato, CA 94947

A Good Point - Print Contacts In Chapter News

I’m a “Graybeard” who lives in Kokomo, IN. You put in the magazine pictures and articles that pertain to Indiana veterans, but you don’t tell the readers who to contact if they want to join chapters.

I’d like to join the Indianapolis chapter, so I may have the pleasure of enjoying the camaraderie of my fellow Korean vets. I believe that if you include the names, addresses, etc., of the article writers, you would find that your KWV A membership would go up.

Glenn Sheets
7557 W 700 N
Sharpsville, IN 46068-9050

EDITOR’S NOTE: Mr. Sheets has a point. Starting with this issue, we will include each chapter’s contact in the CHAPTERS section. Let’s hope the inclusion does bring in more members.

More On M.A.S.H. Museum

I just read in the Nov.-Dec. 2005 issue of The Greybeards the two-page display of the M.A.S.H. unit located on Rt.46, in the New Jersey Aviation Hall of Fame, at the Teterboro Airport, Teterboro, N.J. Our unit appreciates what John Balla did to show our exhibit. As the Commander of M A.S.H 4099, I would like to give the readers of our magazine a little history of the project.

Don Kuehn and Joe Poggi, founders of Chapter 216, M.A.S.H. 4099, asked Hall of Fame officers if they could put an exhibit of a M.A.S.H. hospital on their grounds. On July 2, 2000, the M.A.S.H. 4099 compound was dedicated. In attendance were Lt. Gen. Claude Kicklighter, Defense Dept., then N.J. Governor Christie Whitman, and county and local
officials. (Note that the exhibit is the only living memorial to our departed and living veterans of the Korean War)

Don Kuehn became our first Commander. Illness forced Don to take it easy for a while after the first year. I assumed the Commander’s role, and have served ever since.

Over the past few years, M*A*S*H 4099 has been involved in the dedication of the Korean War monument in Fort Lee, one of the finest in the state. We hold ceremonies in June.

Commander Gonzales was a driving force in the Korean community, soliciting funds for the building of the monument. The Korean people donated three quarters of the cost. In Fort Lee we also have a park dedicated to Gen. James Van Fleet, who was born in the Coytsville section of town.

Our unit consists of all combat veterans of the Korean War. Our motto is, “We are an all-combat team.”

We would like to hear from John Balla, if he is local. Maybe he would like to join us.

Al Gonzales
115 Irving Street, Leonia,
NJ 07605

EDITOR’S NOTE: As we were preparing this section in early February 2006, the U.S. Army announced that it was eliminating its last M*A*S*H unit, which was in Afghanistan, and donating it to the Pakistani government. That ended a memorable era in U.S. military history.

Obituaries at the Korean War Memorial Not Feasible at This Time

ABMC is the agency responsible for the data on the Kiosk computer at the Korean War Memorial. Their responsibility is to capture and list only KIA and MIA of the Korean War as requested. I doubt ABMC would be receptive to enlarging that mission to include what John Varallo proposes (The Graybeards, Nov/Dec 2005, p. 61). Plus, it would, as some people surmise, involve a massive task and funding. Frankly, the money would be difficult to come by given the current deficit posture of the nation.

An equal problem would be the need to standardize and limit the nature of the obit. Conveying that to potential listers and controlling such might be an administrative nightmare.

The Navy Memorial Association runs a program at the Navy Memorial in DC which has computer listings of personnel who request such. The format is rigid. However, the mandatory cost for listing is $25.00 to the requestor. They have about 25-30 thousand listed, and the number is growing. But, the program is underwritten by the $25 ‘contribution!’ Clearly, ABMC, as a government agency, could not engage in a similar funding exercise.

The KWVM Foundation has on our website an Honor Roll. Upon request, we list an individual and include Korean War service data and a photo. We accept, but do not require, a donation as a means of raising funds for the Memorial Maintenance Endowment Fund and defraying costs of that element of the website. Currently, the Honor Roll segment of the website is undergoing updating and will be off line until mid to late February 2006. In frankness, it doesn’t get many requests. Probably due to our problems in ‘getting the word out’! The format we use is depicted on our website.

I can appreciate where John is coming from—but, until Korean War veterans are more willing to support actions related to the Memorial and bringing ‘The Forgotten War’ to the fore, I fear the warriors of that war will remain unseen and unknown!

No longer, The Forgotten War!

Bill Weber, Col (Ret), Chairman
Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation, Inc.
eagle187@direcway.com
website: www.KorWarVetsMemFnd.org

Thanks For Your Thanks

I was made a Life Member of KWVA when I was a member of the Colorado Chapter of KWVA several years ago. I have now changed to the Houston Chapter as it is much closer to my home in San Antonio. It is my understanding that the Life membership can and was given to me because I am a former Prisoner of War of the Chinese Communist army in Korea from November 29, 1950 til May 25, 1951.

Because I have been receiving the benefits of being a Life Member for several years without paying for it in dues, please
accept my check as a contribution from a former Marine who likes your association and your magazine very much.

Morris L. Estess, 12242 Ecksminster St., San Antonio, TX 78216

Were These National Guard Outfits?

I have been a lifetime member of the KWVA since 1989. Just to give you a little history, I was drafted into the army on Oct 1, 1951. After basic training I was sent to Korea. I arrived there in April 1952 at Pusan, from where I was sent by train to Chuncheon and assigned to the 55 Transportation Truck Bn. Then, I was sent to the 715 Transportation Truck Co. Other companies, to the best of my knowledge, were the 252, 396, 540 and 541. My question is this: were these companies National Guard outfits?

As best as I can remember, I have yet to see anything written about this event. When I arrived in this area, which was a 4-point area, many members of the National Guard were rotated back to the USA. They also reduced the points to 2 points. I served 18 months and was sent home in August 1953. I hope someone might have some information concerning my question.

We truck drivers served with honor and pride, and we shouldn’t be forgotten. The 715 Transportation Truck was a National Guard Co. from Washington, DC. That is all I know. I hope someone has some additional information. Thank you.

Joseph Calabria, 665 Barlow Ave., Staten Island, NY 10312

Matters Of Semantics. Or Matters Of Concern?

Bob George, who served in the Korean War with the USMC, made a distinction in a recent conversation between Korean War veterans and veterans of the Korean War. His thought was that the troops who were actually engaged in combat earned the Korean War veterans title. On the other hand, he noted, the service members who served away from the front lines should be called veterans of the Korean War. He emphasized that he was not detracting from the non-front lines’ service members’ contributions. George was simply suggesting that the true “Korean War” veterans were the people who actually saw combat “up close and personal.”

Similarly, Milton D. Drummond, Jr., “respectfully” submitted a request that “highways/bridges/etc., NOT be named for the Association, i.e., the KWVA, but as Korean War ‘Memorial’ Bridges/highways, etc. As he observed, “Some never lived long enough to become ‘veterans.”

Are such observations matters of semantics, or are they valid opinions?

We Didn’t Have It Easy At Sea, Either

I agree with what William Tinley mentioned about a larger Navy role in the Korean War and more stories about it (‘Feedback,’ Jan/Feb 2006, p. 61).

It’s true the lads on the beach had clothing not warm enough, and no hot baths, food, etc. But, one must remember that the ships we had were built-in-a-hurry WWII leftovers. In fact, we had 12 CVL-class high speed carriers built on cruiser hulls. The carriers had a lot of boiler troubles. We had to keep them going for 16-hour day shifts, plus stand watches.

Many sailors were killed in the fire room break-downs and flight deck accidents.

Jack Malloy, 340 Milltown Road, Brewster, NY 10509

A Flight Gone Astray From Los Angeles

I served aboard two warships during the Korean War: The USS Bisbee (PF-46), from September 1950 to December 1951, and the USS Orleck (DD-886), from December 1951 to April 1954. We had all sorts of times. One of the more humorous ones, which was captured in a photo that ran in the Sacramento Bee, took place when I was aboard the Orleck.

Unfortunately, we cannot reproduce the photo because of quality concerns. But, here is how the caption read:

Skillful Pilot – The helicopter from the cruiser Los Angeles was making a routine transfer from one ship to another in Korean waters when the engine failed. The pilot, Lieutenant W. W. Wear of Cedar Rapids, Ia., did a neat job of maneuvering as the ship lost altitude, setting down on the fantail of the destroyer Orleck. He avoided the gun mount by inches and managed not to set off the depth charges.

Being a quartermaster, I was on the bridge of the Orleck when this happened. Our captain had a great remark for the skipper of the Los Angeles when we pulled alongside to return the helicopter.

Perhaps some of The Graybeards’ readers were aboard one of the ships when this event occurred.

John Crossley, 616 Poplar Street Carson City, NV 89703, (775) 882-1468 jcrossley@775.net

What A Thrill It Is To Hear From Veterans

After my article and photos appeared on pp. 59-60 of the Nov/Dec 2005 issue of The Graybeards, I received several letters and phone calls from fellow veterans. Doctor Latham phoned me from Portland, Oregon. He was a young doctor with the Marine Corps. He saw the Repose in Pusan harbor in 1951. He informed me...
that the Repose also had a helicopter landing platform.

I received a letter from Harold J. Arndt, Jr., who saw the Repose in Pusan in April of 1951. He was in the Air Force. He ended up as a patient aboard the Haven when I was aboard. He sent me a photo of a fellow corpsman in his ward.

I also got a phone call from Don Swanson, who was in the Army stationed at the Presidio in San Francisco. He assisted in the recovery of the bodies after the Benevolence sank under the Golden Gate Bridge.

I am thrilled to hear from fellow veterans so many years after our lives took us to that part of the world.

Tony Ybarra, 1653 Glenville Dr., San Jose, CA 95124-3808

I Served on the Repose


We did have a landing pad on the fantail.

Alva F. (Sam) McClary
10472 Campbell Ave.
Riverside, CA 92505, (951) 687-5927

EDITOR’S NOTE: McClary, who served in the Navy for 8 years and the Air Force for 13, included a history of the Repose. Here is part of a history taken from www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/USN/ships/dafs/AH/ah16.html. (Just for the record, the Repose was reactivated for Vietnam service, where it also earned nine Battle Stars):

With the outbreak of the Korean War, there was a desperate need for hospital ships. Repose was transferred to the Naval Shipyard, San Francisco, 20 July 1950 and ordered activated at the earliest possible date. She was delivered to and accepted by MSTSPAC 26 August 1950. Five days later COMSTS was authorized to operate the ship with a civilian crew. She sailed for Yokohama, Japan, 2 September 1950, and arrived on the 16th. There a Navy crew embarked, and the next day she steamed for Pusan, Korea, arriving the 20th.

She served there as a station hospital through 26 October, then she departed for Yokohama with 189 patients. Shifting to Yokosuka, she recommissioned on the 28th, Capt. C.H. Perdue in command, and Capt. E.B. Coyl, MC, as senior medical officer.

Returning to Korea 13 November, Repose served at Inchon, Chinnampo, and Pusan before transporting 301 patients to Yokohama, Japan. There she underwent availability through 5 February 1951, thence returned to Korea, where she provided hospital services between Korean and Japanese ports.

Repose departed Yokosuka 22 January 1952, touching at Pearl Harbor en route to the west coast. A call at San Diego 11 February was followed by overhaul and installation of a stern helicopter platform at Long Beach. Sea trials were completed 23 April, followed by departure from San Diego for the Far East a month later. Standing into Inchon Harbor 24 June, Repose commenced receiving patients the same day. She was joined 22 July by Haven (AH-12).

Following a period of patient transfer operations between Korean and Japanese ports, Repose steamed 14 February 1953 for San Francisco, arriving there 6 March. Transferring to Craig Shipbuilding Co., Long Beach, 2 April, she underwent repairs through 12 May, steamed for Pearl Harbor 6 days later, thence to Yokosuka, arriving there 5 June.

Operations in Korean waters recommenced on 14 June when Repose again took station at Inchon. Several patient transfer runs to Japan were climaxed by a return to home via Pearl Harbor. Touching at San Diego 11 February 1954, she then entered the Long Beach Naval Shipyard 28 April-1 September. Arriving San Francisco 2 September, Repose was transferred on 27 September 1954 to the Naval Reserve Fleet, San Francisco Group. She decommissioned at Hunter’s Point Naval Shipyard 21 December 1954.

I Remember Two Marines—And I Will Never Forget The Korean War

I am writing to you about two Korean War Veterans I knew personally. Both were Marines. One was my older, by 6 years, brother, George W. Gosse, from Philadelphia, PA. George served in Korea from approximately September, 1951 to September, 1952. I still have the letters that he sent me dated from December, 1951 through April, 1952.

His return address on these letters at first was: Pfc. George W. Gosse 1184678, “B” Co. 1st Bn. 5th Marines, 1st Mar. Div. F.M.F., c/o F.P.O. San Francisco, Calif.


After Korea, George married Lorraine, had five sons, and was a successful commercial roofing superintendent. He still lived in Philadelphia. Sadly, George passed away in 1977 at the age of 45.

The second Marine is Louis Sigmund, also of Philadelphia, PA. Lou is a family friend. In fact, he was my brother George’s best man at his wedding. I don’t know Lou’s service dates in Korea, but he was wounded, losing 4 fingers on a hand. Lou received the Navy Cross! He lives in Wildwood, NJ. I don’t see him often. The last time was in October, 2005.

In closing, my family, George’s family, and Lou’s family still remember and WILL NOT FORGET!

SEMPER FI to all Korean War Veterans

Joe Gosse, 3909 Old Forge Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23452
(757) 431-0275, jlgosse@cox.net
Strategic Psychological Warfare In Korea Used Radio Broadcasts As Ammunition

♦ Photo Essay By Eddie Deerfield, Lt Col, Army (Ret.)

Most Korean War veterans are familiar with Loudspeaker and Leaflet Companies operating on or near the front lines of combat with artillery shells filled with pamphlets and powerful loudspeakers mounted on jeeps. Their goal was tactical – to encourage the surrender of enemy troops. The L&L units began arriving in South Korea in November, 1950. Far less known were the American military forces charged with conducting strategic psychological warfare, using radio broadcasts as weapons.

The 1st Radio Broadcasting & Leaflet Group (1st RB&L), made up mostly of Army reservists skilled in radio and print journalism and public relations, was established at Fort Riley, Kansas in the early spring of 1951. After several months training, the unit shipped out for Japan and Korea. Its mission was strategic – to accomplish the long-term objectives of the United Nations Command, not only in North Korea and China, but also among the people of South Korea.

The Cold War was raging. The three geographic areas were bombarded by Soviet Union radio broadcasts preaching better lives for the inhabitants under Communism.

The primary mission of the 1st RB&L was to destroy this illusion of the Communist ideal by convincing audiences that democracy was the best means of achieving freedom to better their lives. Truth in the telling was the Group’s guiding principle.

On arrival in Japan in the summer of 1951, the 1st RB&L became part of the Psywar Section of GHQ in Tokyo. Personnel of the Group’s 4th Mobile Radio Broadcasting Company (4thMRB) were detached to Korea to take control of radio transmitters in Seoul, Pusan, Taegu and Taejon. The temporary capital of the South Korean government of President Syngman Rhee at the time was Pusan. The city’s radio station, HLKA, became the primary source of programs on the Korean Broadcasting System. Transmitters in the other locations served as relay stations.

I was a 2d Lieutenant with a degree from Northwestern University in radio journalism and three years as a writer for the Chicago Times when I was called up out of the Army Reserves to join the 1st RB&L at Fort Riley in April, 1951. I was assigned to Pusan as detachment commander. The photos on these pages provide some insights to the unit’s conduct of psychological warfare by radio from Pusan in the Korean Theater of Operations.

Eddie Deerfield, 3552 Landmark Trail, Palm Harbor, FL 34684-5106

An 8-man detachment of the 1st Radio Broadcasting & Leaflet Group lived on the guarded compound of Station HLKA of the Korean Broadcasting System. The compound was on a hill overlooking the city of Pusan. The powerful transmitter in the compound sent broadcast signals to other transmitters throughout South Korea for relay into North Korea and China. The enlisted men were housed in a Quonset hut. There was a small wood-framed tent for the lone officer.
Sitting on the opposite side of the same room as the American writers, a team of translators converted the scripts into the Korean language. As a security measure, there were random checks of the translations and the actual broadcasts to make sure they reflected the original scripts. Sabotage was always a possibility.

Among the duties of the 1st RB&L’s Pusan detachment was the recording of speeches by South Korea’s President Syngman Rhee for broadcast. The recording was carefully screened to make sure it did not conflict with policies of the United Nations Command. The president’s goal, contrary to that of the UNC, was a military drive north of the Yalu River to secure all of the Korean Peninsula. With the president (right) are Lt. Eddie Deerfield (standing) and technician Lee Tuk Bin (sitting).

Events attended by senior officers of the UN Command and high-ranking ROK officials were covered routinely by the 1st RB&L and reported in newscasts. Here (L-R) are MajGen James Van Fleet, 8th Army Commander LtGen Matthew Ridgway, UN Forces Commander, President Syngman Rhee, and his wife Francesca.

Their goal was tactical – to encourage the surrender of enemy troops.

Fourteen men in the leadership of the 1st Radio Broadcasting and Leaflet Group gathered at the Taegu City Assembly Hall on 18 May 1952 to receive the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation and individual commendations from the ROK Ministry of Defense. The men served at four radio broadcast stations in South Korea and at Far East Command headquarters in Tokyo.
A Matter Of Fate

I told him I couldn't remember what he looked like. I asked if he remembered, and if he was the lieutenant I helped carry to the slit trench.

By Paul W. Hockla

I believe that at times fate brings people together. On October 16, 2003, I was at a local KWVA chapter meeting when one of the members handed me a copy of the 25th Division Tropic Lightning summer publication. There was a story about a Second Platoon leader of Baker Co., 14th Inf., 25th Div., in action in May 1953. I was in Baker Co. of the 14th Infantry at that same time.

The article was about Elko and Carson, two outposts that resulted in the loss of many men. In March of 1953, the Marines paid a high price in lost men. In May, the Turkish Brigade lost their share. On May 28th and 29th, it was Baker Co., 1st Bn.'s turn.

I had only been in Baker Co. a short time, and I didn't know many men. Edward Holland, from Fall River, MA, and I were replacements. About mid-day on May 29th, Baker Co. made two assaults on Outpost Carson from Elko. In the trench on the reverse side of the slope lay many Chinese soldiers, who were stacked one on top of another.

Platoon Leader Perry Edgar led the first assault. He was right out front. He was yelling, “Fire those rifles.” He was truly a soldier. The assault—and the one following—cost Baker Co. its share of men: 10 killed, 100 wounded, and 2 missing.

On the second assault, we ran into trouble. On the down hill part, my M1 jammed. I tried opening the breech with my foot. Incoming rounds were falling all over the place, but I still could not open the breech. I was in real trouble.

Just to my left lay an M1 that one of the wounded men had left behind on the first assault. There was a Chinese forward observer in a trench on the skyline on the opposite hill, about 250 or 300 yards away. He was firing at us with a burp gun. By this time our platoon leader was wounded. I ran down and helped carry him to a slit trench on top of Elko. Then I returned down the hill to join three other men there.

A BAR man was hit in the leg by the burp gun. Edward Holland was hit in the head. The man on my left was also hit. I was giving supporting fire, while what was left of the 2nd Platoon moved back up the hill. The observer with the burp gun had an antenna strapped on his back, which swayed as he moved to the left and fired. When he moved to the right, I put my sights of the M1 on the base of the antenna. When he rose waist high to fire, I stopped him cold.

By that time, I was the last man. I started up the hill from which we had come. F-84s were overhead dropping napalm. I dove into a foxhole that was about two feet deep.

Fifty-one years passed. On December 3, 2003, I found a Perry Edgar over the phone. He was living in Chester, VT at the time. We had a very long conversation that day in Korea in 1953. I told him I couldn’t remember what he looked like. I asked if he remembered, and if he was the lieutenant I helped carry to the slit trench. I noted that the lieutenant I had helped had no helmet or rifle, and that when I grabbed him by the belt to carry him, if he had had a rifle, he would probably have shot me. I told him that according to the article in Stars and Stripes, that lieutenant had died, but he sounded very much alive.

We had a laugh. He promised to send a picture, and I suggested that we should wait until spring 2004 to meet. He said we should meet sooner.

Continued on page 71
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. 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 The Graybeards, or to KWVA with a note in the memo (or “for”) section at the bottom of the check “Support of The Graybeards.” Every donation will be acknowledged in The Graybeards.

Send checks to KWVA Treasurer Richard E. Hare, 1260 Southampton Drive, Alexandria, LA 71303.

The Loss of A Friend

I joined the 7th Division, 32nd Regiment, 3rd Battalion, King Co, machine gun squad as assistant gunner just two months before we moved up on Outpost Yoke across from T Bone. We relieved the Ethiopians the first week in July of ’53 and took over a 50 caliber machine gun. Cpl. Richard White, squad leader, and I became friends and buddies.

The nearby photo of Richard White was taken with my 35mm Bolsey on B/W inside of our bunker on July 9, 1953 on outpost Yoke. You can barely see his Rosary hanging from a nail just above the ammo belt on the “50.”

On the 9th of July the Ethiopians relieved us. Along with I & L Company, we moved up to replace the 17th Regiment on Pork Chop. When I took the picture, I had no idea that on July 10th we would be separated by minutes in the trenches of Pork Chop Hill when White would take an incoming mortar round and be gone. 

Cpl. Richard White on Outpost Yoke

Lloyd “Bill” Hitt, 10738 Plateau Drive, Sunland, CA 91040, Landmhitt@cs.com

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APPLICATION FOR KVA SEOUL REVISIT TOUR

KVA (Seoul) Revisit Purpose: “To express the gratitude of the Korean Government towards Korean War Veterans who took part in the Korean War from June 25, 1950 to October 15, 1954.”

Veteran’s Personal History (Please type or print)

Last Name ________________________________ First __________________________ MI ______ Date of Birth ______________

KWVA Members# __________________________ Expiration Date ______________

Companion Name/Relationship __________________________ Date of Birth ______________

Address __________________________________ City ________________________ State ____ Zip ______________________

Phone # ________________________________ Fax ________________________ Email______________________________

Veteran’s Passport# ____________________________________________________ Expiration Date ______________

Companion’s Passport# ________________________________________________ Expiration Date ______________

NOTE: If you do not have a current valid passport or have just applied to KVA, write “applied for” on # line

Veteran’s Military Bibliography

Branch of Service __________________________ Service Number ______________________________________________

Period of Service in Korean War (month/year) from __________________________ thru ________________________________

Unit Assignment ____________________________ Location of Unit ______________________________________________

Rank Achieved in Korea ______________________ Highest Rank Achieved while in Service _______________________

Personal Military Decorations for Valor ______________________________________________________________________

Veteran’s Certification

I hereby certify that I have never previously accepted a KVA (Seoul) Revisit tour and that I am a member in good standing (or have applied) with the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA).

Veteran’s Signature______________________________________________________ Date ______________________________

Complete and mail this form along with a $300 deposit per person (check, money order or Visa/Mastercard only) to Military Historical Tours. Payment in full is required for all applications submitted sixty days or less prior to departure.

Credit Card Authorization

I, ______________________________________ hereby authorize Military Historical Tours to make charges to my ____________ credit card, Account#: __________________________________________________ Expiration date: ______________

in consideration for airline tickets and any other travel or transportation services or products as requested by me or authorized users of this credit card. Signature: _________________________________________________

Mail To…

KWVA Revisit Korea Program

Phone: 703-212-0695

c/o MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS

Fax: 703-212-8567

4600 Duke Street, Suite 420

E-mail: mht@miltours.com

Alexandria, VA 22304-2517

www.miltours.com

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 War and to show them the bountiful results of their sacrifices and devotion.

KVA’s Eligibility Requirements

You are eligible if you are:

1. A veteran of the Korean War and/or a war correspondent of any of the 21 nations which came to assistance of the Republic of Korea between 25 June 1950 and 15 October 1954.

2. An immediate family member of one who was killed in action in the Korean War.

Privileges Accorded Veterans by the KVA, Seoul

1. Hotel accommodations (two persons per room), meals, tours, and transportation, while in Korea for six days and five nights.

2. Tours of Seoul and vicinity. The visits are to Panmunjom, North Korean Invasion Tunnels, Korea War Memorial Monument, National Cemetery, National Museum, Korean Folk Village, Korean War Museum,

Note: You are permitted to take a spouse or one immediate descendent with you to Korea. The family member must be lodged in the same hotel room with you in Korea.
Revisit Korea - 2006

I am pleased to announce that we received the 2006 “Revisit Korea” quotas from the ROK government early this year. This will afford all Korean War veterans and their families more opportunity to prepare for the journey and get passports and visas in order. (Remember, visas are required for those going on to China.) The 2006 quotas have been increased, for which we have our President Lou Dechert to thank. He traveled to Korea last year and lobbied for these increases. His logic was simple: although we don’t like to admit it, we are all getting older. Each year more and more veterans are becoming unable to make that long trip and receive the appreciation of the Korean people. His visit was successful. Therefore, the new quota dates are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KOREA</th>
<th>CHINA OPTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 14 - 20</td>
<td>May 20 - 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 21 - 27</td>
<td>June 27 - July 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 10 - 16</td>
<td>Sept 16 - 21</td>
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In the last several years, more and more of the veterans have elected to do a post tour of China. Beijing is less than two hours flight time from Inchon. Since you are already in Asia, you might as well also enjoy the mysteries of China from the “Forbidden City” on Tian An Men Square to the “Great Wall.” My wife and son have done this with me, and loved every minute of it!

China is very exciting—and affordable—since you have already paid to fly across the Pacific and your Revisit Korea tour has been subsidized by the ROK government. The ladies will especially like the shopping in both Korea and China!

AS IN THE PAST, these quotas will go very fast. And, we are required by KWVA to allot them on a strict “first come first served” basis. The bottom line: “He who hesitates may be lost!”

Please call my office, Military Historical Tours, at 703-212-0695 in Alexandria, VA on any questions. You can also apply on the phone, with a credit card, to place your name on the registration list. The eligibility for these subsidized quotes is contained on the application form located elsewhere in The Graybeards magazine.

Sincere and fraternal regards,

Warren
Wiedhahn
Korea - 1950
Revisit Korea Coordinator

FATE from page 68

I received the photo on December 6, 2003. I could not believe it; it was him. The article had been wrong, apparently.

On January 25, 2004, Perry came to Stafford Springs, CT. I had tears in my eyes when I saw him. He said he remembered me now. We spent the day looking at pictures I have of Korea. We had a great time, and my wife Anna Mae took photos of the two of us.

In April 2004, Perry called me to say he had suffered a heart attack, and the medical staff at the hospital in Springfield, VT had inserted a stent. So, on April 19, I called him. Perry reported that he was feeling better. On May 11th Anna Mae and I drove up to Springfield to visit Perry and his wife Charlotte. He looked healthy and seemed to be doing okay. But, only eight days later his daughter Carol called to tell us that Perry had suffered a massive heart attack. We were shocked.

Sad to say, on May 26th, 2004, Perry died, only three days short of the 51st anniversary of the day he was wounded on that hot May 29th, 1953. On June 26, 2004, we attended a memorial service for Perry. It was an emotional day for me and the people of Vermont. They lost a great guy.

Granted, the time he and I spent together was short. But, I cherish the time we did have. Fate works in strange ways. Strange, yes—but in a positive manner, as this story demonstrates.

Paul Hockla, 38 Park St
Stafford Springs, CT 06076-1365
Update From Korea

It has been suggested from time to time that we include in The Graybeards a compilation of events taking place in Korea, both North and South. After all, Americans played a large role in securing the freedom of South Korea over a half-century ago, and a lot has happened since. In fact, we still have approximately 30,000 U.S. troops in Korea.

So, we will begin including a round-up in each issue to give our readers an idea of how their efforts in Korea have paid up over the years—and will continue to pay off.

The items below are reprinted from the Jan/Feb/March 2006 Korean War Veterans of Massachusetts, Inc.’s newsletter, “The Morning Calm.” We thank them for the information.

There are several other articles each week concerning contemporary events in Korea available on the KWVA website: www.KWVA.org.

Troop Reductions in Korea

Army General Leon LaPorte, the top American commander in Korea, is scheduled to be replaced by General B. B. Bell, who currently is commander of U. S. Army Europe and Seventh Army.

General LaPorte has assessed the situation in Korea as one where there is noticeable improvement. LaPorte says that North Korea’s military provocations have been declining. Pyongyang has permitted thousands of South Koreans to visit Mount Kumtang on the North Korean east coast; opened the Kaesong industrial park in the north to South Korean investments, and cooperated in building two new highways which link north and south.

Simultaneously, the U. S. government is looking for greater financial and operational role on the part of the South Koreans, thus reducing America’s involvement. Troop draw-downs are underway from the 37,500 level to 29,500 at year end 2005. Seoul, on the other hand, wants control of the joint military command. Control would shift back to the U.S. during open warfare.

In Energy Matters

Regarding the atomic energy matters being debated by diplomatic meetings among the two Koreas, US, China, Japan and Russia, progress is difficult to measure. The North agreed (sort of) to abandon atomic weapons work and to reform the Nuclear War Proliferation Treaty soon. In return, they want a nuclear reactor to generate electricity before any disarmament.

The U.S. counters that the reactor is provided only when North Korea stops its weapons program and reveals the state of its atomic development efforts. These negotiations appear to be stalled for the moment.

Globalization Is Not A Good Thing For Korea (Or Japan)

The South Korean population has reacted to economic problems with a backlash and distrust of foreign capital investments and skepticism about globalizations and business in general. Significant numbers of Korean jobs are moving overseas!! And, of all places, to China! (Sound familiar?)

The majority of Japanese and Korean population members are in agreement that globalization is bad for them, even though as major exporters they benefit greatly from trade.

Sweet Home Alabama For Hyundai

Hyundai, South Korea’s major automobile manufacturer, opened a new $1.1 billion manufacturing plant in Alabama. The new plant will be producing more than 300,000 vehicles per year—made in America, by Americans, for Americans, with Korean engineering and international capital. That is globalization in action. Moreover, it would not have been possible were it not for the U.S.’ ongoing participation in the Korean War and its aftermath.

Why is the Sphinx of Interest to Korean War Veterans?

The Sphinx has an interesting history. It is one of 39 LSTs converted to ARLs (repair ships)—and the last one remaining in the United States. The ship served in three wars.

It was part of the occupation forces in Japan, and participated in the atom bomb tests at Bikini Atoll. After being decommissioned on May 26, 1947, it was placed in reserve, and recommissioned on November 3, 1950. During the Korean War, the Sphinx participated in operation “Passage to Freedom,” relocating refugees to South Vietnam, and repairing and servicing fleet units that were being used in Korea. Finally, during the Vietnam conflict, the ship operated in the Mekong River Delta area. Then, it was painted a camouflage green and serviced river patrol craft.

The ship underwent a $25 million dollar before participating in the Navy’s war on drugs. It was decommissioned for the final time in 1989.
Revisit Korea

From Minnesota to Korea

In September 2005, five Korean War veterans from Minnesota and their spouses traveled back to the “Land of the Morning Calm” on a Revisit Korea trip. “What a wonderful experience,” they exclaimed.

They noted that South Korea is the “only country in the world to say, ‘Thank you’—and they treated our veterans as honored guests.” Everything was nothing but the best for the folks on the tour.

“It was a long flight,” they said, “but worth every minute of it.”

How Chunchon Has Changed

Wayne Pelkey reflects on his visit to South Korea in 2000. His description of Chunchon may be of special interest to people who went through the repo center there during the war.

You can see firsthand the big changes in Chunchon since 1953! I could hardly believe my eyes to see a modern city of 295,000 people, with high-rise living, upscale shops, and an obvious thriving economy. Everything from fancy Gucci shops to McDonald’s.

Note the photo on page 76 of the Sejong Chunchon resort hotel where we stayed, particularly the beautiful landscaping and front entrance. This hotel is less than a mile from the old repo center at which we arrived in 1953.

The second photo on page 76 is of four of us in preparation for breakfast. Note the satin drapes, tablecloths, china and stemware on table…everything was spotless! We enjoyed a nice western style breakfast with ham and& eggs, biscuits, coffee and fruit. Only thing missing in Korea is milk, except for type made from powder; there is no room in Korea for pasturing cows!

We had former PFCs to a general on this trip, but rank meant nothing in light of the great conversation and camaraderie we all shared. The only time rank was pulled was by the wives of some of the members!

Wayne Pelkey
12 Clover Lane
Barre, VT 05641.

2004 Korea Battlefield Tour

By Paul Evans

The tour consisted of 22 or so people, counting veterans and family members. It took place in the last half of April, 2004. There were two of us who served in the Chorwon sector: me and Jack Rose, my old company commander. The other veterans all served on the eastern front.

Jack and I were busy at our first stop locating familiar land marks from 53 years earlier. Consequently, we didn’t take any pictures. Fortunately, our comrades and friends took some good ones. I have used photos (see pages 76 and 77) from Debbie Woodall, Joyce DeVaney, Jack Rose and Todd Gale. Todd, the son of Alfred Gale, a veteran of the 40th ID, took some good shots of the Chorwon area and other areas, I’m sure. They have all given me permission to use their photos. For this I wish to thank them.

I am including an article that was published (with some modifications made from the original) in the Los Alamos [NM] Monitor, November 14, 2004. After this article was published I got a call from a very nice Korean Lady who lives in town. Later, my wife and I met with her and her husband and discussed her native land. She was a young child during the Korean War, and a very interesting person. Her husband was an officer in the 2nd Engineer Bn, 2nd ID.

Several Korean War veterans, plus family members, toured some of the Korean War Battlefields, including some we served in 53 years ago. The country has changed.

The mountains are now covered with trees, not the shattered stubs we all remember. The towns we remember as piles of rubble are now thriving cities, with the exception of Chorwon. Chorwon was never rebuilt because of the many atrocities committed by the North Koreans (NK) there.

Seoul is now a thriving city, with numerous tall buildings and many outlying clusters of tall apartment buildings. They serve as bedroom communities, all of which are connected to Seoul by a very modern subway system.

We landed at the Inchon International Airport. The tour started immediately with a visit to Freedom Park and then on to Inchon harbor and the landing beach at Wolmi-do Island. Next, we checked into the Hamilton Hotel located in the Itaewon shopping district. The

Continued on page 75

Minneapolis veterans and spouses revisit Korea (Back L-R) Bill Wellenberg, Sylvia Nelson, Carol Lewandowski (Front L-R) Dave Kramer, Cornelius and Patricia Warzecha, Ervin Lewandowski (in original uniform), Betty Kramer, Ila and Wayne Uptagrafft
KWVA
Korean Collection Fund Raiser

"In my opinion, the M1 Rifle is the greatest battle implement ever devised." - Gen. George S. Patton

This collection of authentic infantry weapons from WW II and the Korean War could be yours. Call today for details.

(315) 457-1681 or (817) 244-0706

Contributors to the KWVA Korean Collection Fund Raiser will receive a complimentary 1 year “Associate” membership in the KWVA.
The next day (4/23) we toured points of interest in Seoul. First, we visited the Kim’s Palace, established in 1395. That was followed by visits to the Korean Folk Museum and North Mountain.

After viewing Seoul from North Mountain we headed out to the Chorwon Valley via the Uijongbu corridor, crossing the 38th parallel on the way. Approaching the area we entered the “Civil Exclusion Zone” and proceeded to our hotel; the Chulwon Spa Tourist Hotel, located on the Hantan River. All areas in the Civil Exclusion Zone have many ROK army installations. Most roads have land mines on likely avenues of approach. There are rice paddies and farms interspersed with the army bases. All areas are heavily defended. The demilitarized zone (DMZ), which is 151 miles long, is defended by 650,000 ROK troops on the south side against an NK force of 1,200,000 to the north.

After breakfast on 4/24 we headed out to the DMZ and the ROK Yeolse (Key) OP. This OP, which is manned by the ROK 5th ID, is located on the old MLR (Hill 418) south east of “T-Bone.” We had a good view of T-Bone, Alligator Jaws, Wadunji Finger, Yoke, Point Eerie, and many more familiar landmarks.

Next, we moved west to a ROK 50 Cal MG position about 1300 M east of Hill 347. Here we had a good view of Pork Chop Hill (now in NK), Hill 200, and Hill 347 (ROK GP-172). Pork Chop Hill was the site of the famous battle that inspired the movie of the same name starring Gregory Peck. The events depicted in the movie are essentially accurate.

To the west we had a distant view of ROK GP-171(on Baldy Ridge) and GP-170 (east of Togun-Gol), our old position of March 1952. We could not see much of the left flank area where we spent March, April and July 1 – 15, 1952. (See the small red x’s on the attached map for the location of our stops.)

After leaving the west flank area we toured the bombed-out remains of the NK Peoples Labor Party Building, located in the old city of Chorwon. Next, we visited the memorial to the ROK battle for “White Horse Hill” (10/52), a very bitter battle fought and won by the ROK 9th ID.

We departed the Chulwon Hotel (4/25) for the Punch Bowl via Kumhwa, Hwachon Reservoir, and Yanggu. Stopping in Kumhwa, we walked around downtown. It is a small modern city. Chorwon and Kumhwa form the southern base of the Iron Triangle; Pyonggang, now in NK, forms the northern apex of the triangle.

The road leading up to the Punch Bowl rim was very steep. Then, we dropped down into the Punch Bowl itself, where we visited the museum. Next, we went into the NK tunnel # 4, walking down the intercept bore hole, then taking an electric trolley into NK and back. The actual tunnel was about 5’ W X 5’ H. It was very wet, with water dripping from the ceiling. After exiting from the tunnel, we proceeded on to the north rim of the Punch Bowl to the ROK Eulji OP, another very steep climb.

After viewing the DMZ, we exited the Punch Bowl and proceeded to Inje and the Sky Lark Hotel, our home for the next two nights. We had dinner at a very picturesque restaurant behind the hotel. Sue and I walked around all the nearby streets and took several pictures.

We departed the hotel (4/26) for Heartbreak Ridge. We rode a bus to the bottom, where we were met by a ROK army band in dress uniforms with red tunics. After being warmly greeted by the band, we loaded into KIA jeeps and started our 45-minute drive up to Hill 931 on Heartbreak Ridge. The ride up is very steep and rough, and it required low gears for most of the trip up. From the ROK OP we had a good view of the rugged country around the Heartbreak Ridge area. We could see the NK GP to the north.

On 4/27 we departed Inje for Seoul via the Kapyong High School, originally built by the 40th ID in 1952. Again, we were met by a band and a very warm welcome. The principal also expressed his country’s gratitude for US participation in the Korean War. After that stop, we continued to Seoul down the Han River valley, where some of us visited the Korean War Museum. It is a very big impressive and interesting museum. Afterward, we checked into the Hamilton Hotel again.

The next day (4/28) we departed the hotel for Panmunjom. Here we got a briefing and a tour of the joint security area, getting a distant view of “Freedom Bridge.” We visited building T-2, the peace conference building. After leaving conference Row, we viewed Propaganda Village and stopped briefly at the “Bridge of No Return.” Bob Arians, my assistant and good friend, walked back across this bridge on 8/5/53 to freedom once again after 16 months as a POW. We were together the night of 4/16/52, when we were caught in an ambush at very close quarters; he was seriously wounded and captured.

On the way back to Seoul, we made a roadside lunch stop and viewed another monument dedicated to the United States forces that fought in the Korean War. That night we were treated to an extravagant farewell dinner. All veterans were presented a medal by the KVA and KNTO.

The next day (4/29), some of us toured the Korean War Museum again, while others went shopping. In the afternoon, we checked out of the hotel, went to the Inchon International Airport, and returned home.

We had many pleasant experiences on this tour. I heartily recommend it to all Korean War veterans. We had a warm reception everywhere we went, and we ate a lot of good Korean food. Most meals were Korean; we ate Kimchi for breakfast, dinner and some times for lunch.

It is impossible to describe in words how warm and friendly the Korean people of all ages were to us. At all stops we were greeted by kids, teenagers and adults with smiles, handshakes, salutes and bows. I don’t know of another nation that after 50+ years would still show such sincere appreciation for helping them save their country. We saw no demonstrations or other displays of disrespect. South Korea is truly now a vibrant thriving nation.

About the Author

The author is a Korean War veteran. He served with Company L, 279th Infantry, 45th ID in the Chorwon valley sector. He rose to the rank of Master Sergeant in Korea and commanded a rifle platoon in combat in
Images of a Korea Revisit.....

L-R around the table: Lt. Col. Calderara (who was with 245 tankers), Col Reynoldson (of 17th, 7th Div and in Inchon landing), Cpl. Escalate (from LA area and also with 17th of 7th Div) and Wayne Pelkey

This Sejong Chunchon resort hotel is a tad nicer than the old repo center

Tour map showing points we visited or passed through on the tour

Tunnel #4 in the Punch Bowl, north east corner

ROK band at base of Heartbreak ridge

Punch Bowl view looking SE from north rim

View looking N from Yeolse_OP

View looking NW from Yeolse_OP

Present ROK OP on the old MLR (Hill 418).

45th ID East flank, OP-1 on 7/3 - 4/52.

View looking NE from Yeolse_OP

View looking NNE from Yeolse_OP

View looking N from Yeolse_OP

View looking NW from Yeolse_OP
View looking WNW from Yeolse_OP

Yoke outpost 1952

Bridge at Panmunjom that the POWs crossed over to freedom

Heartbreak ridge looking west from hill 931

The famous Pork Chop hill, OP-10

People’s Labor Party Building in old Chorwon

Hill 347, 1st Cav Baldy

Paul Elkins on Hill 324 about 2/15/52

Punch Bowl view looking south from north rim

Map of most of the 45th front from 12/51 to 7/15/52. The 45th assumed control of this area from the 1st Cav about 12/1/51 and turned it over to the 2nd ID on or about 7/15/52. During operation Counter, the 45th ID took and held 11 outposts numbered 1(White Horse Hill) on the East to 11(Old Baldy) on the west.

Captain Rose(later LTC), CO Co-L from 4/16/52 to about 8/52. He was my CO and the best I ever had. He commanded the company during the bitter battle for Old Baldy.
Reunion Calendar

NOTE: There is no fee required for entries to be published in the “Reunion Calendar.” Entries are accepted 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.

MAY
I-3-1, 1st MarDiv (Korea, Sept. 1950 – July 1953), Branson, MO. POC: Victor (“Doc”) Shepherd, 4588 Vermona Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45245-1017, (513) 528-4486, vshepherd@cinic.com or www.ItemCompany31.com

H-3-7, 1st Marine Div. (1950-55) (Korea), 4-7 May, POC: Bob Nichols, 5517 Williamsdale Ct., Seminole, FL 33772, (727) 392-2886 (Ph. & Fax), jarhead37@iij.net

E-2-7, 1st Marine Div. (Any member, any time), 7-11 May, Branson, MO. POC: Troy Watson, (972) 716-9928, e27gunner@sbcglobal.net, or Chuck Tidwell, (843) 650-7082, Chubarr84@aol.com

67thTac. Recon. Wing (Japan/Korea, 1950-1953), 8-12 May, Las Vegas, NV. POC: Mike Ybarra, 7273 Spring Creek Circle, Nwot, CO 80503-7689, (303) 652-3377, ybarra72@msn.com or Larry Bacon, 10029 Keysborough Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89134-7549, (702) 254-9962, bitty60@msaol.com

USS Noble (APA 218), 11-15 May, San Diego, CA. POC: Bill Murphy, 98 W. Albion Street, Holley, NY 14470-1062, (585) 638-6606

48th & 62nd Engineers (Korea), 15-19 May, Canton, OH. POC: Bob Donatini, (330) 492-1597, dbobdoreen@sssnet.com

224th Rgt-40 Inf. Rgt, 17-21 May, St. Louis, MO. POC: Ray Fanning, (602) 956-7628, BigRayl@aoil.com, or Bob Normandia, (203) 262-6656, Radi1r@aoil.com, or Dick Amacher, (505) 532-0729, mramcher@csa.com

2nd Infantry Division, Korean War Veterans Alliance (2ID-KWVA), 20-24 May, Dick Amacher, (505) 532-0729, rhamacher@cs.com, 224th Rgt-40 Inf. Rgt 492-1597, dbobdoreen@sssnet.com

2nd Engineer Combat Bn (2ID), 20-24 May, Charleston, SC. Charleston Riverview Hotel. POC: George Hegedus (703) 481-1301, GSHegedus@aol.com

Company “D”, 223rd Inf. Rgt., 40th Division (Korea), 1951-53, 22-24 May, Reno, NV. Silver Legacy Hotel, POC: Keith A. Maggini, 2970 Spring View Ln., Placecare, CA, 95667, (530) 295-1257, kmaggini@hotmail.com

JUNE
51st Signal Bn., 8-10 June, Fort Bragg, NC. (Korean vets and all members are welcome) POC: Thompson, 4129 Fairway Drive, Granbury, TX 76049, (817) 328-4773, tom@lexs.net

AP Transport Group (Mitchell, Randall, Gordon, Richardson, Weigel, Stewart, Greely, Hodges, Taylor, Hase, Brewer, Breckinnridge, Benson, Capps, Eberle, Highes, Mayo, Monticello, Monroe, and Golden City), 8-11 June, Virginia Beach, VA. POC: Chuck Ulrich, 35 Oak Lane, New Hyde Park, NY 11040, (516) 747-7426, cuff115@aoil.com

Survivors of Outpost Harry (Korea), 15-18 June, Des Moines, IA. POC: E. Douglas Jones, (360) 466-1945, karkelko@wavecable.com


40th Inf. Div. (Korea), 28 June-2-July, Harrisburg, PA. POC: Paul T. Swartz, (724) 662-2269, phswartz@infoline.com

JULY


AUGUST
936th Field Artillery Bn., 19-20 Aug, Fayetteville, AR. Clarion Inn, 1255 South Shiloh, Fayetteville, AR 72701. POC: Wayne Bohannon, 10617 East First Street, Tulsa, OK 74128-1403, (918) 437-5324.


USS Bayfield (APA 33), 5-9 Oct., Nashville, TN. POC: Tom Trainham, 218 Whistle Way Locust Grove, GA, (770) 320-7511, b19386@yahoo.com

5th In. Div. (“Thunderbirds”), 29 Sept. – 1 Oct., POC: Raul Trevino, 2145 NE Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73111, (405) 681-9134

OCTOBER
Baker Co., 15th Regt., 3rd Div. (Korean War), 1-4 Oct, Ft. Benning, GA, Holliday Inn Columbus North, 2800 Manchester Expressway, Columbus GA 31904, $79.00 plus 14% tax per night (800) 465-4329, ask for unit rate. POC: George Ertel, (423) 496-7571, gertel@bellsouth.net, or Bob Kent, (299) 334-5283, bgnk2@yahoo.com


USS Eversole (DD 709), 27 Sept. – 1 Oct., San Diego, CA. POC: Tom Trainham, 218 Whistle Way Locust Grove, GA, (770) 320-7511, b19386@yahoo.com

1st Field Artillery Observation Battalion, 5-8 Oct., Springfield, IL, Northfield Inn, 3260 Northfield Dr. POC: Ralph Mueller, (724) 348-5359, or John Palla (708) 246-1140

USS Bayfield (APA 33), 5-9 Oct., Nashvile, TN, Sheraton Music City Hotel POC: Florence Tarantino, (908) 604-2688, George Brewer, (772) 288-1526, or Art Nelson at artbets@cox.net


91st MP Battalion, 2007 Reunion, Branson, MO. September, 2007. All Pusan Area MPs invited. These include the 289th, 506th and 563rd MPs of the 91st MP Battalion, as well as the 588th, 772nd and 512th MPs. For more information: Bob Simon, 560th MP Company, 988-793-3718, rob@simonfarms@aol.com; Manuel Sanchez, 289th MP Company, 988-793-4277; Don Hart, 298th/563rd MP Companies, 988-732-8102, donchart@yahoo.com

March - April 2006
The Graybeards
Any person of good character may be elected as Honorary Member by vote by the Board of Directors.

A. Requirements as stipulated below. Only Regular Members as defined in A. below have a vote in National or Department matters.

Section 1. Qualifications of Members.

1. Service in the United States Armed Forces. Any person who has served honorably 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 served honorably in Korea from February 1, 1955 until the present time is eligible for membership.

2. Medal of Honor. Any Medal of Honor recipient, so honored for service during the Korean War is 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 hostilities from June 25, 1950 forward is eligible for membership.

4. United Nations Command and Korean Armed Forces. Any person who served honorably in 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 of the Association may not exceed 10% of the total membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.

5. Gold Star Parents. Any person 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 Spouses. Any person whose spouse was killed in action, 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.

B. 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.

C. Honorary Members. Any person of good character may be elected as Honorary Member by vote by the Board of Directors.

D. Ineligible. Any person who has been separated from the service of the Armed Forces of the United States, or the United Nations Command, or the Republic of Korea under conditions other than honorable shall be ineligible for membership in this Association.

WEB SITE: www.kwva.org

Adopted 10/04/2005
Members of the 453rd Engineers stop for a visit with Korean children near Puasn.

(Photo courtesy of Arthur G. Keene, 406 Island Circle East, Dataw Island, SC 29920)