

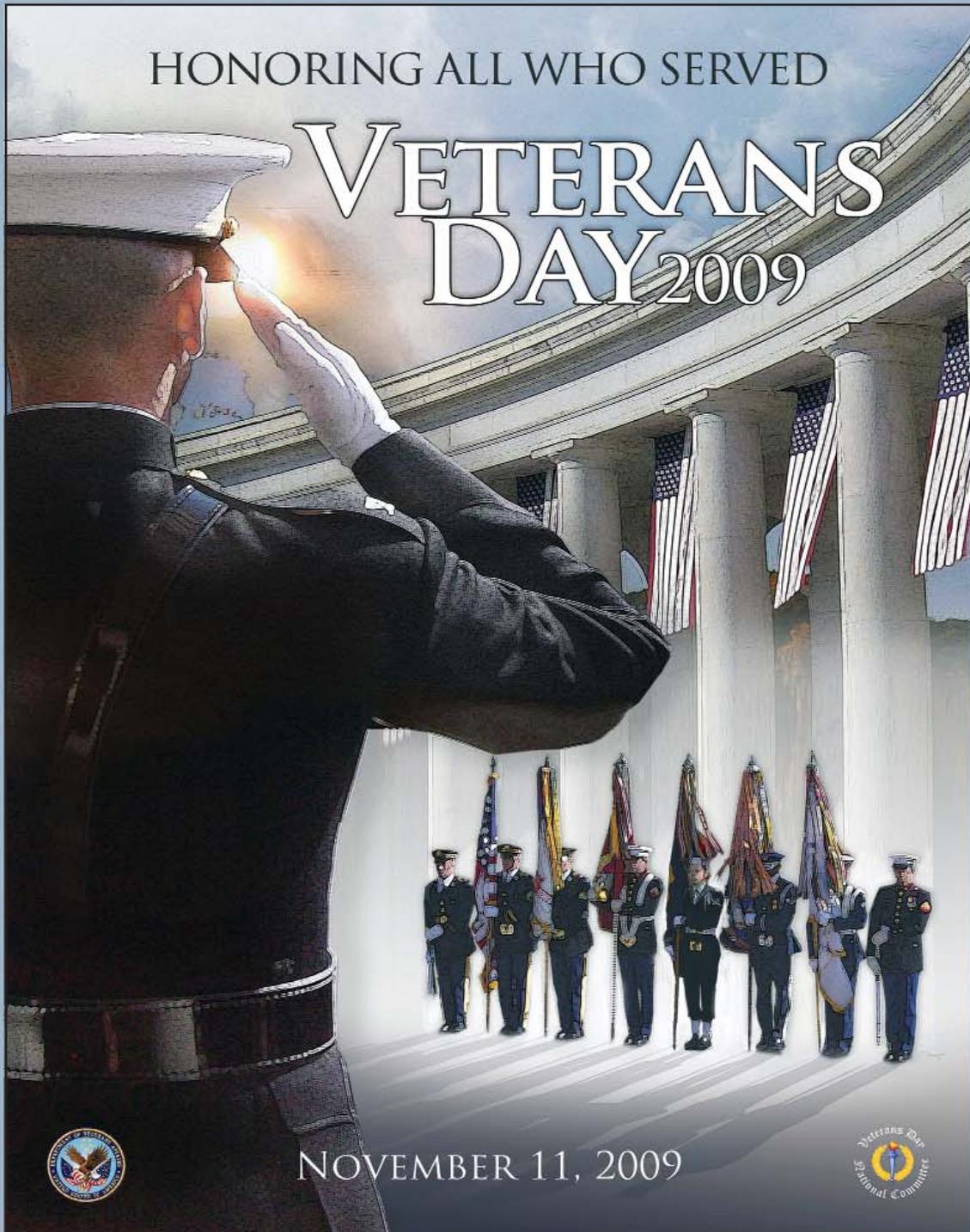
America's Forgotten Victory!

# KOREA VETERANS

## The Graybeards



Official Publication of  
**THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION**  
September - October 2009 Vol. 23, No. 5



HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

# VETERANS DAY 2009

NOVEMBER 11, 2009



# The Graybeards

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**THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION**



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We Honor Founder William Norris

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on the [WWW.KWVA.ORG](http://WWW.KWVA.ORG)



# From the President

William Mac Swain

I know this is early, since you will be receiving this edition of our magazine the early part of

November. However, it will be too late for some of this material if it is not presented now. The Board of Directors and I hope that you have a very good Veterans Day and are able to attend or participate in a Memorial event in remembrance of those buddies who are no longer with us. We also send you Happy Holidays wishes.

The Annual Association Membership Meeting will be concluded and our Bylaws and the Standard Procedure Manual will have been updated in October. Copies of the recently changed Bylaws and the Standard Procedure Manual will be placed on our website in November, and the Minutes of the Board of Directors and Association Membership Meeting will be presented in the November-December *Graybeards*.

A Call for Elections for President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President and four Directors is in this issue. It will also appear in the November-December *Graybeards*. You are invited to submit your desire to run for any of these offices. You should check the

## I inform you of a possible request from Korea next year for the KWVA to select some of our members' grandchildren to travel to Korea to be hosted during their stay.

Standard Procedure Manual or the November-December *Graybeards* for any change in the Call and any requirements that were changed at the October Membership Meeting for placing your name on the ballot. I hope many of you will run for office.

Since this will also be the start of a new year, and especially the 60th Anniversary of the beginning of the war in Korea, you should make plans to attend some of the events at our 2010 Annual Association Membership Meeting, which will be held in Washington, D.C. Plans are being made now for events in both Korea and in the United States.

No firm plans have yet appeared for me to report on, other than I know plans are being studied and coordinated by the 60th Commemorative Groups in place in Korea and the United States. Many other countries that had armed forces involved are also in the planning stages.

We are sure that our number of members will be increased for our revisit program during the 2010 time period. The revisit program will also be better, because many events will be increased in Korea so they can fully honor the veterans who will be invited to attend these scheduled events during their revisit trip.

I inform you of a possible request from Korea next year for the KWVA to select some of our members' grandchildren to travel to Korea to be hosted during their stay. With a huge membership, and with many members having two or more grandchildren, the only way we can be fair in our selection is to have a drawing and select only one grandchild per member.

The grandchild will require a passport. So, if you think you would like to have yours entered in a drawing, I suggest you arrange for your grandchild to get a passport now. If the offer does not come through, or the grandchild is not picked during the drawing, the passport will still be necessary should they ever decide to leave the country.

You must have a passport to get back into the United States when you take a cruise or fly on vacation to another country, so it will not be a waste of money or time for a passport to be obtained now. The Canadians sent 20 grandchildren this year, who ranged from 16 to 22 years old. They enjoyed the trip and had a very good time meeting others on the trip. I suspect that if we are not ready to make a selection and the grandchildren have to suddenly obtain a passport, there will be many disappointed grandchildren and members who will be sorry they did not prepare for this.

Many times we are informed at the last minute that some type of requirement to honor our membership has suddenly come to light, and we do not have time to react and still be fair to all our members.

*William Mac Swain,  
KWVA President*

Mini Recruiting and Membership Report (AS of 9/30/2009)		
Recruiting Results	New Members*	Last Year (10/09/2008)
This Month (October)	22	17
This Year To Date	602	681
*2008 Average: 71 New Members per Month		
Total Membership Count	(2009)	Last Year (10/09/2008)
Active Voting Members	17,085	16,474
Active Members	17,472	16,881
456 Members reported deceased 2009 to date; 705 Members reported deceased in 2008		
<i>May they rest in peace.</i>		

THE GRAYBEARDS DEADLINES	
Articles to be published in the <i>The Graybeards</i> must be sent to the editor no later than the 15th day of the first month of that issue. —Editor.	
Jan-Feb .....	Jan 15
Mar-Apr .....	Mar 15
May-June .....	May 15
July-Aug .....	July 15
Sept-Oct .....	Sept 15
Nov-Dec .....	Nov 15

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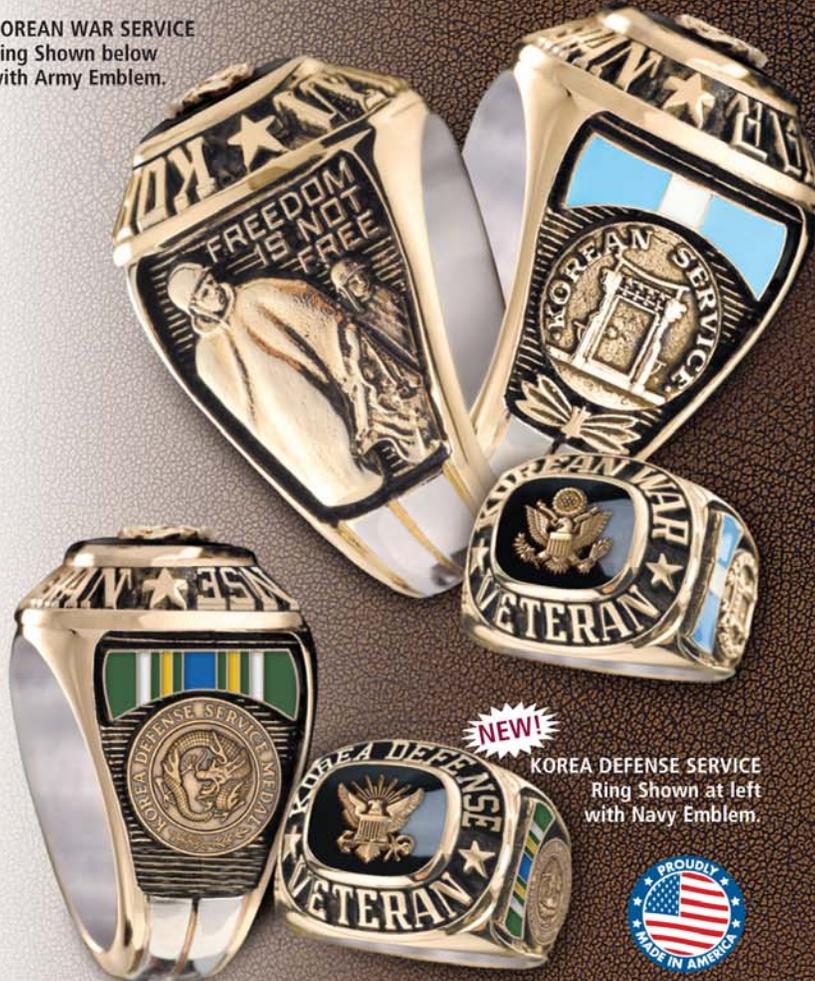


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## Private conversations and general talks©

SgtMaj Orville (“Ed”) Gamble, USMC (Ret) and his wife of 70 years, Maree, died in an automobile accident in Mississippi on 15 July 2009. Ed and Maree were good friends of ours (my wife Betsy and me). The deaths were tragic, and we miss them. But, the fact that we even got the opportunity to become friends demonstrates one of the most significant benefits of an organization like the KWVA: the chance to form friendships with people we might not have been able to meet under different circumstances.

Ed, the author of *Boot Camp and Beyond*, which he asked me to edit, outranked me considerably. He was a three-war Marine: WWII, Korea, and Vietnam—and true gentleman. “Perfect attendance,” he called it.

Our “careers” overlapped. He joined the Marine Corps in 1942, and retired in 1973. I served from 1958 to 1962. So, we were in the same Corps at the same time, but our paths never crossed. Even if we had met one another, we most likely would not have become friends.

Ed outranked me from 1958-62, as did just about everyone else in the Marine Corps. So, we would have been NCO and subordinate, rather than friends. That was not the case by the time we met in the late 1990s.

We were both members of the Second Marine Division Association (SMDA) at the time. I was the editor of *Follow Me*, the Association’s newsletter. He was at one point its President (1999-2000). Betsy and I often attended the Division’s Birthday Celebration, which is held annually in late January/early February. (The First and Second Marine Divisions were both formed on 1 February 1941; both Divisions celebrate their shared birthday at Oceanside, CA and Camp Lejeune, NC, respectively.)

One year (I don’t remember which exactly) the SMDA’s Mississippi Chapter contingent at the Birthday Reunion invited us to go with them to a restaurant, either because we looked lonely or they wanted to find out if real “Yankees” actually had horns. (Don’t laugh! I went through Parris Island in 1958

## Fifty years ago the only Generals I knew up close and personal were the ones who permeated the military, e.g., General Confusion and General Chaos.

with some recruits from unnamed southern states who really believed that we “Yankees” had horns. We did, I confessed: in our cars. (Just to clarify, the states really are named. I am just not naming them here.)

Ed and Maree, who lived in Madison, Mississippi then, were part of that group. We had a great night. That was the night we got a true introduction to “southern hospitality”—and it marked the beginning of our friendship with Ed and Maree. It grew as the years went by, as we met at various Association functions and kept in touch via phone calls and email. That began our friendship that only civilian status and association membership made possible.

Sergeant Majors and Corporals on active duty simply did not become friends in the Marine Corps—or in any other branch of the service, as far as I know. (As far as I can remember, Sergeant Majors didn’t have any friends—not even other Sergeant Majors.) Nor did NCOs and officers, as a rule. Military protocol did not allow that. Association protocol does.

All of us in military associations can fraternize with one another as equals now. Privates can have general conversations with officers and generals can have private conversations with petty people—chief petty people Navy and Coast Guard veterans (CPOs), that is.

I have had some great opportunities over the years as a military association member and editor to fraternize with people I would not have been able to approach in my active

duty days. In the process, I have met some fine folks and learned a lot more about the inner workings of the military and military history than I ever would have otherwise. Who cares now what rank we held in our active duty days?

Today, we are all working toward common goals as association members—and equals. Granted, we worked together toward common goals in our active duty days, too, but on a higher level, e.g., national defense, saving countries, etc. Then, rank mattered. Now, it does not.

I number among my current friends former Corporals, Sergeants, Captains, Colonels—and even a couple Generals. Fifty years ago the only Generals I knew up close and personal were the ones who permeated the military, e.g., General Confusion and General Chaos. Today, I have a passing acquaintance with real-life Generals.

It is sad that Betsy and I have lost two good friends in Ed and Maree Gamble. But, we will cherish their memory and remember them always for their friendship. Our friendship epitomizes that major benefit provided by military associations of which I spoke earlier: the opportunity to create lasting bonds with people with whom we would not have—could not have—fraternized during our active duty days.

Cherish that benefit, which is the lifeblood of any military association.

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### Medals

For medals etc. that a vet is entitled to, write to: **National Personnel Records Center, 9700 Page Ave., St. Louis, MO 63132-5100** or you can fax (314) 538-4175 or call (314) 538-4200 during working hours. Their web site is <[www.nara.gov/regional/imp/htm1](http://www.nara.gov/regional/imp/htm1)>



# Chapter 4 – Delaware

Whoa! Okay, there is no Chapter 4 in Delaware. As Ed Pickhaver, Past Commander of Capt. Paul Dill #2 [CID 12], Delaware, explains, "It's a non-existent chapter that is a place of honor for deceased members of Delaware."

Dave Gillian, an active member of CID 12 who recently relocated from Delaware to New Mexico, accorded Delaware veterans another honor recently. He wrote, "These photos were taken when I resolved to climb Guadalupe Peak, the highest peak in Texas at 8,749 feet, in honor of our chapter, especially, in honor of the members of DE Chapter 4."

He explained farther that, "The sign reading 'Korean War Veterans of Del' is pictured by a craggy outcropping at the summit of Guadalupe Peak. The other pictures will put this shot in perspective, showing the magnificent vistas from the peak."

Gillian noted that particularly prominent is El Capitan, standing 200 feet below Guadalupe, visible for many miles and a key navigation marker for pioneers headed west. During its short life, the Butterfield Stage Line also had a change station near the foot of El Capitan and would turn toward the west after clearing Guadalupe Pass.

El Paso, Texas is 110 miles distant, and, he continued, "I'm told that on a clear day, when using binoculars, a person can make out the city."

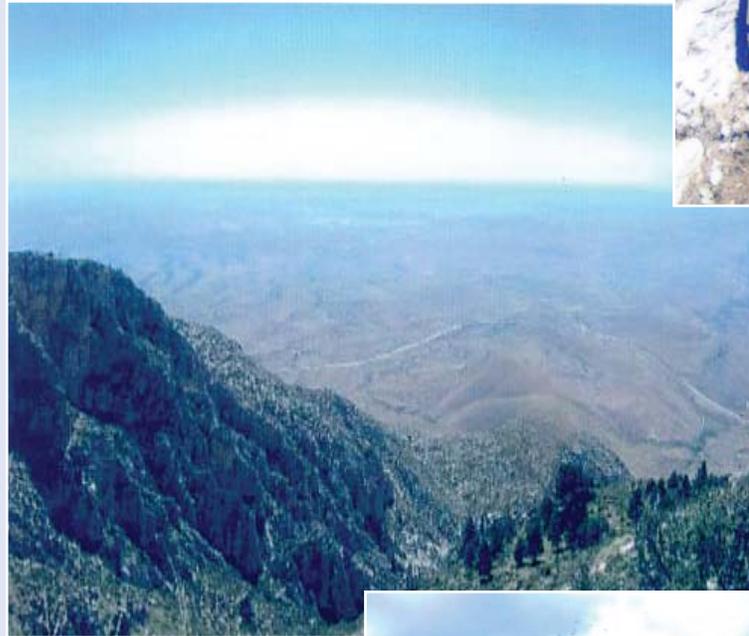
As Gillian concluded, "These photos will confirm that Delaware's 'Koreans' have reached the summit of Texas. I have to tell you that it was an honor to climb in memory of our comrades."

Thanks to Ed Pickhaver, 10 Lasalle Ave., New Castle, DE 19720, for sending us this story.



▲ The Korean veterans sign on Guadalupe Peak, the highest point in Texas, at 8,749 feet

▼ West Texas from the summit of Guadalupe Peak

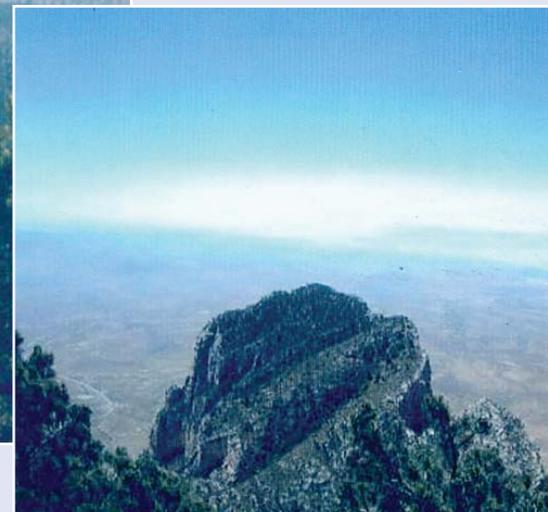


On the approach to Guadalupe Peak, one of the scariest sections of the climb ▶

On the march toward Guadalupe Peak ▼



▶ A view of El Capitan, 200 feet below Guadalupe Peak



# Tour News

**Revisit Korea**

## 60th Anniversary Commemorations

The week of the 59th Anniversary of the Inchon Landing, 15 September, Major General "Jack" Singlaub, USA (ret) and I represented all U.S. Korean War veterans at a series of high level meetings in Seoul. The purpose was to get a feel for the level of planning for the anniversaries commencing in 2010. We met with both U.S. and ROK committees and were very pleased with what we learned.

The ROK government is going to go all out to thank the veterans and their families for their sacrifices during the war. Their sacrifices kept their country free from communism and provided them with stable security, enabling them to rebuild from the ravages of war.

There will be four major commemorations in 2010, commencing with the anniversary of the invasion 25 June. This will be followed with the Pusan Perimeter, the Inchon Landing, the Liberation of Seoul, and the Northern Winter Campaign commemorations. (The 2011-2013 plans are still on the drawing board.)

At this juncture, the actual 2010 dates have not been finalized. However, we do know that the annual quotas will be doubled and the eligibility restrictions for participation will be reduced. We also know that through the persuasion of the Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MPVA), Minister Yang Kim, an increased emphasis will be placed on the education of the children and grandchildren of Korean War veterans in Korea! As the paraphrased saying goes, "Those who don't study history, may be doomed to repeat it!"

Inside *The Graybeards* is an application for the commemoration tours. Fill it out and return it ASAP. Those who are pre-registered will have the "Right of first refusal" once we receive the actual Revisit dates from KVA, Seoul. (Your name will be entered by the date the application is received).

We expect these tours to be oversubscribed, so please don't hesitate! Send the application now, so you will not be left behind. June 2010 is only eight (8) months away!

If you need more information, you can call us at 703-590-1295 or email us at JWiedhahn@miltours.com.

*Warren Wiedhahn  
KWVA USA Revisit Coordinator*

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## MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

*By Frank Cohee*

Contrary to all the pros and cons about the Korean War Veterans Membership Directory, it has been a huge success. Those of you who found fault with this project and who have decided not to participate will not only be surprised at the results but will regret your decision.

Here are some statistics as of the end of August, 2009. (Incidentally, if you decide to participate, call 1-800-877-6554, which is the number for Customer Service at Harris Connect.)

- 17,907 members have called in to update their information during the phoning process. Using this number as the base, the sales rate is about 51% (outstanding).

- Sales

Regular .....	710
Collector's Edition .....	4,960
CD ROM.....	111
Regular/CD ROM .....	41
Collector's/CD ROM .....	1,430
Tribute Print .....	1,825
Tribute Print/Membership .....	11
<b>Total Orders .....</b>	<b>9,088</b>

I still have not had a good explanation of what the above breakout means, but I think the Collector's Edition is the hard copy version. If that is correct, then the KWVA will receive at least \$24,800—if not more. And what did it cost the KWVA? "0," except as I previously mentioned, my time.

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**... we are offering inactive members a special membership dues cost of only \$10 to be reinstated as a member for one year.**

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If you recall, there was an article in the Jul-Aug *Graybeards* on page 7 (continued on page 31) that I wrote about the Directory. One of the

benefits I mentioned was that we are offering inactive members a special membership dues cost of only \$10 to be reinstated as a member for one year. As of the end of Aug 2009, 1,034 inactive members have taken advantage of this offer. The KWVA has received checks from Harris Connect in the amount of \$10,394. Again what did it cost the KWVA? "0"!

I do not have any numbers yet, but we discovered several bad email addresses, several bad postal addresses, and a few members who were deceased but who were still being sent copies of *The Graybeards*. Again, the cost to the KWVA was "0."

And many of you think this was a fraud, a scam, or too expensive, etc!!!

Lastly, I have received about 200-300 phone calls about the Directory, both pro and con. But, some members have taken their time to call and thank me for such a great idea. At least one has taken the time to write me a personal note to say how much he appreciates being able to participate in the project.

# Ask the Secretary



**Frank Cohee**

Following are examples of some of the articles that I have received during the preceding two months. I have included my response where appropriate:

**Example 1:**

I am trying to obtain any photographs or articles to go into a scrapbook for a gift I am creating for my husband. His father served in the Korean War. Could you please direct me to the person or department that might assist me? I am not seeking any privileged information, only information that has been made public, especially photographs and articles. I am limited in what I have to offer. I can provide his name, date of birth, date of death, residence at time of service (no military service number).

Thank you for any help you can provide.

**My Response:**

Go to our website, [www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org). From the home page, click on "Photo Galleries of KWVA Events... It is at the bottom on the left side of your screen. Just below that is another link "For a larger slide show." Both of them have some excellent pictures.

If you want to make them larger, just click on the picture. As for articles, from the home page click on "Korean War...A Brief Account."

**Example 2:**

I'm 52, but dad fought in Korea as medic. Steve Rosa. my heart hurts for all. Maybe a few nukes would have saved many, but then Russia. *May God bless all I'm sorry as I cry. You poor bastards Thank you forever in my heart.*

**My Response:**

I did not have any.

**Example 3:**

I was wondering if you knew of a source where I can find out if my dad was in the Korean War? He always says that he was but my mother insists he wasn't. He even showed pictures to me where they look photo shopped so I don't believe

him. Is there a website where I can enter his name and d.o.b. and get this information? Or a book that lists everyone who ever served in it?

Thank you for getting back to me. Parks is my husbands name, the family is from NY originally but it's probably a common last name! I'm not sure what you mean by serial number. I do not have that information. All I can tell you is his name, birth date, and residence at that time. Just incase you are able to help me with this information I will pass it along. If not, then I do appreciate you getting back to me, that was kind of you.

Albert Mangarelli Jr. 8/16/36 (which I believe makes him too young to have been in that war if I am not mistaken) lived in Cranston , RI .

**My Response:**

At his age he certainly was not in the Korean War. However, he could have been a Korean Service veteran who served in Korea after 1955. He has never been a member of our Association and I could not find him listed anywhere.

One way that you can find out for sure if he was in Korea is to go to our website...and click on: "How to Request Military Service Records or Prove Military Service." Just follow the instructions that come up on that page. You will receive a DD Form 214 that will list his Korean service—if he had any.

**Example 4:**

I am sorry to have blitzed you with some of the problems being caused by a few dissident Veterans who are maligning others who have done voluntary work for Korea's Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs. It is a very sad thing.

Today I wonder if you can confirm this for me? To my knowledge - I have not participated but I am sure that it occurs - on Veterans Day the KVAA participates in ceremonies in Washington that include placing a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and also placing a wreath at the Korean War Veterans Memorial on the Mall. I think that I am correct in this.

Do you know whether Veterans Day services are also held at the many other Korean War memorials around the United

States? Is there one (or more) in New York and is a Veterans Day service held there?

I know that in Canada the Korea Veterans Association of Canada always hold a service at the Monument to Canadian Fallen in Ottawa, before participating in the national memorial service at the Canadian Cenotaph adjacent to the Canadian Parliament.

I am also wondering if a service is held at the Cemetery in Hawaii. I am sure that this must be done and will research it. If you know, however, I would appreciate whatever you might tell me.

I won't quote you (unless you don't mind being quoted), just want confirmation - although on this Labor Day weekend you may be enjoying family on a holiday and not toiling in front of a computer like me.

I am preparing an article today for the Korean Veteran (Korea Vet News) underscoring that it is appropriate for Korean War Veterans and their organizations to hold ceremonies and services at their national and regional Korean War Memorials on November 11.

The Korean Government holds such a service at the United Nations Memorial Wall (lists more than 40,000 names of UN Fallen, 90% from US) in the United Nations Memorial Cemetery in Busan.

You asked if there are events in Canada that you and your comrades might participate in. On November 10 the National Capital Unit of KVA Canada will hold a service in Ottawa at 9 p.m. It coincides with the 11 a.m. November 11 service held by the Korean Government at the UN Wall in Korea. Canada's Minister of Veterans Affairs participates in the Ottawa service.

**My Response**

Yes, on Veterans Day we do participate in placing a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and also at the KWVA Memorial.

Yes, Veterans Day Services are also held at the various memorials.

Yes there are several Memorials in New York. Go to our website....From the home page, click on "Korean War Memorials." I am sure memorial services are held at more than one of those.

While I am not sure about Hawaii, my guess is that they do have ceremonies.

**Example 5:**

I have a brother who's a Korean War veteran. I don't know if he ever applied for or received a state bonus. He lives in Pennsylvania and I'm not sure if that state authorized a bonus.

My question is: Does the KWVA have a listing of states that authorized/approved or provided a Korean War bonus? Can I get a copy of the list...or can it be published in *The Graybeards*??

I'm a Vietnam Vet and received a bonus from Connecticut when I was released after the war.

Appreciate any information you can provide.

**My Response:**

We do not have a list of the states that authorized a Korean War bonus. I wish we did, but I have not been able to locate one. According to the information that I was able to get from the Google search site, PA did give a bonus. See below:

- Korean War Bonus Administrative Files, 1951-1972
- World War II and Korean War Bonus Related Correspondence, 1956-1963 (folder 15)
- Korean War Bonus News Releases, 1959-1963 (folder 16)
- Korean War Bonus Statistics, 1952-1972 (folder 17)
- Korean War Bonus Administrative File, 1951-1972 (folder 18)
- Korean War Bonus Legislation, 1953-1961 (folder 19)
- Korean War Grave Markers, 1954-1955 (folder 20)
- Korean War Bonus Administrative Forms, 1957-1959 (folder 21)

*EDITOR'S NOTE: We may be able to compile such a list if KWVA members from every state would let us know if their state authorized a Korean War bonus. Just send us any information you have regarding your state. We will try to compile a list.*

*Send the information to Korean War Bonus Editor, The Graybeards, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.*

# CALL FOR ELECTIONS

The membership is hereby notified that elections will be held in the spring of 2010 for the following National KWVA positions:

- President, 1st Vice President, and 2nd Vice President for the term 2010-2012
- The offices of four Directors for the years of 2010-2013

No later than February 15, 2010 any regular members in good standing of the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA) seeking to run for the aforementioned offices shall make their intentions known to the Chairman of the Nominations/Election Committee, Richard E. Brown Sr., in writing, using the following format:

**Requirements:**

**Applicants must:**

- A. Present proof of service by submitting a separate signed Official Membership Application Form showing eligible service years and a statement releasing the application form for verification by the Nominations/Election Committee (no fee required).
- B. Present a current photograph suitable for publication in *The Graybeards*.
- C. Submit a letter with the following:
  - 1) Your intent to run for an office and the office sought.
  - 2) A resume of your qualifications for this office, stating any experience that will be of benefit to the Association.
  - 3) Your current mailing address, telephone number and KWVA membership number.
  - 4) This letter will be limited to approximately one typed page.
  - 5) A statement that you will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and that you understand that two unexcused absences could be used for your removal from office.
- D. Sign a statement that your dues are

current through the whole term of the office that you are seeking. Payment of delinquent dues shall not be retroactive for the purpose of establishing eligibility to run for office within the Association.

E. Send the above items by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Nominations/Election Committee Chairman not later than February 15, 2010.

Nominees are requested to contact the Nominations/Election Committee Chairman if they have any questions.

Application and questions are to be addressed to:

Richard E. Brown Sr.,  
Nominations/Election Committee  
Chairman  
2307 Gring Dr.  
West Lawn, PA 19609  
Ph: 610-670-2886  
Rebpil@comcast.net

**The process is as follows:**

- The Nominations/Election Committee certifies the candidates that are qualified to stand for office.
- The declarations are sent to the Editor of *The Graybeards* for publication in the March-April 2010 edition.
- The ballots are also published in that edition.
- Members then cast their ballots by June 10th.
- A CPA then counts the ballots and reports the results to the Nominations/Election Committee.

**NOTE:** The Bylaws, which are currently being revised, may change some of the requirements. As of this time, the above requirements are in effect.

The November - December edition of *The Graybeards* will also include the requirements which, if changed at the Annual Membership Meeting in October, will show the modification of the requirements to be sent to the Nominations/Election Committee Chairman.

*Frank Cohee, National Secretary*

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Call for the Meeting: KWVA Website and *The Graybeards*, Mar-Apr 2009 and May-Jun 2009, Letter from the President, Mar 13, 2009.

**Place of Announced Meeting::**

Sheraton Crystal City Hotel, Crystal City, VA, 1800 Jefferson Davis Drive Highway, Arlington, VA 22202

**Call to Order:**

- President Mac Swain called the meeting to order at 0902 hours.
- The Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation were led by President Mac Swain.
- Administrative Announcements, Adoption of Agenda and Rules of Decorum & Debate were presented by President Mac Swain.
- Director McHugh made a motion that the Rules of Decorum & Debate be adopted, seconded by Director Lawhon. The motion carried without objection.
- Director Thompson made a motion that the agenda be adopted with any necessary additions, seconded by Director Brodeur. The motion carried without objection.

**Roll Call and Introductions:**

Secretary Cohee called the roll.

William Mac Swain, President-Here

James Ferris, 1st Vice President-Here

Robert Banker, 2nd Vice President-Here

Frank Cohee, Secretary-Here

J Tilford Jones, Treasurer-Here

Leo Agnew, Director-Absent

Charlotte Ayers, Director-Absent

Jeff Brodeur, Director-Here

Luther Dappen, Director-Here

Lee Dauster, Director-Absent

Marvin Dunn, Director-Absent

Thomas Edwards, Director-Absent

George Lawhon, Director-Here

Tom McHugh, Director-Here

Luther Rice, Director-Absent

Glen Thompson, Director-Here

Ezra Williams, Director-Here

Directors Charlotte Ayers, Lee Dauster, Marvin Dunn, and Luther Rice were absent but were excused by a majority vote of the Board. Directors Leo Agnew and Tom Edwards submitted their resignations, primarily for health reasons. Their resignations were accepted by the Board.

- Declaration of a Quorum was affirmed by Secretary Cohee.
- President Mac Swain asked for a motion to approve Richard E Brown Sr., the fifth highest vote receiver in the recent election, to serve out Director Leo Agnew's vacated two-year remaining term Director's position. Director Lawhon made a motion that Mr. Brown be appointed. Director Brodeur seconded and the motion was approved unanimously by the Board.
- President Mac Swain asked for a motion to approve James

Fountain, the sixth highest vote receiver in the recent election, to serve out Director Tom Edwards' vacated one-year remaining term Director's position. Director Lawhon made a motion that Mr. Fountain be appointed. Director McHugh seconded. The motion carried with no objection.

- President Mac Swain introduced Billy J. Scott as our Judge Advocate. Virginia Department Commander James Jones and Missouri Department Commander Frank (Ezra) Williams were in attendance, as were Chapter Commanders Warren Weidhahn, Chapter 100, Charles Reed, Chapter 33, and Steve Szekley, Chapter 112. Steve is also the Chairman of the Ethics and Grievance Committee. Also present and recognized was one of our founders, Joe McCallion, from Massachusetts, Chapter 300, along with Jake Feaster, Assistant Secretary and Supervisor of Membership Management, Jim Doppelhammer, our webmaster, and Vickie Garza, the court reporter.

**Approval/Ratification for Minutes of Previous Meetings:**

- Secretary Cohee referenced minutes of previous Board of Directors Meeting, Norfolk, VA, 10-24-2008, printed in *The Graybeards*, November-December 2008 edition. A motion was made by Director Brodeur that the minutes be approved. Director Brown seconded. The motion was carried with no objections.
- Minutes of previous Board of Directors Business without a Meeting, 01-05-2009, printed in *The Graybeards*, March - April 2009 edition. Director Thompson made a motion that the minutes be approved, seconded by Director Brodeur and approved by the Board without objection.
- Minutes of previous Board of Directors Business without a Meeting, 02-27-2009, printed in *The Graybeards*, May-June 2009 edition. Director McHugh made a motion that the minutes be approved, seconded by Director Brodeur and approved by the Board without objection.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Treasurer Jones commented that all members of the Board of Directors should have received a final financial statement from our CPA and also the audit report for 2008. He asked if there were any questions. There were no questions, so he provided a little insight into the highlights of 2009 so far.

- As of June 30th, there was \$15,528 in the checking account and \$80,105 in the savings account.
- In March of this year the investments at AG Edwards were valued at \$259,922 and on June 30th they were valued at \$284,898.
- Through June of this year membership dues amounted to \$119,982. At the end of June 2008, they amounted to \$179,609, a difference of \$60,000. This deficit in membership renewals is hurting the KWVA.

Director Thompson made a motion to accept the report of the Treasurer, seconded by Director Brodeur. The motion was carried without objection.

**Old Business:**

- President Mac Swain commented that while the current CPA has done a great job for the KWVA, the CPA costs are getting higher and higher with him in Louisiana and the Treasurer in

Texas. He and Treasurer Jones see the necessity to have somebody closer. There have been discussions with a CPA that is right in Dallas with the Treasurer. Accordingly, the President requested confirmation from the Board to give him the okay to change the CPA if he so desires. Director Brown made a motion to allow the President to change the CPA if desired, seconded by First Vice President Ferris. The motion was carried without objection.

- The President also reported that he has sent in a report to Congress, along with the audit from the auditor, who is also located in Louisiana. The KWVA will probably stay with that particular auditor because we need somebody who is different. However, should the CPA be changed, the auditor may also be changed at a later date. This would preclude having to ship the financial records back and forth between the CPA and the Treasurer and the Auditor.

The report was required by the Federal Charter and was sent to the lady who is in charge of Immigrations and Home Security in the Judicial Committee. It was sent by return receipt, which has not yet been returned. The report contained a lot of information from National VAVS Director J.D. Randolph, who essentially reported that the KWVA had 499 volunteers last year who worked in the VA hospitals for 47,976 hours and saved the VA approximately \$943,640. It makes a lot better report saying that the KWVA, as an organization, is doing good work for the Veterans Administration.

- The auditor will probably be replaced along with the CPA. But, President Mac Swain did not think this was something that he could not do on his own. Nevertheless, he asked if anybody would make a motion to authorize him to change the auditor also. Director Lawhon made a motion for the President to enforce his authority per the KWVA bylaws to protect and defend the KWVA, seconded by Director McHugh, and passed with no objections.

- President Mac Swain discussed the status of the Department of Arizona in detail. He went to their Department meeting and talked to them personally about complying with the KWVA bylaws. After that meeting they gave him their assurance that they were going to change their bylaws and fall in line with the KWVA. Subsequently they had a meeting and informed Secretary Cohee that they were not going to comply with the KWVA Bylaws. They later sent a letter to the President stating that they were not going to adhere to the KWVA's Bylaws. Director Lawhon made a motion to approve and send a letter written by President Mac Swain to all KWVA members in Arizona on why the existing Department was having its Charter pulled, seconded by Director Brodeur and passed with no objections.

### Reunion Committee Report:

- Second Vice President Banker reported that this is a reminder that October 24, 2009 will start the KWVA's three-day annual membership meeting at the Westin Hotel in Irving, TX. Arrangements for a banquet speaker are still in the works. We are waiting on House of Representative Sam Johnson to decide if he can attend.

### New Business:

- Secretary Cohee presented a request from the Department of New Jersey to withdraw the Charter from Chapter 130 for numerous reasons. Director Lawhon made a motion in response to the Department of New Jersey that the Association withdraw the Charter of Chapter 130 and notification be sent to all known members of that Chapter, seconded by Director Fountain and passed with no objections.

- Secretary Cohee presented a request to form a Department of Massachusetts. Five Chapters were listed on the petition: 36, 37, 187, 294 and 300. Three of the Chapters, 36, 187 and 294, are not accredited Chapters. The Secretary recommended that the request be denied. Director Lawhon made a motion that the request to form a Department of Massachusetts be denied, seconded by Director McHugh and passed with no objections.

- President Mac Swain reported that he has received from the Lone Star Chapter their Charter and information that they no longer want to belong to the KWVA. Basically, their withdrawal was a unanimous decision of the Chapter's Board of Directors and over 90% of the membership voted that they should withdraw from the KWVA and concentrate on local activities. Director McHugh made a motion that the request to withdraw be accepted, seconded by Director Brown and passed with no objections.

- The next item on the agenda was a report on additional insurance that was to be presented by Director Dauster. Since he was unable to attend the meeting, his report was postponed until the annual membership meeting in October 2009.

- First Vice President Ferris made a motion that in the best interests of the KWVA that the mileage allowance for travel be reduced from 50 cents per mile to 40 cents per mile beginning the first of August, 2009, seconded by Director Brown and passed without objection.

- Secretary Cohee presented a request from Past President Coon to be reinstated as an active member of the KWVA. Nine of the 21 Ohio Chapters sent letters requesting that he be reinstated to full membership. Director Lawhon made a motion that Past President Coon not be reinstated, seconded by First Vice President Ferris. The vote was nine to one to not reinstate.

### Bylaws / Standard Procedures Manual Committee:

- Director Lawhon, Chairman of the Bylaws/Standard Procedure Manual Committee, reviewed the revised bylaws in detail, essentially word by word. He commented that the Bylaws Committee consisting of himself, Directors Ayers, Dauster, Rice and Thompson and Assistant Secretary Feaster, gave unanimous consent to what he would present. The changes as approved by the Board of Directors are set forth on pages 12-21 of the July-August 2009 edition of *The Graybeards*.

Therefore, due to lack of space, those changes will not be repeated here but are hereby incorporated by reference to that article for review by the membership before being ratified at the October 26 Annual Association Membership Meeting.

The revised Standard Procedure Manual is still under review and will be presented to the Board for approval in October 2009. There is no requirement for this document to be approved by the General Membership.

**Membership Committee Report**

Director Brodeur, Membership Committee Chairman, reported that as of this date we have 440 new members. This time last year we had 527. Overall membership is now at 16,468. At this time last year we had 16,883. So far this year we have had 354 members pass away. Last year it was 705.

**Ethics and Grievance (E & G) Committee Report**

• The open meeting was closed and the Board was in executive session from 1515 to 1601 hours. All investigations of the E & G Committee are confidential. The information obtained is shared only with the Members of the Committee and the Judge Advocate.

**Database Orientation**

• Jake Feaster, Assistant Secretary and Supervisor of Membership Management, gave a brief orientation on how to make the best use of the KWVA's data base. He wanted to ensure that all of the officers and directors, especially the new ones, were totally familiar with the KWVA information database and password websites. Some were not. There were numerous questions and time was of the essence, so much of his presentation had to be postponed. It will be on the Board of Directors Meeting Agenda for the October 2009 meeting.

**Installation of New Directors**

• President Mac Swain gave the oath of office to Directors Brown, Dappen, Fountain, Thompson and Williams, and declared them to be installed to the KWVA Board of Directors for their term of office.

Motion to adjourn the General Board meeting with prayer and Salute to the Flag

• Director McHugh made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Director Banker. President Mac Swain led us in prayer and the Salute to the Flag. The meeting was adjourned at 1621 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

*Frank Cohee, National Secretary*

## Were there POW in Korea before the war began?

One of our members was on a recent 14-day cruise to Alaska during which he met a gentleman who identified himself as a former Navy Corpsman who had been assigned to a detachment of Marines prior to the onset of the Korean War. The gentleman revealed that he and the Marines were captured and held as prisoners in Korea until the armistice was signed in 1953. Can that be true?

Do any of our readers have knowledge of U.S. Marines--or any other American service members--being captured by the North Koreans prior to the beginning of the "official" hostilities and held as prisoners until the truce was signed? If there were, why was the event "hushed up?" And how was it kept secret?

Please let us know your thoughts on this situation via "Feedback Editor," *The Graybeards*, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

# A Lovely Concert

*By Ben Allen*

**K**orea, the winter of '50 and '51: the 24th Infantry Division was on the front on the western side of North Korea. The Chinese, who had joined the North Korean troops, were creating havoc with the Marines at the Chosen Reservoir on the east coast. The 27 British Brigade had joined us; one of their units was protecting our right flank. This unit was the famed Black Watch Scottish Regiment. They were indeed welcomed by us, as they had arrived with a great combat history.

We had repulsed the last Chinese attack and were waiting for the next one, which we were sure would come. The Chinese had demonstrated a need to blow bugles and trumpets preceding any attack. We supposed it was an effort to bolster their courage. But, our courage was not bolstered by these noises. They kept us on edge and awake.

**It started with a tremendous blast of sound at about 3 a.m. We all bolted up straight upon hearing what had to be the sound of death on the march.**

The first night after the Scots joined us we were all awake, nervous, and jumpy. Several of our troops had fired their weapons in response to any noise they heard. The weather was getting colder, and we were

wearing everything we had in the attempt to keep from freezing. We were all deep in our foxholes in the futile attempt to catch a little sleep and some much needed rest. Then, the noise began.

It started with a tremendous blast of sound at about 3 a.m. We all bolted up straight upon hearing what had to be the sound of death on the march. It was a sound that is very hard to describe. The skirling started low and went very high on the scale. Each time the noise resumed it raised the hackles on the backs of our necks and invited cold, uncontrollable shivers down each of our backs.

The wailing continued. Soon, more of these unknown ghostly entities joined in, until they became a chorus of loud noises which we were sure preceded the arrival of Death himself. We were certain that what we were hearing were the Banshees from Hell signaling the next Chinese attack.

Suddenly, at about 4 a.m., the noise ceased. The only thing we could hear was our collective teeth chattering. In a couple hours it started to get light in the east, and we began to believe that we might survive the night.

Later, while I was trying to digest a whole can of "C" rations for breakfast, the Scottish liaison officer came by to coordinate defenses. He stopped to pass the time of day with my platoon and commented in his hard Scottish brogue, "How 'ja like the concert?"

I was in a really bad frame of mind as I answered, "What damn concert?"

With a big smile, he explained, "Well, the lads played their pipes last night. Didn't ye hear it?"

The young Captain never knew just how close he was to death. This had been my never-to-be-forgotten introduction to the Scottish bagpipes.

*Ben R. Allen, 4734 N. Calle Santa Cruz  
Prescott Valley, AZ 86314-5125*

## REVIEW and STATUS

## KWVA Bylaws Committee Project For 2009

## Revision of the KWVA Standard Procedure Manual and Bylaws

## REVIEW

In the previous edition of *The Graybeards* (Jul-Aug, pp. 30-31), you were given the Project status as it was on July 15th. At that time, the Bylaws Committee's work had been completed on the proposed amendment to the Bylaws and submitted as an agenda item for the Board of Directors Meeting planned for July 25-26 in Arlington, Virginia. We did not know when that article was prepared what the results would be, but we were given the opportunity, after the Arlington Meeting, to report them in the same magazine (Graybeards, pp. 12-20).

The report, "Proposed Changes to the KWVA Bylaws," was printed in compliance with the requirement in the Bylaws that the Membership be notified of all proposed changes approved by the KWVA Board of Directors. At Arlington, the Board voted to approve the changes proposed by the 2009 Bylaws Committee. The approved changes will be put before the Membership for ratification at the 2009 Annual Association Membership Meeting, scheduled for October 24-26 in Dallas Fort Worth, Texas.

#### A few words about the Board of Directors Meeting at Arlington

The proposed Bylaws amendment was reviewed, starting with the charter. There were no changes to the charter, nor were any required by the Board. We began with the articles. The ten articles were reviewed and voted on serially, one at a time. Then, the whole amendment with all the changes would be voted on. Opposition came to Article I, Section 3., Dues, from those who didn't want firm affirmation of the requirement for all members to pay their annual dues.

They claimed that although 'all must pay was fair,' they had made a 'deal,' an agreement in October 2005. Since the 2005 Bylaws didn't spell out the 'deal' or the agreement so that a member was not privy to either, they could not use any reasonable justification beyond that, except to claim it could not be enforced.

It was pointed out to them that their claim was a self-fulfilling prophesy, and since they never tried to enforce it, it was not enforceable. A vote was called on Article I. It passed, 7 for, 3 against. The remaining articles were reviewed at a faster rate, with some changes

recommended and voted on. We then came to a vote on the whole amendment with its changes. The Board voted 10 for, 0 against.

This is what is required to be a member of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc, to meet the obligations laid upon its members, and obtain all of the rights due a member in good standing.

#### The requirement that you be a Korean War veteran, eligible to apply for membership

If your membership application is approved, comply with the Bylaws and the Standard Procedure Manual, which require that all regular members pay their annual dues.

Have an understanding of the obvious: that the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc., consists of ALL, which includes all members at large, and all the chapters and departments. There is no such thing as a distinct and separate entity, called 'National,' as there seems to be in the minds of some.

When 'National' is called out, my assumption is that what is being discussed are the Association officers, elected and appointed, who have volunteered to do service for their KWVA brothers.

#### Compliance to the rules, as expressed in the KWVA Bylaws and Standard Procedure Manual

The right to act, speak and vote on KWVA business and matters, only if you are a member of the Association.

**Meeting your obligations as an Association KWVA Officer, inherent in a sworn oath to uphold the Bylaws—** which brings us to how you enforce the Bylaws requirement for all to pay their annual Association dues:

Install in your chapter a rule in your Bylaws that the Chapter will take care of those who can't pay. That way, the Association membership records will reflect the same roster, and what is due the Association. Fundraisers are commonly used to support that.

Card the attendees at all meetings and events, allowing in only those who are members in good standing.

Nothing new: that's the way most Veteran Service Organizations do it. If it is to have a healthy future, the KWVA, Inc, must make up

its collective mind if it's going to live by the rules, with no 'deals' or side agreements, or if it's going to be a casual organization, where it is allowed to do as you please.

## STATUS

Please understand that as this is written, I do not know what the Membership will do at the meeting in Dallas/Fort Worth. Hopefully, the vote will be positive, and the proposed amendment will be ratified.

Let me thank all of you in the Association Membership who participated in the Project. From its conception, I wanted to share the journey with as many of you as possible. Consequently, the basic plan was not just to include those who are elected or appointed Association officers; any regular Member in Good Standing was invited to participate.

The Bylaws require that any member wishing to submit a change to the Bylaws must do so no later than 45 days before a scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors. Consequently, we set the input period for inputs to ninety (90) days. Since February 1, the closing day, we have received a few more, and all have been reviewed along with the rest.

#### Some reminders

The current 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.

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.

How is it going with the revisions to the KWVA Standard Procedure Manual (SPM)? It goes well, I would say.

Assuming our best expectations for that meeting are met, work on the SPM will proceed, and a final copy will be given to the Board well before the October Meeting in Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas. I'm hoping for the best.

With fraternal respect for all who honor the Good of the Order,

*George Lawhon, LR18750, Director  
Chairman, KWVA Bylaws Committee*

# Where to send stuff/Who to call

**W**e receive a lot of material and information at our Editorial Office that is best directed elsewhere. We do not mind processing it, but we don't always get the job done quickly. There are often delays in processing some material which do not help the sender/caller or the Association.

The only materials that should be sent to *The Graybeards* editorial office are those intended for publication in the magazine—including photos, with a few significant exceptions: contributions, which should go to our Treasurer, and names for “Last Call,” address changes, corrections to members’ information, e.g., phone numbers, and membership questions, all of which go to our Membership folks.

**WHERE TO SEND CONTRIBUTIONS AND ADVERTISING PAYMENTS (The information is included on p. 2 of each issue of *The Graybeards*)**

J. Tilford Jones  
6958 Heatherknoll Drive  
Dallas, TX 75248-5534  
Ph: (972) 233-7263  
Email: TiLJ@flash.net

**WHERE TO SEND ALL OTHER MONEY**, i.e., dues payments, fundraiser tickets, convention registration, extra/back-order *Graybeards* orders/payments, decals/stickers/pins, piggy banks...(This information is also included on p.2 of each issue of *The Graybeards*)

Membership Administrative Assistant  
P. O. Box 407  
Charleston, IL 61920-0407  
Ph: (217) 345-4414 Fax: (217) 345-4415  
Email: membership@kwva.org

**WHERE TO SEND/CALL “LAST CALL” NAMES, ADDRESS CHANGES, REQUESTS FOR BACK/EXTRA COPIES OF THE GRAYBEARDS, ETC.**

Membership Administrative Assistant  
P. O. Box 407  
Charleston, IL 61920-0407  
Ph: (217) 345-4414 Fax: (217) 345-4415  
Email: membership@kwva.org

**WHAT HAPPENS IF MATERIAL IS DIRECTED INADVERTENTLY TO OUR EDITORIAL OFFICE(S)?**

The answer is simple: it gets buried in a bureaucratic maze. Our administration is dispersed geographically. I would like to say that is so one grenade doesn't get us all at once. That is not the case. The truth is that none of us are full-time employees. Most of us are volunteers. So, we work out of our homes. There is the problem.

If the editor (hereafter known as I) receives a name for “Last Call,” a request for extra copies of *The Graybeards*, an address change, or any other record-keeping change, I place it in a pile marked “To be processed at a later date—if at all.” Occasionally, Mrs. Editor redirects such requests quickly to the proper personnel. But, she, too, is a volunteer, and she does not put KWVA record-keeping tasks at the top of her “To-do” list.

If I place something in the “To be processed at a later date—if at all” pile, it may never see the light of day—or artificial light of

night—again. I do what is called “Batch Processing.” That means simply that I wait until I have a batch of material before I mail it, email it, phone it, fax it...to the Treasurer or Membership Administrator. That could lead to delays of days, weeks, months—or never, since the batch may get buried on my desk. Those delays can be eliminated if members would take pains to send the material to the right place to begin with.

Another problem is the fact that I—and Mrs. Editor—operate out of two offices. Our “northern” office is located in Rocky Hill, CT. Our “southern” office is located in Beaufort, SC. We travel frequently between the two—in fact, we travel frequently period—and our trips between Connecticut and South Carolina are becoming more frequent lately as we spend more time in Beaufort. **(Keep sending your material to Rocky Hill until we provide instructions to do otherwise. Watch the Nov/Dec 2009 issue of *The Graybeards* for an address change.)**

We do not always have our mail forwarded, so some material can languish in one mail box or another before we pick it up. That does not matter much with Chapter News, “Feedback,” stories, etc. But it does matter if we have to forward material to another office. Members who send their material to the right office in the first place can eliminate those delays and avoid the risk of losing it outright. Unfortunately, that has happened. Some material simply does not get forwarded at times.

Some members send material to our publisher. He does not process any material. And, he employs the “Batch Processing” method. He either forwards what he receives to the correct office or holds on to it until we meet in Beaufort. Since he is also headquartered in Beaufort, SC, he often holds material until I get there for a meeting. This process saves him postage money—and creates delays.

**THE SITUATION IN REVERSE**

Members also send information to other places that properly should be sent directly to the editorial offices. That means our Treasurer, Membership Administrative Assistant, publisher et al have to forward the misdirected material to the editor. No doubt they do not drop what they are doing to send it on. So, there are delays in the process from their offices, too.

**LET'S REVIEW**

What is the bottom line here? It is this: **please make sure you send your material to the proper place.**

- Contributions and advertising payments go to the Treasurer (Dallas, TX)
- Administrative items such as address changes, membership information, names for “Last Call,” requests for extra/back copies of *The Graybeards*, etc., and all other payments go to our Membership Office (Charleston, IL)
- All other material, such as photos, Chapter News, Feedback, Members’ accomplishments to be included in Members in the News, etc., goes to the editorial offices at 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

Sending your material to the proper office eliminates a lot of delays for everybody—and ensures that one grenade will not get us all.

# PATRIOTISM

By Stan Levin

When troubled times occur of any sort, at no time, in no particular place, would anyone of us not consider ourselves an American? It is in those troubled times when we become one as a people and country. The essence of patriotic behavior is commitment to duty, honor and country.

Whether we live in California, Utah, North Dakota, Indiana, Maine, Pennsylvania, or Alabama, we all consider ourselves patriotic Americans. If one were to travel in any of the provincial states considered the “south,” “New England,” the “Midwest,” the “Mid-Atlantic,” or the “Coast,” we would find specific different accents in language usage, specific cultural differences, all unmistakably peculiar to that particular area of the country. Yet, we are all Americans.

If we travel to any foreign country, we do not say we are from New Jersey, from Mississippi, from Maine, etc. We are first and foremost proud Americans. Our individual loyalties are not to any one of our states.

The country’s founders displayed brilliant insight and vision when writing the Constitution and governing laws. In the process, they designed the framework for our federal government. The determination of President Lincoln to preserve the union throughout the Civil War carnage further solidified our country as one union. World Wars I and II established us as a world power. Neither of the two wars could have been won without the commitment and dedicated inspired patriotism of the American people.

Selective Service, commonly called the “draft,” was instituted during WWII and continued in force during the Korean War. Yet, during WWII, millions of men volunteered for the service BEFORE their names came up to be drafted into the armed services. We were attacked by Japan and men immediately lined up to join the armed forces to serve the country. That era could be considered a time when patriotism and the concept of devotion to country were at its peak.

During the Korean War—a war fought without total commitment of the country due to political reasons—not one man this writer knew of ever evaded the draft. Evasion of the draft was unheard of. Each of us who were drafted did not enter the service with the fervor to serve as did the men of WWII. We did not “wear the flag on our sleeves.” It was a question of honor, duty, and responsibility to serve the country—essentially patriotic behavior.

Unlike the celebrated veterans returning from WWII, when surviving Korean veterans returned from war we were not welcomed with open arms by the public. We took the risks; we proudly served, and simply meshed back into civilian life. Most of us did not think farther about our service during the war for decades, until 9/11. To serve had been the patriotic thing to do. Within three years of bitter fighting, 37,000 Americans died in that “forgotten war.”

I and a small group of Korean War veterans visit many

high schools to discuss the history of that war and our personal experiences. We constantly emphasize patriotism. Rather than lament having missed two years of our civilian lives, we emphasize our pride in having served. We tell the students, “FREEDOM IS NOT FREE.”

Unlike the celebrated veterans returning from WWII, when surviving Korean veterans returned from war we were not welcomed with open arms by the public. We took the risks; we proudly served, and simply meshed back into civilian life.

It is rewarding for us to see the enlightened faces of the kids. It is particularly rewarding to hear the good questions they ask. It is disgraceful that only a few paragraphs mention the Korean War in the current school history books. We feel a responsibility to make up that void in our small way. We tell the students “the baton is passed to them” to take care of the nation. Their generation may one day be called on, and they have an obligation, a duty to serve, sacrifice, and preserve the ideals for the great country that America is.

Sadly, our education system has been severely in default regarding a void in teaching our history, and civics, in depth. The curriculums should have enabled young students to learn of the exploits and sacrifices of our patriotic heroes of the past.

Teaching civics would have further enlightened young people to have a strong sense of responsibility of each person to the country. We have become an uneducated populace with the resultant weakness in the patriotic spirit that existed in the decades prior to the 1960s.

Reach Stanley A. Levin at 115 E. Kings Hwy., Unit 251, Maple Shade, NJ 08052-3461, (856) 234-0576, (609) 744-5753 (cell), salmoors@comcast.net

## 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**

# The helicopter that is now a feed bin

By Bertram L. Brent

I recently joined the KWVA and have certainly enjoyed The Graybeards magazine. I served with the U.S. Army in Korea from January 6, 1955 until April 9, 1956. I trained as a helicopter mechanic at Gary Air Force Base in TX, and was assigned to the 13th Helicopter Company at Uijongbu, Korea. I was Operations Sergeant for the unit during my time there.

On August 18, 1955 an Air Force LT -6 with a pilot and observer aboard strayed over the DMZ and the always trigger-happy North Koreans promptly shot them down. The observer, an Army Captain, was killed. The pilot, an Air Force 2nd lieutenant, was seriously injured and taken prisoner. The 13th Helicopter Co. was ordered to send a chopper to Panmunjom and pick up the pilot after he was released on August 23, 1955. I was involved with arranging this mission, but I never learned the identity of the pilot and observer.

For the past two years I have been working on a memoir of my fifteen months in Korea. This incident of the T-6 downing is the prologue to the book. In the March/April issue of The Graybeards, I saw the article about the 6147th Mosquito Squadron reunion last year in San Antonio. I also noticed the LT-6 in the photo and wrote to Richard Souza and asked if he had information about the August, 1955 incident. He responded with full information, including the names of the pilot and observer.

I have since talked with the pilot's younger brother and his son, who is an attorney in New Orleans. They gave me extensive background information on the pilot and the maneuvers that took place to get him released, involving the help of a powerful U.S. Senator, the U. S. Secretary of State, the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, and a special meeting of the Joint Military Armistice Commission at Panmunjom.

In addition to the identity of the crew, I have also obtained a photo of the LT-6 (shot up) sitting on a flatbed trailer at Kimpo. George L. Schutte, of Ann Arbor, MI, who is in the photo, sent it to me.

Much of the information in this article is public record. The information given to me about the pilot by his son and brother was with the understanding that I was gathering information for a book. Mr. Schutte has given me



George Schutte stands next to the LT-6 shot down by North Koreans on 18 Aug. 1955 (Photo courtesy of George Schutte)

his written consent to publish the photo.

Bertram L. Brent, P.O. Box 338, Ashville, AL 35953, [bbrent7696@aol.com](mailto:bbrent7696@aol.com)

## PROLOGUE

November 15, 1974. Driving through the little town of Shannon, Mississippi, on a late autumn afternoon, en route to Tupelo, where I had a business appointment the next morning, I glanced to my left and did an immediate double-take, quickly pulling my car over onto the shoulder of the highway. Next to the road was a large salvage yard filled to overflowing with wrecked cars, trucks, trailers and other assorted junk.

What caught my eye was leaning up against the back fence, barely visible from the road. Sitting there was the skeleton of a Sikorsky H-19 cargo helicopter—no engine, wheels, or rotors—just the body and tail boom of an aircraft that once was the Army's main transport helicopter in the early days of helicopters, before Vietnam and the development of gas turbine engines.

I looked closely at the old chopper, long retired by the Army from active service, and I could see the faded numbers "258" on the tail boom. On the front clamshell door I could make out a large red cross painted on a white background. Nineteen years and ten thousand miles ago I had been closely associated with

that helicopter. Seeing it today, unexpectedly and in this condition, was something of a shock, akin to picking up the morning paper and reading the obituary of an old friend who you have not seen in a number of years.

Sitting there by the road, my thoughts drifted back...

Mid-morning, August 18, 1955. Just over two years after the end of open hostilities in Korea, an Air Force LT-6 of Mosquito Squadron 6147, flying out of Kimpo Air Force Base near Seoul, cruised just south of the Demilitarized Zone (1), or DMZ as it was commonly referred to, near the Imjin River on a reconnaissance mission a few miles southeast of Panmunjom (2).

At the controls was 23-year-old U. S. Air Force 2nd LT Guy Bumpas III, of Jackson, Mississippi. Behind him in the observer's seat was U. S. Army CPT Charles Brown, a 39-year-old career officer from Louisville, Kentucky, on his second tour of duty in Korea. As the plane emerged from a patch of light fog, it was suddenly hit by heavy caliber ground-fire, killing Brown instantly and disabling the craft.

Bumpas fought the controls and managed to bring the plane down for a dead-stick, wheels-up landing in an abandoned rice paddy. He suffered serious injuries in the crash. Within a few minutes he realized he

was not south of the DMZ, as he thought, but had actually landed on the North Korean side of the zone.

He was quickly taken prisoner and removed to a medical facility, along with Brown's body. His injuries were treated. Then, the North Koreans began their usual propaganda blitz, branding the pilot and observer as spies and accusing the U.S. of a "hostile provocation" and breach of the ceasefire.

August 17, 1955: 10-year-old Andrew Bumpas was visiting relatives in Birmingham, Alabama, with his father, Guy Bumpas, Jr. Andrew had enjoyed visiting with cousins and other family members. Tomorrow he and his father would be headed back to their home in Jackson, Mississippi. Andrew's older brother, 2nd LT Guy Bumpas III, was an Air Force pilot stationed in Korea who regularly flew the old World War II vintage T-6 aircraft on flights along the south boundary of the DMZ, usually carrying along an observer in the back seat with maps and field glasses to keep up with what the North Koreans and Chinese were doing on that particular day.

The next morning, about 3 a.m., Andrew awoke to find his father pacing the floor, very distraught. Andrew asked what was wrong. His father replied, "I believe something has happened to Guy." Andrew asked why he thought that.

His father replied, "I don't know. I just feel something has happened."

Unable to sleep, the father and son got dressed and drove downtown to the Birmingham Age-Herald newspaper office on Second Avenue North in Birmingham; it was about 4:30 a.m. The paper was just rolling off the presses. The father got a copy of the first edition. He walked out to the curb and stood under a street lamp as he scanned the front page. There was nothing of interest. He flipped the paper open to page two. Again, nothing. Looking at page three, he spotted a small, black-type headline: "Air Force Pilot Missing In Korea."

At the 13th Helicopter Company down at How-1 (our military designation as the only Army helicopter base in Korea), about twenty miles southeast of the DMZ, near the town of Uijongbu (We-jon-bu), we heard about the shoot-down, but didn't give it much thought. Almost every month there was some kind of incident along the line that gave the two sides opportunities to argue and exchange charges and counter-charges. But this was different—

more serious.

I was Operations Sergeant for the 13th. The next morning, our CO, Major Malcolm Mitchell, received a call from a Colonel at Eighth Army Headquarters in Seoul. He told Mitchell to be prepared to pick up the Air Force pilot somewhere on the DMZ, probably Panmunjom, as soon as his release was negotiated.

Maintenance put chopper No. 258 on standby, ready to take off at a moment's notice. Cook, the operations officer, called in two senior pilots, Chief Warrant Officers Tidmore and Evans, gave them a sketchy briefing on the mission as we then knew it, and told them to be ready to go whenever the order came down.

Guy Bumpas, Jr. was a native Mississippian who as a young man had attended Mississippi State College at Starkville, where he earned a bachelor's degree in 1923. A good friend and classmate at Mississippi State was John C. Stennis. After graduation, Stennis attended law school and eventually practiced law until 1947, when he was elected to the United States Senate. By 1955, Stennis, a Democrat, had become one of the senior members of the Senate Armed Services Committee, one of the most powerful and prestigious positions in the Senate.

Bumpas enjoyed a successful business career. In the intervening years he had kept in touch with his old friend. Now, on August 18, 1955, as he and Andrew hurried back across town to the relative's home on Birmingham's south side, he felt certain the missing pilot was

his son. His first thought was to contact Stennis.

At 8 a.m. (9 a.m. Eastern Time) he placed a call to Senator Stennis' office in Washington. He talked with a secretary who told him she would give Stennis the message when he came in. Within an hour Stennis returned his call.

Bumpas told him the story, and asked whether he knew the identity of the pilot. Stennis had no information on that, but said he would contact his military aide and see if they had a name yet. He would call back. Before noon, the phone rang. Stennis was on the line.

"It's your boy, Guy," he said.

Stennis promised Bumpas he would do everything he could to get his son released by the North Koreans. His first move was to call the U. S. Secretary of State, John Foster Dulles, and determine what diplomatic measures were being planned. He urged Dulles to have the U. S. Ambassador to the United Nations in New York, Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., bring the matter up on an emergency basis in the Security Council.

Stennis' next move was to call a press conference in his Senate Office and read a statement condemning the North Koreans for their actions and demanding they immediately release the pilot and the body of the observer. This denunciation by such a high-profile and powerful political figure as Stennis immediately focused world-wide attention and publicity on the incident.

Back at How-1, we awaited word on final plans for the mission. We heard that the mat-



Helicopter #258 lifts off for Panmunjom on 23 August 1955 to pick up Air Force pilot (Photo courtesy of Bert Brent)

ter had been brought up at Panmunjom in a special emergency meeting of the Joint Military Armistice Commission (3) called by the United Nations Command. After a couple days of intense negotiations, with the North Korean representative insisting the American flyers were spying or otherwise illegally scouting their positions, an agreement was reached on returning the pilot and observer. Eighth Army sent us final details for the mission.

Our helicopter, an eight-passenger Sikorsky H-19C (4), one of the Army's largest, would have to be identified with large red crosses painted on both sides, at the front engine clamshell and near the tail boom. The chopper crew would leave at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, August 23, meet with UN representatives at Panmunjom, and receive specific instructions for picking up the pilot.

On Monday, August 22, the maintenance crew was busy painting the helicopter with four white squares. After drying them with the help of heat lamps, a large red cross was painted in the center of each square with stencils used to ensure a professional quality job. The craft was waxed and polished to a high gloss and double-checked mechanically. A high-profile mission such as this required a perfect appearance, and we could not risk a last-minute mechanical glitch that might cause a delay.

Tidmore and Evans gathered in Operations to review final plans and ground rules for the pickup. They would fly to the DMZ, only about 25 air miles away, from where they would proceed to Panmunjom along a tightly marked corridor, make the pickup, and return immediately.

On Tuesday the weather was perfect. The flight got off at exactly 10 a.m.

As expected, the North Koreans tried to delay the procedure as much as possible with various nitpicking demands at the last minute. Their major argument was that the observer, CAPT Brown, who was in fact an Army intelligence officer, was spying and they wanted a "confession" to the spying from LT Bumpas before they would release him.

Bumpas parried their demand by saying, "Look, I'm just a lowly 2nd Lieutenant, a taxi driver in effect, and I flew where Brown told me to go. I had no knowledge whatever of his job or what he was doing." The North Koreans finally accepted that story.

Then, the chief negotiator said, "Look, you

can help me close out this problem if you will just write out a statement in your own hand and sign it saying that you were only the pilot and lost your way and inadvertently flew over North Korean territory. Can you do that?"

Bumpas replied, in effect, "Give me a pen."

Finally, after about three hours of tedious delay, with the helicopter and crew waiting a couple hundred yards away, in plain sight, Bumpas was allowed to come across the line to U.N. custody and board the craft for the flight to a hospital.

At 2 p.m. the chopper lifted off from Panmunjom and returned to How-I for a brief stop. I went out to the flight line as the helicopter taxied up to a parking slot. Bumpas was sitting in the cargo compartment with the door open, a bulky bandage on his leg, waving to us in apparent good spirits. I have regretted over these many years not taking a photo. I had a couple of the departure but none for the return. In a few minutes, the chopper took off again, headed to the 121st Evacuation Hospital near Seoul.

Back in Shannon, Mississippi, it was late afternoon and the salvage yard had closed for the night. The next day I was running behind schedule and didn't have time to stop. When I did get back about a month later, the chopper was gone. I asked about it, and the owner told me that some farmer had bought it to store hay in for his livestock. How ironic. An aircraft that had flown any number of important missions, both hazardous and routine, including a rescue flight into North Korea, now rusted away in retirement as a feed bin on a

Mississippi cattle farm.

*From The Lucifer Patch © 2009, Bertram L. Brent*

## FOOTNOTES

(1) A narrow strip of no-man's-land approximately 2 1/2 miles wide and 155 miles long running diagonally across the Korean peninsula in a southwest to northeast direction on the lines that separated the two sides when the ceasefire was signed.

(2) The village just north of the 38th Parallel northwest of Munsani that was the site of the truce talks that finally resulted in a ceasefire on July 27, 1953.

(3) A Commission made up of representatives from South Korea, North Korea, China, and the United Nations Command that helped enforce the cease-fire agreement and settle problems that arose between the two sides, such as aircraft incursions and other violations.

(4) The H-19 was a popular and versatile aircraft developed in the late 1940s by Sikorsky and used by all branches of the military. It was also adopted by several other countries and served throughout the world from Algeria to Indochina. It is best known for its groundbreaking work in Korea with the U.S. Army and Marines. Lessons learned in Korea with the H-19 led to development of the "Airmobile" concept with larger and more powerful helicopters that took the world stage during the Vietnam conflict and forever changed battlefield tactics.



Deacon Tom Petite gave a brilliant sermon at the 11 o'clock Mass at Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church in Port Orange, FL on August 2, 2009. He explained by telling how one lady missed her bus, another lady had a blister on her foot and was late for work because she had to go to the drug store for a band aid, and a man was delayed because it was his turn to buy doughnuts for the office staff. Each of these people missed being at the World Trade Center on 9/11, and their lives were saved because God had a different plan for each of them.

My mind and heart reflected immediately to my experience in joining a United States Marine Corps Reserve Unit in Louisville, KY when it was activated in the summer of 1950 to participate in the Korean War. I had been in the Marine Corps at 17 years of age after high school graduation in 1945, but my experience was shortlived after the atom bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki while I was at Parris Island for boot camp.

Instead of going to war, I attended the Naval Academy Prep School in Bainbridge, MD. Then, I went to the Washington Navy Guard, where I guarded President Harry Truman while standing guard on Pier One while his yacht, Williamsburg, was docked.

My next assignment was to the Naval Research Lab in Nicosia. Finally, I was sent to the Mine Welfare Test Center in Solomon, Island, MD. I closed out at Quantico in 1946 with an Honorable Discharge.

Helping out the Marines in Korea seemed to me the proper thing to do after such an easy go at the end of WWII. I attended Indiana University extension in Jeffersonville, IN during the summer of 1950, and I worked at Levy Bros men's clothing in Louisville, KY. I turned in my resignation at Levy Bros and waited for instructions to be activated for advance combat training at Camp Pendleton, CA.

Al Courtner, one of my friends, suggested that I earn some extra money for California liberty by working for a couple weeks in a labor gang building a flood wall in nearby New Albany, IN. My first day at work a foreman gave me a Coke bottle of gasoline with a rag, and instructed me to clean paint or rust from a metal door frame resting on wood blocks.

## God Had a Plan

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**Many of the members of Charlie Company were killed or wounded. As the years pass, I am haunted by the fact that I did not participate in the Chosin Reservoir battle, even though I had 10 months of combat in 1951.**

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About 20 feet away a man was using a torch to cut a section of steel. Almost immediately, the coke bottle and my left hand became a blaze. I ran from the scene, but I realized quickly that this was not productive. So, I fell to the ground and extinguished the fire in a puddle of muddy water.

The pain was more severe than anything I had ever experienced in my lifetime. The foreman took me to the hospital. The dead skin was peeled, and bandages completely covered my hand with a sling. I was on the job for less than 30 minutes and I do not think that I received one cent of payroll. Today, this would generate a major lawsuit.

A few days later I was headed for Camp Pendleton on a troop train. Upon arrival, I was assigned to a machine gun platoon in Tent Camp 2 for a four-week training program before being sent to Korea. During the first two weeks of training I was given light duty because of my gasoline burns. Soon after, I was toting the water-cooled, along with the air-cooled,

30 caliber machine gun, as well as the best of the Marines—and I could take the guns apart blindfolded.

In late October my platoon was sent to Korea as part of the 2nd Replacement Draft. Much to my disappointment, I was required to take four additional weeks of training days that I missed while on light duty because of my burnt hand. For four more weeks I trained with a crew that operated the 75 recoilless rifle. Finally, I was sent to Korea aboard the APA General Collins in November 1950.

While at sea we heard stories that the 1st Marine Division was surrounded by Chinese troops at the Chosin Reservoir, and our troops were suffering frostbite. This was most alarming, and the future of the Third Replacement Draft seemed to be in jeopardy. We landed in Kobe, Japan and went by train to Otsu, where we obtained our winter clothing before landing in Pusan. Then, we traveled by train to the bean patch in Masan, where we awaited the arrival of the 1st Marine Division from North Korea. We set up a large tent for the remains of our new division.

The 1st Marine Division fought its way out of the Chosin Reservoir. In early December it left the port of Wonson, North Korea for Pusan, South Korea. Then, it moved on to Masan. I was attached immediately to Charlie Company of the 1st Bn, 5th Regt., and made a rifleman in the 2nd platoon.

Very quickly I became friends with the dirty and haggard looking band of brothers that had just returned from participating in the Chosin Reservoir battle, one of the greatest ever engaged in by the United States Marine Corps. They advanced to the rear, overcoming both the hordes of Chinese troops that outnumbered them and the severe cold weather that resulted in most Marines having frostbitten feet.

Many of the members of Charlie Company were killed or wounded. As the years pass, I am haunted by the fact that I did not participate in the Chosin Reservoir battle, even though I had 10 months of combat in 1951.

Maybe God had a different plan for me and the 1,500 Marines who landed late from the Third Replacement Draft.

*Rick Kennedy (C-1-5)  
3780 S Clyde Morris Blvd., Apt 505  
Port Orange, FL 32129, (386) 761-0912*

# Members in the NEWS



## CID 11

CID 11, Greater Danbury [CT], was featured in a 28 July 2009 article in the local News-Times. The article by Contributing Writer Emily Froelich focused on the local celebration of the 56th Anniversary of the signing of the armistice.

Froelich noted Chapter President Bernie Rotunda's belief in the purpose of the Korean War. "We freed a nation," he said. "I was proud to serve and help stop the spread of communism."

Rotunda read the names of the 17 local residents inscribed on the Korean War memorial. Stan Britton, whose brother Ralph was KIA on 7 October 1952, was pictured in the article saluting as "Taps" was played.

The State of Connecticut's Attorney General, Richard Blumenthal, spoke at the ceremony. Blumenthal, a former Marine, said that, "In many ways, America slept through the Korean War. I think people, including myself, should always remember how grateful we are for all who gave so we could keep our freedom."

*Bernard S. Rotunda, 8 Reynolds Rdg., Bethel, CT 06801, (203) 744-1974, LapineShirley@yahoo.com*



**LEFT:** Frank Fontano (then) in Korea. **ABOVE:** Frank Fontano (today) and his LISSA award.

## Frank Fontano

Frank Fontano was inducted into the Long Island Softball Association's Hall of Fame in October 2004. The honor recognizes those individuals who have displayed outstanding offensive and defensive playing ability throughout their years in the LISSA organization.

He was in Korea on July 27th, the night the truce was signed.

*Frank Fontano, 40 Whaley Ave., Bethpage, NY 11714*

## Robert Hudson Jones

Robert H. Jones wrote a "Letter to the Editor" of the Akron [OH] Beacon Journal to point out an omission made by AP writer Kevin Freking in his article, "Veterans protest lack of Medals of Honor," that appeared in the newspaper on 2 August 2009.

Freking wrote, "The Medal of Honor has been awarded 3,467 times since the Civil War. Almost half — 1,522 — were awarded in that conflict alone. The next highest tally came from World War II — 464. In the Vietnam War, 244 were awarded." (See the complete article at <http://www.ohio.com/news/nation/52288357.html>.)

In his letter to the editor, Jones wrote:

In the article on Aug. 2 headlined "Veterans protest lack of Medals of Honor," Kevin Freking..., while mentioning the Civil War, World War II and the Vietnam War, failed to mention Medal of Honor recipients from the three-year, brutal Korean War. By doing this, his accuracy falls into question. Since he stated the Medal of Honor has been awarded a total of 3,467 times, this leaves me to wonder: Were the Korean War recipients included in that total? Nevertheless, the gallant Korean War Medal of Honor heroes deserve to be remembered.

For the record, please note that...in the Korean War there were 133 Medals of Honor awarded—95 of which were awarded posthumously.

To us, Jones wrote:

It is my hope that you would publish in *The Graybeards* my letter to alert any KWVA membership, and any of the thousands who read *The Graybeards*, of the neglectfulness of this reporter. Hopefully, this will get back to him and his publisher through your kind printing.

I think it is important that all of our membership always needs to take the time to react on each occasion when a reporter fails to report our bloody war—especially when they leave out our MOH recipients.

*Robert Hudson Jones, 2961 Givens Dr., Norton OH 44203-5329, rjones002@neo.rr.com*

## Peter Popolizio

In 2007 two dear friends and fellow veterans had a vision that a Purple Heart Memorial would be built at Veterans Memorial Park, Port St Lucie, Florida. They were John A. "Doc" Colucco and M/Sgt. Roy Brewer.

Colucco, a U.S. Navy Hospital Corpsman, was assigned to Fleet Marine Force (FMF) 1964-1968, Vietnam 1966-1967, Charley Company 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division. He received three Purple Hearts and numerous service medals. John passed away 17 December 2007. Brewer, USAF (Ret), served from 1961-1982. He served two tours in Vietnam.

In April 2008 the project to build the Purple Heart Memorial started to form. The committee consisted of WWII veteran Ray Carter, U.S. Army (1942-1945), Peter Popolizio, U.S. Army veteran of the Korean War, Brewer, and William Arnold. Popolizio, who earned the Silver Star, participated in the Battle for Pork Chop Hill. Arnold served in the U.S. Army from 1959-1961.

Two other veterans joined the committee: William Benny, a

WWII U.S. Navy veteran who retired in 1961 after 21 years of service, including duty on the *USS Nevada* at Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941, and Mrs. Teddi Colucco, widow of “Doc” Colucco.

The donations received for the Purple Heart Memorial were overwhelming. All donations received were unsolicited. We received donations ranging from \$7.38 to \$1,000.00. We received them from as far away as California, New York, and Rhode Island.

Northport K-8 School, Port St. Lucie, Florida, students donated \$2,735.38. There were other military organizations and many individuals who donated to the Purple Heart Memorial, e.g., from a Gold Star Mother who lost her son in Vietnam, and a sister who lost her brother in Vietnam.



Donation from Northport Middle School

## We accept your invitation

On Veterans Day, 11 November 2008, we were handing out information concerning the Purple Heart Memorial. Ms. Lynne Gruszka, Media Specialist at Northport School, picked up some of it. As a result, we were invited to participate in two programs, each with 125 students, to talk about the Purple Heart. The veterans talked about the wars they were in and how they received their Purple Hearts. After each program the students asked questions to the veterans. Among them were:

- What does it feel like to kill someone?
- Were you scared to be in battle?
- How long was your tour in the military?
- What is it like to know that your husband is no longer here?

Also, 250 students wrote reports concerning the Purple Heart Memorial Program. One report, written by sixth-grader Lilliana Lozau, is nearby. We also participated in five other programs. On 10 June 2009 the Purple Heart Memorial presented to Northport K-8 seven indoor flags, American, all military and POW/MIA.

We thank Ms. Lynne Gruszka for her support. We also thank Coach Rick Robinson, students of the Builders Club, and Principal Eric Seymour for his support for the Purple Heart Memorial Program.

## A Purple Heart for his grandfather

We also participated in two programs at Morningside Academy in

Port St Lucie. The first program was the same as we did for Northport K-8, except the students were middle school and high school. After the first program was over, a student came to me and asked how he could get a Purple Heart for his great grandfather. After we told him, he assembled the proper documents—and his great grandfather received a Purple Heart on 07 May 2009. Seven blood relatives attended the program, which they knew nothing about.

We thank Principal Helen Klassen of the middle school for all her support.

## A Dream Comes True

The Purple Heart Memorial was dedicated on 21 July 2009 at Veterans Memorial Park in Port St Lucie. The Memorial is located in the middle of other military memorials. To our dear friend John Colucco, “your vision has now come true.”

It has been an honor for me to be a small part in seeing the Purple Heart Memorial completed and dedicated. I thank Roy Brewer for asking me to help in this project. I also learned that all Purple Heart recipients are very humble. To me, they are all American heroes.

I believe that all the people who are now serving or who have served in the military for this great nation, the United States of America, are also American heroes. We are also brothers and sisters for life.

May God Bless the United States of America.

William Arnold, P. O. Box 8376, Port St. Lucie, FL 34985-8376

Reach Peter M. Popolizio at 443 SW Horseshoe Bay, Port Saint Lucie FL 34986-3401, (772) 344-2301, MarPetePop@aol.com.

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**GySgt John Boring, USMC (Ret)  
Leatherneck“ Magazine of the Marines, Sept. 2007.**

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# The Marines who died in Inchon Harbor©

By Staff Writer Arthur G. Sharp

We mentioned Operation “Comeback” in the May/June 2009 issue, p. 57. There was a follow-up on p. 62 of the July/Aug edition. The operation was designed to transport 14,600 Chinese Communist POWs to Formosa.

Thanks to Art Lajeunesse and the late Ken Page, who passed away on 7 February 2002, we now have the names of the 27 Marines and 1 Corpsman who died “Non-hostile” deaths” when an Army Landing Craft Medium (LCM 5195) and LST 456 collided in Inchon Harbor on 21 January 1954. The Marines and the Corpsman were aboard the LCM. One of them, Robert G. Campbell, died on his 22nd birthday.

Art forwarded to us an 8 March 2000 letter from Ken Page to the Director of the Marine Corps University Archives and the Director’s response. Copies of the documents appear nearby.

Let’s start with Art Lajeunesse’s letter to the editor:

Art,

Enclosed is a copy of a letter Ken Page sent to the Director of Marine Corps University Archives on March 8, 2000 regarding the Marines who died in a collision between an LST and an LCM in Inchon on January 21, 1954. There is also a copy of the letter Ken Page received on June 13, 2001 from the Department of The Navy, HQ United States Marine Corps, Washington DC with a list of Marines who died in the accident.

I have also enclosed two copies of Honor Roll Certificates that have photos for these casualties. They are the only casualties who had photos out of the 28 who died.

Bob Hall was the one who contacted Ken regarding this accident, when he found an article about it in old newspapers on microfilm. Bob Hall is a member of our chapter (CID 59, Northeastern) and a former Marine who served in the Korean War.

I hope this information may be useful.

Best Regards,

Art Lajeunesse

Here is Ken Page’s letter to the USMC archivists.

March 8, 2000

Director, Marine Corps University Archives  
Marine Corps Research Center, MCCDC  
2040 Broadway Street  
Quantico, VA 22134-5107

Re: Korean War Veterans Honor Roll

Dear Sir/Madam:

Our Chapter of the Korean War veterans has been involved in a project to obtain photographs of KIAs/MIAs of the Korean War and other information and transmitting the information and photos to the American Battle Monuments Commission [ABMC] in Arlington, VA.

We have also been involved in attempting to see that the ABMC receives information and photos of what are classified as non-battle casualties where Marines and others were killed anywhere in the world during the period June 25, 1950 and July 27, 1954 (1 year

after the armistice).

One of our members, Bob Hall, Jr., of Scotia [NY], while scouring old issues of local newspapers, came across [an] article involving the death of many Marines when there was a collision between an LST and an LCM at Inchon on January 21, 1954. The names of those Marines and two hospital corpsmen (one from our area) should be listed on the Honor Roll.

Please ask someone to check the archives and then go to the ABMC web site on the internet <http://www.abmc.gov/index.shtml> to see whether the Marines are listed. If not, perhaps you can assign someone to the task of gathering the necessary information and sending it on to Col. Corea at ABMC.

Respectfully,

Kenneth E. Page, Chapter Director

*EDITOR’S NOTE: The internet address for the ABMC is now [www.abmc.gov](http://www.abmc.gov).*

The archivists responded promptly.

Mr. Kenneth E. Page  
7 Sunset View Avenue  
Troy, NY 12180-6527

Dear Mr. Page:

This is in response to your letter of 20 February 2001 to Lieutenant General Stephen G. Olmstead, USMC (Retired), concerning the desire of the Korean War Veterans Association. to ascertain if the names of Marines who died in a 1954 accident at Inchon Harbor, Republic of Korea, are included on an Honor Roll of Korean War fatalities maintained by the American Battle Monuments Commission. General Olmstead requested the assistance of the Marine Corps History and Museums Division in answering your query.

Enclosed is a listing of 27 Marines and one Hospital Corpsman who died as a result of the 21 January 1954 collision of their landing craft with a troopship. The listing includes the serviceman’s name, component, service number, rank, birth date, and home of record. I compiled this listing after examining the Unit Diaries submitted by the sub-units of the 3d Battalion, 4th Marines, and then cross-checking the names against several additional sources. You may be interested to learn that 27 of the 28 names do indeed appear on the Korean War Honor Roll that is maintained by the American Battle Monuments Commission, as I personally checked each name on the ABMC Web Site. A sample name entry is enclosed for your information.

The one name that does not appear on the ABMC Web Site is PFC Norman R. Davenport, USMC. I confirmed that he died in the 21 January 1954 accident, as I obtained verification from the Casualty Division of Headquarters Marine Corps. Indeed, our office did not have a copy of PFC Davenport’s casualty report, and I suspect that his name was “overlooked,” when the ABMC reviewed official Marine Corps casualty records for the Korean War period.

There is one other matter of note. Copies of the newspaper articles included in your correspondence to General Olmstead indicate that 29 Marines died in the accident. Despite extensive examination of available records, I could account for only 28 names. I would be glad

Continued on page 56

# 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARIES

## KOREAN WAR

*2010–2013*

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KWVA President William Mac Swain with former KVA Chairman, MG Park, Seh-Jik at his last Ceremony prior to his death on Armistice Day, 27 July 2009. ROK Paratrooper jumping into Olympic Stadium and the Commander of the Honor Guard, Seoul National Cemetery.

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# Tell America

## Tell America Television is on the air

It is with great pleasure that I send this incredible story of our Tell America television network.

On 13 August 2009 the Tell America Television Network brought to its viewers five stories of incredible combat from Iraq and WWII. One story, from Marine Sgts Reed, Valdez, and Whitwood, and Sgt Roboda, from Iraq, gave our viewers the true stories of heroism that make us proud to call ourselves Americans—and demonstrate how proud we are

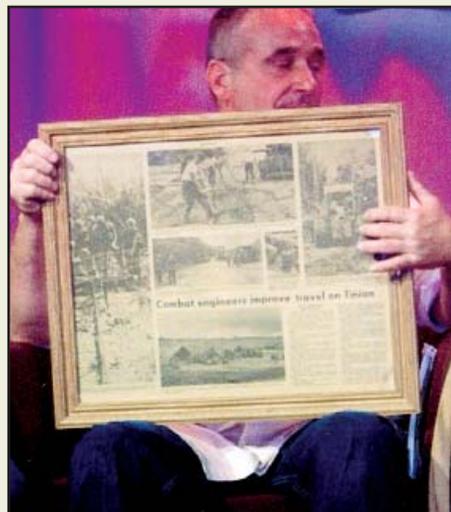
of the generation of Americans.

To finish these stories, Marine Cpl Michael Rian told our viewers of the clean up that took place in 1980 in the aftermath of the battle of Tinian in WWII by him and his battalion of Marines. The battle took place in July 1944. Artifacts and human remains were just a few of the items found in a battle that lasted fewer than 30 days.

*James E. Yaney, 1349 N. Wilson Lake Rd., Columbia City, IN 46725-9120*



Sgts Robota, Whitwood, Valdez, and Reed, Cpl Rian, Corpsman Yaney, Sgt Hullinger, Cpl Parish, and Corpsman Pequignot (L-R) on Tell America Television discussion



Cpl Rian shows newspaper clippings of the cleanup on the island of Tinian

## 30 – INDIANA CHAPTER ONE [IN]

We have a large group of members who participate in our Tell America program. This year's Memorial Day program at Blackhawk Middle School was well attended. Local American Legion members and one young soldier just back from Iraq joined us at our request this year.

Our members are ably supported by their spouses, who

diligently—and lovingly—participate in chapter activities. They are there at all the meetings, parades, and whatever else is going on.

As Publicity Director Mary Anna Roemke notes, "We love it all. Our friendships are very special."

*Mary Anna Roemke, P. O. Box 15102, Fort Wayne, IN (260) 485-7627*



Members of CID 30, American Legion guests, and a female soldier recently back from Iraq gather for Memorial Day program at Blackhawk Middle School



Students at Blackhawk Middle School watch CID 30's Tell America presentation



Wives of CID 30 members (1st Row) Marty Leslie, Mary Geisaman, Marge Norton, Betty Myers, Mary Fowler, Nancy Sink, Marian Wisniewski (Back Row) Libby Coombs, Mary Anna Roemke, Irene Winnie, Jeane Mendenhall, Lorna Sherman, Alice Bauermeister, Bonnie Rose, Marilyn Renbarger, Mary Clendenen

## 108 - WESTERN OHIO [OH]

The 2008-2009 school year was another busy time for us. Again, we enjoyed the time we spent with the students, teachers, and guests.

The Tell America program presented by Ken Williamson and Fred Shively included 17 trips, 682 students, 23 teachers, 42 hours classroom time, 1,524 miles, and 37 hours of travel time.

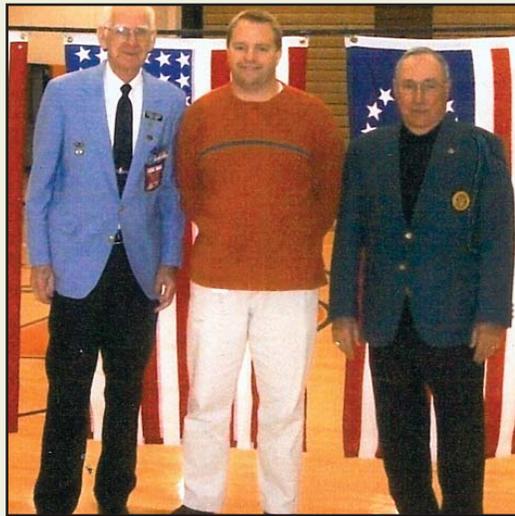
The Veterans Day programs included 8 trips, 2,058 students, 220 teachers and guests, 15 hours presentation time, 39 miles, and 9 hours of travel time. Ken Williams and Fred Shively presented one to high school classes and assemblies, honoring all veterans from the beginning of our country up to the present.

At Piqua Springcreek Elementary and Bennett Intermediate Schools, Richard Schwartz, Joe Goetz, Ernie Stahl and Herb Gnatt spoke to the students about the meaning of Veterans Day and the flags used through the years. Each student was given a small American flag.

This year we want to acknowledge two schools where we have been presenting our Tell America and Veterans Day Programs: Lehman High School (11 years) and Coldwater High School (9 years).

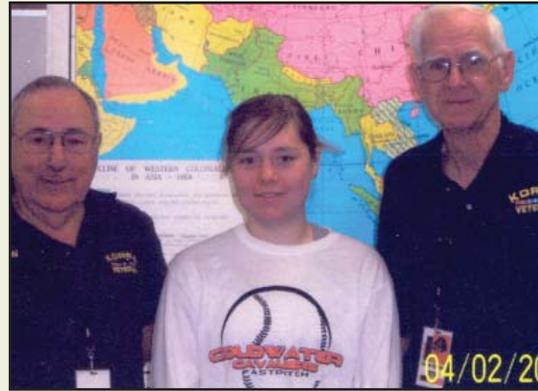
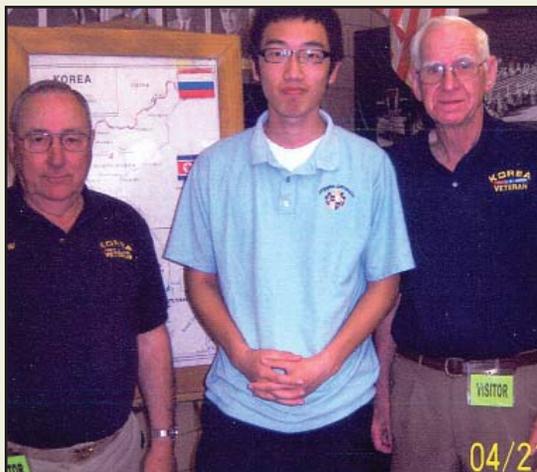
We are looking forward to the next school year. The Good Lord willing, we hope to have another successful year.

*Fred Shively, 415 E. Walnut Street, Covington, OH 45318*



Fred Shively (L), teacher Mark Hamberg (C), Ken Williams (R) at CID 108's 11 Nov. 2008 Veterans Day presentation at Coldwater High School

Ken Williams (L), exchange student Hyun Kim (C), Fred Shively (R) at CID 108's Lehman High School Tell America event



Ken Williams (R), Laura Lehnert (C), from Cologne, Germany, Fred Shively (R) at CID 108's Coldwater High School Tell America presentation

## 131 - NORTHWEST OHIO [OH]

In advance of our Tell America team's visit, teacher Patrick O'Dwyer of Liberty Center High School briefed the students in his American Studies classes on aspects of the Korean War. As a result, we were able to participate fully in the presentation.

Members of our chapter's education committee who

shared their experiences with the students were Bob Fuller, Tom Schroeder, John Schlotz, Larry Kish, Len Tomasik, Glenn Cousino, and Tom Baranoski.

*Louis G. Streb, Secretary  
415 Turnbury Lane,  
Perrysburg, OH 43551-1986  
(419) 874-7037  
lgstreb@buckeye-express.com*



Members of CID 131's Education Committee at Liberty Center High School (L-R) Bob Fuller, Tom Schroeder, John Schlotz, Larry Kish, teacher Patrick O'Dwyer, Len Tomasik, Glenn Cousino, and Tom Baranoski

## 256 - NORVILLE B. FEENEY [MI]

We conduct presentations from September to June at about 25-35 schools a year. We talk to about 3,000-3,500 students in our presentations.

Two schools in particular are fresh in our memory: Troy Athens and Lahser High Schools. At Athens, in Troy, MI there were about 60-90 students at each session. We were there for about six hours.

We were at Lahser High in Bloomfield Hills, MI for two days. Students there included a report of our presentation in their newspaper.

Reporters Myele Green and Erna Saric included this information in their Troy Athens High School newsletter:

Andrew Shipp, social studies teacher, organized the presentations.

The veterans have some great personal stories of historical relevance to our class and it was a wonderful opportunity for our students to hear from some members of our community,” Shipp said.

Richard Charbonneau, Vince Napoletano, and Jim McCarthy from the Korean Veterans Association [sic] visited Athens for the fifth year in a row. Before Charbonneau started this program, the veterans had never talked to their family or friends about what they went through in Korea.

Charbonneau spent 16 months in Korea and was 16 years old when he went into service. His twin brother was a troublemaker, so his parents told him that it was either jail or the Army. His brother chose the Army and Charbonneau went with him. He fought in 10 combat battles and went through a lot as a young boy- he basically grew up there.

Napoletano joined the Army in 1947 and was sent over to Germany. He was sent back home but re-enlisted in 1950 to become a soldier again. He was assigned to an infantry unit with many Puerto Ricans who spoke Spanish, although he spoke Italian.

During a cold winter, Napoletano’s feet froze, and even now he has to walk with a cane because of the damage. While he was being treated, there were other soldiers that would have feet so black and frost-bitten that if you touched them, they would fall off. In fact, the soldiers experienced such cold winters that the M1 gun chamber would actually freeze.

According to Napoletano, when they would get wounded, the cold would freeze the wound, stop the bleeding and aid in healing. That was the only positive thing about fighting in such bitter cold.

While Charbonneau and Napoletano enlisted at the beginning of the Korean War, McCarthy was drafted near the end. McCarthy was drafted for a total of two years. He was 19 years old and was, in his opinion, in one of the hardest fighting combat units in Korea. He fought in the Iron Triangle and was almost always above the 38th parallel, which was enemy territory. Outpost Harry was where they were attacked and outnumbered 30 to one. There were 3,000 men against 300 of his men. They had to fight in trenches and ditches where they saw soldiers get their body parts blown off. To get out of the army, one had to get 36 points. Points were received for being on the battle line. McCarthy had 37 points but they extended his service three months.

“War is not a glorious situation; war is hell,” McCarthy said.

Any able-bodied man between 19-22 years old was drafted. There was no lottery and if one passed the physical qualifications, then he was sent in. 1.8 million United Nations soldiers went to Korea and fought to stop communistic aggression from spreading. 54,200 Americans died during the war.

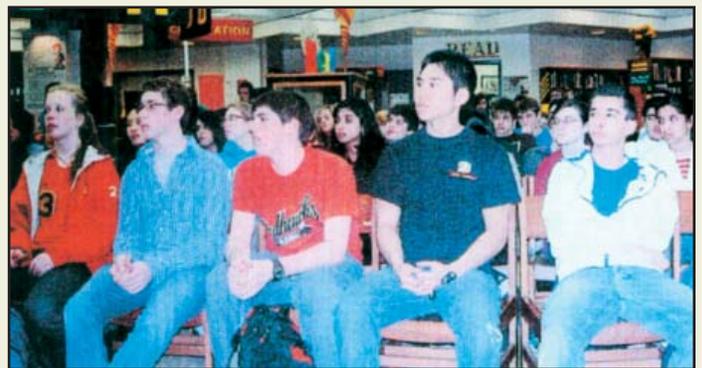
“Freedom is not free,” McCarthy said.

That is the lesson KWVA members are attempting to get across to students in their presentations.

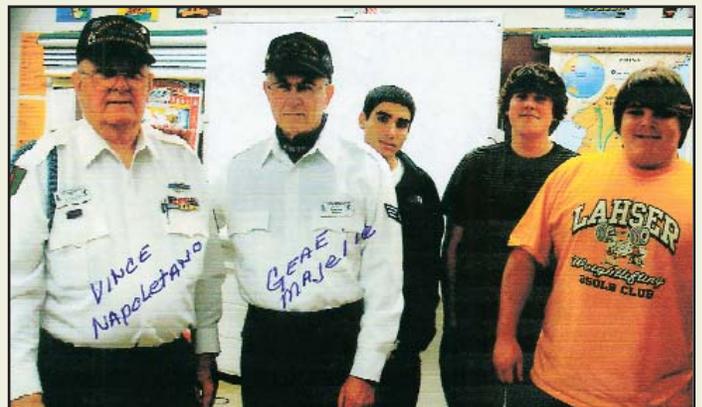
*Richard L. Charbonneau*  
532 W. Troy St. Ferndale, MI 48220  
(248) 543-3577, RCharbonneau6322@wowway.com



Vince Napoletano (L) and Gene Majetic (R) of CID 256 at a Lahser High School Tell America presentation



Students at Troy Athens High School [MI] show their interest at CID 256's Tell America presentation



Richard Charbonneau (R), Vince Napoletano (C), and Jim McCarthy (L) of CID 256 at Tell America presentation

### 313 – SHENANDOAH VALLEY [VA]

The Shenandoah Valley KWVA Chapter 313 had a display at the Shenandoah County Fair on Sept. 2, 2009. Each year the fair sets aside one day as “Veterans Day” to honor the veterans of all of America’s wars. A number of veterans organizations participated, as did the Veterans Administration

and the Army. Apart from the Army, KWVA had one of the best displays.

A ceremony honoring our veterans was held, at which LtGen Freakley addressed the crowd with an inspiring speech. He later visited our display, thanked us for our service, and chatted a while.

Since this was our first time at the fair, we were very pleased that many people came by, talked with us, and looked over the posters and memorabilia. A number of people came by and told us they were children or grandchildren of Korean vets.

Quite a few younger vets who had served in Korea since

the war showed interest in the map of Korea and located the places they had served.

We are having some difficulty getting into the schools, but we are finding other outlets to "tell" America about the Korean War and its outcome.

*Jack Keep, 3416 Mountain Road, Front Royal, VA 22630*



Members of CID 313 with their display at the Shenandoah County Fair (L-R) Lew Ewing, Herb Taylor, Cdr. Bill Scott, Chuck Bachman, Jack Keep

## KWVA Decals

Courtesy of KWVA Recruiting Task Force Committee.



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  - Two (2) each decals @ .....\$5.00
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**All Chapter and/or Department news for publication in Nov-Dec 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)**

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22-31 May WWI USMC Battlefields

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2-10 June WWII 66th Anniversary of D-Day/Paris

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18-25 Jun 65th Okinawa

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## Intrepid Visitors

By Louis Quagliero

Visiting a U.S. Navy aircraft carrier is an exciting opportunity, even for veterans who have seen their share of war. That was the case for members of two New Jersey Chapters, 170-Taejon and 48-Chorwon, who visited the USS Intrepid (CV-11) at Pier 86 in New York City on 9 June 2009. Chapter 170 Activities Director Bill Burns and Commander Thomas Falato arranged the trip.

The “intrepid” WWII aircraft carrier is now home to the Intrepid Sea, Air, and

Space Museum. A full bus of chapter members and guests left Saddle Brook, NJ at 9 a.m. on 9 June and arrived at Pier 86 a half-hour later. Within a short time, everyone was aboard Intrepid to begin a full day of an incredible journey through time. We embarked on an adventure and encountered history and heroism like never before.

The aircraft carrier, built in 1943, served several tours of duty in WWII and Vietnam. It made seven trips around the globe and survived five kamikaze attacks,



several bomb raids, and one torpedo strike. Ironically, it did not serve in Korea. Here is a brief description of its “life” between the end of WWII and Vietnam:

Intrepid shifted to San Francisco Bay 4 February 1946. Her status was reduced to “in commission in reserve” 15 August before decommissioning 22 March 1947 and joining the Pacific Reserve Fleet. Intrepid recommissioned at San Francisco 9 February 1952 and got underway 12 March for Norfolk. She decommissioned in the Norfolk Naval Shipyard 9 April 1952 for conversion to a modern attack aircraft carrier. Re-classified CVA-11 1 October, she recommissioned in reserve 18 June 1954. She became the first carrier in history to launch aircraft with American-built steam catapults 13 October 1954. Two days later she went into full commission as a unit of the Atlantic Fleet

(Source: *Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships*, <http://www.history.navy.mil/danfs/i2/intrepid-iv.htm>)



CID 170 Commander Thomas Falato in front of a large mural of the USS Intrepid

## USS GROWLER

The fourth Growler (SSG-577), second of the Regulus II guided missile submarines, was built by the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, N.H. At her launching 5 April 1958 she was sponsored by Mrs. Robert K. Byerts, widow of Comdr. Thomas B. Oakley, Jr., who commanded the third Growler on her 9th, 10th, and fatal 11th war patrols. Growler commissioned at Portsmouth on 30 August 1958, Lt. Comdr. Charles Priest, Jr., in command.

After training exercises off the East Coast Growler sailed south for her shakedown cruise, arriving at the Naval Air Station, Roosevelt Roads, P.R., on 19 February 1959. After a brief run back to Portsmouth, she returned to the Caribbean in March to train in launching Regulus I and II guided missiles. Growler returned to Portsmouth 19 April via Fort Lauderdale and New London.

Growler then proceeded to the Pacific via Norfolk, Key West, and the Panama Canal, putting in at Pearl Harbor on 7 September to serve as flagship of Submarine Division 12. At Pearl Harbor the guided missile sub participated in a variety of battle and torpedo exercises as well as missile practice before beginning her first Regulus Deterrent Mission. On this mission, which lasted from 12 March to 17 May 1960, Growler departed Hawaii with a full store of Regulus II sea-to-surface missiles, armed with nuclear warheads, and patrolled under a strict cloak of secrecy. The threat of Growler and her sisters, shadowy submarines silently gliding through unknown seas with their potent cargo, should deter any but the most foolhardy foe. The attitude of her crew, at sea on these silent missions for 2 months and more at a stretch, submerged for hours and even days, is nowhere better expressed than in the poem which traditionally opens each year's log. On New Year's Day 1961, as Growler prowled deep on her second patrol, Lt. (j.g.) Bruce Felt wrote: "Not our idea, of fun and good cheers, but doing our job to ensure many New Years."

From May 1960 through December 1963 Growler had made nine such deterrent mission patrols, one of which, the fourth, terminated at Yokosuka, Japan, on 24 April 1962, as the Navy proudly displayed one of its newest and most effective weapons.

Returning to Mare Island, Calif., in May 1964, Growler decommissioned 25 May and was placed in reserve.



**ABOVE:** Thomas Boyle (L) and Joseph Louis (R) of CID 170 aboard the USS Intrepid.

**LEFT:** Activities Director William Burns and Commander Falato of CID 170, who planned the trip to the USS Intrepid



A group of CID 170 members prepares to board the USS Growler (L-R) Erwin Burkert, Henry Ferrarini, Raymond Cohen, Thomas Falato, Louis DeStefano, George Rothfritz, Louis Quagliero

Intrepid also served as a NASA astronaut recovery vessel before it was decommissioned in 1974.

The ship's WWII history is fascinating. Intrepid launched the propeller-driven planes that helped defeat Japan during that war. We stood on the exact spot which Japanese kamikaze planes hit and

exacted their terrible toll upon Intrepid's crew. On that day—25 November 1944—69 crew members and officers died. As we were watching a movie of that event, we learned from the narrator that if we had been on this spot when the kamikaze plane hit, we would all be dead.

**Continued**



We learned a lot of other fascinating facts regarding the ship. *Intrepid* carried 3,300 men and officers at one time. It was 912 feet long, weighed 41,434 tons when fully loaded, and had a maximum speed of 37 mph. We also learned a lot from the other exhibits.

The next part of our adventure was a trip to the submarine *USS Growler* (SSG-577), the world's only strategic diesel-powered nuclear missile submarine open to the public. *Growler* launched 5 April 1958 and stayed on active duty only six years. It is 317 feet long, weighs 2,678 tons, and could reach a speed of 12 knots (13 ½ miles per hour) while submerged.

*Growler* had a diving depth of 600 feet and could remain submerged for 2 days. The submarine, which had a crew of 88 men, was armed with 15 torpedoes and 4 regular missiles. Every one of us who went into the vessel, from one end to the other, was impressed with the two torpedo rooms, navigation compartment, missile guidance center, crew quarters, and officers' quarters. Some people would not go on the submarine because of the tight quarters through which we had to pass. We all felt proud of the crew that served on *Growler*; they were a special breed of men.

Following our *Growler* tour, we proceeded to the British Airways Concorde (SST) section of the complex. The fastest Atlantic crossing by any of the Concorde took 2 hours, 52 minutes. The Concorde reached speeds of 1,350 mph at a cruising altitude of 60,000 feet. It carried a crew of 2 pilots, 1 flight engineer, 6 cabin crew members—and between 90 and 100 passengers. Only the ranks of the rich and famous could ride aboard the Concorde. The average transatlantic fare was approximately \$6,000 round trip.

We relived history by going through the plane on which 2.5 million passengers experienced the luxury of the Concorde. What a great day of history.

No one in or on a visit to the New York City area should miss the incredible adventure that is a visit to the *Intrepid* Sea, Air and Space Museum. Our visit made us proud Korean War veterans even prouder to be American.

*Louis Quagliero, 142 Illinois Avenue,  
Paterson, NJ 07503-1638*



Thomas Falato, Vincent Cupo, and Camille Georgison (L-R) aboard the *USS Intrepid*



Adjutant Perry Georgison of CID 170 and his wife Camille, the outstanding editor of the chapter's newsletter, out standing on the *USS Intrepid's* flight deck

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

# A Unique Flag Folding Program

At the request of the Director of Hospice at the Bay Pines Veterans Health Care facility, Clarence Dadswell, of CID 14, St. Petersburg, FL devised a new program for the patients. It was the custom of the Hospice to give patients a flag upon discharge to home, but the flags were in their shipping boxes and not folded.

So, every 6-8 weeks for the past 4 years, members of the chapter fold over 60 flags and place them in zippered flag covers which have been donated by the local Elks club.

This project expanded when the program was opened to the Junior Volunteers who were given a history of the flag and the twelve meanings of the folds by several members of the chapter. Mr. Dadswell read the instructions for the proper folding of the flag. Then, members of the Chapter were assigned two students and the teaching began. Members demonstrated the proper procedure and the students followed suit. Together, they folded 60



Two students fold a flag for the Bay Pines Hospice



flags.

The Director was called back to Hospice as a patient had died and she was needed for the candle-light service. On her return, she brought the family who observed our students in action. Amid their tears and smiles, the family members thanked the students for their generous and dedicated service to our veterans.

*Richard E. Arcand, 5674 Bay Pines Lakes Blvd  
St. Petersburg, FL 33708*

Mission accomplished: students display their folded flags

## SFC Bailey Gillespie honored

There was a reception held on 18 July 2009 at 2 p.m. at the VFW in Spindale, NC to honor longtime resident of Spindale, Bailey Gillespie. Sergeant First Class Gillespie served during the Korean War, and was a prisoner of war for 1,013 days. SFC Gillespie is a recipient of the Purple Heart for his wounds in combat.

Wood Carvers of America volunteer their skills to hand carve canes free of charge for any soldier who is awarded the Purple Heart. The one being presented to SFC Gillespie has an eagle head with his name, division, Combat Medic badge, Korean medal, and the Purple Heart medal. LtCol (R) Frank Dean of Marion, NC made the presentation.

Those desiring more information about Wood Carvers of America can go to [www.eaglecane.com](http://www.eaglecane.com). If you know of someone who is a Purple Heart recipient, contact LtCol Dean at [nosky2hi@charterinternet.com](mailto:nosky2hi@charterinternet.com) for an application.

Reach Bailey Gillespie, a member of CID 265, Charlotte, NC, at P.O. Box 365, Spindale, NC 28160, (704) 286-3057.

*Frank Dean, 73 South Main Street, Suite 2, P.O. Box 1154,  
Marion, NC 28752 (828) 652-1720, (866) 652-1720 (Fax)*



LtCol Dean (R) presents cane to SFC Bailey Gillespie

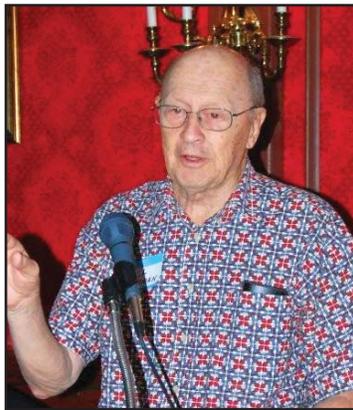
## 19 GEN. RAYMOND G. DAVIS JR. [GA]

Member Robert Hamer received the Korean Peace Medal from David Huang and Dae Yong Mun, both representing the Korean Veterans Association in Atlanta.



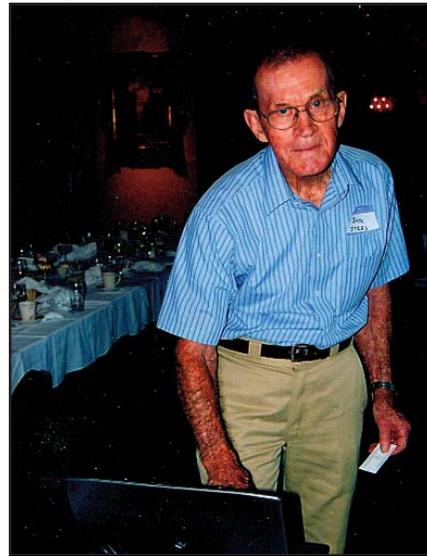
Robert Hamer, CID 19, receives the Korean Peace Medal from David Huang (L) and Dae Yong Mun (R)

Bill Newman speaks to members of CID 19 at their monthly luncheon



Ron Clark, Bob Moore, David Huang (Korean Veterans Chapter) & Bob Hendershott (L-R) of CID 19 carry the banner in the Alpharetta parade

The speaker at our August luncheon/meeting was a “Boots on the Ground” Army veteran, Bill Newman, who slogged through France, Belgium and Germany from Normandy till the war’s end.



Jack Stiles speaks at CID 19’s June meeting

We enjoyed a most enjoyable talk from one of “The Greatest Generation.”

We entered our float in the Old Soldiers Day Parade in Alpharetta (Atlanta suburb). Nine chapter members participated in the 57th parade held on the first Saturday in August. There was a great turnout.

The parade ended at an American Legion Hall, where there were free hot dogs and sodas.

Jack Stiles was the guest speaker at our June luncheon/meeting. He gave us a great PowerPoint presentation of his flying days as a U.S. Navy pilot flying off the aircraft carrier *USS Oriskany*, deep into North Korean territory.

Mr. Stiles later flew with the Civil Air Transport Company, which later became Air America.

James Conway, Secretary/Treasurer  
conatlanta@comcast.net

## 44 MISSOURI CHAPTER 1 [MO]

We scheduled our June 2009 monthly general meeting at our Korean War Memorial in commemoration of the start of the Korean War, 25 June, 1950. The Memorial is located in the famous St. Louis Forrest Park (site of the 1904 World’s Fair and the 1904 Olympics).

The memorial is a large stainless steel working sundial, approximately 8-ft high and 10-ft square. The cost was donated by Anheuser-Busch. The Memorial was fabricated by the Nooter Corp. Both companies are located in St. Louis, MO.

The monument was designed by Brother Mel Meyer, a member of the Society of Mary (Marianists). The memorial has two black granite towers toward the back with the names of 259 Korean War KIAs from the St. Louis area.

There are two black granite pedestals in the front, one identi-



Members of CID 44 members participate in POW/MIA ceremony



CID 44 members enjoy the shade at their June meeting



Meeting under the trees: CID 44 members get out of the sun

fyng the monument as the Korea War Memorial and the other engraved with the words "Freedom Is Never Free." In addition, there are four black granite benches around the front of the memorial donated by Missouri chapters #44 (MO #1), #78 (MO #3), #96 (MO #4), and #186 (MO #6). The overall care and expense of maintaining the Memorial, including the flags, is provided by participating chapters.



CID 44 members gather in front of their Korean War Memorial in St. Louis



A full view of CID 44's Korean War Memorial

Our meeting was called to order at 11 a.m. under the shade of the trees in 95 degree weather, with 16 members and the auxiliary in attendance. The meeting included a POW/MIA ceremony presented by Director Bob Meeker, a veteran of WWII, Korea, and Vietnam. All officers and directors were present.

Following the meeting, several members and wives gathered at a local eatery for lunch.

Kenn Dawley, Public Relations Director  
382-A Autumn Creek Drive, Manchester, MO 63088

## 99 TALL CORN [IA]

Stan Freeman, from the Iowa Vets Home, was the guest speaker at our July meeting. This meeting was our annual Pot Luck and election of officers. All of our officers were re-elected:



Stan Freeman talks to members of CID 99 at July meeting



Pot luck lunch being prepared for CID 99's meeting at Legion Hall in Malcolme, IA

- Sid Morris - President
- Leland Regal - 1st Vice Pres
- Leland Staker - 2nd Vice Pres.
- Ed Wittig – Sec/Treasurer

Stan gave a very interesting talk and showed photos of the new addition to the Vets Home at Marshalltown, Iowa. This is a multi-million dollar project, and construction is well under way.

Leland Regal, 382 6th Ave., Marion, IA. 52302-3206  
(Chapter photos by Leland Regal)

## 121 GREATER CINCINNATI [OH]

Members received a medallion from the Korean Christians for their service in Korea.

We also participated at the Montgomery, OH 4th of July Parade.

Robert L. McGeorge, 3296 Blueacres Drive,  
Cincinnati, OH 45239



Members of CID 121 display their Korean Service medallions



CID 121 4th of July Parade participants looking sharp

## 142 FREDERICK [MD]

Chapter members march in Rocky Springs, MD parade

We participated in the Rocky Ridge, MD Carnival Parade on 12 August, 2009. Those participating were Leroy Hansberger, Robert Mount, Gene Rinehart, Chip Chipley, Glenn Wienhoff, Bob Eader, Ken Davis, Jim Miller, Bob Miles and Tony Mara.



At the Rocky Ridge, MD parade, CID 142's Color Guard (L-R) Leroy Hansberger, Robert Mount, Gene Rinehart, Chip Chipley



CID 142 Commander John Wilcox presents check to VA Medical Center Acting Associate Director Tim Cooke. Looking on (L-R) are Tony Malavenda, Chip Chipley, Bob Eader, Reggie Kephart, Bob Mount, Ken Davis and Tony Marra

Reggie Kephart drove his fire engine, which displayed our Korean War veterans' banners. Our unit received the adult first prize.

#### Korean War veterans aid veterans at Medical Center

When members of our chapter learned that many military veterans who are residents of the VA Medical Center in Martinsburg, WV lacked funds sufficient to provide for simple needs such as monthly haircuts, they helped out with a donation.

Chapter Commander John Wilcox presented a \$1,000.00 check to VA Medical Center Acting Associate Director Tim Cooke to assist the veterans with their expenses.

Richard L. Martin, Publicity Chairman  
(301) 663-6360, rlnaem@comcast.net

## 144 ALOHA [HI]

We continue to honor all the fallen soldiers, living Korean War veterans and their families, and help educate the community about the history of the Korean War in the "50th State." Since



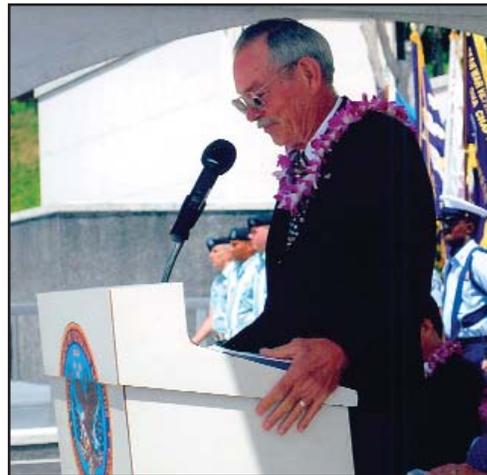
An impressive array of Memorials on display at CID 144's Wreath and Memorial Ceremony

2004, we have had the responsibilities of continuing the Korean War Memorial Ceremony every June 25th at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl.

This year, we were very fortunate to have Mayor Mufi Hannemann give his remarks, Consul General Bong Joo Kim provide the Memorial Address, Mr. Jinkil Chung of the General Korean Retired Congressman's Association dedicate a monument, and Admiral Richard Macke, U.S. Navy (RET), provide the Keynote Address to over 550 attendees from the local and Korean communities.



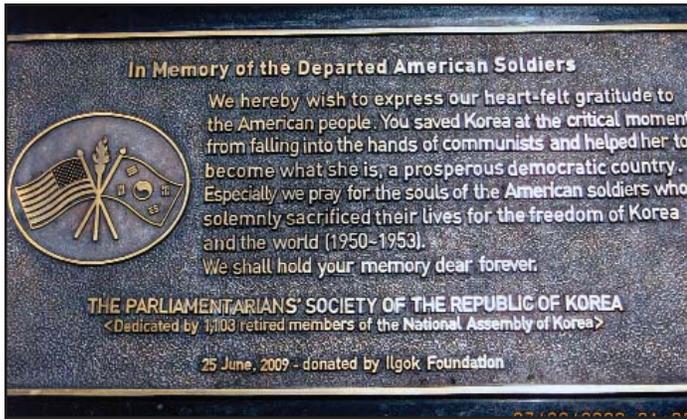
The North Korean Refugee Mission Choir performs at the Punchbowl ceremony in Hawaii



Keynote Speaker Admiral Richard Macke at the Punchbowl ceremony



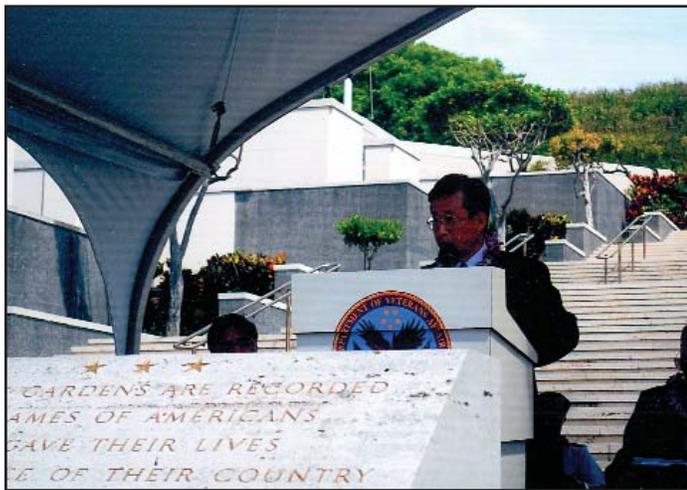
Opening ceremony for the monument dedication at Punchbowl



The monument presented at Punchbowl by the Parliamentarians' Society of the Republic of Korea



Members of CID 170 who participated in the Pearl River St. Patrick's Day Parade



Consul General of the Republic of Korea Bong Joo Kim speaks at the Punchbowl

We were also blessed to have many wreaths presented at the ceremony to honor our fallen comrades.

CID 144, P. O. Box 88232, Honolulu, HI 96830-8232, (808) 951-1411, alohawkva144@yahoo.com

## 170 TAEJON [NJ]

Chapter Commander Thomas Falato led twenty Korean War veterans in the 47th Annual St. Patrick's Day parade in Pearl River, NJ on 22 March 2009. The Rockland County [NY] Ancient Order of Hibernians sponsors the event. This year's parade was dedicated to the "Greatest Generation," the veterans of WWII.

Our chapter marched the three-mile parade route with nine other veteran groups, including those from WWII, Vietnam, and current wars. Uniformed "re-enactors" representing the colonial era, WWI, and the Civil War participated in the parade.

All veterans marched in the Honor Battalion, which was followed by five other battalions. Commander Falato and four other chapter members rode in the 2-1/2-ton Korean War-era Army truck. Sgt-at-Arms Frank Uvenio led the marching contingent on a cool, beautiful day for a parade.



Patrick Rooney (L) and William Burns (R), "Irishmen" of CID 170's St. Patrick's Day contingent



Thomas Falato, Commander of CID 170, holding back the 2-1/2-ton truck chapter members rode in during the St. Patrick's Day Parade

As always, Color Guard Captain Henry Ferrarini led the Color Guard and marching veterans in singing cadence. The large crowd, 3 or 4 deep on the sidewalk for 3 miles, went wild when we passed, shouting "Thank you." They appreciated us Korean War veterans in our late 70s and early 80s as we showed our patriotism by marching in the parade.

The Pearl River St. Patrick's Day parade produces one of the largest crowds of any similar event. In fact, it is compared to the New York City St. Patrick's Day parade crowd.

Taejon Chapter members have always enjoyed this parade. We have won two large trophies for our uniforms and marching performance.

Commander Falato invited everyone to a great post-parade meal at the Saddle Brook Diner.

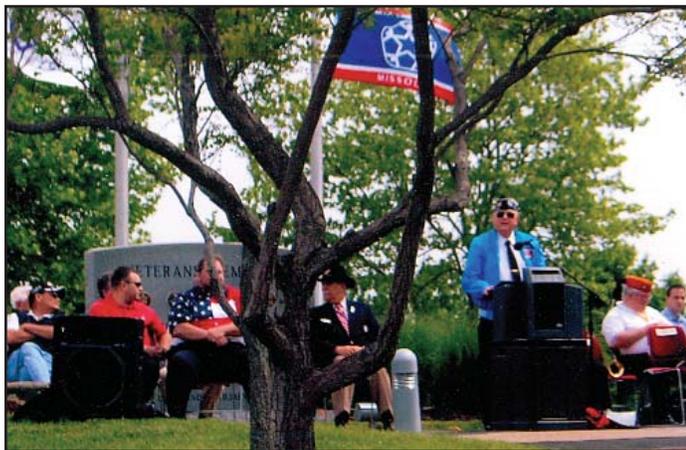
Louis Quagliero, 142 Illinois Ave., Paterson, NJ 07503

## 186 ST. CHARLES COUNTY [MO]

The nearby pictures were taken at the Recognition Ceremony honoring veterans of the Korean War in St. Charles County. It was sponsored by the City of St. Peters, MO, on Armed Forces Day, May 16, 2009.



Mayor Leo Pagano presents medallion to Frank Williams at St. Peters, MO Armed Forces Day event



Frank Williams, Missouri State Commander, addresses crowd at St. Peters, MO Armed Forces Day ceremony

A beautiful and specially first struck brass medallion was given to each Korean veteran attending, depicting the Korean Memorial in Washington, D.C. on one side, a head of an American eagle on the other, and script denoting the occasion.

Celebrities in attendance to speak and to hand out the medal-

lions included Mayor Len Pagano of the City of St. Peters; Todd Akins, the U.S. House Representative for the District; LtCol Tom Kuypers, U.S. Army (Ret); Col Jack Jackson, pilot, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret) and highly decorated veteran of the Vietnam and Desert Storm Wars; and Frank Williams, Missouri State Commander, KWVA.

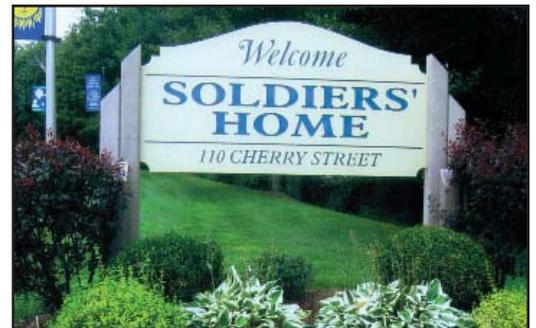
Units of all of the military branches of service were also in attendance, with displays of military equipment from WWII through present day Iraq. It was a very special and impressive ceremony.

Chris Christifulli, Historian, Missouri Chapter 6 (CID 186), 923 Annabrook Park Dr., O'Fallon, MO 63366

## 187 WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS 2000 [MA]

We hosted a picnic for the patients on 12 August 2009 at the Holyoke [MA] Soldiers Home. Chapter volunteers provided food at the annual event.

James K. Stathis, 42 Pine Grove Drive  
South Hadley, MA 01075-2196



Setting up the chow line at the Holyoke Soldiers' Home



Welcome, CID 187, to the Holyoke Soldiers' Home



CID 187 members setting up for their 12 August picnic



Members of CID 187 take time out from their picnic hosting for a group

## 199 MANASOTA [FL]

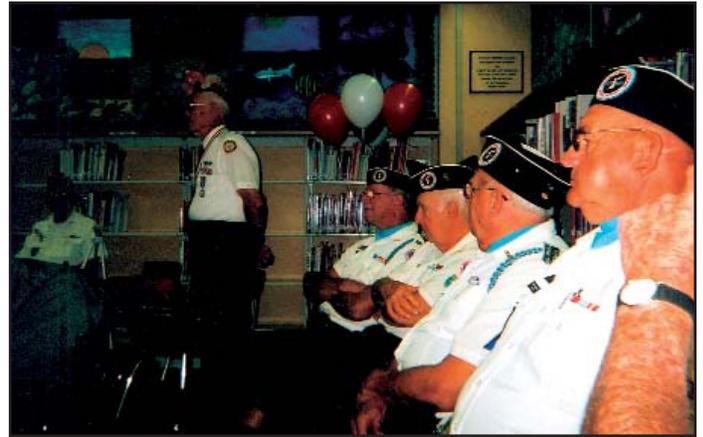
We awarded a \$500.00 scholarship to three students at Braden River Middle School, which the school matched. The money was awarded in equal parts to three students for “best essay” on the topic of “Community Veterans.”



President Gene Gillette presents CID 199's first prize in the essay contest to student Taylor Myers, as chapter Treasurer Fred Weinmann watches



Braden River Middle School Principal Petrilla, teacher Mrs. Pittman, Gene Gillette, and Fred Weinmann present scholarships to three students



Bob Eldredge tells his story at CID 199's Veterans Appreciation Day meeting

At our Veterans Appreciation Day meeting, WWII veteran and VFW member Bob Eldredge told us his story of being shot down over Germany in WWII and becoming a POW.

Gene Gillette, 1407 39th St. W., Bradenton, FL 34205

## 209 LAREDO 1950 [TX]

We were invited as the guests at the promotion ceremony of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Laredo Sector, which was held at the Laredo Country Club on 28 May 2009.

Pete Trevino, Historian, (956) 723-6978



The crowd includes CID 209 members and guests at the Laredo promotion ceremony

## 251 SAGINAW COUNTY [MI]

We sold Roses of Sharon on May 22-23, 2009. We worked two 4-hour shifts in front of 1 Wal-Mart's, 1 Sam's and 1 Pat's Food Center (Freeland, MI.). Considering that there are several entrances per shopping center, we utilize at least 40 members who are eager to volunteer. We give at least 95% of our Rose sales to needy organizations, etc.

Here are some highlights of what we have contributed to different recipients recently from Rose of Sharon sales.

(a) \$1,000 to Fisher House organization for veterans' families who visit their recuperating warriors

(b) Seven (7) \$500 Scholarships to Michigan high school seniors who will attend a Michigan college or university. Money is forwarded to the schools' Financial Aid Departments.



Members of CID 251 at Rose of Sharon sales (L-R) Dallas Mossman, Sr., Chuck Wenzel, and Hiel Rockwell



Richard Rosa of CID 251

(c) \$1,000 to purchase an electronic keyboard for the new Michigan's Children's Museum

(d) \$300 to the local VA Hospital Volunteer Services, where we meet

(e) 100 turkey dinners to the Rescue Mission at Thanksgiving, 2008

(f) Over 550 lbs of non-perishable foods to the Saginaw Soup Kitchen

Lydia Davis, CID 251



Bob Simon (L) and Eugene Feinauer (R) of CID 251 at Rose of Sharon sales

Tom Keller (L) and Fred Bauer (R), Chairman of CID 251's Rose of Sharon Sales



We are proud to say that of our 112 KWVA members, we average 40 to 50 members at each meeting. We wear our white military shirts and military KWVA Service Caps at meetings. We do not have any meals or snacks or coffee, but we do have a quality speaker at every meeting—which is my assignment.

Bob Simon, 7286 Spring Lake Trail  
Saginaw, MI 48603-1684



Jim Smith (L) and Andy Morse (R), CID 251 volunteers



Walt Mohland (L) and Jack Tany of CID 251 sell Roses of Sharon

## 259 CENTRAL INDIANA [IN]

On July 27th, John M. Quinn observed the 56th anniversary of the ending of fighting in Korea with former Prisoner of War Lyle Gordon. Quinn has known Gordon for about four years, since he interviewed him for the Veterans History Project of the Library of Congress.



John M. Quinn (L) of CID 259 commemorates the July 27th anniversary with Lyle Gordon

Gordon was captured by the Chinese the first day he reported into a unit of 2nd Infantry Division's 23rd Regiment, on May 1, 1951. He spent the next 27 months in various camps in North Korea, ending up in Camp #2 near the Yalu River. He was not repatriated until September of 1953.

Gordon, a native of Boone County IN, is presently living in Singer, TX.

Officers and members of Central Indiana 259 were on hand on 12 June to thank shoppers at the Sam's Club store in Indianapolis as they donated for hospitalized veterans and thanked us for our service through the wars past. Over \$1,200 was contributed during the two-day collection. It will be used to provide supplies and other conveniences to those hospitalized veterans of all wars.



John Quinn leads the singers at CID 259's July meeting. The Auxiliary Ladies are Katy Carr, Amilia Rupe, Dorothy Sanders.

Present for CID 259's 12 June project were (L-R) Cmdr Tine Martine, Don Sheib, Katie Carr, L. Nicholson, Ernie Condra, Vice Cmdr Jack Beaty, Tom Gill, and Ex-POW Chaplain Mel Butler, waving "Old Glory." Mel also supplies the military band marching music to set the mood



Korean Service veterans gathered at the Indiana War Memorial on June 25th to commemorate the start of the War in 1950. Indianapolis Mayor Ballard, a retired Marine Lt.Col, and his office staff joined with veterans' organizations on this effort. Medal of Honor recipient Ron Rosser was one of the honorees. "Thank you's" were enhanced with presentations of medallions to each veteran in attendance.

Chapter members paid tribute to our country at their monthly meeting, July 18, 2009. Ladies of the Chapter Auxiliary and John Quinn led members in singing "God Bless America" at the meeting's close. Some members also enjoyed singing 'good oldies' at their recent successful annual picnic at Fort Harrison State Park.

John M. Quinn, Saggi32@aol.com

## 264 MT. DIABLO [CA]

### Keeping the memory alive

Our members, who come from all areas, are constantly teaming up with different veterans and other organizations to present



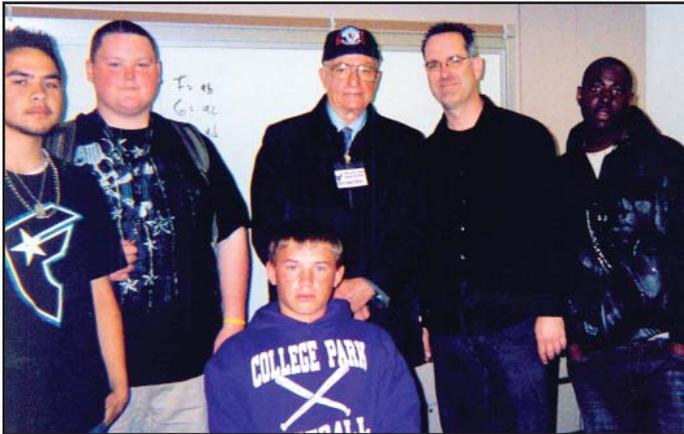
Bob Hooker, CID 264 officer, greets California's Lt. Governor John Garanendi at the start of the Concord, CA parade



Members of CID 264 and Purple Heart veterans team up for the Concord, CA 4th of July Parade



Don Craven gets 'fired up' for CID 264's post-parade picnic



Stanley Grogan (C), of CID 264, showed slides and a film to College Park High School students



Stanley Grogan and a group of American Volunteers convene

a solid front to the general public in "keeping the memory alive." For example, we teamed up with Purple Heart veterans in Concord's annual 4th of July Parade, which was viewed by 40,000 onlookers.

We invited students to our picnic. And, we showed slides and a film to a College Park High School Social Studies class. (College Park is in Pleasant Hill, CA.)

Our efforts will continue.

Stanley Grogan, 2585 Moraga Drive  
Pinole, CA 94564

## 270 SAM JOHNSON [TX]

We made an \$800.00 donation to *The Graybeards* from the sales on Walk-In Tubs.

J. Tilford Jones, P.O. Box 833397, Richardson, TX  
75083, (972) 233-7263, tilj@flash.net



The Sam Johnson Chapter  
Chapter 270  
Korean War Veterans Association



PO Box 833397 Richardson, TX 75083 www.kwva270.org Ph: (972) 233-7263 email: tilj@flash.net

July 28, 2009

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Miles Brown

**Past Presidents**  
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Editor, *The Graybeards*  
152 Sky View Drive  
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Dear Art,

Just a note to let you know that KWVA Inc. has received a check in the amount of \$800.00 as a contribution to the *Graybeards* from the Sam Johnson Chapter 270. I will deposit the check tomorrow. This check is in addition to the \$3,500.00 previously given in support of the *Graybeards*.

This donation is from the sales of Walk-In Tubs which are sold by the Best Buy Walk In Tub Company and to express Sam Johnson Chapter 270's continued support for the *Graybeards* Publication.

Sincerely yours,

J. Tilford Jones  
Secretary, KWVA Chapter 270

Letter announces CID 270's \$800.00 donation

**Korean War Anniversary Program — July 26, 2009**

On Sunday 26 July 2009, an estimated 200 North Texas Korean War Veterans, family members, friends, and patriots attended a program celebrating the 56th anniversary of the cease fire ending the Korean War. This Anniversary Program took place in the Atrium at the Dallas VA Medical Center on 26 July 2009.

Four organizations sponsoring the event were the Greater Dallas Veterans Council, KWVA Chapter 215, KWVA Chapter 270, and the North Texas Chapter of the Chosin Few.



Some attendees at the 2009 Korean War Anniversary Program in the Atrium of the Dallas VA Hospital

Chapter 270's Color Guard poses before the start of the program (L-R) Ed Wuermsr, Billy Joe Denton, Dick Lethe, and Gui Jung



Members of the local 6.25 ROK veterans chapter shown singing the ROK National Anthem, accompanied by Korean women in traditional dress

Beginning at 2:30 p.m., the local Town North Band entertained attendees with golden oldies and patriotic music. Then, at 3 p.m., the program began, with CID 270 President JD Randolph serving as Master of Ceremonies.

Sharon Risher, Resident Chaplain of the Dallas VA Medical Center, gave the Invocation and Benediction. CID 270's Color Guard Presented the Colors. The Color Guard included Richard Sanchez, Billy Joe Denton, Gui Jung, Jerry Kasten, Dick Lethe, and Ed Wuermsr.



Speaker Antal (C), with ex-POW Jim Hall (L) and MOH recipient and ex-POW James Stone (R)

The Town North Concert Band played the U.S. National Anthem. Members of ROK 6.25 Korean War Veterans sang the ROK National Anthem, accompanied by the Town North Band. Jack Cooper, of CID 215, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A Korean Children's Quartet sang "Stars and Stripes" and "God Bless America."

The grandchildren of Mr. & Mrs. Lee, President of 6.25 Korean War Veterans, sang the Korean National Anthem.

John F. Anatal, Col, U.S. Army (Ret) gave the memorial address.

The Class Act Tap Dance Company gave two performances.

Larry Kinard, President of CID 215, and Doyle Dykes, of CID 270, placed the wreath.

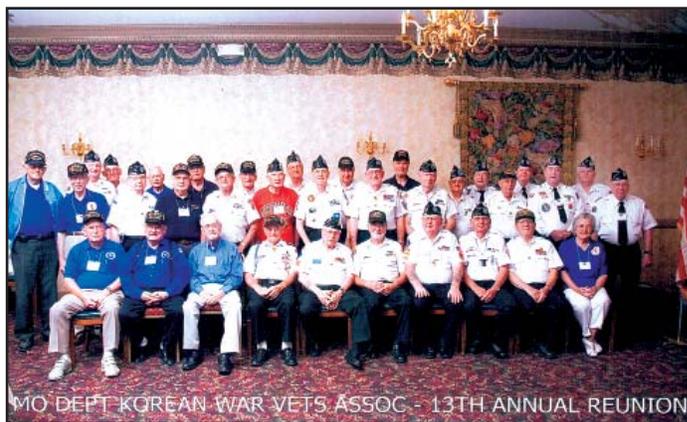
The Town North Concert Band played Taps.

Glen Thompson, gthomp@tx.rr.com

**281 ROLLA #9 [MO]**

**Chapter hosts State of Missouri KWVA Reunion**

We served as the host for the 13th annual State KWVA Reunion, June 26-27, 2009. Members of various Missouri KWVA chapters and veterans from all over the state gathered to reminisce, share war experiences, and demonstrate that neither the war in which we participated nor our comrades who suffered the most by not surviving have been forgotten.



Attendees at Missouri KWVA annual reunion

Features of the all-day event on Saturday June 27 included:

- Guest speakers Col Jorge Ascunce, USMC, Commander, Marine Corps Detachment, and Dr. Larry Roberts, U. S. Army Engineer School, both from Fort Leonard Wood, MO.
- The Waynesville, MO DAV Unit presented a flag ceremony

that included the history of American flags and posting of the colors.

Also included in the program were:

- Installation of elected and appointed state officers.
- A presentation of Rolla Chapter 9's Tell America program.
- Ralph Duren, a Wildlife Impersonator.
- Lunch and dinner buffets and musical entertainment.



Installation of elected and installed Department of Missouri officers

A significant amount of the money we collect through our "Rose of Sharon" drive is donated to the Veterans Home in St. James, MO and to Disabled American Veterans Chapter 49 in Waynesville, MO.

On December 10, 2008, Norman Ragan, our chapter Treasurer, presented a check in the amount of \$1000.00 to James Harker, the Commander of DAV Chapter 49. The donation to DAV helps pay for transportation of disabled veterans to area clinics and hospitals.

Roger Lueckenhoff, 208 Steeplechase Rd.  
Rolla, Mo. 65401, lueck@fidnet.com



Norman Ragan (R), CID 281 Treasurer, presents check to James Harker (C) of DAV. Forrest O'Neal (L) observes

## 297 PLATEAU [TN]

Chapter members have had a very busy spring/summer season. Starting in May with the sale of the Rose of Sharon, our annual fund raiser, we were able to again set another record for funds raised in the midst of a weak economy.

Funds raised have already been allocated as follows:

- two \$1,000.00 scholarships to graduating seniors, one from each of the Cumberland County high schools, to be used to start their college educations this fall
- a \$250.00 scholarship to the Cumberland County 4-H for future summer camp use
- a \$500.00 grant to the Cumberland County Veterans Service Officer to be used at his discretion for needy military personnel and their families.

In addition, several thousand dollars was appropriated to worthy Cumberland County agencies that assist the poor.

We are proud of our motto: "Funds raised in Cumberland County will be returned to Cumberland County."

Margaret Malsack, kaslam2001@yahoo.com



CID 297's Public Information Officer Dick Malsack presents Cumberland County 4-H Agent Taunee Whittenbarger with a check for \$250.00 to be used for future 4-H summer camp scholarships

## 315 SOUTHERN OREGON [OR]

We are a new chapter, with seventeen members. We meet every third Monday of the month at the Shilo Inn, which donates a room for us—and coffee. We invite anyone who is interested in joining us to visit.

Dean McCain, President of the Department of Oregon, attended one of our recent meetings.

Dan D. Warden, P.O. Box 404, Selma  
OR 97538, (541) 597-2979 or (541) 659-6060



Members of the newly formed chapter 315, Southern Oregon, gather at a meeting (Front) Ed Lawrence (Middle, L-R) Ted Sockman, Vernon Beck, John C. Bradley, Richard Bates (Standing, L-R) George Thallheimer, Dean Bosche, Dan D. Warden, Neal McCain



# Monuments and Medals

Korea: the Forgotten War, Remembered

## 146 – MOUNTAINEER [WV]

I was going through a bunch of old pictures that I had taken over the years since we were able to organize our first chapter of the KWVA here in West Virginia, the Mountaineer Chapter of Charleston, West Virginia.

Since that time we have been able to organize new chapters in Beckley and Fairmont, West Virginia. I was honored to be elected the first President of the Department of West Virginia several years ago.



The Mountaineer chapter's Korean War Memorial



From a hole to a Memorial: the "seed" of the Mountaineer chapter's Memorial

The Charleston chapter, my home chapter and the first one organized in West Virginia, made a solemn promise to each of the members that a Korean War Memorial would be constructed, not only to those who were KIA, but to all who served, wherever and in whatever branch of service.

After many fundraising activities too numerous to mention, the chapter was able to amass \$50,000.00 dedicated to

building the Memorial and maintaining it in years to come. Many organizations, labor unions, volunteer workers and the city of South Charleston, West Virginia helped to bring this memorial to what you see today.

The two pictures nearby might be called the alpha and omega or the start and finish of the building of the Memorial. They show what perseverance and dedication to a cause can accomplish.

We here in the Charleston chapter of the KWVA are very, very proud of our Memorial, and we want to share the pictures with you.

*Jack Tamplin, P.O. Box 245, Boomer, WV  
25031-0245, (304) 779-2547*

## 187 – WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS 2000 [MA]

Interstate 391 in western Massachusetts has been dedicated as the Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway. Chapter members were instrumental in accomplishing the designation.

*James K. Stathis, 42 Pine Grove Drive  
South Hadley, MA 01075*

## 256 – NORVILLE B. FINNEY [MI]

A Korean War Memorial was unveiled in Dearborn, MI in July 2008.

Many of our members and spouses attended. We enjoyed a dinner after the ceremony.

*Bob Schornak, 42851 Matthew Drive  
Sterling Hills, MI 48313*



The newly dedicated memorial in Dearborn, MI

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



Members of CID 256 attend the dedication of the Korean War Memorial in Dearborn



Mrs. & Mr. Vince Napoletano and Don Bouffard (L-R) at Dearborn dinner



Mrs. and Mr. Jack Dempster, Bob Schornak, and Jim McCarthy (L-R) of CID 256 attend the dinner hosted by members of the Korean Vets after memorial ceremony



Wives of CID 256 members at post-memorial event dinner (L-R) Flo McCarthy, Betty Schornak, Leroy Schornak and friend



Mr. & Mrs. Leon Lee, Joe Osborne, and Dick Charbonneau (L-R) at Dearborn dinner



Gene Majetic, Ed Trombley, Paul Nobles, and Mr. & Mrs. Ryan Hong (L-R) at the Dearborn dinner

## 272 – GREATER ROCKFORD [IL]

We dedicated our Memorial on 27 July 2008, even though construction was not complete at the time. Now it is.

On 26 July 2009 we conducted our completion ceremony. The Memorial was not built for us veterans. Rather, it was built to honor the 59 local men who gave their lives to free South Korea—and whose names are on our Memorial.

*Joseph A. Myers, Commander, 5451 Ebonywood Lane Roscoe, IL 61073, (815) 654-8659 (815) 519-5799 (cell), jmkwd73d@charter.net*



The flags fly proudly over the CID 272 Memorial



A close-up view of CID 272's Memorial



CID 272 went down the right path to build a Memorial

# Thanks!

As we have noted in past issues, 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.

Korean groups from Los Angeles County invited members of CID 56 (Ventura County, CA) to an Appreciation Luncheon at the VA. They provided lunch and a lot of gifts.

Chapter member Eutimeo Beas won "First Prize" for traveling the farthest to attend the event.

*Chapter 56, 1121 New Street, Santa Paula, CA 93060*



Eutimeo Beas displays his prize at Korean thanks event



Members of CID 56 at LA County Thanks event (Back, L-R) Manuel Adame, Gregory Garcia, Jr., Benjamin Espinoza, David Lopez



Korean dancers at L.A. County event

# Nevada Korean War Memorial

Chapter #305, Carson City, [NV] and the Korean American Association of Reno celebrated the completion of the Nevada Korean War Memorial Monument and Park, commemorating the successful endeavor to maintain freedom for the Republic of South Korea. The dedication was held on 16 May 2009 at Korean War Veterans Memorial Park, located at the extreme east end of Fifth Street in Carson City.

Guest speakers included the Hon. Jaesoo Kim, Consul General of South Korea, Carson City Mayor Bob Crowell, Mike Son, President, Korean American community in Reno, and Angelo De Felice, President of KWVA Chapter #305. There was a brief military ceremony featuring the Carson City High School Jr. NROTC Color Guards and the USMC Rifle Team. The Carson City Community Band provided music, and the "U Kyung Choi Korean Dance Academy" of San Francisco supplied entertainment.

Four large boulders represent the last four major battles in Korea where action took place from March 26 through the end of July 1953. These battles were named by U.S. forces as "The Nevada Cities campaign:" Carson, Vegas, Reno, and Elko.

The brick pedestal at the center lists the names of the 34 Nevadans killed in action, a description of the "Nevada Cities" battles, and a list of original donors. The other pedestal site holds a replica of a typical Korean house of that time period. It displays emblems of the five branches of the U. S. armed forces, a message from the Korean Community of Reno, and a depiction of the 38th Parallel as it divides Korea and extends through the State of Nevada.

Financial support was generously provided by CID 305 members, the sale of commemorative bricks, donations from the general public, and a grant from the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs in Korea, via the Korean Consul General, submitted by the Korean American community of Reno.

The paving bricks, with names and units commemorating those who have had some attachment to the Korean War, can be purchased for \$50.00 each.

Future generations will have only a dim recollection of who we were and what we accomplished. But, with this monument. we won't die. We will just proudly fade into history.

Angelo De Felice, President, 214 W. King St., Carson City, NV, 89703-4200, (775) 882-0916, [angnmare@aol.com](mailto:angnmare@aol.com)



◀ A gathering of veterans at the dedication

Mayor Crowell chats with guests



◀ A young man absorbs a history lesson

Consul Gen Kim and Angelo DeFelice share the "Flag of Friendship"



▲ Korean Dance troupe performs for the Carson City crowd



The Nevada Korean War Memorial surrounded by friends



Commemorative bricks at the Nevada Memorial

# My time in Korea

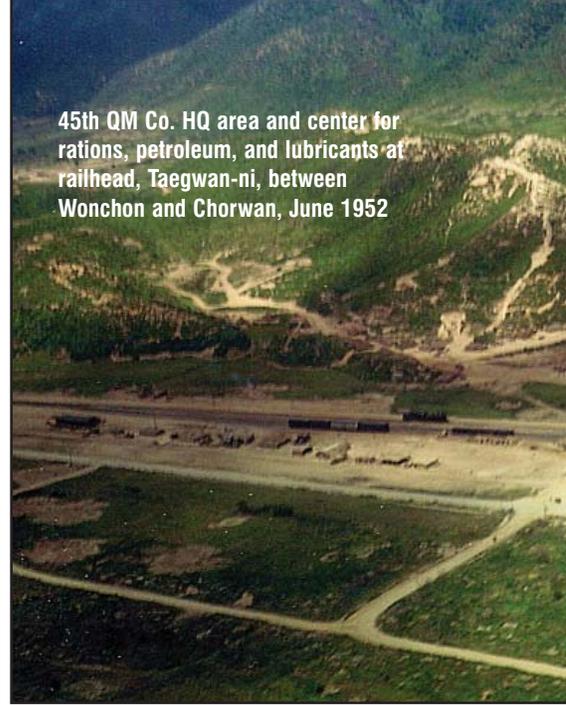
By Chester M. Harvey

I took the nearby photos during my time in Korea, December 1951 to August 1952. I was with the 45th Inf. Div., 45th Quartermaster Co.

I took the aerial photos of the Chorwon area from a 45th Div. spotter plane piloted by Lt Nielsen of St. Paul, MN.

Reach Mr. Harvey, 10701 N La Reserve Drive #352, Tucson, AZ 85737-9145, (520) 825-0406

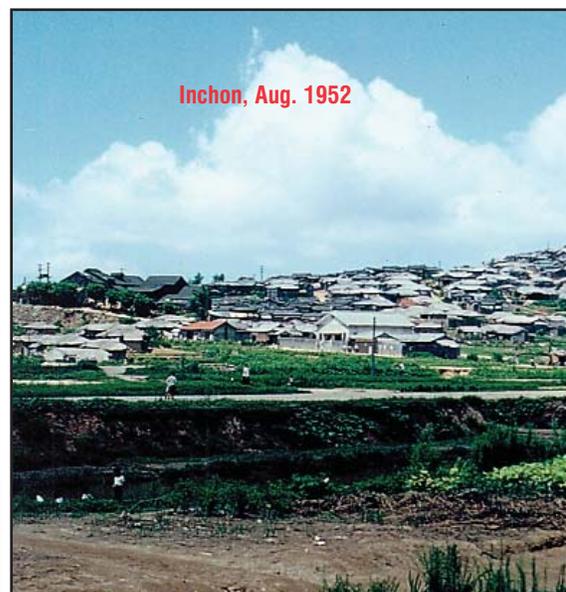
45th QM Co. HQ area and center for rations, petroleum, and lubricants at railhead, Taegwan-ni, between Wonchon and Chorwan, June 1952



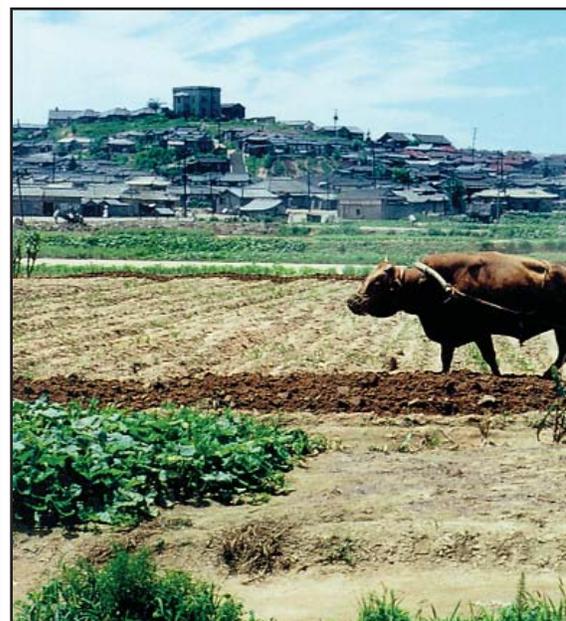
A Korean road in the Chunchon area, June 1952



Inchon, Aug. 1952

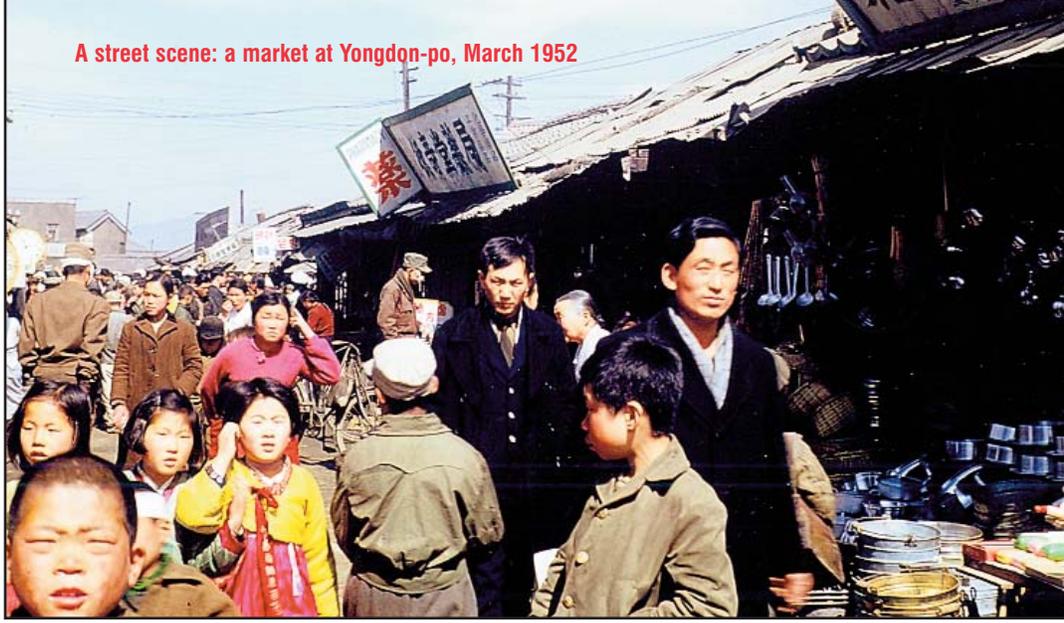


The Imjin River in the Chorwon sector, June 1952





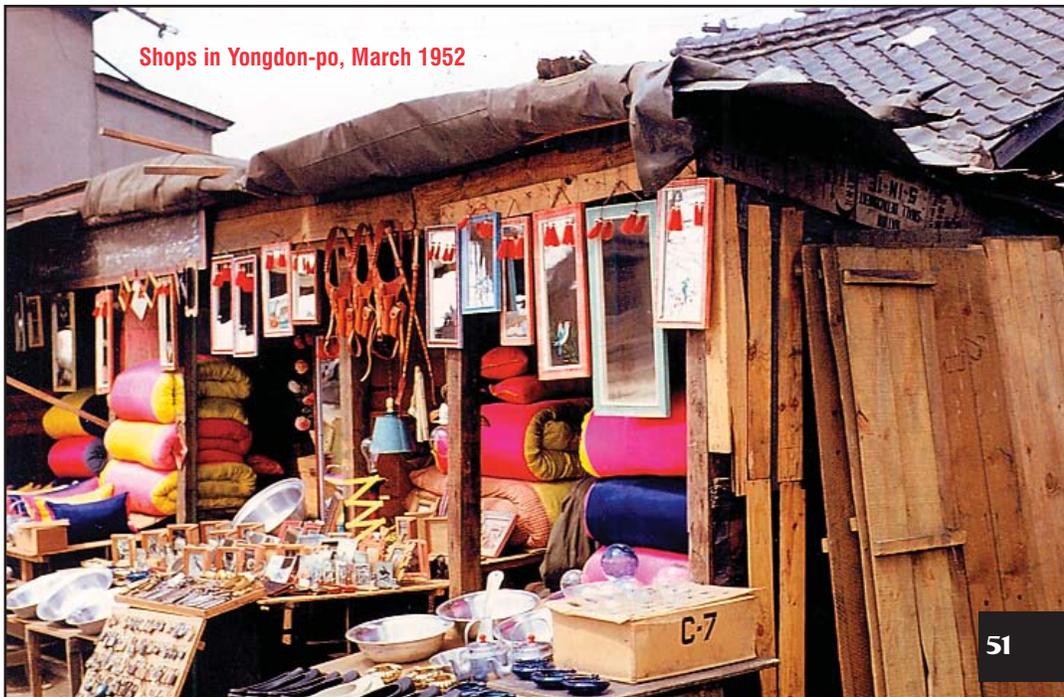
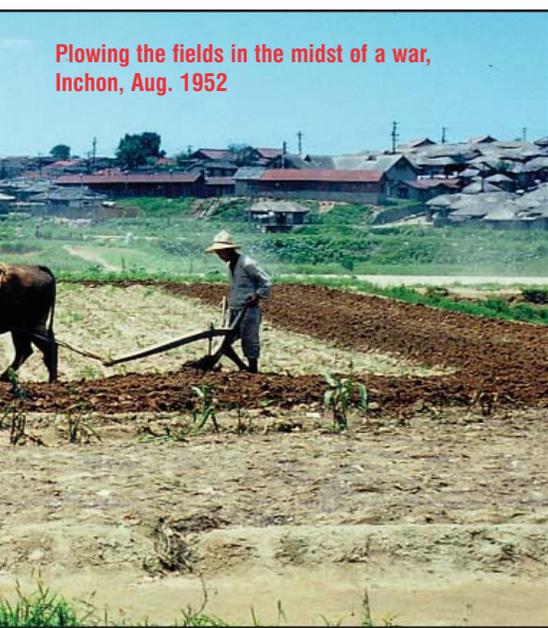
A street scene: a market at Yongdon-po, March 1952



Quiet on the streets of Yongdon-po, March 1952



Shops in Yongdon-po, March 1952



# July 27th

As is the case every year, there were ceremonies galore to honor the July 27th Armistice Anniversary. We cover a few of them here.

## 55 – NASSAU COUNTY [NY]

We hold a ceremony every year on the anniversary of the cease fire. The memorial service is conducted at a monument in N. Massapequa, New York.

Several other veterans groups attend with their Color Guards.

*Robert P. O'Brien, 408 Fifth Avenue, Cedarhurst, NY 11516-1408*



Chaplain Jean Quinn of CID 55 offers benediction at N. Massapequa event, as Color Guard members from various veterans groups stand at attention



Charlie Bours, Shelly Swirsky, Bob Snider, Tom Riley, Bill Vestigo (L-R) of CID 55 at CID 55's event



1st Vice Commander Don Zoeller of CID 55 presents wreath at July 27th program

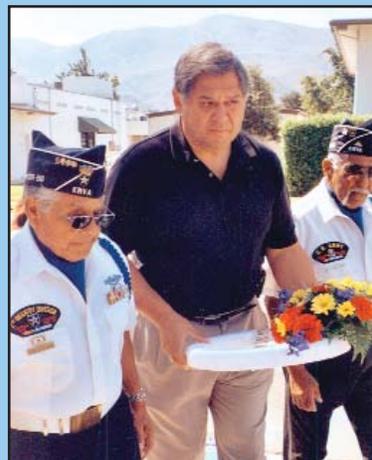
## 56 – VENTURA COUNTY [CA]

We held our annual ceremony at Veterans Park in Santa Paula to commemorate the end of the Korean War. Rev. David Pressey, a Korean War veteran from Ojai, CA, was our guest speaker.

*Chapter 56, 1121 New Street, Santa Paula, CA 93060*



The CID 56 Rifle Squad at Veterans Park in Santa Paula (R-L) Henry Guevara, William Cobos, David Garcia, Manuel Adame, Henry Marin, Gregory Garcia, Jr., Robert Bermudez, Henry Aquila



Santa Paula City Councilman Robert Gonzales participates in CID 56's wreath laying ceremony with chapter members Eutimeo Beas (R) and Rudy Arellano (L)



Members of CID 56 stand near their Memorial in Santa Paula (L-R) Henry Aguilar, David Garcia, Manuel Adame, Richard Ruiz, Commander David Lopez



**LEFT:** Frances Limon places a wreath at Santa Paul Memorial in honor of her husband Joe Limon as chapter members Rudy Arellano (L) and Eutimeo Beas (R) show respect.

**BELOW:** Guest speaker at CID 56's ceremony, Rev. David Pressey, talks as wreath layers listen (L-R, Front) Richard Ruiz, Martin Vasquez, Alice Guevara, Robert Gonzales, Gerald Olivas, Sally Ann L. Pitts, Oscar Villa, Mercy Villa (Rear) Martin Hernandez, Frances Limon, Connie Borrego



## 141 – CAPE COD & ISLANDS [MA]

Sr. Vice Commander Jake O'Rourke and Commander Sam Franco placed a wreath at the chapter's Korean War Memorial at Veterans Park, Hyannis, MA, to commemorate the 1953 Armistice.

Chapter members also honored all those who served in Korea.

*Don Duquette, quahog41@comcast.net & Stan Jones  
25 Huckins Neck, Centerville, MA 02632*



**The Korean War Memorial in Hyannis, MA (Photo by Don Duquette)**



**KWVA Color Guard at the Cape and Islands Memorial (Photo by Ed O'Neill)**



**CID 141 Commander Sam Franco and Chosin Marine Jake O'Rourke placing a wreath at Cape and Islands Memorial to honor all who served in Korea (Photo by Ed O'Neill)**



**The Cape and Islands Honor Guard and Bugler Marine Captain Carl Copp (Photo by Ed O'Neill)**

# Korean War Veterans' Mini-Reunions

## 76th Eng. Const. BN

There were 27 members of the 76th Engineer Construction Battalion and their wives and guests in attendance at our 17th Annual Reunion, held at the Comfort Suites, Lebanon, TN on 23-25 April 2009.

The 76th Engineer Construction Battalion was the first engineer outfit to arrive in Korea. It was on Okinawa when the Korean War started. We arrived in Korea in the middle of July 1950, and set up for the defense of the Pusan Perimeter.

For our efforts in the defense of the South Korean people, the 76th was awarded a Presidential Unit Citation. "C" company of the 76th was awarded a Presidential Unit Citation for building a bridge across the Kum River opening the road north to Seoul.

This was the start of many awards presented to the 76th individual members and the Battalion.

*Ezekiel P Gandara, 76th ECB President, 6832 S 90th Street Lincoln, NE 68526, (402) 477-7230, (402) 440-9609*



Attendees of the 76th Engineer Construction Battalion at Lebanon, TN gathering

## Mini-Reunion 17th Field Artillery — all Chapter 270 members

On August 14, 2008, 35 members of CID 270 met at Ryan's Steak House in Mesquite, TX to celebrate a reunion of three members who served with the 17th Field Artillery from 1949 through 1951: Darwin McGladdery, of Niceville, FL, Grover Meeks, of Carrollton, TX, and Doyle Dykes of Garland, TX.

They met in 1949 at Fort Sill, OK and served three years in the same battalion — the 17th Field Artillery Battalion Heavy Artillery. They served together in Fort Sill and went with the unit to Korea in 1950.

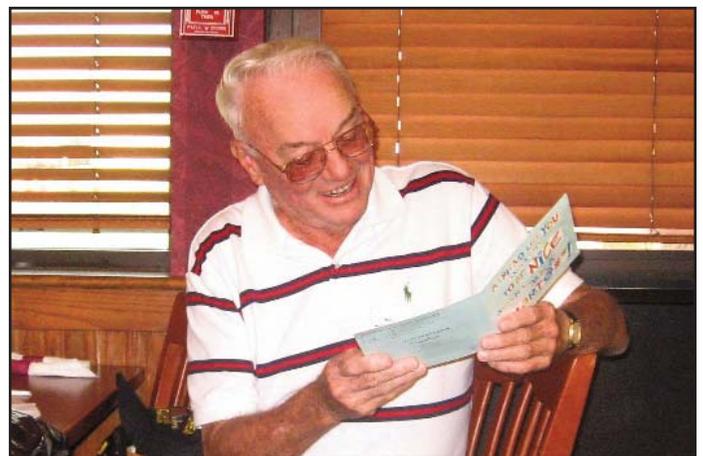
While in Korea, they engaged in 7 of the 10 major battles of the Korean War. First, they went up the peninsula from Pusan to the Manchurian border in 1950, back south to Pusan to regroup in 1951, and then halfway back up the peninsula north of Seoul. All three returned to the USA and had not seen one another until Dykes and Meeks met in 2006 at a Chapter 270 meeting. McGladdery had not seen either of the others since 1951.

Chapter 270 members, spouses, and family attending were Mel and Juanita Jean Bodweine, Weldon and Maxine Bradley, Miles Brown, Ed Buckman, Bill and Eleanor Carman, Morris and Maxine Chambers, Doyle and Delwanda Dykes, Keith Fannon, Tilford and Sue Jones, Darwin McGladdery, JD and Gerri Randolph, Glen and Bobbie Thompson, and Ed and Elizabeth Ann Wuermsler.

Darwin McGladdery seated reading a card presented by Doyle Dykes and signed by attendees at the mini-reunion



J. D. Randolph, CID 270 President, welcomes attendees to the mini-reunion in honor of chapter members Doyle Dykes, Darwin McGladdery, and Grover Meeks of the 17th Field Artillery



## Have a Mini-Reunion?

Send your photos and a short write-up to *The Graybeards* editor for publication!

Mail to Art Sharp, Editor, Korean War Veterans Association, 152 Sky View Drive., Rocky Hill, CT 06067

## 735th Regt, Heavy Mortar Co

Several veterans of the company got together at the 35th Regiment Association's annual reunion in Reno, NV. They were together in Korea in 1952 and 1953.

*Richard Lopez, 14378 Chestnut St., Adelanto, CA 92301*



Veterans of the 35th Regt. Heavy Mortar Co. (L-R) Gilbert McKenna, Frank McIntyre, Richard Lopez, George Noud

## Two veterans meet after 58 years



Pat Filidoro (L) and George Kestel (R) meet after 58 years

I visited a buddy from Korea, George Kestel, who lives in Dema, KY. We were with the 3rd Division, 7th Regt. Co. E, 1st Platoon. The last time I saw George in Korea was 29 September 1951, when our patrol got ambushed and he was wounded. At that time he was a BAR man and I was Asst. Platoon Sgt.

It was a great reunion. My son and I got to meet George and his family, and we had a good time bringing back our old memories of Korea. We had a warm reception from the whole family. His wife Mary and his two daughters, Margaret and Sandy, made us feel like family along with their sons-in-law, Ethan and Marvin, and grandchildren Brett and Sam. It was truly a visit that my son and I will never forget.

Incidentally, George stayed in the service—and was wounded in Vietnam. He retired and became a minister.

*Patrick Filidoro, 255-11 87th Drive, Floral Park, NY 11001*

## 11th Evacuation Hospital



In September 2008 a group of 11th Evac. personnel got together for a small reunion in Harrisburg, PA.

The 11th Evacuation Hospital was in Korea from 1951 to 1954. It was a 200-bed hospital, all tents, except for the administration building. There were two evacuation hospitals in Korea. The other was the 121 Evac, located in Seoul.

In 1951 there were only three artificial kidney machines in the world. One was at Fort Sam Houston in Texas. There was another in Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, DC. The third was at the 11th Evac. Hospital in Won-Ju, Korea.

It is impossible to count the hundreds of lives saved by that machine and the personnel who worked on it. The number is probably in the hundreds. A lot of hemorrhagic fever patients might never have gotten back to the USA without that machine.

*Edward F. Elliott, 86 Malone Ave., Staten Island, NY 10306*

*EDITOR'S NOTE: The group also got together in September 2009, but the information about the meeting got to our offices too late to be included on a timely basis in The Graybeards.*



11th Evac. Nurses at 2008 gathering (L-R) Lt Doris Posey, Capt Barbara Brown (USA, Ret.), Col Louise Minter (USA, Ret.), Col Lena Teague (USA, Ret.)



Attendees at 11th Evac. Mini-reunion (Back, L-R) John Fisher, Lyle Ellis, Mel Oyer, Julius Ptaszynski, Herb Hopp, John Gaspich, Ed Elliott (Front, L-R) Lena Teague, Louise Minter, Barbara Brown-Bjork, Doris Posey-Fisher

## INCHON from page 24

to check further, should your research uncover any additional "leads."

I commend the efforts of the Korean War Veterans Association in helping to ensure that the names of those young servicemen who gave their lives for their country during the Korean War are not forgotten. I hope the enclosed information proves useful. Please feel free to contact me directly at (202) 433-3864, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Robert V. Aquilina

Assistant Head, Reference Section

History and Museums Division

Encl:

(1) Casualty list, as noted .

(2) ABMC Korean War Honor Roll entry, PFC Joseph Mahalak, USMC (Deceased)

Copy to:

LtGen .S. G. Olmstead, USMC (Ret)

Here is an edited version of the list to which Mr. Aquilina referred:

Marines and Hospital Corpsmen who died 21 January 1954 at Inchon Harbor, Republic of Korea, following a collision of an LST with a ship.

*EDITOR'S NOTE: No doubt whoever compiled the list meant to say "the collision of an LST with another ship."*

NAME	RANK	BIRTHDATE	HOME
Barrera, Ignacio D.	PFC	09/13/33	San Antonio, TX
Campbell, Robert G.	PFC	01/21/32	Richmond, VA
Charves, James. C.	PFC	05/13/33	Oakland, CA
Davenport, Norman R.	PFC	12/31/33	Missouri Valley, IA
De Prisco, Carmine F., Jr.	PFC	10/20/34	Milmont Park, PA
Farrell, Michael J.	PFC	11/13/34	Bronx, NY
Gilmartin, Thomas F.	PFC	03/13/32	Charlestown, MA
Hauzer, Gilbert L.	PFC	09/23/34	Eugene, OR
Hedlund, Kenneth A.	2d Lt	09/17/34	Worcester, MA
Kovarik, Stephen J.	HM2	10/31/02	Johnstown, NY



Albert I. Zurovetz



Stephen John Kovarik

Mahalak, Joseph	PFC	03/15/33	Wyandotte, MI
McIntyre, Theodore F.X.	2d Lt	Unknown	East Boston, MA
Mertens, John H., Jr.	PFC	02/06/34	Belleville, IL
Mroseske, William J.	PFC	10/29/33	Detroit, MI
Obert, Donald C.	PFC	06/15/34	Columbus, OH
Phillips, Billy L.	PFC	07/17/31	Orlando, FL
Rash, Wilburn H.	PFC	02/11/31	Shreveport, LA
Roberts, Leonard W.	CPL	09/16/30	Anchorage, AK
Smith, Clarence	PFC	09/30/28	Washington, DC
Smith, Samuel A.	PFC	05/03/34	Mutual, OK
Stein, Gerald	PFC	02/28/35	Pigeon, MI
Taylor, Grover C., Jr.	PFC	10/06/31	Patapsco, MD
Walk, William W.	PFC	05/03/33	Pearl, IL
Wells, Lawrence A.	PFC	08/10/34	Sedro Woolley, WA
Whyde, Vinton O.	PFC	08/07/35	Winchester, IN
Wilkie, Marlin A.	PFC	02/02/32	Fruita, CO
Zielinski, Paul M.	PFC	06/27/33	St. Louis, MO
Zurovetz, Albert I.	PFC	09/19/34	Granger, TX

**Note:** All personnel listed above were serving with Company H, 3d Battalion, 4th Marines, with the following exceptions:

H&S-3-4	(HM2 Kovarik, PFC Clarence Smith, and PFC Farrell)
Wpns-2-4	(2d Lt Hedlund)
D-2-4	(PFC Zielinski)
E-2-4	(2d Lt McIntyre)

*Editor's Note: Three of the Marines who died were members of the USMC Reserve: PFCs Barrera and Wilkie and Lt Hedlund.*

If anyone else has additional information about the incident, please let us know so we can add it to our story. For example, what happened to their remains, if they were ever recovered? As you may recall, John A. Kahle asked that question in "Feedback," p. 62, July/Aug 2009. Do they still lie at the bottom of Inchon harbor? Do their names appear on Korean War Memorials in their home towns? What happened to LST-456 after the operation?

Here is the only entry about LST-456 in the Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ship regarding its post-WWII activities:

Following the war, LST-456 performed occupation duty in the Far East until early February 1946. She served with the Military Sea Transportation Service as USNS LST-456 from 31 March 1952 until she was struck from the Navy list on 15 June 1973. On 27 September 1973, the ship was sold to the Maritime Co. Ltd., Khorramshahr, Iran.

Send your information to Editor, *The Graybeards*, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.



# 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.

### ARIZONA

RO41343 MALCOLM R. ANDERSON  
RO41282 FLORENTINO R. CASTILLO  
RO41344 RALPH C. FLESHMAN  
RO41342 HENRY F. REINFRIED JR.

### CALIFORNIA

RO41317 NICK AMPER  
RO41375 JOHN R. BELLANDO  
RO41320 JOSEPH B. CHAMBERS  
RO41297 ROBERT R. DARRON  
RO41314 JOHN A. DIES  
RO41310 LAWRENCE D. HANCOCK  
LR41309 MAURICE N. HANSEN  
RO41295 RODRIGO G. HERNANDEZ  
RO41306 RICHARD C. MARLOW  
A041332 JEFFREY B. REID  
RO41370 STANTON I. ROBBINS  
RO41248 CHARLES K. STEPHAN  
RO41362 CHARLES W. TAYLOR  
LR41255 JEAN P. WHITE  
RO41322 RONALD N. WILKINSON

### CONNECTICUT

RO41324 NATHAN BARSKY

### DELAWARE

RO41369 ROBIN T. THURLOW

### FLORIDA

A041326 HELEN L. BLACK  
RO41380 KURT EVERS  
RO41278 BILLY C. GASTON  
RO41292 AUDLEY W. HANOLD  
RO41371 JOHN A. MACDIARMID  
RO41288 RONALD G. RUSSELL  
RO41328 EDWARD VAN BUREN

### GEORGIA

RO41323 HAROLD A. DYE  
RO41308 KENNETH L. GODFREY  
RO41302 HARVEY L. GREEN  
RO41331 FRANKLIN E. HIGGINS  
RO41363 GERALD M. SUMNER  
RO41312 EDWARD E. WALTON

### HAWAII

RO41361 JONG SUK CHAE  
LR41348 FRED M. OGASAWARA

### ILLINOIS

RO41307 GEORGE L. FORTIER  
LR41259 E. SCOTT LAPLANTE  
RO41330 DAVID A. LOEBACH  
RO41353 ALBERT W. RICHTER  
RO41247 JOHN L. WYATT

### INDIANA

RO41263 ROBERT W. FRESHOUR  
RO41333 JOHN P. JONES  
RO41355 PAUL L. KENNEDY

### KENTUCKY

RO41254 LEROY A. BARBEE

### MAINE

LR41329 ALBERT A. GIBSON

### MARYLAND

RO41280 ABRAHAM A. DASH  
RO41377 RICHARD L. DOUGAN  
RO41378 ROY L. MAY  
A041379 ANNELIE E. WEBER

### MASSACHUSETTS

RO41283 VINCENT J. DEL ZOPPO  
RO41368 WILLIAM J. MINKS  
RO41373 JOHN P. THOMPSON

### MICHIGAN

RO41346 CHARLES BEEDON  
RO41250 CHESTER D. CRIPE  
RO41279 EDWARD J. HENDRICKS  
RO41345 ALBERT C. HOLLOWAY  
RO41372 JOHN H. HUPFER  
RO41244 ELDEN M. KORBEIN  
LR41338 ZEPHYEIR S. LACHANCE  
RO41300 DONALD R. MATTSON  
RO41284 JOHN D. MOON  
RO41327 ROY W. MOSSNER  
RO41352 DON A. RANDALL

### MINNESOTA

A041351 DANIEL S. REVSBECK  
RO41350 EB W. REVSBECK

### MISSISSIPPI

LR41364 ROY O. PARKER

### MISSOURI

RO41316 CHARLES W. ATKINSON  
RO41356 JAMES L. MCCLURE  
RO41252 HARVEY L. RYNO  
RO41253 MARVIN E. WEIBLE

### NEW JERSEY

RO41291 JAMES J. BIONDO  
RO41258 GEORGE N. COOK  
RO41366 ROBERT FATOVIC  
RO41277 LEO H. HEIDEN  
RO41339 MAX MANDIS  
RO41262 STEPHEN M. MCDONOUGH  
RO41275 MICHAEL PILEGGI  
RO41276 JOHN C. VOLPE  
RO41325 RALPH E. WEHNAU

### NEW YORK

RO41311 NORMAN C. CHAMPAGNE  
RO41285 RICHARD J. CUSA  
RO41287 ARNOLD GRIFFO  
RO41365 MICHAEL M. HAINES  
LR41367 MATTHEW JOHNSON  
RO41286 ANTHONY D. MODICA  
RO41293 HANG RYEOL NA  
RO41349 JOSEPH M. SALVATO  
RO41374 MANNY SECK  
RO41298 HOWARD STEGGS  
RO41354 PHILIP L. WIGGLE

### NORTH DAKOTA

RO41318 PATRICK C. ‘PAT’ ENG

### OHIO

RO41260 THOMAS E. AYERS  
RO41264 PHILLIP W. BRESLER  
RO41269 ALFRED E. BRICKNER  
RO41265 JOHN E. BROWN  
RO41271 JAMES H. EWING  
RO41266 CHARLES GILES  
RO41341 GALEN J. HOUSER  
RO41273 WILLIAM D. KERN  
LR41289 NORMAN J. KINN  
LR41360 ALBERT H. LEYERLE  
RO41272 JOHN C. MACIAS  
RO41334 ROBERT R. MCDERMOTT  
RO41290 MERLE E. MCKEEVER  
RO41268 ROBERT L. MORRISON  
RO41267 GERALD D. VANRENTERGHEM

RO41270 STANLEY R. WILKINS

### OREGON

RO41294 BRUCE H. PENCE  
LR41281 VICTOR L.M. PURPUREE SR.  
RO41304 JOHN C. SELLERS  
RO41305 DRURY W. WOOD

### PENNSYLVANIA

RO41301 SHELDON KAPLAN  
LR41315 STEPHEN E. MAHL  
RO41261 GARY M. MCCORD  
RO41376 ROBERT C. SNYDER

### RHODE ISLAND

RO41257 JOSEPH G. SAN MARTINO

### SOUTH CAROLINA

A041336 CAROLE S. BOSTWICK  
RO41337 ROBERT B. BOSTWICK  
RO41359 LOUIS CAMILLERI  
RO41303 ROBERT L. GEORGE

### SOUTH DAKOTA

RO41347 MARVIN L. HOFFER

### TEXAS

RO41319 ROBERT M. DAWSON  
RO41256 THOMAS G. JANOTA  
RO41357 RONALD L. LANGE  
RO41245 FREDERICK J. MARTIN  
A041299 COLLEEN J. MCGRATH  
LR41313 ROBERT B. MOSBY  
RO41358 DANNY B. SAUDER

### VERMONT

RO41246 ELMER J. BURGESS  
RO41296 WHITNEY J. MAXFIELD

### VIRGINIA

RO41249 JOE D. RASNICK

### WASHINGTON

RO41335 MARK P. LOMAX

### WISCONSIN

RO41274 RICHARD W. LIEBNER  
RO41251 ROBERT A. ONSRUD  
RO41321 MELVIN S. TYBORSKI

Visit the Korean War Veterans Association Website:

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



## Where are Val and Bob?

The nearby picture was taken 60 years ago at Keesler AFB in Mississippi. Keith "Chuck" Harview was killed when the B-29 he was on was shot down on 03/29/51 and ended up in the China Sea.

Anne Molnar (now Gorbitz) and I have been trying to locate



From the left, Keith "Chuck" Harview, Bob Noel, Anne Molnar (now Gorbitz), and Val Olson

Val Olson, who is in the picture, for years. She stayed on at Keesler when we graduated. The last I heard from her was when she told me Chuck had been killed.

Our efforts to locate her have been futile. It might be fun, too, to know what happened to Bob. Perhaps our fellow veterans know the whereabouts of the friends of Anne's and mine.

Louise C. Renoux, 6875 East Iliff Avenue - #322  
Denver, CO 80224-2548, (303) 733-9433  
LRe1027483@aol.com

## Why did Captain Costlow and 1st Lt Rodgers deserve a memorial with a stone monument with two plaques?

Norm Zehr received the below request and passed it along to us. If anyone can help unravel the mystery, we would like to know, as would Mr. Costlow. Please send us a copy of what you send him.

Hello Norm Zehr,

I found you on the Internet from information related to L-17 pilots in the Korean War. My father, Captain Rupert Julian Costlow, was killed in Korea in a Cessna L-19 Bird Dog aircraft accident on Feb 18, 1952, along with a 1st Lt. William John Rodgers. Rupert Costlow left a wife, a son (me, 8 yrs old) and two daughters (ages 4 and 1) back in East Texas (at Joinerville, near Tyler and Henderson).

I have an official Army photo from Dec 2, 1952 provided to my mother, Marian Costlow (deceased in 1993), of a dedication ceremony for "Costlow Rodgers Field." I think I know where the airfield location is (not confirmed yet). I believe it is at "ASCOM City" (an Army



The Costlow/Rodgers Memorial

base in or near Seoul). I understand "ASCOM" stands for "Army Support Command."

There is a printed statement on the back side of the photo that indicates the names of the servicemen who were 1) uncovering the monument (Colonel Richard D. Meyer), 2) laying the wreath (Lt Colonel Charles E. Hollis), and 3) taking the photo (Private G. D. Knetzer). I believe the parked aircraft in the photo are "L-19 Bird Dogs," which was the type involved in the crash accident (confirmed by an Internet site). I understand that L-19s were used for Forward Air Control (FAC), liaison and reconnaissance in the Korean War.

The big mystery my two sisters and I are trying to unravel is this: why did Captain Costlow and 1st Lt Rodgers (who both died in an "accident") deserve a memorial with a stone monument with two plaques, given that thousands of other GIs lost their lives "killed in action" (KIA) in Korea? Where exactly is the monument located in Korea? Is the monument still there?

My father's service records were destroyed in a 1973 military records fire in St. Louis. This has greatly hampered my ability to learn more about what happened to him. He had been in Korea for only six weeks when he was killed in the airplane crash.

I appreciate any information you can provide.

Mr. Lynn Edward Costlow  
150 Cleaveland Road,  
#10, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523  
(925) 382-2352, lcostlow@gmail.com

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Here is what we know about Rupert Julian Costlow, who was born in Henderson, TX on 2 July 1920. This information came from the American Battle Monuments Commission:*

- Captain, U.S. Army
- Service Number O-465916
- Non-hostile Air Crash
- Died February 18, 1952 in Korea

Captain Costlow was a veteran of World War II. In Korea, he was a member of the 71st Ordnance Depot Company, 79th Ordnance (sic) Battalion. On February 18, 1952, he was piloting an observation aircraft which crashed near Ascom, South Korea, which killed him.

Captain Costlow was awarded the Korean Service Medal, the United Nations Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Korean Presidential Unit Citation, the Republic of Korea War Service Medal and the World War II Victory Medal.

Norm Zehr added that this search is a bit difficult since it was a non-combat death. This CAPT was also an Army Aviator, and probably on a maintenance check ride of an L-19 Bird Dog (my favorite airplane). He was an Ordnance pilot, stationed at A-33 in Ascom City. There was an aircraft maintenance unit stationed there. I flew in there several times.

A-33 was named Costlow Rodgers airfield in memory of the two men killed in the accident.

## Reunion Calendar – 2010

To add your reunion to our list, mail your info to *The Graybeards*, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or email it to sharp\_arthur\_g@sbcglobal.net. Use this format: Unit, Date(s), Place, Contact. Provide as much info as possible regarding the contact, e.g., name, address, phone #, email address.

Entries are posted on a “first come, first served” basis as space allows. *The Graybeards* is not responsible for the accuracy of the information published.

### JUNE

AP Transport Group (Navy, Coast Guard), 24-27 June, Minneapolis, MN.  
POC: Chuck Ulrich, 35 Oak Lane, New Hyde Park, NY 11040, (516) 747-7426. Ships included:

#### Coast Guard

USS Monticello – AP-61  
Gen. M.C. Meigs – AP-116  
Gen. W.R. Gordon – AP-117  
Gen. J.P. Richardson – AP-118  
Gen. William Weigel – AP-119  
Gen. H.F. Hodges – AP-144  
Gen. A.W. Greely – AP-141  
Gen. A.W. Brewster – AP-155  
Adm. W.L. Capps – AP-121  
Adm. E. E. Eberle – AP-123  
Adm. C.F. Hughes – AP-124  
Adm. H.T. Mayo – AP-125

#### Navy

USS Lejeune – AP-74  
Pres. Monroe – AP-104  
Gen. William Mitchell – AP-114  
Gen. George M. Randall – AP-115  
Gen. M.B. Stewart – AP-140  
Gen. Harry Taylor – AP-145  
Gen. W.F. Hase – AP-146  
Gen. J.C. Breckinridge – AP-176  
Adm. W.S. Benson – AP-120  
USS Golden City – AP-169

## Emil Kapaun Being Considered For Sainthood

Korean War veterans may remember Roman Catholic Chaplain Emil Kapaun, who died in a POW camp in 1951. People in his native state of Kansas have been pushing him for sainthood for some time now. The process is moving along, according to an 11 July 2009 article in the *Kansas City Star*.

As reporter Eric Adler explained in his article, “To declare an individual a saint, the Roman Catholic Church requires proof of at least two posthumous miracles on his or her behalf or one miracle if the individual died a martyr.” Church officials are investigating three ‘healings’ allegedly credited to Kapaun.

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**“To declare an individual a saint, the Roman Catholic Church requires proof of at least two posthumous miracles on his or her behalf or one miracle if the individual died a martyr.”**

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They involve a 16-year-old girl, a man in his 80s, and a 20-year-old athlete named Chase Kear, who fractured his skull in a pole vaulting accident in October 2008. Kear and his family are convinced that he survived the devastating damage due to the intervention of Fr. Kapaun. Adler wrote that if the church accepts his healing as divine, it would be the first miracle credited to Kapaun toward sainthood.

Kapaun joined the Army in 1944 and was stationed in India. After the war ended, he was assigned to Japan. Eventually, he ended up in South Korea with the Eighth Cavalry Regiment in 1950, where he was captured. After his death he was buried in a mass grave.

Eventually, people began asking for Fr. Kapaun’s intercession through prayers in cases where individuals close to death needed divine intervention, e.g., a miracle. In fact, they created a “Prayer for the Intercession of Father Emil Kapaun:”

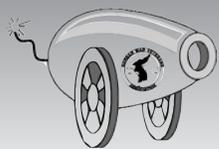
Father Emil Kapaun gave glory to God by following His call to the people of Kansas and those in the military. Father Kapaun, I ask your intercession not only for these needs which I mention now, \_\_\_\_\_, but that I, too, may follow your example of service to God and my neighbor. For the gifts of courage in battle and perseverance of faith, we give you thanks, O Lord. Father Kapaun, please intercede also that God will grant \_\_\_\_\_ your courageous strength and His loving comfort in this battle. Amen.

Does it help? Who knows. But, the prayer—and the push for sainthood for Fr. Kapaun are remarkable tributes to this gallant chaplain who did so much for his comrades in the Korean War.

Based on the story in the *Kansas City Star* and the supplications from the people praying to him and through him, he is still helping people.

To read the story, go to <http://www.kansascity.com/105/story/1318867.html?storylink=pd>

Thanks to Virgil Koechner, P.O. Box 575, Tipton, MO 65081 for telling us about the article.



# 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.

## **Tanker Found "Mauser Valley" And has Never Forgotten (Re "Does anyone know the Joseph Mauser story?", May-June 2009, pg. 57)**

For the past 57 years I have wondered about the Mauser Valley story. Was he buried under that tombstone/monument? Was that tombstone/monument erected only to honor him? Was he ever awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroism? If not, can we make it happen: why not?

I would not even try to repeat the story written on that second monument that related Joseph Mauser's heroic battle. All I can say is that it was done beautifully by a bunch of grateful comrades who were so proud of him.

It has been 57 years since, when by chance, I found Mauser Valley. Although I spent only as much time there as it took to smoke 1/3 of a cigarette, I will never forget Mauser Valley.

I was a member of the 279th Heavy Tank Company, 45th Infantry Division, October 1950 - August 1952. The 45th Inf. Div., along with other United Nation units, replaced the 1st Calvary Division in Korea in late December 1951. We drove our tanks from an Inchon landing, through Seoul, the Korean capital, which was destroyed to rubble.

I recall only one white official building still standing in Seoul, with some partial damage. I believe that it was the Capitol building. There were shanty-type shelters on both sides of the roadway, a pitiful sight.

We crossed the 38th parallel and went to the front tip of the "U.N. Iron Triangle." We never stayed in one area too long. Our motto was "Movin' on"—and that's what we did. Most of the time I knew where we were, but there were times I didn't know the village, town or hamlet name that I was in, so "Mauser Valley" was an unknown area to me.

It was early spring, and I had just finished making a minor repair on one of our tanks. I took the tank on a road test to check the repair. While on the test run, I got the cigarette urge. Finding a suitable spot, I pulled over to the shoulder of the road and shut the tank off.

I climbed out of the driver's hatch and sat on the bow (front) of the tank and lit my cigarette. The area across the road on my left was two steep hills forming a beautiful valley at the bottom. In front of me, to the right, was a hill with two stone or granite tombstones about 15 feet up the hill. At first glance I thought it was a Korean cemetery plot. Then, I noticed the lettering was in English.

One monument read "Joseph Mauser, 1st Calvary," with a few lines that identified him. Beautifully done. The second monument detailed a brief history of the battle that took place not long ago.

His heroic stand against heavy enemy odds made him my number one Korean War hero. I consider Mauser Valley as my Korean Shang-ri-la. It was quiet, peaceful and beautiful. It was a pity that Joseph Mauser wasn't there beside me, joining me on a smoke break, enjoying its now peaceful tranquility.

Joseph Mauser, wherever you are, "May you rest in peace," and may God keep you close to him. I salute you.

John J. Gillespie, 178 Iceland Drive  
Huntington Station, NY 11746, (631) 421-1332

## **Did we win the war?**

Outstanding editorial in the July issue. It should be required reading in all high school history classes.

As a young man in Korea, I often wondered what I was doing in this God-forsaken land. There was nothing but mud huts with straw roofs in the countryside and chaos in the cities. There were rice fields as far as the eye could see, irrigated by sewage, poorly maintained dirt roads, and broken railroads.

On my revisit to Korea in 2006, I witnessed the unbelievable changes that had been made in the great nation that Korea is today. After the first young Korean, who couldn't speak English, approached me in Inchon and bowed to me in thanks, I finally realized why I was there. That greeting, which brought tears to my wife's eyes, made it all worthwhile. I was proud to have been part of the effort to liberate so many people.

Yes, we did win the Korean War.

Lou Bonomini, 4 Sawmill Road, Katonah  
NY 10536, loub070@optonline.net

## **Did Ford make the Russian jeeps in Korea?**

My wife and I recently concluded an interesting and informative vacation to the Ukraine, including a visit to The Great Patriotic War Museum in the capitol city, Kiev.

I am sending two photos of obsolete Soviet vehicles photographed while on display at the outdoor exhibit of the museum.

The tank, a T-34 medium-class Soviet vehicle, considered the bane of the German army during World War II, was rated as the foremost armored vehicle throughout the European Theater of the conflict.

The first American military fatality of the Korean War was attributed to firepower from the T-34, although accounts differ as to whether the soldier was killed from the 7.62mm tank machine gun mounted on the right front side of the machine's body or from a North Korean tank crewman. The fatality apparently occurred after the victim fired an ineffective 2.36" (60mm) rocket (bazooka) at the vehicle and then exposed himself as he attempted to ascertain the



A T-34 on display in Kiev



Is this a vehicle-propelled rocket launcher?

damage. The tank, during its short tenure in the conflict, was painted a shade of olive drab, unlike the desert-like color of this photo.

The other conveyance appears to be a very obsolete, vehicle-propelled rocket launcher. For some inexorable reason, the many rubber-tired military vehicles all bore hand-painted white-walls! Aside from that oddity, please note the resemblance of the Soviet weapons transporter with that of the Ford Motor Company Model A production run. The hood, headlights, front bumper holders, and radiator are copies of the Model A, down to the crank hole below the finned radiator.

The Ford Motor Company negotiated an agreement in the early 1930s with the communist state to initially assemble “knock downs” (unassembled) Model A Fords at a new Ford factory erected at a port on the Volga River.

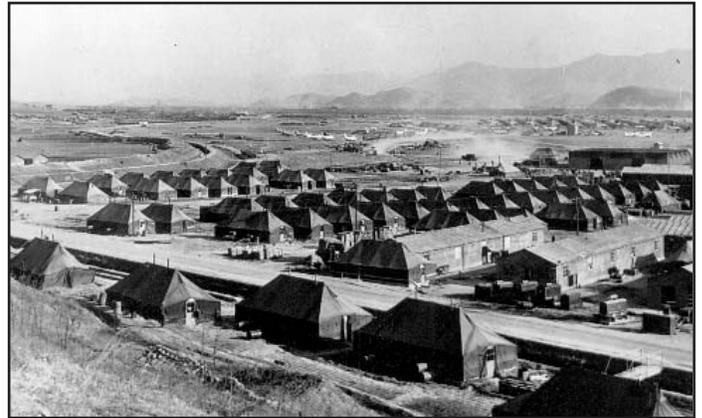
During my short duty in Korea, I had the opportunity to view a captured Soviet- manufactured jeep and I noticed that the dashboard was a replica Ford Model A. I was too young and inexperienced in the world of automobiles at the time to determine any similarities with the engine. Perhaps some readers may have that answer?

Paul G. Petredis, 403 Third Lane, Fox Island, WA 98333,  
(253) 549-2232, (253) 549-7670 (Fax), (253) 330-6065  
(cell), anui1950@juno.com

## What happened to Joe Morin’s fiancé—and where is Osan AFB?

I was pleased to read the article in *The Graybeards* about dedicating a gate to the memory of A/2C (Cpl.) Joseph R Morin. I met Joe in Sept 1950, when we became friends. We were in the 49th Fighter-Bomber Wing based in Malwasalwa Air Force Base in Northern Japan.

In Sept. 1950, many of us were assigned to the 6149th Tactical Squadron and sent to Korea to set up K-2 air base at Taegu. We went by train to Itizuki Base in Fukuoka in Southern Japan—a 44 hour trip. We stayed in a large hangar for a couple days until the day after the Inchon landing. We flew to K-2 and started putting up tents, etc. Joe was in the Air Police, I was in base supply.



An overview of K-2 Airfield, Taegu, Korea Oct. or Nov. 1950

I remember that Joe was from Massachusetts and became engaged before he shipped out. He was a very nice person, and I remember him telling me he was going on a mission to try to locate a downed plane and pilot. I was very surprised and saddened when I heard he had been killed. I have often thought of him and wondered about his fiancé.

Where is Osan Air Base? Also, I would like to know if K-2 Air Base is still in operation. If anyone can tell me, please write or call:

Lewis Ebert, 110-4 Brookland Court, Winchester, VA  
22602-6181, (540) 662-4484

## Part of Camp Breckenridge is a coal mine

Yes, part of the old campground [at Camp Breckenridge] has been and is being mined for coal. The camp comprised 36,000 acres. There is lots of coal in Union County.

Vicki Ricketts (to Reggie Kephart, re “Is Camp Breckenridge a Coal Mine?”, *Feedback*, July/Aug 2009, p. 62)

## The “Camp” is a job training center

I read your question in the latest issue of *The Graybeards* regarding Camp Breckenridge. I’m sure by now you have received the answer to your question. The camp has been turned into a job training center for youngsters. Some are kids who have been in trouble or came from troubled homes.

The first reunion I attended was in 1992. It was in Evansville, IN, and there was a large turnout. We have had reunions on a regular basis since (every couple of years), but the turnout has gotten pretty small as the years go by. The biggest problem is that nobody knows about it.

I noticed the ad for the reunion in the latest issue of *The Graybeards*. I received my basic training at the camp in the spring and summer of 1953 (which had to be a record for high temperature). I was assigned to the 101st Airborne Div., Co. G of the 506th Regt.

I have attended every reunion since and enjoyed every one of them. The people who put them together are just great.

William Primerano, P.O. Box 22, Koppel, PA 16136-0022, (724) 843-7183, williedeux@verizon.net

### Thanks to all Korean War veterans

I am the oldest daughter of Alfred O. Ramirez, of Yuma, AZ. I am writing sadly to inform you that my father passed away on June 8, 2009.

My brothers and sisters, as well as me, have always been so proud of the man and soldier that our father was. We wish to thank all of the Korean War veterans for their sacrifices to help make our freedom possible.

Patricia Ehlers, 1306 S. 8th Ave., Yuma, AZ 85364

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Ramirez served with Co. A, 3rd Plt., 89th Tank Bn. In Korea, he saw action at Kumwha, Chorwon, White Horse, Outpost Elko, and Kumsong. He also participated in numerous recon patrols.*

### Thank you, *The Graybeards*

I became a member of CID 258 last year. My photo appeared in the Nov/Dec 2008 issue of the magazine (see "Parades"). Our chapter's Information Officer, Frank Meo, received a letter in January 2009 from a charter member of CID 210, Broward County, FL, who is a former Rhode Islander. He had recognized my picture in *The Graybeards*.

We were drafted together in Rhode Island in January 1951, and we trained together at Camp Polk, LA. We sailed together to Japan aboard the USS *Brewster*. And, we were pictured together in the *Providence Journal*.

After Frank Meo gave me the letter, I wrote immediately to my



Ann and Gil Botelho and Mary and William Dias (L-R), as Gil and William meet for the first time in 57 years



Rhode Islanders in Japan, including Gil Botelho and William Dias, get together aboard USS *Brewster* in 1952.

old pal. We had not been in touch since we left the Army in late 1952. We have since shared several letters and phone calls. Finally, we had an emotional get-together in Rhode Island this past June.

It was a pleasure—especially after 57 years—to meet my pal, William Dias. I thank *The Graybeards* for making this reunion possible.

Gilbert Botelho, 41 King St.  
Johnston, RI 02919-4318, (401) 831-3301

### Thanks for the Navy story

That was a great piece about USS *Winston* (AKA-94) in the July/Aug issue. I really enjoyed it because I was on the USS *Seminole* (AKA-104). (See the nearby sidebar) I believe it was a sister ship of *Winston*.

We steamed together in Korea on the prisoner "Big Switch" operation after the truce was signed and at other times as well.

But, your article quit in the middle of a sentence on page 59, "...civilian internees between August and..." What happened?

George Stovall, 2412 Little Creek Drive  
Richardson, TX 75080, (972) 235-0509

*EDITOR'S NOTE: In a subsequent conversation with Mr. Stovall to explain what happened to the last line of the article, which was missing on p. 59, he explained to me that Seminole was en route to Hong Kong when it was recalled to participate in the operation. The ship made 4 or 5 lifts as he recalls.*

*"Once we completed that operation, we steamed for home," he said. "The 'Old Man' asked the crew if they wanted to stop in Hawaii en route, and put up the 'Homeward bound' pennant as we headed to San Diego after the stop."*

*That was a "no brainer" for the crew. They had been out at sea for about a year and wanted to get home. They bypassed Hawaii and went directly to San Diego. They did not "pass Go," and they did not collect their \$200—unless it was their final pay.*

*Incidentally, the last line of the article read "...September 1953."*

## USS *Seminole*

The fourth *Seminole* (AKA-104), named for counties in the states of Florida, Georgia, and Oklahoma, was laid down on 7 November 1944 at Wilmington, NC by the North Carolina Shipbuilding Co., under a Maritime Commission contract (MC Hull No. 1703); launched on 28 December 1944; sponsored by Miss Pamela Cole; and commissioned on 8 March 1945 at the Charleston (SC) Navy Yard, Comdr. James H. Budd, D-M, USNR, in command.

### Seminole in Korea

In Puget Sound when war broke out in Korea in the summer of 1950, *Seminole* and sister ship *Washburn* (AKA-108), got underway for Yokosuka, Japan. Diverted en route, she arrived at Kobe the next day. After voyage repairs at the Mitsubishi dockyards and lashing down for typhoon Jane, *Seminole* loaded military cargo and got underway for Pusan, Korea, on 4 September accompanied by attack transport *Pickaway* (APA-222) and dock landing ship *Fort Marion* (LSD-22). *Seminole* returned to Kobe that same day, fueled to capacity, and got underway independently at 0027 on the 5th.

*Seminole* moored in Pusan Harbor on 6 September 1950. On 8 September, she commenced loading cargo, supplies, and equipment of the 1st Marine Provisional Brigade. Five war correspondents came on board on the 11th, and 301 U.S. Marines and 58 ROK Marines embarked the next day. On 15 September, *Seminole* lowered and dispatched her boats for the opposed landings on Red Beach, Inchon. From 16 to 20 September, the attack cargo ship continued to offload her cargo. On the 21st, she evacuated six marine casualties and debarked them at Sasebo, Japan, on the 23d.

After repairs to the ship and her boats, *Seminole* stood out of Kobe on 5 October 1950 and arrived at Inchon on the 8th, then began loading troops and equipment of the 1st Marine Division the next day and took on additional troops and cargo until standing out of the harbor on the 17th. *Seminole* and accompanying ships reversed their course back and forth several times until the mine fields at Wonsan had been cleared. She entered Wonsan Harbor on 25 October and landed marines and offloaded cargo until the 30th.

*Seminole* departed Wonsan Harbor on 1 November 1950, reaching Pusan the next day. After embarking men of the 65th Regimental Combat Team and the 58th Field Artillery Battalion, she disembarked them at Wonsan on 7 November. Two days later, she got underway for Pusan and sank a mine with fire from small arms and 20 millimeter fire en route. *Seminole* anchored in Pusan on 10 November, where she embarked troops, X Corps, before getting underway on the next day.

*Seminole* returned to Wonsan on 12 November 1950, disembarked the soldiers she had transported from Pusan, and performed

upkeep and maintenance until standing out for Japan on 17 November. She arrived at Yokosuka Harbor on 20 November, remaining there until the end of the month. Early in December, the attack transport returned to Korea to evacuate troops who had been endangered by the entry of Chinese Communist forces into the war. The ship entered Wonsan Harbor on the 4th, and embarked a platoon of the 3d Infantry Division and their equipment. From 5 to 7 December, additional elements of the 3d Infantry Division, including the Division Band, came on board. On 9 December, she stood into Hungnam, Korea. For the remainder of 1950, the ship completed several trips between Hungnam and Pusan, ferrying Japanese stevedores, as well as 3d Division and ROK soldiers. *Seminole* anchored at Kobe on 29 December.

On 13 January 1951, *Seminole* stood out of Kobe en route to Korea, anchoring at the Pusan outer harbor the next day. From 23 to 28 January, she transported North Korean and Chinese prisoners of war from Pusan to Sadung Ni. On the 29th, the ship interrupted this work to engage in simulated amphibious movements and assault landings along the eastern coast. The ruse, between 29 and 31 January, caused the enemy to deploy his troops where they did not threaten U. N. forces.

Her mission completed, *Seminole* returned to the ferrying of POW on 2 February 1951. On 8 February, additional simulated assault landings were made. On 10 February, she departed Inchon for Japan and arrived at Sasebo on the 12th. She made one more trip to Korea and back that month, returning to Yokosuka Harbor on the 25th.

*Seminole* departed Sasebo on 4 April 1951, arriving at Hong Kong on the 16th. On 9 July, she stood into San Diego Harbor, then operated along the west coast until 29 November 1952, when she returned to Yokosuka. Departing Yokosuka on 5 December, *Seminole* resumed her operations in Korean and Japanese waters. On 10 April 1953, the ship departed Japan as a part of Task Group 90.9 which redeployed the 5th Cavalry Regimental Combat Team from Pusan and Koje Do, Korea, to Otaru, Japan. Arriving at Pusan on 13 April, *Seminole* loaded vehicles, and embarked drivers and 500 troops before returning to Otaru on 27 April.

*Seminole* continued her operations in Japanese and Korean waters well after the signing of the truce on 27 July 1953. From 28 July to 12 September, she ferried almost 10,000 North Korean and Chinese POW's in Operation Big Switch from Koje Do to Inchon. On 22 September, she departed the Far East and arrived at San Diego on Columbus Day 1953.

Source, Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships, <http://www.history.navy.mil/danfs/s9/seminole-iv.htm>

### Aboard the USS *George Clymer*

I, too, sailed about the same path in Korean water (as the USS *Winston*) aboard USS *George Clymer* (APA-27) during 1952. I also sailed on the USS *Telfair* (APA-210) in 1953.

It was noteworthy to see publicity on U.S. Navy Korean War efforts, as there were many.

Russ Harrod, 3033 Willow Run Cr., Enon, OH 45323

### Stories about Anthony B. Herbert?

I am wondering if The Graybeards ever ran a story about the most decorated American soldier in history. I am talking about Anthony B. Herbert, who served in the Korean War.

Joseph Terkovitz, Jr., 10952 S. Lawndale Ave  
Chicago, IL 60655

EDITOR'S NOTE: I am sure we have not run a story on LtCol Herbert since I took over as editor in September 1994. There may

have been some coverage prior to that. Maybe somebody can help Mr. Terkovitz. Incidentally, here is a short blurb about him for those of you who don't—or do—remember him:

Born in Herminie, Pa., Colonel Herbert joined the Army in 1947 and went on to distinguish himself heroically in the Korean War as a Master Sergeant, where he was wounded four times. He came out of the war as the U.S. Army's most decorated enlisted man. In addition to the Purple Heart with 3 Oak Leaf clusters, Colonel Herbert has been decorated with the Silver Star, two Oak Leaf clusters, the Bronze Star with V, Soldier's Medal, Army Commendation Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters and he is the only non-Turk in the world to receive the coveted Turkish Ozanu Order. (He was attached to a Turkish unit and later E Co. of the 38th Inf. Regt. during the fight against the Chinese after they entered the war in November 1950.) He has also earned the Combat Infantryman's Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Jump Wings from the German and British Armies, Pathfinder's Badge and Ranger Tab.

If anyone has any information about Herbert, let us know here at Graybeards Central. Maybe we will compile a story about him. And, was he the most decorated American Soldier in history, or just the Korean War?

### USS Epperson



USS Epperson (DD-719)

I notice that there are rarely any Navy pictures from the Korean War. So, I would like to see my ship, *Epperson*, featured in *The Graybeards*. *Epperson* served in Korea from 1950 to 1953. (See the sidebar nearby.)

While aboard, I did three tours in Korea. I don't know how many more she did after I left. She was named after a Marine hero. *Epperson* was at Wonsan for so long she was named the interim mayor of Wonsan. Not only did we do shore bombardment up and down the North Korean coast, but we were on the Formosa patrol.

Many times we went down the slot (a place cut into the mine fields along the coast) to get close to the Korean shore. We were proud to be known as the Tin Can Sailors.

Richard Caswell, 103 Grindstone Way, Anderson, SC  
29625-6555, (864) 287-3980, [ecaswell@bellsouth.net](mailto:ecaswell@bellsouth.net)

### Credit goes to Capt Kennedy

Regarding the article, 630th Engineers Light Equipment Co., APO 301, (*The Graybeards*, July/Aug 2009, pp. 68-71): the article was the work of our commander, James B. Kennedy. He rotated home, I am not sure about the date, but it may have been February or March 1953. Captain Kennedy gets the credit for the article.

I just thought that it was about time it was brought to light. Captain Kennedy died in 1996.

Floyd King, Jr., [fking001@nycap.rr.com](mailto:fking001@nycap.rr.com)

### Objection to the elimination of "National"

As one of the oldest members of the KWVA, I feel that I am being put upon. In reading the latest issue of *The Graybeards*, and

## Epperson (DD-719)

Harold Glenn Epperson, born 14 July 1923 in Akron, Ohio, enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve 12 December 1942. Private Epperson served with distinction in the assaults on Tarawa and Saipan, sharing in the Presidential Unit Citation awarded his organization for its service at Tarawa. He was killed in action on Saipan 25 June 1944, and received the Medal of Honor posthumously for his great courage and self-sacrifice in throwing himself on an enemy hand grenade to save his comrades from the effect of its explosion.

*Epperson* (DD-719) was launched 22 December 1945 by Federal Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co., Kearny, N.J.; sponsored by Mrs. J. B. Epperson, mother of Private Epperson; redesignated DDE-719 on 28 January 1948; completed by Bath Iron Works Corp., Bath, Maine; and commissioned 19 March 1949, Commander T. H. W. Connor in command.

*Epperson* conducted training along the east coast; on 10 December 1949 she arrived at Key West for intensive antisubmarine warfare exercises. On 22 August 1950 *Epperson* sailed for Pearl Harbor, her home port, arriving 10 September. She operated in the Hawaiian Islands with her squadron and ships of other types, and on 7 November 1950 became flagship of Commander, Escort Division 12.

*Epperson* sailed from Pearl Harbor 1 June 1951 for service in the Korean War. She screened the carrier task force off Korea, patrolled and bombarded the coast, and joined in hunter-killer exercises off Okinawa before returning to Pearl Harbor 14 November. Her second Korean tour, from 10 November 1952 to 29 May 1953, found her performing similar duty, as well as patrolling the Taiwan Straits, and entering the dangerous waters of Wonson Harbor to bombard enemy shore batteries.

During the first 4½ months of 1954, *Epperson* patrolled in the Marshalls during thermonuclear weapons test, and in June sailed for duty in the Far East once more, an annual part of her employment schedule through 1962. In 1958 and 1959, her western Pacific cruises included visits to Manus, ports in Australia and New Zealand, and Pago Pago, Samoa.

*Epperson* received five battle stars for Korean War service.

Source: *Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships*

the proposed new bylaws, I learned about the word National being eliminated.

I have had the honor of using the word National before the word Director since my election in 1988 and the use of Past National Director since that time.

To eliminate this word is an insult to all of us who have worked hard to help get this organization started. I feel the word National should be used in conjunction with Association, e.g., National Association.

As a Life Member since the mid-1980s, unless I am forced into it, I will continue to use the word National with my office I served in from 1988 till 1991—and now in past tense.

Hershall E. Lee, 212 Kentucky Ave., Danville, IL 61832

## We “won” in Korea

A response to William Ingbretsen letter, *The Graybeards*, July-August 2009, p. 27:

I find it very interesting to note the many divergent views that have evolved over the years relating to our “Forgotten War”? Did they (the 37,000) “Die For A Tie,” or was it truly a victory for the “Good Guys”? I, for one, would like to think that is was victory.

I respectfully suggest that President Truman was correct in following the course of action that committed us to respect the U.N. resolution committing our forces to restore the 38th parallel as the dividing line between the two Koreas. I believe, in retrospect, that it would have been folly to invade China as General MacArthur planned. The invasion of China would have resulted in unthinkable casualties and the chance of winning would be absolutely nil. Atom bombing of China, even tactical, would have been suicide.

Mistakes were made by both sides! The commanding general of the Chinese forces, Gen. Pei, pleaded with his superiors to commit the 400 Russian WWII tactical aircraft to the fight. It is well documented that he wanted to attack the U.S. fleet in the Yellow Sea that supported the 1st Marines and the 7th Inf. in the Chosen Reservoir battles. Not only was he denied “air cover,” but he was committed to a mental hospital for his audacity.

Gen. Pei was the guy who snuck 200,000 Chinese “volunteers” into Korea right under MacArthur’s nose. In fact, when MajGen O. P. Smith (C.O., 1st Marine Div.), advised MacArthur’s Hq. of massive Chinese infiltration, he was rebuked by MacArthur’s aide, Maj. Gen E. Almond, with the now infamous dispatch, “What’s the matter O. P.? Are you afraid of a few Chinese laundrymen?”

Whenever I see a Hyundai automobile or turn on my Samsung TV, I know that the 37,000 American kids who died there did not die for a tie. We were part of one of the most constructive operations ever. South Korea is a true democracy, with all the nuances that go along with people being free. I love it when I see thousands of South Koreans demonstrate for or against one thing or another. They have taken freedom of expression to exceptionally high levels, as they have literacy, education, industry and health care.

Did we lose in Korea? I think not. As long as South Korea maintains its stature as a mature civilized member of the free world we did our job.

Robert Frankl, 101st Sig. Bn. IX Corps, 6101 Lund Lane, Pomona, NY 10970, rhfrankl@gmail.com

### **This addresses the guest editorial in the July-August issue (Not ‘A Forgotten Victory’) by Mr. William M. Ingbretsen.**

“Victory,” like “love,” is defined in myriad levels and interpretations. If weak-kneed politics and bad judgment foreclose the possibility of a “victory,” the Korean War, as Mr. William Ingbretsen points out, certainly wasn’t a “victory” in the World War II sense that we all cherish in our memories.

Applying the same reasoning that themes his editorial, we would have to conclude that World War I was not a victory either. But it did stop imperialist Germany in its tracks—if only temporarily.

WWI ended in an armistice, an agreement. The Korean War, likewise, ended in a “ceasefire agreement.” Explicit terms of the one made with Germany were not enforced and thus failed to dis-

courage that country from its reenergized aggression leading to “phase two” of WWI known as WWII. The one made with North Korea and China stopped the communists from occupying South Korea and discouraged further communist ambitions in the North Asian Pacific Rim. It was in that context a victory, but a victory nevertheless.

The “victory” in Korea also contributed to pointing a politically vulnerable Japan in the right direction. Many people are unaware of the growing influence of communism there in the late ‘40s and early ‘50s.

If we lost the Korean War, we lost it in Washington DC. But it clearly was a moral victory, won with WWII hand-me-down equipment—including aging C rations.

I don’t know which term I despise most: “the forgotten war,” or that alliterative euphemism “Korean Conflict.” It was no “conflict” and definitely no “police action.” It was a war. And the mission of KWVA is to see that it isn’t forgotten.

Frank Praytor, praypro@swcp.com

### **Response to the guest editorial entitled Not ‘A forgotten victory’**

I have read (several times) Mr. William Ingbretsen’s article in the July-August edition of *The Graybeards*. Although I respect one’s right to believe what they want and to express that belief, I believe Mr. Ingbretsen’s article requires a response.

As a young Marine who served in Korea from 1951 until 1953, I, too, served on the MLR for a long period of time. Like Mr. Ingbretsen, I was fortunate to survive and come home while some of my buddies did not. I believe Korea was a victory for several reasons. Those reasons have been well documented, but I will repeat them.

1. North Korea was stopped at the Pusan Perimeter. Had they taken Pusan, who knows what may have been next? Perhaps Japan? It would also have given communism a very large boost—and boast—militarily.
2. Communism was stopped and the DPRK was pushed back across the 38th Parallel.
3. South Korea was freed and remains a democratic country to this day.
4. NATO became a strong force because of the combined forces that fought in Korea.
5. Stopping the North Korea/Chinese armies also stopped communist aggressiveness worldwide.
6. President Truman stated that the Korean War was the first step toward the end of the “Cold War.”
7. Historians now recognize that the Korean War and what we accomplished started the collapse of the Soviet Union and communism.

Mr. Ingbretsen states that although we spared South Korea, we did not free North Korea. To my knowledge, it was never the intent to free North Korea. The intent was to free South Korea from North Korean rule, which was accomplished.

We did not regain North Korea because we never had North Korea to start with. In 1945 the U.S. took South Korea and ceded North Korea to Russia. You cannot regain something you never had to start with.

I do not disagree that President Truman and General MacArthur, as well as others, made mistakes. However, this is not to comment on that. I have not read any of the books that Mr. Ingbretsen mentions. I believe you can not take any author verbatim.

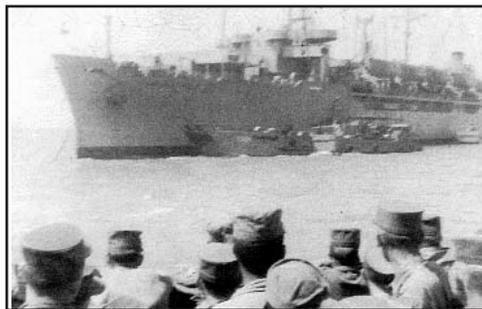
The KWVA—especially Chapter 312 here in Maryland—is working hard to remove the word “forgotten” from the Korean War. We are continually reminding people of what we accomplished there from 1950-1953. I believe Mr. Ingbretsen’s article is a slap in the face to those who died, were wounded, or became prisoners—and to those of us who were lucky enough to return home.

If one looks at what was accomplished by the U.S. and other forces, there is no way the Korean War can be called a defeat.

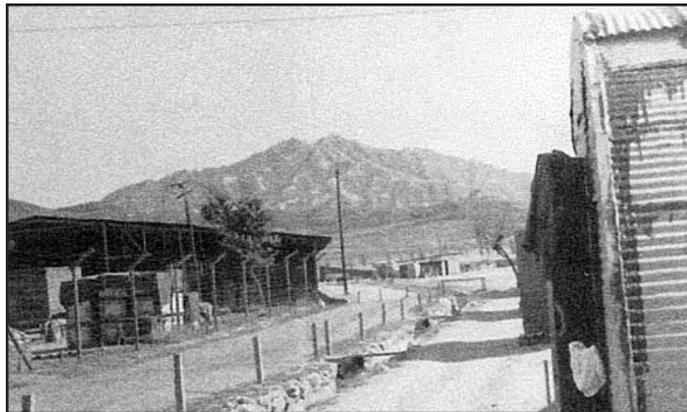
Wayne B. Winebrenner, 17910 Sand Wedge Drive,  
Hagerstown, MD 21740-7963

### The Colombians’ role on Triangle Hill and a note about Jane Russell Hill

In 1951 the 44th Ordnance Co. was located at Uijong Bu. One of the mountains outside the compound was known as Little Jane Russell Mountain. I have no idea how, why, or when it received that name. It is possible Jane’s name came up more than once when naming such hills or mountains during the war.



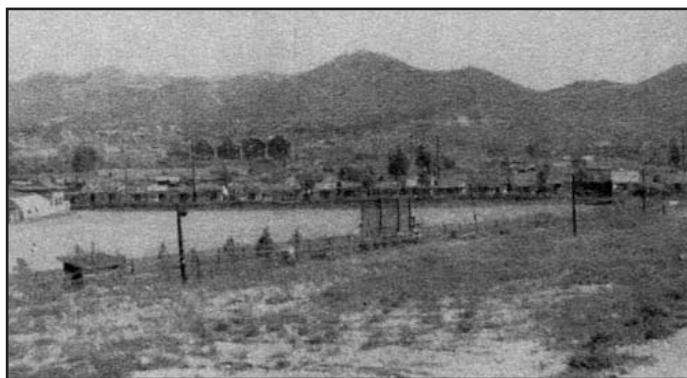
A view in Inchon Harbor, 1957



44th Ord. site

One has to wonder how Ms. Russell felt about the reference. No doubt she felt honored. Regardless, I continue to have admiration and respect for those who lived this experience.

Jim Foley, 224 Sanderson Ave., Olyphant, PA 18449



8057th Replacement Depot, Ascom City

## My Return From Korea

By Rick Kennedy

When I returned from Korea to the United States at the Marine Base in San Diego it was a requirement to go through a physical exam with about two weeks processing time before I was discharged from the Marines for the second time. We spent most of the time working on KP and performing other monotonous tasks. They tried to get me to reenlist, but I served my combat time, and I wanted to return to Indiana and finish college in Bloomington.

After I was discharged I spent a few days in Southern California hoping that a Hollywood agent would discover me and make me a movie star. No such luck, so I purchased a ticket on the El Capitan. A couple days later I arrived in Chicago.

My train trip was uneventful, but I remember talking to a soldier on the club car who was also returning from Korea. He

**There are some things that happen in your life about which you can remember every detail regardless of the years that have passed.**

talked about the Turks who were fierce fighters and experts using the machete. He told me one story about nearby Turks who caught a Korean man stealing some food and alcohol. They promptly hung him up on a nearby tree as a warning to keep other Koreans from following his example. Many Korean neighbors complained about that severe treatment. The Turks responded by cutting the man’s head off and leaving it alone hanging from the tree.

The Marines were “gentlemen fighters.” We never bothered the native population.

I spent a couple hours in Chicago, where I changed train stations to catch the Pennsylvania South Wind to Jeffersonville, IN. When we passed Logansport, the conductor recognized me, as I had worked previously for the Pennsylvania Railroad while I was still in high school before I enlisted in the Marines at the end of WWII. He told me that a large group was going to meet me early afternoon at the train station. This idea did not appeal to me, so I got off the train in Indianapolis.

I called home and told my mother that I did not want a lot of fanfare and that I was taking a later train, since I was interested only in seeing the immediate family at this important moment. During the wait in Indianapolis my father Jack was at the round house. He and one of his firemen came to meet me and we had lunch at restaurant near the railroad yard. I remember Dad saying

Continued on page 71



# 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

RAYMOND W. ENGLAND  
WILMER M. HAWKE  
LAVERN TATE

## ARIZONA

EDWARD L. ALTMANN  
JOE M. CHRISTOPHER  
EDWARD E. ESTES  
HERBERT R. OXNAM  
ALFRED D. RAMIREZ  
RALPH R. SCAVO

## CALIFORNIA

ANDREW P. FERREIRA  
CHARLES W. FOSTER  
FRANK R. GRIEPP  
OSCAR C. OJEDA  
CORNELIUS PECBOT, JR.  
ROBERT E. PETERSON  
TOM POULTER  
VERNON C. SWANSON

## COLORADO

DENNIS C. FOUST  
ROGER A. RICHTER

## DELAWARE

JOSEPH F. NOVACK

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

JAMES W. SMITH

## FLORIDA

ROBERT E. ALSTER JR.  
RICHARD H. CURRY  
ROBERT F. CUSTER  
EDWARD W. KRAMER  
HARRY V. MARTIN  
JOSEPH J. MARTIN  
ALFRED E. TROOP

## ILLINOIS

CHARLES A. LOMAX  
ALVI D. NORRIS

## INDIANA

DOROTHY IRELAND

RICHARD L. RADOWSKI

## LOUISIANA

HILLMAN P. RABALAIS

## MARYLAND

ALLEN JAMES MEECH  
CHARLES R. WOODS

## MASSACHUSETTS

ERNEST BIANCHI  
ROLAND JAMES CORDEIRO SR.  
LOUIS J. LETOURNEAU  
MANUEL A. LOPES

## MICHIGAN

ROBERT C. CABLE  
MATTHEW 'TOM' GIGNILLIAT  
JACKIE P. MILLER  
RALPH R. SMITH JR.  
JACK T. TANY

DALE H. WILLIAMS

## MINNESOTA

DAVID M. VOGEL

## MISSOURI

JOHN E. DOWNING

## MISSOURI

ARTHUR L. KOHRS  
CHARLEY A. MORTON  
HUGO L. ROHLFING  
ROBERT SNOWDEN  
JACK A. TRUESDELL  
LAWERENCE D. WESTERFIELD

## NEBRASKA

JOHN J. KURTENBACH

## NEW JERSEY

THOMAS F. ESPOSITO  
JOSEPH HILLMANN  
JOSEPH WM. MACMICHAEL JR.

## NEW MEXICO

ELIAS T. ALDERETE

## NEW YORK

AMBROSE F. BULLION JR.  
JOSEPH A. CAMARDO  
FRANCIS DOUGHERTY

DONALD R. GIJANTO SR.

RICHARD A. JANCA  
ROBERT E. LONERSON  
PATRICIA A. NOVAK  
JOHN T. O'BRIEN  
HUGH P. SMITH

## OHIO

JOHN G. COOPER SR.  
ROBERT H. HALE  
DWIGHT L. HAUGHT  
RALPH E. HOPPE  
JAMES L. ZEPERNICK

## OKLAHOMA

HOWARD R. HESTER  
FRANCIS X. MARSHALL

## OREGON

MARVIN D. SPRINKLE

## PENNSYLVANIA

HARVEY J. BREIGNER  
ALFRED G. BROWN  
GERALD J. MESSINA  
RAY M SCHREIBER  
ROBERT E. STEVENS  
DONALD R. WAGNER

## RHODE ISLAND

PATRICIA A. HANSON  
PETER J. KELLY

## SOUTH CAROLINA

JACK D. SLOAN

## SOUTH DAKOTA

GEORGE R. BOCK

## TENNESSEE

REMO J. CIRCO  
ROBERT B. HARDIN

## TEXAS

CHARLES A. GARRETT  
MARSHALL THOMPSON JR.

## VIRGINIA

HAROLD E. SOYARS

## WASHINGTON

CLAUDE B. HUFFMAN

## WEST VIRGINIA

GILBERT F. HAZZARD  
JACK B. PETHTEL

## NON-US

MG PARK SEH-JIK

### 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

# Korean War Veteran Dedicates Himself to Local Veterans Memorial

## Memorial Day Services featured dedication of Veterans Memorial Project

By Kathi Gulley

What started as one man's "dream" became the pet project of a Riverdale, California Korean War veteran. And with the help of a handful of volunteers, the end result is a touching tribute to area vets.

The nearly completed Veterans Memorial at Oak Grove Cemetery was dedicated at Memorial Day Services, on Monday, May 25. California Congressman Jim Costa was the featured speaker.

Several years ago, cemetery Manager Verne Davis of Riverdale, who had retired from the Navy, visited a Veterans Memorial in Oklahoma and came home with an idea to build a similar memorial at Oak Grove. The Oak Grove Cemetery District serves Riverdale, Burrel and Laton, which are farming communities in Central California. Davis shared his thoughts with the cemetery board, who liked the idea. In 2003, they created a committee to research, design, and plan a local memorial.

The committee, which included VFW #559 (Riverdale) members Jim Petty and Bo Kight, along with Davis, Richard Schultz, and Gerald Leoni of Burrel, began meeting monthly to gather ideas and resources. They learned that no federal or state funds were available for such a project, so they made plans to raise the money themselves.

The group agreed that they wanted to build an attractive tribute honoring any person who lived or worked in the cemetery district and served in any branch of the military at any time in US history. The persons could be living or deceased, and, if deceased, they did not need to be interred at Oak Grove.

A design was drawn for the memorial, which would feature six granite panels engraved with the names of local heroes. A preliminary estimate was that the memorial would cost approximately \$70,000 to complete.

Early fundraising efforts included yard sales and take-out dinners. The ground was

mapped out for the memorial, and a flag pole placed for an American flag, marking the spot where the memorial would be built. But, by the fall of 2007, Davis' dream was stalled by a lack of funds. The dream remained, but early cost estimates had risen to nearly \$100,000, and the fundraising efforts hadn't come close to raising that amount.

At about that time, in October 2007, Korean War veteran John Mendes (U.S. Army) of Riverdale lost his wife, Tina, to breast cancer. Mendes knew about the efforts to build a memorial, so he suggested that in lieu of flowers, those who chose to remember Tina should donate to the Veterans Memorial Project at Oak Grove Cemetery.

He was shocked to learn several weeks later that although many donations had been made in memory of his wife and others, the memorial might never be completed due to lack of funds. This news, and the fact that the retiree now had plenty of time on his hands, spurred Mendes to action.

He began meeting with cemetery staff and attending monthly project meetings. He studied the plan, and contacted people he knew who might like to get involved. A retired dairyman, Mendes asked local dairies to donate compost, and got local trucking companies to donate the cost of delivering it to the cemetery grounds.

When Fowler Civil War enthusiast Richard Wagner heard about the project, he donated the barrel to a Civil War replica cannon. Two donors purchased a carriage, and the cannon was set in place at the memorial site.

Mendes became a regular at Riverdale Chamber of Commerce meetings, asking for sponsors for various parts of the project. Soon, thanks to local organizations and families, all six panels to be engraved with names had sponsors.

Little by little, the bank account for the project began to grow. While some people wrote checks, others donated materials, time and real "sweat equity," and the memorial



started taking shape.

At last year's service, "phase one" was unveiled, including the cannon and original flag pole, now surrounded by 50 state flags. Approximately 400 people attended the service, which helped generate enthusiasm and encouraged others to get involved.

In the next twelve months, the memorial began to really take shape. Mendes was at the cemetery almost daily, heading there each morning after mass at St. Ann 's Church in Riverdale. Some days, he and Schultz were met by Wayne Kercher of Riverdale, and with the help of any volunteers they could beg, borrow or steal, they dug trenches, mapped out roads and took measurements. On busy days, Mendes brought donuts and sandwiches, hoping to keep everyone working as long as possible.

Burrel businessman Johnny Tacherra donated material, labor and his creative touch, and poured the cement base, including an intricate design painted in shades of black and gold to enhance the black granite panels.

As sprinkler systems were installed, the



**Korean War veteran John C. Mendes, Riverdale; Gerald Leoni, Burrel, CA, unknown volunteer; Dick Schultz, Burrel, CA saluting as "Taps" is played at the end of Memorial Day Services on Monday, May 25, 2009, at Oak Grove Cemetery**

**Without any government help, and without grants or donations from any major companies or businesses, these volunteers proved that the people from the small communities of Riverdale, Laton and Burrel care enough to honor the brave men and women who serve our country.**

Hanford Garden Club began planting the landscaping around the circular cement slab, and the memorial began to grow with color and life.

Cemetery manager Richard Escalera and his wife, Judy, the cemetery secretary, were there every day, too. In addition to their cemetery jobs, they took on the added responsibility of collecting names, keeping track of donations and helping with letters, phone calls, and performing internet searches to locate materials and donations.

Monthly meetings continued. Other committee members, including Bonnie Schultz, Lucille Lawton, and Ernestine Witten, were eager to offer ideas and muscle. Lorna Schultz Roush coordinated a take-out dinner in 2008, and committee members sold more

than 600 dinners.

According to Mendes' daughter, Kathi Gullely, "there isn't anybody that he didn't approach," when working on the memorial. "As far as he was concerned, everyone had something they could contribute, whether time, ideas or enthusiasm."

"And," she added, "he stopped by my house almost every morning to update me and give me my 'job' for the day. Let's just say I'm very pleased the project is nearly completed!"

A call for names of persons who should be included in the memorial went out to local press. A donation of \$50 was requested to help defray the cost. In some cases, a family would donate more, but in many cases, the family donated just what they could. No one

was turned away, and the list of names continued to grow.

By this past April, there were 850 names of verified local veterans to be included on the memorial, and Hanford Monument began engraving those names on the panels. In early May, those panels were set in place. What was once just a vision in the eyes of these local volunteers finally became a reality.

Although there is still much work to be done and more funds to be raised, the Veterans Memorial at Oak Grove Cemetery was dedicated on Memorial Day 2009, in front of veterans, family and community members, guests, and the very proud volunteers who dedicated themselves to the project. Nearly 500 people attended, and a free barbecue lunch followed the services. Donations for the luncheon benefited the memorial fund project.

Without any government help, and without grants or donations from any major companies or businesses, these volunteers proved that the people from the small communities of Riverdale, Laton and Burrel care enough to honor the brave men and women who serve our country. And, even in difficult economic times, people will come together to support a worthy cause.

The memorial is still a work in progress. More people are learning about the memorial, and more names are being added to a secondary list. As the list grows, additional granite panels will be purchased, engraved and placed.

Donations to the project are still needed, and anyone with the name of someone who should be included should contact the cemetery.

Oak Grove Cemetery is located at 19811 S. Cedar Avenue, between Laton and Riverdale. For more information, contact the cemetery at (559) 923-4544 or e-mail [ommom@prodigy.net](mailto:ommom@prodigy.net)

*Reach Kathi M. Gullely, Riverdale, CA, at [ommom@prodigy.net](mailto:ommom@prodigy.net) or [www.myspace.com/ommom](http://www.myspace.com/ommom)*

# Why did C-Rations come in B units?

By Staff Writer Arthur G. Sharp©

C-Rations bring back a lot of pleasant memories for service members of WWII, Korea, and Vietnam. They would be banned today by the Surgeon General, American Medical Association, Secretary of Health, Welfare, and Education, FDA, ACLU, SPCA, FDIC, ASJA...in short, any regulatory, legislative, and/or public policy agency in existence. That's because not many of their members ever had the pleasure of dining on Beans and Wieners, Ham and Lima Beans, etc. C-Rations were haute cuisine (high cooking) in their time—if you could get them open.

We cannot discuss C-Rations without mentioning P-38s, which most of us carried with us in the field. Allegedly they were named P-38s because it took 38 punctures to open a can, the opening process was as slow as the famed P-38 fighter plane, users would reach the age of 38 before they opened a can....take your pick. (Incidentally the official government title for a P-38 was OPENER, CAN, HAND, FOLDING, TYPE I. And "C-rats" were designated as "Meal, Combat, Individual.") One thing is certain: it took so long to open a can with a P-38 that a user built up a serious appetite in the process. It required a lot of calories to satisfy that appetite.

According to the nearby official quartermaster's description of C-Rations, "Each complete meal contains approximately 1200 calories. The daily ration of 3 meals provides approximately 3600 calories." The really good thing was that those calories could be consumed hot or cold.

Yes, the C-Rations we ate could be swallowed without being heated. The temperature did not affect the taste. The Sterno© (canned heat) issued with the C-Rations did not work half the time anyway. If it did, it did not last long enough to heat a lima bean, let alone the "mystery meat" disguising it.

And, when the troops were on the line or in the field, prudence dictated that lighting Sterno© cans was not in their best interest from a safety standpoint. When they could not use the cans, they could substitute contents for the jams in the C-Rations boxes. The Sterno© had the same consistency and color of the jams, and did not taste much different.

One of the amazing things about the jams in the C-Rations was that some people claimed they could actually differentiate among them. There were five flavors: Apple, Berry, Grape, Mixed Fruit, and Strawberry. To the average diner, they all looked and tasted the same. The people who swore they could tell them apart were the gourmands of C-Rations.

Surprisingly, some troops who had serious appetites relished C-Rations. Well, maybe they did not use actual relish, but they integrated a lot of other condiments into the meals. For example, I would never go to the field without carrying two necessary items when possible: a fresh onion and a bottle of hot sauce. If there were no fresh onions available, I would take two bottles of hot sauce. Items like onions and sauce could make any C-Rations palatable—and trade worthy.

There was some serious trading going on with C-Rations as I recall. Some people liked Hot Dogs and Beans, for example, and would trade whatever they had for a can or two. The beauty of C-Rations was that they came in mystery boxes. No one knew what they would be getting until they opened their boxes. That opened another mystery: once they opened the cans they had to guess what was actually in them. What a conundrum: a mystery food in a mystery box. The excitement of opening the box, then the can, was the highlight of many troops' days. Everyday was Christmas for some troops once the C-Rations were issued.

Now, I have heard that some troops did not participate in the "opening ceremonies," Christmas atmosphere notwithstanding. This is strictly anecdotal, but some of them reputedly threw away the cans and ate the cardboard boxes in which they came. They claimed that the boxes were tastier and had more fiber. I cannot verify that claim, since I was always too busy trying to trade for Ham and Lima Beans, which were always available. That meal had to be the most universally disliked of all the "Mystery Meats"—which made it easy to trade for.

Another benefit to trading for Ham and Lima Beans was the bonus aspect. Some troops were so desperate to trade away the Ham and Lima Beans that they would throw in a two-pack of cigarettes or a package of

"John Wayne" crackers just to get rid of them. Not that the cigarettes or crackers were a prize or anything. In fact, they were interchangeable. You could smoke the crackers and eat the cigarettes, or eat the crackers and smoke the cigarettes. It didn't matter. The only thing that mattered to the troops in the field was that they had something to eat or smoke—even if they were one and the same. That is what initiated the "Don't ask, don't tell" military policy.

Troops simply did not ask about what they were eating, and nobody told them. That was wise. They could have been eating used bowling balls or shoe soles for all they knew.

Again, this is anecdotal evidence, but C-Rations may have been developed as a recycling program. Hey, remember the meatballs in the spaghetti. They looked like—and tasted like—old bowling balls. What better way was there to get rid of them than by mixing them with spaghetti or beans. The manufacturers did not even have to break them up. The troops would swallow them whole if they got hungry enough—especially if they had enough hot sauce.

And the ham slices? They looked strangely like the bottoms of used combat boots, and had the same texture and taste. Only the addition of a slice or two of fresh onion and a spoonful of hot sauce could make them palatable.

Finally, C-Rations had one additional benefit: they could be used as ammunition if the troops ran short of bullets. Meatballs rolled downhill could knock down enemy troops like they were bowling pins. The hot dogs were every bit as lethal as baseball bats in hand-to-hand combat situations. Mortar crews could drop them in their weapons and drop them on unsuspecting enemy troops with devastating effect. Pound cakes thrown at enemy aircraft or tanks could inflict serious damage on them. There are no proven cases in which any of these scenarios actually happened, but rumors persist that they did.

Speaking of stories, if any readers have tales of their experiences with C-Rations, P-38s (the openers, not the planes), field "rats" in general, send them to us. You don't even have to provide fresh onions or hot sauce to make the stories easier to swallow.

So, you wonder, what started all this? Donald Hammond sent us this list of C-Rations that he obtained from a friend who had served in both Korea and Vietnam.

"I have talked to many people who remembered the 'C-rations,' but could not remember all about them," he noted. "So, I thought it might be of interest to your readers who may still wonder what they ate in those days on the line in Korea." Reach him at this address: Donald Hammond, 399 Bjorn Ct., Hemet, CA 92545

## The Official C-Rations List

### B-1 Units

Meat Choices (in small cans):

- Beef Steak
- Ham and Eggs, Chopped
- Ham Slices
- Turkey Loaf

Fruit:

- Applesauce
- Fruit Cocktail
- Peaches
- Pears

Crackers (7)

Peanut Butter

Candy Disc, Chocolate

- Solid Chocolate
- Cream
- Coconut

Accessory Pack\*

### B-2 Units

Meat Choices (in larger cans):

- Beans and Wieners
- Spaghetti and Meatballs
- Beefsteak, Potatoes and Gravy
- Ham and Lima Beans
- Meatballs and Beans

Crackers (4)

Cheese Spread, Processed

- Caraway
- Pimento

Fruit Cake

Pecan Roll

Pound Cake

Accessory Pack\*

### B-3 Units

Meat Choices (in small cans):

- Boned Chicken
  - Chicken and Noodles
  - Meat Loaf
  - Spiced Beef
- Bread, White

Cookies (4)

Cocoa Beverage Powder

Jam

- Apple
- Berry
- Grape
- Mixed Fruit
- Strawberry

Accessory Pack\*

### \*Accessory Pack

Spoon, Plastic

Salt

Pepper

Coffee, Instant

Sugar

Creamer, Non-dairy

Gum, 2 Chiclets

Cigarettes, 4 smokes/pack

- Winston
- Marlboro
- Salem
- Pall Mall
- Camel
- Chesterfield
- Kent
- Lucky Strike
- Kool

Matches, Moisture Resistant

Toilet Paper

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## RETURN from page 66

that he never thought he was going to see me again.

It was dark when I arrived in Jeffersonville. My sisters and Uncle Norman and Aunt Katherine Pfau came to meet me. It was a great moment to hug my wonderful mother Edna. My home seemed like a palace compared to my many fox holes and mountain trails in Korea.

We all sat in the living room, including my grandfather, John R. Scott. I asked about my grandmother Scott, who we all called "Gran Gran." She was an elegant, sophisticated lady. When they told me that she had died, my eyes became full of tears for the first time in my adult life.

There are some things that happen in your life about which you can remember every detail regardless of the years that have passed. There are other times when you can't remember your zip code without looking for your driver's license. My return home from Korea falls into the first category.

*See page 21 for Kennedy's contact info.*

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## KVA Elects New President

The KVA, a venerable and powerful organization comprising several million members, has elected a new Chairman (President), General Park Se-Hwan, ROK Army (Ret). He was elected on 9 September 2009 to replace the late Dr. Park Seh-Jik, who died tragically of exhaustion in the service of his nation on 27 July 2009.

General Park was the serving Army Vice President of the KVA at the time of Dr. Park Seh-Jik's death. He had a distinguished ROK Army career, including command of the 12th EULJI ROK Infantry Division, VII ROK Army Corps, and the Second ROK Army.

Subsequent to his retirement, Gen Park served two terms in the ROK National Assembly and with numerous commissions and other national and international bodies concerned with enforcement of nuclear weapons control and accountability.

Welcome to the command of one of the world's greatest veterans' organizations, General Park.

*Louis T Dechert*

### This is the official Quartermaster's description of C-Rations used in Vietnam

"The Meal, Combat, Individual, is designed for issue as the tactical situation dictates, either in individual units as a meal or in multiples of three as a complete ration. Its characteristics emphasize utility, flexibility of use, and more variety of food components than were included in the Ration, Combat, Individual (C Ration) which it replaces. Twelve different menus are included in the specification.

Each menu contains: one canned meat item; one canned fruit, bread or dessert item; one B unit; an accessory packet containing cigarettes, matches, chewing gum, toilet paper, coffee, cream, sugar, and salt; and a spoon. Four can openers are provided in each case of 12 meals. Although the meat item can be eaten cold, it is more palatable when heated.

Each complete meal contains approximately 1200 calories. The daily ration of 3 meals provides approximately 3600 calories."

# From the vaults

Every once in a while we find items of interest in our vaults that we like to bring to your attention. (That is a polite way of saying that we have overlooked them for too long.) Here is one such item.

## The first two years

Here are a few pictures that give a little different look at the Korean War. They show what it was like in the first two years.

Jack Cuthrell, 25th Div., 35th Regt., 1st Plt., Heavy Mortar Co., Aug. 1950-Oct. 1951), 2205 Swift Bluff Dr., Colonial Heights, VA 23834-5357, (804) 526-0245, jlc2205@aol.com

Jack Cuthrell,  
September  
1951



Tanks fording the  
Han River during  
Operation "Ripper,"  
March 1951



Chinese prisoners, May 1951



Monsoon, 1951



Mortar position south of Seoul, 1951



Hot chow, summer 1951



Captured Russian Mortar, Operation "Ripper," March 1951

Starkey, KIA at Kumwha, April 1951



A Chinese prisoner, April 1951



1st Platoon at 50-year reunion, 27 April 1951 Harold Boarman, Clyde Williams, Donald Tolliver (sitting), Jack Cuthrell, Frank Craig (sitting), James Mancuso



Saul & Creig, April 1951



CID 143 Color Guard, 10 February 2001: Jack Cuthrell, Jim Jamison, Wally Wampler, Ned Jones, Jim Chase, Jim Adkins

Continued on page 79

**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**  
**MOH, Ex-POW, Gold Star Parent or Spouse & Honorary - \$0.00**

**Regular Life Membership: (May be paid in lump sum or 6 equal payments by check over a 12 month period.)**

**Ages up to and through 35 years of age: .....\$600**      **Ages 36 through 50 years of age: .....\$450**  
**Ages 51 through 65 years of age: .....\$300**      **Ages 66 years of age and older: .....\$150**

*Please Check One:*     **New Member**     **Renewal Member (# \_\_\_\_\_)**

*Please Check One*     **Medal of Honor**     **Regular Member**     **Regular Life Member**     **Associate Member**  
 **Ex-POW**     **Honorary**     **Gold Star Parent**     **Gold Star Spouse**

*(Please Print)*  
Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle/Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Chapter Number/Name (if applicable) # \_\_\_\_\_

*All Regular members please provide the following information if applicable*

**Unit(s) to which Assigned**      **Branch of Service**  
Division \_\_\_\_\_  Army  
Regiment \_\_\_\_\_  Air Force  
Battalion \_\_\_\_\_  Navy  
Company \_\_\_\_\_  Marines  
Other \_\_\_\_\_  Coast Guard

**Dates of service:**  
WithIN Korea were: *(See criteria below)*  
From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_  
WithOUT Korea were: *(See criteria below)*  
From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the above information provided by me for the purposes as indicated, is true and correct."  
**[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: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: KWVA  
Mail to: **Korean War Veterans Association Inc., P. O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407** (Telephone: 217-345-4414)  
(Or you may pay by Credit Card)

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_  VISA     MASTER CARD (only)

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ V-Code \_\_\_\_\_ Your Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted 10/23/2007

## 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

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## 171 – BROOKLYN [NY]

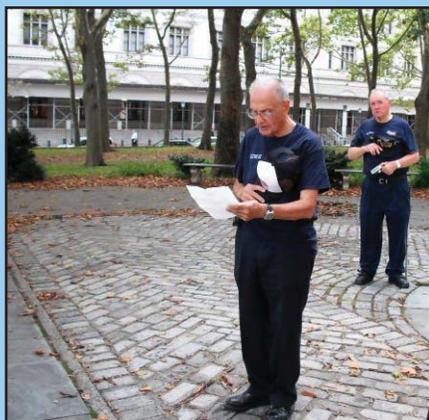
On July 27th, 2009 we held a memorial service in honor of the signing of the armistice at a memorial honoring the 358 men from Brooklyn, NY killed in action. The names of all the men that gave the ultimate sacrifice are engraved on the entrance walls to the plaza.

Joe Gelman, jrkkjak@aol.com



Cadman Plaza Memorial, Brooklyn, NY

Chaplain Tom Trombone of CID 171 honors the KIA from Brooklyn



Members of CID 191, Rich Tomasulo and Joe Polvere, at Brooklyn July 27th remembrance

## 192 – CITRUS [FL]

On July 27, 2009, we conducted a memorial service at the historic court house in Inverness, FL to recognize the armistice signed on July 27, 1953. A wreath was placed at the KWVA Citrus 192 monument. The names of 26 Korean War veterans from Citrus County who died in Korea were read. A bell tone was sounded after each name.

Representatives from the County Commission and City of Inverness read proclamations proclaiming July 27, 2009 the "Anniversary of Armistice Day on the Korean Peninsula." More than 75 citizens attended the event.

Herman (Hank) Butler, Chapter Commander  
2110 NW 17th Street, Crystal River, FL 34428  
(352) 563-2496, hankrita@tampabay.rr.com



Placing the wreath at Citrus Memorial: Honor Guard Joseph Barry, American Legion Post 155 (C), Ralph Nardone, KWVA 192, US Marine Purple Heart Recipient (L), Herman Butler (R)



Guests, CID 192 members, and dignitaries at the closing statement at the Inverness event: (background) American Legion Post 155 Honor Guard (left table) Flora Barker, Conrad Gifford (center table) John Husowitz, Chuck Spikes, Ralph Nardone, Jim Decker (back row) Ken Bradshaw, Bob Hermanson, Paul Salyer, Charles Barker, Bob Plaisted, Mayor, City of Inverness, and Wynn Webb, County Commissioner. At the podium is Neal Colbath, CID 192, MC and organizer of the event

## RHODE ISLAND

Members from all three Rhode Island chapters gathered in Providence to honor and remember the Korean War.

*Frank Meo, 70 Brookside Avenue, North Providence, RI 02911*



The Rhode Island Korean War Memorial in Providence



Color Guards forming for Rhode Island July 27th ceremony



CID 258 (Rhode Island Chapter #3) officers in attendance at Providence event (L-R) Richard St. Louis (newly elected chapter Commander), Quartermaster Gilbert A. Botelho, Jr. Vice Commander Frank Meo



Commanders of Rhode Island chapters (L-R) Norman J. Paiva, Sr. (CID 258, Northern Rhode Island), Robert Hartley (CID 147, West Bay Rhode Island Chapter 2), Maurice ("Moe") P. Trottier (CID 117, Ocean State #1)



The memorial wreath and a veteran Jeep at Providence ceremony

## 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 Member's # \_\_\_\_\_ 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** Phone: 703-590-1295  
**c/o MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS** Fax: 703-590-1292  
**13198 Centerpointe Way Ste. 202** E-mail: mhtours@miltours.com  
**Alexandria, VA 22193-5285** 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 Inchon 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.

VAULTS continued from page 73

## USS Randall (AP-115)

I served aboard *USS Randall* (AP-115) for a few months before I went to submarine school in New London, CT. What is unusual about the nearby photos is that they were on the front pages of the San Francisco Call-Bulletin and Green Flash.

The names of a few service members and their families appear. No doubt these pictures will bring back many memories.

Stan Wisniewski, 1159 Deveron Ct., San Dimas, CA 91773-3806, (909) 599-7726

# Taft Wins 2d Delegate Contest

# 1,835 HOME ON TRANSPORT



Here today from the Far East is the Navy transport General G. M. Randall (above) which brought 1,835 men and women home from Korea.

FINAL NIGHT EDITION RRR TELEPHONE YU 6-5151 The Weather  
**THE CALL BULLETIN**  
 WEDNESDAY, JULY 7, 1953  
 7c In San Francisco, 10c Elsewhere  
 (Details on Page 13)

As soon as the band finished its inaugural welcome, Elsi Norwood the "GI Thrus" who has welcomed many thousands of returning service men, stepped forward.

She began her vocal greeting with "My Hero," and followed up with other semi-classical favorites which brought cheers and whistles from the men jostling at the ship's rails.

### MEN DISEMBARK

The real drama of the arrival came when the ship's gangplank was put in place.

As the men filed down to the pier, each carrying heavy luggage, including duffel bags and suitcases, they passed between twin standards of United Nations flags placed at the foot of the gangplank.

Those with relatives waiting in the special enclosure were quickly shunted into the area for family reunions. Hugs, kisses and happy tears were the order of the day for the get-togethers.

The majority of the men moved into long ranks on the pier, where Red Cross canteen workers served them coffee and cookies.

### RECEPTION CENTERS

Waiting nearby was a ferry boat, ordered to carry most of the men to reception centers at Camp Stoneman and at Yerba Buena Island.

A total of 565 Army and 1,088 Air Force men were among those slated to go by ferry to the reception centers. Most of them will be under way for their respective homes on furlough or as civilians within 24 to 48 hours.

Others aboard the big ship included 11 Navy men and 171 civilians, either dependents or service personnel or employees of the armed forces on overseas duty.

## Welcome Given To Veterans As Big Ship Docks

With pride in a job well done and with jubilation in returning to their homeland, 1,835 service men and civilians returned from the Far East late today aboard the Navy transport General G. M. Randall.

The big ship was met at Fort Mason by a typical San Francisco Port of Embarkation welcome which included band music, entertainment, a speech of greeting and refreshments.

For some of the men, the high spot of the homecoming was the presence of relatives upon the pier, loved ones who eagerly scanned the rails of the incoming ship for familiar faces and who shouted greetings as the transport moved to her berth.

### KOREA VETERANS

It was a particularly happy occasion for 415 Army men aboard the big ship, for they were returning from the battlefield of Korea.

The gala welcome got away with the strains of "California Here I Come," played by the SFPE band as the transport neared the end of the pier.



ELSI NORWOOD On Hand As Always

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Midshipmen from the Republic of Korea 2009 Coastal Training Squadron tour the forecabin of amphibious command ship USS Blue Ridge (LCC 19). Blue Ridge [was] in Busan for Ulchi Freedom Guardian 2009, an annual combined and joint computer simulation driver exercise designed to improve the interoperability between the Republic of Korea and the U.S. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Melvin F. Orr III/Released)