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# **KOREA VETERANS**

## **The Graybeards**



Official Publication of  
**THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION**  
March - April 2009 Vol. 23, No. 2



**Vote! Vote! Vote!**  
Ballot Inside



# The Graybeards

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



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# From the President

William Mac Swain

I have heard nothing but good reports on Korea Veterans being added to the front

cover to show who *The Graybeards* magazine is about. Many of those who wrote said that they were in Korea in 1951 mid-year and later and were not considered to have "gray beards," so they thought this was a very proper addition.

I can report to you that an audit was made by the Internal Revenue Service on November 24, 2009. The main reason we were audited was a third party reported that we conducted a lottery. Our CPA and I spent five hours with the agent and supplied answers to all his questions on our 2006 990 Form. I had hoped we could report something in this edition. However, our latest inquiry to the agent finds that he has approximately a month of further work to complete his report.

I do have the following report on some of the things that I had placed on my priority list as Items (1) & (2) to do if elected as President, while (3) & (4) were added from hold over business.

(1) The Board of Directors has agreed to place a six-month moratorium on any new complaints to the Ethics and Grievance Committee until better guidelines in the Standard Procedure Manual can be approved by the Board. (2) They have also agreed that a Quarterly Financial Report may be placed on the website for download or to be looked at by the membership. (3) A decision was made to not supply the 60th Commemorative Committee with any seed money for their operation at this time. (4) There will also be a Board Meeting in conjunction with the Gathering in July 2009.

All these items were completed with a Business without a Meeting according to the Bylaws. The minutes of this meeting are included in this edition with one other motion included and the vote counts for all business done

Our Annual Association Membership Meeting is still in the works. However, its dates are mentioned elsewhere in this edi-

**The leadership of the KWVA, Inc. is in your hands. It only requires a little time to take your ballot to the post office, purchase a stamp, and drop your ballot in the mail.**

tion in a block form since we are still looking at many hotels. The dates of the meeting will allow you to set aside a time and also to make flight reservation to the DFW Airport in time to get cheaper rates. The hotel and registration information will be in the May-June 2009 edition of *The Graybeards*.

There are a great many things going on with the KWVA Chapters. Again, I want to compliment those Chapters which are supplying information and reports to our Korea Veterans magazine about their community involvement.

It is always sad when we hear about the loss of a member. I want to remind you that if you know of a member who has passed on, please be sure and let the Membership Administrator know. We need to place the names in our "Last Call" section and include them in our Memorial Service at the Annual Association Membership Meeting.

I have received information on the death of Mollie H. Snyder, a 99-year-old Gold Star Mother who had been a KWVA

member since 1995. Her son was Walter H. Snyder, Jr. He was killed in December 1950.

She was President of the Gold Star Mothers in 1999 and attended our meeting in Washington, D.C in 2003. Her death was on February 8, 2009.

I hope everyone takes the opportunity to read every resume that appears in this edition and then votes in the Directors Election. I expect that all the candidates who placed their hats in the ring did so to make the entire membership their chief reason for running. They are running to do what is necessary to make their decisions the right one for the KWVA, Inc., not for their personnel agendas.

The leadership of the KWVA, Inc. is in your hands. It only requires a little time to take your ballot to the post office, purchase a stamp, and drop your ballot in the mail. (Remember, first-class stamps go up from 42¢ to 44¢ effective 11 May 2009. Affix your stamps accordingly.)

*William Mac Swain,  
KWVA President*

## THE GATHERING

■ 25th Annual Reunion, "Korean War Veterans Friendship Gathering." 24-28 July, 2009, Crystal City, Arlington, VA.

■ National Board of Directors meets on 25 July.

For information, and to be included on the mailing list, contact Jack Cloman at [connien-jack@msn.com](mailto:connien-jack@msn.com), or call (410) 676-1388, or by fax to (410) 676-3898.

## 2009 Annual Association Membership

The 2009 Annual Association Membership Meeting will take place with arrival on Saturday, October 24th. Sunday, the 25th, includes the Memorial Service, Board Meeting, Ladies Meeting and shopping. Monday, 26th will be the Membership Meeting and Banquet.

If you wish to look over the DFW area you may remain an extra day or two at the same room rate to be announced later. The Registration and other information will be published in the May-June and July-August editions of *The Graybeards*. Plan now to attend.

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6147th Tactical Control Group 1950-1956 Reunion

"Mosquitos"

San Antonio, Texas, October 3, 2008

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## MOH Museum©

We visited the Congressional Medal of Honor Museum at Patriot's Point in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina on 19 February. (By "we," I mean our publisher Jerry Wadley, his wife Kathy, I, and my wife Betsy.) It was a sobering experience, to say the least.

For those of you who have never visited the museum, it is well worth the trip. The museum is only part of the attraction. It is located aboard the former U.S. aircraft carrier *Yorktown* (CV-10), the fourth U.S. Navy ship to carry that name. (Its predecessor, *Yorktown* III, was sunk by Japanese torpedoes on 7 June 1942 at the Battle of Midway.)

*Yorktown* is not alone at Patriot's Point. Other exhibits include the submarine USS *Clamagore* (SS-343), destroyer USS *Laffey* (DD-724), and USCGC *Ingham* (WHEC-35). The latter vessel excited Dr. Wadley, who is a U.S. Coast Guard veteran.

Assorted other attractions include planes like an A-4 Skyhawk, an A-7 Corsair, an F-9 Cougar, a Vietnam-era Naval Support Camp...in short, there is more U.S. military equipment on display there than many small countries have in their entire arsenals.

Yes, the collection is amazing—especially at the low ticket prices. That is not what impressed us the most, though. I was awed by an eerie, increased sense of respect for the men and women who served aboard those vessels and others like them, some of whom earned Medals of Honor.

We stood on the deck of *Yorktown* that day and tried to imagine the conditions under which the crew members and pilots operated during WWII. I couldn't. (*Yorktown* IV was not involved in the Korean War. The Navy placed it in reserve on 9 January 1947 and the carrier remained in that status until June 1952.)

The day we visited was windy, to say the least. There was a constant wind blowing at 35-40 mph that made it difficult for us to stand still while we were on

**As I stood there preparing to visit the bridge, I could not help but think they all deserved the Medal of Honor. But, there are too many Medals of Honor awarded as it is.**

the flight deck of *Yorktown*. Jerry and I were getting ready to tie our diminutive wives down on the flight deck as tightly as the planes and helicopters were.

To compound matters, even though the water around the ship is low, there was still a spray blowing across the deck that made conditions miserable. I could not imagine those brave Sailors and Marines aboard that ship working under such conditions in war time, let alone on a sunny, cool, windy day in Mount Pleasant. But, they had to stay. They had a job to do and, unlike us, they had no place to go.

We could leave the ship, escape the wind and spray, and visit one of the many spectacular restaurants along the nearby, picturesque Shem Creek, watch the shrimp boats come and go, and enjoy a cool chocolate milk laced with marshmallow (or something stronger). They never had that luxury. As I stood there preparing to visit the bridge, I could not help but think they all deserved the Medal of Honor. But, there are too many Medals of Honor awarded as it is.

Whoa!!! I know what your initial reaction to that statement is. So, I will explain.

In order to be awarded a Medal of Honor a service member must perform an extraordinary deed against an enemy force. Too many of the recipients have died in the process. That is a high price to pay to get your name on the wall at the Congressional Medal of Honor Museum—and the space to list the MOH recipients is already about gone.

To date (at least as of this writing) there have been 3,448 Medals of Honor awarded since Congress authorized the MOH on 21 December 1861. That was 148 years ago. That is an average of about 24 MOHs a year. Granted, the U.S.

is not at war every year, but it does engage in a lot of armed conflicts.

The fewer the number of wars, the lower the number of medals that are awarded. But, as long as there are wars, there will be medals. There may not be enough room on the wall at Patriot's Point to accommodate those waiting to be awarded.

Dr. Wadley and I paid special attention to the Korean War section of the museum because of our KWVA affiliation. We noted that the last Korean War Medal of Honor recipient added to the list on the wall was Tibor Rubin. Woody Keeble shares a special place with two Operation Iraqi Freedom recipients. There is no room on the wall for him—yet.

No doubt the curators at the museum will figure out a way to add new names to the wall—at least until humanity figures out a way to eliminate the need to do so. Until that happens, U.S. service members will continue to fight and die for their country—and for people in other countries.

I would prefer that they get the opportunity to visit Shem Creek instead and suck down a cool chocolate milk (or something stronger), rather than worrying about wars and Medals of Honor. Hopefully, that day will come—and the only Medals of Honor in existence will be the ones in the museum at Patriot's Point.

We do not need to add to the list. There are too many names on it already.

If you want to read more about the Congressional Medal of Honor Museum, access <http://www.cmohs.org/>. Better yet, visit it the next time you are near Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, which is right across from Charleston.

# Thanks for Supporting *The Graybeards*

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In Memory of Emelio Rodriguez KIA Co. B, 140th Tank Bn.		Henry M. Louis	NJ
Emmett Lanier & Henry Ault	MO	Maurice D. Patenaude	RI
In Memory of SFC George L. Cottman, Korea & 163rd MP Btn., "C" Co. - Ft. Custer, Michigan		John S. Patterson	NY
Philip Mackey	DE	M/SGT Cirildo Valencio (His remains were recently returned from North Korea)	
In Memory of Pfc. Arthur T. Mackey		John R. Williams	CA

# When in Rome...Join A KWVA Chapter

Charles Patterson, Wilson Adams, and Richard Prater have been discussing the formation of a KWVA chapter in Rome—Georgia, that is.

They were featured in a 7 February 2009 article in the *Rome News-Tribune* by Staff Writer Kevin Myrick, "Korean vets try to organize locally." The article also carried a link to the KWVA website. (You can access the entire article at [http://news.mywebpal.com/news\\_tool\\_v2.cfm?npnid=680&show=archivedetails&ArchiveID=1404668&om=1](http://news.mywebpal.com/news_tool_v2.cfm?npnid=680&show=archivedetails&ArchiveID=1404668&om=1))

As Myrick noted, "Patterson has been working on organizing Korean War veterans since the war's 50th anniversary in 2003 when a federal law was passed

allowing the South Korean government to award him and thousands of other veterans medals. "

And, he added, "[Patterson], along with Adams and Prater are hoping the organization will help veterans in the area, since some aren't receiving the benefits they were promised when they finished their service when the United Nations 'police action' ended in 1953."

Anyone interested in contacting Patterson can reach him at 545 N Avery Rd., Rome, GA 30165, (706) 234-8424. Prater can be contacted at PO Box 304, Rome, GA 30162, (706) 291-6365.

We wish them good luck in their endeavor.

# Jacksonville, FL Salutes Korean War Veterans

Korean War Veterans will be honored at an educational and entertainment program at The Main Library in Downtown Jacksonville, on Thursday June 25th, 2009 at noon in the Hicks Auditorium on the Conference Level. The event is hosted by the Florida Veterans Programs & Projects, Inc. (FVPPI), a Florida Not for Profit Corporation, in association with The Art Institute of Jacksonville and the Community Education & Enrichment Program of the Jacksonville Main Library.

This program will consist of 1950s Korean War-era music and the premiere of the "Korea: Forgotten War, Remembered Heroes" documentary. The music will be provided by students and faculty of the Florida School for the Deaf & Blind of St. Augustine, under the leadership of Music Director Mr. Bill Sabo.

The documentary, produced by Michael Rothfeld, President of FVPPI, and directed by Dr. Nadia A. Ramoutar, Academic Department Director of the Digital Filmmaking & Video Production Department of the Art Institute of Jacksonville and her students, shares the experiences of five local Korean War veterans.

Many of the heroes interviewed for this documentary will be on hand for this special show. All Korean War veterans and their families are invited to attend and to be recognized. The general public is also welcome to attend.

Several Korean War Veterans will also be speaking about their war experiences. The day's events will start at noon on the 59th Anniversary of the start of the Korean War, Thursday, June 25th, 2009.

The Main Downtown Jacksonville Library is located at 303 N. Laura Street, phone number (904) 630-2665.

For maps of Downtown Jacksonville, including an interactive parking map, please visit: <http://downtownjacksonville.org/getting-around/maps/>

Call Michael Rothfeld at (904) 829-0381 or visit our website, <http://anyveteran.org>, for more information about the show.

# MILITARY NEWS—KOREA

We continue our efforts to keep you apprised of U.S. military activities in Korea. If you want to visit the websites yourself, e.g., 8th Army and Osan Air Force Base, here are their websites: <http://8tharmy.korea.army.mil> 8th Army and <http://www.osan.af.mil/>

## SOCKOR Jumps with Augmentees

*Special Operations Command Korea Public Affairs Office*

Mar 5— Special Operations Command Korea conducted airborne jumps with a helium blimp and gondola at the ROK Drop Zone, Mar 5.

Special Operations Command Korea conducted airborne jumps with a helium blimp at the ROK Drop Zone, Mar 5. The jump was an opportunity for SOCKOR augmentees that are assigned or attached during Exercise Key Resolve 09 to jump with active SOCKOR members.

“The blimps make an ideal aircraft as they are much less expensive to operate than a high performance aircraft,” said Col. Larry Greene, SOCKOR Deputy Commander – Transformation and one of the jumpers.

The jump occurred simultaneously with Republic of Korea or ROK Airborne student jumps and ROK counter-terrorism unit jumps. ROK forces assisted with the manifest, parachute issue, and jumpmaster inspections.

“This is our first time in Korea,” said Maj. Wall, who is the Maryland National Guard detachment commander.

“It is a great opportunity for our airborne soldiers to get a jump and our unit to support the mission here.” Sgt. 1st Class Glenn Steiner, a West Virginia National Guardsman, who is a Special Forces Soldier from the Special Operations Detachment – Stuttgart, Germany.

The mission of his detachment is support the NATO mission in Europe. Their participation in Key Resolve 09’ will increase their command and control capabilities as well as training in jump status.

As the SOCKOR senior jump inspector, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Jean Nash individually inspected all of the participants’ parachute packs. With assistance from ROK airborne experts, Nash was a flurry of activity as he went from one inspection to the next.

After giving one last instruction, Nash said, “OK, have a good jump guys.” The jump was a major success as all participants landed in the drop zone and there were no injuries or incidents.

<http://8tharmy.korea.army.mil/articles/20090307-sockorjumps.asp>

## JSA Rehearses Evacuation

*By Pfc. Kim, Kuan Min, 8th Army Public Affairs*

Feb. 23.— An evacuation exercise was held in the Joint Security Area, to follow Gen. Walter L. Sharp’s two main focuses, which are to train, to fight to win and to strengthen the ROK U.S. alliance.

This exercise, which is held each quarter, was planned four months ago by both ROK and U.S. officers. The scenario for the day was to assume that North Korea has started a war.

At 10 o’clock in the morning, 250 people from Tae sung Dong was evacuated by buses, with the help of U.S. Soldiers, and transferred to Yongsan Garrison. After aiding the evacuation of the non-combatants, both the U.S. and ROK forces moved to the Pick up zone where they were evacuated by four Ch-47 helicopters.

“At first I was scared of this exercise, but however as time went I wanted to do my best to carry out my mission as a soldier. It was exciting to work together with the U.S Soldiers; despite the language barrier we were able to communicate by hand gestures.” Stated Pfc. Lee Sung Jun, JSA security headquarters.

According to the information that was given, this was the first time for the ROK Army to plan this training and for U.S. Forces to ride the transportation provided by the ROK. The main aim for this training was to improve the Standing operation orders and to smoothly carryout the mission in case of combat situations.

“Overall the evacuation exercise was fantastic, there was some communication problem with the ROK Army but as more training are held I am sure that the language barrier will be solved,” said Lt. Col. John E. Rhodes, commander of the JSA.

<http://8tharmy.korea.army.mil/articles/20090223-jsaevacuationexercise.asp>

51st LRS maintainers keep Osan up and running (8th Army-1, link provided)

2/17/2009 - Airman 1st Class Shane McDonald performs a tool inspection prior to starting work on a turbo diesel engine at Osan AB, Republic of Korea Feb. 3. Airman McDonald is a vehicle mechanic assigned to the 51st Logistics Readiness Squadron. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Christopher Boitz)

<http://www.osan.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123135924>

**All Chapter and/or Department news for publication in May-Jun 2009 issue of *The Graybeards* should be mailed to Art Sharp, Editor, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or emailed to: [Sharp\\_arthur\\_g@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net)**



# Ask the Secretary



**Frank Cohee**

## A great day for the KWVA

March 2, 2009 was a great day for the KWVA at the James Haley VA Center in Tampa.

KWVA. Officers and members were on hand when the KWVA official Korean War and Korean Service Veterans logo was dedicated on the wall at the Tampa VA. It was placed alongside all of the other VSO Chartered Veterans organizations.

I thank VA Rep. Linda Mains for coor-



**LEFT: (Standing)**, KWVA DOF First Vice President Jim Bradford, PAST KWVA DOF President Bill McCraney (Chapter 158), KWVA National Director Jeff Brodeur, KWVA Chapter # 175 VAVS Sam Hayes, KWVA National Secretary Frank Cohee. **(Kneeling)**, KWVA DOF 2nd Vice President Charlie First, KWVA world renowned artist and designer of logo Don Struhar



**LEFT:** KWVA Chapter # 188 historian and photographer Carol Becker, Jeff Brodeur's wife Maura Brodeur, KWVA National Director Jeff Brodeur, Paratrooper Vincent Mannion-Brodeur, Designer of Logo Don Struhar and wife Donna at the dedication

and his wife Donna were at the dedication.

It was inspiring to me to be part of this dedication that should have been done a long time ago because many of the logos on the wall are not chartered Veterans Organizations. It was also a first for me to finally meet one of our current heroes and comrades in arms, Corporal Vincent Mannion-Brodeur.

Vincent, I salute you on behalf of our President, Bill Mac Swain, and the approximately 17,000 members of the Korean War Veterans Association.

*Frank Cohee, KWVA National Secretary*

## Somebody located a picture of Jim Dart

Hopefully, some of you will remember this story which was first published on page 14 of the Jul-Aug 08 Graybeards entitled "Solving the mystery of the 'Missing Dart.'" Essentially, Ginny Sanders was looking for information about her sister-in-law's father, James Dart.

There was a follow up article in the Sep-Oct issue that discussed a member's criticism of my comment, "However, if your sister-in-law's father was fighting land battles, he was probably not in the Navy."

In the same issue there was another criticism that I was giving out confidential information about our members because I was considering identifying members of a specific unit (which we never did).

**RIGHT:** KWVA Member Carol Becker presents Corporal Vincent Mannion-Brodeur, 82nd Airborne soldier, WIA TIKRIT 3-11-07, a quilt on behalf of the KWVA Department of Florida. In picture Sam Hayes, Jim Bradford, Bill McCraney (3 Purple Hearts and the DSC the second highest award for valor), Carol Becker and Frank Cohee



minating this event with us. She has also informed us that the Korean War Veterans logo will be placed alongside the newer logo. This next event will be coordinated with KWVA National Secretary Frank Cohee and KWVA Department of Florida (DOF) Past President Bill McCraney.

Many members showed up at the

event. There had not been this much excitement at the VA in quite some time.

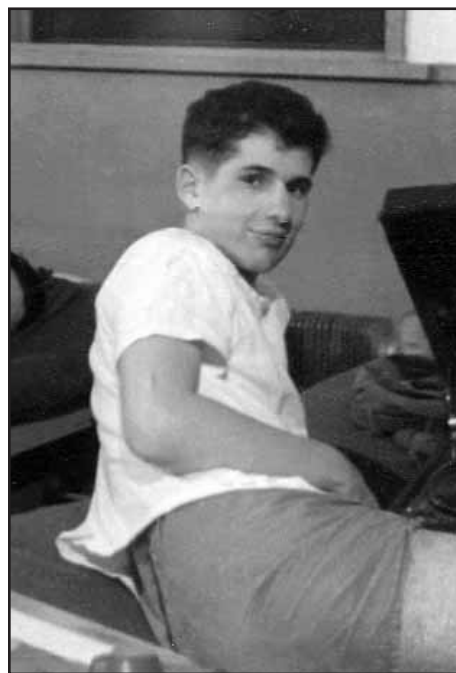
KWVA Chapter # 188 historian and photographer Carol Becker, KWVA National Director Jeff Brodeur and his wife Maura Brodeur, their son, Paratrooper Vincent Mannion-Brodeur, and Don Struhar, the designer of the logo,

The good news is that sometimes there is a happy ending and here it is:

Dear Mr. Cohee,

It has been quite awhile since we have been in touch, but after all these months I finally did locate someone who knew Jim and was able to find a picture of him.

Mr. Wilbert Walker was friends with Jim when they were in the barracks together in Camp Hakata, Japan. Mr. Walker couldn't find a picture of Jim in his own collection, but he got in touch with another Korean War



James "Jim" Paul Dart

vet who has a collection of pictures. Together they were able to find this photo of Jim.

My sister-in-law was so happy to receive this picture and to finally know what her father looked like and also to find someone who actually knew him.

Thank you again for your help.

Ginny Sanders

As I have mentioned many times previously my job as Secretary is not easy and sometimes very frustrating. But, once in a while something happens to make it all worthwhile. Following is one of those occasions.

Dear Mr. Cohee,

My name is Elizabeth Foss. My uncle was Max L. Myers. He was killed in Korea on September 20, 1952. His family received a letter from his platoon sergeant in April,

1953, giving some details of his death. The envelope bears the following return address: Sgt Richard F. Carvell RA 15 288 8122305-1, Army Instructor Group W, VA Military District So Charleston, W VA.

It is becoming increasingly important to myself and my children to learn more about what exactly happened. We have a letter from Max dated September 20, 1952, stating that he was going in to battle that day to take back Old Baldy. Yet, when I researched that battle ground on line, it looks like those battles ended a few months earlier. If there is anything you can do to help me find Sgt Carvell, or to get more information about my uncle, it would be greatly appreciated.

God Bless

### *Secretary's Comments:*

Off and on I did some research trying to find Richard Carvell. Finally, I came up with a possibility. It was a Richard Carvell, Col., US Army Retired, in Saint Albans, WV. I gave him a call and he was the Richard Carvell that Elizabeth was looking for.

I spent more than an hour discussing with him how Max Myers was killed and Col. Carvell remembered every detail. I told him he should write a book.

*Here is my response to Elizabeth and the responses from Richard Carvell and Elizabeth:*

Elizabeth:

I was able to locate Richard Carvell and we had a long conversation. He remembers your uncle Max Myers very well, including the day he was killed, and that he was a big guy who played football for Purdue. Richard has a good memory about the battle for Old Baldy. Hopefully, he will tell you all about it. He promised me that he would call you.

Best regards, Frank Cohee

*Here is the response from Richard:*

Dear Frank and Elizabeth:

You both made my day. For some time, I've been hoping to make contact with the family of Max Myers. I recall writing a letter to them way back in 1953, and I recall receiving their response. I hope that some day that I'll be able to locate it, along with other notes and papers from Korea.

Max knew of my ambition to remain in the service and he was encouraging. Elizabeth, you asked what type of weapon

was Max using in our attack of Old Baldy. I'm certain that as a Rifle Squad Leader, he was carrying an M-1 Rifle, with a mixture of ammunition—armor piercing, ball and tracers, plus a small pack on his hip that contained about 6 fragmentation grenades.

He had 10 men in his squad: 7 Americans plus himself and 2 Korean Army Soldiers (KATUSAs). We had 8 Katusas in my platoon and 36 Americans, a total of 44 soldiers, including myself, when we were tasked to recapture Old Baldy on September 20, 1952.

Prior to our return to the line from Koje Do, where our unit was dispatched to quell the riots of North Korean and Chinese Prisoners of War, Max was armed with a Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR). In 1968, when I was having my furniture being moved into my quarters at Fort Leavenworth, KS, to attend the Army Command and General Staff College, one of the deliverers of my furniture was PFC Dillon, another of my squad leaders for the Old Baldy Operation, and a friend of Max. A real coincidence. I do not have his address or phone number.

Another person who should remember Max is Van Philpott. He was with us in the 3rd Platoon, F Company, 38th Infantry, but he had rotated home about 3-4 months prior to our attack on Old Baldy. I spoke to him about six months ago. He seemed to have been quite ill. He lives in Decatur, AR. His phone # is 479-752-3594.

I have fond memories of Max. He was an outstanding soldier. Blessings!

Dick Carvell, Colonel, USA (Retired)

*The response from Elizabeth:*

Mr. Cohee,

Thank you so much for your quick response, and for finding Mr. Carvell for us. As a matter of fact, I was speaking with him today when you left your message. It was so nice to speak to someone who knew Max and served with him. He gave me a lot of great information and I have already typed up a document so this information will not be lost.

Thank you for all your service to our country, and to those like me who need to make contact with those we love. I truly appreciate your prompt response to my request.

God Bless, Elizabeth Foss





## Legislative Affairs

by Ed Buckman, National Legislative Director

As most of you are aware, after a long struggle with Congress we were finally awarded our Federal Charter. Our president, Bill Mac Swain, is presently preparing for his initial report to Congress. Soon we will be mailing our reports to Congress as they oversee all that we do in the future, a regular audit, and any changes in by-laws. Like all other service organizations, we now report to the Congress of the United States.

Our Congressman, Sam Johnson, is looking out for the veterans of this country, and recently I requested help from him on an issue that would hurt all veterans, i.e., President Obama's proposal that would allow the VA health care system to bill a veteran's insurance for the care and treatment of a disability or injury that was determined to have been incurred in or the result of the veteran's honorable service to our country. The President has since withdrawn that proposal.

Before the proposal was withdrawn, Congressman Johnson did speak to the Congress on this matter. (See his message below.) His willingness to do so on our behalf is encouraging. We now have someone speaking for the veterans of this country. As members of a federally chartered organization, we can add our voices to advocates like Congressman Johnson's to make our feelings known should similar situations arise that may be detrimental to veterans' best interests.

Please make that phone call if and when they do. It is important to all veterans.

Yours in service,

Ed Buckman

National Director of Legislative Affairs

### Congressman Johnson's Statement:

#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 18, 2009**

Sam Johnson: Tell the WH forcing injured vets to pay for care wrong  
"Talk about the cost of war!"

Today U.S. Congressman Sam Johnson (3rd Dist.-Texas) asked Americans to call the White House and make their voices heard that the Administration must stop a proposal to force wounded vets to pay for their own rehabilitation.

Recently, the White House would neither confirm nor deny its plan to move forward with a proposed cost-cutting measure to save \$540 million. The Administration intends to find the savings by making combat wounded veterans to fund their own treatment.

During floor debate on a measure that would devote \$1 billion a year to pay volunteers, Johnson suggested that the Congress redirect a small portion of that money to America's real volunteers to ensure injured war heroes don't have to pay for their own care.

Later today the House will vote on H.R. 1388, the Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education Act later today. Johnson considers "paid volunteers" an oxymoron and does not support H.R. 1388.

A combat-wounded fighter pilot, Johnson served in two wars. Johnson represents portions of Dallas and Collin Counties.

Johnson's prepared remarks follow:

"Today we're debating the merits of paying volunteers. Experts estimate that this bill will cost the government about \$1 billion for just one year.

"I have a better idea. Let's redirect just a small portion of that money to the real volunteers – those who voluntarily serve in the armed forces. They volunteer to wear the uniform – there is no draft. Some volunteer their limbs. Some even voluntarily give their lives. Surely, these folks deserve special treatment too.

"Not so says the White House. The White House has floated a plan to save the government \$540 million. The White House will cut costs by forcing wounded warriors to pay for their own treatment. Talk about the cost of war!

"As a combat-wounded fighter pilot who served in two wars, I find the White House idea of charging wounded war heroes for care absurd, abhorrent, and unconscionable. It is sad and shameful that the Administration is willing to force our combat wounded to foot the bill for their own recovery and rehab. I will fight like mad to stop this rash and reckless proposal and I back a new resolution blasting the White House plan.

"I urge every American who loves freedom and supports the troops to call the White House at 202-456-1414. Tell the President that those who voluntarily choose the armed forces – and voluntarily serve in harm's way – and voluntarily leave their loved ones - and voluntarily endure enemy fire – are the absolute last people we need to hit up to balance any budget.

"Again – that number is 202-456-1414. Tell the White House that forcing veterans to pay for the cost of war out of pocket is just plain wrong."



(L-R) Ed Buckman, Congressman Sam Johnson, Bill Mac Swain, Bill Hutton

### KWVA Bylaws Committee Project For 2009

# Revision of the KWVA Standard Procedure Manual and KWVA Bylaws

In the last issue of *The Graybeards* (January February 2009, Pages 10-12), we gave you a status of the Project around the midpoint of the scheduled input period of December 1 - February 28. A few reminders are in order here:

1. Central to the Project was our request for the entire KWVA membership to have the opportunity to participate in the process, by providing their input if they wished to do so. All Regular KWVA members in "good standing" [current in their dues] were eligible to participate. Following the Input phase, the writing and review process by the Bylaws Committee was to begin. We can report that it has indeed begun.

When drafts of the documents are ready, the review and approval process by the Board of Directors will follow. After that, the revised document set will be put before the Membership. Our target for that is at the October Meeting in Dallas.

Please note that The KWVA Bylaws, the KWVA Standard Procedure Manual (SPM), and our Federal Charter are all available for review and/or download from the KWVA website <http://www.kwva.org> at any time.

2. We have an obligation to meet the compliance requirements to the new Federal Charter, Public Law 110-254 (S.1692) granted on June 30, 2008 to the Korean War Veterans Association, Incorporated.

## Status

On March 9, I sent out an email about some issues. It was addressed to most KWVA officers and the presidents of all Departments. Some addressees were Chapter officers who had submitted their views and thoughts on a number of issues. It occurred to me that it might be a good thing to insert the contents of that email here. It is an overview of where we are today (hopefully, we'll be much farther along when you read this), and an idea of some progress on a very difficult and complicated project.

To date, KWVA members have made numerous submittals on a variety of issues. As you will see in the email, I have made hard decisions on only two. One is my view that ALL must pay dues to the Association, and that they must personally do it themselves.

The second item concerns the KWVA documents under review; the current Bylaws and Standard Procedure Manual as they are today; their foundation document; which is the 1985 Charter from New York State, and our 2008 Federal Charter, as a set.

I noticed an increasing use of the adjective 'National' in conversation and emails, instead of the proper noun, Association. The name given to our organization was and is the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. Having two different terms for a name is confusing, and it is inappropriate in usage. Even the term 'National' Headquarters would be more properly referred to as the Association National Headquarters.

I have encountered some opposition to this, but I believe that the facts and objectivity support my view. A name is a name, and the use of a given name should be consistent to avoid confusion and unnecessary interpretation.

## Issues

This is the paraphrased text of the March 9th email, with some modifications:

"To all:

Before I begin, please note that the term 'National,' as commonly used by many members, is not used here. It is not used in any way in either the original New York Charter granted the Association at its incorporation, or in the Federal Charter recently enacted into law and granted to the KWVA, Inc. In this email and in both the revised Bylaws and SPM, the term 'Association' will be used to refer to the Korean War Veterans Association, Incorporated.

A considerable number of recommendations have been submitted to the 2009 Bylaws Committee Review Project during the period of December 1, 2008 – February 28, 2009; they are currently under review. A rewrite draft of both documents is underway.

The schedule for Project inputs was set to end on February 28, 2009; I will accept more for a while, but my target is for a first draft ready for review by the first week in April. I've notified the Resolution Committee Chairman today to forward whatever Resolutions that may be in process at this time, so that they may be considered for inclusion in this process.

These are the guidelines the KWVA Bylaws Committee is using for the Project:

- The Bylaws of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc., including amendments through 10/25/2007. (<http://www.kwva.org/bylaws/bylaws.htm>)
- The KWVA Standard Procedure Manual, December 2008, as approved by the Board of Directors on 10/24/2008. ([http://www.kwva.org/spm/procedure\\_manual.htm](http://www.kwva.org/spm/procedure_manual.htm))
- The Project Plan approved by the KWVA Board of Directors at the Norfolk Meeting in October, and published in the November/December issue of *The Graybeards*

My opinion, formed in part by member inputs, is that the Association, as a result of this Project, must establish firm guidelines where they are either non-existent or lack the clarity of precision, the latter leading to various interpretations and the associative disorder that goes with that.

With regards to Association dues, there shall be clear and specific language in the revised documents to the effect that if you haven't joined the KWVA, and paid required dues, you are NOT a member of the Association. If you are a member, and your dues aren't current, then your membership standing is at risk.

If you are not a member, you should not be involved in KWVA business of any kind, period. That puts you in the category of a visitor or a guest, and you should be regarded and treated as such.

If you are in one of the exempt categories such as MOH, Life, etc, your dues are considered to be current, at all times. The idea that a person can be an officer of a Chapter or a Department while not an



Association member in good standing, in my view, is not worthy of discussion. Likewise, enforcement of Association dues is an obligation of the Chapter and Department leadership.

The practice of collecting Chapter or Department dues from those who are not Association members in good standing is non-compliant to our Bylaws, and unfair to all Association members who do pay their way.

In the present draft documents, the date for being compliant to the above is January 1, 2010. At that time, those who are non-compliant will be given notice, and the following policy will be enforced:

- A "Dues Reminder" shall be mailed to members whose dues became one month in arrears.
- Members whose dues are two months or more in arrears shall be reverted to inactive status.
- Members on inactive status, due to non-payment of dues, may rejoin the Association by submitting payment of one-year's dues, along with their name and KWVA member number.
- Expelled or resigned members who wish to rejoin the Association must reapply for membership.
- Membership applications from expelled members must be referred by the Membership Committee to the Board of Directors, together with any documentation sent by the applicant to support the application.

As for who collects the Association dues, my choice is to keep it simple. The member pays directly to the Association, as defined in the Association Bylaws and SPM procedures. It is the simple, adult responsibility of the member, and the accountability for it should not be a burden on either the chapter or the department, whose only obligation should be to verify that the member is current.

While some Chapters and Departments elect to process members' dues themselves and forward them to the Association, the member is now, and will be, held accountable. The Association will be better served by Chapter or Department verification of their members' current, paid up status.

To address the issue brought up by a Chapter president, concerning assesment of Department and Chapter dues, that process rightly belongs to those organizations. I feel only they can measure their goals and resources by discussion and vote. Nevertheless, a levy of dues should be authorized per their own Bylaws, and approved by their members. For this reason and others, current Chapter and Department Bylaws must be filed with the Association, to be compliant. They must not conflict with the Association Bylaws.

Likewise, there should be no disharmony between Department and Chapter(s) bylaws within a given state, because there may be a significant variance in the individual and collective resources of the members concerned.

As for the relationship between the Association and the Chapters and Departments, it should be clear to all that Chapters and Departments are 'children' of the Association. Chapters are a collection of members who wish to have an associative relationship, sanctioned and chartered by the Association. Departments should be a collection of Chapters which likewise have that motive.

At present there are currently 16 Departments and 237 Chapters shown in the Association Database as 'Active.' There are at least a dozen that appear to be close to becoming 'Inactive' because of non-compliance to their obligations to the Association.

What is not in the Bylaws and SPM is a clearly defined set of goals and obligations for Chapters and Departments, linked directly on a shared basis with the Association. What is there at present is either not specific enough, only implied, or is non-existent. If it weren't so, there would be substantially less disorder and disagreement between them and the Association.

Back in February 2009, a KWVA Secretary wrote to us with some cogent concerns and observations, some of them addressing the issues of dues; the relationship between Chapters and Departments; and the consequential relationship between them and the Association. There is indeed some clarity needed, especially in the relationship between the Association and Chapters and Departments, and their relative goals and obligations. Judging from her inputs and that of others, it could use some serious discussion, and changes.

In the CC list for this email I have addressed some Chapter Commanders and Presidents, and all of the Departments, and Association officers. It would be helpful to your Association brothers and sisters if every one of you would give to us your answers to the following questions. No need to worry, I have my own opinions/answers, but while I'm not afraid to put them forth, I'm not so foolish or arrogant as to assume I am correct in the detail necessary to get it as right as possible.

While procedures are not written by a group, or a committee, this is a case where this writer will pay a lot of attention to consensus. For instance, please know that the 'all must pay Association dues' policy and the insistence on the usage of the proper name of the Association are the only absolute views I hold at this time. I truly have an open mind about all the rest.

So, here are my questions for you all:

1. What are the obligations of the Association to the Member?
2. What are the obligations of the Member to the Association?
3. What are the obligations of the Association to the Chapter?
4. What are the obligations of the Chapter to the Association?
5. What are the obligations of the Association to the Department?
6. What are the obligations of the Department to the Association?
7. What specifically is the Association NOT doing for the Members?
8. What specifically is the Association NOT doing for the Chapters?
9. What specifically is the Association NOT doing for the Departments?
10. Do you believe the Departments are subordinate to the Association? If not, why?
11. Do you believe the Chapters are subordinate to the Departments? If not, why?
12. Which do you prefer: One standard, using Commander, or President, or allowing either. Which?
13. What single issue is the MOST important one that you think needs to be resolved?

More than one of the inputs I have received either implies or comes right out with the question as to "...what has the Association done for us?" Maybe your response to the questions above will help fix that. It will certainly be appreciated, and it's your chance to help.

In passing, I would like to remind those who lead chapters and departments that all of the Association officers, while those elected serve directly at your pleasure, and those that are appointed, do so at no pay, I firmly believe that all do so for the Good of the Order. For

instance, at Norfolk, the Association Board of Directors voted to approve of this Project. They also approved the expense of establishing dedicated websites for Chapters and Departments, a tool that will give you all an excellent tool for recruiting, newsletters and more. Check it out! KWVA Webmaster Jim Doppelhammer is waiting to help you get started.

Another issue. More than one Chapter Commander or President has written, wanting to change the date of Association dues payment to a single day for everyone, such as January 1. According to them, it would make the task of collecting and accounting for the Chapter Treasurer a simpler task. While that may be true, consider the fact that the Association has only one person to process ALL the dues payments from ALL members: the KWVA Membership Administrative Assistant.

While the Chapter Treasurer might have fewer than 100 checks to handle, consider the number that the one person at the Association would have to be dealing with in the first week in January!!

Please examine the Inside front cover of *The Graybeards*. You will see the names of those who provide the labor to administer and perform the services for the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. They are all KWVA members, almost all of whom donate their labor and time, definitely not a large staff.

Finally, as for the method of paying your Association dues, the method specified in the email above, which is by way of personal accountability, solves the problem for all, and adheres to the KISS Principle (Keep It Simple, Stupid). It is in fact the normal and usual manner in which most adult financial obligations are taken care of: by the individual, not a proxy.

To put a fine point on it, look in the mirror and you will see the person specifically designated in the revised Bylaws and Standard Procedure Manual to send in their dues, directly to the Association.

I will still consider every letter or email from any regular KWVA member in good standing with answers to the questions listed above. Although it is your right and duty to do that, please remember that the writing task has begun, and it is an ongoing process. Whatever difficulty that may entail, your views deserve to be considered.

With fraternal respect to all,  
George Lawhon, LR18750, Director  
Chairman, KWVA Bylaws Committee  
[bylaws@kwva.org](mailto:bylaws@kwva.org) or [george@lawhon.org](mailto:george@lawhon.org)

\*\*\*\*\*

## Emblem Uniform Supply Quartermaster for all Korean Veterans

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\*\*\*\*\*

## Thanks for the Thanks

Quite often people send me thanks for specific projects. They are not necessary. But I would be remiss in not acknowledging them.

For example, Lou Dechert sent me a beautiful KWVA clock in recognition of the four-year President-Editor association we shared. And, recently I received a special note from the members of CID 310, Olympic Peninsula, in Washington.



So, I offer "thanks for the thanks." Time and space do not allow me to acknowledge them all, but I do appreciate them. Of course, I get a lot of what can be described tactfully as "non thanks" as well. I appreciate them, too—but not as much as the notes of appreciation I receive.

The clock from Lou Dechert

Thanks for them.

2-16-09  
Arthur G. Sharp  
Editor  
152 Sky View Dr.  
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Greetings Arthur:

The Olympic Peninsula Chapter #310 would like to go on record to thank you for the great display in the most recent *Graybeards* Magazine. It is traditional at our meetings to toast with champagne those people who are significant and instrumental in promoting the KWVA, and those who serve and protect our country. At the last meeting, 2-13-09 we raised our glasses to you and thanked you for your services.

Members in attendance were:

GERALD REITEN	Ray DiVack
Jackie O'Ann	HAROLD BECK
Mary Reid	DON ROBERTS
Al Rogers	DON ELLIS
Mac McIntyre	Don Clayton
Bob Robinson	John Dinghouse
Ed. Jr. Edwin Jones	Tom Freeman
Bob Charters	JOHN SARVIS
	Richard A. Huell
	Alfred H. Latham

Thanks again  
for  
Chapter #310



Thanks from CID 310

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



# Crossing the Line

By Rick Kennedy

In early April of 1951, the front line of Korea was not well defined due to a strong enemy offense after our success in Operation Killer. Some of our allies could not repress the enemy, and the entire front line had to reverse its movement to prevent a void in our front lines across the peninsula of Korea. It was not known exactly where the enemy was positioned, and Charlie Company was sent through the front line of the First Marine Division sector in hopes of locating advanced segments of the Chinese and North Korean armies.

Charlie Company looked sharp as we crossed the line of the 7th Marine Regiment on a company patrol of several days duration in "No Man's Land." We had recently turned in our parkas, shoe packs, and heavy sleeping bags due to the return of warmer spring-like weather. Our Marines had camouflaged helmet covers, tan leggings, and green field jackets. Our sleeping bags with blanket inserts were rolled tight with our half tent, and formed in a square U shape against our knapsacks in a very thin roll. There was a very confident bounce to our step as our company formation proceeded north. We were Charlie Company, the pride of the 5th Marine Regiment—and we knew it.

We moved fast along the Korean countryside, and stopped periodically for five minute breaks. This was a forced march that lasted most of the day. There were rolling hills on our flanks, and fire team patrols covered the high ground to prevent an ambush. This was a grueling march, but all of our Marines were in top shape after climbing mountains all winter long, and this walk in the valley was not torturous as the January march to Chachong-dong.

As the day passed, it became obvious that we were 15 to 20 miles ahead of our front lines, and there was maybe nobody else around except Charlie Company and the entire Chinese and North Korean armies. We seemed to be in a very vulnerable position.

There was a saying among the Marines of Charlie Company that we would "go to hell and back" for our great Company Commander, Captain Jack R. Jones. I thought he must be taking us up on our word and had volunteered us for this seemingly

As the day passed, it became obvious that we were 15 to 20 miles ahead of our front lines, and there was maybe nobody else around except Charlie Company and the entire Chinese and North Korean armies.

very dangerous mission.

We finally arrived at our final destination about dusk. It was a hill about 600 feet in elevation that seemed to be sitting all by itself in the valley with good vision on all sides. We promptly dug our fox holes, making a perimeter around the crest of the hill. The situation had all the earmarks of Custer's last stand.

We would certainly be in deep trouble if we were attacked by a regiment or a division of enemy troops. The only escape route appeared to be a very deep fox hole. One thing for certain: Charlie Company would fight to the last man. Being a prisoner of war was not an option for Charlie Company.

I remember waking up the first morning after a watch throughout the night. It was almost like spring, with small green sprouts of fern growing near my fox hole. The weather was sunny and clear for miles, with no sign of the enemy. Squad patrols were sent out each day in different directions from our command post, but without enemy contact.

On the third day one of our platoon sergeants placed a bright colored banner in the center of the valley, and one of our planes made a food and ammunition drop. If the enemy had not known of our whereabouts before, they surely did now.

The next day I was sent to get water. I tied nine canteens to a small branch and proceed-

ed to a clear stream at the bottom of the hill. I filled the canteens in a wide part of the stream near a small house hidden in the trees. As I knelt along the bank with my M-1 rifle across my knee, a beautiful young Korean lady appeared, accompanied by an old Papa San. They were both dressed in the customary long white garments, and the man wore the native tall hat.

They kept their eyes focused on me as I filled the canteens, and I never took my eyes off them. Fifty seven years have passed since that day, and often I think about this beautiful lady and wonder of her whereabouts.

On the fourth day we were told to saddle up and move out. We buried our debris and leveled our fox holes, and nobody could tell we had lived here. Soon we left this distant outpost and marched back across our lines. No loss of life, and nothing happened of consequence during this operation.

This was a silent combat zone experience, free of artillery and machine gun fire, but full of anticipated danger with severe life-threatening potential. The experience gave this rifle company a renewed feeling of self-sustaining confidence, and a very important training ground that prepared us for the more perilous things that were to follow for Charlie Company.

John Rick Kennedy, (386) 761-0912,  
rkennedy5thmar@aol.com

## No Purple Hearts For PTSD, Pentagon Rules

The Army Times reported in its 5 January 2009 issue that the Purple Heart will not be awarded to service members suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder. That decision was confirmed by the Pentagon.

The decision was made on 3 November 2008, but it was not made public until recently.

The decision is not final, according to a Defense Department spokesperson. As she told the reporter, "Advancements in medical science may support future re-evaluation."

To read the entire article, go to:

[http://www.armytimes.com/news/2009/01/military\\_purpleheart\\_ptsd\\_010609w/](http://www.armytimes.com/news/2009/01/military_purpleheart_ptsd_010609w/)

# Help, Fundraising, and Handouts

Chapters and individual members continue to offer their assistance to their KWVA comrades. Here are some of the latest offers.

The first offer comes from Frank Praytor of the Albuquerque #1 Chapter (CID 82):

It occurred to me that the Korean War info hand-out sheet that we in Albuquerque use to help us inform the public about the war and its accomplishment might be of some value to other chapters. I'm attaching the one-pager herewith.

Feel free to publicize its availability to other KWVA members through the Internet. All they need to do is send me their e-addresses and I'll transmit the info sheet to them.

Frank Praytor, praypro@swcp.com

Here is a copy of the sheet

## Fundraising Tip

In this section we take a look at some ways chapters, departments and individuals are raising money, recruiting, etc., and some offers made by members to help generate funds. Maybe some of the ideas we present will be helpful to other chapters and departments.

Northwest Pennsylvania chapter (CID 109) maintains a booth at the Monroe County [PA] Fair at which members sell military-themed paraphernalia and conduct a raffle. This is their main fund raiser.

## Selling books to raise funds is a possibility

I thank Kris Barnett for the great review on my book *One Came Home* in the November/December 2008 issue. Kris really hit all the highlights of the book.

**Continued** ➤

## What is the K.W.V.A.?

### What was the Korean War all about? Who started it? How did it end?

**K.W.V.A.:** The initials stand for Korean War Veterans Association, a national organization of Americans who served in and survived the so-called "forgotten war," 1950-1953, which was never officially concluded. Veterans who served in Korea since hostilities ceased are eligible to belong to the K.W.V.A. because the war continues to remain in a state of suspension.

**Two Koreas:** At the end of World War II, the Allies and the USSR negotiated territorial agreements that included the division of Korea at the 38th Parallel, roughly splitting the nation in half and creating two: The Republic of (South) Korea ("R.O.K.") sponsored primarily by the U.S. and The Peoples' Republic of (North) Korea, two diametrically opposite political entities.

**Why Did We Fight This War?** Peace abruptly ended June 25, 1950, when North Korean forces crossed the 38th Parallel and invaded South Korea intent on "unifying" the peninsula under communist occupation. Taken by surprise, R.O.K. and American army support units were pushed to the south-eastern sector of the Korean Peninsula. They were able to regroup and hold their ground at what came to be known as the Pusan Perimeter. They fended off the invasion until reinforcements arrived from Japan and Okinawa. That September, U.S. forces staged a landing assault at Inchon and fought their way into the heartland. Another landing occurred on the eastern coast, followed by a push almost to the Korea-China border, demarked by the Yalu River. By then, some member nations of the U.N. sent varying numbers of support personnel, the larger military contingents being from the British Commonwealth (a division) and from Turkey (a brigade).

Just as the coldest winter in a century was setting in, thousands

of Chinese troops poured across the Yalu River in a massive attack that drove the Allies southward to evacuation at Hungnam. Seoul was lost once again in early '51, then retaken that spring. The front, most of which was to the north of the 38th Parallel, stagnated into trench-type warfare with sporadic, fierce combat for key hilltop positions. Russian MiG fighter jets engaged U.S. Sabrejet fighters and bombers almost daily in air battles over North Korea. The air war was fought mostly between American and Soviet adversaries, although the latter's participation in this war was not publicly acknowledged by either side.

A few months after Soviet dictator Stalin died, contentious truce meetings at Panmunjom, which and been going on for more than a year, resulted in an agreement to exchange sick and wounded POWs. That was followed a few weeks later by a ceasefire agreement ending hostilities. South Korea gained almost 1,500 square miles of territory it didn't have before the war began.

**The War's Toll in Human Life:** Estimates of people killed and wounded (both sides, military praypro@swcp.com and civilian) exceed 420,000. South Korean non-combatants killed or wounded exceed 99,000; total U.N. military casualties are estimated at 180,000. Death toll among American military forces exceeded 34,000. North Korean and Chinese casualties are estimated at 142,000.

**The Pay-off:** Allied and South Korean efforts prevented the defeat and occupation of South Korea and halted communist ambitions to control the entire North Asian Pacific Rim, including a vulnerable (at that time) Japan. Both South Korea and Japan became major cultural entities and industrial contributors to the world economy. In stark contrast, North Korea descended into economic, political and moral bankruptcy. Its populace is controlled by a well-fed military force loyal to a dictator bent on having intercontinental nuclear weapons at his fingertips.





CID 109 members raising funds at the Monroe County [PA] Fair (L-R) Treasurer Pasquale "Pat" Coppola, Sgt-at-Arms Kenneth Hendershot, Commander Paul A. Warman, Joseph A. Kunkle

*One Came Home* is listed as \$26.95 on the book and sells at similar prices on the Internet at places like Barnes and Noble, Authorsbooksharp, and Amazon.

I am no longer under contract with my publisher, American Literary Press, as of November 2008. I have sold over 300 books myself. Now I have several hundred in my possession given back to me by the publisher after our contract ended.

I wish to make the book available to our Korean War vets by reducing the price and also help getting more books out to the public. I will sell one or more books at \$15 each including postage after receiving check or money order.

Finally, I am also willing to sell a carton of 10 books for \$100 (\$10 each) plus the cost of postage, which is around \$15. This may help chapters raise money. The actual postage per book is around \$3.25, but I have to purchase envelopes and mailing labels. I will also sign them if requested.

My main goal is to have our war and my POW/MIA brother Richard remembered. He is still in North Korea.

To purchase books, contact me or just mail me a check or money order for the number of books you wish.

Detail on book: Hard cover, 320 pages, 29 chapters over 500 photos most in color.

Vincent A. Krepps, 24 Goucher Woods Ct  
Towson, MD 21286-5655, (410) 828-8978,  
vincent.krepps24@comcast.net

**BALLOT ENCLOSED IN THIS ISSUE**  
**VOTE ★ VOTE ★ VOTE ★ VOTE**

## Minutes of KWVA Board of Directors Business Without a Meeting

Call for the Meeting: A special Board of Directors "Business without a Meeting" was called by President Mac Swain on January 5, 2009. This action by the President was in accordance with the current bylaws, Article II, Section 2. Board of Directors, D. Business without a Meeting.

Each voting member of the Board was furnished a ballot and asked to place their initials in the area of For or Against each of the following listed five action items and to return their ballot to the Secretary no later than January 17, 2009.

### Action Items:

1. Put a moratorium on any future complaints unless they are criminal in nature until the Standards Procedure Manual has been revisited and the Board of Directors has approved the method and the definitions of what constitutes an expellable verdict and what are actual Just Causes.

Also, who (Judge Advocate or Board of Directors) decides on a complaint going to the Ethics and Grievance Committee for investigation? All those items now in the system will be completed. (Department of Arizona, Dechert Complaint, and any Probations in effect through January).

2. Place Quarterly Financial Reports on the website, as well as the 990 Forms, and make them available free as a download on the website and for a price if requested by mail to cover the expense to copy and mail.

3. Find \$10,000 for seed money for the 60th Commemorative Group and make it a portion of our 2009 Fund Raiser, but guarantee them this amount if approved. The Membership left it to the Board of Directors if the funds could be found.

4. Give our Contract Workers a Bonus of \$100 each for their good work. - Webmaster, Membership Contact. Also, give a plaque to the Secretary and Treasurer, VSO & Assistant VSO, VAVS and others who may be selected. The plaques are not to exceed \$50 each and not to exceed a total of \$1,000 for all Bonuses and Plaques.

5. Have a Board of Directors meeting July 2009 with the Gathering in the Washington area?

All voting members of the board, except for Director Yanacos, submitted their ballots. The voting members were the President, First and Second Vice Presidents and eleven Directors. Normally, the President has a tie breaking vote only, but in the case of a mailed ballot he is allowed to vote. Following are the results.

Action Item Number	For	Against
1 .....	9 .....	5
2 .....	11 .....	3
3 .....	7 .....	7
4 .....	11 .....	3
5 .....	11 .....	3

The recorded vote is on record and is available from the Secretary. In accordance with the above reference to the bylaws, this action shall be ratified by a quorum at the next Board of Directors meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Cohee, National Secretary

DO YOUR DUTY...  
**VOTE!**

DO YOUR DUTY...  
**VOTE!**

DO YOUR DUTY...  
**VOTE!**

## 2009 ELECTION VOTING

As Chairman of the Nominations/Elections Committee, I request that EVERY Member VOTE this year. The vote count has not been a true indication of the choices of the overall membership.

We have seven (7) applicants for the four (4) vacancies. They are all qualified to be a member of the Board of Directors. Each of them has worked tirelessly at the Chapter, State Department or National level. Several are serving on several National Committees.

For the cost of a postage stamp, you can help guide the future of the KWVA. (Remember that postage rates rise from 42 cents to 44 cents effective 11 May 2009. Affix the correctly priced stamp on your ballot.)

I ask that every Chapter work to have the Chapter Membership

reach 100% National Membership. Increased membership is the way we can continue to work and serve all Korea veterans.

The higher our National Membership count goes, the steadier overall costs to each member can remain.

In this March/April issue of *The Graybeards* are the resumes for the candidates. Read the resumes, ask questions of your State & National Officers, and then VOTE-VOTE-VOTE!!!

THE BALLOT IS ENCLOSED. PUT YOUR LABEL ON IT AND CHECK ONLY FOUR (4) NAMES. THEN VOTE ASAP!!!

Thomas M McHugh, Director  
Chairman, Nominations/Elections Committee  
Chairman, National Ceremonies Committee

## Candidates For Director

### Richard Brown, Sr.



This letter is to announce my intension in running in the up coming election as a Director. I presently serve as a member of the Ethics & Greivance Committee as well as a member of the Reunion committee.

I enlisted in the USAF in July 1950 and served in Korea during 1952 - 1953 at Chun Chon Air Base. I was assigned to the Air Police Squadron. I was an E5 SSgt at that location. I served until July

1971 after 21 years and was retired at the rank of MSgt E7.

I am a retired law enforcement Officer serving as a Chief of Police and Chief Deputy Sheriff of Berks County, PA. I have been a Licensed Private Detective from 1976 up to this present date.

Currently I am a Life Member of the KWVA, VFW, American Legion, Air Force Association, Vietnam Veterans Association, Military Society. I am also a member of the AF Security Police Association. I have served as Senior Vice Commander and Department Vice Commander of the American Legion Post in Okinawa, Japan. I also served as President of the Air Force Association Chapter in Allentown, PA.

My record speaks for itself. I am well qualified to be a Director of the KWVA.

I am a life member and my dues are paid up and I will attend all called meetings. I further understand that if I miss two unexcused absences I could be removed from office.

I hereby release my application to the nominating committee for verification, Since being a member of the KWVA I have attended all

called meetings this past 3 years. I am proud to be a member of this prestigious organization.

Your fellow Korean war veteran

RICHARD E. BROWN, SR. LR 36975 - 2307 Gring Drive - West Lawn, PA 19609 - Tele: 610-670-2886m, rebpil@comcast.net

### Luther Dappen



This letter is to announce my candidacy for Director of the KWVA for the years 2009 through 2012. My membership number is LR07827. I am a life member, so my dues are paid through 2012. I am releasing my application form for verification for the nominating committee.

I was born on a farm in South Dakota in 1930. I joined the army shortly after I graduated from High School. I served in Korea from November 1950 to

September 1951. I was a member of the 25th Recon Company of the 25th Infantry Division. My rank while in Korea was a Corporal. Our Company many casualties during this period of time, I feel fortunate to have survived.

When I returned from Korea, under the GI bill I attended Northern State University and received a degree in Teaching. Later, I received my Masters degree in Education from the University of Wyoming. I taught in the public schools in South Dakota and Iowa for 10 years. In 1965, I joined the Job Corps in Tamarac, Minnesota. My duties were counseling, motivating and evaluating all Corpsmen. Four years later, President Nixon decided to close most of the Job Corps Centers, so I was transferred to the Flandreau Indian School in South Dakota. This School is off reservation boarding school serving Native American Indian students grade 9 -12. I was a Guidance Counselor

**NOTICE:** The cost of a first-class stamp rises to 44 cents effective May 11, 2008. Please bear that in mind if you return your ballot after April 30th. You may, of course, continue to use your forever stamps after April 30th.



at this school until my retirement in 1992.

In the summer of 2000, I returned to Korea on the revisit program. Seoul, Korea was a big surprise to me, with all the modern sky scrapers. My thoughts were: Those P-51's could not make it down the streets in their strafing runs like they did during the 1st week of January, 1951. These planes would do a belly roll, and head back to Japan.

In the year 2000, our Chapter 194 (South Dakota) was organized. The 1st two years, I was elected Vice President. From 2002-2004, I was elected and held the position of President.

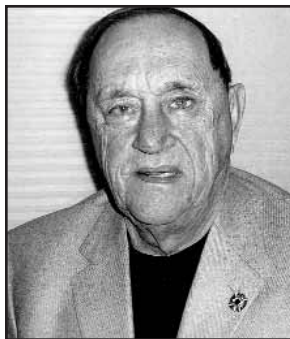
I attended the 2008 KWVA Reunion in Norfolk, VA. I would like to work toward increasing membership at these reunions, especially like to see more Chapter Presidents in attendance.

I am a life member of the VFW, and American Legion, and past Commander. I am still active on the firing squad for the local veteran funerals giving them their Military Honors.

I am willing to do the best job as a Director for the good of the KWVA. I am proud to be a Korean War Veteran and if I am elected, I will attend all meetings of the Board of Directors. I understand that 2(two) unexcused absence could be used for my removal from office.

Luther Dappen, 510 W. Pipestone Ave., Flandreau, SD 57028, (605) 997-2847, lhdappen@yahoo.com

## Marvin Dunn



This is to notify you that I am a candidate for Director of the National KWVA for the years 2009-2012. I am a member of the General Walton H. Walker Chapter 215. I have been a member since the chapter was organized in the year 2000. I joined the chapter at the first meeting. When I listened to their mission, I was convinced that I needed to join the chapter and become involved and committed to helping

Korean War Veterans. I became president of the chapter my second year and served two years. We accomplished many things while I was president. One of the most important things was to purchase a chapter Monument that was dedicated and placed in the Dallas National Cemetery. During my presidency, the chapter grew from 40 members to about 80. After my two years as president of the Walton H. Walker Chapter 215, I was asked to run for President of the State Department of Texas. I have been President of the State Department for three years. I was elected National Director for the term 2006-2009. The National President assigned me to be Chairman of the Budget Finance and Fund Raising Committee after my election. I have enjoyed this committee assignment and feel that I have learned much developing a budget for an organization the size of the National KWVA. It has been a pleasure to work with the National Board on items that will have a positive effect on the Korean War Veterans.

If elected, I will always be committed to the Korean Veterans that fought so bravely to defeat Communism. I will also be committed to fighting for the Korean Service Veterans. These veterans have fought for 50 something years to keep North Korea from invading South Korea. They have not received the credit they deserve. I am on the

Membership Committee and I am committed to recruiting these Korean Veterans into the National KWVA. I am going to give you my phone number and email and I encourage you to contact me if you have a question.

I was born in Wichita Falls, Texas on May 4, 1931. I was a freshman in college when North Korea attacked South Korea. I was like most of you I didn't know where Korea was. I decided to delay my education 2 or 3 years and help a country that was trying to become a Democracy and 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 in the first week of July, 1951 and arrived at Pusan, Korea the last week of July, 1951. I was assigned to the First Marine Division, First Regiment, 1st Battalion and Able Co. I spent all my time in the Punchbowl area. I was in several battles because I was in a rifle company and my position was always on the front lines with the exception of 4 days of R&R. That was about 10 miles behind the front line. My weapon was the BAR and it was most effective.

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

I worked 34 years as a teacher and administrator for the Dallas Independent School District. I developed programs that are still being used as supplementary material.

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 get the National KWVA going in the correct direction. I will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and understand that two unexcused absences could be used for my removal from office. My dues are paid up through my term of office 2009-2012. I intend to release all of this information to the Nominating Committee for verification. My membership # is R029232 and my mailing address is: 1721 Briardale Ct., Arlington, Texas 76013.

I have been married 56 years to the same fantastic lady and we have two daughters and five grandchildren. I am soliciting your vote so I can be part of the team to help develop respect for the National KWVA and move it forward.

My telephone # is 817-261-1499 and my email is marvdunnir@yahoo.com.

Marvin Dunn, President of the State Department of Texas

**BALLOT ENCLOSED IN THIS ISSUE**  
**VOTE ★ VOTE ★ VOTE ★ VOTE**

## James A. Fountain



This letter is to announce my intention to run for re-election as one of the National Directors. I was elected in 2006, and I have attended all called meetings knowing that if I had 2 unexcused absences I could be removed from office.

I recently updated my dues to life membership, so my dues are paid for the length of office.

I served in Korea from Oct 1952 thru Sept 1953. I was platoon sgt of "K" co. 23rd Inf. Reg, 2nd Inf Div. I was awarded the Combat Infantry badge, the Korea Service Medal, with 2 bronze stars United Nations Service medal.

I am Vice Commander of the St. Louis County Coalition, which is made up of all branches of service, working as a unified unit to help all veterans in their everyday lives. We also direct one of the largest Veterans Day Pardes in the St. Louis area.

I retired in 1995 at which time I was the President and CEO of a contract hauling company,. I set up all rates, routes and personnel for the company.

If reelected, the only promise I can make is to represent the membership in an honest and fair way, as I have done for the past 3 years.

I release my application form for verification, showing my service to the nominating committee.

Thank you all for allowin me to serve, and do the best possible job I can do for you.

I believe that the KWVA is moving in the right direction, finally for the success it so richly deserves, we have a group of excellant officers and fellow directors who are passonate about the job at hand.

James (jim) Fountain, LR.. 33590, 14541 Soho Dr., Florissant, MO, 63084-2653, 314-355-6499 Home, 314-974-3579 Cell, bud-fon@netzero.net

## Arthur S. Griffith



To my fellow comrades, I am submitting my declaration of intent to run for the office of National Director in the Korean War Veterans Association INC. for the year 2009-2012. I will attend all called meetings knowing that if I miss two unexcused meetings I can be removed from my office. My dues are up to date as I am a life member #LR38076, membership application form is attached. I have also signed

the KWVA Code of Conduct.

I am presently a member, as well as Senior Vice Commander of Chapter 299 KVA/KWVA INC. My other positions include Chairman of the Fundraising Committee, member of the Honor Guard having participated in the Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery. Wreath presentation at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and at our Korean War Memorial, which was my

greatest honor ever representing the KWVA and paying respect to our fallen comrades.

Presently, on the National level, I am serving on three committees, Fundraising Chairman on the Finance Committee with Director Marvin Dunn, we as a committee raised over \$70,000. last year alone for our organization, It is members like you that make this happen, member of the Membership committee with Director Jeff Brodeur, and a member of the ceremonies committee with Director Tom McHugh. Past experience, I was a member of the American Legion Post 294 in Pemberton, New Jersey serving on all chairs/committees and was elected Commander in 1986-1987.

My military service entry was January 1960 through October 1980, retiring in the pay grade of Sfc E-7. I served in Korea on two tours, 1st with the 34th Infantry Division, HQ 2nd Brigade 04 1962 thru 01 1963. Second tour was at HQ USAGY 8th Army from 01/05/1977 thru 06/24/1979. I served in Vietnam during Tet of 1968 for two years w/ the 1st AVN Brigade, 222nd/223rd AVN BN. I am releasing my Military Application information to the nominating Committee to review any or all of my military records. After retirement I worked for the Commissaries on military bases retiring in 1997 due to closure of Fort Devens, MA. My loving wife, IN HWA and I have been married for 30 years with three great sons and one daughter. We have four grandchildren and two great grandchildren, which are my great pride & joy.

If elected I will work tirelessly to use my managerial skills to meet the desires of the membership. I will work with the Directors to improve the organization, not against them and as a Post war veteran, I will keep the legacy of the Korean War alive for years to come. Think "Progress" for the KWVA INC. God Bless our troops and God Bless America.

Arthur S. Griffith, 499 Mechanic St., Leominster MA 01453, (artarmv2@comcast.net) 978 833 0892

## Glen Thompson



This letter announces my candidacy fur Director of the Korean War Veterans Association for the term 2009-2012.

My purpose for running is to join with responsib1e board members in guiding KWVA toward growth and prosperity. In steering this organization through difficult times, our officers have pointed it in the right direction. Still, KWVA needs many more mem-

bers, increased revenue, and disciplined spending. Our obligations to our recently granted federal charter, under Public Law 110-254, enacted on June 30, 2008, demand nothing less of us.

A review of the last four 990 tax returns shows KWVA has piled up \$152,600 in net losses from 2004 through 2007. To reverse this dangerous trend, KWVA must limit spending and increase revenue. The revenue side demands attention because membership dues accounted for 84% of our income in 2007. This unhealthy reliance on membership dues calls for KWVA to seek new sources of funding from the public. Since many members share my belief that this asso-



ciation should live within its means, my objective is to influence the decision makers to take actions that will stabilize our financial condition.

## Military

Like most veterans who served in Korea during the war, I didn't volunteer to go there and would have preferred any other place. For me to suggest the only real Korean War Veterans are those who went to Korea would be hypocritical. Sure, I earned a CIB as a machine gunner with Company H, 14th Infantry, 25th Division plus the standard medals such as Korean Service, UN, and National Defense. But my trip to Korea came about because some bored Army clerk drew my name.

Currently, veterans who served outside Korea during the Korean War Era represent the largest pool of potential new KWVA members. Although our future may rest with veterans who served in Korea after the war, many of those working veterans won't have time to join until after they retire. Meanwhile, KWVA needs an influx of new members now and cannot afford to overlook a single group of qualified veterans.

## Education and Employment

After my release from active duty, I attended college on the GI Bill and graduated. Then, I bounced around until my introduction to computers, an IBM 1401 as I recall. To control a multimillion dollar computer and see it obey my commands as long as I instructed it in a language it understood intrigued me. Better yet, it didn't take two hour lunch breaks, or complain, call in sick, or ask for a day off; it simply did what I told it.

So, I spent most of my working career as an "at-will" employee selling my computer skills to aggressive, productivity-based firms. These hard driving firms, such as Core Labs and EDS, powered the economic growth in this country. We at-will employees were free either to succeed or fail. With no company pensions, we built our own retirement plans. By necessity, we honed the art of spending less than we earned to secure our financial well-being.

## KWVA Chapter Experience

A couple of years after retirement, Ed Buckman contacted me about serving as the Secretary/Treasurer for a new KWVA chapter he was forming in Dallas. Although I knew nothing about veterans' organizations or being a Secretary/Treasurer, we still got Chapter 270 off the ground and in the black within a couple of months. Fortunately, the chapter attracted several generous members whose contributions propelled its growth. Meanwhile I took on the task of Newsletter Editor which gives me the opportunity to highlight the volunteer spirit and the significant contributions by our cadre of active members.

## KWVA National Experience

Nationally, I have worked on the Bylaws Committee for over three years and helped design the last two fund-raiser forms and tickets. Also, I've attended three KWVA conventions at my expense. At these conventions, I note that National's directors often pull in two or three different directions. My goal is to help build coalitions to strengthen this association both organizationally and financially.

## Goals

To help this organization get its income and expenses in line; I will

bring a background of 30 years self reliance and fiscal discipline to the board, and the will and persistence to make it happen. The financial situation cries out for action because KWVA cannot continue bleeding red ink and long survive.

To stop the bleeding, KWVA must cut spending and increase revenue. To increase revenue, we should look to the Korean Community for donations. Also, encourage members to consider naming KWVA as a beneficiary to their estates. Then, conduct a serious membership drive with small, medium, and large chapters competing within their groups for the highest percentage gain in new members.

Of the eight 501 (c) 19 veterans' organizations reporting over \$10 million income last year, only one, Military Officers Association of America, received most of its income from membership dues. The others show most of their income as direct public support. Two of the eight used professional fund-raisers. From this information, we learn that KWVA need not depend solely on dues and contributions from its members for revenue. Most successful veterans' organizations seek and get donations from the public. I hope to help that become a reality.

KWVA's future rests, in large part, on whether it can bring spending and revenue in equilibrium. This candidate believes he can work with responsible board members to achieve both financial stability and growth.

## Requirements

To meet the requirements for elected office, I enclose a completed membership application form showing dates of service which I release for verification by the Nominating Committee. I plan to attend all called meetings and understand that two unexcused absences may be cause for removal. As a life member, my dues are paid up through my term. I have enclosed a recent photograph.

Signed

Glen Thompson, LR28718, 1037 Rockledge Drive, Garland, TX 75043-5205, Phone: 972-279-7000; E-mail: gthomp@tx.rr.com

## Ezra Williams



To whom it may concern..

This letter is to announce my intention to run for the office of Director of the KWVA for the years 2009-2012.

If elected; I promise to attend all called meetings, and I understand that two (2) unexcused absences could result in my removal from office. I am a Life Member of the KWVA, # LR17819, thus my KWVA National dues are and will be paid during my elected term of

office.

I have read, signed and will abide by the KWVA Code of Conduct, and am currently serving on the KWVA Resolutions Committee.

Please release my application information to the Nominations/Elections Committee.

## Military Service

I enlisted in the United State Marine Corps on 28 November, 1951.

After boot camp and weapons training, I arrived in Korea on July 5, 1952. My service was as an 81mm Mortar Forward Observer Team Leader with G, H, and I Companies, 3rd Battalion, 7th Regiment. I was wounded in action on August 14, 1952 on Bunker Hill, for which I was given a Purple Heart. After my full tour of duty in Korea, I served 17 months in Japan as an MP. I was honorably discharged on November 27, 1954.

## Federal Service.

My federal service continued until my retirement, after 32 1/2 years of civil service duty for the United States Army Corps of Engineers, ending as a Lock and Dam Operator Leader, in a (Mission Essential) function that kept river navigation clear and moving, 24/7/365.

I am a member of, and have served 4 years as Commander of KWVA Chapter CID 186, St. Charles, Missouri, and I am currently serving my second year as the Commander of the KWVA Department of Missouri.

My dear wife Naomi is a retired school teacher; we are both active members of our church.

My purpose for seeking the office of Director is to assist in, and contribute to, all efforts in making the KWVA a better organization for its membership. We have built an excellent and active Department of Missouri for many years; and hosted the National Convention and other activities in Branson, America's Veterans' Capitol. We are proud of the KWVA's recently recognized federal charter status, and want to work for the future of the KWVA in service to veterans.

Respectfully,

Ezra F. 'Frank' Williams, Commander, KWVA Department of Missouri, 2 Cedar LN, O'Fallon, MO 63366-3404, Ph: 636-240-6806, Email: EzraW@centurytel.net



Dear Sir or Madam,

At our last meeting, it was brought to our attention that one of our deceased members (Elmer D. Saxton Sr.), was listed in the Last Call in *The Graybeards* as a Pennsylvania resident. In fact, he was a Delaware resident and very active in our chapter, Captain Paul N. Dill, Chapter 2, New Castle, Delaware.

We are requesting that as a courtesy to a Fallen Member that a correction is published in the next available issue of *The Graybeards*.

Fran Daney, Adjutant

Captain Paul N. Dill, Chapter 2 (CID 12)

## Please support our advertisers

Hopefully, our readers will buy their products so we can retain our current advertisers, attract new advertisers, and use the revenues to underwrite the costs of producing *The Graybeards*.

# Tour News

Revisit Korea

FLASH

## 2009 Revisit Korea Tour Dates changed

FLASH

Korean Veterans Association (KVA), Revisit Korea tour dates have changed.

- 26 May - 1 June, 2009 ..... 70
- 21 - 27 June, 2009 ..... 90
- 13 - 19 September, 2009 ..... 68
- 19 - 25 October, 2009 ..... 34

Note: Air Force veterans have a preference in October since this is the 60th Anniversary of the ROK Air Force, to include a special Seoul Air Show.

New Eligibility: KVA has decided that some veterans can repeat a Revisit Korea tour! Eligible are those who joined the program more than ten (10) years ago (before 1999) but only if KWVA cannot fill the quotas with "new" veterans. Since we have had to turn back quotas for the past three years, this should not be a problem! Sincerely and Fraternally,

Warren Wiedhahn

KWVA USA Revisit Korea Coordinator

**Accordion War: Korea 1951**  
Life and Death in a Marine Rifle Company  
Charles Hughes

**Accordion War: KOREA 1951**

"Wow! What a book you have written... Thanks for telling our story..."  
**Bob Gates, Marine rifleman, Korean vet.**

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**Harry "Ace" Martucci, Marine rifleman, Korean vet.**

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**John Simpson, Marine rifleman, Korean vet.**

"This is a gripping work and a must reading."  
**Korean War Project Newsletter**

"This book is hard to put down. The writing is terrific...Well done Doc."  
**GySgt John Boring, USMC (Ret)**  
**Leatherneck Magazine of the Marines, Sept. 2007.**

Order: [www.trafford.com/06-0192](http://www.trafford.com/06-0192), [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) or send check or money order for \$25 to: Charles Hughes 2303 Elaine St. Arkadelphia, AR 71923 for an autographed copy.



# Thanks for what you did

*Sometimes thanks come belatedly to veterans—but that often makes them all the sweeter. Consider this letter from proud father Dick Friebel.—Editor*

I served fourteen months in Korea, from June 1953 to August 1954. On Veterans Day 2008 I found this letter on my desk from my daughter, who was born a few years after my involvement in the Korean War ended. The letter recognized my service—and brought tears to my eyes.

Here it is.

Dad,

I was in the car yesterday, listening to the radio. They were talking about Veterans Day. People do tend to not make a big deal about this day—me included.

Well, then I got to thinking about what it must have been like for you as a soldier. I've read some books about Korea, and it sounds horrible. But, we now live in our comfortable world and don't really think about what you went through over there. I guess I've never told you, but you are the strongest person I know. I can't know how horrible the war was for you, but I'm sure it was. And, you never complain about it.

So, thank you for being my veteran, and for being the most positive, strong Dad anyone could ever have.

I Love You,

Denise

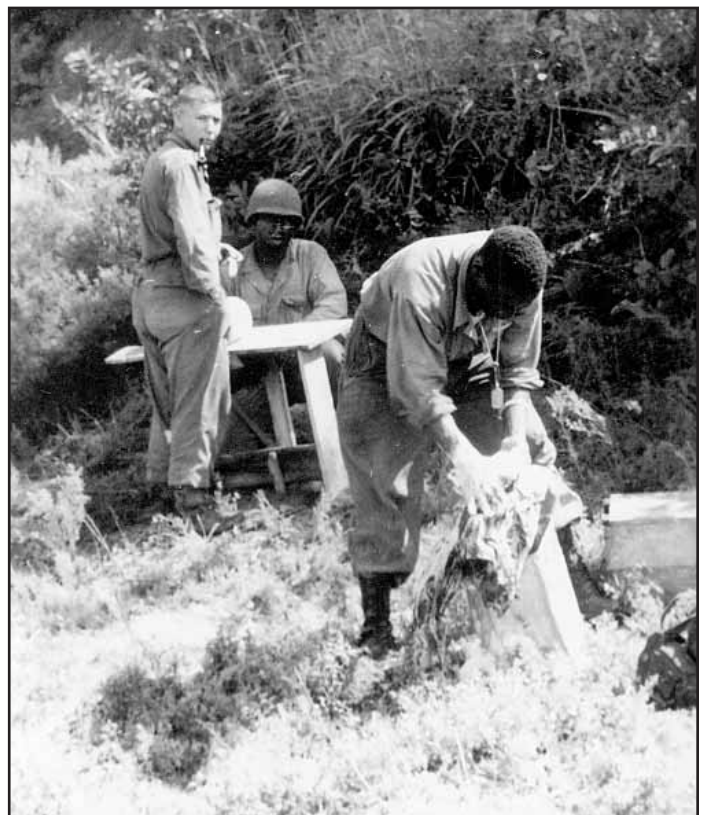
Reach Dick Friebel at 3279 Wareham Road, Shelby, OH 44875



July 27, 1953, 1000 hours, on the 38th Parallel with the 45th Div: Dick Friebel (L) and Buddy Marshall of Bullock, Arkansas



Home on July 27, 1953



Wash Day in Korea

# Christmas 2008

299 – KOREA VETERANS OF AMERICA This year's Chapter 299 Christmas Party was a tremendous success, with over 100 people in attendance. The Honorable Kim Jooseok, Republic of Korea Counsel General, joined us, along with Mr. Coleman Nee, Deputy Secretary of Massachusetts Veterans Affairs. Mr. Nee spoke to KVA members, as did Major William Ramsey, Esq., who served in Iraq and Afghanistan with the 82nd Airborne Division and is a currently serving as a military lawyer.

The KWVA National Board was represented by Tom McHugh, Chairman of the Ceremonies Committee and the Nominations and



Gold Star Mothers in front row with Terry Davis, Past National President. Behind her are Counsel General Kim and KWVA/KVA members and guest speakers

Front row, Blue Star Mothers and Gold Star Mothers; behind them are CID 299 chapter members, Counsel General Kim, and guest speakers



Elections Committee. He was joined by Rusty Tramonte, Commander of KWVA Chapter # 34 and two-time National Secretary and six-time National Treasurer.

Thomas Daley, Past State Commander of the DAV was present, as was Pauline Legace, Past President of the AMVETS for the State of Massachusetts and current Commander of the KVA Chapter 299 Support Group.

They were joined by Ms. Terry Davis, Past National President of the Gold Star Mothers and Nikki Likely, Dept. Treasurer. The Blue Star Mothers were represented by Rose Annese, V.P. of Massachusetts Chapter 1 and Blue to Gold Liaison, along with Tina Veves, Secretary of Chapter 1.

Of special significance to KVA Chapter 299 was the presence of Mrs. Mary Durham and her daughter Dee. Mrs. Durham was the wife of KVA Co-Founder John Durham, who passed away earlier this year.

Dee Durham was on hand to present the first "KVA Co-Founder John Durham Award" to the "KVA Member of the Year," Al McCarthy, Chapter 299's Commander.

The event was made all the more memorable by the presenta-

There was a variety of 2008 Christmas celebrations in which KWVA chapters and members participated. A few were presented in the last issue. Here are a few more.



Jeff Brodeur, Master of Ceremonies at CID 299's Christmas Party, and Al McCarthy, Chapter Commander, presenting gifts to Republic of Korea Counsel General Kim Jooseok

At CID 299's Christmas Party, Blue Star Mothers Rose Annese, V.P. and Blue to Gold Liaison of the Blue Star Mothers - Mass. Chapter 1; Jeff Brodeur, KWVA National Dir. and KVA Co-Founder; Tina Veves, Secretary of Blue Star Mothers of Mass. Chapter 1



Jeff Brodeur, Counsel General Kim, Al McCarthy (L-R) at CID 299's Christmas Party

tion of colors by the Fitchburg High School Marine Corps Jr. ROTC Cadets. They performed with precision and pride and received a strong ovation from everyone in attendance.

Christmas carols and a tasty luncheon topped off the day as we ended one of our most successful years yet. We look forward to the New Year and strong growth in membership.

(All pictures taken by Pauline Legace, KVA photographer—and Commander of the KVA Support Group)

Albert McCarthy  
albert\_mccarthy@hotmail.com

## Now Hear This:

All comments concerning, or material for publication, in *The Graybeards* should be sent to Art Sharp, Editor, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or emailed to:

sharp\_arthur\_g@sbcglobal.net



**SUBSIDIZED REVISIT KOREA TOURS**  
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## Korean Consul General Christmas Luncheon held in Massachusetts

More than 100 Korean War veterans from Massachusetts and Rhode Island KWVA chapters attended the annual Korean Consul General Christmas Luncheon recently.

Six Massachusetts chapters were represented: 34 (CPL Alfred Lopes, Jr.), 37 (PFC Joseph R. Ouellette), 141 (Cape & Islands #1), 187 (Western Massachusetts 2000), 294 (Greater Haverhill), and 300 (Korean War Veterans of Massachusetts).

Leo Agnew, 84 Prescott Street  
Clinton, MA 01510, (978) 733-1499  
abn187thpf@aol.com



Leo Agnew, Consul General Kim, MOH recipient Tom Hudner (R-L) at Korean Consul General Christmas Luncheon



**Visit the Korean War Veterans Association**





CID 300 was well represented at the Christmas luncheon as this photo attests



Additional members of CID 300 join the crowd at the Christmas luncheon



Veterans from Rhode Island join their comrades from Massachusetts at the Korean Consul General Christmas Luncheon

Association Website: [www.KWVA.org](http://www.KWVA.org)

## Chapters work with Korean American Foundation, USA

The Korean American Foundation, USA joined the Milal World Missionary Choir, which helped the foundation raise funds for orphaned and handicapped children in Korea.

Korean War veterans John Stellingwerf, KWVA Chapter 202, and W. Bradford Chase of KWVA Chapter 299, in Massachusetts, both of whom served in Korea with 7th CIC Detachment, made keynote speeches, together with Dr. Hubert Hojae Lee, Chairman of the Foundation, at the stage of the Carnegie Hall on November 19th, 2008.

Korean American Foundation has delivered \$75,000.00 to orphaned and handicapped children in Korea for the past five years. Messrs. Stellingwerf and Chase planned to attend the fund delivery ceremony in Seoul on April 10th, 2009.

The foundation was established five years ago by Dr. Hubert Hojae Lee, with the help of Korean War Veterans Association Chapter 202, Orange County, NY. Every year two veterans accompanied Dr. Hubert Lee in making a trip to Korea.

Anyone who wants additional information on the Foundation, can contact its president at (845) 649-3173.



Dr. Lee (center), members of the Korean American Foundation, USA, John Stellingwerf (back row, center) and W. Bradford Chase (back row, left) at Carnegie Hall



Dr. Lee (center) with members of CID 170 at Rockland County [NY] 2008 Veterans Day Parade

# Tell America

## Tell America on TV in Ft. Wayne, IN

Any time news is breaking for the Tell America Program, I feel it's a great pleasure to let you know. On January 19th 2009 the Tell America Television Network and Access TV took its school program on the road and agreed to televise a school program once a month if our schedule permits.

In a nearby photo readers will see Tell America presenting Mrs. Abby Tugulis of Maple Creek Middle School in Ft. Wayne, IN with the Accommodation Award for Excellence for preserving the story of the "Forgotten War" to

her students for five consecutive years.

Since the schools call us because of our exposure on television, we are extremely honored—as well as busy. As a result, we have either a school or TV program three times a month.

Every school that contacts us has done so for the past five consecutive years. The number of schools has exceeded our expectations.

*James E. Yaney, Sr., National Committee, Tell America*



**LEFT:** Abby Tugulis receives award from Ft. Wayne chapter

**RIGHT:** Students at Maple Creek School pay attention at Tell America presentation

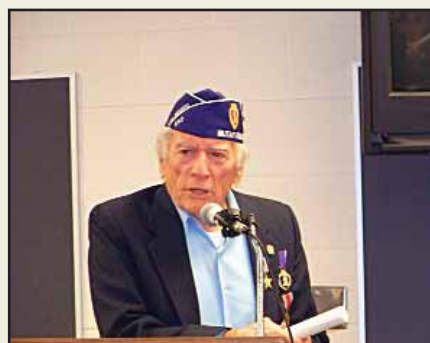


**LEFT:** Faculty members listen to tale of the Korean War at Maple Creek School



**LEFT:** Presenters gather around the podium at Maple Creek School

**RIGHT:** Tell America is televised at Maple Creek School



**LEFT:** Telling the tale of the Korean War at Maple Creek School presentation

## Korean Veterans attend US Air Force Academy in a "Tell America" Capacity

The U.S. Air Force Academy sponsored the attendance of forty U.S. Korea veterans to be "Presenters" at a special segment of their cadet training, the fall 2008 Falcon Heritage Forum with the theme of "Korea: The Unresolved Conflict," September 17-20, 2008. Half of these veterans served in Korea 1950-53. The other half served in Korea since 1953.

They each gave presentations to two classes of about 150 cadets. The purpose of the forum was to motivate the

cadets by sharing their experiences with stories of "there I was!"

The first day included attendance at a "Passing Review" parade of 40 Squadrons of 100+ cadets. On the last day the presenters were treated to attendance at the AF Academy vs. Utah football game.

Six of the presenters were KWVA members. One of them was a Korea Service Veteran.

*Submitted by Jake Feaster and George Lawhon*



Veteran Presenters at the US Air Force Academy, KWVA Members: **(First Row L-R)**, [5th George Lawhon], [9th Lee Dauster], [10th Paul Darrow]. **(Second Row L-R)**, [10th Jake Feaster], [Not Pictured: Joe Feaster.]



WVA Member Participants at the Air Force Academy Forum Display "Certificates of Appreciation" (L-R) Director George Lawhon; Assistant Secretary Jake Feaster; Colorado CID 9 President Paul Darrow; Director Lee Dauster, Korea Service Veteran Joe Feaster

# Bridge dedicated in Maryville, TN

The sign that brings goose bumps to Korean War veterans in Marysville, TN



The City of Maryville, TN dedicated its Cusick Street Bridge to Korean War veterans in a ceremony on 19 September 2008. The bridge spans Greenbelt Park between Maryville and Alcoa. One of the prominent sponsors of the dedication was KWVA member Leroy Rogers.

A speaker at the ceremony was Dr. Tom Kim, M.D., who noted that he was six years old when he left Korea in 1951. He, his five brothers and sisters, and his grandparents got on top of a train that was carrying General MacArthur out of North Korea to the south in ten°-below zero weather.

Kim told the veterans on hand that without them, he wouldn't be here today. And, he added, "I love you guys." That seemed to be the overall sentiment at the event.

Rogers has been pushing for the dedication for a long time. He has been corresponding with *The Graybeards'* editor for seemingly years to apprise him of the progress. He will never forget the 13 men from Blount County, in which Maryville is located, who died in the Korean War. Their names are listed on a monument at the County Courthouse.

For the record, they were:

- Clifford J. Boring
- Fred H. Gossett
- Ray F. Henry
- Jack E. King
- Daniel R. Lambert
- Gene E. Lillard
- James R. McNeilly
- Charles D. Orr
- William R. Stinnett
- Columbus T. Thacker

life there was tenuous.

"One shell hit within 5 yards of me and didn't explode," he told the people in attendance. "It was breath to breath there."

Certainly dedicating one bridge—or any number of bridges—is not going to restore the lives of the 13 Blount Countians who died in Korea. But, at least the dedication of the Cusick Street Bridge provides some long overdue recognition to the Korean War veterans who fought so valiantly to ensure that the people of South Korea could live in relative peace and freedom.

They have done so now for a span of 55 years—and the dedication of that span over Greenbelt Park is testimony to what they have accomplished as a result of Korean War veterans in Maryville, Alcoa, and elsewhere.



ABC & CBS affiliates interview PFC Leroy Rogers at bridge dedication



The "Korean War Memorial Bridge" connecting Maryville and Alcoa TN





PFC Rogers prepares to salute Maryville City Council members for their efforts in getting the bridge dedicated

**...the dedication of the Cusick Street Bridge provides some long overdue recognition to the Korean War veterans who fought so valiantly to ensure that the people of South Korea could live in relative peace and freedom.**



Dr. Tom Kim addresses attendees at Cusick Street Bridge ceremony, as Maryville's Mayor, Joe Swann, looks over the speaker's left shoulder (Leroy Rogers is at Dr. Kim's right)

## A remembrance

By Arnie Hansen©

**"Retreat? We're simply attacking in a different direction!"**

.....Gen. Oliver P. Smith, USMC

The entire First Marine Division was surrounded and there was only one way out: a narrow, winding, dirt and gravel road flanked by frozen mountains and precipitous gorges. It was the route they had taken to conquer North Korea, all the way to the Chosin Reservoir near the Chinese border. Now, just about two weeks after Thanksgiving, it was the same route they must use to break through the enemy army which had recently, without warning, attacked the Division in screaming, bugle-blowing hordes.

Just yesterday, Col. 'Chesty' Puller had made the rounds of this compound, giving out last minute orders to the officers of various units of the First Regiment. One of guys in the motor pool asked him if it was true that we were surrounded. He replied in the affirmative, and added "...but at least we know where the enemy is!"

The escape was planned in a leapfrog fashion, with the northernmost units leaving first. It had begun with the 7th Marines and their support groups fighting their way out of Yudam-ni, heading south through a fierce battle at Toktong Pass, to the next perimeter at Hagaru-ri where the 5th Marines were dug in and engaged in hand-to-hand combat. Eventually, both regiments trekked through the ever-tightening perimeter at Koto-ri being held by the 1st Marines, who by this time, were beginning to refer to themselves as the "Last" Marines.

It was an eerie sight, almost surreal, with the troops slogging along in their hooded parkas and mickey-mouse boots. They walked in a single column on each side of the road, while all the tanks, trucks, howitzers, weapons carriers and the ubiquitous jeeps took up the center, all grinding along in low gear. If you ever wondered how large a Marine Corps division is, just watch as one lumbers by you, seemingly forever—thinking you're going to be one of the last in line and might not make it out at all.

Continued on page 49

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

6147th Tac Con Gp. (5th AF, Korea)



Attendees at the 6147th Tac Con Gp, (5th AF, KOREA), Mosquito Assn., and all units reunion gather with their “special guest” at Lackland AFB in 2008

Members of the 6147th Tac Con Gp (5th AF, Korea), The Mosquito Assn., and all units met at Lackland AFB, TX last year. A “special guest” was a T-6 plane, their “work horse bird” of the Korean War.

As Richard Souza, Locator/Editor of the Mosquito Association points out, the T-6 is seldom remembered as the one

that flew many sorties to assist in air strikes against the enemy until it was retired in Korea in June 1956.

For information about the next reunion, see the “Reunions” section.

*Richard L. Souza, 79 Bradstreet Ave.  
Lowell, MA 01851-4120*

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** According to records, two T-6 planes were lost during the Korean War. No pilots or crew members were killed in action. Here are the records:

## Aircraft Type: T-6

Tail Number	Date of Loss	Group or Wing	Squadron
44-9714	511107	6147th Tac Ctl	Gp 6148th Tac Ctl Sq

Circumstances of Loss: Hit by AAA near Hill 317 while on routine tactical mission, landed at L Strip

## Crewmember Associated With This Loss

GUYTON, JR., Robert D. 1LT	USAF	WIA
----------------------------	------	-----

Tail Number	Date of Loss	Group or Wing	Squadron
UNK	530517	6149th Tac Ctl	Gp 6148th Tac Ctl Sq

Circumstances of Loss: Downed by AAA, both crew members successfully bailed out

## Crewmembers Associated With This Loss

HATFIELD, L. K. “Keith” CAPT AuArmy RSC Rescued by 3rd ROK Capital Division servicemen (3rd Royal Australian Regiment)  
WINNER, Frank E. CAPT USAF RSC Rescued by 3rd ROK Capital Division servicemen





## 51st Fighter Interceptor Wing

On the left, the 51st Fighter Interceptor Wing members at San Antonio and below, the Ladies Auxiliary of the 51st Fighter Interceptor Wing

Members of the 51st Fighter Interceptor Wing "Checkertails" gathered in San Antonio, Texas at the Double Tree Hotel for the 19th annual reunion, held Sept. 18-20, 2008. Attending were 34 men, 25 women and 13 guests.

The men of the 51st had served at Naha, Okinawa, Itazuke, Japan, K-14 Kimpo and K-13 Suwon, Korea in 1950-53. The 51st was originally part of the 20th A.F.

The 51st consisted of the 16th, 25th and 39th squadrons.

*Richard E. Ehrick, 86 Franklin Ct.  
La Porte, IN 46350-5127*



## A chance meeting...

[More](#) ➤

Commander Tine Martin (Central Indiana Chapter #259) and his wife were visiting Frankenmuth, Michigan on a short winter vacation. Wanting some snacks, we stopped at a local Kroger store. To our surprise, we were greeted by three KWVA volunteers from Saginaw/ Frankenmuth Chapter #251.

They were collecting contributions for their local veterans hospital projects. The date was November 11th, 2008, Veterans Day.

It was a very cold and blustery day, but they warmed our day and our hearts. We thank them for giving their time and service.

*Tine and Virginia Martin  
8 Jackson Court  
Brownsburg, IN 46112*



A chance meeting in Michigan

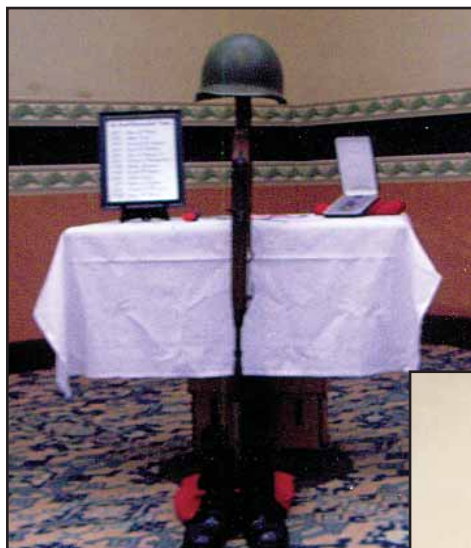


# Korean War Veterans' Mini-Reunions (continued).....

## 780th Field Artillery Battalion



780th FA colors are draped in honor of those from the battalion KIA in Korean War



Memorial Table at the 780th FA Mini-reunion: Left, a list of our 13 KIA; right, a Purple Heart; center, a single rose in memory of them. "We shall miss them."

The 780th Field Artillery Battalion held its 2008 Reunion last September in Victoria, TX. Attendance was low because of Hurricane Gustav, but those attending enjoyed true Texas hospitality by our reunion host, Marguerite Griffin.

We toured the newly dedicated Korean War Memorial in Victoria. At our formal banquet we remembered those who

passed away in the past year, and those we lost in Korea.

This year (2009) we hope to meet in Virginia and dedicate a memorial to the 780th in Salem, Virginia.

*George J. Ellis  
1020 Wildwood Park Road  
Florence, AL  
35630, (256) 764-5938*



780th FA Honor Guard for gathering in Victoria (L-R) D. L. Perkins, Harrison Raska, W. R. Lamprecht, Troy Howard



## 9 DUTCH NELSEN [CO]

Members of Chapter 9, Dutch Nelsen [CO] attended a ceremony held at Memorial Park in Colorado Springs, CO in celebration of the 55th year of the Armistice in Korea. The inside ceremony was held at the Korean American Association Community Hall, where KWVA members and their families were treated to great Korean dishes!

Mr. Daniel Oh, President of the Korean Unification Forum of North & South Korea, picked up the tab. He also briefed the members on his activities in both North and South Korea.

Several dignitaries, both Korean and American, attended the event. Among them were the Mayor of Colorado Springs, Lionel Rivera, the guest speaker, Dr. Oh, the President of The Colorado Springs Korean American Friendship Association, Kim Jong Ku, the VP of the Association, Kim Whan Kil, and the President of the Women's Auxiliary, Mrs. Jo Nam Soon.

The *VOX Koreana Newspaper* in Denver published a photo of the event.

*Joe Annello, joeannello@comcast.net*



The Korean War Memorial Monument erected and dedicated by members of CID 9



CID 9 members Vince Scalzo, Joe Annello, and C.C. Kelly talk about the chapter's July 27th event



Lou Schindler, Hall of Fame inductee, Ft. Benning, GA (3 Awards of the CIB) sitting with Margo Nelsen, widow of CID 9's founder, Lt. Colonel "Dutch" Nelsen at Colorado Springs ceremony



Three members of the Korean Ladies Auxiliary with the President, Kim Jong Ku (far right) and VP Kim Whan Kil of the Korean Society of Colorado Springs at CID 9's event



Members of CID 9 and the Korean Society of Colorado Springs



# Thanks!

There is no shortage of thanks extended from Koreans to the veterans who fought for their country's freedom over fifty years ago. Here are more results.

## Idaho Korean War veterans honored

Veterans of the Korean War were honored guests of the Idaho Korean Association on Saturday, 7 February, 2009, at a breakfast in Boise. The featured speaker was Mr. Haryong Lee, Korean Consul General in Seattle.

Also speaking to the approximately 70 people in attendance

were Mr. Bob Chester and Mr. Harold Kwan. They both related their experiences during their recent trip as participants in the KWVA Revisit Korea Program.

*Richard L. Hart  
9942 W. Antietam Street  
Boise, Idaho 83709*



**ABOVE:** Mr. Haryong Lee, Korean Consul General in Seattle, addresses attendees



**LEFT:** The hosts at the Seattle breakfast in traditional Korean dress are (far left) Mr. Lee and Na Kyung Won, Member of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea. At the extreme right is Mr. Ben Chon, President of the Idaho Korean Association

## CID 170 members attend Church of Martyrs event

The Church of Martyrs hosted CID 170 (Taejon, NJ) members at their annual get-together, which was held on 12 November 2008. The event is held in appreciation for Korean War veterans who kept communism out of South Korea. Church members have for years honored the chapter and their family members.

Church Pastor Father Don Bosco Hong-Sik Park's presentation was followed by an address from Taejon Chapter Commander Thomas Falato



CID 170 members participate at Church of Martyrs celebration





**LEFT:** CID 170 members and Korean hosts at Church of Martyrs event

**RIGHT:** Reverend Park and Thomas Falato at Church of Martyrs event



**BELOW:** George Bruzgis (R) and Thomas Falato (L) salute Koreans





# Chapter & Department News

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** I am building an extensive backlog of chapters that are in a "Non-compliant" status. The reasons for the "non-compliant" classification vary, e.g., officers are not members of KWVA, election reports not submitted, officer positions are not filled....whatever.

I would like to get your chapter news and photos in the "Chapters" section. They are not doing you or me any good sitting in the "Non-compliant" file. But, this is one area of the magazine that is out of my editorial control.

If you have sent news and photos and they do not appear in this section within a couple issues, please contact Jake Feaster to find out if your chapter is non-compliant. I want to include your submissions and clear out my backlog.

## 10 CONNECTICUT #1 [CT]

For the Connecticut Veterans Day Parade in 2008, we wanted to do something "special." We have been trying for eight years to get the Connecticut legislature to give us permission to place a Korean War Memorial at the Capitol at no expense to the state. So, we decided that, in addition to our usual parade unit, we would do a "MASH 4077th" re-enactment.

The "casting call" went out. With the aid of adults and high school honor students who wanted to help, we put on a great show, including a Bell-47 Helicopter, complete with stretchers—and "wounded."



"Hot Lips," (with back to camera), Donna Palla, Jim Shelmerdine (holding sign) at Connecticut Veterans Day Parade



4077th M.A.S.H. staff at Veterans Day Parade (names unknown); Boom Box on stretcher is playing "Suicide is Painless"



"Father Mulcahy" gives spiritual guidance to "Hot Lips" at Veterans Day Parade

A very young "Col. Potter" joins CID 10 at Veterans Day Parade



CID 10 members at Connecticut Veterans Day Parade (L-R) John Considine, Laurie Bastrarache, Ken White, Jim Doucette, unknown soldier, Paul Gianelli, Ken Simmons, Wil Boucher, Bob Smith





Members of CID 10 line-up for Veterans Day Parade (L-R) Dick Bedard, Dick LaCrafta, Paul Hockla, Bill Carrington, John DiNigris, Ed Tooper, Jim McGann

We even got an ambulance, complete with Dr. Mel Horwitz, who was a surgeon with 47th MASH in Korea. He is also the author of the popular book *We Will Not Be Strangers*, about his tour in Korea.

President Shelmerdine, a “pack rat” by nature, provided the vintage uniforms, and St. Francis Hospital in Hartford provided the scrubs. Everyone had a great time, and they plan to do it next year.

Other chapters might consider a similar venture.



Dr. Mel Horwitz (R) and Jim Shelmerdine (L) plan for the Veterans Day Parade

President Shelmerdine’s daughter Donna works at a local nursing home. She told her dad that there were several patients who, because of their illnesses, could not attend their fellow veterans’ funerals. CID 10’s Honor Guard came to the rescue!

On Veterans Day 2008 chapter members visited the nursing home and performed “Final Honors,” including “Taps.” Other

chapters might consider this gesture for nursing home-bound veterans.

Jim Shelmerdine, 745 Tolland Street  
East Hartford, CT 06108, (860) 528-0251



Laurie Bastarache (1st Marine Recon Co.), Jim McGann (SVC Co, 160th Inf., 40th Div.), Jim Shelmerdine (HQ Co., 1st Bn., 224th Inf., 40th Inf. Div.) “Present Arms”



Jim Shelmerdine sounds “Taps”

## 17 LT. RICHARD E. CRONAN [FL]

We were invited to participate in a salute to veterans on 8 November 2008 and to attend a special mass to honor all veterans. Mr. Harry Fear, Administrator of St. Jude, attended to our needs.

The Rev. Joseph M. Kuczborski, who was an Air Force chaplain, conducted the mass. There was a buffet dinner and dance afterward for everybody in attendance. Many veterans of WWII, the Korean War, and more recent wars attended the events.

Arnold “Bob” Kempler, E206 Piedmont E.  
Delray Beach, FL 33484





Honor Guard of CID 17 (L-R) Bob Green, Joe Green, Al Ratner, Stan Gavlick, and Bob Spahn



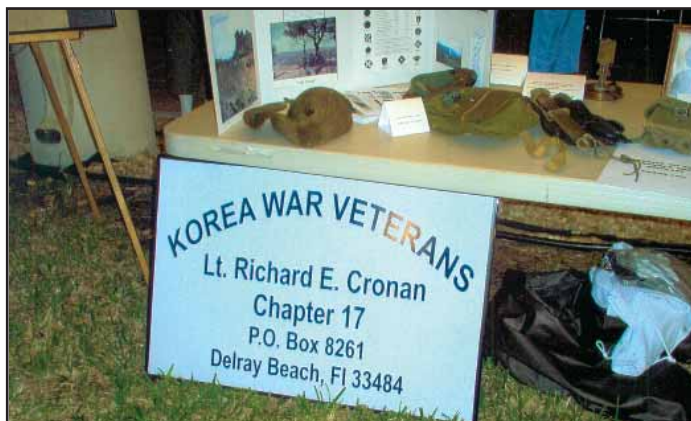
Members of CID 17 and their wives enjoying festivities (L-R) Al and Myra Ratner, Herb and Sandy Dareff



Members of CID 17 and wives at event (L-R) Stan and Gene Gavlick, Arnold "Bob" Kempler (standing), Joe and Bonnie Green



Some of the items displayed by CID 17 at local event



CID 17's new sign and items on display

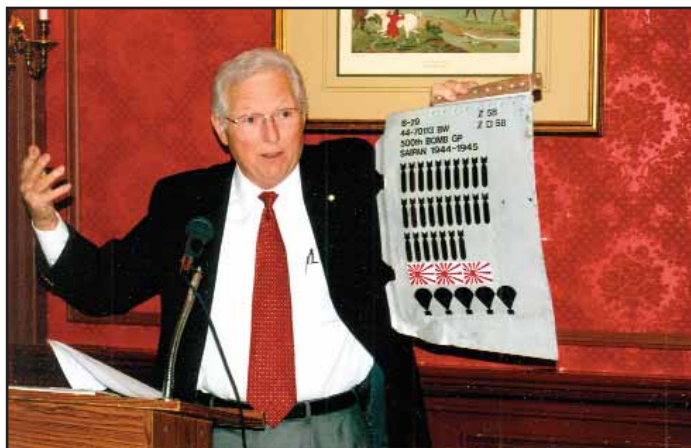
## 19 GEN. RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

The speaker at our recent meeting was Coy Short, Chairman of the B-29 Superfortress Association. He is a former U.S. Army Officer who is presently active in the Georgia National Guard.

There is presently a program to have a museum displaying an original of the seven aircraft built at the Boeing/Lockheed plant here in Georgia. They have four on hand.

James Conway, 1184 Fourteenth Place NE

Atlanta, GA (404) 875-6170, conatlanta@aol.com



Coy Short displays an original metal sheet from a WWII B-29 at CID 19's meeting



## 48 CHORWON [NJ]

Here are some of the chapter's activities during 2008.  
We:

- Marched in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Pearl River, New York
- Attended a dinner for Korean War vets at the Palisadium in Palisades Park, NJ on 26 April, 2008
- Conducted a very successful Daisy Drive (same as a Poppy Drive) in April
- Attended a picnic sponsored by the Hansung Church in Creskill, NJ for the Chorwon, Taejon and Mash 4099 chapters
- Held our installation dinner at Madeleine's Petit Paris on November 14, 2008.

New Jersey State Commander George Bruzgis administered the Oath of Office. Assemblyman Gordon Johnson was the guest speaker.

- Served Thanksgiving dinner at the Paramus Veterans Home
- Donated \$500.00 cash and \$200.00 in Shop Rite gift certificates for Christmas to homeless veterans of Bergen County in Garfield, NJ

Warren Dartell, 211 Hayward Place  
Wallington, NJ 07057



Members of CID 48 served Thanksgiving Day dinner at Paramus [NJ] Veterans Home (Photo by Winnie Bramley)



At CID 48 Installation (L-R) N.J. State Commander George Bruzgis, Commander John Valerio, Surgeon Rudy Parciasepe, Adjutant Bob Bramley, Jr., Vice Commander Wayne Morrison, Finance Officer Ed Fehmian, Sr. Vice Commander Warren Dartell, Chaplain Larry Morgan, Sgt-at-Arms Walter Bilz, Judge Advocate Ed Halvey. Absent when picture was taken: Service Officer Red Mosley. (Photo by Winnie Bramley)

## 55 NASSAU COUNTY #1 [NY]

Chapter members marched in the Veterans Day Parade in New York City on 11 November 2008.

Commander Howard Plattner led the chapter down Fifth Avenue.

Robert O'Brien, 408 Fifth Avenue  
Cedarhurst, NY 11516



Howard Plattner leads CID 55 members down Fifth Avenue in Veterans Day Parade

## 56 VENTURA COUNTY [CA]

We provided an Honor Guard for deceased veteran Robert Moraga.

The services began an hour late. We were only too happy to wait to honor our departed comrade.

David Lopez, 3850 W. 180th Place  
Torrance, CA 90504





Members of CID 56 and guests wait for Moraga services to begin (L-R) Robert Bermudez, Harry Aguilar, Henry Marin, Frank Torrez, Manuel Mendez, William Cobos, Rachel Beas, Manuel Salazar



More members of CID 56 wait (L-R) Rudy Arellano, Mike Hidalgo, Fred Rodriquez, John Campos, Henry Guevara, Henry Aguilar, David Garcia, Henry Marin, Frank Torrez, William Cobos



CID 56's Rifle Squad (L-R) David Garcia, Manuel Mendez, Henry Guevara, Fred Rodriguez, John Campos, Henry Marin, Robert Bermudez, Henry Aguilar



CID 56's flag holders at Moraga services (L-R) Richard Ruiz, John Mora, Eutimeo Beas, Gilbert Cabrera, Frank Torrez, William Cobos, Mike Hidalgo



Flag folders from CID 56 at Moraga service: Mike Hidalgo, Rudy Arellano, Manuel Salazar, David Lopez

## 289 MOUNTAIN EMPIRE [TN]

We had a nice turnout of members and their guests (spouses or significant others) at the annual Christmas party held in Kingsport, TN on December 18. Two plaques were awarded during a short business meeting.

Jr. Vice-Commander Arles Pease received the first annual "Member of the Year" plaque from Past Commander Robert Shelton for work he had done for the Chapter above and beyond his normal duties.



Jr. Vice-Commander Arles Pease (left) receives the first annual "Member of the Year" plaque from Past Commander Robert Shelton



Carol Shelton received a plaque presented by Director Joe Cody for her work in communications (printing and mailing the monthly minutes and newsletter), sending articles and pictures to *The Graybeards*, and keeping up the Chapter's Scrapbook, all of which she has done since the Chapter was formed six years ago.



Carol Shelton received a plaque presented by Director Joe Cody for her work in communications

The tree shows the results of simulated napalm burns and is adorned with C-ration cans, dog tags and chains, spent shells, bits of tin foil, pictures of loved ones and anything a soldier could scrounge.

It represents extreme hardship under wartime conditions while still trying to maintain the Christmas spirit.

Bill Juergens, PR Chairman, P. O. Box 211  
O'Fallon, IL 62269

## 117 OCEAN STATE #1 [RI]

Members participated in a 27 July Armistice ceremony in Providence last summer. The turnout was great for the event.

Maurice P. Trottier, 20 Oakdale Avenue  
Pawtucket, RI 02860

## 95 IMJIN [IL]

### Korean War Veterans display battlefront Christmas Tree

Chapter members erected a battlefront Christmas tree at the site of their monument in Melvin Price Park. The tree is erected annually in honor of deceased chapter commander Kermit Holtgrewe, who experienced a battlefront tree.



**ABOVE:** Members of CID 95 after erection of their Christmas tree on a cold December day.

**LEFT:** CID 95's Christmas battlefront tree looking lonely



Ken LaFountaine, CID 117 chaplain, addresses crowd at July 27th ceremony



CID 117 Commander Maurice Trottier and Walter Bieneki place wreath at July 27th ceremony





Marine Corps Color Guard at Providence ceremony



A group of CID 117 members (L-R) Joseph LaFountaine, Robert Sanford, John Pina, John DuFour, Bob Ducharme, Kenneth LaFountaine, Peter Paul Boyd (Seated) Maurice P. Trottier, Joseph Desjardins



**LEFT:** Joe LaFountaine and Peter Kelly of CID 117 participate in Providence July 27th ceremony

**BELOW:** CID 117 members and dignitaries at July 27th ceremony in Providence



## 126 TRI-STATE [OH]

We ended 2008 with our Annual Christmas Party. As usual, we had a good turnout.

After a great meal we were entertained by choir members and their director from Wellsville High School. This year we honored Ray Hilliard, who was the "King Pin" in getting our Chapter started

Our President, Don Wolf, presented the Eagle Trophy Plaque and spoke briefly about Ray, who is convalescing from a nasty fall a year ago.

Howard Camp was our guest speaker. He is always a big hit with everyone, and he also gave us some hints on state benefits for the widows of Korean veterans.

After a drawing for some door prizes we said a "Merry Christmas" to everyone and started work again in February.

George Piggott, Vice Pres., 3720 Root Ave.  
Canton, OH 44705



President Don Wolf of CID 126 shows the Eagle Trophy Plaque for Ray Hilliard



Jim Stelts greets Ray Hilliard in a healthier moment at CID 126 Christmas Party several years ago





Wellsville High School choir members and director at CID 126's Christmas Party

## 147 WEST BAY [RI]

Members attended a Korean Veterans Day ceremony at Flushing, NY, along with veterans from New Jersey, New York Massachusetts, and Rhode Island.

Attendees at a luncheon at Newton, Massachusetts met the new ROK Ambassador, Tae-Sik Lee. Everyone received a cell phone from Korea as a gift from the Ambassador.

At our Christmas Party, William Kennedy received an Ambassador of Peace Medallion and Ribbon for bravery in Korea. Retired Rhode Island National Guard General Reginald Centroccio pinned the medal on Kennedy.

Chapter members also received six Korean War Service Medals from the United Nations. Hong Ki Jee, Military Advisor, presented them.

Robert J. Hartley, P.O. Box 661  
Coventry, RI 02816



CID 147 members receiving medallions at Flushing NY ceremony (L-R) John Jeon, Edward Ruzzano, Robert Hartley, Joseph Murnier, Hong Ki Jee, Military Advisor to the UN



Members of CID 147 and guests at Newton, Massachusetts luncheon (L-R) John Jeon, Won-Jung Lee, Young-Sool Lee, Tae-Sik Lee, Jung-Sup Seo, Young Sun Ji, Consul General in Boston, Ralph Nonnamacher, Commander Robert F. Hartley, Robert Cushing, Joseph Murnier, Joseph Perry, Pong K Hah, Edward Ruzzano, Edward Belbin



Medal presentation at CID 147's Christmas Party (L-R) Reginald Centroccio (Ret. Gen., RI National Guard), Robert Hartley, William Kennedy, Edward Ruzzano, Cyril Geary, Evelyn Inman (standing in for her husband, Edward S. "Ted" Inman, Jr.), Joseph Murnier. Sitting is Chris Griswall, Chapter bugler and banner carrier.



Korean War veterans at Flushing NY ceremony



## 148 CENTRAL JERSEY [NJ]

We have new officers as of 13 May 2009:

- Commander - Charles Koppelman
- Sr. Vice Commander - Andrew Oslinker
- Jr. Vice Commander - Bernard London

Charles Koppelman, (609) 655-3111  
charleskoppelman@yahoo.com

## 170 TAEJON [NJ]

On Sunday 7 December 2008 fourteen chapter members accepted an invitation to attend "Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day." Chapter Commander Thomas Falato, chapter members, and NJ KWVA State Commander George Bruzgis gave honor to our WWII brothers.

A large crowd of veterans from all wars gathered in 25° weather with high winds, about 100 feet from the WWII submarine USS Ling (SS-297).

We also participated at a Veterans Day celebration at Passaic County Technical Institute High School.

Members participated in the nation's largest Veterans Day parade in New York City on 11 November 2008.



CID 170 members in front of USS Ling (Front L-R) Louis Quagliero, William Burns, Erwin Burkert, Perry Georgison, George Rothfritz (Back L-R) John Leonhard, George Bruzgis, Thomas Falato, ? Uvenio, Louis Lomauro, Henry Ferrarini, Louis DeStefano, Robert Fatovic, Kenneth Green



History teacher Cathy Pagano (L), George Bruzgis (C), Thomas Falato (R) at Passaic County Technical Institute High School ceremony



CID 170 member Erwin Burkert receives American flag from cadet at Passaic County Technical Institute High School



Members of CID 170 prepare to step off at New York City Veterans Day Parade



Vincent Cupo joins the crowd at the New York City Veterans Day parade





CID 170 members enjoy a late brunch in Saddle Brook, NJ after the Veterans Day Parade

## 178 YORK COUNTY [PA]

We have new officers. They are:

- James Reinhold - Secretary
- Robert Godfrey - Treasurer
- Ralph Ashton - 2nd Vice Commander
- William Frank - 1st Vice Commander
- Ronald Busser - Commander



New officers of CID 178 (L-R) Carrol Reinhold, James Reinhold, Robert Godfrey, Ralph Ashton, William Frank, Ronald Busse

## 259 CENTRAL INDIANA [IN]

Indianapolis Mayor Gregory Ballard, a retired U.S. Marine Lt Col, has been very influential in recognizing veterans, past and present. After just sponsoring a successful "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans," he has asked that preparation begin for a tribute to Korean War Veterans to be held in June 2009.

Attending the conference with representatives of the Mayor's Office, Veterans Affairs, and Vietnam Veterans Kent Morgan and Paul Cauley, were CID 259 members Melvin Butler, Ernie Condra, Jack Beaty, Commander Tine Martin, Everett McFarland and John Quinn.

CID 259 members returned, after a year, to a Manheim automobile auction, in Indianapolis, to again accept donations for residents of the Indianapolis Veterans Hospital. The funds that have been collected are used to bring 'Appreciation Gift Bags' to the patients on a scheduled basis. The members present at this fund raiser were Commander Tine Martin, Ernie Condra, Jack



Members of CID 259 at Mayor's Committee meeting, Everett McFarland, Kent Morgan and Paul Cauley (in the green hat)



CID 259 members at Manheim automobile auction in Indianapolis: Bill and Katie Carr, Ernie Condra, Dorothy Sanders and Donald Seib



Ralph Burris of CID 259 gives a video presentation to veterans who are residents of the Homewood Assisted Care Facility, in Lebanon, IN, on Veterans Day

Beaty, Mel Butler, Tom Gill, Donald Seib, Bill and Katie Carr and Dorothy Sanders.

Ralph Burris, CID 259 member, with Chapter members Paul Dickerson and John M. Quinn, presented certificates of appreciation to veteran residents of the Homewood Assisted Care Facility, in Lebanon, IN, on Veterans' Day. The ceremony was well received by those confined to the Residence.

Ralph Burris produced a video to explain the history and meanings of Veterans' Day to the public, using actor William Conrad as narrator. Burris and Quinn were also present at the Boone County Courthouse to participate in a Veteran's Day observance the day before.



School children welcomed veterans to special observances held in Lebanon area schools. Vets were invited to introduce themselves and tell of their military experiences to the student body.

John M. Quinn  
Saggi32@aol.com

## 264 MT. DIABLO [CA]

Six chapter members received Certificates of Appreciation at our 27 January meeting for duties they performed in 2008. The awardees were Bob Koch, Ron Craven, Stan Grogan, Bob Witbeck, and Bob Hooker.

Dave McDonald presented the awards.

We also set an ambitious calendar of events for 2009, which includes participation in several parades, ice cream and cupcake specials, and visits to the Yountville Veterans Home.

Stanley J. Grogan Jr., 2585 Moraga Drive  
Pinole, CA 94564

## 270 SAM JOHNSON [TX]

### Sam Johnson Chapter 270 Logs 5,108 Volunteer Hours in 2008

Chapter 270 named and honored 35 chapter members who had logged a total of 5,108 volunteer hours at the Dallas VA Hospital in 2008. On Valentine's Day, during the February 14 chapter meeting, Sam Johnson Chapter handed out awards and certificates to members who had logged over 100 volunteer hours. KWVA President Bill Mac Swain, Director Marvin Dunn, and Congressman Sam Johnson were among the guests and members witnessing the ceremony.

#### Super Volunteers with Over 500 Hours

Two chapter members, "Ski" Wojciechowski (590 hours) and Chapter President J. D. Randolph (511 hours), took top honors. Ski

Wojciechowski has adopted a ward on the fifth floor at the VA Hospital. He sees that veteran patients have the comfort items they need, such as toothbrushes, shaving supplies, newspapers, and other reading material.

#### Volunteers with Over 300 Hours

Three chapter members logged between 300 and 399 volunteer hours in 2008. Keith Fannon logged 382 hours. Wayne Neely logged 343 hours, and George Kraus logged 342 hours.

#### Volunteers with Between 200 and 299 Hours

Six chapter members logged between 200 and 299 hours in 2008. Bill Carman logged 260 hours. Tilford Jones logged 256 hours. Homer Mundy logged 252 hours. Doyle Dykes logged 225 hours. Morris Chambers logged 215 hours. Cliff Platt logged 210 hours.

#### Volunteers with From 100 to 199 Hours

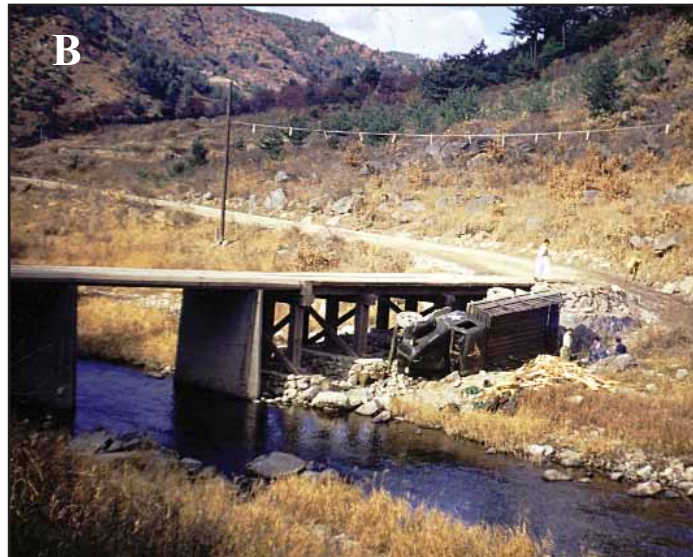
Six chapter members logged between 100 and 199 hours at the Dallas VA Hospital. They are Ken Borchers (188), Michael Steig (159), Grace Borchers [Ken Borchers' spouse] (144), Jim McCrary (135), George Cullum (106), and Jimmie McGee (104).

#### Complete List of Chapter Volunteers Showing Hours

Wojciechowski, Ski .....	590	Borchers, Ken .....	188
Lovas, William L. ....	41	Randolph, J.D. ....	511
Steig, Michael .....	159	Medford, Bobby .....	40
Fannon, Keith H. ....	382	Borchers, Grace .....	144
Bove' Richard .....	34	Neely, Cleveland W. ....	343
McCrary, James O .....	135	Bonds, Harlon .....	28
Kraus, George .....	342	Cullum, George .....	106
Bates, Donald K. ....	19	Carman, William R. ....	260
McGee, Jimmie .....	104	Wuermsen, Ed .....	17
Jones, James T. ....	256	Pfrommer, Paul .....	90
Bailey, Charles R .....	12	Mundy, Homer M. ....	252
Thompson, Glen. ....	65	Dunlap, Andrew F. ....	12
Dykes, Doyle W. ....	225	Haug, Patricia J. ....	61
Murchison, Henry. ....	12	Chambers, Morris .....	215
Haug, Joseph .....	55	Bodweine, Melvin. ....	11
Platt, Clifford O. ....	210	Lethe, Richard .....	44
Buckman, Ed R. ....	8		

## Mystery Photos

Anyone recognize these pics?





## REMEMBRANCE from page

There is no panic in their movements, nor any fear on the guys' faces. Even the shouts of "incoming mail," and the "whomping" bursts of mortar shells tearing up the earth do little to deter the steady procession. Luckily, no one's hit this time, and after the brief barrage the men get up stiffly and continue to move south.

Hours later, within the perimeter, the sounds of a fire-fight come from a nearby hill and an F.O. flies by in a Piper Cub targeting the enemy for Easy Company (whose job was anything but) positioned on an overlooking ridge. This sends a message to the Marines and Corpsmen of 'Dog-Med' to get ready to do their job by collecting and treating the wounded, as they have over and over again during this brutal conflict against overwhelming forces.

Mercifully, for a change, this skirmish results in no casualties for the Marines, with at least seven dead enemy. But, most ironically for parents, wives and sweet-hearts all over America, this one-sided box score will end up being reported as just one more result of a police action.

By nightfall, the Fifth Regiment has passed through Koto-ri as doggedly and as efficiently as the Seventh did before them. Batteries of the 11th Marines Artillery, Special Weapons Companies, and remnants of the Army's bloodied 31st Infantry were all interspersed with each other, without any regard to unit identification, but nevertheless well organized, moving en masse, ever southwards to the unknown. As they did so, the First Regimental HQ was packing and getting ready to move out in the morning, as were the other attached service units within the perimeter. No one slept much that night, as the sky was constantly filled with WP flares and intermittent tracer fire.

There was to be no sun that final morning, as the temperature remained at the usual 20 degrees below zero. In fact, the weather had deteriorated so badly that air support was no longer possible. Yet, several brave C-47 pilots managed to find the airstrip, so that the very last of the seriously wounded could be flown out at the last minute. As for the lesser wounded—and some of the dead—they would be car-

ried out in whatever room could be found in any of the vehicles.

The last of the many regimental tents to be struck were a large warming tent with its two pot-bellied, diesel fueled stoves and a smaller hospital tent. Koto-ri was now nothing more than a vast expanse of frozen tundra. A bulldozer was piling and pushing, or otherwise rendering useless, a mess of non-essential gear which was then torched.

Each unit had formed in a circular pattern as if waiting for an Indian attack. There were MPs flitting about in jeeps with little flags flapping off their antennae, directing traffic and giving the order of procession.

Alongside the road, waiting with countless others to begin the long, treacherous march to Hamhung, stood three Marines from "D" Company, 1st Medical Battalion, attached to the First Marines since the Inchon landing. With tall torsos, gaunt unshaved faces, and sunken eyes, they were practically indistinguishable from each other.

As they stood there watching in silence, there didn't seem much they could say to one another: after being through so much together, it seemed so unfair to have it all end this way. Finally, one of them said: "Well, if we don't it make guys...I

just want you to know it was great knowing you."

The next guy said: "Surely we're in God's hands now...I'll say a prayer for us."

And the third spoke: "Don't worry, good buddies... we're gonna make it!"

The three of them then stacked their mitten-clad hands in a pancake shake, saying a fast good-bye to each other, and strode briskly to their assigned positions. At that point a Marine Corsair buzzed the compound at about 100 feet, wagging its wings as a sign of good luck. So at least there would be some air cover for the breakout.

*Saddle up. Move out. We're gonna make it!*

*Arnie Hansen, 433 Falmouth Court  
Ridge NY 11961, (631) 744-8233  
bigarnie.1@netzero.net*

*S/Sgt Arnold C. Hansen served in the  
USMC from 1948-52.*

*\* Author's Note: To this very day I feel  
a deep remorse about the 117 bodies we  
left in a mass grave at Koto-ri. That's a  
memory I'd like to forget, but can't—and  
never will.*

*Copyright 2004 – Arnold C. Hansen. See  
website: [http://www.homeofheros.com/  
brotherhood/chosin.html](http://www.homeofheros.com/brotherhood/chosin.html)*

## Make the Purple Heart Stamp a Forever Stamp

My name is Thomas Desmond, of West Nyack, NY. I am a Korean War veteran. I am currently trying to obtain 15,000 signatures to make the Purple Heart Stamp a "Forever" stamp.

It is my understanding that there is only one other stamp in existence that has this distinction, the Liberty Bell Forever Stamp. I have been interviewed by my local newspaper (The Journal News - Rockland County, NY) concerning my efforts to promote the cause throughout the many government organizations and private enterprises I frequent.

Please access the below website to view the article, which appeared on 29 January 2009:

<http://www.lohud.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/200901260230/NEWS03/901260320>

I hope you can help me obtain the necessary signatures required for this great and noble cause. I have attached my contact information below should you want to get in touch with me to discuss these efforts.

*Tom Desmond, Pama Associates, 20 Jeffrey Court, West Nyack, NY 10994, (845) 353-0359, (845) 558-6136 (cell), [pamainc@optonline.net](mailto:pamainc@optonline.net), [www.pamaassociates.com](http://www.pamaassociates.com)*



# Recon Missions

## Bios for Tiger Flight

Please publish this alert to all Korean War veterans who were Air Policemen. Tiger Flight, the official journal of the Air Forces Security Forces Association, is seeking bios/photos for the Air Force Security Police Volume III History Book. Deadline is May 15, 2009.

If you do not wish to write your own bio, an M.T Publishing Company editor will be glad to compose your biography for you. A form can be obtained from the website of MT Publishing Company at [www.mtpublishing.com](http://www.mtpublishing.com).

Any questions? Contact the AF Security Forces Association, 818 Willow Creek Circle, San Marcos, TX, 78666-5060, (888) 250-9876

## Looking for relatives of "Al" and "Harry"

We are looking for the families of two soldiers killed in the early phase of the Korean War in the Chosen Area. We hope to locate a sister, brother, aunt, uncle, nephew or niece of the two soldiers.

I am writing this request on behalf of Eddie Ko, who was with both soldiers when they died from their wounds. He is like most of us who fought. We are getting older and would like to find any relatives of these two soldiers he so valiantly tried to save.

This South Korean was recruited by the South Korean government with other young people to serve as spies for the American forces fighting the North Koreans. They were school-boys whose job was to collect data and interpret what prisoners said when interpreted by our American military.

Eddie remembered only their first names: "Al" and "Harry." Without much to go on, I "Googled" a website under the heading of Korean War soldiers KIA, MIA, or POW. I requested the names of soldiers from New York; only two fit the names I was looking for. Both were from New York City.

Both soldiers were posthumously promoted to rank of CPL. Their names are Alfred Patrick Perry, 31st Inf. Regt., Company M, and Harold Levy, 57th Field Artillery Battalion, Med. Det., 7th Infantry Div.

As I said, Eddie only knew them by their nicknames, and he hopes the U.S. government can recover their remains for positive identification.

Eddie left the two soldiers in a vegetable pit where Korean farmers stored their food from spoiling. It was a farmhouse with railroad tracks running beside it. The name of the village was Pyong Kang—as near as I can make out when I ask him to spell the village name.

While they were holed up there Eddie tried to retrieve some K-rations from a freight car parked near the farmhouse. He managed to get a few cases of rations. But, while sneaking away from the train, he was spotted and shot in the heel. The round knocked him down. Fortunately, whoever shot him figured he was dead, since he didn't move.

Eddie was unconscious for a short time before crawling away and getting back to where the two soldiers were waiting for him. He climbed into the hole only to find his friends had died of their wounds. He left them in the hole and figured someone would bury them nearby when they found the dead bodies.

Eddie believes he can recognize the two soldiers from pictures taken of them before they left home to go to their next assignment. If possible, he would like pictures of both soldiers sent to him or to me so that I could give them to Eddie. If we were able to identify both soldiers, the families will have final closure.

When the war was over, Eddie came to America with the help of three soldiers, finished his education, joined the army, and served in Korea for two years. After his discharge he married and had two sons, who he named after the two soldiers. One son became a lawyer, the other a plastic surgeon.

Eddie and his wife have lived the American dream, becoming successful in their business ventures. Eddie also feels the families would be glad to know their fallen soldiers have been remembered in this special way.

Anyone who can help is invited to contact me.

Cornelius "Neil" Quilligan, B Co., 279th Regt.,  
45th Inf. Div., 10401 Mulligan Ct., Tampa, FL 33647,  
(813) 973 3036

## "Jonesy"

I would like to contact my motor pool buddy, "Jonesy," or any buddy who served with me in the U.S. Army 618th Medical Clearing Co, 2nd Platoon, Korea, 1953.



The second platoon, "Jonesy" and his deuce-and-a-half (right) and I, at that time, Wayne Doenges in Korea was stationed near Yonchon, Korea, north of the 38th.

Pictured is "Jonesy" with his deuce and a half; I'm in the other picture.

Contact me at Wayne A. Doenges, 932 W. Circle Dr.,  
New Haven, IN 46774, [goldnrocket@verizon.net](mailto:goldnrocket@verizon.net)

## Freedom Team Salute

I am Michael Dorsey with Freedom Team Salute, a Dept. of the Army Recognition program designed to honor all veterans regardless of when, where or who a veteran served with. The challenge in recognizing 14,000,000 Army vets is finding them.

Although I know many vets are homeless and/or don't belong to veteran service organizations, the KWVA is a large VSO with a considerable number of its members who are Army vets.



I am reaching out to you in hopes of getting assistance to recognize Army vets. Veterans can get their just due by simply applying for a Freedom Team Salute commendation — a recognition package free of charge to the Army soldier — found on our web site.

We recently visited Austin to recruit the Texas American Legion in supporting our cause to honor vets. I have not had any success with contacting KWVA leadership at the national level.

With your help I hope to find the same success in Texas again for Korean War veterans. Info on the Army's program can be found on our web site: [www.freedomteamsalute.com](http://www.freedomteamsalute.com)

Michael Dorsey, Veteran Outreach Associate, Army Freedom Team Salute, 2461 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria, VA 22331-0009, (703) 325-4021

## July 4 Monticello, IN Special Salute to Korean War Veterans

Now in its fifth year, we fill the Madam Carroll excursion boat with more than 400 military veterans along with young men and women currently serving and their families to lead the long line of decorated boats saluting our soldiers on this Independence Day weekend. This is followed by a celebration in the park with fun, food and free games for the entire family that was attended by over 700 in 2008.

In 2008 we honored World War II veterans as our grand marshals and had some 65 join us. Not bad for this small Indiana community about the size of Charleston.

This year, Korean War veterans will be our grand marshals and we want to find as many as we can in the Illinois-Indiana area and invite them to be our honored guests.

Can you perhaps help us?

A promo piece which describes the day is attached.

Joe Crivello, (574) 583-9751

**Proud to be an American**

**5TH ANNUAL HONOR OUR MILITARY PATRIOTIC BOAT PARADE & CELEBRATION IN THE PARK MONTICELLO, INDIANA JULY 4, 2009 ON BEAUTIFUL LAKE FREEMAN**

Highlights from 2008:

- Madam Carroll with over 400 military and families & 65 World War II vets serving as grand marshals leads parade
- More than 60 decorated boats follow- 43 registered and 20+ tagging along, including two kayaks
- Some 200 people viewed parade from Sportsman Inn deck
- Over 700 joined in the celebration in the park for hot dogs and watermelon along with family fun and games
- 175 attended the War on Terrorism Memorial Dedication
- \$650 in scholarships awarded to Twin Lakes High School essay contest winners

## Soldier Missing In Action from Korean War is Identified

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) announced today that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, missing in action from the Korean War, have been identified and will be returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

He is Sgt. Stanley E. Baylor, U.S. Army, of Webster, N.Y. His funeral will be held on Aug. 1 in Warsaw, N.Y.

Representatives from the Army's Mortuary Office met with Baylor's next-of-kin to explain the recovery and identification process, and to coordinate interment with military honors on behalf of the Secretary of the Army.

Baylor was assigned to Company L, 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. On Nov. 1, 1950, the 8th Cavalry was occupying a defensive position near Unsan, North Korea in an area known as the "Camel's Head," when elements of two Chinese Communist Forces divisions struck the 1st Cavalry Division's lines, collapsing the perimeter and forcing a withdrawal. The 3rd Battalion was surrounded and effectively ceased to exist as a fighting unit.

Baylor was reported missing on Nov. 2, 1950 and was one of the more than 350 servicemen unaccounted-for from the battle at Unsan.

Between 1991-94, North Korea gave the U.S. 208 boxes of remains believed to contain the remains of 200-400 U.S. servicemen. Accompanying North Korean documents indicated that some of the remains were exhumed near Chonsung-Ri, Unsan County. This location correlates with Baylor's last known location.

Among other forensic identification tools and circumstantial evidence, scientists from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory also used mitochondrial DNA and dental comparisons in the identification of Baylor's remains, which were turned over in 1993.

For additional information on the Defense Department's mission to account for missing Americans, visit the DPMO web site at <http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo> or call (703) 699-1169.



# Monuments and Medals

Korea: the Forgotten War, Remembered

## The Story of a Statue

The Advisory Committee of the Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery, Rittman, Ohio, had its bimonthly meeting on January 26, 2005 as usual. Near the end of the meeting, Cemetery Director Sean Baumgartner asked the gathering what they thought about creating a statue of a veteran saluting the American flag in the cemetery.



Members of CID 69 attend funeral for deceased comrade Paul Romanovich, who is buried at Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery (L-R) Frank Aleksandrowicz, Robert Hass, Richard Danielson, Robert Kalay, Joseph Mendise, Raymond Stopar, Frank Zoretich, John Marinczek, Johnny Rich, Theodore Zamskie



Korean War veteran and CID 69 member Robert O'Hara and his wife Patty

World War II and Korean War veteran Francis Aleksandrowicz, a member of the group and KWVA Chapter 69, Greater Cleveland, spoke with the director after the meeting. The director explained that whatever Aleksandrowicz had in mind he could continue with

his idea. He became the project producer.

The Cleveland Institute of Art was contacted. Director David L. Deming responded to a phone call and agreed to meet with Director Baumgartner at the cemetery office. Aleksandrowicz and Deming met with the Director. They agreed that the sculptor would attend the March Advisory Committee meeting, show a three-foot-high sample statue, and talk about it.

There were plenty of questions asked about the statue ... mainly about the price. The attendees learned that the cost would be \$50,000 for the six-foot-tall statue and \$5,000 for the cement area upon which it would be placed. The attendees gave unanimous approval to the project.

The next step was for the Department of Veterans Affairs District Office to approve this venture. We received a positive reply a few months later. But, it took until December 2006 to receive a tax exempt status.

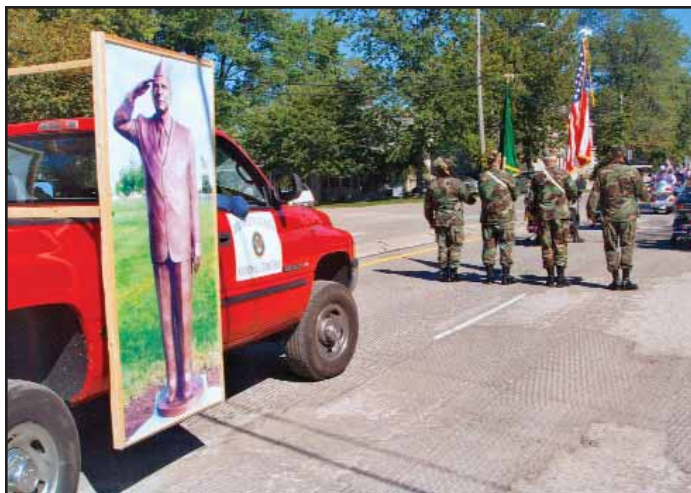
Contributions for the statue were slow in coming. In fact, Aleksandrowicz contributed \$26,000 of the final cost. The public donated the rest. The statue was finally set up and

dedicated on 18 May 2008 at the cemetery. What had been a dream for so many people for so long finally became a reality.



U.S. Army representatives present Patricia Romanovich with American flag at graveside ceremony in Ohio





Life-sized photo of Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery statue is carried on Ray Torok's IN Woollybear Day Parade in Vermilion, OH (parade is held every October)



Maria Garza , Director of Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery



Frank Aleksandrowicz, in WWII uniform, stands by statue in Ohio Western Reserve Cemetery

The speakers at the ceremony and their roles included Bob Howes (Pledge of Allegiance), Chuck Benzon (Invocation), Frank Aleksandrowicz (Introduction and Blessing of the Statue), Maria Garza (Welcome), David L. Deming (Comments), and Richard Seelbach (Thank You).

On the statue, the veteran is performing a salute to all veterans buried in the cemetery, all those who served, and all those who will serve in the future.

*Anyone who wants to contact Francis Aleksandrowicz can reach him at 343 Canterbury Road, Bay Village, OH 44140-2404, (440) 871-5081*

## McAllen, TX

The Veterans Memorial at McAllen, TX is the largest and most beautiful Memorial that I have seen in my travels around the U.S. It includes ALL wars, from the Revolutionary War through the Korean War, with space for ALL wars to follow.

The entire Memorial is 130' across; it has 104 large flag poles around the perimeter and an underground automatic watering system in all of the grass area which is not covered by paving stones or paving bricks. Families of living service men have their names on the bricks in dedication.



A broad view of the McAllen, TX Memorial



The KIA record on the McAllen, TX Memorial

There are also many granite benches that have been donated in memory of those fallen service men—especially around the Korean Memorial.

At the Korean Memorial there is a large 8-sided grouping of granite slabs containing various stories of interest of battles fought, such as Heart Break Ridge, Naktong Bulge, and the Inchon

Continued on page 56

## Reunion Calendar – 2009

To post your Reunion Dates, send your information to Reunion Editor, *The Graybeards*, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT, or by email to sharp\_arthur\_g@sbcglobal.net.

The preferred format is Unit, Date, Place, Point of Contact (POC). Provide as much POC info as possible, e.g., name, address, phone #, email address. Many of our readers do not use email, so contact information including mailing addresses and phone numbers is important.

**Entries are posted on a “first come, first served basis” as space allows.**

The KWVA is not responsible for the accuracy of the entries, nor is inclusion guaranteed.

Just a suggestion: do not use *The Graybeards* as the only means of publicizing your reunion. Occasionally, reunion notices cross in the mail or get misdirected, technical glitches interfere with publication, etc. Therefore, it is a wise idea to have an alternative method of publicizing your reunion.

### MAY

**L. Co., 21st Inf. Regt., 24th Inf. Div.**, 13-17 May, Pittsburgh, PA. George Vlasic, 279 Ravensside Dr. NW, Calabash, NC 28467, (910) 287-5618, geonanvlasic@atmc.net

**H/3/5 (Korea)**, 21-26 May 2009, Washington, DC Metro Area (Includes Natl Museum of the Marine Corps). POC: Roger H. Barnard, 10183 Red Spruce Rd., Fairfax, VA 22032-3620, 703.978.4467, rbarnard@cox.net

**151st Combat Eng. Bn.**, 21-24 May, Lebanon, TN. POC: Jack Cato, (615) 444-9273, rmcato@charter.net

**40th Div, 224th Regt Combat Team**, 27-31 May, Boston, MA. POC: Bob West, (570) 876-3616, westrg@msn.com

### JUNE

**51st Signal Battalion Reunion**, 2-4 June, Fort Gordon/Augusta, GA. POC: Tommy Thompson, 4129 Fairway Dr., Granbury, TX, 76049, (817) 326-4773, tom@itexas.net, website: www2.itexas.net/tom/

**728th MP Bn.**, 17-20 June, Columbus, OH. POC: Charles Wiseman, 6790 Hildreth Ave., Columbus, OH 43229, (614) 882-3211, C-Wiseman728th@yahoo.com

**USS Dashiell (DD-659)**, 17-20 June, Branson, MO. POC: Joyce King, 4221 Stewart Ave, Space 108, Las Vegas, NV 89110, (702) 438-5165, jking702@embarqmail.com

**7th Infantry Division Association (Hourglass / Bayonet Division)**, 25-28 June, Baton Rouge, LA, Holiday Inn – South. POC: John Stengel, 712 Griggs St. SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503-8051, (616) 243-7174, exec-sec@7id.us

### AUGUST

**“Tandy’s Dandies,” 32nd Eng. Const. Grp.** (Includes 430th - 434th - 439th, 453rd Bns, and 304th - 36 Eng. Dump Trk. Cos.), 14-16 Aug., Rochelle, IL. POC: Bob Miller, 849 Joanne Lane, Rochelle, IL 61068, (815) 562-6802, bemiller54@yahoo.com

**936th Field Artillery Bn.**, 22-23 Aug., Fayetteville, AR, Clarion Inn. POC: Wayne Bohannon, 10617 East First Street, Tulsa, OK 74128, (918) 437-5324

**40th Infantry Division**, 223rd Infantry Regiment, Korea, 26-30 Aug., Dearborn, MI. POC: Robert Snyder, 25686 Forestview, Southfield, MI 48033, (248) 356-7657

### SEPTEMBER

**88th Inf. Div. Association (“Blue Devils”)**, 3-6 Sept., Baltimore, MD. POC: Fred Lincoln, 11 Lovett Ave., Brockton, MA 02301-1750, (508) 584-4169, F-lincoln@comcast.net, www.88infdiv.org

**90th Field Artillery Battalion Assn.**, 25th Infantry Division, 4-7 Sept., Oak Brook Terrace, IL, Hilton Garden Suites and Hilton Garden Inn. POC: Ray Haski, 927 Robin Dr., Apollo PA 15613, (724) 727-3132, jckaloha@klein-lein.us

**USS Valley Forge (CV, CVA, CVS-45, LPH-8, CG-50)**, 9-12 Sept., St. Paul, MN. POC: Lowell Bell, 6731 Plymouth Ave., N. Golden Valley, MN 55427, (763) 545-1922, lowellbell@msn.com

**25th Infantry Division Assn**, 9-19 September, Fairbanks, AK. POC: P.O.

Box 7, Flourtown, PA 19031, Fax (215) 248-5250, TropicLtn@aol.com, website, www.25thida.org

**68th AAA Gun Bn. & 508th OPS Det.**, 10-13 Sept., Wausau, WI. POC: Charles Toole, 112 Aspen Grove Lane, Wausau, WI 54403, (715) 298-3404, jantoole@charter.net

**38th Ord. Association**, 11-13 Sept., Fort Wayne, IN, Hall’s Guesthouse. POC: Bill Smith, (260) 485-6369/cell (260) 418-5667, oakhurst468@verizon.net

**343rd General Hospital**, 12 Sept., Port Byron, NY. POC: Bernie Long, 40 Indian Hill Drive, Waterloo, NY 13165, (315) 651-4205

**630th Engineers, Light Equipment Co.**, 14-16 Sept., Branson, MO. POC: Oscar Viehland, 9587 Woodland Rd., Robertsville, MO 63072, ogvc-cv@att.net

**538th Ordnance M.A.M. Co.** (Korea, 1950-55), 14-17 Sept., Oklahoma City, OK. POC: William Yow, (580) 225-0810 or Beverly Petross, (580) 821-0234, bevbears@att.net

**58th Fighter Association**, 15-20 Sept., Albuquerque, New Mexico (includes WWII, Korea, Viet Nam members of 58th Fighter & 58th Fighter-Bomber Wing, as well as current members of the 58th Special Operations Wing). POC: J. Kupferer, 2025 Bono Road, New Albany, Indiana 47150-46, jkupferer@insightbb.com

**USS Colonial (LSD-18)**, 16-19 Sept., Ft. Mitchell, KY. POC: Loren Kerby, 3013 Emerald Ct., Platte City, MO 64079, (816) 858-3158, kerbyplatte@aol.com

**USS Hornet (CV-8 and CV-12, CVA-12, CVS-12)**, 16-20 Sept., Buffalo/Niagara Falls, NY. POC: Carl/Sandy Burket, (814) 224-5063, Fax (814) 224-0078, hornetcva@aol.com, or USS HORNET Association Inc., PO Box 108, Roaring Spring, PA 16673. All Ship’s Company, Officers, Air Groups, Crew, Marines and their families welcomed.

**Society of th Third Infantry Division** and attached units (in wars and in peacetime), 16-20 Sept., Springfield, MO, Clarion Hotel Springfield, 3333 S. Glenstone Ave., Springfield, MO 65804, (417) 883-6500. POC: Linda Irvine, (360) 663-2521, info@theReunionBrat.com

**1503 Air Transport Wing**, Pacific Division, Tokyo (1946-1966), 17-20 Sept., Chester, NY. POC: Bill Teichman, 4338 5 St., East Moline, IL 61244, (309) 796-2084, billsal@mchsi.com

**1st Bn., 7th Marines (Korea)**, 22-27 Sept., Buffalo, NY. POC: Jim Hannon, 67 Norman Ave., Buffalo, NY 14210, (716) 822-2733, b17jim@aol.com

**Korean War Recon Marines (24th Annual)**, 23-26 Sept., Pigeon Forge, TN. POC: Ed Tacchi, (516) 488-3137, edtac@aol.com

**USS Furse (DD/DDR-882)**, 23-26 Sept., New Orleans, LA, Chateau Le Moyne French Quarter Hotel, (800) 465-4329, www.hi-chateau.com, code FR5. POC: Maurice C. “TUT” Tuttle, P O Box 890, Shelter Island, NY 11964, (631) 749-0274, ussfurse@aol.com. (Anyone who served aboard the *Furse* from 1945 - 1972, including their family and widows, is welcome.)

**USS Ozbourn (DD-846)**, 23-27 Sept., St. Louis, MO. POC: Ray Loney, P.O. Box 58, Washougal, WA 98671, (360) 835-0699 or Ken Keene, 9995 Perry Highway, Meadville, PA 16335, (814) 337-3197



**USS Cascade** (AD-16), 23-27 Sept., Norfolk, VA, Sleep Inn Hotel, (757) 623-4400. POC: Barb Kennovin, 176 Teal Drive, Millsboro, DE 19966, (302) 945-2719 or Bob Croghan, 7827 Cassia Court, St. Louis, MO 63123, (314) 954-7801

**All Korean War Veterans**, 23-27 Sept., Eden Resort, Lancaster, PA. POC: Charles Egresitz, 6 Rosewood Dr., Harrisburg, PA 17109, (717) 497-6971, apebble@aol.com

**6147th Tac Con Gp**, (5th AFKOREA), The Mosquito Assn and all units, 29 Sept.-4 Oct., Nashua, NH, Radisson Hotel, (603) 888 9970. POC: Dick Souza, (987) 453 3887, SkeeterloC@aol.com

**32nd Inf. Regt. Assn.** ("The Queen's Own") 30 Sept.-3 Oct., Columbus, GA. POC: Helen Dyckson, (727) 697-2135, heland@verizon.net

**USS Monrovia** (APA-31), 30 Sept.-4 Oct., Branson, MO, Lodge of the Ozarks. POC: Ion Tharp, 13916 Elm Drive, Plato, MO 65552, (417) 458-4481.

## OCTOBER

**Army Security Agency Korean War and Post-War Veterans** (ASA KOREA), 1-4 Oct., Buffalo, NY. POC: Paul Bellet (716) 825-8662, www.asakorea.org

**G-3-1 Korea Association** (open to any who served with George Company, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, 1st MarDiv, 15 September 1950-15 March 1955), 2-5 Oct., Rapid City, SD, Ramkota Best Western Hotel, (605) 343-8550. POC: Bob Harbula, VP, G-3-1 KOREA Association (412) 462-8537, bobbyjuly@yahoo.com

**USS Soley** (DD-707), 8-12 Oct., Mobile, AL. POC: Eugene Blum, 6749 San Benito Way, Buena Park, CA 90620-3741, (714) 527-4925, eblum3@juno.com, or www.ussoley.org

**92nd Armored F.A. Bn.** (Korea) 11-14 Oct., Covington, KY, Radisson Hotel, Cincinnati Riverfront. POC: Guy McMenemy, 281-469-2819, bravecannons@sbcglobal.net

**Navy Amphibious Forces Veterans Association** ("NavaGators"), 11-16 Oct., San Antonio, TX, El Tropicana Riverwalk Holiday Inn. Open to all USN, USMC and USCG amphib vets from WW2 to the present who ever went over the side of an APA on a cargo net into a landing craft, were in the crew of a P-boat, LCAC, or assault helicopter, or were or are now in the crew of an amphibious craft from a LCM to a LPH; it is not required that you be a member to attend. POC: Don Wright, 4289 Alex Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45211, (513) 481-8317, apa227donw@cs.com or John Walsh, 2745 Dalton Ln., Toms River, NJ 08755, (732) 367-6472, apa224vp16@aol.com

**USS Lenawee** (APA 195), 14-18 Oct., Tucson, AZ. POC: Mac McCarty, 1911 E. Pole Start Place, Tucson, AZ 85737, (520) 297-9814, mccartym@aol.com

**USS Tingey** (DD-539), 15-17 Oct., Decatur AL. POC: Evan Plyler, 5708 Antioch Church Rd., Matthews, NC 28104, (704) 821- 8572

**MTACS-2/MASS-2** (All years), 19-22 Oct., Las Vegas, NV. POC: George Macartie (858) 566-5303, mass-2@sbcglobal.net (NOTE: These are actually the same unit. In 1954 MTACS-2 became MASS-2)

**"A" Co., 578th Engineer Combat Bn.**, 40th Div., 20-23 Oct., Branson, MO. POC: John E. Foerst, 8861 Jackson Street, Mentor, OH 44060, (440) 255-6104

**USS Wasp** (CV/CVA/CVS-18), 25-30 Oct., Lowell, MA. POC: PH1 Richard G. VanOver, 6584 Bunting Road, Orchard Park, NY 14127, (716) 649-9053. (We are looking particularly for any members of the Ship's Company, Air Groups, and Marines who served aboard Wasp between 1943 and 1972, for membership and participation in the reunion.)

Visit the Korean War Veterans  
Association Website:  
**www.KWVA.org**

## A poem for Memorial Day

Joseph P. McCallion sent us this poem to be included in our Memorial Day issue. However, since there is no guarantee that issue will be in readers' hands by Memorial Day, we will include it in this one.

## KOREA - THE FORGOTTEN WAR

A folded flag, a telegram; some letters tied with string  
A Purple Heart, your photograph - a graduation ring  
Souvenirs and memories are all that remain  
You served with pride and honor - you didn't die in vain

Broken hearts and empty dreams, funeral cars and limousines  
The Honor Guard, the echoed sounds of three successive rifle rounds

The sound of taps in the winter snow  
Vivid memories of a time so long ago

You were so young to go to war and die so far away  
I often think of others, too, who lost their lives that way.  
The bugle shrieks and charging hoards; The Yalu River - "Chosin Reservoir"

"Pork Chop Hill" and "Heartbreak Ridge;" prison camps and  
Freedom Bridge

Freedom's price is always high - some are wounded, others die  
Blinded eyes and shattered bones; hospitals and nursing homes  
You rest in peace - there's no more pain; no bitter cold or monsoon rain

No heavy pack or bandoliers; no sleepless nights and lurking fears

No hand grenades or bayonets; no eerie shadows or silhouettes  
No fire fights or night patrol -  
Just silence now - God rest your soul

Joseph P. McCallion ©

E Company, 27th Infantry Regiment (Wolfhounds), 25th  
Infantry Division, U. S. Army/Korea  
Reach Joe McCallion at 65 Tamworth Hill Avenue, Wakefield,  
MA 01880-4213, (781) 246-4137.

## Death Notice of a Member of KWVA

*The following notice is submitted for publication:*

Name of deceased \_\_\_\_\_

Date of death \_\_\_\_\_

Department/Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Army ☐ Navy ☐ Marine Corps ☐ Air Force ☐ Coast Guard

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Unit of service during Korean War

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to deceased \_\_\_\_\_

Send to:

Membership, P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407







# Last Call

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

## ALABAMA

★ JOHN H. DAVES

## ARKANSAS

★ VERNON R. 'BOB' HUDDER

★ GLEN W. NAPIER

## CALIFORNIA

★ QUINTILLA I. ADAMS

★ JAMES W. POWELL III

★ WILLIAM A. WRIGHTSON

## CONNECTICUT

★ FRANCIS S. BOGUES

## DELAWARE

★ ROBERT M. THOMPSON

## FLORIDA

★ MARVIN M. ALLUMS

★ LIONEL C. BARROW JR.

★ DONALD V. BRADLEY

★ WILLIAM E. BROGDON

★ HERMAN WESLEY COMBS

★ FRANK L. DAVIDSON

★ ORVILLE D. FOSTER

★ ROBERT JAMES 'BOB' HENRY

★ RUSSELL I. HUDSON

★ HAL C. KERSEY

★ JOHN KNOWLES

★ THOMAS A. KNOWLES

★ ARTHUR 'BOB' LEE

★ VICTOR F. NIOSI

★ BENJAMIN A. REED

★ DOUGLAS G. ROBINSON

★ JAMES RYAN

★ SANDER I. SILVERMAN

★ AARON SKLAR

★ JOSEPH F. SMITH

★ VERNON G. SMITH

★ EUGENE P. SUFFREDINI

★ VINCENT P. TOLOSKI

★ PETER M. VENECH

★ BILLY C. WRIGHT

## GEORGIA

★ TOM CABANISS

★ PAUL ISHEE

## HAWAII

★ DAVID K. LUKE JR.

## ILLINOIS

★ JOHN E. DAVIS

★ ARTHUR J. FRIEDERICH

★ LEROY NEFF JR.

★ CHARLES V. WEISHAUP

## INDIANA

★ FREDERICK D. BENDER

★ ARTHUR BOYLE

★ CHARLES A. GORMAN

★ DON DUWAYNE SORGEN

★ ALVIN B. TENHOVER

★ FRANK A. WEBSTER

## IOWA

★ HAROLD M. HAMMOND

## KENTUCKY

★ HARRY L. FOREMAN

## LOUISIANA

★ MORAN CHARLES BERGERON

★ CLOVIS L. HAIRE

★ ANTHONY G. RUGGIERO

## MAINE

★ EDWIN R. ALDUS

★ MERLE L. EMMONS

★ HAROLD E. HANSEN

## MARYLAND

★ RAYMOND HERSHBERGER JR.

## MASSACHUSETTS

★ RICHARD J. DURAND

★ DONALD E. GARCIA

★ GEORGE E. HENDERSON

★ ROBERT E. JOYCE

★ ALBERT L. KOHLSTROM

★ JOHN J. MAHONE

★ WALTER M. WALKOWICZ

## MICHIGAN

★ RAYMOND A. SEBETTO

## MINNESOTA

★ JOHN A. BEALS

★ ROBERT L. FREDERICK

★ ORRIN L. KNUTSON

★ JOSEPH M. PERRON

★ ROBERT L. THOMPSON

## MISSOURI

★ CHARLES A. BOYER

★ RAYMOND J. CONDI

★ WINSTON J. GINTZ

★ R. VERN HEBBLETHWAITE

★ ROBERT N. KERN

★ VERNON HAROLD LANGFORD

★ ROLAND J. YOUNG JR.

## NEBRASKA

★ DARREL MELECHER

★ MARVIN J. SUVALSKY

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

★ ARTHUR G. RAYMOND SR.

★ BEN WERNER

## NEW JERSEY

★ EUGENE C. CERRETA

★ WILLIAM C. HOFSCHEIDER

★ ERNEST A. NEAL JR.

★ ERNEST J. PHILIPONA

## NEW YORK

★ HAROLD F. DERUSHIA

★ HUGH BLAIR HORNER

★ SEYMOUR KAITZ

★ GEORGE H. PRICE

★ JEFF A. QUARLES

★ RAYMOND R. SNIDER

★ WILLIAM A. YOUNG

## NORTH CAROLINA

★ WESLEY S. BREWER

## OHIO

★ CLAUDE H. CLAWSON

★ RICHARD B. DILSAVOR

★ CHARLES R. HAAPALA

★ ELWOOD G. JOHNSON

★ HAROLD KNEE

★ INA M. NICHOLSON

★ HARRY H. NOWICKI

★ KEITH E. PIERCY

★ PAUL ROMANOVICH

★ LELAND PETER SPORE

★ WALTER E. SWANSON

★ JAMES E. TAYLOR

★ JOSEPH K. VRABEL

★ CARL R. ZIMPELMAN

## OREGON

★ ELDON V. BAILEY

★ DWIGHT M. GINTHER

★ B. J. 'BUD' HOGAN

★ ROBERT LEEP

★ ROY J. RUCKER

★ PHILLIP W. RUHL

★ VIRGINIA L. SCOTT

★ ROBERT P. WRAY

## PENNSYLVANIA

★ WESLEY T. HALL SR.

★ ALFRED L. THOMAS

★ RAY TOMCZAK

★ THEODORE H. WOLFF

## RHODE ISLAND

★ EDWARD S. INMAN JR.

## SOUTH CAROLINA

★ JOHN J. BRAUSCH

## TENNESSEE

★ DEAN ALLEN ABERSOLL

★ CLIFFORD SIMMONS

## TEXAS

★ ALLEN CASEBEER

★ BEN CARROLL ECHOLS

★ HOWARD H. NATHAN

★ HERMAN A. NAUTA

★ WILLIAM L. WRAY

## VIRGINIA

★ CARMINE BRICCHI

★ DON E. CRAWLEY

★ WILLIAM P. SLAUGHTER SR.

★ CARLTON M. SOUTHWORTH SR.

## WEST VIRGINIA

★ CHARLES S. FLEMING

★ JOHN ROBERT MCCARTY

★ CHARLES D. TAYLOR

## WISCONSIN

★ VAN L. KAUKL

## ONTARIO

★ WILLIAM MCHATTIE

# A special July 27 event

By Marshall Davis

There was a special July 27 event held in El Paso, Texas thanks to the Joseph C. Rodriguez MOH Chapter 249.

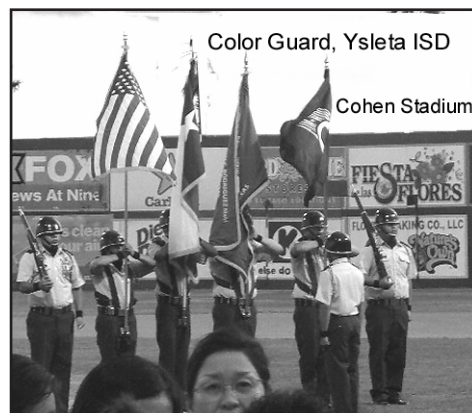
Yes, July 27 is a special day for Korean War veterans and memories vibrate strongly in our Chapter, especially for President Roy Aldridge, member Jerry Sperbeck, and deceased members Vincent Cobalis and Frank Durant. As prisoners of war in Chinese/North Korean camps, the date in 1953 meant that they would be walking across the Bridge of Freedom to come back home. For them, it was a day of memory that would last throughout their lifetimes.

President Aldridge, a fan of the El Paso Diablos baseball team, noticed a home game was scheduled for July 27, 2008, a Sunday. His brain cells started spinning, and he contacted the Diablos Director of Marketing/Promotions, Holly McWatters. She gave him a positive response for putting on a special opening ceremony on that day, instead of simply playing the national anthem as usual.

Roy brought up the idea at our next Chapter meeting. The Chapter opted to contact a local high school Junior ROTC group



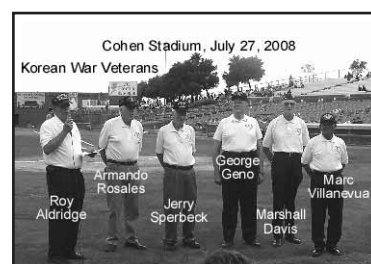
The Color Guard waiting to escort the choir to the stadium at El Paso event



The Color Guard in action at the El Paso event



Korean war veterans in attendance at El Paso



CID 249 members being introduced at stadium

for color guard honors, since our old soldiers were not in shape to provide a color guard. We also moved to contact a local Korean church to invite their choir to sing the national anthem at this special opening ceremony for the game.

Well, it all came together beautifully and was received with a standing ovation. As a preliminary, Korean War veteran chapter members in attendance were introduced to the crowd.

The color guard was coached by Ruben Marquez of the Ysleta School District Junior ROTC. The 1st Korean Baptist Church of El Paso, Kyun Lee, pastor, had their choir, some 30 members strong, under Director Phillip Kim, practice and sing the American and South Korean national anthems.

Incidentally, we all got free tickets to the ball game.

Marshall Davis, Chapter Historian, (915) 479-4812



Choir members waiting to perform at the El Paso stadium



1st Korean Baptist Church Choir  
55th Anniversary Korean war cease fire  
Cohen Stadium July 27, 2008

The 1st Korean Baptist Church of El Paso



# Unsung heroes like Tom McCreight

By Mandy Stevens (written on behalf of Dan Brandi)

Every war has its heroes. The Korean War is no exception. But what many don't realize is that there are often war heroes behind those war heroes. Men instrumental in fighting the fight for freedom, yet glorification somehow eluded them. Now is the time to honor them not just because they put themselves in the line of fire, but because they lived in the line of enemy fire.

And many died there too. They were the sailors aboard the minesweepers who made waters safe for America's battleships and destroyers. They were sailors like a man named Tom McCreight.

The *USS Partridge* (AMS-31) was one of five minesweepers that sank during the Korean War. These minesweepers helped stave off communism. They made progress possible, and evacuations viable. Without them, our presence in this war might not have mattered. Waters were heavily mined to prevent U.S. land approaches to either attack enemy troops or evacuate our own. Armed with special gear, minesweepers crossed harbors at least 12 times to make sure the mines had a chance to explode.

Imagine the nerves! Imagine the fear! Imagine being in the line of enemy fire not just once, but every day you were fighting this war! And imagine how Tom McCreight, who was aboard the *USS Partridge* in February of 1951, felt when he found himself surrounded by a third of his crew who were already dead, another third shot to hell, and the rest trying to grapple for that elusive thing called survival.

His minesweeper had been hit. Tom was trapped and the freezing water was rising fast. Then the rising water's pressure became so powerful it moved all the debris off his body, as if by magic, and he swam to the water's surface.

Ultimately, Tom was one of only four or five survivors aboard the *USS Partridge*. Sure, his heart was beating, his blood was flowing yet his leg and his soul were destroyed.

After several failed operations and months in the hospital, one doctor—a hero in his own right—saved more than Tom's leg. He salvaged a spirit that was left to drown in Wonsan Harbor that day in February.

His minesweeper had been hit. Tom was trapped and the freezing water was rising fast. Then the rising water's pressure became so powerful it moved all the debris off his body, as if by magic, and he swam to the water's surface.

The steel brace from foot to hip on Tom's 6' frame was hard not to notice. But what was more noticeable was the anger that would swell up inside him. Even after all this time. But just as quickly as the anger surfaced, he could dampen and replace that anger with understanding. Understanding that comes with acceptance. Acceptance that evolves into pride—pride for a life lived with significance and meaning.

It's men like Tom who were afraid, but put their lives on the line anyway. It's men like Tom who paved the way for South Korea's independence from the North. Men whose contributions toward halting the spread of communism need serious recognition. Now is better than never.

Let's take a moment and salute Tom McCreight who, sadly, is no longer with us, and others like him for their selfless acts of heroism. These men are the true definition of war heroes.

It wasn't Tommy McCreight's Master's Degree in Social Services or his time spent as a social worker or even his success raising four children that made this man a man. It began when he was 15 years old. He and Dan Brandi and a few other friends walked into the recruitment office in Jamaica Queens, New York and filled out the paperwork necessary to join the Marine Corps. They didn't think twice about changing their birth dates to gain entry. When Tommy and Dan wanted to do something, nothing stood in their way. Two of the guys got in. But a recruiting sergeant saw that Dan and Tommy did not.

Two years passed. In 1947, when they turned 17, both boys joined the Navy. In their minds, they believed that the Marine Corps didn't know what they had missed and that the Navy got the goods. So, in 1951, Tommy was on board the *USS Partridge*, a minesweeping vessel, when it was hit near Yapung, and he found himself in the water.

Tommy was trapped and the freezing water was rising fast. Unable to move his

limbs, his life did not pass before his eyes. He did not pray; he'd forgotten how. That was when the debris moved off his body and he swam to the water's surface.

Of course, his time spent in Korea up until this moment mattered. But what mattered most was what happened after the *USS Partridge* sunk. When you wake up in a full body cast, you have a lot of time to think...to blame...to curse...to give up...to trust. And then—finally—to learn to believe again.

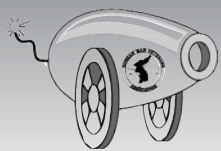
Tommy was alive. Sure, his heart was beating, his blood was flowing and his leg was rotting. A year went by and his wounds were still draining, his leg was still broken, and he'd lived through unsuccessful operation after unsuccessful operation—including one where he was cut open by mistake without anesthesia. Tommy felt like the doctors cared less and less for this guy whose leg just wouldn't heal.

Fed up and frustrated with doctors, his body and the war, he told them to just "cut it off." He was done fighting the fight to keep his leg—or so he thought. Then, when Tommy finally got up the nerve, he asked the wrong doctor to amputate his leg. This doctor's heels clicked in his shiny shoes on the marble hospital floor. This doctor looked barely old enough to be a man. To Tommy, he was a bastard in tailor-mades with too much confidence who had the audacity to wear battle stars and medals on his chest just like the victims he was supposed to help.

Optimistic and refusing to amputate Tommy's leg, Dr. Francis waltzed around demanding X-rays and offering hope. Tommy had heard all this before. But something made him listen to Dr. Francis through all the deafening negativity swirling inside his head.

Maybe it was because Dr. Francis was part of the medical team that went ashore with the Marines who were supposed to cre-

Continued on page 65



# Feedback/Return Fire

This section of *The Graybeards* is designed to provide feedback—and generate more feedback. It gives readers the opportunity to respond to printed stories, letters, points of view, etc., without having to write long-winded replies. Feel free to respond to whatever you see in the magazine. As long as it's tasteful and non-political, we will be happy to include it. If you want to submit ideas, criticisms, etc. that you prefer not to see in print—with your name attached to it—then we will honor that. Make sure to let us know, though.

Mail your "Return Fire" to the "Feedback Editor" at 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067-2859. E-mail it to: sharp\_arthur\_g@sbcglobal.net, or phone it in to (860) 563-6149. Whatever the medium you choose, we welcome your input.

## Were there African-Americans in the 2d Div. in February 1951?

(See *The Graybeards*, Jan/Feb 2009, p. 65)

The answer is yes. Frank Johnson, Jr. was one of them. As he explained, there were at least two battalions composed of African-American soldiers as early as 1948. They were 3d Bn., 25th Inf. (June 1948) and 3d Bn., 9th Inf. (May 1949).

Ultimately, they became the 3d Bn., 9th Inf. and 3d Bn., 15th Inf. Regt. They were both with the 2d Division when they left the U.S., and they were in Korea before November 1951.

For the record, General Julius C. Becton was with the 2d Division in Korea.

Reach Frank Johnson, Jr., at P.O. Box 215,  
New Llano, LA 71461-0215, (318) 238-1773.

## Two of them

Regarding your latest "Feedback," the 2nd Inf. Div. had two African-American units in 1950 at Ft. Lewis WA: the 9th Inf. Regt. and the 503rd F.A. Bn.

The 2nd Div. was in Korea by the end of Aug. 1950. I know, having been in the 38th Regimental Combat Team—the last to go.

I believe the 9th Inf. was no longer all African-American sometime in the spring of 1951. Kunu-ri had a huge impact on our Division.

John Fifield, [jcfifield@msn.com](mailto:jcfifield@msn.com)

## You can make book(s) on it

In answer to the inquiry as to whether there were African Americans in the 2d Infantry Division in February 1951, the answer is "Yes." The 3d Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, of which Company L was a part, became a black unit in 1950 (Morris J. MacGregor Jr., *Defense Studies Series: Integration of the Armed Forces, 1940–1965* [Washington, DC: Center of Military History, United States Army, 2001], 193).

In addition, the 2d Infantry Division's 503d Field Artillery Battalion, which had been activated and assigned to the division on 27 December 1947, was also a black unit (William M. Donnelly, *We Can Do It: The 503d Field Artillery Battalion in the Korean War* [Washington, DC: Center of Military History, United States Army, n.d.], 3, 5–6). Congressman Charles Rangel (D-NY) was a member of the 503d, a tractor-drawn 155mm howitzer unit.

The first black unit to reach Korea was the 24th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, which went into combat in the Kumch'on area on 12 July 1950 (Allan A. David, ed.,

*Battleground Korea: The Story of the 25th Infantry Division in Korea* [Nashville, TN: The Battery Press, 1995] Chap.1).

Wilson A. Heefner, M.D., COL AUS (Ret.)

## One of them helped me stay alive

In the recent edition, you asked if there were any Black Americans in the 2nd. Div. in Feb. of 1951. I can tell you for sure there was, because one of them helped me to stay alive when we were captured at Massacre Valley, one of the bloodiest battles of the war.

It was on Feb. 12th, 1951, when about 10,000 North Koreans attacked us and almost wiped out the 2nd. Div. I learned later about 850 lost their lives in that 3-day battle, and I, along with hundreds of others, was taken prisoner.

I was in the 2nd. Div. 38th. Inf. Co. B.

Joe Cunningham, Ex-POW,

[Jrcandlec@aol.com](mailto:Jrcandlec@aol.com)

## They helped defend an airfield

With regard to the article on page 65, the past commander of Chapter 281, Rolla, MO, called a short time ago and asked me to contact you. He doesn't have a computer. His name is Leslie Burris and he was awarded a bronze star and a Purple Heart while with the 9th Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division positioned on the Pusan perimeter prior to the Sept. 15, 1950 Inchon landing.

Les wants to respond to the article that asked whether there were African-Americans in the 2nd Division in February 1951. After being wounded, he was in Korea only a short period of time, which did not include 1951. However, he indicated that a battalion of African-Americans went to Korea with the 9th Regt., and he recalls that while on the Pusan perimeter, a company of African-Americans went with his unit to assist in the defense of an airstrip that was under attack.

Based on his experience, Les knows that there were African-American troops in Korea in 1950, and he believes that some African-American troops were still there with the 2nd Division in February 1951.

Les welcomes contact if anyone would like to call and discuss it with him. His telephone number is (573) 364-6663.

Incidentally, I have no problem with the new cover and fully understand why the Board of Directors unanimously agreed to make the change.

Roger Lueckenhoff, CID 281, Rolla, MO,

[lueck@fidnet.com](mailto:lueck@fidnet.com)



## My Platoon Sergeant was awarded the MOH

(See sidebar)

I arrived in Korea approximately 18 August 1950. I was assigned to G Co., 9th Regt., 2nd Inf. Div. The 9th Regt. had already been committed then. 1st and 2nd Bn. at that time were all white. The 3rd Bn. was all African-American. My first fox-hole buddy was an African-American named Miller.

After being pushed off the Naktong River line in September 1950, we counter-attacked the third day of September. I was a Scout. Before the day was over I was a Squad Leader.

The next day I got 6 replacements for my squad: 2 white soldiers, 2 African-American soldiers, and 2 South Korean soldiers.

All six turned out good. I'm proud of all six. The two South Koreans were picked up off the street and put in the Army with no training. They turned out great.

The next day I found out that I had a sergeant 1st Class and a Staff Sergeant in my squad. I was only a corporal. But, I was promoted.

Two days later, my Platoon Sergeant, SFC Loren Kaufman, was awarded the MOH. My Platoon Leader was 1st Lt. John M. Murphy. The Company Commander was Captain Frank Munoz. All were first class officers, soldiers, and gentlemen.

I am proud to have been part of that group. May God bless them.

Leonard T. "Buck" Ferrell, 502 Cotton Avenue,  
Caruthersville, MO 63830

## Mystery Photos in Jan/Feb 2009 issue

*Again, we have received an overwhelming number of responses to our "Mystery Photo" feature. Here are some of them.*

*Space does not allow us to include the names of everyone who responded, but we do appreciate the fact that so many of you call, write, or email with information. You are all helping us fill in the blanks of history, which cannot be done without your contributions.*

*Thanks again for your help.*

### It was Paul Douglas, not Broderick Crawford...

Re Jan/Feb 2009 *The Graybeards*, pgs. 57-58 (Mystery Photos)

Ms. Butler guesses 6th Army. I believe it is the 7th Infantry Division, with past commanders MajGen Claude B. Ferenbaugh and MajGen Lyman L. Lemnitzer. All wear the hour-glass patch.

Here are the IDs for some of the other photos:

(F) Actor [Douglas], and MajGen L.L. Lemnitzer

(G) The blonde is actress Jan Sterling

(H) MajGen Lyman Lemnitzer being awarded the Silver Star Medal: (Note his jump badge. He went to jump school at age 51.)

(L) Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway

Tom Moore, [tm103ps@yahoo.com](mailto:tm103ps@yahoo.com)

### ...and Jan Sterling

Photo G, page 58, is the blond is actress Jan Sterling. She was born in New York City 4-3-1921, died 3-26-2004, interred in

The President of the United States in the name of The Congress takes pleasure in presenting the Medal of Honor to

### KAUFMAN, LOREN R.

Rank and organization: Sergeant First Class, U.S. Army, Company G, 9th Infantry Regiment. Place and date: Near Yongsan, Korea, 4 and 5 September 1950. Entered service at: The Dalles, Ore. Born: 27 July 1923, The Dalles, Ore. G.O. No.: 61, 2 August 1951.

### Citation:

Sfc. Kaufman distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action. On the night of 4 September the company was in a defensive position on 2 adjoining hills. His platoon was occupying a strong point 2 miles away protecting the battalion flank. Early on 5 September the company was attacked by an enemy battalion and his platoon was ordered to reinforce the company. As his unit moved along a ridge it encountered a hostile encircling force. Sfc. Kaufman, running forward, bayoneted the lead scout and engaged the column in a rifle and grenade assault. His quick Vicious attack so surprised the enemy that they retreated in confusion. When his platoon joined the company he discovered that the enemy had taken commanding ground and pinned the company down in a draw. Without hesitation Sfc. Kaufman charged the enemy lines firing his rifle and throwing grenades. During the action, he bayoneted 2 enemy and seizing an unmanned machinegun, delivered deadly fire on the defenders. Following this encounter the company regrouped and resumed the attack. Leading the assault he reached the ridge, destroyed a hostile machinegun position, and routed the remaining enemy. Pursuing the hostile troops he bayoneted 2 more and then rushed a mortar position shooting the gunners. Remnants of the enemy fled to a village and Sfc. Kaufman led a patrol into the town, dispersed them, and burned the buildings. The dauntless courage and resolute intrepid leadership of Sfc. Kaufman were directly responsible for the success of his company in regaining its positions, reflecting distinct credit upon himself and upholding the esteemed traditions of the military service.

London, England. She starred in several movies, one with John Wayne, *High and Mighty*.

She was in Korea in 1951 along with her husband Paul Douglas when the USO started up again. I don't know if she was given a "rank" or not.

Bud Landrum, CID 102, Imperial Valley,

USS Oriskany (CVA 34), [tlandrum@yahoo.com](mailto:tlandrum@yahoo.com)

EDITOR'S NOTE: One e-mailer, Frank Seaman, said that Ms. Sterling was Mr. Douglas' second wife. Who was his first?

### Bumping into Paul and Jan

In December, 1952, I was in Tokyo on R&R. As I turned a corner off the Ginza onto a narrow street I almost bumped into a beautiful blond woman. She and two men were walking single file because of the narrow sidewalk.

She was Jan Sterling. One of the men was Paul Douglas; the other was Walter Pidgeon, who were on a USO tour and on their way to Korea. Other than an "excuse me" and their replies of "excuse us," that was it.

The tour was headed by Carolina Cotton, a singer and yodeler. Google will take you to her website and there is a picture of the entire group after they landed at Haneda AFB, en route to Korea.

Bill Thompson, Ex-USAF S/Sgt,  
Bt60831@aol.com

### Eddie Fisher and Betty Hutton, Too

The man and woman appearing in the Mystery Photos F and G on page 58 are old movie stars Paul Douglas and Jan Sterling, who were actually husband and wife. They were among the stars who came over with the USO shows.

I have vague recollections of seeing them, along with Eddie Fisher and Betty Hutton, in shows at K-2 AFB, home of the 49th Fighter-Bomber Wing, in 1952.

John E. Phinazee, 3993 Ivory Gables Court,  
Buford, GA 30519 (Sgt. USAF 1950-'53)  
bphin@mindspring.com

### Signal Corps Replacement Training Center

No doubt you have received numerous calls on the Mystery Photos. Here is the identification for Photo C. It is Company F of Signal Corps Replacement Training Center at Camp (now Fort) Gordon, Georgia.

I am sure Photo L is General Ridgeway. Who else carried hand grenades on his chest?

James Conway, (404) 875-6170, conatlanta@aol.com

### They looked younger in 2001

In this latest *Graybeards* publication, that is NOT Broderick Crawford. It is Paul Douglas (actor). Photo #G, the blond is Jan Sterling (Paul's wife at the time). I know, because I was there.

See my reference article, page 60, *The Graybeards*, July/Aug, 2001.

M. L. Barbani, USAF, 49th FBW, K2, Korea 1950/51,  
MLBarbani@suddenlink.net

*EDITOR'S NOTE: We went back and looked at the pictures Mr. Barbani cited. Mr. Douglas, Ms. Sterling, and Piper Laurie were included in one photo in the "Images of Korea" submitted by Mr. Barbani. Somehow, the people in the photo looked younger in 2001.*

### They were at K8 Kunsan

I recognize Paul Douglas and Jan Sterling. I don't know where those photos were taken, but I was in Korea in 1952 at K-8 (Kunsan) when they were there to entertain the troops.

Bernie Rotunda, President, CID 11, 8 Reynolds Ridge,  
Bethel, CT 06801-2207, (203) 744-1974

### Korean War License Plate in South Carolina

I'm attaching a photo of a brand-new license plate. I received the second one that was made (1002).

These plates are available to anyone with a DD Form 214 showing that they were in Korea during the War (June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1954) or who received



Sample of new South Carolina license plate

the Korean War Service Medal. They cost \$20, plus possibly an additional registration fee. (I had to pay \$10.)

Check at your local field office of the South Carolina DMV. If they don't have the plates, you'll have to send in a completed form MV-37, a copy of your DD Form 214, and a check for \$20. Send those items to Ms. Lotte Devlin, Deputy Director Vehicle Services, SC Department of Motor Vehicles, P. O. Box 1498, Blythewood, SC 29016.

You can get a form MV-37 at <http://scdmvonline.com/DMVNew/>. If you don't have access to a computer, call Ms. Devlin at (803) 896-4879.

Clyde Hooks, 658 Hampton Circle,  
Belvedere, SC 29841-2531, (803) 278-1039,  
(706) 830-6092 (cell), [koreanwar1950@bellsouth.net](mailto:koreanwar1950@bellsouth.net)

### B-26s

The story about B-26s in the Jan-Feb 2009 issue, "Bombs from the B-26," p. 26, brought back many memories of my assignment to a then secret organization of the 17th Bomb Wing. Many of the men who were assigned to it have in their possession a copy of the history of the B-26 Maintenance performed. (See the sidebar for additional info re REMCO.)

The unit was located on the border of northern Japan, called Miho.

In the dark days of the Pusan (Busan) perimeter, when the Fifth Air Force had the 3rd Bomb Wing, it was flying B-26s around the clock.

The excellent story by retired Major Rafael Ramos pointed out the utilization of REMCO. The 24/7 turnaround time by the maintenance of Miho-REMCO, commanded by Col Clinton E Blauer, was new at the time. But, the unit provided the pilots with trained and certified mechanics, which increased the pilots' safety.

The commander of the 17th Wing, Col Glen C Nye, was MIA behind enemy lines in October 1952. He was succeeded by Col Clinton C. Wasem, a senior pilot.

James C. Powell, Msgt (Ret), 7106 E 7th St.,  
Tulsa, Ok 74112, [Jcp73@cox.net](mailto:Jcp73@cox.net)

### "Chinese kill about 68 African-Americans from the 23rd Infantry Regiment."

I have received and enjoyed reading the January-February 2009 edition of *The Graybeards*. On page 65 you ask: "Were there African-Americans in the 2d Div in February 1951?" I can emphatically answer that African-Americans were present because I personally saw them.

There were about 68 and they were all dead. They had been shot and bayoneted the previous evening by the Chinese. I included my reaction in a story I wrote for *The Patrician*, a Canadian military publication, but you are welcome to use it in *The Graybeards*.

I hope this answers the question asked by your reader. Please tell me how you make out with this story.

Regards, Michael Czuboka.

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Here is an excerpt from Mr. Czuboka's story. As newscasters like to say before they present some stories, it is not for the faint hearted.*



## REAR ECHELON MAINTENANCE CONSOLIDATED OPERATION (REMCO) 1952

The southeastern border of the Republic of Korea, on the edge of the Sea of Japan, has a city named Pusan (Busan).

The 17th Bombardment Wing of the 5th Air Force had a unique unit of maintenance technicians. The focus of the REMCO unit was to maintain the B-26 bombers that over-flew the Korean peninsula on a 24/7 hour flight plan. The airmen understood what the mission was all about in 1952. They, along with the contingent of other military, had been in what became known as the "Pusan Perimeter" for many months.

This city was overrun by the refugees fleeing from the war and harassment of the North Korean Red Army. It was full of shacks in which the people lived because they had nowhere to go. The living conditions were unkempt and added greatly to the terror of the times.

The code designation was K-1 and K-2. There were many others to indicate where each city was located and used by the military. There was K-8 for Taego, otherwise known as Kunsan AFB, and so on. My assignment was to the 17th Maintenance Squadron as an Education and Training NCO to certify aircraft mechanics. (The certification of each individual who worked on an aircraft is a standard Air Force requirement.)

The establishment of a rear echelon facility was located at Miho, Japan, on a base that had been used by the Japanese to store their Zero aircraft during World War II for take-off. It was hoped that having a ready-made facility utilizing the B-26 type aircraft on the southern tip of Honshu Island during the Korean War would allow control of the air from a vantage point.

Air Force personnel reporting for duty with the Far Eastern Air Forces in early 1952 learned a new type of aircraft maintenance organization.

One of the important factors, and a difficult one in a combat zone, was the training and certification of aircraft mechanics. The operational tempo was higher and more training was required. Long hours in all weather conditions, plus the rotation of personnel in and out of the squadron, made training necessary to accomplish air crews' mission.

The success of the combat activities was due to the excellent training which prepared the individual airman with the quality and flexibility needed as an essential characteristic.

The Presidential Unit Citation issued to members of the elite REMCO reflects greatly upon all the personnel who worked with an attitude of all-out effort in support of the Korean War, or "Police Action," as President Harry Truman referred to it.

The threat of attack by the Northern Red Army kept a steady alert status needed by all personnel to accomplish the mission.

Each member of the military was an inspiration to good conduct and valor, honoring God and Country.

James C. Powell, M/Sgt (Ret)

Flash back to Korea. In the middle of February, 1951, our battalion was loaded onto trucks and half-tracks at Miryang in preparation for our move to the front, at that time about 200 kms to the north. I remember the cloudy skies, snow-covered valleys and mountains, icy and winding roads and the bitter sub-zero cold. It took us about two days to get from Miryang to the front. Very cold Arctic winds from nearby Siberia often descend down the Korean peninsula, and they certainly came frequently in the winter of 1950-51.

As we arrived on our half-tracks at the Korean village of Kudun, near the front line, we were suddenly confronted with a scene of horror. I had never seen a dead body until that day, but now something like 68 black and mostly naked American bodies were scattered all around us. They had been bayoneted and shot by the Chinese, and their weapons and clothing had been removed. They were frozen solid and looked like black marble statues. Some were magnificent physical specimens and I remember feeling overwhelmed with pity over their horrible fate.

We were later told that this had been a black infantry company. Some had their ring fingers cut off, and their winter clothing, sleeping bags, boots and weapons had been removed. The Chinese coveted American clothing and weapons and took them whenever they could. Apparently these black American soldiers, led by white officers, had posted a single sentry on the previous evening and had not dug slit trenches.

Although only about 68 bodies were counted on that day, it was subsequently reported that more than 200 had been killed. In later years I read a report by the Chinese Communist Forces "CCF" 116th Division which claimed that two companies of the U.S. 23rd Infantry Regiment had been annihilated at dawn on February 14, 1951. American infantry companies do hold about 100 soldiers, so if two companies were wiped out, 200 dead seems like a reasonable estimate. The Chinese had a habit of removing dead bodies, and especially their own.

I was shocked by this bloody spectacle and ate very little for the next several days. I knew that we were in a war, but I was not prepared for such a sudden and violent introduction. I noticed that my three companions on our half-track were also taking it badly. All had turned very pale and silent.

Our commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Jim Stone, on the other hand, considered this to an important lesson for all of us. We would, in future, never be allowed to use sleeping bags in the front line. And needless to say, it became apparent that a strong contingent of sentries was always needed, and especially at dawn, the time when the Chinese preferred to attack.

### Questioning the motives of Korean War historians

*Re "The Colombians' role in the Battle for Triangle Hill (Hill 598)," Jan/Feb 2009, p. 30*

I was in Company C, 1st Battalion of the 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division and was involved in the initial attack on the Triangle Hill/Jane Russell complex on October 14, 1952.

That night, when the order came to withdraw from the hill, four of us were cut off and didn't get the word. We were up

there most of the night under shelling from both sides. What we saw and experienced during that time was incredible.

I have been baffled for years about that battle, as you will hardly find any mention of it in any history of the Korean War. Of course, you find little or no mention of any of the fighting during the second half of the war. History books focus mostly on the peace talks over that period.

Several years ago I was given a copy of a Chinese document on that battle. They viewed it as the major battle of the war.

I question the expertise and motives of those who write these history books.

Dick Fordyce, [randr4dyce@hargray.com](mailto:randr4dyce@hargray.com)

## Hill 598

I enjoyed the article about Hill 598 ("The Colombians' role in the battle for Triangle Hill (Hill 598)," Jan/Feb 2009, p. 30). I was there. But it was the 31st that assaulted Hill 598.

I was with the 32nd; we were holding the MLR. When I joined the 32nd (Aug. 1952) we were behind the front lines. We eventually moved up to the front lines to relieve the 31st. They went to the rear to prepare to make the assault on 598.

After they took the hill, we (the 32nd) turned it over to the South Koreans. We (the 7th Inf. Div.) moved over to "Old Baldy." After that we moved to Pork Chop Hill.

Bernard R. Hall, 22101 114th Ave.  
Cambria Heights, NY 11411

## The New Graybeards Cover

*We have received quite a few comments regarding the new cover of The Graybeards. Here are a few—at least the ones that are printable.*

*Just a short editorial comment: neither the editor, nor publisher, had anything to do with the change. It was made at a much higher level.*

## PROS

BRAVO ! ! ! Just got mine this PM and it's GREAT! That's the way it should be.

I really like it.

Leland E. Regal, 1st VP, Tall Corn Chapter 99 of  
Iowa, [Regalpetfood@aol.com](mailto:Regalpetfood@aol.com)  
.....

Congratulations on the addition of "Korea Veterans" to the cover of our beloved magazine, *The Graybeards*. While I understand the emotion attached to the title, *The Graybeards*, I also know it doesn't tell others what it means or what our magazine is all about.

How many times have you had to explain it to folks who've noticed it on your coffee table? The two simple words, Korea Veterans, make it immediately clear to all. It's basic Marketing 101.

Thank you from this proud Korea veteran for making sure our magazine remains the best veterans' magazine of them all.

Don Hart, CID 251  
[donchart@yahoo.com](mailto:donchart@yahoo.com)

## CONS

In my early years I spent some 10 or 12 years selling type-setting machines, working with newspapers, publishers, typography, type face designers and their ilk. It's something one never totally forgets.

When I saw the new cover my first impression was "damn amateurs." No respectable graphic designer would have come up with such a lousy choice of typefaces slapped on a cover sending confusing and mixed messages to the reader.

A masthead is too important to be arrived at by committee or on the spur of the moment as was obviously done in this case. It's reminiscent of the quote that a "camel is a horse put together by committee." It's something which should be given the utmost consideration by professional people who have studied and been trained in the use of typeface and graphic design, not a committee made up of people who most likely wouldn't know Bodoni Bold from Garamond or Chicago Tribune News from Times Roman.

My second impression was in the use of the condensed outlined all cap type face which screamed to me of Barnum and Bailey Circus or perhaps Can-Can girls dancing on table tops to the glee of drunken citizenry. I couldn't immediately name the type face, but it brought back images of posters stuck on the side of a dilapidated buildings announcing Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show coming right here to our small town back in the late 1800s or turn of the century at the latest. So, Google to the rescue.

Sure enough, it appears the typeface was designed circa 1890 and is appropriately named "Playbill." The type face explanation comes under the head of "Bar-room Playbills and Thrifty Typefaces."

My suggestion is that the president and board should run, not walk, to the offices of a competent graphic designer and beg for help. How the use of Playbill has anything to do with the Korean War of 1951-54 I have no earthly idea.

The name *Graybeards*, in my opinion, is a great title but should be dominate and I have no quarrel with mentioning Korea or Veterans, but it's a little redundant to mention Korea Veterans not once but three times on the cover.

M. L. Myers,  
Korea 1951 Hdq. Co., Hdq. Bn  
Adjutant Section, 1st Marine Division  
[Marvoroza@aol.com](mailto:Marvoroza@aol.com)  
.....

Adding "KOREA VETERANS" on the cover of our magazine seems a bit redundant to me. I feel that the words "Korean War Veterans" and "Korea Veterans" appearing three times in one 3 by 8 inch space gives an unprofessional impression of an otherwise excellent publication.

This is our magazine, and I for one couldn't care less about others knowing what it's about or who it's for. Our logo in the top right corner already does that.

Donald B. Barnes, SGM USA (Ret)  
Tarpon Springs, Florida  
[barnzy@verizon.net](mailto:barnzy@verizon.net)



ate a diversion for the Chinese. Dr. Francis was there when the USS Partridge exploded. He saw it all happen from ashore. Maybe this is why Tommy believed the operation would work.

Dr. Francis was confident, candid and could see what Tommy couldn't see. He could see a man who didn't really want to lose his leg. He could see a man who had a chance to live with a limp as a gentle reminder of what he didn't lose that day in 1951.

After the doctor sawed out diseased bone, cut out putrid flesh, and salvaged a spirit that almost drowned on that day in February, Tommy was in traction for weeks. He caught a glimpse of what was left of his leg when the nurse changed his dressings and was horrified.

He screamed for Dr. Francis to amputate this monstrosity that was left dangling from his hip. The doctor ignored Tommy because he was convinced the operation was successful. Not by the look of his leg, but because the leg no longer reeked of rancid, rotting flesh. The infection was gone and Tommy's leg was given a second chance.

Years went by and people still laughed. People still stared. The steel brace from foot to hip on his 6' frame was hard not to notice. But what was even more noticeable was the anger that would swell up inside him. Even after 35 years. But just as quickly as the anger surfaced, he could dampen it and replace that anger with understanding. And Tommy's ability to wrangle with such a powerful emotion and turn it into an awareness that is larger than life itself is what makes a man truly a man.

**Author's note:** *Tommy's strength of character was incredibly contagious when he was alive, and we hope that after people read this story his strength will be just as contagious—even though he's no longer with us*

**Sponsor's note:** Mandy Stevens is my granddaughter, outstanding and the best of the best. I want to thank her for gathering Tommy's thoughts and putting them on paper so the story of my childhood friend could be told.

*Dan Brandi, President of the NYCITY/Long Island Chapter of the Chosin Few, 100 Daly Blvd., Unit 3308, Oceanside, NY 11572-6035, served aboard USS St Paul (CA-73)*

## If you are going to have a reunion, have it now

**You must know that army buddies are like real brothers, and you should support each other. Now our reunion will only take place in Paradise—and I guess they don't serve Iron City beer there.**

I am writing this from "Down Under," in New Zealand, where I now live. Here is a short background to my story.

I served in Korea in 1963/1964. My close buddies, more like real brothers, were Joe MacCarthy, from Pittsburgh, the home of Iron City Beer, Marcellino Gomez, originally from Panama, and a KATUSA sergeant named Umm Moon Chong.

I was originally a "Limey." After Korea I was stationed at Fort Story, Virginia. Joe Mac was at Washington DC. All leave time was taken at Joe's home. His parents were like my parents. After service, we shared an apartment in San Francisco. Later, I came to New Zealand with my wife and family. Ever since I left I kept in touch with Joe Mac and Marcellino, both of whom were back stateside. But none of us knew what happened to Umm.

For the past ten years or so I have written letters with photos to English language newspapers in Seoul, to the Korean Vets Assoc., and even to the Korean Ambassador in Wellington, NA, but to no avail. I drew a complete blank.

Finally, a friend gave me the name of a lady in Seoul. I wrote and provided photos, etc. I don't know what job she has, but she went straight to the top, e.g., Korean Defense Dept, Army top brass, etc. My story went into the Army Times newspaper.

Within a couple weeks I received an email from a Mr. Park Sung Yong of the KATUSA Veterans Association. (See the copy nearby.) It turns out that Umm has been living just outside Seattle since 1970—only one hour's drive from where Marcellino lives. So, we have all been burning up the phone lines and planning a reunion.

Now comes a sad twist to this story. Two weeks after the four of us made contact, Joe Mac died. He passed away on 15 July 2008 due to complications from an operation last January.

The moral of this story, which I want to impress on *The Graybeards* readers, is this: if you are thinking of a reunion or search-

ing for old army buddies, do it now. Go to a reunion, find a buddy. Tomorrow may be too late.

You must know that army buddies are like real brothers, and you should support each other. Now our reunion will only take place in Paradise—and I guess they don't serve Iron City beer there.

If any other veteran who served with me at ASCOM EUSA Department 1963/64 wants to contact me, please do.

Incidentally, anyone looking for a KATUSA buddy can email Park Sung Yong at psy964@hotmail.com. He would be only too happy to help.

Fraternally yours,

Ian Blissett  
Flat 3, 7 Leefield Street,  
Blenheim 7201, New Zealand  
Zayd@xtra.co.nz

RE: Letter to Korean Brother  
Subject: RE: Letter to Korean Brother

**ParkSung Yong's email to Ian Blissett**

From: ParkSung Yong <psy954@hotmail.com> Date: Mon, 9 Jun 2008

To: Zayd Ian <zayd@xtra.co.nz>

Dear Ian.

I was very happy to hear your news.

I hope you can make happy reunion in the U.S.

Our Katusa Veterans Association tries to find any information or record of KATUSA or KATCOM (Korean Augmentation Troops Commonwealth) members who fought in Korean War (1950-1953)

We got some information of KATCOM who were augmented Australian Army, but none of New Zealand.

So, would you like to help me to find any information of KATCOM in New Zealand? (any members who worked with KATCOM, Unit name, record of KATUCOM etc.)

Keep in touch, Park. Korea.

P.S : I appreciate your honorable service in Korea, and I will not forget it. Thank you.

# Book Review

## The Last Stand of Fox Company

Bob Drury and Tom Clavin

336 pages, ISBN: 10-87113-993-6

Readers searching for Korean War combat narratives have no shortage of choices. However, few of these narratives are as thorough and engrossing as *The Last Stand of Fox Company*.

Bob Drury and Tom Clavin, authors of *Halsey's Typhoon*, combine detailed research, including many personal accounts, and historical and political context to round out the story of Fox Company, which is credited with keeping the Toktong Pass open while the infamous battle at the Chosin Reservoir raged on.

At what came to be known as Fox Hill, for seven days, 234 U. S. Marines and Navy Corpsmen held a strategically critical frozen North Korean hill during the coldest months of winter, 1950. Drury and Clavin adequately situate the plight of Fox Company, which found itself woefully outnumbered and cut off from its base-camp at Hagaru-ri when thousands of Chinese streamed south through North Korea.

The clash at Fox Hill, like so many other battles, resulted in staggering loss of life, but also revealed the fortitude, tenacity, and spirit of the U. S. Marines.

Drury and Clavin write:

"Then, as now, it was the frontline Marine rifleman who preoccupied the strategists and tacticians at Quantico in Virginia, the acclaimed Warfighting Laboratory – specifically, how to infuse in every man in every rifle company the Corps' basic doctrine that battle had nothing to do with strength of armaments or technology or any theoretical factors dreamed up by intellectuals. Instead, according to the Marine Corps Manual, warfare was a clash of opposing wills, 'an extreme trial of moral and physical strength and stamina'" (p. 12).

Indeed, with the conditions faced by Fox Company, an indomitable spirit was what compelled the survivors to endure. What little food they had was frozen solid and inedible in the sustained below-zero temperatures. Guns jammed, grenades froze, and exposed skin was subject to rapid frostbite. Foxholes were shallow, as the ground would not easily yield to the shovels and pickaxes the Marines carried. But the Marines weren't the only ones who suffered from the cold:

"The corpsmen were perhaps even more frustrated by the weather. Warming morphine syrettes in their mouths was the least of their problems. Plasma, frozen in its feeding tubes, was worthless; and their numb fingers fumbled to change the dressings. Moreover, if a medic tried to cut off a man's clothing to get a closer look at his wounds, he was probably condemning the man to gangrene and a slow death by freezing. The corpsmen did, however, discover one unexpected boon—because of the low temperatures, bullet and shrapnel wounds were closing almost immediately, blood flow was congealing, and men were staying alive instead of bleeding to death before help could reach them" (p. 162).

The day-by-day description of the conditions faced, and of the rescue battalion sent to relieve Fox Company, is riveting and the narrative style is moving. Although maps are included, they are not particularly effective in conveying the brutal and harsh terrain the Marines, many of them wounded or frostbitten, had to cover.

Although nearly 250 men of Fox Company marched in to Fox Hill, approximately 80 walked out. Drury and Clavin's book highlights not only Fox Company's contribution to the Korean War in preventing the Chinese from taking the strategic pass, but also their contribution in upholding the spirit and dignity of the U. S. Marine Corps.

As Drury and Clavin note regarding the company, "They bitched and grouched, but they never shirked a command, remaining true to the eagle to the Latin motto above the eagle on the Marine emblem: *Semper Fidelis*, 'always faithful' (p. 22).

For more information, or to order, go to <http://www.amazon.com/Last-Stand-Fox-Company-Marines/dp/0871139936>, or similar websites.

By Dr. Kris Barnett

## Never mind where the teeth are: where is the owner?

Some 55 years ago, at Ashiya Air Base in Japan, I was on duty at the 483 Medical Group Dental Clinic to cover emergency problems, if such arose. The purpose was to screen for immediate help or to set up the patient for next day dental work.

As I was cleaning up the equipment, an Airman came for help. He was bleeding in the front of his mouth. I took a quick look and asked him where his two front upper central incisors were. He said he didn't know. As he explained, he was cranking up a motor, it "backlashed," and the crank hit him in the upper part of his mouth.

I took another look and did not see any residual fragments of the incisors. They were totally gone. So, I took an x-ray of the upper frontal area and developed the film. Lo and behold, there were two perfectly shaped teeth. They had, by the force of the blow, been driven up intact into the maxillary sinuses or frontal area.

I told the Airman that he was going to visit the hospital for a while, and I called the dentist on call for that night's emergencies. I talked with the patient and made him comfortable. I told him I did not know what the case for action would be for his predicament. I said sometimes a snare wire was inserted and the teeth were pulled back into place. Otherwise, dental surgery was indicated.

The dentist arrived and took over. He admitted the patient, and complimented me on my artistic x-rays. By this time, my time was over and the next dental tech came in. I was relieved of duty for the evening.

To this day I do not know if the patient's front teeth were saved or not. Still wondering ... if the Airman is still around, I would love to hear from him.

Ralph DeMarco, 1520 Sweetland Street, Nokomis, FL 34275





# Welcome Aboard!

## New Members of the Korean War Veterans Association

We will publish a list of new members in each issue. Possibly, some of our veteran members will recognize the names of new “recruits” on the list, get in touch with them, and renew old friendships—or start new ones. (Hopefully, we will provide more detailed information about new members in future issues to facilitate the “getting in touch” process.)

For now, we offer a sincere “Welcome Aboard” to our new members—and urge them to recruit a friend or two to join them and the rest of us.

### ALABAMA

R040864 DONALD D. COOK  
R040872 THOMAS J. LEGROS  
R041000 JOHN E. LOCK

### ARIZONA

R040886 JOHN P. KENT  
R040981 TIMOTHY J. O'CONNOR  
A040983 CHARLOTTE M. SKAGGS  
R040982 JACK L. SKAGGS SR.

### CALIFORNIA

A040944 KIM CHAMBERLAIN  
A040993 FLORITA P. FACURI  
R040882 ALBERT A. FIELD  
R040999 ANTONIO G. FUCCI  
LR41003 STEVEN E. GILL  
R040943 RUSSELL R. HUNTINGTON  
R040969 LAWRENCE K. LOO  
R040857 JACK O. POULSEN  
R040859 ERNEST G. VICK  
R040941 EDWARD WONG

### COLORADO

R040965 SAMUEL C. BROOKS  
R040992 DONALD GEIST  
R040935 GILBERT M. REESE

### DELAWARE

R040927 ROBERT L. PEIFFER  
LR40912 WILLIAM H. RALPH  
R040988 CHARLES S. TJERSLAND  
R040858 CLARENCE E. WORKMAN

### FLORIDA

R040889 CATHY L. ALESSANDRI  
R040933 HERBERT C. ANDERSON  
R040966 RICHARD C. ARNOLD  
R040918 ROBERT BACH  
R040850 ROBERT J. BESTERCY  
R040856 EDMUND C. BLISE  
A040903 MARY C. DAVIS  
R040871 EVERETT G. DEWITT  
R040879 ROBERT DIRCKS  
R040862 JOHN F. DRURY  
LR40984 CLARENCE H. ENNIS  
R040925 ANTHONY R. FALO  
R040867 CONRAD C. GIFFORD  
R040923 DONALD GOOD  
R040905 RICHARD D. JEFFERY  
R040954 JOHN J. LAVELLE  
R040893 RICHARD H. LEE  
R040987 CHARLES J. MACDONALD  
LR40894 ROBIN T. MATTHEWS

R040956 MARYANN S. MAUS  
R040890 TIMOTHY J. MCKENNA  
R040902 ROBERT MEYER  
R040883 JOHN T. MITCHELL JR.  
R040901 BROOK M. PASCHKES  
R040924 EDWARD J. PILARSKI  
R040926 MAURICE J. RONAYNE  
R040962 DAVID R. TRESEMER

### GEORGIA

R040957 JACK H. SMITH

### ILLINOIS

R040946 WILLIAM H. BERRY  
IR040994 JERRY A. BRAZELTON  
R040938 FRANK L. DEGENHARDT  
R040887 J. FRED HERLOCKER  
R040951 HARLAND MENDENHALL  
R040920 JAMES R. PRICE  
R040863 WILLIAM H. TEICHMAN

### INDIANA

R040985 CLARENCE V. DAILY  
IR040930 ROBERT A. FEIKEMA  
R040860 JOHN D. HANNIGAN  
R040897 PAUL J. LELLI  
R040996 GEORGE G. SKOULAS  
LR40970 EDWIN E. WADE

### KANSAS

R040928 DONALD L. FUND

### LOUISIANA

R040896 ADREIN R. LEAVITT  
R040895 THOMAS J. PLUNKETT

### MAINE

R040950 HAROLD L. WARE

### MARYLAND

R040878 RALPH HOLWECK  
R040931 IRVIN R. NUNAMAKER  
R040932 ALBERT R. SAYLES  
R040958 CARL THAYER

### MASSACHUSETTS

R040904 PAUL G. FEROLA SR.  
R040986 JAMES R. KIMBALL  
R040848 ADELARD J. MARCOUX  
R040921 BENJAMIN W. NICHOLLS

### MICHIGAN

R040940 DAVID M. HALL  
R040852 JOHN N. HEASTY  
R040967 JAMES R. MITCHELL JR.  
R040875 SAMUEL J. PRISK  
R040853 GERALD L. TOSSEY

### MISSISSIPPI

R040874 ROBERT E. CARD  
R040880 CHARLES W. JOHNSON

### MISSOURI

R040849 JESSE BARBOSA  
R040922 JAMES R. BROWN  
R040907 WILLIAM D. BURRIS  
LR40910 CHARLES F. MIKUSCH  
R040847 HUGO L. ROHLFING  
R040949 MARK E. SNOW  
R040888 BUDDY L. WILSON

### NEVADA

R040868 RICHARD V. ERNST  
R040976 JOE GARCIA  
R040973 GERALD W. JOHNSON  
R040977 JAMES C. JONES  
R040975 JOE D. NEWTON  
R040974 ALFRED L. 'AL' RAICHE  
R040978 NORMAN E. WEST

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

R040952 GEORGE E. SOUSA

### NEW JERSEY

R040891 JOSEPH P. ARAHILL  
R040960 WILLIAM J. HARE  
R040959 ROBERT L. KAUFMAN  
R040911 JOHN W. PERRINE  
R040873 EDWARD J. RAPPLEYEA  
R040998 JOSEPH A. SPECHT  
LR40964 PONCE DE LEON TIDWELL SR.  
A040870 WALTER R. TROUT

### NEW YORK

R040953 ARTHUR J. COPPERNOLL  
A040971 VIOLET M. FRANKLIN  
R040916 JOHN GAGION  
LR40906 BERNARD R. HALL  
R040997 HUGH P. MILLER  
R040881 STEPHEN L. MONTALBANO  
R040939 PAUL J. O'KEEFE  
R040929 PETER J. SANTANNERA  
R040885 HENRY VANDENBURGH

### NORTH CAROLINA

R040961 CHARLIE T. KEETON II

### OHIO

R040945 EARL W. HOAG  
R040892 CHARLES R. MARTIN  
R040865 JAMES E. MITCHELL  
R040913 JAMES L. SECREST

### OKLAHOMA

R040917 JAMES J. STARK

### OREGON

LR40851 WILLIAM B. CUDAHY  
R040948 HERBERT M. SOCKMAN

### PENNSYLVANIA

R040955 STANLEY J. WINNER

### RHODE ISLAND

R041001 ALVIN PARKIN

### SOUTH CAROLINA

R040979 JOHN M. HAMMITT  
R040942 WILLIAM E. HARRISON  
R040876 JAMES MAZUR  
A040899 CATHY M. NEAL  
R040991 DANNY RANEY  
A040972 PEARL B. SLOAN  
R040980 BILLY D. VESS

### TENNESSEE

R040898 JACK L. PAGE  
R040990 WILLIAM H. PORTER  
R040914 JACK C. SLAUGHTER  
R040900 ROGER R. VANREKOM

### TEXAS

R040936 FRED G. BERRY  
R040968 NEWTON C. CARLETON  
R040919 WALDO E. CECIL  
R041002 LYLE D. DOWNIE  
R040855 WILLIAM T. FOX  
R040908 ADAN R. GARCIA  
R040854 ELTON W. GENTRY  
R040884 ROBERT E. GORHAM  
LR40909 CARL P. MCCANN  
R040937 GEORGE W. MERWIN III  
R040989 RICHARD J. ROGERS

### UTAH

R040963 CARL L. MCBIRNIE  
R040861 CHARLES W. SHOUN

### VIRGINIA

R040947 HAROLD L. BOWMAN

### WASHINGTON

R040877 JACK J. HAMMOND  
LR40866 ERWIN P. JONES JR.  
R040869 MARVIN L. MILLER  
R040915 FRANCIS J. WINSLOW

### WEST VIRGINIA

R040934 ERNEST E. TREADWAY

### WISCONSIN

R040995 RAYMOND J. HENDRICKSE



# 92nd ARMORED FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

## PART V

Continued from the January–February Issue of *The Graybeards*, Vol 23, No. 1

## MARCH 1953

*Begin: Excerpts from “Memorable Battles of the Korean War”*

*Outpost Harry: See Web Pages*

<http://www.ophsa.org/> and <http://www.kwvm.com/>

**HOLD AT ALL COSTS.** Dan Braucher of Willowbrook, Illinois, a member of the Korean War Museum, reminded America not to forget the siege of Outpost Harry by writing an article about OP Harry in the September 1992 issue of *The Graybeards*. Dan summed up the events of one of the worst battles in Korean War history.

We ran across his article while browsing through old editions of the magazine not long ago, and found it to be a perfect complement to interviews which have been conducted by the staff of the Korean War and Douglas County Museums in Tuscola. Member Martin Markley, who was a company commander at OP Harry, told us a few other details about Harry for our article. We combined the Braucher/Markley information, excerpts from interviews, information from declassified documents, and data from government military records to bring our viewers this feature article about Outpost Harry.

Harry was an outpost east of the Chorwon Valley, with sister outposts to the west called Tom and Dick. OP Dick was about 100 yards in front of the Main Line of Resistance (MLR); Tom was about 250-300 yards in front and below the MLR. The latter was the floor of the valley. Harry, which was over 400 yards from the MLR, was also higher than the MLR, making supply much more difficult.

The route to the outpost was under constant enemy observation and fire, and its



OP Harry

height made it harder to pack supplies up the hill. Unlike Tom and Dick, which could get supporting fire from the MLR, Harry got less close supporting fire from the MLR because company 60mm mortars and the heavy machine guns did not have enough range. Harry relied more on artillery and heavy mortars companies.

For political leverage (and because Harry had a commanding view of all the division area which the Chinese Communist Forces wanted), the CCF were attempting to take Harry and as many UN outposts as possible before the soon-to-be cease fire (July 27, 1953). If the CCF took

Harry, they would have controlled the entire area.

In a war zone, each unit is assigned an area of responsibility—sometimes yards, sometimes miles—depending on the size and number of units available in the area, as well as the terrain. Outposts Tom, Dick and Harry were in the Third Infantry Division area of responsibility for weeks before the infamous June 1953 siege took place.

The 15th Infantry Regiment was responsible for Harry and Tom at that time, and the Greeks who were attached to the 15th Infantry Regiment were responsible





for OP Dick. The 65th Infantry Regiment went to reserve June 5, leaving the 3rd battalion of the 15th Infantry Regiment in charge of the immediate OP Harry sector, with its K Company within yards of the MLR.

If outposts were lost to the CCF the MLR, the route to South Korea would be in grave jeopardy, so orders came down from 8th Army through the 3rd Division to "hold it at all costs."

In the evening of June 10th, K Company, commanded by Capt. Martin A. Markley, was hit by a large number of CCF after a tremendous artillery and mortar barrage. Markley had been briefed earlier that day on what was about to happen on Harry; he briefed his men. Ammo and communications were checked, as were final protective fires. "Everyone prepared to fight," said Markley, "and some knew they would likely die."

CCF regiment-sized forces (three infantry battalions, tanks, mortars—at least three times larger than a battalion—hit and succeeded in overrunning the outpost for a time. When K Company got under cover in bunkers, friendly Variable Time (VT) artillery was called in to stop the CCF attack. The artillery rounds exploded in the air rather than on impact, and this, plus hand-to-hand combat, finally drove the CCF off Harry that night. K Company was so depleted that they were immediately reinforced by a reserve platoon and then replaced by another company of the 3rd Battalion.

The CCF continued their nightly attacks with forces up to 3600 and thousands of artillery and mortar rounds. All nine rifle companies of the 15th Infantry, as well as units of the Greek battalion and 5th RCT, took part in reinforcing and holding Harry against tremendous odds. Estimates are that 88,810 enemy rounds over 81mm size, as well as mortars, were fired on Harry during the course of the main attacks. Friendly mortar and artillery units in conjunction with friendly tank fired 368,185 rounds over 81mm size.

The 39th and the 58th Field Artillery, as well as the 92nd Armored Field Artillery, were firing as fast as possible. The top of the outpost was so pulverized with artillery and mortar fire that bodies were later found eight feet below the existing surface. The nearby photo of Harry, taken in March



92 AFA BN road march to Kumsong area, June/July 1953 (Dwyer)

of 1953, shows a bleak and rocky incline. The enemy forces employed against Outpost Harry during the period 10-18 June were tabulated by Intelligence Sections to be substantially as follows:

- June 10-11 - a reinforced CCF regiment of approximately 3,600 CCF
- June 11-12 - a CCF regiment of approximately 2,850
- June 12-13 - a reinforced CCF regiment
- June 13-14 - an estimated 100 CCF
- June 14-15 - an estimated 120 CCF
- June 15-17 - negative
- June 17-18 - a CCF regiment.

Several UN companies involved took up to 80% casualties.

Declassified information about Outpost Harry now shows that "hold at all costs" meant a high price in human lives. From June 10 to the 18th, the casualty figures were:

- 15th Infantry Regiment - 68 KIA, 343 WIA, 35 MIA
- KATUSA - 8 KIA, 51 WIA, 7 MIA
- Greek Force - 15 KIA, 36 WIA, 1 MIA
- Attached and supporting units 5th RCT - 13 KIA, 67 WIA, 1 MIA
- 10th Engr. Bn. - 5 KIA, 23 WIA; 39th FA - 5 KIA, 13 WIA

Armored personnel carriers and tanks were used to evacuate the WIAs and the KIAs in the aftermath of each attack. Replacement companies and engineers also joined in carrying the dead and wounded down the hill so they could be transported on to an aid station. When fighting, Markley noted, medical attention often had to wait. Buddies helped each other, often giving first aid until the medics arrived.

The 15th "Can Do" Infantry Regiment

held Outpost Harry at a dear price against overwhelming odds. This action prevented a CCF breakthrough just before the truce. From June 10 to June 18, the entire 74th CCF Division was utilized against this position and at the end of the engagement was considered combat ineffective. Overall, the enemy casualties at Outpost Harry were KIA (counted) - 223; KIA (estimated) - 1450; WIA 3000.

*End - Excerpts from "Memorable Battles of the Korean War"*

*Begin: Excerpt from "92nd AFA BN History"*

## 92nd AFA BN Action July 1953

"In mid-July 1953 the Communist Chinese Forces launched their last large scale offensive of the Korean War. The attack, which consisted of ten enemy divisions, was the largest offensive in two years. The firing batteries of the battalion, after having sustained horrific artillery, rocket, and mortar fire on the evening of July 13, were again taken under direct attack by communist regular forces. When faced with mass attacking human waves in overwhelming numbers, the batteries were ordered to conduct a strategic withdrawal.

"Baker and Charlie Batteries found themselves being infiltrated by communist Chinese soldiers. Conducting a breakout, Baker and Charlie Batteries fought their way from the encirclement and were soon reestablished and immediately became operational. Setting the Howitzers in record time, Baker and Charlie went from total disengagement to pouring shells back into the advancing communist forces. The tenacity and fortitude of these men served as an example of bravery under fire to every Red Devil in the battalion. By this time the 92nd had gained a reputation of unexcelled excellence.

"The advance was stopped 36 hours after it began. During this time the 92nd sustained 2 enlisted soldiers and the S-2 Officer KIA. And, 27 Red Devils were wounded and 8 were listed as missing in action. Most of the MIAs were repatriated in Operation Big Switch, concluding the final peace accord. In the 36 hours of solid combat. This fact clearly speaks to the professionalism and skill craft learned in the earlier bitter battles by the 92nd."

*End - Excerpt from "92nd AFA BN History"*

*Begin: Excerpt From Hugh R. Lafferty, Personal Reflection, Retired Captain Artillery, 1st Lt. Arty, Korea Battery C, 92nd Armored Field Artillery Battalion*

Early in July of 1953, most of us realized this Korea Conflict (never a declared war) was “winding down” and would be over soon. Intelligence reports from Army and Corp filtered down re a possible enemy thrust near Kumsong, Central Front. Objective? Straighten out the MLR before the Armistice.

Our lines tracked northeast for a few hundred yards and the Chinese didn’t like this “spike in the lines.” They wanted the killer lines nice and neat—east to west. Those of us who did the fighting had a simple question and comment: “So what? Let the bastards have the turf. Pull back and tell them to enjoy it. Is four hundred yards of trench worth more bloodshed?”



92nd AFA Bn Firing Battery, 1953 (Dwyer)

Our brass-on-high decided to teach those upstart Chinese a lesson. They would move every cannon in Corp Artillery into temporary positions behind this salient, and by God, the Chinese would cringe at this show of force. And, what’s more, the brass insisted, the crack ROK First Division was in the front line trenches and no enemy would dare attempt a break through. No sir. Piece of cake.

On July 9, 1953 all Corp Artillery units left their permanent positions in a bold daylight move to support positions behind this “Salient”. The thousands of Chinese who watched this bizarre show of force had to smile ...

My battery, Battery C, was ordered into a narrow steep walled “mini canyon” position approximately 400 yards behind the front lines. It was hardly suitable for a heavy mortar company, let alone a 155 mm howitzer battery. Foolish.

Fortunately, we “marched stripped down” (road marched in column with just basic equipment and loads) to the new position. Forty (approx) men and auxiliary equipment and several “non-combat” vehicles remained in our “permanent” position. Every man volunteered to move into the new “Salient” position. Headquarters “suggested” our permanent position be occupied to prevent pilfering; command specifically stated all units would return to permanent positions when “this Salient thing with the Chinese” was over. It would only take a couple of days...

During a preliminary reconnaissance of the new area before the move, I realized there was one way in and the same way out of out that narrow hell hole. If the enemy did break through the front lines, some three-four hundred yards in front of us, they could seal off the mouth of the canyon and pick us off.

My driver, Corporal Willard Rudd, and I went out on another recon after we occupied the mini-canyon position and did find an ancient trail running east and west in front of us and parallel to the front lines. It was obvious our tank howitzers couldn’t handle the steep hill trail, and we’d be exposed to the full brunt of enemy fire, some three hundred yards away across no man’s land. We were, my opinion, in a trap. Telephone requests (to the best of memory) to headquarters requesting a move to an alternate position were ignored.

The summer rains had raised the water level in our mini canyon position to almost surface level. We literally crammed six self propelled howitzers and other supporting equipment and vehicles into this mini canyon and found ourselves battling mud, rats and, of grave concern, sinking howitzers. There was no way really to buoy them up out of the slime. Cannoneers prevailed and used stones, rotten tree limbs, anything under tank treads and gun platforms. Back breaking tasks.

For centuries, the Koreans have relied on human and animal excrement to fertilize their crops. Beautiful vegetables. Of course, the average length of an intestinal tape worm in one of the natives or a ROK soldier with gut blown open was about six feet. And the stench in the area?. Impossible to describe. Our drinking water supply was limited. Our medics and I were

concerned about sanitary conditions ... washing hands and mess gear was practically impossible. We ate soggy C rations, or went without.

The rain didn’t let up after we occupied “Dungville.” We floated and sloshed and the men never flinched nor did they complain. We were limited to “high angle fire” artillery support missions because the massive hill-wall in front of our howitzers was too steep for standard fire missions. We were finally able to buoy up the howitzers and prevent them from sinking. However, the angle of fire (howitzer tubes almost vertical) shifted the center of gravity of the main tank frame such that the gun platforms at the rear of each piece were SINKING into the muck.

On the night of July 12, 1953, the enemy “found the range” with deadly “Willie Peter” (White Phosphorous shells) and peppered us constantly. All we could do was burrow into the muck and keep firing.

During the day, July 13, 1953, action lessened. It was too damn quiet and at nightfall, we found out why. The ROK division we were supporting (South Koreans) left the line and headed south. It was planting time and what the hell, the war was soon to be over ... so let’s “bug out.” The Chinese began their patrol probes the afternoon of July 13. We reported this to battalion but received no acknowledgment. Later, we realized that Battery C was the only opposition between fifty thousand Chinese ready to march south and attack the main Corp Artillery force to our rear.

We were still in position before dawn, July 14, 1953. Enemy small arms fire and rats all around us. We couldn’t raise Battalion on the telephone or via radio. We couldn’t leave. Orders are orders.

Finally, we were ordered to CSMO (Close Station March Order). As we formed up in a column, we realized we had to fight our way out. Thanks to Leo Calvert and Adrian Krenk and others in our service section, we were still mobile. During our stay in “Dungville,” these valiant soldiers nursed rain soaked engines back to health and performed maintenance miracles that an Eighth Army Center in Seoul couldn’t accomplish. (My opinion.) I led our column out at approx 5:45 AM, July 14, 1953 and had radio contact with Leo Calvert in



the last vehicle in the column, a jeep.

About seven hundred yards south of “Dungville” we saw howitzer parapets. It was Battery C 555 (Triple Nickel) Field Artillery, a 105 mm howitzer truck drawn unit. Nothing. No activity. It didn’t look right. (Side comment.) Our 155 mm howitzers had been in position SEVEN HUNDRED YARDS AHEAD OF 105 HOWITZERS!! No way, but orders are orders and by God, we carried out orders and didn’t flinch. Seconds later all hell cut loose.

The Chinese had overrun that 555 outfit, killing them almost to the last men. The enemy must have realized we weren’t tanks after all!! And that’s probably what kept us from being overrun in “Dungville.” The enemy wasn’t going to mess with tanks, and in the dark or gloom our silhouettes looked like heavy tanks. Thanks to Adrian Krenk and Calvert and his service people, we started our howitzer-tank engines every fifteen minutes during the night! No strategy on our part. We had to make sure we could turn over those damn engines in the driving rain.

Sergeant Calvert and Adrian Krenk were in the last vehicle (jeep) in our column and the Chinese were hell bent on destroying us. The fact that we were “fully armored” saved us—thirteen fifty caliber and thirteen thirty caliber machine guns ripped those Chinese apart.

Up front, the Chinese stormed our jeep and we fought back. Thank God the fifty caliber machine gunner on the half track right behind us did a number on those Chinese. My jeep driver, Willard Rudd, was hit in the legs. I was hit in the left hand and both legs and the jeep was a sieve. Willard held it on the road and “drove on the rims” for two miles.

Our former battery commander, Bob Rader, was at a key T road junction directing friendly elements to safety. The last thing I remember I was being loaded into a medic half track somewhere along the road south, the road to safety. Leading the column that morning of July 14, I could take some comfort in the fact that my guys were behind me. There was nothing behind Adrian Krenk and Leo Calvert and Lt. Oscar Brock but hundreds of screaming Chinese hell bent on killing them and other Americans. All three men in that jeep were hit.

Our guys gave as “good as they took” ... there wasn’t a round of small arms ammo left in the whole outfit. Good men, all of them.”

*End - Excerpt From “Hugh R. Lafferty, Personal Reflection:”*

*Begin Excerpts: “ 92nd AFA Bn Command Report for Month of June and July 1953 “ (reconstructed from original photocopy)*

**Subject: Command Report for Month of June 1953**

3. Destruction of enemy bunkers and caves .....	554
4. Counter Battery Fire.....	16021
5. Defensive Fires.....	10657
(b) Observed results of firing were as follows I	
1. Casualties.....	37
2. Bunkers damaged or destroyed .....	33
3. Artillery positions damaged or destroyed.....	7

(3) During the period 10 - 18 June Headquarters, “A”, “B”, and “C” Batteries were subjected to some of the most intense counter-battery fire experienced by this unit during the Korean operation. The enemy employed larger caliber weapons than had heretofore been observed by this unit. Fragment analysis indicated that both 122mm guns and 152mm gun howitzers had been employed. On 17 June 1953, between 1900 and 2100 hours, “A” Battery received the most accurate bombardment the enemy directed in the battery area, resulting in 2 EM KIA, two (2) officers and thirteen(13) EM WIA, Casualties and damage to materiel was effectively reduced by the sandbag and log revetments and bunkers in the position area.

This action occurred during the Battalion’s support of the defense of Outpost Harry,

**James Bradley - Service Battery  
KIA 14 July 1953**

**Vernon Meadows - Serv. & B Battery  
KIA 14 July 1953**

**Robert L. Nickson - B Battery  
KIA 14 July 1953**

**Richard L. Pedersen - C Battery  
KIA 14 July 1953**

**Patrick C. Reid - HQ Battery  
KIA 14 July 1953**

2. Commander’s Recommendations:  
Proposed Change to T/O&E 6-326 8  
September 1952.

**Subject: Command Report for Month of July 1953**

(3) The Battalion fired 6504 rounds during the month.

(c.) Ammunition expenditures was as follows:

1. Registrations .....	603
2. Harassing and Interdiction Fires .....	371
3. Destruction of enemy bunkers and caves .....	295
4. Counter Battery fire .....	3162
5. Defensive Fires .....	2073
(b.) Observed results of firing were as follows:	

1. Casualties .....	20
2. Bunkers damaged or destroyed .....	13

(4) The most significant action in which this unit was engaged during the period and prior to cessation of hostilities occurred in the Kumwha - Kumsong Salient of IX US Corps during the night and early morning hours of 13 - 14 July 1953.

On 12 July 1953, in anticipation of an expected attack, batteries “A”, “B”, and “C”, and the operations and communications platoons from Hq Battery, moved to positions in the Capitol Republic of Korea Division sector. Battery “A” occupied a position at CT 767441, “B” at CT 765446, “C” at CT 752445 and Hq elements at CT765442 in the battery “A” area.

Located adjacent to this Battalion were the 555th FA Battalion, Battery “A” of the 424th FA Battalion, Battery “A” of the 955th FA Battalion and elements of two battalions of the Capitol ROK Division Artillery.

At approximately 132200 all batteries of this Battalion were subjected to heavy counter-battery fire, which continued until about 1400. At that time heavy enemy fires ceased falling in Hq and “A” Battery areas, although sporadic rounds did continue to fall around battery positions.

Batteries “B” and “C” continued to receive heavy fire and by 1403 accurate counter-battery fire was being received in “C” Battery position at the rate of about 3 rounds per minute. Counter-battery fire received by the Battalion during period

was from medium and light artillery, rockets and (immediately prior to displacement) mortars. Because of heavy action, no accurate estimate can be given of total rounds received, but over 500 rounds fell in each of the "B" and "C" Battery areas. During this action the Battalion expended 1392 rounds, firing close in defensive fires in defense of MLR positions and counter-battery missions. During this action extreme difficulty was encountered in maintaining satisfactory communications, because of hostile shelling of wire lines and heavy enemy interference on all radio channels.

After the attack started satisfactory direct communication was never established with IX Corps Artillery FDC. Fire missions were relayed through the FDC of the 955 FA Battalion located seven miles to the rear. Because of these communications difficulties, full utilization of the fire capabilities of the Battalion was not achieved. During the course of the action only fragmentary information could be obtained regarding ground action. Such information as was obtained indicated that there were heavy enemy attacks across the division front and that the enemy had penetrated MLR positions at two points.

One CP of the 955 FA Battalion located 3000 meters in front of "C" Battery was overrun. However, reports received indicated these penetrations had been contained.

At approximately 1403 an unknown number of unidentified personnel approached "C" Battery's position. They were fired upon when they failed to halt. Shortly thereafter small arms and automatic weapons fire was received in the "C" Battery area from the right front. At approximately 1403 Battery "B" was subjected to small arms and automatic weapons and mortar fire from high ground on both right and left front of Battery Position. By 1440 all contact was lost with higher headquarters, adjacent units and with Battery "C".

Based upon reports of firefights at both "C" and "B" Battery positions and information previously received that the 555th FA Battalion was displacing, I made the decision to displace the Battalion to positions vicinity coordinate at CT 743363. Necessary orders were immediately transmitted to "A" and "B" Batteries. At 1404



**C Battery firing 300,000th round, 1953**

radio contact was reestablished with Battery "C" and the order transmitted to that unit. As "C" Battery march column approached the vicinity of position which had been occupied by "C" Battery, 555th FA Battalion, coordinates CT 758448, was subjected to heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire from positions on both sides of the road. Fire was also received from a recoilless weapon or rocket launcher in that area.

The local installations were in flames. "C" Battery column continued to receive fire until it reached Highway 117 A, vicinity coordinates CT 765449, when contact was broken off.

During this action, "C" Battery lost 2 Howitzer Motor Carriages, M-41; 2 Half-Tracks, Personnel Carrier, M3A1; 2 1/2 ton truck and 1 1/4 ton truck due to enemy action. In addition, two Howitzer Motor Carriages, M-41, and 1 Half-Track were abandoned in the battery position because they were immobilized. At approximately 1404 rear elements of the Battalion were subjected to automatic weapons fire from an enemy armored vehicle at coordinates CT 763438. The column moved slowly because of the contention of vehicular and foot traffic on the road. Otherwise the withdrawal was orderly.

At approximately 1406 the Battalion was placed in position vicinity CT 743363 but "B" Battery displaced shortly thereafter to positions vicinity CT 704364. No significant action occurred subsequent to 1406. There were 22 Officers, 378 enlisted

men, and 70 KATUSA in forward positions from this Battalion; the Battalion lost one (1) Officer and two (2) enlisted men killed in action and eight (8) Enlisted men missing in action.

There were three (3) Officers, twenty (20) Enlisted Men and four (4) KATUSA personnel wounded in action. During this action the Battalion was directly engaged by an unknown number of enemy troops. No reliable estimate of enemy casualties can be given.

From 1408 to 1611 the Battalion expended 2034 rounds in support of 3rd US Division during the period in which new defensive line in Kumsong Salient was stabilized.

(5) On 16 July 1953 the Battalion displaced to original positions east of Chorwon. The last rounds expended by the Battalion prior to the cease fire were fired by Battery "A" at 272058. This was a battery volley directed at hostile artillery. At the time of the "Cease Fire", the 92d Armored Field Artillery Battalion had completed 1034 days of active combat in Korea, and fired a total of 311,929 rounds.

2. Commander's recommendations - None.

Ralph H. Elliot  
Lt. Col. Arty  
Commanding

*End Excerpt: "92nd AFA Bn Command Report For June And July 1953"*

...To be continued



# Members in the

## Kermit R. Parker

Kermit R. Parker was featured in a 2 February 2009 article in the *Issaquah [WA] Press*, titled “The Great Communicator,” written by Jeff Richards. In it, he is pictured with a bust...well, here is the caption:

Parker, a Providence Point resident and retired Signal Corps major, still owns the Plaster of Paris bust made of him in October 1952 by Korean sculptor Kim Mun Kee, who made many such busts for servicemen as evidence of his gratitude to the people of the United States for their aid to his country. By Greg Farrar

The question is this: who is Kim Nun Kee? Have any of our readers ever encountered him or seen any of his sculptures?

The article focuses on Parker's military experiences, including his time in Korea. Here is an excerpt:

When war began in Korea five years later, Parker was

assigned to Seoul, South Korea. The U.S. along with its allies had just liberated the city from the North Korean army, and the city was badly damaged. Parker worked from a former all-girl's school to help rebuild communications in the city.

At the end of the war, South Korea President Syngman Rhee presented the Bronze Star to Parker, who received it on behalf of his unit. Parker retired after 20 years in the military in 1958. While stationed in Korea, he had spent much of his time photographing the people and city, and in 1996, the Korean Broadcast System bought the rights to a video Parker made of his photos. The video, with new narration in the Korean language, aired in two 30-minute segments in South Korea.

Read the entire article at <http://www.issaquahpress.com/index.php?s=Kermit+Parker>

*Reach Kermit R. Parker at:*

3616 225th Place S  
Issaquah, WA 98029



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- 9-22 Aug VN I Corps "Chu Lai to the DMZ"
- 30 Aug-12 Sep VN I Corps
- 15-25 Sep WWII Russia Eastern Front
- 12-20 Sep 65th Anniversary Battle of Peleliu
- 27 Sep-6 Oct 65th Anniv Battle of the Bulge
- 27 Sep-5 Oct WWII Return to Guadalcanal
- 27 Sep-9 Oct VN Tan Son Nhut & I Corps
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## Official Membership Application Form

### The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407 (Telephone: 217-345-4414)

**DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE** Assigned Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_

KWVA Regular Annual Dues = \$25.00 ♦ Associate Membership = \$16.00  
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Please Check One: ☐ New Member ☐ Renewal Member (# \_\_\_\_\_)

Please Check One ☐ Medal of Honor ☐ Regular Member ☐ Regular Life Member ☐ Associate Member  
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(Please Print)

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle/Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_

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#### Dates of service:

WithIN Korea were: (See criteria below)

From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

WithOUT Korea were: (See criteria below)

From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the above information provided by me for the purposes as indicated, is true and correct."

**[If you are applying for membership in a category other than Section 1, par A.1., of the "Criteria for Membership," complete the "Certification of Eligibility for KWVA Membership" form on next page.]**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR KWVA MEMBERSHIP

In addition to completing the KWVA membership application form on page 1 above, persons who make application for membership and qualify under one of the categories listed below, are required to fill in the appropriate blanks, sign in the space provided below and attach this page to the completed membership application form on previous page.

Check One

- ☐ Medal of Honor: I am a recipient of the Medal of Honor for service during the Korean War and the date on which it was awarded was: Month \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Ex-POW: I was held as a Prisoner of War at some time during the period June 25, 1950 to the present, From: Month \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_ To: Month \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_.
- ☐ UN Command/Korean Armed Forces: I served honorably in the Armed Forces of the United Nations Command or in the Republic of Korea Armed Forces during the Korean War era (June 25, 1950 - January 31, 1955): From: Month \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_ To: Month \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Gold Star Parent: I am the parent of : Name [print] \_\_\_\_\_, who was ( ) killed in action, ( ) missing in action or ( ) died as a Prisoner of War on: Month \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Gold Star Spouse: I am the spouse of: Name [print] \_\_\_\_\_, who was ( ) killed in action, ( ) missing in action or ( ) died as a Prisoner of War on: Month \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Associate: I have a legitimate interest in the affairs of the Korean War Veterans Association and agree to accept the terms and conditions set forth in its charter and bylaws.
- ☐ Honorary: I was elected as an honorary member of KWVA by a vote of the Board of Directors on: Month \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_.

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the above information provided by me for the purposes indicated is true and correct."

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Month \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_

### CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC.

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

#### **A. Regular Members.**

- 1. Service in the United States Armed Forces.** Any person who has seen honorable service in any of the Armed Forces of the United States, defined as Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard, said service being within Korea including territorial waters and airspace OR who served outside of Korea from June 25, 1950 to Jan 31, 1955 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 life membership.
- 4. United Nations Command and Korean Armed Forces.** Any person who served honorably in the Armed Forces of the United Nations Command or in the Republic of Korea Armed Forces during the Korean War era and thereafter is eligible for membership. However, UN/Korean membership 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.

WEBSITE: [www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org)

Adopted 10/23/2007

# Lone Star State Trucker Takes Heart-Felt Message To Vets

AMARILLO, TEXAS — Jouett A. “Buster” Beverly, Jr., a trucker for the past half century, has done something special to show his deep and abiding appreciation for America’s military veterans.

“About a year ago” the Amarillo, Texas resident told The Trucker Magazine in October, “my neighbor’s son, an Army medic named Taylor Burk, was killed in Iraq trying to save the lives of some of his comrades. Senior Airman John Pena, also from Amarillo, was a good friend of Taylor’s. He wasn’t there when Taylor was killed, but he’s in Iraq today. Also, my niece, Margaret Beverly, was a Seabee with the Navy and she served in Iraq. She’s back home now, safe and sound. “I just wanted to do something to say thanks to all the veterans, so I had the ‘Thank You Veterans’ sign put on the back of my trailer.”

The 72-year old Beverly has received a lot of positive feedback about his gesture. “A few of them,” he said, “will always stand out in my mind.” He said that “one of those times was earlier this year as I was coming back from California. I was in the desert and six Hell’s Angels on their motorcycles passed me. A little ways down the road, they had pulled over and were standing at attention and they every one saluted as I went by. “I didn’t know what was going on, so I asked somebody on the CB and he said, ‘Don’t you know? A lot of the Hell’s Angels are Vietnam veterans and they were saluting the sign on the back of your truck.’”

That single instance sparked in Beverly a burning desire to carry his message one step further. “After that,” he said, “I thought ‘What else could I do?’ So, I then decided to put on a bigger sign. My brother, Otto Carl



The first message Beverly painted on the back of his truck (left) drew such a response that he had a second one added to both sides of the trailer (below)



**Beverly said he was “born a cripple. Both my feet are severely clubbed. I wasn’t eligible for military duty, but that didn’t keep me from trying to enlist. I tried three different times and they wouldn’t take me.**



Beverly, helped me come up with the idea of having “Thank You Veterans For Our Freedom So We Can Be Independent” painted on both sides of the trailer.”

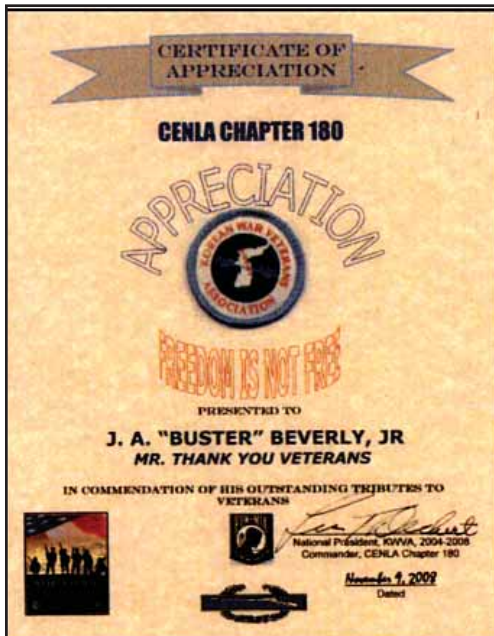
Those few additional words have stirred a lot of emotion among those who’ve read them, Beverly said. Even while he was hav-

ing the signs done at High Plains Tire and Diesel Service in Amarillo, “another trucker came over to me and put his arm around my shoulder. He shook my hand and, with tears in his eyes, said ‘Thank You for the sign’. He said it was exactly what he needed, because he had lost his son about three months earli-





**Anniversary Approaching:** Rhudene and Buster Beverly, shown here with some special lettering on the hood of his rig, will celebrate 51 years of marriage next year



Both the KWVA (left) and the Military Order of the Purple Heart (below) presented Buster Beverly Certificates of Appreciation for his message honoring veterans



er in Iraq. He told me the sign carries such a strong message that he just had to thank me for it." Then there was the "guy who stopped me once and shook my hand. He said he had been a sniper in Vietnam and that nobody had ever thanked him before. I thought he'd

of a sudden they started slowing down and video taping by truck. I took that as a compliment."

Beverly said a nephew, Clifton Ray Morse, "got so emotional when he first read

never stop shaking my hand." Another time, about 75 truck drivers in about a week's time thanked me for the signs and 28 of those drivers were women and of those 18 were veterans. Some got quite emotional about in "Memory of Our Fallen Veterans" sign as they had lost family members and friends. Buster said he also remembers the time when "a car filled with middle-aged folks passed me. All

it that he could hardly talk. He still gets choked up about it. He was in the Marines during the Vietnam War and got a dose of Agent Orange while he was over there. He was a helicopter Crew Chief & door gunner with 903 missions. He also trained NAPOPS."

Beverly said he was "born a cripple. Both my feet are severely clubbed. I wasn't eligible for military duty, but that didn't keep me from trying to enlist. I tried three different times and they wouldn't take me. One time, I went with my brother and they took him into the Navy. There is a lot of military history in our family background. I always felt kind of bad that I didn't get to serve." Beverly said he hopes he has "planted a seed by having the message to our veterans painted on my rig. I really hope that a lot of other drivers will do the same."

Buster and his wife Rhudene will celebrate their 51st wedding anniversary on June 14, 2009. Her name is written on the hood of his truck, just above a caricature of the aged yet timeless cartoon character, Betty Boop.

Rhudene said sharing space with Betty Boop doesn't bother her in the least. "I was really kind of flattered," she said. "I was surprised and shocked the day he came home and showed it to me. It made me feel good."

The Beverlys have a son, Jouett A. "Allen" Beverly III, of Oklahoma City, and two daughters, Karla May Nunley of North Texas, and Kathy Eloise Parsons of Amarillo, Texas. Rhudene is quick to point out that they also have seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Buster's CB handle is "Beverly Hillbilly." He said his first driving job was for the Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co. in the late 1950s. "I've hauled many different products, but mostly meat and produce," he said. "I also drove a gasoline transport for 10 years for Conoco. Now, I have a regular run every week hauling beef for Cargill from Plainview, Texas to Los Angeles and bring back produce to United Supermarkets in Lubbock, Texas." An owner-operator, Buster said trucking, to him, isn't work. "It's a constant vacation", he said.

"The more I'm on the road, the more people will see the message that I want to share with all our veterans. God bless them and God bless this great nation."

Email: [beverlystrucking@sbcglobal.net](mailto:beverlystrucking@sbcglobal.net) / Fax: (806) 622-0331

## 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 Biography

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 \_\_\_\_\_

### Veterans' 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**  
**c/o MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS**  
**4600 Duke Street, Suite 420**  
**Alexandria, VA 22304-2517**

Phone: 703-212-0695  
 Fax: 703-212-8567  
 E-mail: mht@miltours.com  
 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.

*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.*

### 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,



plus other cultural/industrial facilities and activities in the Seoul area. Other tours of battle sites and/or Incheon may be made through the local tour guide.

3. A special reception and dinner hosted by the President of the Korean Veterans Association (KVA) during which the Korea War Medal and Certificate of Ambassador for Peace will be awarded to each veteran who has not received it before.

## Sundry Notes

1. The KVA Revisit Program privileges are provided for scheduled groups only.

2. Participants are required to have a valid passport: a visa is not required for visits of 15 days or fewer in Korea.

3. KVA/Seoul is not responsible for any loss of, or damage to, personal or other items, medical expenses, injuries, or loss of like due to any accident of whatever nature during the revisits. Trip cancellation insurance is available and highly recommended.

4. Transportation costs to and from Korea will be borne by each person who participates in the program.

5. Applications will be received/accepted on a "first-come, first-served" basis.

**Note:** If you have previously accepted an official KVA/Seoul Revisit tour from any sponsoring association or group, you are NOT eligible to participate again. The reason is that so many veterans have not gone before so they get the "first right of return."

Because former Revisit Program participants have their name in the KVA/Seoul's computer database, please do not try to beat the system. If your name is rejected because of prior participation, all of us will be embarrassed and an eligible Korea War veteran might miss the opportunity to participate.

6. If you want to use your frequent flier miles or other "free" transportation, you will be charged an administrative service fee of \$300 per person.

**Caution:** Not traveling with KWVA group air contract can result in much higher post-tour costs to China and other Pacific location.

**Note:** Should you desire to have a single room or take additional family or friends with you, this can be arranged for an additional cost. Any such requests must be made in writing.

# What did you miss the most?

We asked in the Jan/Feb 2009 issue what you missed the most while you were in Korea. Here are a couple responses.

Please continue to submit your "What I missed most" stories.

## Mail

Here is a short description of what I missed the most during my time as an Infantry Rifle Platoon Leader in the Korean War in 1951...

I missed getting decent food, naps, and chances to wash up a bit. But, most of all, I missed the letters from friends and loved ones. We were always on the move, mostly step by step northward, but occasionally southward when the Chinese pushed us back.

After about a month, along with many others, I was wounded by a Chinese machine gunner. I was evacuated on a litter by a couple medics and helicopters back to a M.A.S.H. unit—just like on TV these days.

Then, several weeks later, I was patched up and back in a VA hospital in my hometown, Washington D.C. There, a bundle of mail caught up with me, 80% of which was ads and requests for donations. The other 20% was real letters. WOW!!

I sorted them out in order of postmark dates. Then, I enjoyed thoroughly the amenities of friendly correspondence, which was much better than wading through the piles of old magazines in doctors' waiting rooms.

Morton "Pete" Wood, 1st Lt., Inf. (Ret.)  
9221 Hollyoak Dr., Bethesda, MD 20817

## Fresh Milk & Ice Cream

What did I miss the most? It was fresh milk and ice cream.

On the way home I volunteered for KP. Guess what?

I was assigned to guard the fresh produce!

Marvin L. Borg, 86429 582 Ave  
Concord, NE 68728, (402) 287-2582

## 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**



## Check Your Mailing Label

**Membership Number**  
First two characters reflect membership type

**Membership Dues Expiration Date.** The example shows a dues date of January 1st, 2010

\*\*\*\*\*5 Digit  
R012345 01/01/10  
JOHN J. JOHN  
12345 MAIN ST  
SMILEY NY 01234-5678

### DELIVERY POINT BARCODE

**Check your name and address** (Apt./Bldg/Lot No.). Notify the Membership Chairman if you find an error. **If your zip code does not contain 9 digits (zip+4),** your address is not correct according to the USPS. Contact your local Post Office for proper format.

**Important:** If barcode does not extend across the full label, then your zip code does not have 9 digits and your address is not complete according to the USPS. Contact your local Post Office for proper format.

**Korean War Veterans Association**  
**Membership Administrative Assistant**  
**P.O. Box 407**  
**Charleston, IL 61920-0407**

NON-PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
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QUINCY, FL  
PERMIT NO. 866

**Address Service Requested**



Historical Center, Washington, D.C. — Historical file photo of Ensign Jesse L. Brown, seated in the cockpit of an F4U-4 Corsair Fighter plane, the U.S. Navy's first black naval aviator. Ensign Brown flew with the "Swordsmen" of Fighter Squadron Three Two (VF-32) aboard the aircraft carrier USS Leyte (CV 32) during the Korean Conflict. While in Korea, he was killed in action and posthumously awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. U.S. Navy photo. (RELEASED)