

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

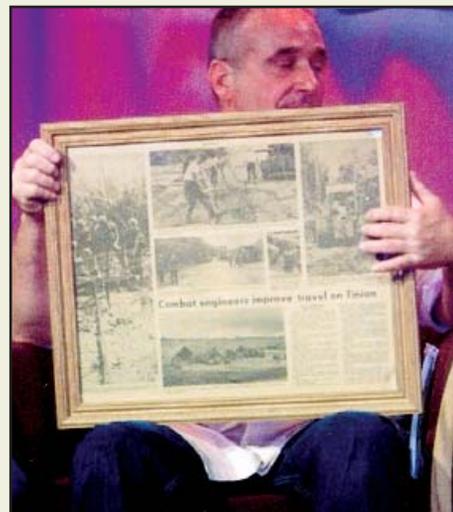
of the generation of Americans.

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.

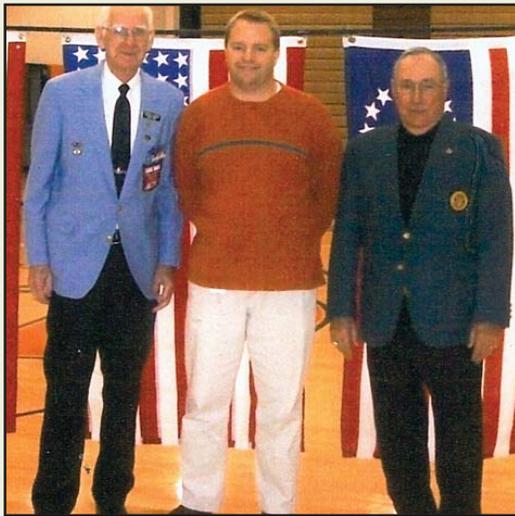
The Veterans Day programs included 8 trips, 2,058 students, 220 teachers and guests, 15 hours presentation time, 39 miles, and 9 hours of travel time. Ken Williams and Fred Shively presented one to high school classes and assemblies, honoring all veterans from the beginning of our country up to the present.

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).

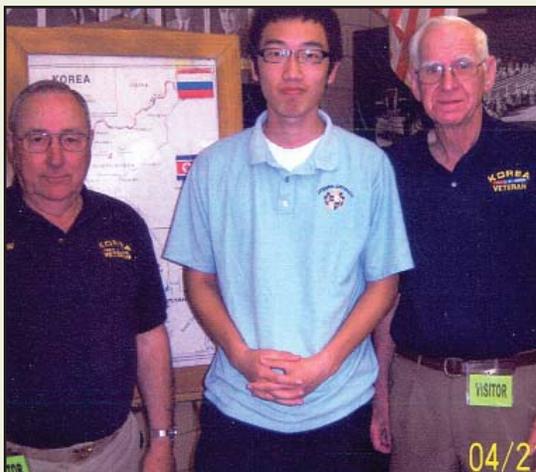
We are looking forward to the next school year. The Good Lord willing, we hope to have another successful year.

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.

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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.

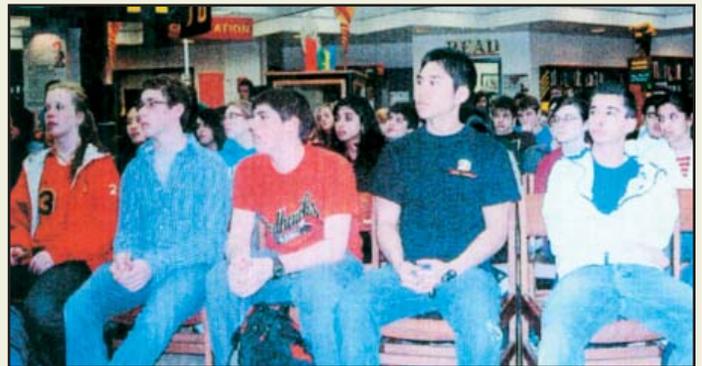
“Freedom is not free,” McCarthy said.

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

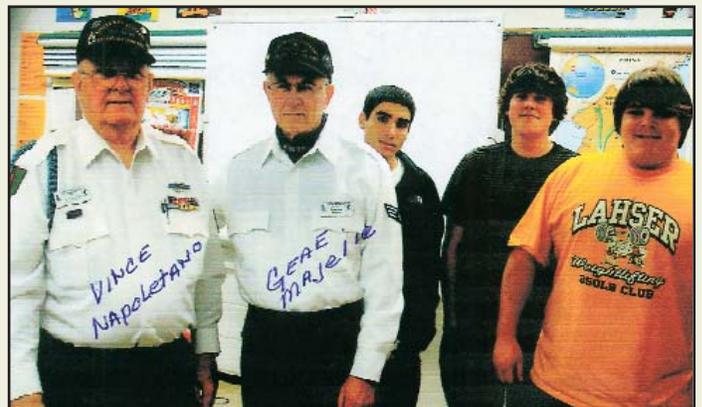
Richard L. Charbonneau
532 W. Troy St. Ferndale, MI 48220
(248) 543-3577, RCharbonneau6322@wowway.com



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.



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

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

(Plus postage, NO handling fees)

To order, contact Jamie Reynolds, Membership Administrative Assistant, P. O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407, Tel: 217-345-4414, email: membership@kwva.org

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

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4-16 Mar VN 3rd MarDiv Return to I Corps

12-23 Apr VN Covan/Col Cook Return

9-23 May VN 1st MarDiv in I Corps

22-31 May WWI USMC Battlefields

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

4-17 Jun VN USMC Recon Ops in I Corps

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