

KWVA Bylaws Committee Project For 2009/2010**Revision of the KWVA Standard Procedure Manual and KWVA Bylaws Review****REVIEW**

The Bylaws Committee is pleased to report to the Membership that on June 1, 2010, the revised Standard Procedure Manual (SPM), Revision SPM-005, Rev.001, was approved unanimously by the Board of Directors at a Business Without A Meeting. The revised SPM was then posted on <http://www.kwva.org> for download and use by the Membership. It can be directly downloaded from http://www.kwva.org/bylaws/spm/procedure_manual.htm in both .doc (MS Word) and PDF (Adobe) formats.

In the beginning, the SPM was intended for use only by Association officers. Over time, many procedures have been developed and added for use by all Regular Members, as needed.

As this is written, on July 12, I can report that the new Bylaws, ratified by the Membership in October 2009, have clearly helped to make an increase in the rate of membership applications.

From January 1 to July 8 of last year, there were 393 new members. This year, by July 8, the number of new members is 635 since January 1. On July 8, 2009, the membership was 16,448. This year, on the same date, it is 17,589.

Because there is at present a measurable, continued and ongoing increase in KWVA membership, this article contains information previously given to the membership. This allows new members who weren't eligible to receive *The Graybeards Magazine* to catch up on the details surrounding the issue of the payment of annual dues.

I will say once again that, although some might point out that the past issues could have been downloaded from the KWVA website <http://www.kwva.org/>, less than 15% of those who are KWVA members have personal access to the internet. It is a reasonable assumption to infer that non-members, past and present, are in the same situation. Still, most public libraries have internet access, which should work for anyone with a library card and the will to go there.

Hopefully, chapter and department officers will go over all of the new information.

There are three (3) documents to review and discuss with their Chapter members: the Bylaws, Standard Procedure Manual, and KWVA Federal Charter. Since all these documents are available as downloads from the KWVA website <http://www.kwva.org/>, one of the officers can do that and print out a copy of each for the Chapter. Please review them so you can assure yourselves that there is no conflict between them and your Chapter and Department bylaws.

HISTORY

Including this article, there have been eleven (11) articles describing the progress of the 2009/2010 Bylaws/SPM Project since it was authorized by the KWVA Board of Directors at the 2008 Annual Meeting in Norfolk, Virginia. The first article was in the 2009 Nov-Dec Edition of *The Graybeards*. Since that time, more content has been added or corrected, and all of the forms have been updated or added.

The Board was told that as the SPM revision process proceeds, they would be periodically given the changes, and asked to contribute their comments and recommendations as they felt appropriate. Many did exactly that.

BYLAWS

Hopefully, the practice of non-payment of the required National annual dues by those in chapters and/or departments is soon going to be history. It is destructive to the Association, in that it does not permit an evaluation and/or verification of the eligibility of these chapter 'members' as Korean War veterans. It takes the issue beyond basic unfairness, and the Regular members, especially officers, should realize that it threatens our recently granted Federal Charter if allowed to continue.

The Federal Charter reads:

'...120101. Organization

"(a) FEDERAL CHARTER.—Korean War Veterans Association, Incorporated (in this chapter, the 'corporation'), a nonprofit organization that meets the requirements for a veterans service organization under section 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and that is organized under the laws of the State of New York, is a federally chartered corporation.

"(b) EXPIRATION OF CHARTER.—If the corporation does not comply with the provisions of this chapter, the charter granted by subsection (a) shall expire....'

KWVA President Mac Swain approved the insertion of a booklet containing the 2009 Bylaws as a removable document from the centerfold of the Jan-Feb 2010 Edition of *The Graybeards* for members' personal convenience. The booklet helps to support the Good of the Order, especially at chapter and department meetings, where I'm told it is in use.

The new Bylaws are also posted on the KWVA website, at <http://www.kwva.org>. Reports from many chapters are that their members were pleased with the booklet. That is positive and welcome news to the Bylaws Committee.

One of the arguments against the 2009 Bylaws Amendment presented at the Membership Meeting was that you simply could not enforce the Bylaws rule that ALL must pay National Association dues. Not true. It is only truly unenforceable if those who are sworn to uphold the Bylaws fail to do so. There is a lack of honor in failing to do so.

Here is a procedure that should ensure the enforcement of and compliance to the Bylaws:

Before any chapter or department meeting, those present should be carded to assure and verify current regular KWVA membership. There is nothing new about that. Let me point out again that, at an Annual Membership Meeting, this process is the method used to guarantee that those who will discuss, debate and vote on KWVA business are those who have paid for the privilege.

Many, many chapters have always used this simple, effective procedure. It will work only if you, as a member, insist on enforce-

ment. I know it will be difficult if, as I am told, there are actually chapter officers who do not belong to the KWVA, or are delinquent in their dues. If you are a current, regular KWVA member, you are entitled to ask for this. In fact, I hold that you are obligated and bound by honor and duty to do so.

None of the above prevents a guest from attending, as long as they are identified and do not participate in chapter or department business.

USING YOUR STANDARD PROCEDURE MANUAL (SPM)

Now that the revisions to the KWVA Standard Procedure Manual (SPM) have been approved by the Board of Directors and are in place, the current SPM and our Federal Charter are all available for review and/or download from the KWVA website <http://www.kwva.org> at any time. They can be an effective tool for managing your Department or Chapter business, as an example, keeping your reports to the Association current.,

MY THANKS

To officially end the project to review and revise the KWVA Bylaws and the Standard Procedure manual, I thank the other members of the Bylaws Committee, and the many KWVA members from all around the Association whose comments resulted in some of the changes. While I cannot name everyone, I can acknowledge these fraternal brothers (and a sister), who definitely did their duty:

- Charlotte Ayers.....R028336
- Lee Dauster.....R005657
- Jake FeasterLR13771
- Luther Rice.....LR19674
- Glen ThompsonLR28718

Some final reminders:

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.

Duty, Honor, Country.

With fraternal respect for all who honor the Good of the Order,
*George E. Lawhon, LR18750, Director
 Chairman, KWVA Bylaws Committee
 george.e.lawhon@gmail.com*

2010 KWVA ELECTION RESULTS		
PRESIDENT	# OF VOTES	WINNER
Stanley Grogan	447	
William MacSwain	1,787	X
John Wasylik	322	
FIRST VICE		
James Ferris	2,277	X
DIRECTORS		
James Fountain	2,089	X
Arthur Griffith	1,981	X
Tine Martin	1,523	
Thomas McHugh	1,866	X
Thomas Stevens	1,897	X

KOREAN WAR BONUSES BY STATE

This chart represents the latest figures available for our survey of states that provided—or did not provide—bonuses to Korean War veterans. Anybody who has additional information regarding specific states is invited to send it to Korean War Bonus Editor, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

	YES	NO	UNKNOWN
Alabama			U
Alaska **			
Arizona			U
Arkansas			U
California			U
Colorado			U
Connecticut	Y		
Delaware	Y		
Florida			U
Georgia			U
Hawaii **			
Idaho			U
Illinois	Y		
Indiana	Y		
Iowa	Y		
Kansas			U
Kentucky	Y		
Louisiana	Y		
Maine			U
Maryland			U
Massachusetts	Y		
Michigan	Y		
Minnesota	Y		
Mississippi			U
Missouri			U
Montana	Y		
Nebraska			U
Nevada			U
New Hampshire	Y		
New Jersey		N	
New Mexico			U
New York	Y		
North Carolina			U
North Dakota	Y		
Ohio	Y		
Oklahoma			U
Oregon	Y		
Pennsylvania	Y		
Rhode Island	Y		
South Carolina			U
South Dakota	Y		
Tennessee			U
Texas			U
Utah			U
Vermont	Y		
Virginia		N	
Washington	Y		
Washington DC	Y		
West Virginia	Y		
Wisconsin		N	
Wyoming	Y		
TOTAL	24	3	22

** Alaska and Hawaii were admitted to the U.S. in 1959. Therefore, we have not included them in this chart. We have included Washington DC. That explains why there are 49 entities in the chart.