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# KOREA VETERANS

## The Graybeards



Official Publication of

**THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION**

September - October 2010 Vol. 24, No. 5

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HONORING ALL WHO SERVED  
**Veterans Day**



November 11, 2010





# The Graybeards

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



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# From the President

William Mac Swain

On October 27, 1950, only four months after the start of the war when the North Korean Peoples Army attacked South Korea, it had suffered defeat. The Chinese Communist Forces (CCF) launched their First Phase Offensive against the II Corp ROK Corp to try and slow down the Eighth Army Offensive. That offensive ended on November 2, 1950, six days later. This was the first hint that China had infiltrated North Korea.

Eighth Army spirits were high, for the rumors said the North Korean People's Army had retreated clear to the Yalu River, the war was won, and troops would be going home in December. As we learned then, rumors are never to be trusted. Many are started, but not very many are ever true. Below is one that is.

I have stated before that an Educational Foundation was being formed. Well, that rumor has finally become fact. The IRS has determined that the Legacy of the Korean War Foundation has met the requirements. Thus, a 501(c)3 Foundation has been authorized. It is ready to function as a separate entity from the KWVA, Inc., and will no doubt be a great help in furnishing educational materials to help publicize the Korean War to the American public. You can read about it in this issue of *The Graybeards*.

Our Tell America Project people know their history, and we are hoping that the new educational foundation will be able to furnish us with posters, videos, and pictures to help them show the American public what the Korean War actually accomplished.

Your Board of Directors held a meeting on October 19, 2010 in Irving, Texas to continue unfinished business from its last meeting. The delay was due to the number of 60th Anniversary Commemoration events that required attendance by the officials and the membership. The main business on the agenda was to determine when and where our Annual Membership Meetings will be held in 2012 and 2013. In addition, the date for the 2011 Annual Meeting in Boston, MA was set and the Approval of Committee Chairmen was finalized.

A couple other business matters were also

**The IRS has determined that the Legacy of the Korean War Foundation has met the requirements. Thus, a 501(c)3 Foundation has been authorized.**

discussed. You will be informed of what took place in the November-December issue of *The Graybeards*. Minutes of the Board and Annual Association Membership Meetings held on July 25, 2010 in Washington, DC are included in this issue.

The President, Ceremonies Chairman Thomas McHugh, Assistant Marty Goge, my Veterans Day Committee meetings representative, Chapter 142 Color Guard, and some KWVA members will be in Washington, DC for the Veterans Day Ceremony at the Arlington National Cemetery. Wreaths will be laid at the Tomb of the Unknown and at the Korean War Memorial in remembrance of all Korean War veterans who were POW/MIAs, and those who gave their lives for the freedom won for the Korean people and stopped communism from expanding throughout the world by force.

I apologize for giving the wrong date for the POW/MIA Day in the previous issue. The correct date was September 17, but my calendar did not even mention the date. I wrote it as September 18th by mistake. Unfortunately, I did not notice it until after the deadline, and the magazine was already printed. That sometimes is a problem.

Today, I am writing for November and December in the first week of September. So, I am current after the magazine gets to our members in the last part of October.

The Board of Directors and all of my staff wish you a great Thanksgiving. Did you know that on November 25, 1950 the CCF started its Second Phase Offensive and began to crush the II ROK Army and those U.S. troops in North Korea, both in the east and west, with hordes of troops? Their Thanksgiving was a bitter one.

Also, we wish for all to have a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Did you know that on December 24, 1950 the Chosin Reservoir Battle ended, and on New Year's Eve, December 31, 1950, the CCF began its Third Offensive to capture Seoul?

Thank you, members, for all you do in your communities, volunteering in VA hospitals, doing Meals on Wheels, and helping veterans who are in need. I also offer thanks for the donations many of our members give to help with *The Graybeards* and for showing the world that veterans are strong, brave, patriotic, and caring.

Finally, I remind veterans to vote in their local, state, and national elections in November for those candidates who have veterans affairs foremost in their thoughts and have shown that they respect what veterans have done for freedom and security for our nation.

William Mac Swain,  
KWVA President

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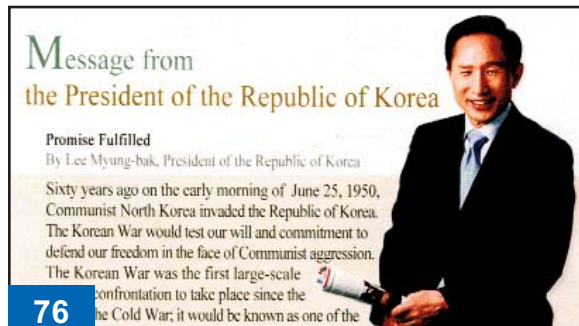
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## From the Secretary



**Frank Cohee**

### Someone Else Wanted to Find Col. Wilson

There was an article in the March-April 2010 issue of *The Graybeards* entitled "The Graybeards gets around: Old WW II friends reunited." Well, I received another call from a member, Patrick Hardesty, from Lafayette, LA looking for the same Col. Wilson, the author of *China Marine*. Of course, this was an easy request to answer, and I provided Patrick with the information he was looking for.

*Here is his response.* "Hi, Frank. Thanks so much for Col. Wilson's phone number. I had a great visit with him. He and I were in boot camp in August 1950 and later, after Pendleton, we ended up in B-1-5 in the second platoon. I was lucky by only getting frost-bite out of the line.

We have a reunion every year for Baker Bandits. That is a great way to stay in touch, but the ranks keep going down. I sure want to thank you again for the help to find Col. Wilson. *Semper Fidelis, Pat.*"

### Korean veterans are not ignored even if they are not members

I am not a member of your organization, but I wonder if you could tell me what town the X Corps headquarters was located near from Dec. 1951 till Feb. 1953. I was a member of the 8218th Topo Detachment there. It was just north of the 38th Parallel along the Soyang River. I would appreciate any info you might have.

*James Grisenti*

*My response:* The X Corps Headquarters was located at Pupyong-ni.

### Link to Veterans eBENEFITS

I received this important information from Art Hills, the National VSO. This link reveals many benefits that vets can check out. <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits-portal/appmanager/eb/veterans>

### Membership Directory Offer

In my article on page 6 of the Jul-Aug issue, Gordon Severson, CID 288, commented that he was sorry that he did not order the Membership Directory. Member George Frohmader called me and offered to send his copy of the directory to Gordon because he thought there were no more available. There are more copies available.

Call the Harris Connect Customer Service at 1-800-877-6554. Incidentally, the directory is still bringing in reinstated inactive members: 5 in July, 6 in June, and 8 in May.

### Looking for the proverbial needle in the haystack

A Korean woman is looking for her sister who was adopted by an American serviceman in 1969. She says she "just wants to know how Mi Chin is doing and wants to see her just once before she dies." You can read about her story here: <http://jjtrenka.wordpress.com/2010/08/26/kim-mi-chin-dob-april-16-1965/of>

Just to help out, I ran across your site. Do you know of some way we can let all Korean veterans who served in the 1960s that the sister of Kim Mi Chin is looking for her?

Kim Mi Chin was born April 16, 1964 and adopted from Jinae orphanage in Paju. She traveled from the Kimpo Airport on a Cathay Pacific flight on Sept. 6, 1969.

Any help or advice would be appreciated.

*Suki*

*My response to Suki:*

Looking for people like this is referred to in the USA as "Looking for a needle in a haystack." There is no way that I can let all Korean veterans who served in the 1960s know that the sister of Kim Mi Chin is looking for her. The only ones we know about are those who are members of the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA), which numbers approximately 18,000 people. There are literally millions that we do not know about.

As of May 2010, there were 2,507,000 living Korean veterans. We have data

only on about 18,000 of them. Nevertheless, I will have an article published in the next issue of our magazine, *The Graybeards*. Who knows? We may get lucky.

*Suki responds:*

Dear Frank,

Yes, I know about needles in haystacks! Like Kim Mi Chin's sister, I am looking for my family in Korea, where there are about 48 million people. My probable sibling was adopted and moved to America, where there are about 310 million people. So, actually, Korean War veterans is a much smaller pool! Really small! And 18,000 of them is great!

Kim Mi Chin's situation is unusual, though, because it was a private adoption and there are, therefore, no records on file for her at agencies. Being unusual also gives it some distinction... Things like this are often our only avenue.

Thanks so much for trying on her behalf! A small "shout out" in your magazine is incredible and we REALLY APPRECIATE IT!

You're my hero!

*Suki*

### Scholarships for 12 direct descendants of Korean War American Veterans in 2011

We received the below letter recently. Currently, we are trying to develop a plan to make sure the selection process is fair to our entire membership. We will keep our members apprised of what we develop.

.....

Mr. William F. Mac Swain, President  
Mr. Frank E. Cohee, Jr. Secretary  
Korean War Veterans Association

Dear Mr. Mac Swain and Mr. Cohee, Jr.:

It was a great pleasure for us, Friends of American Veterans of the Korean War (FAVKW), to work with your organization in preparing the "2010 Appreciation Event in honor of American Veterans of the Korean War" held in Las Vegas, June 13-14, 2010. It was a great success due to your strong interest and generous assistance.



This time we are writing this email to your organization again in order for us to have your support and assistance in selecting 12 FAVKW Scholarship recipients among the direct descendants of Korean War American Veterans.

We allocated \$12,000 as FAVKW Scholarship Fund for the year 2011. This scholarship will be given to each of 12 recipients in June 2011 when we commemorate the 6.25 Korean War. We planned to give \$1,000 to each of 12 recipients via mail who your organization will select according to the following qualification criteria:

1) The recipient must be a direct descendant of the members of Korean War Veterans Association.

2) The recipient must be a high school senior whose grade points average at high school must be 3.5 or above and who is officially accepted as a freshman for the first semester (August-December) of 2011 by a two year accredited vocational college or four year accredited college or university in USA.

3) One recipient for one state only. So we have 12 states out of 50 states to be represented in this scholarship program in 2011.

We want your organization to publicize this FAVKW Scholarship Program on your website and your publication.

Your organization may have some additional criteria besides the above qualification criteria.

We want to receive the name and resume of the 12 recipients by May 30, 2011 from your organization.

Your participation in and support for this FAVKW Scholarship Program by selecting 12 recipients in behalf of FAVKW would be highly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Woong Kyu Cho,  
Co-Chairman of FAVKW

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

## What are the real Korean War casualty numbers?

In the July-August edition, a letter writer quoted a casualty figure of 54,000 U.S. deaths in the Korean War. Over the years, I have heard figures of 34,000, 37,000, or 40,000 U.S. deaths from 1950-1953. None of these figures includes MIAs.

Recently, at a commemoration of the beginning and end of hostilities, I spoke to our guest speaker, a U.S. Marine Corps General, and asked him about the figure he quoted, which was in the 38,000 range.

Would you please feature an article that once and for all clarifies the actual, recorded death figures? I am not referring to any deaths of other U.N. countries that participated in the war to save South Korea. The last figure I heard about their losses was 3,000.

Edward M. Weiser, CID 114 (Yongdung Po), USAF 1951-1955, Chodo (North Korea), 1952-1953, 9071 Mill Creek Rd., Apt. 1516, Levittown, PA 19054-4225

***Editor's Note:** We asked our KWVA National Secretary to dig into the real number of casualties. Here is what he said:*

Mr. Weiser:

This is in response to the snail letter you wrote to Art Sharp about the discrepancies in the numbers of US deaths in Korea. The number is not cast in stone. Our information comes from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), and even their numbers change from year to year. That is because there are numbers for battle deaths, other deaths (In Theater), and other deaths in service (Non-Theater).

Obviously, these numbers can change from year to year for whatever reason. Generally, they are insignificant changes. There is a link on our website for "A brief Account of the Korean War," written by member Jack Walker. I believe this was the fourth printing in 2002 and Jack used the number of 33,627 for the number of battle deaths, which is close enough to the VA's current number (as of May 2010) of 33,739.

Here are the most recent VA (May 2010) numbers: Battle Deaths 33,739, Other Deaths (In Theater) 2,835, and Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater) 17,672. Those numbers add up to 54,246. That is probably how the letter writer number was calculated in the July-August issue of The Graybeards.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** The breakdown by services, according to Mr. Walker, was Army (27,704); Marines (4,267); Air Force (1,198); Navy (458). According to the United Nations, there were 3,640 Allied Forces war deaths, excluding Republic of Korea casualties. The number of ROK war deaths was 570,947. Note that the statistics are termed "War Deaths," not "Combat Deaths."

The breakdown of "war deaths" by country is:

Australia (339), Belgium (95); Canada (291); Colombia (140); Denmark (0); Ethiopia (120); France (288); Greece (169); India (0); Italy (0); Luxembourg (2); Netherlands (111); New Zealand (33); Norway (0); Philippines (92); South Africa (20); Sweden (0); Thailand (114); Turkey (717); United Kingdom (1,109).

### 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**



# CALL FOR ELECTIONS

The membership is hereby notified that elections will be held in the spring of 2011 for the following National Korean War Veterans Association, INC. (KWVA) positions: the offices of four (4) Directors for the years of 2011-2014.

No later than February 15, 2011, any regular members in good standing of the KWVA seeking to run for the aforementioned offices shall make their intentions known to the Chairman of the Elections Committee, Thomas M. McHugh, in writing, using the following format:

## Requirements:

### Applicants must:

- A. Present proof of service by submitting a separate signed Official KWVA Membership Application Form showing eligible service years and a statement releasing the application form for verification by the Elections Committee (no fee required).
- B. Present a current photograph, suitable for publication in *The Graybeards*.
- C. Submit a letter, signed and dated,



### The KWVA Wants You!

limited to approximately one (1) page, including 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) Your email address, if available.
- 5) Alternate email address and alternate phone number, if available.
- 6) A statement that you will attend all called meetings of the Board of

Directors and that you understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for your removal from office.

7) A statement that your dues are current through the whole term of the office that you are seeking. *Note: Payment of delinquent dues shall not be retroactive for the purpose of establishing eligibility to run for office within the Association.*

D. Send the above items by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Elections Committee Chairman, to arrive not later than February 15, 2011.

Applicants are requested to contact the Elections Committee Chairman if they have any questions.

Application packages and questions are to be addressed to:

Thomas M. McHugh  
Elections Committee Chairman  
217 Seymour Road  
Hackettstown, NJ 07840  
Ph: 908-852-1964  
TMMcHugh@msn.com

### The KWVA election process is as follows:

- The Elections Committee certifies the candidates who are qualified to stand for office.
- The candidate declarations are sent to the editor of *The Graybeards* for publication in the March-April 2011 Edition.
- The ballots are also published in that edition.
- Members then cast their ballots by June 10th and mail them to the KWVA approved CPA.
- The CPA then counts the ballots and reports the results via certified tally sheets to the Elections Committee.
- The results reported by the CPA are verified by the Elections Committee.
- Copies of the completed and verified tally sheets are sent by certified mail to each of the 15 Board Members, the Secretary, and the Treasurer, and to each of the candidates for office, regardless of whether they are a winner or loser.

Frank Cohee  
KWVA National Secretary

## A TRIBUTE TO THOSE WHO SERVED

ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE, MARINES, COAST GUARD

## OPERATION: FIVE STAR

NOVEMBER 6, 2010  
COACHMAN PARK, CLEARWATER, FL

• TOP MILITARY PERSONNEL GOVERNMENT LEADERS  
• MILITARY SERVICEMEN, DEMONSTRATORS, & VETERANS  
• OFFICERS & ACTIVE MILITARY PERSONNEL  
• COMRADES, FAMILIES & FRIENDS

PRESENTED BY THE TAMPA BAY VETERANS ALLIANCE  
[WWW.OPERATIONFIVESTAR.ORG](http://WWW.OPERATIONFIVESTAR.ORG)

**Korean Veterans will be Honored at this Event**

Contact Bill Hutton at  
727-443-6104 (H) or 727-687-0794 (C) for details.





## Editing is a synonym for friendship<sup>©</sup>

With this issue I begin my seventh year as editor of *The Graybeards*. I am just as surprised as most of you are that I have lasted this long. The truth is that I enjoy the assignment, and I am good for a couple more years at least. But, it's not the work that I savor the most. It's the opportunity to meet KWVA members, in person or electronically, and form friendships that intrigues me. Those opportunities can be bittersweet—especially when some of the people I have never met personally are “Promoted to Glory.”

It is amazing how some of us react to the deaths of people we don't know personally. For example, when I learned recently about the 19 September 2010 death of Dr. John Laura, I felt inexplicably sad. I am not sure why. After all, I never met the man face to face. My contact with John was restricted to occasional phone calls and a few emails. Then why did I feel such a sense of loss? And why do I feel that same sense when I read about the deaths of other KWVA members in “Last Call?”

The answer is simple: Dr. Laura, other deceased KWVA members (and those still living), and I shared a common bond: a love of country, a respect for freedom, and a willingness to serve in the military to fight for both. He did a lot more of that last part than I did.

John, a member of Ch 105, Central New York, served in WWII and the Korean War. He was a dentist who, by his own admission, saw a lot more combat-related dental damage to Soldiers than he ever wanted to see. Dentistry was his job then—and his life.

Dr. Laura was a humble man. John was well aware that he was just one doctor in a large pool of dentists, and that people might have been happy to see him personally, but not always professionally. He joked to me once that he was the “invisible dentist.” When he returned home after his tour of duty in Korea ended, he was sure he would have to start a new practice. That was not the case. Most of his

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**...I feel sad when I read any names in “Last Call.” And the longer I serve as editor, the sadder I feel as I read “Last Call.” Everybody whose name appears in that list is a hero to me—and by extension, a friend.**

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patients didn't even know he had been gone.

The good dentist returned to his office after a couple years away expecting to start all over again. He was a bit taken aback when his first patient he treated acknowledged apologetically that it had been a couple years since he had visited the doctor.

“That's all right,” Dr. Laura said. “I've been away with the Army for a couple years.”

“Really?” the patient responded. “I didn't even know you were gone.” (What was that about people wanting to see him personally, but not professionally?)

He shared that story with me when I was doing some research for a Korean War conference I was attending. John was never at a loss for a story. Anyone who reads the Tell America section of *The Graybeards* knows that.

John was very active in the Tell America program around his hometown of Syracuse, New York. He believed firmly that young people had to know about the Korean War and the young men and women who participated in it. In fact, this issue contains his final entry for the section. What some of the people who listened to his stories at the schools mentioned did not know was that he was dying as he spoke. He knew—but he did not let that stop him. Like a true Soldier, he fought literally to his last breath.

Unfortunately, I could not include his last report in the July-August issue, because there were other chapters in the queue before his. So, he called me and asked when it would appear. John did not pressure me. He simply asked when the report would be published. I promised him it would be included in the September-October issue (which it is). Sadly, it appeared too late for him to see

it. Hopefully, our distribution system includes a dentist's office somewhere beyond the “Pearly Gates” where John can read about his contributions to “Tell America.” He deserves that.

When we print “Last Call” in the November-December 2010 issue, John Laura's name will be listed under New York. Outsiders who read the column will see only the name, without knowing anything about the man. That is the case with every name in “Last Call.” Most people who read their names will never know anything about the individuals behind them. Luckily, that is not always the case with me.

I also see the names, but all too often I know the people. Due to my lengthy stint as editor of *The Graybeards*, I have formed friendships with KWVA members I have never met. A phone call here, an email there, a letter or two in between...a friendship is formed. Often, I don't know some of these “friends” have passed away until I read their names in “Last Call.” When that happens, I feel the same sense of sadness I did when I learned about John Laura's demise. And the longer I serve as editor, the sadder I feel as I read “Last Call.” Everybody whose name appears in that list is a hero to me—and by extension, a friend.

That is the beauty of editing *The Graybeards*. There is no end to the number of friendships I have made since September 2004, when I assumed the editorship of *The Graybeards*, or I can make in the future. (I expect to make many more as the years go on.)

Is it any wonder that I have served as editor for so long—and plan to continue in that position for a lot longer?

*Contents of this editorial copyrighted by Arthur G. Sharp*©

## Korean War State Bonuses

### California

California did pay a Korean War bonus. I received so much money for each month of combat. Since I spent 14 months in Korea, I received about \$600.00, which I used for a down payment for my first house.

L. A. Wright, 14528 Wiley St., San Leandro, CA 94579

**Editor's Note:** Veterans seem to be divided on whether California offered a Korean War bonus. Some swear it did; others say it did not. Consequently, we will leave it in the "Unknown" column on the chart until we get definitive proof one way or another.

### Missouri

Missouri has never paid a bonus for any war. That is why we have the lowest gas prices in the USA.

Government officials said we can raise the tax on gas to pay a bonus for veterans, or omit the bonuses. We voted "No" on raising the tax.

Gene Bradley, 2374 Charlemagne Dr., Maryland Hills, MO 63043, 314-434-9883, USS Hector (AR-7)

### New Jersey

New Jersey gave us a choice: a \$300/\$500 bonus or \$50 off your taxes per year for life. I was one of those people who pushed for the \$50.00 tax exemption.

Looking back, the tax exemption was the better option. Sure, I could have used the bonus money then, as I had a family to raise—including a son who was nine months old when I returned home from Korea. (I was there with 15th Regt., 3rd Div, 1952-53.)

Over the years, the tax exemption has increased to \$250.00 per year—and some people are pushing for \$300.

Joseph G. Hampton  
735 S. Spring Rd., Vineland, NJ 08361

### New Mexico

For quite some time I have seen the list of Korean War bonuses listed in The Graybeards. I thought someone would have replied before this about New Mexico.

I was drafted in 1951 from Mahoning County, Ohio and received their cash bonus many years ago. I moved to New

Mexico in 1962. In due course I was awarded a \$2,000 deduction on my property tax in lieu of a cash payment for military service to all veterans, not necessarily Korean War service.

Over the past forty odd years this deduction has meant many more dollars than the few hundred dollars I received from the State of Ohio. More importantly, it will last as long as I own a home or register a motor vehicle.

Don Arp, 13th Engr. (C) Bn., 7th Inf., Division (1951-52), dgarp1@gmail.com

### New York

We listed New York State in the "Yes" column of the "Bonus Chart" in the July/August issue. Several readers contacted us regarding the inclusion, suggesting that it might not be accurate.

New York State did not give any bonus to Korean War veterans. It was "promised," but never given.

Thomas Sherry, 140 U.S. Highway 11, Gouverneur, NY 13642

To date, New York State has not given its Korean War veterans a "bonus." The money received was "mustering out pay."

This chart below represents the latest figures available for our non-scientific 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.

**CAVEAT:** We do not independently verify every entry in this survey. The information on the chart is based on KWVA members' reports. Readers are encouraged to check with their individual states' Departments of Veterans Affairs (or whatever they are called) for more specific information regarding bonuses.

Access the below website for a slide presentation that lists individual states' Departments of Veterans Affairs. It is provided by the State of Washington, but it was last updated in March 2009 (as of 31 August 2010). [http://www.dva.wa.gov/PDF%20files/Benefits%20by%20State%20March%202009\\_files/frame.htm](http://www.dva.wa.gov/PDF%20files/Benefits%20by%20State%20March%202009_files/frame.htm)

	Yes	No	Unknown		Yes	No	Unknown		Yes	No	Unknown
Alabama			U	Maryland			U	Rhode Island	Y		
Alaska **				Massachusetts	Y			South Carolina			U
Arizona			U	Michigan	Y			South Dakota	Y		
Arkansas			U	Minnesota	Y			Tennessee	Y		
California			U	Mississippi			U	Texas			U
Colorado			U	Missouri N				Utah			U
Connecticut	Y			Montana	Y			Vermont	Y		
Delaware	Y			Nebraska			U	Virginia		N	
Florida			U	Nevada			U	Washington	Y		
Georgia			U	New Hampshire	Y			Washington DC	Y		
Hawaii **				New Jersey		N		West Virginia	Y		
Idaho			U	New Mexico		N		Wisconsin		N	
Illinois	Y			New York		N		Wyoming	Y		
Indiana	Y			North Carolina			U	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>18</b>
Iowa	Y			North Dakota	Y			**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.			
Kansas			U	Ohio	Y						
Kentucky	Y			Oklahoma			U				
Louisiana	Y			Oregon	Y						
Maine		N		Pennsylvania	Y						



I am a former HM3 who served from 1950 to 1954 with the Navy and Fleet Marine Force. The money I received when I was honorably discharged was a combination of travel pay from Treasure Island, San Francisco, money owed me for the last three months, and \$100 "mustering out pay." I also received \$100 a month for the next two months. That was it.

Please rectify this mistake. Many of our veterans from New York State will think we received a bonus.

*Richard Schambach, 401 Schwabie Tpke.,  
Kerhonkson, NY 12446*

## The report about a New York State bonus is inaccurate

In the latest issue of *The Graybeards* you indicated that New York State gave a Korean War Bonus. I believe that information is inaccurate. A WWII bonus was given, but I never heard anything about a bonus for us Korean veterans.

We do have some property tax deductions in New York, and we do have a very good "buy-back" benefit for Korean War vets retiring from certain state occupations, such as teachers, whose careers were interrupted by military service in that war. However, when the legislation was finally passed, it was not "grandfathered" and people like me (as most Korean War veteran teachers), who retired before that act, were never given the opportunity to take advantage of that benefit.

That's quite an injustice, when you consider that some younger vets who served in Korea during the year after the cease fire, and who never were in "harm's way," were able to later retire and take full advantage of it!

Thank you for your efforts in trying to help us determine whether we vets have state bonuses coming to us.

*Peter W. Cuthbert, Col. USAR (Ret.), P.O.  
Box 695, East Moriches, NY 11940, col-  
wc@optonline.net*

**Editor's Note:** Based on readers' comments, we did a little research. Here is what we found.

There is no concrete evidence that New York State ever granted a Korean War bonus, other than the word of one of our members. Perhaps he was confusing the bonus with a bill in the New York State legislature that was being considered as this issue went to press. The bill is S4047A, Provides for payment of bonuses to veterans of the Korean War. (See <http://open.nysenate.gov/legislation/api/html/bill/S4047A>)

We also learned that in 1962 Governor Rockefeller of New York State was still unwilling to provide a bonus for Korean War veterans. He delivered a speech to a veterans organization that year in which he opposed such a bonus. (See the following link: <http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,939875,00.html>)

We will continue to monitor the status of a Korean War bonus from New York State. If anyone has more information to add, please let us know.

## Pennsylvania

In the July/August issue of the "Graybeards," I noticed Pennsylvania is listed as one of the states having issued a Korean War bonus.

I was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, drafted by a Philadelphia draft board in 1952, and lived in Pennsylvania until 1967. If it is a fact that Pennsylvania approved a bonus, I was not one of the recipients. I did not receive a Korean War bonus and I am wondering why.

1- Could you provide me with the date when the bonus was approved to be paid?

2- What Pennsylvania state office should I contact to make an inquiry as to my eligibility for same?

I would appreciate any pertinent details

you can provide and thank you for any assistance you may be able to provide.

*Stanley A. Levin, 115 E. Kings Highway  
Unit # 251, Maple Shade, NJ 08052, 856-  
234-0576, salmoors@comcast.net*

**Editor's Note:** The best bet for people interested in obtaining information re Pennsylvania's Korean War bonus is to contact the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs directly. Its website is: [http://www.dmv.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/dmva\\_home/5902](http://www.dmv.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/dmva_home/5902)

The agency's contact points are: Office of the Deputy Adjutant General for Veterans Affairs, Bldg S-0-47, FTIG, Annville, PA 17003, 800-547-2838, Fax: (717) 861-8589, Email: [bariggs@state.pa.us](mailto:bariggs@state.pa.us).

Here is another website that might be helpful: <http://veteransforum.us/money-and-finance/state-veterans-bonus%27/>

## Tennessee

I keep seeing Tennessee listed as unknown for giving a bonus for Korean War service. It did.

I received \$50.00 for each month my unit was under fire. Although I cannot remember the exact date, I believe I received the bonus between 1953 and 1955.

*Johnnie T. Garrison, 4513 Capricorn Dr.,  
El Paso, TX 79924*

## 315 – SOUTHERN OREGON [OR]

### Flea Mart Recruiting

Members set up a recruiting booth at a local flea mart, which was sponsored by a local newspaper. The newspaper staff invited us to participate.

We all had a great time.

Neil M. McCain, Dept. of Oregon, 541-660-6104, <http://www.kwvador.com/kwvaservice.html>



Members of Ch 315 at flea market (L-R) Neil McCain, Bruce Pence, Vern Beck, Ron Duke (standing next to table), Dan Warden

## THE GRAYBEARDS DEADLINES

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

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

## MINUTES: ANNUAL BOARD MEETING

**ARLINGTON, VA - JULY 25, 2010**

**Call for the Meeting:** KWVA Website and *The Graybeards*, March-April 2010 Issue

**Place of Announced Meeting:** The Doubletree Hotel, 300 Army Navy Drive, VA 22202

**Call to Order:** President Mac Swain called the meeting to order at 0915 hours, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. In the absence of the Chaplain, he gave the invocation.

The President then informed those present of their need to have a red dot on their identification badge in order to vote.

**Roll Call and Introductions:** President Mac Swain asked for a roll call of the officers and Directors, which was called by Secretary Cohee:

**KWVA Board Members:**

- William F. Mac Swain, President
- James E. Ferris, 1st Vice President
- Frank E. Cohee, Jr. Secretary
- J. Tilford Jones, Treasurer
- Jeffrey J. Brodeur, Director
- Richard E. Brown, Sr. Director
- Luther Dappen, Director
- Marvin Dunn, Director
- James A. Fountain, Director
- Arthur S. Griffith, Director
- George E. Lawhon, Jr. Director
- Thomas M. McHugh, Director
- Luther E. Rice, Jr., Director
- Thomas W. Stevens, Director
- Glen Thompson, Director
- Ezra "Frank" Williams, Director

All responded that they were present. Secretary Cohee declared that all officers and directors were present and that there was a quorum.

**Rules of Decorum, Debate and Voting:** President Mac Swain instructed all in the rules governing decorum and debate for the meeting and how the voting process would be conducted.

President Mac Swain asked for a motion for the Board to approve the Director's Rules of Decorum and Debate. Director Rice made that motion, which was seconded by Director Lawhon. The President asked for a vote and received a unanimous 'aye,' with no opposition from the Board of Directors, which carried the motion.

**Appointments, Election Results and Installation of Officers:** President Mac Swain pointed out the results of the recent elections, with he and First Vice President Jim Ferris having been re-elected, together with Directors James Fountain and Thomas McHugh and new Directors Arthur Griffith and Thomas Stevens. There was no candidate for Second Vice President, which remains vacant.

Before the installation of officers, President Mac Swain announced, in turn, each of his appointments and asked for motions to approve:

	<u>Motion by</u>	<u>Seconded by</u>
For Secretary:	Frank Cohee	Dir. McHugh
For Treasurer:	J. Tilford Jones	Dir. Thompson
Both motions carried.		Dir. Brown
		Dir. Williams

President Mac Swain introduced the directors elected in 2010.

- Director Stevens
- Director McHugh
- Director Art Griffith
- Director Jim Fountain

The President asked Judge Advocate Billy Scott to swear in the newly elected and appointed officers.

Judge Advocate Billy Scott: "It is my honor to install the officers of the Korean War Veterans Association for the administrative year 2010 to 2012. They are William F. Mac Swain, President; James Ferris, First Vice President; we have no Second Vice President; Frank Cohee, Jr., Secretary; J. Tilford Jones, Treasurer; and Directors Thomas McHugh, James Fountain, Thomas Stevens and Arthur Griffith. Raise your right hand and repeat after me:

*I do solemnly swear to uphold the Constitution of the United States of America, the bylaws and procedures in the standard procedure manual of the Korean War Veterans Association, Incorporated, and I further promise that I will administer the duties of the office that I am about to assume to the best of my ability. Upon completion of my term of office, I further promise that I will turn over all records, equipment, and monies that I have in my possession to my successor, so help me God.*

You may lower your hands. Ladies and gentlemen, with the power vested in me by the Korean War Veterans Association, I hereby declare the officers of the Korean War Veterans Association to be installed."

Following the applause for the newly installed officers, the President asked for a motion to accept the agenda. Director Dunn made the motion to accept; it was seconded by Director Fountain. A 'Yes' voice vote was given in unison, with none opposed. The motion carried.

Next, the President acknowledged and introduced KWVA Staff and distinguished visitors from chapters and departments. He noted that in both categories some do double duty for the KWVA. For instance, Miles Brown and Glen Thompson, both from Chapter 270, have been working to form a 501c3 corporation called "Legacy of the Korean War Foundation." Larry Kinard, Tell America Director, is also Chapter 215 President, and VAVS Director J.D Randolph is also President of Chapter 270.

President Mac Swain also congratulated recently elected New York Department President Sal Scarlato.

**KWVA Staff**

- Jim Doppelhammer, Webmaster & Data Manager
- Jake Feaster, Asst. Secretary and Supervisor of Membership Records Management
- Larry Kinard, Tell America Operations Director
- Tine Martin, Ethics and Grievance Committee Representative
- J.D. Randolph, National Veterans Affairs Service (VAVS) Director
- Jamie Reynolds, Membership Administrator
- Billy J. Scott, Judge Advocate
- Steve Szekely, Chairman, Ethics & Grievance Committee

**KWVA Chapter and Department Visitors**

- Cathy L. Alessandri, Chapter 173



- Walter Ade, Sangamon County IL, Chapter 27, Director, Korean War National Museum
- Miles Brown, Chapter 270
- J.D. Randolph, Commander, Chapter 270
- Tine Martin, Commander, Department of Indiana
- Sal Scarlato, President, Department of New York
- John Voigt, Commander, Chapter 33

**Approval of Previous Meeting.** President Mac Swain asked Secretary Cohee to obtain approval of the minutes for the previous Board Meeting, in Irving, Texas, October 25th, 2009, which were printed in the November/December 2009 Issue of *The Graybeards*. Director Brown made that motion; it was seconded by Director Williams. All voted yes. It passed with no opposition.

**Treasurer's Report.** J. Tilford Jones

"The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. is no longer operating off our investments.

As you're aware, this administration took over on June 25th, 2008. We did have to dip into our investments to pay our bills, some of which were inherited. In 2008, approximately \$73,000 was removed from our investments to meet our obligations. As all of you are aware, in 2009, we had a surplus of \$32,700. We did not withdraw any monies from our investment accounts. In fact, we reinvested all of our interest and dividend income into our portfolio. We still wound up with this nice surplus, and this was accomplished with less income than we had in 2008.

I believe this shows the commitment of our President to put the organization back on a sound fiscal footing. It is also a result of each officer and director who are here working together to accomplish this goal.

Even though our income was down and our fundraiser did not produce the expected revenue, Frank Cohee, if you'll remember, was pushing a thing called a directory. No one seemed to want to help Frank, so he essentially did this single handedly. In 2009, the \$10 membership(s) we received from the directory sales contributed \$13,890 to our bottom line. That certainly helped to fill a lot of gaps, so we consider this, the year 2009, as a step forward in our fiscal responsibility to our members.

Each of you should have received the six-month financial statement. They were mailed out in time for everyone to receive it. I hope you had the opportunity to read through this report.

You will notice that we have right now \$10,883 income over our expenses at this time completely-all of our expenses. Again, our thanks go out to Frank Cohee, because in April we received a check for \$28,291 from the sales of that directory, so the directory has really been our fundraiser this year. I think Frank deserves an applause." After the applause subsided, the Treasurer continued:

"Well, what do we look like today? We have a little over \$30,000 in our checking account, and we have a little over \$71,000 in our savings account. Our investment accounts continue to fluctuate, of course, with the market. I believe we are on solid ground financially at this time, and we still have the Board's travel expenses and three issues of *The Graybeards* to cover this year. These are the largest obligations facing us. With our dues income the rest of the year, we should at least break even. Thank you."

President Mac Swain asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Director Thompson made that motion, which was seconded

by Director Brown. All voted yes; the Report passed with no opposition.

## OLD BUSINESS

**2010 Election.** The President asked for approval to destroy the election ballots of 2010. A motion to do that was made by Director Griffith, which was seconded by Director Rice. All voted yes. The motion passed with no opposition.

**Ethics & Grievance Report.** E&G Committee Chairman Steve Szekely declared there had been no complaints filed this year, and his report on that had been submitted to the Secretary.

**HRM Group Report.** President Mac Swain reported that the HRM Group, which had managed the Annual Association Membership Meeting, had done a masterful job, and that the Association will not lose money on this particular meeting. We should break even.

**Bylaws Committee Report.** Committee Chairman Lawhon reported that the 2009 Bylaws & Standard Procedure Manual (SPM) Review/Revision Project authorized by the Board at Norfolk was now complete. The Bylaws Amendment had been ratified by the Membership in 2009 at the Annual Association Meeting in Irving, Texas. The SPM was then revised accordingly, approved unanimously by the Board in a 'Business Without a Meeting' on June 1, 2010, and updated on the KWVA website. A final status report for the Project was published in the July/August 2010 issue of *The Graybeards*.

Liability Insurance for all chapters and departments. Director Lawhon stated that Lee Dauster, who has handled the insurance for the Association, obtained a quote and passed it on to him. But, it did not contain sufficient detail. The underwriter's quote was for \$26,000 for the Association coverage, but he did not have the breakdown for the different configurations of coverage, options, and the associated costs. Director Lawhon made a motion to have the liability insurance done with a Business Without A Meeting. The motion was seconded by Director Brodeur.

As soon as the details are received, they will be sent to the officers and directors so they can be informed as soon as possible prior to a meeting. President Mac Swain preferred to have it sent to him, and he would take care of it from there. The quote is liability insurance for the Association, including all Chapters and Departments, and should be discussed after receiving the details, and then acted on accordingly. The President called for a vote. There were 11 Yes votes and 2 No votes. The motion carried.

**Memorial Day Fundraiser Raffle.** President Mac Swain announced that Mr. Wing had won the raffle, and asked for a motion to destroy the tickets. Director Griffith made the motion, with a second from Director Williams. All voted yes. The Motion passed with no opposition.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Second Vice President.** 1st Vice President Ferris made a motion that the selection of 2nd Vice President be postponed until the President calls a meeting either in October or November 2010. He also pointed out that the President's committee appointments could be taken care of, together with other KWVA business. The motion was seconded by Director Rice. It passed with no opposition.

**2010 Membership Meeting Agenda.** President Mac Swain asked for a motion to approve the agenda for the 2010 Annual General

Membership Meeting. The motion was made by Director Brown and seconded by Director McHugh. The President called for a vote. All voted yes. The motion passed with no opposition.

**2011 Budget & Finance Report.** The President asked Director Dunn to present the 2011 Budget. Dunn stated that he would ask Treasurer Tilford Jones, since he was more familiar with some of the details. President Mac Swain asked for the Budget to be displayed on the screen. Treasurer Jones discussed each item in detail. Changes from 2010 to 2011 were minor. The total budget for 2010 is \$324,550.00. For 2011, it is \$325,225.00. Director Thompson made a motion that the 2011 budget be approved as presented by the Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Director Lawhon. It passed with no opposition.

**2011 Annual Meeting Site.** Since Boston had been selected as the 2011 Annual Membership Meeting site, the President asked Director Brodeur if the Boston area wished for it to happen in Boston, using HRM to take over the operation. Director Brodeur replied that if contacted by HRM, they would work with them as much as possible.

There was some discussion about the costs. The President asked for a motion to approve the use of HRM for the 2011 Boston Annual Membership Meeting Site. The motion was made by Director Brown and seconded by Director Fountain. All voted yes. The motion passed with no opposition.

**2012 & 2013 Annual Membership Meeting Sites.** President Mac Swain indicated a need for sites for the 2012 & 2013 Annual Membership Meetings. He pointed out that we have no volunteers as yet, so the issue will need to be put on our next Board meeting agenda, and perhaps an announcement should be included in *The Graybeards*. Hopefully, he said, it might be somewhere in the middle of the country.

He asked the Board to approve this particular action until we've had a chance to think it over until the next meeting. Director Fountain made a motion to do that. Director Dunn seconded the motion. All voted yes. The Motion passed with no opposition.

**Ratification of the Business Without a Meeting, June 1, 2010.** The President asked the Board for a ratification of the Business Without a Meeting called on June 1, 2010 for the approval of the Standard Procedure (SPM) amendment. He asked, "Do I have a second?" Director Stevens seconded it.

The President asked that all those who voted yes to say "Yes." The Board members responded with "Yes." President Mac Swain asked for those who had voted no to say "No." There was no response. The request for ratification was approved.

### **Reinstatement Request from Past President Harley Coon.**

Secretary Cohee read a letter from Harley Coon, Past KWVA President, in which Mr. Coon requested reinstatement as a member of the Korean War Veterans Association. In his letter, Mr. Coon acknowledged his mistakes, apologized for them to the Board of Directors, and asked for forgiveness. He closed the letter with, "...My greatest desire is to be rejoined with those of the Association. ...I have no desire, nor can I physically hold any office, even at a chapter level, in the organization." Yours truly, Harley J. Coon, Past President, Korean War Veterans Association Incorporation.

A motion for consideration of the reinstatement of Harley Coon was made by Director Brodeur. A second to the motion was made by

Director Rice. Discussion followed, for and against. All who wished to speak had their say. President Mac Swain then called for a vote, asking all to raise their hands for a count. The result was 8 for, 3 against, and 2 abstentions. The President said, "The motion carries, and Mr. Coon will be reinstated."

**Honorary Members.** Ms. Cathy Alessandri, Chapter 173, requested that Kit Frazer be afforded an honorary membership in the KWVA. Ms. Frazer's husband died in service. She serves as a President of Gold Star Wives, and she is very active in the support of Korean War veterans. President Mac Swain asked for a motion, which was made by Director Williams and seconded by Director Brodeur. All voted yes. The motion passed with no opposition.

A request from Arizona Chapter 311 was placed before the Board to transfer the membership number of H. Edward Reeves, ex-Prisoner of War Member LP00414, recently deceased, to Beverly Jean Reeves, his widow. The chapter's request included the information that the chapter planned to give her an honorary lifetime associate membership. A motion to consider was made by Director Stevens and seconded by Director Williams. Discussion followed, with a firm response from both the Secretary and the President that transfer of the widow's husband's KWVA membership number could not be done. The motion under discussion and a vote would be an honorary membership. There were mixed views about the issue, mainly about the lack of specific policy and procedures.

A vote was called for the motion. When the President asked for all in favor of making her an honorary member to say yes, there was no response. When asked for those who opposed the motion, there was a unanimous "Yes."

Director Brodeur made a motion to put a moratorium on honorary memberships. It was seconded by Director McHugh. When asked by the President for those in favor to signify by saying yes, the Board's response was "Yes." When asked for those opposed, there was no response.

**Missouri Chapter Dissolution.** Director Frank Williams, also Missouri Department Commander, made a presentation to support his request to dissolve Chapter (CID) 246. In the evidence he submitted to the Board was the fact that shortly after receiving their charter in 2001, the members voted to not require anybody to pay dues to the KWVA. At this time, even the Chapter Commander is not a member of the KWVA.

Recently, that person phoned Jake Feaster, Supervisor of Membership Records Management, and argued about the clear requirement for all to pay dues to the Association. Supervisor Feaster assured those present that the record data supported the presentation, and that what is needed are some guidelines and enforcement criteria that are met or not met. He is working with the Membership Committee Chairman on that.

The Missouri Department also voted at their last state meeting to no longer recognize Chapter 246 or permit them to participate in KWVA business. After indicating that only this Missouri chapter had such a problem, Director Williams said that once it was dissolved, there were sufficient people there who wanted to have a legitimate, compliant chapter and would work towards that end. They include, Williams said, 14 people, 4 of whom are Life Members.

He concluded with a clear plea for all to do the right thing about their dues, and that chapter and department officers meet their sworn obli-



gation to enforcement.

Speaking both as a Director and the Missouri Department Commander, Williams made the motion: "I move that Chapter 246 be dissolved by a vote today and that the Secretary of State and the Attorney General be informed of the action taken; also, that all of the directors and the commanders of the departments of states be sent a letter also." Director Brodeur seconded the motion.

A short discussion followed. First, Director Brodeur suggested they be looking for a new name. First Vice President Ferris followed by saying, "...Therefore, I uphold that 100 percent, so I agree with my colleague here that we should do exactly as he says and send a message to the people out there that we are not going to put up with chapters who do not comply with our Bylaws. We've passed it, we agreed to it, we swore to uphold them and by golly, we better do it. So, I agree with this motion entirely. Thank you."

When asked by the President for those in favor to signify by saying yes, the Board's response was "Yes." When asked for those opposed, there was no response. The motion passed. The President pointed out that it included sending letters to the Attorney General and the incorporation people.

**Quarterly Report.** Director Lawhon made a motion that the President be required to give a quarterly report to the Board of Directors so they would have sufficient and timely information to perform their obligation to KWVA Bylaws **Article III: "...Article III, Section 1, F. Board of Directors. "...The Board shall formulate policies and supervise the execution thereof and have the control and management of the affairs, property and funds of the Association...."** Discussion followed by both President Mac Swain and Vice President Ferris.

The President spoke about his message in each of the six bimonthly editions of *The Graybeards*, a very busy schedule, a lot of paperwork, and considerable travel. Vice President Ferris agreed, and added that it should be the directors giving reports to the President. Other directors joined the discussion.

Director Lawhon acknowledged all that they said, including the President's busy schedule, but it remains that the President's Message in *The Graybeards* is essentially to the Membership, and there is minimal ongoing contact between he and the Board between meetings. He said if you want to vote against this, then you'll get what you have received before, which is the relationship between the President and the Board. He explained that it is the Board which has the duty to formulate policies and supervise the execution thereof and has the control and management of the affairs, property and funds of the Association. He does report to us in other ways. He causes the Treasurer to report to us, and the CPA. If that is sufficient to you, then you should vote against this, and I will accept that.

A vote was called on the motion. The count was 6 against, 5 for, with 2 abstentions. The motion did not pass.

**Return Postage for Association Election Ballots.** A motion was made by Director Lawhon to give return postage on election ballots sent to Members during an Association election, hoping to increase the Membership vote. The added text to the SPM Procedure 3.6.4 would be: "*The ballot provides the voter with paid return postage.*" The motion was seconded by Director Brown.

During the discussion, Director McHugh and Vice President Ferris opposed it because of cost, even if there was a one-year trial before

final approval to test the efficacy of the idea that Director Lawhon offered as an alternative to a permanent change in policy. A vote was called. The vote was 3 for and 9 against. The motion did not pass.

**Report - Membership.** Membership Chairman and Director Jeff Brodeur gave the Membership Report. As of July 22, 2010, the KWVA has 17,612 members, an increase of 1,147 members. We have 686 new members, an increase of 251 members. The number of members who have passed away is 344. We had 610 pass away last year.

Director Brodeur spoke of our pressing need for veterans and chapters to recruit for new members who have earned the Korean Defense Service Medal and the Expeditionary Medals, and to emphasize they are welcome to join the KWVA brotherhood. He also gave credit for the Membership Directory, promoted by Secretary Cohee, for part of the increase in membership.

He emphasized the need for a persistent and wider search for new members, especially those who have served since the Armistice took effect, because the consequence might be the end of the organization due to the inevitable decrease in membership without it. Director Brodeur then announced his resignation as Membership Chairman, to be effective at the time of the next Board Meeting.

**Report - Accredited Chapters and Departments.** Jake Feaster, Supervisor of the KWVA Management Records and Information System, presented the chapter and Department status, using a view-point display. He pointed out that even though there was a concentrated effort via email, phone, and *The Graybeards*, getting chapters and departments to submit their Bylaw-required reports has been difficult, and very slow. Sometimes, they are as much as a year late. President Mac Swain then asked for the reports from Chairmen Larry Kinard (Tell America), Tom McHugh (Ceremonies), and Warren Wiedhahn (Return Visits). He wanted those to be given at the Membership Meeting, together with some awards and recognitions. A motion was made to adjourn by Director Williams; it was seconded by "everybody." There was a salute to the colors, and the Meeting was adjourned at 12:43 PM.

*Submitted by Frank Cohee, National Secretary*

## Reunion Calendar: 2010 - 2011

Mail your info to Reunion Editor, *The Graybeards*, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or email it to sharp\_arthur\_g@sbcglobal.net. Include Unit, Date(s), Place, and Contact's name, address, phone #, email address. Entries are posted "first come, first served." *The Graybeards* is not responsible for the accuracy of the information published.

### NOVEMBER, 2010

**92nd Armored Field Artillery Bn.**, 7-10 Nov., New Orleans, LA, Holiday Inn-Downtown-Superdome. POC: Guy McMenemy, 281-469-2819

### APRIL, 2011

**USS Ault** (DD 698), 28 April - 2 May, Mobile, AL. POC: Tony Fuentes, 1614 Adobe Springs Dr., San Antonio, TX 78232, 210-495-9554, fountain48@sbcglobal.net or Carol Peterson, Bay City Tours, 800 338-5597

### MAY, 2011

**Coast Guard Combat Veterans Assn.**, 4-7 May, Dulles Airport, Washington DC, Crowne Plaza Hotel. POC: CWO Baker Herbert, 330-887-5539, USCGW64@neo.rr.com

## MINUTES: ANNUAL ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**ARLINGTON, VA - JULY 25, 2010**

**Call for the Meeting:** KWVA Website and *The Graybeards*, March-April 2010 issue

**Place of Announced Meeting:** The Doubletree Hotel, 300 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA 22202-2891

**Call to Order:** President Mac Swain called the meeting to order at 1327 hours, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

**Roll Call and Introductions:** President Mac Swain asked Secretary Cohee to call the roll.

### **KWVA Board Members:**

- William F. Mac Swain, President
- James E. Ferris, 1st Vice President
- Frank E. Cohee, Jr., Secretary
- J. Tilford Jones, Treasurer
- Jeffrey J. Brodeur, Director
- Richard E. Brown, Sr., Director
- Luther Dappen, Director
- Marvin Dunn, Director
- James A. Fountain, Director
- Arthur S. Griffith, Director
- George E. Lawhon, Jr., Director
- Thomas M. McHugh, Director
- Luther E. Rice, Jr., Director
- Thomas W. Stevens, Director
- Glen Thompson, Director
- Ezra "Frank" Williams, Director

Secretary Cohee declared that all officers and directors were present and that there was a quorum. A count was then taken of the members in attendance, including the board members. The total count was 64, resulting in a quorum for voting.

**Election Results/Reappointments:** President Mac Swain pointed out the results of the recent elections and introduced the reelected board members and the two new board members, Arthur Griffith and Thomas Stevens. He and First Vice President Jim Ferris had been re-elected, as were Directors James Fountain and Thomas McHugh. There was no candidate for Second Vice President, so that position remains open. The President also introduced the reappointed Secretary and Treasurer, Frank Cohee and Tilford Jones.

### **Introduction of Chapter/Department**

### **Commanders/Presidents (or Vice Presidents), Major Staff Members and Others:**

- Ray Waldron, CID 60, NY
- William Hoyle, CID 215, TX
- Kenneth Camell, CID 195, CO
- Mike Skerik, CID 9, CO
- Paul Sutphin, CID 243, OR
- Dan Warden, CID 315, OR
- J.D. Randolph, CID 270, TX (also KWVA VAVS Director)
- Warren Wiedhahn, CID 100, VA (also Coordinator for the Revisit Committee)

- Lew Ewing, CID 313, VA
- Walter Ade, D of IL (also Korean War National Museum (KWNM) Director)
- Lawrence Doolittle, D of SC
- James Jones, D of VA
- Sal Scarlato, D of NY
- Ezra "Frank" Williams, D of MO
- Tilford Jones, First VP, D of TX (representing Commander Roy Aldridge)
- Jim Doppelhammer, KWVA Webmaster
- Jamie Reynolds, KWVA Membership Administration
- Jake Feaster, KWVA, Assistant Secretary and Supervisor of Membership Management
- Larry Kinard, KWVA, Chairman Tell America Committee
- Billy Scott, KWVA Judge Advocate
- Steve Szekely, KWVA, Chairman Ethics and Grievance Committee
- Don Wing (winner of fundraiser for free trip to meeting)
- Ryan Yantis, Executive Director, (KWNM)
- Jim Fisher, President HRM Group, Inc. (Annual Association Membership Meeting Coordinator)

### **Adopt Annual Association General Membership Meeting Rules of Decorum & Debate:**

The nine rules, based on Robert's Rule of Order Newly Revised 10th Edition, were handed out to each member. President Mac Swain discussed each rule in detail. A motion was made by Director Brown that the Rules of Decorum & Debate be approved. The motion was seconded by Director Williams and approved unanimously by the membership.

**Approval of the Minutes for the previous Annual Association General Membership Meeting:** The meeting was held in Irving, TX, October 26, 2009 and the minutes of that meeting were printed in *The Graybeards*, January-February, 2010 Issue. Secretary Cohee said he could read the minutes or a motion could be made to approve them as printed in *The Graybeards*. A motion was made by Cathy Alessandri, CID 173, that the minutes be approved as printed in the magazine. The motion was seconded by Paul Sutphin, CID 243, and approved unanimously by the membership.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Tilford Jones reported that the Association is no longer operating off of our investments. In 2009 we actually made a profit of \$32,917 for the first time since the surplus of \$6,000 in 2006. The financial statement for the first six months of 2010 shows that, as of June 30, 2010, we had a surplus of over \$10,000. Today, we have \$30,000 plus in the checking account and \$70,000 plus in the savings account, while our investment accounts continue to fluctuate with the market.

In closing, Tilford commented that he believes that we are on solid ground financially and, while there are still some debts that have to be paid, we should at least break even by the end of the year. Director Dunn made a motion that the Treasurer's report be accepted. The motion was seconded by Kathy Alessandri, CID 173, and passed unanimously by the membership.



## OLD BUSINESS:

**Bylaws Committee Request for Ratification:** Director Lawhon, Chairman of the Bylaws Committee, requested ratification of a change to the bylaws to revise the number of regular members required to form a new Chapter from 12 to 10. This change was approved by the board and was published in The Graybeards, March-April 2010 Issue. Director Lawhon made a motion that the change be approved by the membership. Ray Waldron, CID 60, seconded the motion and it was approved by a two-thirds vote of the membership.

**Annual Association General Membership Report:** President Mac Swain gave a brief report thanking Jim Fisher for a really good job and recognizing that he had no control of the hotel's rates for different things. Many members complained about the \$40 charged for the luncheon buffet at which they were essentially served luncheon meat and a piece of pie. The President stated that it was beyond our control, but that we will have something to say to the hotel management that we do not appreciate the fact that they would serve something like that for \$40, especially to a veteran.

**As a side note, the President and I truly appreciate member Jim Fisher's participation in the Memorial Service, especially in leading the congregation in song(s). He at least could carry a tune.**

**Special Procedure Manual (SPM) Report:** Director Lawhon, Chairman of the Bylaws and SPM Committee, reported that the project that was started in 2008 to completely revise the SPM was finally completed in June 2010. Many of the changes came from the membership, so he thanked all of the people that participated. The revised SPM is on the KWVA website and can be downloaded for your use.

## NEW BUSINESS:

**Budget and Finance Report (Approval of 2011 Budget):** A copy of the budget was projected on a viewgraph screen. Treasurer Tilford Jones discussed each item in detail. Changes from 2010 to 2011 were insignificant. The total budget for 2010 is \$324,550.00 and for 2011 it is \$325,225.00. Director Thompson made a motion that the 2011 budget be approved. The motion was seconded by Director Lawhon. At this time, President Mac Swain ruled that the budget needed to be approved by the membership, rather than the Board of Directors. Ken Camell, CID195, made a motion that the budget be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Paul Sutphin, CID 243; it was approved unanimously by the membership.

**Approval to use the HRM Group for the 2011 Boston Annual Association Membership Meeting:** President Mac Swain reported that HRM has done most of the preparation and work for the current Association meeting at no cost to the KWVA. We will not get that kind of service from any other group, and they do that because Jim Fisher, the President of HRM, is a Korean War veteran. He is a gentleman who has a lot of contacts in the Washington, DC area. Jim's group has done some meetings in Boston, and he has commented that it will be a hard sell there. As your President, I do not believe that we can get there and do what is necessary for this next year without HRM's help. At this time, we do not have a specific date for when that meeting will be held.

So, I would like to have a motion to approve the use of HRM for the 2011 Boston Annual Association Membership Meeting and allow the Board to decide at what date the meeting will be held.

A motion was made by Mike Skerik, CID 9, that HRM be accepted to handle the 2011 Boston Annual Association Membership Meeting and to allow the Board to determine the date of the meeting. The motion was seconded by Cathy Alessandri, CID 173, and was approved unanimously by the membership.

## Annual Association Membership Meetings for 2012 and 2013:

President Mac Swain stated that the Board will have a meeting in October or November 2010, and that more data will be available at that time to select a recommended site for 2012 and 2013. Two locations have been mentioned already, New York and South Dakota. In order to be brought before the Board, a letter has to be sent to the Secretary requesting consideration. The bylaws require that three locations be under consideration in advance. More than likely, the meeting for 2013 will be in Washington, DC, so New York, South Dakota and whoever else will be vying for 2012.

## OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Korean War National Museum (KWNM):** Ryan Yantis introduced himself as the new Executive Director of the KWNM and gave a brief report on the current status. He stated that there is a new Board of Directors, a renewed focus, and a renewed approach to their mission. There are plans to move the museum from downtown Springfield, IL, where it was not flourishing and not succeeding, to Chicago, IL. Negotiations are ongoing with the Navy Pier Authority for a 7,000 square-foot facility on the Navy Pier, which is the number one tourist destination in the Midwest, and for about a 10,000 square-foot curation and education center in downtown Chicago. New board, new direction, new leadership.

**Membership:** Director Brodeur, Membership Chairman, reported that as of July 22, 2010, the KWVA had 17,612 members. At this time last year there were 16,465 members. As of this date there are 686 new members for this year, compared to 435 new members for the same time period in 2009. Much of the increase can be contributed to the Membership Directory, the revisit program (veterans wanted to go back to Korea for the 60th Anniversary) and lastly because of the recent change to the bylaws. Several Chapters have actually had all of their members pay their National dues 100 percent. This year, to date, 344 of our members have passed away. Last year there were 610.

Jake Feaster, Assistant Association Secretary and Supervisor of Membership Management, gave a brief report about our Chapters and members. Jake commented that our active membership is increasing a lot due to the support we are getting from Chapter Presidents to encourage their members to pay their dues and bring them up to date. He also discussed how Chapter Presidents can get a special password that lets them get into the database and look at the detailed information about their members.

**Tell America:** Larry Kinard, Chairman of the Tell America Committee, stated that he wanted to report that the KWVA has done something for you: "We help with the Tell America Programs." We have helped over a hundred Chapters get started in the Tell America Program. Larry handed out a booklet for use in the schools and would like them to go through the Chapters and be distributed in the schools. He said there are five members on

his committee and all have done well, but Jim Yaney stands out because of what he has been able to do with his television program in Indiana.

Larry asked Jim to say a few words. Jim commented that this has been a most extraordinary year for a program that five years ago was given the opportunity to make a pilot film by a TV station. Today, that has grown to not only national but international recognition, thanks essentially to a couple of people who must be given most of the credit. First is our National Chairman, Larry Kinard, and I can not say enough about this next man because he is why we are where we are today and that is the KWVA webmaster, Jim Doppelhammer. It is because of his publication of our previews that has taken us to international recognition.

Jim Yaney then gave a preview of his outstanding program, and we were reminded that the country we saw in the ashes of war has now become one of the world's largest economies. In closing, Jim commented "Where do we go from here?" His goal is the Military Channel and the History Channel, but he does not know. While we are not professionals, we are Korean War veterans and we are authentic. That makes the difference.

**Legacy Foundation:** Director Glen Thompson reported on the recent formation of the Legacy of the Korean War Foundation that was suggested by Past Directory Lee Dauster to form an external fundraiser targeting especially the Korean Community and utilizing Hannah Kim as a liaison to contact various organizations in the Korean community.

The Foundation has been approved as a 501 (c) (3) corporation. The purpose of the organization is to provide education to the public regarding the Korean War. All of the income coming in will be distributed to the Tell America Program or products for that program. There will be no checks written to the KWVA.

**National Ceremonies:** Director Tom McHugh, Chairman of the National Ceremonies Committee, stated that he wanted to commend Chapter 299, MA, every Memorial Day, and Chapter 142, MD, every Veterans Day, for their unfailing support in those ceremonies. On June 28th, 2010 Tom was invited along with NJ Commander George Bruzgis to the photo art exhibition "DMZ for Peace and Life" and was asked if he would make a speech which he agreed to do at the UN Headquarters in NY city. This was a very rare opportunity for the KWVA to have national exposure to numerous reporters and photographers. The event was shown on various television stations, both in the US and in Korea.

**Revisit Korea:** Warren Wiedhahn, Coordinator for the revisit program, commented that the revisit program was started in 1975 and is funded by the ROK government. This is very important, because it is not funded by the Korean Veterans Association; it is by the government of Korea, which appropriates funds every year. Normally, there are approximately 350 KWVA members who go back each year. This year the funding was increased and the Korean government appropriated 30 million dollars.

There are usually three or four tours a year, but for 2010 there were two tours in May, and one in June, which President Mac Swain just came back from. There will be two in September, one in October and one in November. Also for 2010, the Korean government is paying 50 percent of the airfare for the veteran and 30 percent for their spouse or other companion, both domestic and

international.

Unfortunately, the only space left this year is in November. There is also a Grandchildren's Program. They want to get the 18, 19 and 20-25 year old grandchildren. This is something you want to remember for next year. Details will be printed in *The Graybeards*.

**Code of Conduct:** Steve Szekely, Chairman of the Ethics and Grievance Committee, has been the custodian of the KWVA Code of Conduct since August, 2006. Steve reported that the code is made up of 8 statements, and 531 members have signed the code to date. There is always room for more. There is a link on the home page of the KWVA website where one can review the eight statements.

**National Veterans Affairs Volunteer Service (VAVS):** JD Randolph, National VAVS Director, commented that while the KWVA is a small organization compared to the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and some others, we should be proud of what our members do. Last fiscal year there were 500 members who volunteered at the VA and the National Cemeteries. They provided 40,355 hours of regular (scheduled) service and 1,450 hours of occasional (non-scheduled) service, for a total of 41,785 hours. That amounts to an average of almost 84 hours per person. We have representatives and deputy representatives at various hospitals and more are needed. There are still a lot of major hospitals and a lot of states that need representatives to make sure that our veterans are tended to properly and that they have someone to talk to if they need help. If you are a Chapter or Department President/Commander, and you have recommendations for representatives, let me know and I will get them certified. The only criteria are that they have to be a member in good standing of the KWVA. Last year we saved the VA \$862,953.75 and also donated \$23,742.00.

**Awards:** President Mac Swain presented the President's Award to the following members and staff:

- Director Brodeur
- Director Brown
- Director Dunn
- Director Griffith
- Director Lawhon
- Director McHugh
- Director Thompson
- Secretary Cohee
- Treasurer Jones
- Judge Advocate Scott
- Assistant Secretary Feaster
- Webmaster Doppelhammer
- Membership Administrator Reynolds
- Chairman Szekely
- Chairman Kinard
- VAVS Director Randolph
- Revisit Coordinator Wiedhahn
- Tell America Member Yaney

Roy Aldrige, President, Department of Texas, commented that on June 23rd, at Fort Bliss, TX they held a photo exhibit, the first in the US, that was sent to them by the War Museum in Korea. It



depicted Korea from 1945, with their independence of Japan, up until 1953, at the end of the hostilities. The exhibit is going to be traveling around through the Embassy and the Consulates.

President Mac Swain stated that the people in the Chapters and Departments and even the at-large members are very important for the publicity of the KWVA. Get out there and meet the people and let them know you are a Korean veteran. He then thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Sal Scarlato, President, Department of New York, commented that he was on the revisit tour with National President Mac Swain in June and at the banquet there were seven different speakers, one of whom was President Mac Swain. Sal said the speakers all did a good job, but President Mac Swain's speech was outstanding; "Just what he was saying made me very proud to be in the KWVA."

On June 25, President Mac Swain was presented an award from the President of Korea, Mr. Lee, with 16 other nations. "And I think we all should give this gentleman a fantastic amount of applause for what he did over there for us."

Roy Aldridge, President Department of Texas, made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Director Jim Fountain.

President Mac Swain gave the closing prayer, followed by a salute to the flag.

The meeting was adjourned at 1629 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Cohee, National Secretary, KWVA, Inc.

## ATTENTION VETERANS

**THE "LUCIFER PATCH" IS A MEMOIR OF FIFTEEN MONTHS WITH THE "LUCKY 13TH" HELICOPTER CO. AT HUK-SAN-NI (NOW CAMP STANLEY) IN 1955-56. IF YOU SERVED IN THE WAR OR THE DMZ WARS THAT FOLLOWED, THIS BOOK IS FOR YOU. IT'S YOUR STORY AS WELL AS MINE. IT'S ABOUT WORKING IN SCORCHING HEAT IN SUMMER SURROUNDED BY MOSQUITO-INFESTED RICE PADDIES, AND KEEPING HELICOPTERS FLYING IN THE KNUCKLE-BUSTING COLD OF A SIBERIAN WINTER. IT'S ABOUT THE WARM AND FRIENDLY KOREAN PEOPLE. FROM PAPA-SAN AND MAMA-SAN, BOY-SAN AND MUSUME, YOU WILL REMEMBER THEM ALL. TO ORDER, WRITE BERTRAM L. BRENT, P. O. BOX 338 ASHVILLE, AL 35953. \$24.00 PLUS 2.00 S&H. [Bbrent7696@aol.com](mailto:Bbrent7696@aol.com), OR, CALL 205-594-4565. TO PREVIEW, [WWW.LUCIFERPATCH.COM](http://WWW.LUCIFERPATCH.COM).**

# ATTENTION: KOREAN WAR VETERANS

## Do you have an interesting Korean War Story?

**How would you like to see your story in a book? I, Ralph Ekwall, am writing a book which will be a collection of Korean War stories. I am looking for combat stories, but other interesting stories will be welcomed.**

**Send me a one page summary of your story. If it fits into what I want in the book, I will ask you to write a chapter length (2000 to 4000 words) story of your participation in the Korean War. Combat stories are preferred, but other non-combat or combat related stories are welcome.**

**I may do some rewriting of your story. What do you, Korean War Veteran, get out of this? Your name will be listed as an author; you will receive a free hardcover copy of the book. Maybe all your friends down at the American Legion or VFW will be greatly impressed - or maybe not.**



**Send written material to this address:**

**Ralph Ekwall  
15749 Valley St  
Omaha, NE 68130**

# 60TH ANNIVERSARY MEMORIES

## Only my family and friends wondered where I had been

When the “Forgotten War” broke out, I lived in the Bronx, NY. I was drafted in 1950, at which time I had never heard of a place called Korea. Worse, I had no idea of where it was.

After a short basic training, I was sent to Seattle, WA. The next day I was on a troop ship to Yokahama, Japan. From there, we traveled to Camp Drake (at least I think that is where we went).

At Camp Drake we were issued M-1 rifles, then we were off to Sasebo, Japan. We boarded a ferry to Korea, on which we slept on mats. We reached Pusan, Korea the next morning. Then, we boarded a one-track train to the north. Finally, we were assigned to our outfits.

I was assigned to the Second Infantry Division, 38th Regt. I stayed on the line for nine months, and returned home. When I arrived there, only my family and a few friends wondered where I had been or what I had been doing. But, I didn’t care.

Today, I know that what I did for my country and the Korean people is all that counts.

*Peter Piccininni, 865 Charlemagne Blvd., Naples, FL 34112*

## My wish is that the Koreas become united

On 25 June 1950 my wife of two weeks and I were returning from our honeymoon, when we heard of the invasion of South Korea by troops from the north. We knew a little about Korea, as a member of our wedding party had served in Army Intelligence in Korea in the late 1940s.

During WWII I had been commissioned a 2nd Lt of infantry at Fort Benning. I opted to stay in the Army Reserve. My combat experience was as a Combat Engineer Platoon Sergeant at the invasion of France on 7 June 1944. I was attached to the 82nd Airborne Division.

In September that year I returned to the States with an Army appointment to West Point. I had to prepare for the entrance exams. In 1948 I entered Officer Candidate School, as I did not qualify for West Point.

By September 1950 I was recalled to service in the first drop of the New York/New Jersey Command. I reported to Fort Dix on a Sunday morning. By Friday, 95 of the 100 men who arrived on Sunday had orders by air to Japan.

I was assigned to the 60th Regt. of the Ninth Division as a training officer. I took a training class through infantry basic training. At the end, my class and I were on orders for Korea.

In April 1950 I joined F Co., 19th Inf., 24th Div. as a Rifle Platoon Leader. In October I assumed command of the company after the captain was wounded, and was appointed as commander by my West Point Battalion Commander. In December I joined 2nd Bn. Staff as Assistant S-3 and active S-2. I returned to the States in February 1952, when I received my discharge.

As I grow older, I often reflect on my days in Korea. One day stands out above all the others. It was in the second week

of the October drive to retake the 48th Parallel.

I had been taking casualties every day, and it was getting to me. This day I had platoons on two ridge lines that converged into one at the peak of the hill. My right platoon, commanded by Lt J. Allen, came under both enemy and friendly fire. The latter came from a tanker who saw movement and fired on my men.

I went crazy on the radio to turn him off. Then, I led the left platoon on a rush to the fortified top to turn off the fire on Lt. Allen. After a fire fight, I withdrew the left platoon to hold the ridge line until the morning.

The next day a company passed through my line and finished off the enemy position. The body count was over 80, and MSgt Woody Keeble of G Co. earned the Medal of Honor for his service that day.

In my mind, it was necessary for my country to fight the first active aggression by the forces of communism. It was unfortunate that it ended in a stalemate, but the results are dramatic. South Korea is prosperous and the north is starving. Unlike the two Germanys, they have been unable to reunite.

North Korea is still an unhappy and dangerous country. My wish is that the 60th Anniversary would be a dramatic and welcomed reuniting of the two Koreas under a democratic government.

*John K. Daly, 221 Martling Ave.  
Staten Island, NY 10314, (718) 448-2431*

## A lot of my questions were answered quickly

On 25 June 1950 I was sitting on my bunk in the barracks at Ft. Benning, GA, at what is called the “Sand Hill” area. I was with B Co., 30th Inf., 3rd Div.

We were listening to a radio broadcast of the news about the North Korean invasion of South Korea. President Truman was saying that the U.S. Armed Forces under UN sanction were going to aid South Korea with air support and commit ground troops stationed in Japan.

I felt like I had when I was 11 years old and listening to FDR on radio while he was talking about the Pearl Harbor attack. I did not know if we would be shipped out or if the Army troops sent from Japan would end the fighting quickly. There were other things I did not know.

For instance, I did not know what to think about being in favor of our participation or not, or where Korea was. I don’t think I had ever heard the name before. A lot of my questions were answered quickly.

My earliest significant memory was getting to Korea by troop ship, getting off it at Pusan in the dark, and going to a railroad station. There was a train at the station carrying wounded troops. We could hear them moaning in pain. Then we boarded a train to Taegu.

We were issued WWII-era K-rations and 1903 Springfield 5-round clips that would fire only single shots, as the rounds did

# 60TH ANNIVERSARY MEMORIES

not fit into an M-1 rifle. The trip in the dark on that old train was a nightmare as we traveled up to the front.

I have very few regrets. One is that we did not win the war completely. But, we did stop North Korea from taking over the south. I also regret all the lives that were lost only to reach a stalemate and cease fire.

When I see how well the South Koreans are thriving in freedom, and how the North Koreans are living practically as slaves to a communist government, I realize we did the right thing.

*Tom Sherry, "D" Co., 21st Regt.  
24th Div., 340 U.S. Highway 11, Gouverneur, NY 13642*

## Other comrades met their fates at that outpost

On June 25th, 1950 I resided in Camden, NJ working at the local YMCA preparing to enter the School of Physical Therapy at the University of Pennsylvania. I had no immediate reaction to the news of the North Korean invasion of South Korea, even though I was of draft age. However, after the fighting began, I thought the United Nations would supply enough troops to repel the invaders.

At the time, Korea was not a country that I was familiar with. But, after receiving my notice to report to the Draft Board, it caught my attention. I notified the Draft Board of my acceptance to graduate school and was granted a 1-year deferment. I graduated from the University of Pennsylvania School of Physical Therapy in September of 1951. Two weeks later I was drafted into the U.S. Army.

I was searching for an immediate career in Physical Therapy. However, after 12 weeks of basic training at Fort Dix, NJ, I found myself on a troop ship heading for Japan, and ultimately Pusan, Korea.

After reaching Korea, I was transported immediately by truck to the front line of battle because of the necessity to relieve the other soldiers; those assigned to the U.S. 8th Army, 160th Infantry Regiment, Heavy Mortar Company. Since I had trained as a wireman at Fort Dix, I was assigned to the communications section.

For me, promotion from private to sergeant was rapid. In 1952 the fighting was still heavy and what I learned in Wire Communications school was put to use right away. The knowledge and usage of Radio communications had to be picked up by on-the-front training.

Living in a bunker was not my style, but it proved to be life saving. This was especially true when the North Koreans and Communist Chinese pinned down our company with their mortar fire. The bombardment was so fierce that all communications were knocked out and our company, by reluctant order of the Mortar Sergeant, had to retreat to the safety of the bunker. This retreat, in effect, ceased all firing of mortars on both sides and protected our company and the troops at the outpost from further bombardment.

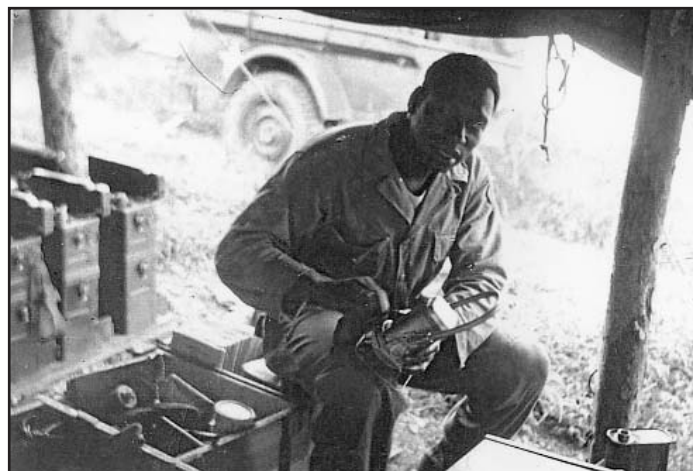
After trying several radios, an undamaged one was found

Sgt William Purnell



and contact was made with the outpost. The enemy mortar fire re-commenced. The enemy mortar shells were exploding all around like a heavy, hot, deadly rain of fire. Anyone outside the bunkers would have been injured or killed.

I got a radio to the mortar sergeant. When the men at the outpost spotted the direction and the distance from which the enemy mortar fire was coming, the information was relayed back to our company. The mortar crew was ordered back out and to fire away. The calculations were on target and that night of terror was over.



Sgt William Purnell cleans radio equipment under a tent in Korea in 1952

I took the communications men out the next day and repaired the communications wires from the outpost to the switchboard that connected them to our company's rear battalion headquarters at Heartbreak Ridge. One of my communications men had to stay at the outpost. During another attack by the enemy, all of us were happy to see him return to our unit, spared, as other comrades had met their fate at the outpost (Something to remember.)

After this and other experiences, 1952 and 1953 passed and I found myself boarding a troop ship for home to the South Korean's chant of "Go Home, GI, Go Home!" When I arrived in Philadelphia, PA, after being processed at Camp Kilmer, NJ, I had this gut feeling that no one here really seems to care about the war.

The three thoughts I have carried over the years are (one) knowing that I was in the Korean War to serve my country, (two) by the grace of God was able to help preserve the life of



# 60TH ANNIVERSARY MEMORIES

others and (three) because of the Korean War experience I have been able to pursue goals that as a youth I never thought of.

I don't take freedom and independence for granted. Although they are goals that we will never have a full measure of, they are goals forever to seek.

*William E. Purnell, 200S Edward R. Danner Plaza, Omaha, NE 68110-1972, (402) 451-5332: Sgt., U.S. Army (1951-53), 8th Army, 160th Inf. Regt., Heavy Mortar Co. (Served at Heartbreak Ridge)*

## 18 months later, I was in a place I had never heard of before

*EDITOR'S NOTE: This article originally appeared in the Roanoke [VA] Times. The writer retained the rights to it.*

It was mid-morning on June 25, 1950. We were sitting in the shade of a horse-drawn hay wagon on my uncle's farm in Southwest Virginia. Dad and I were helping my two uncles put up hay. The pitchforks had gotten heavier and the sun hotter, so we stopped for a break. Dad had gone to the farmhouse for some water, and when he came back he told us that the North Korean army had invaded South Korea.

Although I had been graduated from high school two weeks before, I had never heard of Korea. Little did I suspect the impact the Korean War would have on the Class of 1950.

For starters, the local Marine reserve unit was called to active duty two months later, including a number of my classmates: fuzzy-faced kids who, after basic at Camp Pendleton, would immediately board transport ships for Korea. Several of my classmates never came home.

Since I had no financial means for college, the next nine months would bring for me a boring job, an unsuccessful tryout with the old Washington Senators baseball team, and an enlistment in the Air Force. The opportunity to learn some useful job skills, plus the GI Bill to pay for college, were very appealing. I also didn't like the idea of communism threatening freedom, even on the other side of the world.

After basic training, 22 weeks of air traffic-control school, and a leave, I took my first airplane ride, from Roanoke to San Francisco, on Dec. 3, 1951. Two weeks later, 4,500 of us were on a troop ship bound for Destination Iron (Japan) and ultimately Destination Evil (Korea).

On Dec. 30, six of us air-traffic controllers flew from Ashiya Air Force Base in southern Japan to Seoul, Korea. The plane's heater didn't work, so when we landed we wanted to find a warm place. We quickly found that combat-weary soldiers, complete with weapons, had commandeered the three pot-bellied oil stoves in the makeshift administration building and would not allow any airmen near them.

We stood outside in 5-below-zero weather for an hour, waiting on transportation to our group headquarters. Transportation was a truck without a canvas cover. We rode 18 miles across Seoul in the biting cold. One fellow from Michigan actually turned blue.

The regular Han River Bridge had been blown up, so we drove across the river on an Army bridge. I looked up at the railroad bridge paralleling us and saw three Korean men hanging from it. They were North Korean spies caught trying to bomb the bridge. Wartime justice had been swiftly meted out.

As we drove through Seoul, there was devastation. Bullet holes pockmarked the few remaining walls. Korean civilians stared vacantly at us, many of them from the entrance of caves where they lived. I remember thinking that I wasn't in the movie theater back home watching a John Wayne movie. At age 18, very naive and unworldly, I was in the middle of a real war in a country I had never heard of 18 months before.

Practically frozen, we arrived at Ewha College, which our 1818th AACS Group had taken over for its headquarters. Here we would process for a few days and receive our permanent assignments. They weren't expecting us, so we spent the first night sleeping on pews in the chapel.

As we walked to the chow hall the next day, we passed a building that housed the South Korean version of the CIA. They questioned captured North Koreans in the basement, and we could hear the screams as we walked by.

That night, New Year's Eve 1951, we slept on portable cots in the hall of a dorm. There was no celebrating, and late that night, as we lay on the cots, I remember wondering what the next year would hold. I knew that whatever it was, we airmen would never have it as rough as the Army and Marines in Korea.

An air-raid siren went off around midnight, but it was just a nuisance raid by "Bedcheck Charlie." Off in the distance we heard rumbling like thunder. It was the sound of Army artillery guns shelling the North Koreans. I was a long way from the shade of that hay wagon.

Finally the guns quieted. We fell asleep.

*HUGH EATON is a native of Roanoke and now a freelance writer living in Palmer Lake, Colo. He spent 1952 as an air-traffic controller at the Taegu, Korea military air-traffic-control center and was honorably discharged as a staff sergeant in 1955.*

*Mr. Eaton added this:*

My most significant memory of my time in Korea is the men I was privileged to serve with. I remain in contact with some of them to this day.

I have absolutely no regrets about my participation in the war. On the contrary, I am grateful I was able to serve my country. I feel that my personal investment of a year of my life, even though small compared to those who gave their lives, was well worth it.

*Hugh Eaton, P.O. Box 447, Palmer Lake, CO 80133 (719) 481-0102, 1973 AACS Squadron, OL#2 (K-2) Taegu Military Air Traffic Control Center (Taegu Matcon)*

## Night patrols, Bunker Hill, and Boulder City

I was still in high school on 25 June 1950. The news about

# 60TH ANNIVERSARY MEMORIES

the invasion of South Korea did not concern me particularly, since I did not think it would involve me. In any case, I was agreeable to our intervention in the war, even if I did not know where Korea was until I found it on a map.

Needless to say, I ended up in Korea with the U.S. Marines. I remember well the night patrols, Bunker Hill, and Boulder City. As trying as they were, I have no regrets about my involvement in Korea, especially after revisiting South Korea in 2003 and 2008.

The war was definitely worth what was accomplished by all who were there. South Korea is a thriving country today, and the South Koreans are very grateful to everyone who gave so much to help them gain their freedom.

*Ron Remily, 27301 Meridian St., Hemet, CA 92544*

## It was an honor to have served

I can't remember where I was on 25 June 1950, and I had no idea where Korea was. I went overseas trained as an infantry rifleman. However, I ended up with one of the best jobs in the U.S. Army. I became Chief Administrative Clerk at 8th Army Headquarters for all the U.N. troops in Korea for the Rest & Recuperation (R&R) program.

If you went on R&R in 1951 and 1952, I helped send you. I spent 18 months in Korea and millions of U.N. troops passed through my hands on their 5-day leaves to Japan.

I do not regret my time spent in Korea doing the job required of me. It was an honor to have served in the Korean War.

*Leland E. Regal, 382 6th Ave., Marion, IA 52302*

## Friends sometimes not coming home

I have a chapter in my book, *The Lucifer Patch*, about the beginning of the Korean War. I was living in Independence County, Arkansas, and everyone took the news seriously. We were not that many years away from World War II, and everyone remembered the pain of family and friends going off to war—and sometimes not coming home. We were fearful that this could be a repeat of those bitter years.

Here is the beginning of that chapter:

### Chapter Three

#### TROUBLE IN ASIA

Sunday, June 25, was a typically hot summer day, and Leon and I were going swimming that afternoon at Miller's Creek, a popular local swimming hole a few miles away. We expected to see other friends there, and maybe some of the neighborhood girls would be out. I was approaching my fifteenth birthday and looking forward to getting back in school.

I heard on the radio that morning something about North Korea invading South Korea. It didn't mean anything to me as I had no idea where Korea was, just a vague notion that it was somewhere in Asia, around India, or maybe Tibet. My older brother, Harold, came home after church. He was 21 and attended summer school at a junior college in a neighboring town a few miles away. He was concerned, as

he could be expecting a draft notice if the United States got into another war.

We listened to every news broadcast we could find on the radio that evening trying to learn what was happening. This was before TV came to Independence County. It seemed from the reports we heard—after dark the radio reception was much better and we could pick up stations from all over the Midwest—the United States was taking this seriously, and President Truman might even send U.S. troops. We hoped he would, because we were sure that when a few Americans showed up, the North Koreans would hightail it back across the border where they came from.

The next few days, Korea was the main news topic on the radio. The United Nations had voted to send troops to help the South Koreans kick out the invaders. Since the United States had soldiers in Japan already, we were the logical country to provide them. We heard about the fall of Seoul, the capital city.

A couple days after the July Fourth holiday the shocking news came that U.S. troops had been badly mauled and generally routed in their first combat encounter with the North Koreans. This wasn't what we expected at all. At a press conference, a reporter asked President Truman if this was just something like a "police action" for the United Nations. Truman allowed that was about what it amounted to, and the name stuck....

*Excerpt from The Lucifer Patch, © 2010, Bertram L. Brent*

*Bertram L. Brent, P. O. Box 338  
Ashville, AL 35953*

## If South Korea fell, Japan would be next

On 25 June 1950 I was on the kill floor of a beef slaughter house performing part-time work to stay in college. I was pretty sure the invasion of South Korea would be a minor military matter.

I guessed that I would somehow become involved in the conflict. I would be a USMC Reserve Training Officer after graduation in 1951 from Mankato State Teachers College, where I was in Platoon Leaders Class

As I viewed it, the UN and U.S. were correct in intervening in the situation. If South Korea fell, Japan would be next. I knew where Korea was. It was called Chosen in my geography studies.

Well, I got to Korea. My most significant memory is of the evening before the armistice. There was an untold dropping of leaflets on our headquarters position by a North Korean plane that night. The North Koreans told us in the leaflets that they always knew our location, and they could have taken us out any time. I wanted a leaflet as a souvenir, but I was instructed to turn it in to the C.O. So I did. Nothing more was ever said about the incident.

In the sixty years between 1950 and today, I have had the chance to reflect on what happened back then. As part of that reflection, I have revisited Korea.

I had no contact with civilians there while on active duty as a Captain with no duties waiting to go home. That was less than a month after the Armistice. No civilians were allowed between

# 60TH ANNIVERSARY MEMORIES

Imjin and the MLR and subsequent DMZ.

There was one working alternate one-way bridge, as I recall. One half was destroyed in a defensive move in 1951-52.

*Allen Affolter, 514 S. Franklin St., New Ulm, MN 56073, (507) 354-2328, bev\_allen7@hotmail.com*

## I learned discipline

On June 25, 1950, I was driving from my grandmother's funeral in Washington State to my home in Houston, Texas, along with my father and mother. Although I was already a member of the Naval Reserve, I don't remember thinking at the time that the North Korean invasion would involve me. However, I was in favor of UN/U.S. intervention in the war.

I did know where Korea was, and my most significant memory of being there is the depression I suffered from six uninterrupted weeks aboard my ship on the line off North Korea. I am ashamed of that reaction. While so many men were going through hell on shore, I had a warm bunk to sleep in and three square meals every day. I was a self-centered young man who didn't appreciate how good he had it.

In retrospect, I don't think I made such a great personal investment. But, as the years have passed, I have understood more and more how my years on active duty in the Navy have contributed to my personal character. While I didn't appreciate it at the time, I learned discipline and I learned that I was not the center of the universe.

So, as I look back I am grateful for that experience. I am not happy to know that the same evil governments are still in charge in North Korea and China. I hope to live long enough to

see Korea united in freedom and in a representative government.

*Thomas Fife, 224 Ridgeview Dr., Gray, TN 37615*

## Another Homeward Bound Story!!

It took one ship and two oceans to get me home from Korea!

My tour of duty was finally over, so I was told to report to the Port of Inchon for the return trip home!! As always in the military, things didn't go as planned. After several days a "Liberty" ship made port. Rumor had it that it was a "Banana Boat"—whatever that meant. I was soon to find out. The ship was scheduled to be mothballed at the Brooklyn Navy yard after disembarking troops at various ports of call.

After fourteen months in Korea, Honolulu, Hawaii, our first port of call, was a beautiful contrast. We were given five hours of shore leave. The first thing we did was head to a restaurant for a big steak dinner and a cold glass of real milk! There was a long line at the restaurant. But, when those in the line found out that we only had a short time off ship, they moved us to the head of the line.

Since this was during their "Aloha Week," we all returned with several leis around our necks. We were told that if we threw our leis overboard and they drifted back to the islands it meant we would return one day. (Little did we realize the wake of the ship probably would make it appear that the leis were drifting back.)

The ship's crew distributed a daily progress bulletin. Soon after we left Hawaii, it listed our next ports of call as the Panama Canal; Cartagena, Columbia; San Juan, Puerto Rico, and finally New York Harbor.

We were restricted to the Canal Zone because there was unrest in Panama at that time. However, we were allowed to purchase from vendors, who set up refreshment stands within sight of the ship. We then got back on the ship for the slow trip through the canal into the Atlantic Ocean.

There was a strong storm as we neared New York, so they kept us out to sea one more day. The morning of our 33rd day in transit, we sailed past the Statue of Liberty and docked at the Port of New York—on Veterans Day, November 11, 1953. Do you think this might have been planned?

At last, it was our turn to be greeted by a crowd of people and a military band on the dock. We were hustled off the ship and onto buses that took us directly to Grand Central Station to catch our trains. In my case it was to Fort Sheridan near Chicago. It took me some time to get my land legs back.

(I have always wondered if I should have earned Navy pay for this trip!!)

*Cpl. Robert E. Shelton, 351st Com Recon, Army Security Agency ('51-'53), Detroit, MI), 109 White Hawk Way, Kingsport, TN 37663-3068, 423-239-9778, cshelton37663@yahoo.com*

## Legacy of the Korea War Foundation

**Mission: To Educate the Public about the Korea War**

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September 14, 2010

Art Sharp  
Editor, Graybeards

Art,

Just to let you know that the Legacy of the Korea War Foundation has now opened a bank account and is open for business.

We were able to open our bank account with two donations. The first donation came from a Mr. Haeyoung Song, who spoke of his appreciation to all veterans as they saved his life when he was a young boy in Pusan in 1950. Mr. Song donated \$300.00 to Sam Johnson Chapter 270 and the Board voted to donate Mr. Song's donation to the Legacy of the Korea War Foundation.

The Sam Johnson Chapter 270 Board also voted to donate \$1,000.00 to the Legacy of the Korea War Foundation. These two donations have made it possible for the Legacy of the Korea War Foundation to begin operation.

We would appreciate your letting our members know that the LKWF is now open for business.

Sincerely,

J. Tilford Jones  
Treasurer





# 60TH ANNIVERSARIES KOREAN WAR REVISIT KOREA TOURS



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# Atlanta goes all out to celebrate the 60th

The 60th Anniversary of the onset of the Korean War did not go unnoticed among the people of Atlanta, GA this year. A Korean-American, Sunny Park, who was nine years old and living in Korea at the start of the war, came to the States at 15 and became a successful business man. He financed a billboard along Interstate 85 in Atlanta as his tribute to Korean War veterans.

The National Museum of Patriotism sponsored a 33-day salute to Korean War veterans

and the country of South Korea.

Not to be outdone, the Korean Consulate Office put on a grand feast for all Korean War veterans in the Atlanta area. Attendees included the Consulate General, Chun Have-jinn, Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue, and local business leaders and politicians. A 60th Anniversary commencement medal and certificate was presented to all the veterans in attendance.

A wonderful performance by the Little Angels of Korea dance

troupe followed the dinner.

The Rockdale County (Georgia) Board of Commissioners presented a proclamation to Korean War veterans on the 60th Anniversary. Seven members of Ch 19 accepted the proclamation: Sunny Park, Jim Conway, Bob Hendershott, Stan Fisher, Bob McCubbins, Gen (Ret) Gordon Duquemin, and Jack Robinson.

In commemoration of the 60th Anniversary, the Little Angels of Korea participated in wreath lay-

ing ceremonies at the National Museum of Patriotism and the Korean War Memorial to honor the 740 Georgians killed during the war. The Memorial is on the front plaza of the Veterans Building in Atlanta.

With the Little Angels of Korea in attendance, the Governor of Georgia, Sonny Perdue, presented a 60 Anniversary Proclamation to Ch 19 members.

*James Conway,  
conatlanta@comcast.net*



A billboard along I-85 in Atlanta honoring Korean War veterans



Members of Ch 19 accept the proclamation from the Rockdale County (GA) Board of Commissioners (L-R) Sunny Park, Jim Conway, Bob Hendershott, Stan Fisher, Bob McCubbins, Gen (Ret) Gordon Duquemin, Jack Robinson



Members of Ch 19 at opening of the National Museum of Patriotism (L-R) Jim Conway, Bob Hendershott, Bob McCubbins



The Little Angels of Korea at the wreath laying ceremony in Atlanta



# Anniversary of the Korean War



A salute to Korean War veterans from the Little Angels of Korea



GA Georgia Sonny Perdue presents 60th Anniversary Proclamation to Ch 19 members Jim Conway, Urban Rump, Bob Hendershott, Bob Moore, Bob



Jim Conway of Ch 19 proudly displays his medal and certificate presented to him at the Korean Consulate Office gathering



The Little Angels of Korea bid a fond farewell to the veterans and audience in Atlanta



Korean Ambassador Chun with Ch 19 member Ron Clark, who accepted the medal on behalf of all Korean War veterans



Ron Clark, Jim Conway, Sonny Park, David Hwang, Tom Woods, John Kahle, Bob McCubbins, George McCauley at Korean Consulate Office dinner



# ‘Chosin Few’ honored with



The 34th Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. James T. Conway, speaks during a monument dedication ceremony, Sept. 15, in honor of those who gave their lives at the Chosin Reservoir. The Camp Pendleton South Mesa Club now exhibits the 3,000 pound granite monument to remind those present of the military's service and sacrifice during the reservoir's bitter campaign in which the 1st Marine Division fought a prodigious battle.

Photos by Lance Cpl. Michelle S. Mattei

*By Lance Cpl. Michelle S. Mattei, Marine Corps  
Base Camp Pendleton*

**MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif.** — More than 250 attendees gathered on the grounds of Camp Pendleton's South Mesa Club, Sept. 15, to unveil a new Chosin Reservoir monument donated in remembrance of the heroes who served through the harsh climates of the Korean War.

The surviving heroes, known as the "Chosin Few," stood out gallantly among the crowd of Marines, sailors and distinguished guests who attended the ceremony. This day marked the 60th anniversary of Operation Chromite; the dangerous and difficult amphibious landing at Inchon, Korea, Sept. 15, 1950.

The 3,000 pound granite monument is a tribute to the more than 4,400 Marines and soldiers who did not survive overwhelming odds and the 35 degrees below zero weather. It stands to remind those present of the military's service and sacrifice during the reservoir's bitter campaign in which the 1st Marine

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**The 3,000 pound granite monument is a tribute to the more than 4,400 Marines and soldiers who did not survive overwhelming odds and the 35 degrees below zero weather.**

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Division fought a prodigious battle.

As Gen. James T. Conway's tenure as the 34th Commandant of the Marine Corps comes to an end, he paid a visit to the ceremony and spoke in honor of those who gave their lives at the great battle.

"Korea is often a forgotten war that many consider a police action," said Conway during his last public address to West Coast troops before retiring as commandant. "We in the Marine Corps don't see it that way. We see it as a tremendous bright spot in our legacy."

At the Chosin Reservoir battle, Marines and soldiers fought

# new monument at Camp Pendleton



A monument in dedication to those who risked their lives at the Chosin Reservoir is unveiled at the Camp Pendleton South Mesa Club, Sept. 15. The ceremony was held in honor of the 60th anniversary of Operation Chromite; the dangerous and difficult amphibious landing at Inchon, Korea, Sept. 15, 1950.

Photos by Lance Cpl. Michelle S. Mattei.

against more than 100,000 Chinese troops and has been remembered as one of the major battles of the three-year war with Korea.

"In the battle to break the Chinese lines, we lost more than 4,000 U.S. (troops)," said Bob Licker, a Chosin Few hero and master of ceremonies. "This monument now stands in our memory and honor."

The memorial commemorated what

Conway called, "probably the most extreme environment faced by any group of Marines anywhere."

A carving by retired Combat Artist Col. Charles Waterhouse, and the quote "Retreat Hell," now creates a symbolic view of commemoration for anyone who crosses the monument's path.

"We may walk in the valley of the shadow of death; that's our business and our nation expects us to conduct it with

the vigor and dash that has always been the trademark of the Corps," said Actor Dale Dye, retired Marine Capt. and guest speaker of the event. "We will do that gladly and confidently because we walk in the shadow of giants like the marines who fought at the Chosin Reservoir."

Source: <http://www.marines.mil/unit/basecamp Pendleton/Pages/News/2010/Chosinheroeshonoredwithmonument.aspx>



The surviving heroes of the Chosin Reservoir battle, known as the "Chosin Few," stood out gallantly among the crowd of Marines, sailors and distinguished guests who attended a monument dedication ceremony at the Camp Pendleton South Mesa Club, Sept. 15.



The 34th Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. James T. Conway walks alongside Marines, dressed in Korean War era uniforms, who carry a wreath to be placed in honor of the "Chosin Few" during a monument dedication ceremony at the Camp Pendleton South Mesa Club, Sept. 15.



# KWVA Directors Visit Troops At Walter Reed Army Medical Center

On 26 July, three KWVA National Directors, Jeff Brodeur, Art Griffith, and Tom McHugh, along with Rick Griffith, visited Walter Reed Army Medical Center to boost the morale of our nation's wounded warriors. The Directors presented KWVA 60th anniversary pins and patches to the 82nd Airborne Division paratroopers.

The paratroopers gave us a "hands on" report of what was going on in Afghanistan. Much of the information given to us is not known to the media. Therefore, we got a better perspective of what was going on at ground level.

**One of these Soldiers, who is an amputee, had served previously in Korea with the UNC Honor Guard. The other trooper was hit three times—once with an RPG round!**

One of these Soldiers, who is an amputee, had served previously in Korea with the UNC Honor Guard. The other trooper was hit three times—once with an RPG round!

Our troops are true American heroes who engaged the enemy aggressively. I hope the civilian population appreciates these Soldiers' sacrifices.

Considering the whole time we were at the KWVA annual meeting and Gathering, the Directors agreed that it was this visit to our wounded warriors that was their most humbling experience while in Washington for the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War.

*Jeff Brodeur, 48 Square Rigger Lane, Hyannis, MA 02601*



**TOP:** Rick Griffith, Art Griffith, Tom McHugh, and Jeff Brodeur visit a paratrooper at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

**BELOW:** Jeff Brodeur, Tom McHugh, Rick Griffith, and Art Griffith lend support to 82nd Airborne trooper at Walter Reed Army Medical Center

**Have a Mini-Reunion? Dedicating a Memorial? Attending a Banquet**

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

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# Little kid, big mic

You might say this is just another photo, “There’s not much here”...but wait.

Look around. There is an audio crew setting up (you can’t see them in the photo) the microphones and speakers where the audience will be sitting at a 60th Anniversary of the Korean War event at the Minnesota State Capitol in St. Paul.

One inquisitive young Korean lad ran on stage and picked up the mic when the crew was adjusting the speakers. He was amazed when his own voice started booming out at the crowd. He looked over toward his father, giggling like he got caught with his hand in the proverbial cookie jar.

The “old” veteran in the lower right hand corner leaning on his cane and observing the “next generation” lends poignancy to the photo. He sits with a bemused smile on his face, perhaps

thinking of his youth when he, too, acted spontaneously—before he went off to war to make possible a future in which the “next generation” could be free to act at all.

Photo submitted by Blair C. Rumble, 969 Lombard Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105

**The young Korean lad launches his emceeing career.**



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# Chapter & Department News

## 15 EDDIE LYON [FL]

We combined two holiday observations this year. At our July 4th celebration, the sixteen chapter members in attendance also commemorated the 60th Anniversary of the start of the Korean War.



Members of Ch 15 at July 4th/60th Anniversary celebration



Despite Ch 15's celebration, the Korean War was anything but a piece of cake

The members included Gary Baum, Morton Berger, Jerry Bey, John Bowers, Sam Dukes, Vincent Estella, Joe Firriolo (President), Ralph Johnson, Larry Krut, Bob Lefkowitz, Ralph Lugo, Joe Musitano, Ted Nicholas, Charles Pipin, Jerry Snider, and Sy Weiss.

Stella Firriolo, 2510 NE 209 Terr., Miami, FL 33180

## 19 GEN RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

Col Deborah Grays, Garrison Commander for Fort McPherson, Third Army Headquarters, in Atlanta, gave an

informative talk and Power-Point presentation at our luncheon meeting explaining the soon to be closing of the base and transfer of the personnel.



Col Grays speaks to Ch 19 about the closing of Fort McPherson



Robert McCubbins (L) and James Conway (R) of Ch 19 meet with Hans H.S. Song to discuss cultural exchanges between Taipei and the U.S.



Col. Ben Malcom of Ch 19 shows Louis Mark and Tricia Espinoza a map of Korea





Students at Newnan High School in Georgia get involved in Col. Malcom's description of war

At a recent dinner with the Taipei Economic & Cultural Chamber, chapter members Robert McCubbins and James Conway met with Hans H.S. Song, Director, Overseas Liaison Department, to discuss cultural exchanges between our countries.

Member Col (Ret) Ben Malcom, author of the book "White Tigers," gave a lecture on the Korean and Vietnam Wars to an elective class at the Newnan (Ga.) High School.

James Conway, conatlanta@comcast.net

## 30 INDIANA #1 [IN]

Our new officers include:

- Commander - Ken Roemke
- 1st VP - Gary Sink
- 2nd VP - Carl Fowler
- Secretary/Treasurer - Cletus Rumschlag
- Trustees - Don Coombs, David Martin, Lowell Tillman
- Sgt-at-Arms - Fred Ireland
- Chaplain - Harold Schick
- Judge Advocate - Bud Mendenhall
- Veterans Affairs - Jim Leslie
- Tell America Chairman - Lynn Shady

**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**



Officers of Ch 30 (Front, L-R) Bernard Wisniewski, David Martin, Ken Roemke, Jim Leslie, Carl Fowler (Back, L-R) Fred Ireland, Cletus Rumschlag, Lowell Tillman, Harold Schick, Bud Mendenhall, Dan Coombs (Absent are Gary Sink, Lynn Shady, Ron Bernhart)

- Memorial Brick Walkway - Ron Barnhart
- Past Commander - Bernard Wisniewski

Mary Anna Roemke, P.O. Box 15102  
Fort Wayne, IN 46885, 260-485-7627

## 42 LEE COUNTY [MS]



Ch 42 members (L-R) Bobby Wilson, Karrie Weathers, Luther Braken, Robert Davis (L-R) present check to SMSGT Jim McCarty (New Albany [MS] High School Jr. ROTC) in the center

As a yearly project which results in making charity contributions, we presented a \$100.00 check to the New Albany [MS] High School Jr. ROTC Air Force.

Robert L. ("Bobby") Wilson, 1581 Gun Club Rd.,  
Tupelo, MS 38801





Members of Ch 42 stand with five graduating students from New Albany [MS] High School

## 99 TALL CORN [IA]

Members gathered at the Sullivan Brothers Museum in Waterloo, IA for their summer meeting in commemoration of the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War. Our key speaker was Col. Ron Albrecht, who just returned from duty in Iraq.

Leland Regal. 382 6th Ave., Marion, IA 52302



Col Ron Albrecht addresses Ch 99 members at Sullivan Brothers Museum



Ch 99 members recite the Pledge of Allegiance at their summer 2010 meeting

## 159 SUNSHINE STATE [FL]

We have new officers for the 2010-2012 time period:

- President - Peter Palmer
- First Vice - Gordon Bennett
- Second Vice - Jack Edwards
- Secretary and Treasurer - Lou Michaud
- Directors - Mike Tucci, Fred Strahlendorf, Mel Routt

Peter Palmer, P.O. Box 5298, Largo, FL, 727-584-7143, palmersp@gte.net

## 169 LAKE COUNTY [FL]

### Chapter holds July 27 Armistice Day event

The Korean War began in the very early hours of June 25, 1950, when North Korean troops crossed the 38th parallel and invaded South Korea. The ensuing war resulted in some of the most intense fighting ever experienced by any American warriors—and in some of the worst conditions.

Although the armistice was signed eventually among the United Nations, the U.S., China, and North Korea, South Korea refused to sign, leaving the two Koreas separate to this day, 60 years later.

The war became known as the “Forgotten War.” Ray Baumbach, guest speaker at The Villages, FL, Veterans Memorial Park on the July 27th remembrance of the Korean War Peace Treaty, wishes he could forget about the intense fighting and the war. But he can’t. Baumbach, who earned 3 Purple Hearts, 1 Silver Star, and 1 Bronze Star, was a POW who tried to escape three times.

He told his story of what life was like as a POW. Baumbach spoke about his living conditions and the things he had to do to survive. He addressed the shrapnel in his leg, the long marches with no water, and the absence of medical help. He knew if he were to survive he had to try and make it to the road. The third time he was successful; he made it back to the UN lines.



Ray Baumbach (L) and Tom Thiel at The Villages July 27th commemoration



Baumbach told his story with tears in his eyes and short pauses of remembrance, during which silence fell over the participants at the ceremony.

After Baumbach completed his presentation, chapter President Tom Thiel presented him with an award to honor his courage and sacrifice.

Some of the event attendees never served in Korea. They can only learn about the Korean War from people like Ray Baumbach and many others who share their stories.

To Ray Baumbach and many others who served to make this a free country, we offer our thanks.

Joan Bernat, [speakebustars@gmail.com](mailto:speakebustars@gmail.com)

## 216 KWVA M\*A\*S\*H\* 4099 [NJ]

This year has been a very active one for our chapter. Since April, we have participated in many social and community activities.

In April, we were co-sponsors of the first annual Korean-American Businessmen's Golf Outing. Four of our members played: Joe Poggi, John Ottina, George Kritzler, and Alex Atheras. They played a very good game.

Joe Poggi, George Kritzler, and Commander Gonzales went to the New York headquarters of the USO to present them with a

\$500 check for their help to our service members. We were given a tour of the facility.

In May, we donated \$500 to the Fort Lee VFW for their dedications to Sgt. John Basilone, the Iwo Jima flag raising event, and the five Sullivan brothers.

Members attended a church service at the Han Sung Church in preparation for our Thanksgiving picnic.

We really got rolling in June. Members took a bus ride to New York City to see the Little Angels and a ceremony to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War at the Ah Han Reum



The clubhouse greeters at the Overpeck Golf Course, where Ch 216 members played in Korean-American Businessmen's Golf Outing



Vince Arfuso (L) and Al Gonzales (R) of Ch 216 present check to Fort Lee, NJ VFW Commander Viola



George Kritzler, Christina Carlucci, Al Gonzales, Joe Poggi (L-R) at Ch 216's check presentation to USO



The ladies of Han Sung Church prepare food for annual Thanksgiving picnic



Korean American Association of Bergen, NJ members with Ch 216 representatives (L-R) Joe Poggi, Jerry Van Brunt, Homer Vanides, Joe Kennelly, Al Gonzales, Ann Gonzales



Super Market, given by the Korean-American Business Association That was followed by our annual Thanksgiving Program, held in conjunction with the Chorwon [CID 48] and Taejon [CID 170] chapters, at the Han Sung Church, at which they awarded scholarships to our grandchildren.



Members of Ch 216 at Alpine Community Church dining hall (Seated L-R) Faust Faustini, Vince Arfuso, Don Kuehn (Standing L-R) Bill Huston, Serge Leoniukal, Al Gonzales, Pastor Hae Jong Kim, Alex Atheras, Homer Vanides, Gerard DeCicco



Ch 216 members outside Alpine Community Church



Korean Vietnam Veterans Association members with Ch 216 counterparts (L-R) Al Gonzales, Vince Arfuso, Alex Atheras

Also in June, Vincent Arfuso, Alex Atheras, and Commander Gonzales participated in ceremonies at Fort Lee, NJ. Then, we were invited to the Alpine Community Church for another service with the local Korean congregation.

On hand were many local politicians, and Yijoo Kwon, who recently ran across the country in ninety days.

Finally, Joe Poggi, John Ottina, and Faust Faustini were guests in June on the TV show, "Good Morning America," to relate their experiences when they served in the Korean War.

In July, we went to Atlantic City for the annual ceremonies at the Korean War Memorial.

Our wives and guests attended these affairs with us. I thank them for their support

Al Gonzales, 115 Irving St., Leonia, NJ 07605

## 219 CENTRAL KENTUCKY [KY]

On 10 June, Chapter Treasurer Harry Walsh presented Mrs. B. J. Hutt, Manager of Hananoki Japanese Steak House, with a plaque honoring her for her kindness and generosity in providing our chapter with a free lunch each year for six consecutive years.

A few days later, on 23 June, we held a special meeting in remembrance of the 60th anniversary of the start of the Korean War. Our local newspaper, the Herald-Leader, sent a reporter and a photographer to the meeting. Reporter Jim Warren did a wonderful job interviewing our young veterans. His front-page article appeared in the June 25th edition.

Harry E. Walsh, 619 Shaftsbury Rd.  
Lexington, KY 40505

*Editor's Note: Mr. Warren's article is one of the better written pieces about the Korean War that I have read. We reprint it on page 72 with the permission of the Lexington Herald-Leader. Or, readers can access it at <http://www.kentucky.com/2010/06/25/1322904/korean-war-veterans-still-remember.html>*



Harry Walsh (C) presents B.J. Hutt with plaque honoring her service to Korean War veterans. Ch 219 veterans Ed Morrow, Marion ("Buddy") Rankin, a POW held by the Chinese for three years, W. B. Stiles, and Bennett Wasserman look on





Ch 219 members and guests gather outside the Hananoki Steak House in Lexington, KY



A cake in honor of the 60th Anniversary of the start of the Korean War is ready for consumption by Ch 219 meeting attendees

## 244 GOLDEN CORNER [SC]

On 26 June we met at noon for a banquet. Several members of Ch 301 were in attendance. This event was held at the Phoenix Inn in Greenville to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the beginning of the Korean War, 25 June 1950. There were 58 people in attendance, including families of veterans and local Koreans.

The Invocation was given by Rev. Peter Chong, Pastor of All Nations Full Gospel Church. The United States and Republic of Korea National anthems were sung by Mrs. Angela Lee, wife of the pastor of the First Korean Baptist Church of Greenville. Her husband, Rev. Seung Lee, gave the blessing for our food in the Korean language.

The welcome and introductions were done by Gerry Kunz, President of Ch 301. Mrs. Sara Yoon, coordinator for local Koreans, read a letter from the Korean Consulate in Atlanta.

Our guest speaker was LtCol Marion C. James, Inspector General at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Rev. Robert Philyaw, Commander of Ch 244, delivered the Benediction.



**ABOVE:** Officials of two SC chapters (L-R) Ch 301 member Lewis Langley; Ch 244 Secretary Bill Cartee; Ch 244 Commander Rev. Robert Philyaw; Ch 244 member Jim Bredenkamp; Ch 244 Vice-Commander Johnny Jacobs; Ch 301 President Gerry Kunz; Ch 301 Secretary Nell Thompson; Ch 301 member Francis Thompson; Ch 301 Treasurer Glenn Walls; Ch 244 member Bob Parsons



**LEFT:** Cover page of Chapters 244/301 June 25 anniversary program

The Koreans encouraged us to do this on an annual basis.  
Nell Thompson, 102 Rose Cir., Greenville, SC 29607

## 251 SAGINAW/FRANKENMUTH [MI]

We presented a \$1,000.00 check to Stan Bozich, Director of "Michigan's Own Military and Space Museum." (Stan is a member of our chapter.) This museum is the only one of its kind in the United States. The museum contains 127 cabinets holding the busts and uniforms of Michigan men and women.

There are 28 busts of Medal of Honor recipients. Four of them, two of whom served in Korea, are still alive.

We also gave a check to Dr. Robert Dorr, Chief of Staff of the Saginaw, MI, VA Hospital, in appreciation for allowing our chapter to use the hospital auditorium for our monthly meetings. Dr. Dorr was guest speaker in July, 2010.

Finally, we installed new officers and board members at our 4 August 2010 meeting.

- Commander - Walt Trinklein
- 1st Vice Commander - Charles Wenzel
- 2nd Vice Commander - Lydia Davis





Finance Officer Don Twietmeyer of Ch 251 presents check to Stan Bozich, Director of "Michigan's Own Military and Space Museum"



Public Relations Director Bob Simon, Ch 251, presents a check to Dr. Robert Dorr, Chief of Staff of the Saginaw, MI, VA Hospital



Past Commander Bob Simon installs Ch 251's new officers and board members (Front, L-R) Don Twietmeyer, Walt Trinklein, Hiel Rockwell, Frederick Bauer (Standing, L-R) Harry Boesnecker, Bob Hubbard, Art Neville, Charles Wenzel, Lydia Davis, Samuel Prisk, Jacob Klemm, Dick Suchodolski

- Finance - Don Twietmeyer
- Past Commander - Hiel Rockwell
- Quartermaster - Frederick Bauer
- Adjutant - Harry Boesnecker
- Sgt-at-Arms - Bob Hubbard
- Service Officer - Art Neville
- Chaplain - Samuel Prisk
- Directors - Jacob Klemm, Dick Suchodolski

Bob Simon, 7286 Spring Lake Trail  
Saginaw, MI 48603, 989-792-3718

## 256 NORVILLE B. FINNEY [MI]

Our new officers for 2010-2011 are:

- Commander - Richard Charbonneau
- 1st Vice Commander - Vince Napolitano
- 2nd Vice Commander - James McCarthy
- Treasurer - Edward Trombley
- Secretary - Eugene Majetic
- Judge Advocate - Paul Nobels
- Directors - Donald Bouffard, Fred Quinn, John "Jack" Dempster, Ernest Hood, Leroy Sikorski

James E. McCarthy, 2159 Parliament Drive  
Sterling Heights, Michigan 48310-5811



New officers of Ch 256 (L-R) Edward Trombley, Paul Nobels, Eugene Majetic, Vince Napolitano, Richard Charbonneau, James McCarthy, Donald Bouffard, Fred Quinn, John "Jack" Dempster, Ernest Hood

## Two more brothers KIA in Korean War

Art Lajeunesse has been researching the names of brothers who were killed in the Korean War. Here are two more: Anderson, Raymond W., KIA—1/29/1951, Company C, 1st. Bn. 5th. Cav. Rgt. 1st. Cav Div., and Anderson, Wesley A., KIA 12/12/1950, Company L, 3rd. Bn. 31st. Inf. Rgt. 7th. Inf. Div. They were twin brothers.

This makes 15 sets of brothers who died in the Korean War. The Anderson brothers, from Rudyard, Michigan, were born on May 31, 1929.



## 259 CENTRAL INDIANA [IN]

We held our annual picnic in July. The event was held in good weather at the Fort Harrison State Park. The affair was well attended by members and their families, who enjoyed a tasty mix of American and Korean food specialties.

Attendees observed the 60th anniversary of North Korea's invasion of the South on June 25, 1950.

John M. Quinn, [Saggi32@aol.com](mailto:Saggi32@aol.com)



Ch 259 Commander Tine Martin joins the "chow line" at the annual picnic with chapter members and members of the Korean Presbyterian Church



The ladies take the cake at Ch 259's picnic

## 264 MT DIABLO [CA]

### Keeping the legacy alive

Our members literally rolled through the Concord, CA Fourth of July Parade in a fleet of vintage Studebakers, provided by Concord's Classic Studebaker Club. In past years, our "old" infantrymen marched behind horses while valiantly dodging droppings on the parade route.

Modernization of the means of travel brought out the families, who also attended the annual picnic and memorial service at the new Korean War plaque in the city park.

The chapter continues to grow. New members are added at each monthly meeting, which is held at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the John Muir Medical Center, Concord, CA.

Activities are planned on a monthly basis. They include many members of the Korean community in Oakland, CA.

Project officers are assigned to take care of details such as permits for parades to insure maximum exposure in keeping the legacy alive.

Stanley J. Grogan, 2585 Moraga Dr.  
Pinole, CA 94564



One of the many Studebakers in which Ch 264 members "marched"



Studebakers waiting for Ch 264 members/riders jockey for position in Concord, CA 4th of July Parade



A U.S. flag-adorned Studebaker in the Concord, CA 4th of July Parade





Don Score, Mrs. and Mr. Bob Witfield (L-R) at Ch 264's 4th of July picnic



Veterans, friends, and family members enjoy the Ch 264 4th of July picnic at the gazebo near the new Korean War Memorial

## 270 SAM JOHNSON [TX]

### CID 270 Recognizes 2009 Membership Drive Winners

During our March 13 chapter meeting, we recognized our members who sponsored fourteen new KWVA members in 2009. Chapter members who sponsored new KWVA members in 2009 were Doyle Dykes (8), Dick Bové (1), Tilford Jones (1), Cliff Platt (1), Thomas Phelps (1), Richard Sanchez (1), and Bob (Ski) Wojciechowski (1).

Doyle Dykes has led the chapter in recruiting new KWVA members for eight consecutive years.

New members sponsored by Doyle Dykes were Cernel Brown, Eldon Gentry, Wedsel Groom, LeRoy Jones, Robert Morgan, Charles Organ, Harry Sutton, and Raymond T. Carrio.

Dick Bové sponsored Bill Fox, Tilford Jones sponsored Bill Brister, Thomas Phelps recruited Virgil Malone, Cliff Platt sponsored Richard Rogers, Richard Sanchez recruited Nicholas Weidenkoph, and Robert Wojciechowski signed up Ernest Bousque.

Because Doyle Dykes and other chapter members actively seek out new KWVA members, Chapter 270 now has more active KWVA members than any other chapter south of the Mason-

Dixon Line.

Significantly, 100% of our members are also KWVA members, and we show how to build chapter membership while following KWVA bylaws.



Doyle Dykes holds a plaque showing he has won Ch 270's membership drive for eight consecutive years. He recruited eight new members in 2009.

Glen Thompson, [gthomp@tx.rr.com](mailto:gthomp@tx.rr.com)

## 289 MOUNTAIN EMPIRE [TN]

We participated in our local high school junior ROTC awards night. Past Commander Robert E. Shelton presented two medallions, each of which was accompanied by a short speech about the Korean War.

Chapter member Bill Reed, also a member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, presented an award, along with an explanation of the Purple Heart.

Robert Shelton, 109 White Hawk Way, Kingsport, TN



Robert Shelton of Ch 289 presents medallions to JROTC recipients





Ch 289 member Bill Reed presents award to JROTC student on behalf of MOPH

37663-3068, 423-239-9778, [cshelton37663@yahoo.com](mailto:cshelton37663@yahoo.com)

## 297 CROSSROADS [TN]

We have a new Commander, Chan Smith. Mark Daniels, Cumberland County Veterans Service Officer, swore him in. Commander Smith's first duty was to present a Plaque of Appreciation to retiring Commander Don Eliason.

Our other new officers include Treasurer Dan Brook,



Mark Daniels swears in new Commander of Ch 297, Chan Smith



Ch 297 President Chan Smith presents Plaque of Appreciation to his predecessor, Don Eliason

Secretary Monty Pepperell, and Vice Commander Jim Douglass.

We awarded two \$1,000.00 scholarships this year. The recipients were Amy Pugh, of Stone Memorial High School, and Ernest Retzer, of Cumberland County High School.

Richard Malsack, 931-707-7292

[kaslam2001@yahoo.com](mailto:kaslam2001@yahoo.com)



Commander Chan Smith addresses Ch 297 members at recent meeting



Members of Ch 297 listen to Commander Chan Smith at meeting



Recipients of Ch 297's scholarships, Amy Pugh and Ernest Retzer, with Scholarship Committee Members Russ Uboldi, Dick Werderitch, and Roger VanRekom



## 305 CARSON CITY [NV]

Our members are enthusiastic about the effort to support our troops and local people and organizations. Recently, we have sent supplies to troops in Afghanistan, provided two nursing scholarships, and awarded a grant for the Veterans Administrations Hospital guest house in Reno.

One Soldier in Afghanistan took the time to thank us via the emails below. We have omitted the sender's name to protect his identity.

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

### Email 1

#### FROM THE TROOPS IN AFGHANISTAN

Good evening from Afghanistan! Just wanted to let you know how much the unit appreciated the boxes today. My Soldiers think you all are angels. The ability to get these items for them has made their week, and they were so happy. Everything came in good use and the brushes are already being used daily. It really helps with the fine dust we have around here. Each one has made it part of their weapons' cleaning kit.

We are doing well. The weather has cooled a little, but it's still changing back and forth from cold to hot.

I read your letter to the unit as they came in and got all the items out of the boxes. They really think you all are the heroes. Thank-you so very much for all your support.

### Email 2

It is my Soldiers that are moved that your group is willing to help us, and whenever and whatever it is you all find a way to get it to us. You have no idea how much esprit de corps this brings to these Soldiers. I have one Soldier who is so frustrated. He was getting out at the end of this tour. He is an E5 and I would really hate to see him leave. But I understood that your boxes and support made him feel so happy that he has decided to re-enlist for two more years.

He was overwhelmed that people from the states were supporting us, and when we ask you for something he needed, he got it. I really appreciate your assistance. You have no idea how much of an impact you have made on my Soldiers. God Bless you all!

We have received the cargo nets, the barber brushes, the ties, the bungee cords, the candy, the shampoo, the female items, and all 32 electric fans. All of it is appreciated.

Thank you.

## DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI

The Department held its 2010 State meeting in Rolla in conjunction with honoring the 60th year anniversary of the beginning of the Korean War. The City of Rolla's Chamber of Commerce helped in the planning by contacting the Commanding General of Fort Leonard Wood to schedule a tour of the Base and the almost newly finished State Veterans Cemetery for the attendees.

The Commanding General decided to use our KWVA State reunion celebration for an early dedication of the new State Veterans Cemetery, located on the Fort Leonard Wood property donated to the State. The official dedication is scheduled for some time in November of this year.

Don Baur and our State KWVA Commander, Frank Williams, of CID 186, participated in the dedication activities. Williams assisted in placing a wreath in front of the cemetery memorial wall, while Baur played Taps at the impressive and somber ceremony.

Salvadore Christifulli, Historian, CID 186, St. Charles, MO, 923 Annabrook Park Dr., O'Fallon, MO 63366, [Schristifulli@charter.net](mailto:Schristifulli@charter.net)



Don Baur (L) holding bugle, and Frank Williams prepare for Taps at Department of Missouri meeting



Jim Fountain, Frank Williams, Linda Chamberlain, Paul Phillips (L-R) in front of the Memorial Wall at the new Missouri State Veterans Cemetery



Allen Wiley, John Torrisi, Don Baur, Bob Pietz (L-R), Bob Osborn (standing) at Department of Missouri state gathering





A Korean representative from the areas of the Korean Community Association surrounding Fort Leonard Wood (MO) addresses attendees at the Missouri state meeting, as Frank Williams, Paul Phillips, Ken Hoffman (L-R) listen



KWVA National Director Jim Fountain addresses crowd at Missouri state meeting, with Bob Osborn to his left

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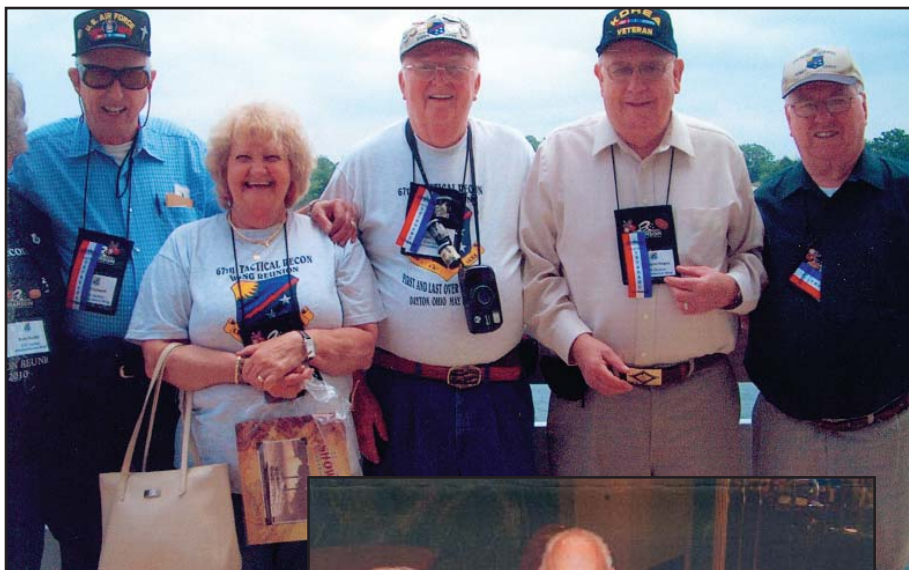
# Korean War Veterans' Mini-Reunions

## 67th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing

67th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing veterans got together in Branson, MO in May.

*DeWayne Hayes, P. O. Box 806  
Sturgis, SD 57785  
dhayes@rushmore.com*

Members and guests at 67th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing at Branson, MO (L-R) Doris Burke (partially hidden), Rodney Outwait, Pat Graves, Paul Graves, DeWayne Hayes, Richard Burke



Rodney Outwait,  
DeWayne Hayes,  
Lyle Cate (L-R) at  
67th Tactical  
Reconnaissance  
Wing gathering



## Borinqueneers, 65th RCT

There was a ceremony held last year in Tallahassee, FL to honor the Borinqueneers, 65th RCT. In attendance were Florida Governor Charley Crist and other dignitaries.

*Raul E. Reyes-Castaneira,  
5314 Tangerine Ave. S,  
Gulfport, FL 33707  
727-327-0357*



Dignitaries and veterans at the Florida ceremony to honor the Bourinqueneers (L-R) Carlos Guffan, Jr., Jose L. Amalbert, Narciso Villot, Epifanio Agosto, Puerto Rico Lt. Gov. P. R. McLintock, B. Soto, FL Governor Charlie Crist, Raul E. Reyes-Castaneira, I. Morales, MSG Andres Vergara, Heriberto De Jesus, Andres Medina



## OCS Class 11-52

The OCS Class 11-52 Alumni Association held its 2010 mini-reunion at Fort Worth, TX. All the attendees graduated from the Artillery School, Fort Sill, OK on 8 April 1952.

Dwight L. Thomas, 319 Palm Drive Circle, Marlin, TX 76661

OCS Class 11-52 members at Fort Worth, (Front) Dwight L. Thomas, (Back, L-R) Herman L. Baumann, William H. Osborne III, DeReef A. Greene, Richard J. Nagle, Ernest G. Hirsch, Gene C. Richards



## Tennessee veterans gather in Blount County

Tennessee Korean War veterans got together earlier this summer to commemorate the signing of the July 27th Armistice. The mini-reunion was featured in a 9 September 2010 article in Blount Today.

As organizer Leroy Rogers explained to reporter Lance Coleman, they always get together on the last Saturday of July. He said the 2010 gathering was the biggest since the first one.

Coleman described a twist in his brief article: "Rogers said they cut out speakers this year and instead all the veterans were asked to stand and give their name, branch of service and where they served, any comments they wanted to say and their serial number. Only two had forgotten their serial numbers," he said. "It was a lot of fun."

The reporter concluded his article with a poignant observation from Rogers: "The event organizer said that with so many Korean War veterans dying each year, the reunion is important. You can't explain it, the bond between us is closer than blood."

Read the complete article at <http://www.blounttoday.com/news/2010/sep/09/korean-war-veterans-share-bond-memories-annual-reu/?partner=popular>



**ABOVE LEFT:** The Thunderbird on display. Just above it is a painted sign of a bugler playing "Taps" with an "Old Glory" backdrop, which came from Norwich University in nearby Northfield, VT, where Russ Holt's sister works as a seamstress altering military uniforms for the 2,500-member student body. (Norwich is the second oldest private military college in the U.S.)

**ABOVE RIGHT:** Russ Holt (L) and Wayne Pelkey below the Thunderbird

"Frenchy" Baril (R) and Russ Holt in Holt's garage, with the Thunderbird, "Old Glory," and the 54 tagged chainsaws collection. To the rear are a double army cot used in the medics aid station, a litter, and other paraphernalia.



## Stories About Chip'yong-ni and Wonju

We are getting close to the anniversaries of the battles of Chip'yong-ni and Wonju, neither of which get extensive coverage in Korean War history. Perhaps we can cover them in *The Graybeards*. Please send us your stories about any aspects of those battles, and we will assemble a story or two in upcoming issues. Send them to Features Editor, *The Graybeards*, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

## Have a Mini-Reunion? Dedicating a Memorial? Attending a Banquet

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





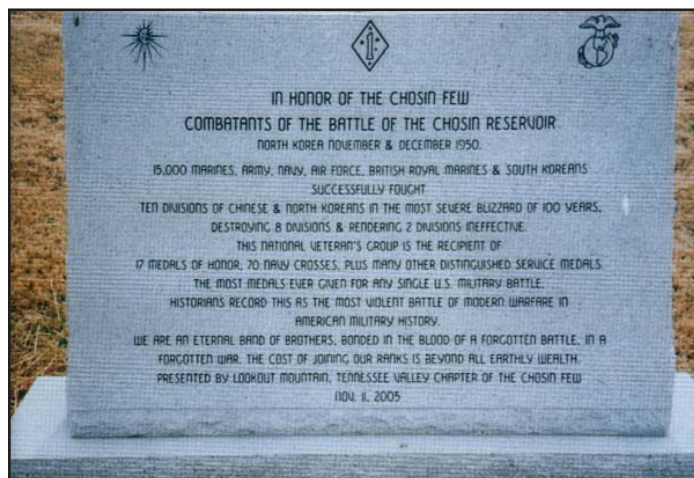
# Monuments and Memorials

Korea: the Forgotten War, Remembered

## Chattanooga, TN

The nearby photo depicts the commemoration on a monument in the Tennessee Veterans Cemetery in Chattanooga, TN. The wording pretty much sums up the UN efforts at the Battle of the Chosin Reservoir.

*Wilson R. Scott, 103 Gateway Ln., Hendersonville, TN 37075-4169, 615-264-3621, a member of CID 86, Nashville [TN], submitted the photo.*



The monument at the Tennessee Veterans Cemetery in Chattanooga, TN

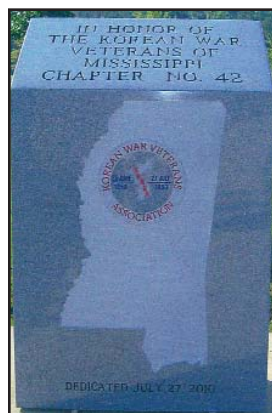
## 42 - LEE COUNTY [MS]

### Tupelo, MS

We dedicated a monument to the Korean War Veterans of Mississippi on 27 July 2010. It is located in Veterans Memorial Park on Veterans Memorial Boulevard, Tupelo, MS.

Just as ours is the only KWVA chapter located in Mississippi, the monument is the only one in the state dedicated specifically to the veterans of the Korean War.

*Robert L. ("Bobby") Wilson, 1581 Gun Club Rd. Tupelo, MS 38801*



A close-up view of the Tupelo, MS Korean War Monument



Karrie Weathers (L) and Bobby Wilson at Mississippi monument unveiling



Speaker Bob Taylor addresses the crowd at Tupelo, MS monument ceremony



Crowd members pay close attention to proceedings at Tupelo event



## Danville, VA

We just completed the fence part this summer at our Veterans Memorial in Danville, VA. We have a Memorial walkway that contains the names of 6,000 veterans who have served their country.

Our Memorial Wall contains the names of 1,469 local men of all wars who paid the supreme sacrifice. We just added the name of a Marine MSgt. who was KIA in Afghanistan. Our goal is to honor all veterans of all wars and leave a history lesson for future generations.

To accomplish this second goal, we have plaques in the walkway with a brief history of every war. We intentionally emphasized the casualties of each war to show the price that has been paid for our freedom.

We invite all who pass this way to visit with us and witness this tribute to all who have served.

Dave Newman, [flomo22@verizon.net](mailto:flomo22@verizon.net)



The Danville, VA Veterans Memorial

**Editor's Note:** Mr. Newman served with 35th Inf. Reg., 25th Inf. Div. He was better known as "The Rebel"—possibly because of the Confederate flag that flew above his tent (when they had a tent)!

## Rescuing North Korean Refugees

On 17 August 2010, the SBS (Seoul Broadcasting System) team, headed by Thomas Lee, came to the beautiful and historic USMMA (United States Merchant Marine Academy) Museum at Kings Point, New York to interview RAdm J. Robert Lunney, NYNM (Ret.). The crew was interested in his experiences and memories of the miraculously successful rescue of 14,000 North Korean refugees, mostly women, children and old men, fleeing from certain slaughter by the pursuing communist forces. (The full story is accurately detailed in William Gilbert's *The Ship of Miracles*.)

As this year marks the 60th Anniversary of the Hungnam Rescue, the story is of great significance to the people and government of South Korea.

Accompanying Adm Lunney was his lovely wife, Joan, who has participated in a number of Hungnam ceremonies, both here and in South Korea. Also on hand for the event were Capt Josh Smith, USMS, Director of the Museum, and members of his capable staff, who assisted the SBS team in archive/document retrieval. Rounding out the group of participants was Capt Chuck Haunss, NYNM, a friend familiar with the rescue story.

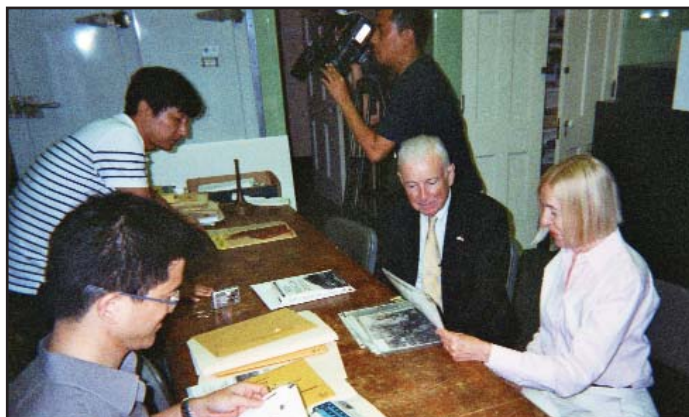
During the animated and moving interview, Adm Lunney, virtually "reliving" the excitement, danger and emotions of the rescue, became the young staff officer of the MS Meredith Victory. As original photographs depicting overcrowding, scarce supplies and hazardous conditions were viewed, Lunney recalled the words "bali, bali," meaning "hurry, hurry," as the human cargo evacuated a battle zone on land and a mine-filled harbor at sea.

Lunney attributes the mission's success to the stoic and heroic calmness of the evacuees (5 babies born; no deaths or injuries) and the crew's teamwork under the courageous leadership of Capt Leonard LaRue, USMS.

Knowing that Capt LaRue had to navigate a heavily mined harbor under siege, carrying a ship not only overloaded with refugees, but highly combustible jet fuel, Lunney asked LaRue how he made the decision to make the daring, seemingly impos-

sible rescue practically instantaneously. LaRue's response was, "No greater love hath a man than he lay down his life for a fellow man."

Shortly after the Korean War ended, LaRue traded the mariner's life for a monk's life, becoming a Benedictine friar, Brother Marinus, rescuing souls until his death.



Thomas Lee, RAdm. Lunney, Joan Lunney, Seoul Broadcasting System Team (L-R) at USMS interview



RAdm. Lunney, Joan Lunney, Capt. Smith (L-R) at USMS



# 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.

## 56 – VENTURA COUNTY [CA]

We invited members of the Korean Veterans Association, Western Region of the USA, to attend our Korean War Armistice Day commemoration event. In turn, they invited us to a reception aboard a South Korean warship visiting Santa Paula. We did—and we enjoyed our visit.

One of the highlights was the large sign near the ship on which the crew proclaimed for all to see their “Thanks” from South Korea.

*David Lopez, 3850 W 180th Pl.  
Torrance CA 90504-3812, 310-323-8481*

**Commander Steve Cho (L) and Commander David Lopez of Ch 56**



A South Korean warship visits Berth 87 at Santa Paula, CA—and says “Thanks”



Henry and Alice Guevara, Manuel Salazar, Manuel Salazar, John and Anne Campos, Sally Ann and David Lopez represent Ch 56 (L-R) at South Korean warship reception

## 209 – LAREDO 1950 [TX]

The Laredo Korean Baptist Community honored all Korean veterans with a Chinese dinner. Pastor Mun Myung Kwon expressed his appreciation for all the help rendered to South Korea during the war.

Reverend Mun Myung Kwon stated that for sixty years the South Koreans have enjoyed freedom and prosperity. We enjoyed a wonderful dinner.

*Pete Trevino, 2005 Guerrero St  
Laredo, TX 78041, 956-723-6978*



Five members of Ch 56 aboard South Korean warship (L-R) Benjamin Espinoza, Manuel Salazar, Henry Guevara, Commander David Lopez, John Campos





➤ Arnoldo Gutierrez (L), Ch 209 President, presents a token of appreciation to Mun Myung Kwon, Pastor



➤ A Korean family enjoys the Laredo, TX "Thanks" event

➤ Jesus Gonzalez, Pastor Mun Myung Kwon, Ernesto Sanchez (signing the guest book), Pete Cantu (L-R) at Ch 209's "Thank You" dinner



➤ Gracious hosts and hostesses at Ch 209's "Thanks" dinner



➤ The line of Ch 209 guests keeps moving at Laredo, TX dinner





## 251 – SAGINAW/FRANKENMUTH [MI]

The Korean Presbyterian Church Picnic honored us at their annual picnic, which was held on 15 August this year. Members attended a church service at 11 a.m. prior to the picnic.

*Bob Simon, 7286 Spring Lake Trail  
Saginaw, MI 48603, 989-792-3718*



➤ Adjutant Harry Boesnecker, his wife Rosalee, and Past Chaplain Wally Weiss ready to enjoy the picnic honoring Ch 251



2010-2011 1st Vice Chuck Wenzel of Ch 251, Dick and Carol Rosa at Korean Presbyterian Church event



Guests gather at The United Korean War Veterans of Northern California lunch on 25 June 2009

Dick Suchodolski of Ch 251 and his daughter Mary Carpenter leave the Korean Presbyterian Church Service





## 264 – MT. DIABLO [CA]

Members often meet with their Korean War counterparts. For example, several attended The United Korean War Veterans of Northern California lunch on 25 June 2009.

The lunch featured Korean cuisine.

*Stanley J. Grogan,  
2585 Moraga Dr.  
Pinole, CA 94564*



Guests gather at the United Korean War Veterans of Northern California lunch on 25 June 2009.



Korean cuisine is the order of the day at The United Korean War Veterans of Northern California lunch on 25 June 2009



# The Where, When, and Why of the Korean War

# Tell America

## TELL AMERICA HONOR ROLL

The chapters listed here have active Tell America programs in place. Members of these chapters are making a difference in the lives of people in their communities, especially for the students in the schools where they make their presentations. The members have accepted the challenge and are fulfilling the obligation of telling the story of the Korean War and helping our citizens understand the true meaning of the FREEDOMS that we all enjoy in this country.

All of us must continue to tell what we did in Korea 60 years ago to

stop the advancement of Communism and allow the South Korean people to live in freedom.

I feel sure this list is not complete, because I do not know about all the chapters that have active Tell America programs. I know of these chapters and their activities through the website survey, looking back through old copies of The Graybeards, and those I have talked with over the past six years that I have been Chairman.

If you have an active program and your chapter's name is not on the list, I will add your name if you will let me know at [larry.kinard@yahoo.com](mailto:larry.kinard@yahoo.com) or 682-518-1040.

### CHAPTER

2 Northwest Alabama (AL)  
11 Greater Danbury Area(CT)  
14 Suncoast (FL)  
15 Eddie Lyon (FL)  
17 LT Richard E. Cronan (FL)  
20 Hawaii #1 (HI)  
24 Charles Parlier (IL)  
30 Indiana # 1 (IN)  
40 Minnesota #1 (MN)  
43 Kansas City MO #2 (MO)  
44 Missouri #1 (MO)  
48 Chorwon (NJ)  
49 Ocean County (NJ)  
51 Richland County (OH)  
54 Thomas W. Daley Jr. (NJ)  
55 Nassau County # 1 (NY)  
60 Adirondack (NY)  
66 CPL Allan F. Kivlehan (NY)  
69 Greater Cleveland (OH)  
72 Oregon Trail (OR)  
76 Texas Lone Star (TX)  
78 Jefferson County (MO)  
96 North St. Louis County#4 (MO)  
99 Tall Corn (IA)  
105 Central New York (NY)  
107 James P. Dickel (MD)  
108 Western Ohio (OH)  
109 Northeastern Pennsylvania (PA)  
121 Greater Cincinnati (OH)  
125 Greene County (OH)  
128 Edward Markart (VA)  
131 Northwest Ohio (OH)  
133 Quiet Warrior (IN)  
137 Mahoning Valley (OH)  
138 Akron Regional (OH)  
139 C. H. Dodd (KY)  
147 West Bay Rhode Island #2 (RI)  
153 Central Florida (FL)  
169 Lake County (FL)  
169 Quad Cities (IL)  
170 Taejon (NJ)  
171 Brooklyn (NY)  
172 Hancock County (OH)  
173 Mid-Florida (FL)  
175 LT Baldomero Lopez (FL)  
177 Eastern Oklahoma (OK)  
178 York County (PA)

### CONTACT

Jim Taylor  
Brendan Sniffin  
Elmer E. Stone  
Jerry Bey  
Joe Green  
Herbert Schreiner  
David Freyling  
Kenneth L. Roemke  
Ed Valle  
Delbert White  
Donald L. Gutmann  
John Valerio  
Anthony Grace  
Glen Greenawalt  
Andrew T. Jackson  
Raymond O'Connor  
Raymond Waldron  
Joseph A. Calabria  
Richard Haas  
Rudolph Tietz  
Carlos Ballard  
Wilbert Sexauer  
Kenneth Hoffman  
Sid Morris  
David Allen  
James Rice  
Donald Earnest  
John Howard  
Robert L. McGeorge  
Howard W. Camp  
Daniel L. Banks  
Edward A. Auerbach  
Melvin Aldridge  
John Pariza  
Carol Camp  
William Diefenbach  
Robert Hartley  
Charles Carafona  
Tom Thiel  
Ronald Sears  
Richard Onoravole  
Don Feldman  
H. Weldin Neff  
Charles Travers  
Murdoch Ford  
James Stark  
Ronald W. Busser

### CHAPTER

181 Kansas #1 (KS)  
186 St. Charles County (MO)  
199 Manasota (FL)  
209 Laredo KWVA 1950 (TX)  
210 Brevard County (FL)  
213 Hector J. Cafferata Jr. (NJ)  
215 GEN Walton H. Walker (TX)  
221 Twin Cities (TX)  
249 COL. Joseph C. Rodriguez (TX)  
251 Saginaw/Frankenmuth (MI)  
255 SGT Harold F. Adkison (SC)  
256 Norville B. Finney (MI)  
258 North Rhode Island (RI)  
259 Central Indiana (IN)  
267 GEN James A Van Fleet (FL)  
270 Sam Johnson (TX)  
281 Rolla #9 (MO)  
282 Maui No Ka Oi (HI)  
286 East Texas (TX)  
286 Piney Woods (TX)  
288 SSGT Archie Van Winkle (AK)  
296 Cayuga County (NY)  
297 Plateau (TN)  
306 West Michigan (MI)  
307 Northern Wyoming (WY)  
310 Olympic Peninsula (WA)  
312 Antietam (MD)  
313 Shenandoah Valley (VA)  
315 Southern Oregon (OR)

### CONTACT

Don Dyer  
Bob Peitz  
Thomas Hannon  
Arnaldo Gutierrez  
Mickey Totolo  
Leonard Speizer  
William Hoyle  
Charles Terry  
Roy Aldridge  
Heil M. Rockwell Jr.  
C. Clyde Hooks  
Vincent Napoletano  
Richard St. Louis  
Tine Martin  
Richard Davis  
J. D. Randolph  
Forrest O'Neal  
Warren Nishida  
Jim Gill  
Jack Roberts  
Berkley J. Ide  
John Barwinczok  
Don Eliason  
Donald H. Mahoney  
Paul Rodriguez Jr.  
Gerald P. Rettela  
Wayne Winebrenner  
Billy Scott  
Dan Warden

## FREE BOOKS AVAILABLE FOR TELL AMERICA PROGRAMS

At the annual meeting in Washington DC last month, I handed out copies of a new book titled "Korean War-Education for Students" that has been written and published by the South Korean Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs. The KWVA has been supplied with about 7,000 of these books at no cost.

This book presents a good coverage of the Korean War and commemorates the 60th anniversary of the beginning of the war. It is designed primarily for use by middle and high school students. Our only problem is that we don't have the funds to pay postage to send them out to all who might want them. We hope this problem will be resolved when the Legacy

Foundation is formed and money becomes available for the Tell America activities.

In the meantime, I realize that many chapters are getting ready for their autumn Tell America programs and can use them now. I will be glad to send these books to chapters which will pay the postage. They are in boxes of 200 and are suitable for mailing at the media postage rate of \$20-

25 dollars per box, depending on the destination.

I can send in smaller quantities if necessary.

Please contact me at larry.kinard@yahoo.com or telephone 682-518-1040 if you have an interest in receiving books for use in your Tell America program.

*Larry C. Kinard  
2108 Westchester Dr.,  
Mansfield, TX 76063-5322*

## 11 – GREATER DANBURY AREA [CT]

Frank Heffelfinger and Art Sheehan were again invited to address the current junior class of Masuk High School, Monroe, CT on June 15, 2010. The program was arranged by the History/Social Studies Department at the urging of class members who realized that the Korean War era was a topic given little attention by school media facilities anywhere. They

were pleased to have actual veterans of that conflict to speak with.

Sheehan and Heffelfinger gave a similar talk there in May, 2007 and expect to be invited back again in the fall of 2010. A video was made of their most recent presentation.

*Brendan Sniffin  
Chapter President  
P. O. 2632, Danbury, CT 06813*



Frank Heffelfinger (L) and Art Sheehan of Ch 11 at Masuk High [CT] presentation

## 105 – CENTRAL NEW YORK [NY]

On 28 May, Jim Low and John Laura went to the ELMS School in Syracuse, NY. They told a small group of eighth grade pupils about their experiences in WWII and Korea. Other veterans have done the same with small groups.

“To thank all you veterans who have participated and contributed to our learning expedition at

ELMS (Expeditionary Learning Middle School) and, more importantly, thank you to all veterans who have sacrificed for each one of us,” the school had an Exhibition Night Wednesday June 8, 2010 at the Onondaga County War Memorial in the Memorial Hall.

It started with the Pledge of Allegiance. That was followed by

remarks from the school principal, Mr. Burns. The eighth grade students set up tables with sections for WWII, Korean, Gulf, Afghanistan and Iraq War veterans.

At each section a student read a letter or memento from a combat veteran of the war. Veterans, parents and guests listened to the student and asked questions. The session ended with a tour of the Medal of Honor room and the Wall of Honor, which lists names of veterans from the wars with a star after those killed in action.

A couple weeks later, on 10 June, Laura and Low presented a “Tell America” session to the sixth graders at the Jamesville Dewill Middle School on. The students were very enthusiastic and asked many questions.

Low talked of his experiences as a Sergeant First Class in a Quad 50 battalion, while Laura spoke about his experiences as a dentist in the field.

*John Laura, 8 Parkington Circle,  
E. Syracuse, NY 13057, jlaura1@twcny.rr.com*



Jim Low and John Laura of Ch 105 talk to 6th graders at Jamesville Demill Middle School

Jim Low explains Quad 50 operations in Korean War during Tell America presentation at Jamesville Dewill Middle School



John Laura describes field dental work to 6th graders during Tell America presentation

Students at ELMS School in Syracuse read letters to crowd







Guests and students exchange ideas at ELMS School in Syracuse

ELMS School students show their creativity and enjoyment at ELMS School session



## 108 - WESTERN OHIO [OH]

On 5 May 2010, in our Tell America presentation at Lehman High School, there was a Korean exchange student named Young Ah. Hong in one of the classes. She is from Daejeon (Taejeon), Korea.

She told us that when her grandfather was 14, he served in the ROK Army during the war. Wednesday, when we returned to the school, she had called him and told him about our program. She said all he could do was cry.

She gave us a letter she wrote, which we are in the process of having translated. She also gave us Korean Folk refrigerator magnets depicting a Korean momasan and popasan.

Ken Williamson wrote a letter for her to take with her when she returned to her homeland. She has a very delightful personality. For us, it was a truly pleasant experience.

*Fred Shively, 415 Walnut St., Covington, OH 45318-1643, 513-473-5345*



Young Ah. Hong and teacher George Gramp at Lehman High School (Note that she signed her name in both English and Korean)



Dear Young Ah. Hong,

How wonderful it was to meet and have you in our classes at Lehman High School on May 3d and 5th. Fred Shively and myself considered this to be a very special treat and one of the highlights of all our school presentations. When you told us that your grandfather had served in the military during the war it gave a special meaning to our presentation. As we stated, we feel that the war that took place in Korea does not get the recognition it truly deserves. The fact that your grandfather was a soldier as was Fred and myself, joins us as Korean War Veterans and makes us as brothers. This is something that only veterans can understand. If I had the opportunity I would be honored to meet your grandfather and shake the hand of a fellow veteran of that time.

Korea is a beautiful country that was devastated during the war but the spirit of the people was not broken and from the ashes of war emerged a new Korea that is now the jewel of the orient. I try my best to make sure that all persons I talk to are aware of this. The people of the Republic of Korea are to be commended for the effort they put forth and the results that show today.

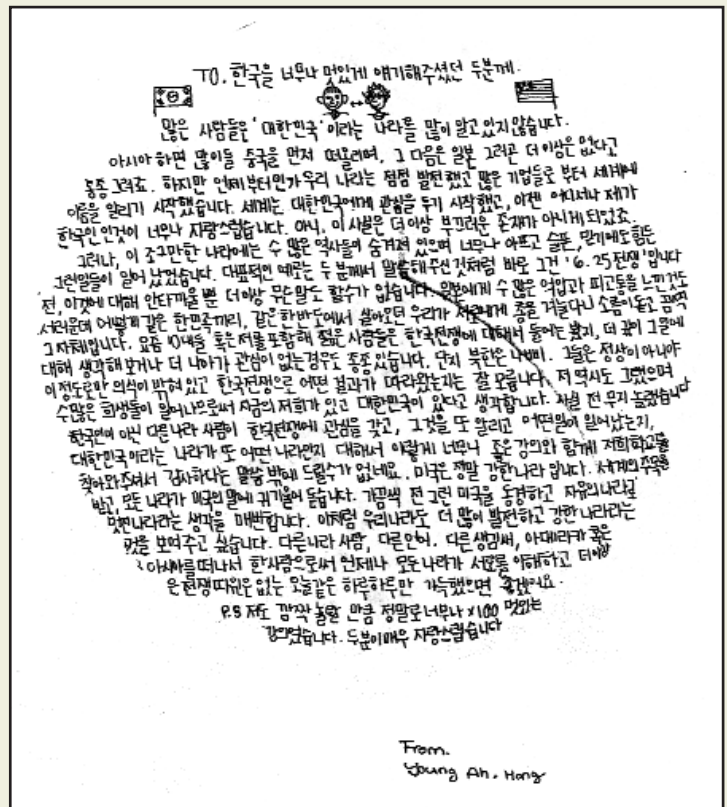
Please share this letter with your grandfather and tell him that if we had one wish it would be for peace to come over Korea from the Yalu River to the city of Pusan.

Again, it was such a pleasure to meet you and when you return to your homeland, please take with you our best wishes for good health and a long life and the same for your our brother veteran.

Sincerely,

Ken Williamson

Ken Williamson's letter for Young Ah. Hong and her grandfather



A letter in Korean from Young Ah. Hong



## 169 – LAKE COUNTY [FL]

### Chapter awards laptop computer to Lady Lake, FL man

To commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the start of the Korean War, we have been conducting joint Tell America/special project fund drives. One of these was a July 31, 2010 drawing for a new Intel i3 laptop computer.

Roy Mauerman, of Lady Lake, Florida, won the laptop. We appreciate Roy's donation and congratulate him on his very nice new laptop. We also thank Publix Supermarkets for allowing us to set up at their stores.

Funds received from these efforts are earmarked for our recently rejuvenated Tell America program, in which we educate the youth in our schools about the Korean War, and to provide local school scholarships and support various other charitable efforts.

These efforts are also used to publicize our chapter and to recruit new members. So far in 2010, we have recruited eleven new members (20 percent growth), which is quite an achievement for this still predominately rural area of central Florida. Included in this new group of members is our first DMZ-era member, Dwight Brown. We are emphasizing DMZ-era veterans in our recruiting effort.

Dwight served as a helicopter pilot with the 2nd ID, E Co, 3rd AVN Det, 377th Med Co. He accepted the donation for the winning ticket.

Incidentally, the project netted the Chapter \$1,000.

Tom Thiel, 352-357-3943,  
kwwa169@gmail.com



Shawna Hall, Publix Supermarket Manager, The Villages, FL, Tom Thiel, Roy Mauerman, Lee and Dwight Brown (L-R)

## 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@kwwa.org

## 191 – TIDEWATER [VA]

Chaplain Leo Ruffing made a presentation about the Korean War to members of The "ExxonMobil" Retirees Association in Virginia Beach, VA. Remarkably,

all the male attendees were veterans of WWII or the Vietnam War.

Leo Ruffing, lruffing1@cox.net

Leo Ruffing tells the story of the Korean War to members of the ExxonMobil Retirees Association



Attendees at the ExxonMobil Retirees Association meeting listen to Leo Ruffing of Ch 191

## 234 – KWV OF ATLANTIC COUNTY, NJ [NJ]

Members participated in the Northfield Community Armed Forces Day activities. Principal Maria Caiafa and sixth grade Social Services teacher Mrs. Mary Ann DeVine greeted us when we arrived.

dents cheered for us as we were introduced individually. It was great to see and hear the riotous greeting.

Our local newspaper ran a story of the event. Some of the students made cards to show how they and some adults feel about us veterans.

We have a great and supportive community here in South Jersey.

John Varallo, 7 Maple Ct.,  
Oaks of Weymouth  
Mays Landing, NJ 08330-8945,  
609-476-1916,  
CJVChurch@aol.com

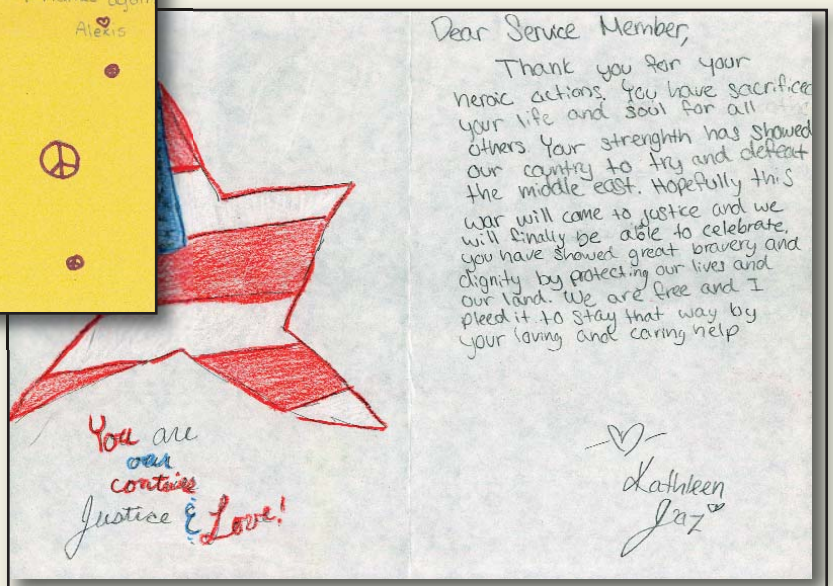
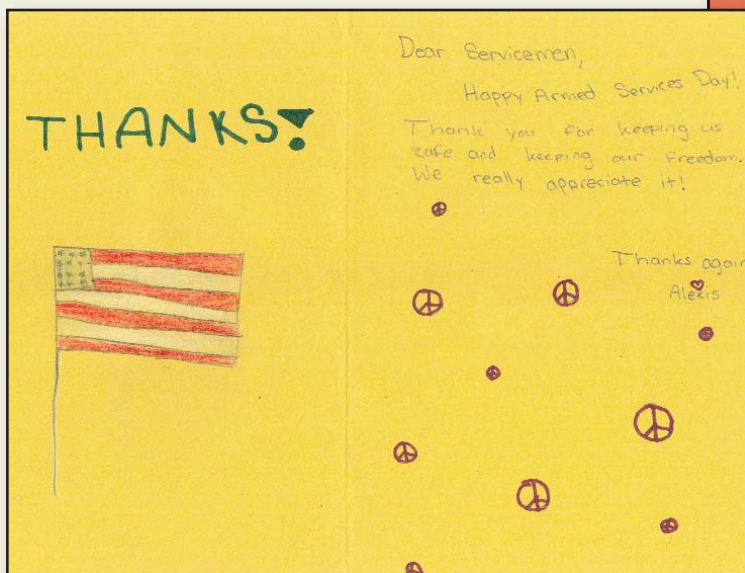
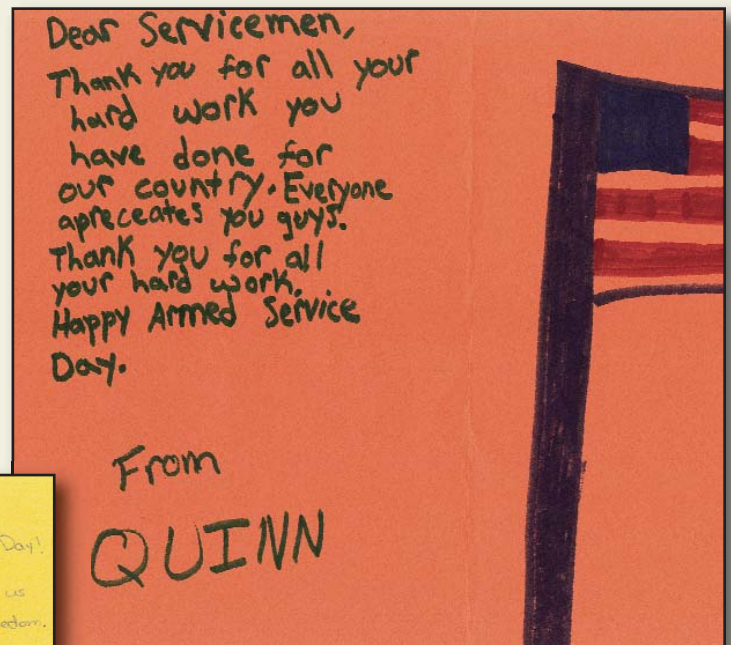
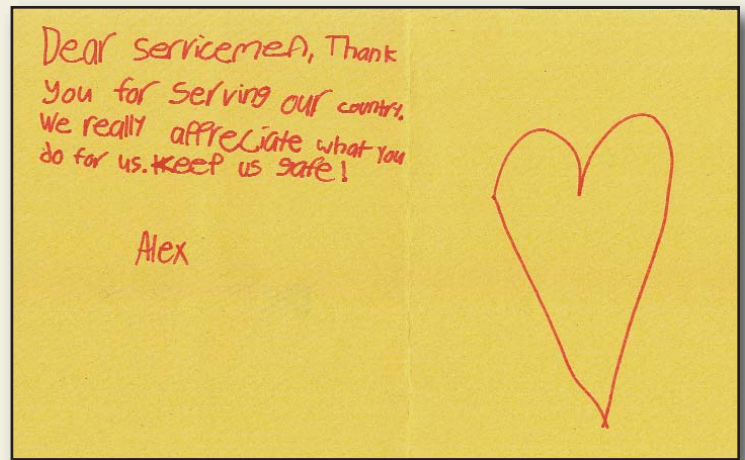
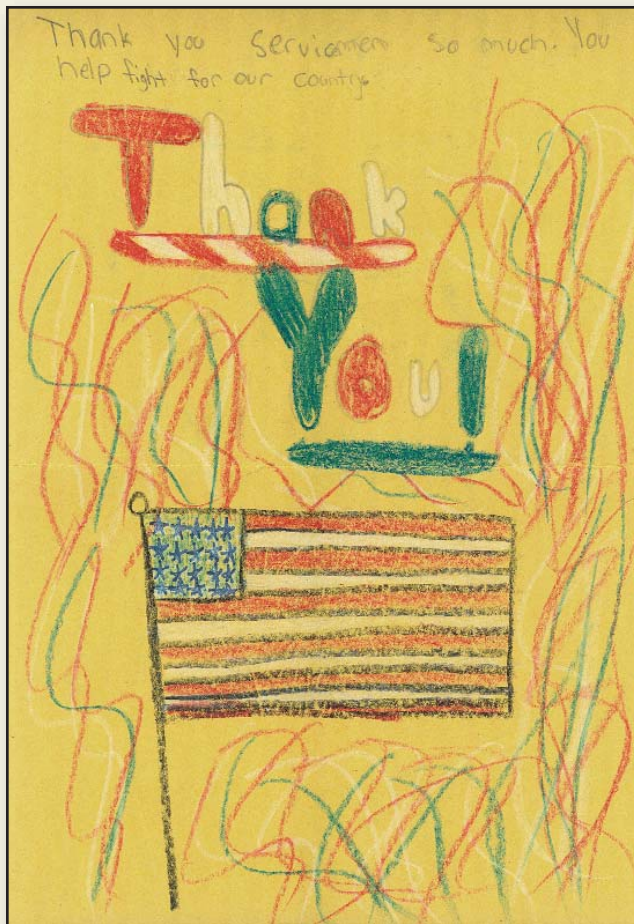
Among the veterans who participated were Charlie Terinoni, Neil Wannan, John Portock, Frank Peters, Clarence Abbot, Gil Boyer, Bill Coulter, and John Varallo. Peters, Varallo, Wannan, and Boyer are Korean War veterans.

We were not the only veterans who were invited. Veterans from several wars attended. The stu-

Continued ➤

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





Just a few of the handmade cards from Northfield Community School [NJ] students at Armed Forces Day event



# Book Review

Patience is a virtue—except when it comes to waiting for book reviews in our magazine. That is to be expected.

If there is one thing the KWVA is not short of, it is authors. Many of our members publish their memoirs, accounts of specific battles in the Korean War, unit histories, generic histories of the war, novels....in short, they produce a variety of books in large numbers. Each author has pride of authorship and wants to share his or her thoughts with as many people as possible, i.e., sell books.

One of the best ways to sell books is through positive book reviews. So, the Korean War authors submit their books to us in hopes that we will provide a review. That is fine. We do publish book reviews occasionally. The key word there is “occasionally.” Astute readers of *The Graybeards* will recognize that not every issue includes a book review, because we do not always have the space.

## The Book Reviewer's Job

Let me explain the book reviewer's “job”—and why I don't do book reviews. The latter is simple: I am too close to the KWVA authors to be objective. Therefore, I need an objective outsider to review books, one who will do the “job” out of the goodness of her heart for Korean War veterans/authors. So, here is a bit about our “Staff Book Reviewer.”

- Our book reviewer is a volunteer—and a highly qualified one at that. (She has an EdD degree, i.e. a doctorate degree in education.)

- She does a review only when I ask her to—which is when I have space available.

- Our reviewer does not receive any compensation, except for the “thanks” she receives from grateful authors whose books she reviews.

So, if you would like your book reviewed, send us a copy. We will be happy to get to it as space permits. All we ask is that you be patient. Yours is not the only book we have to review. And, remember, patience is a virtue.

## An Alternative To A Review

If you cannot wait for a review, there is an alternative. Place a paid ad in our magazine.

Many writers have done that and, by all accounts, have gotten good results. Contact our Advertising Manager, Frank Bertulis (see p. 2), for our ad rates.

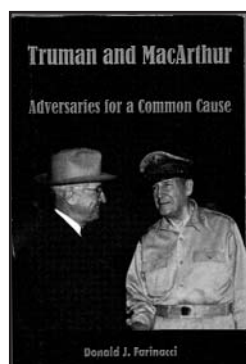
## Mini-Reviews

As I mentioned earlier, we will try to reduce our “to be reviewed” backlog through a series of “mini-reviews.” Here are the first of them.

### *Adversaries for a Common Cause.*

*Farinacci, Donald. Truman and MacArthur*

Bennington, VT, Merriam Press, 2010. 259 pp., ISBN: 978-0-557-40902-0



This book is an excellent treatment of the political differences between and among military and civilian leaders during the Korean War, specifically President Harry S. Truman and General Douglas MacArthur. Farinacci examines the root causes of the rift between the two and their supporters, how they affected the conduct of the war, public opinion regarding the men, etc. He interweaves detailed descriptions of some of the turning points of the war from its onset until March 1951, when Truman finally relieved MacArthur of his duties.

Farinacci goes well beyond the “here is what happened” aspect of the tug-of-war between Truman and MacArthur. He digs deep to establish why it happened—and why it could not have been avoided. Farinacci explains through crystal-clear analysis how their inability to work together affected the other players in the drama, e.g., Almond, Ridgway, O. P. Smith, Dean Acheson, and the rest of the cast seeking a positive outcome from the Korean War.

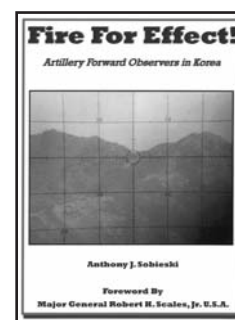
The real value of the book lies in Farinacci's “asides,” in which he focuses on key points of the war that are often ignored by Korean War scholars, e.g., the battles of Chip'yong-ni and Wonju. And, he just drops in the reference to the UN's offer to “hand over Formosa to Communist China if it

would agree to a Korean settlement (p. 208).” Farinacci leaves it to the reader to follow up on such statements. Serious students of the war will do just that—but not until they have read the rest of Truman and MacArthur: *Adversaries for a Common Cause*, which is well worth the time and effort.

### *Fire For Effect! Artillery Forward Observers in Korea.*

*Sobieski, Anthony J.*

Bennington, VT, authorhouse, 2005. 259 pp. ISBN 1-4208-3836-9



Anyone who wants to learn about the role of artillery in the Korean War can start with this book. The author knows whereof he speaks. He was an artilleryman with over 34 years of service. His father served in the Korean War with the Second Infantry Division. Their combined backgrounds provide an excellent backdrop for the book.

Actually, it's two books. The first part provides a primer on the role of Forward Observers and a plethora of definitions related to their work. As Sobieski wrote, “To help understand the role of artillery and specifically of the Forward Observer in Korea, the need for a general understanding of the knowledge required by the Artillery Forward Observer is given below.” That sets the stage. He complements that intro with a list of U.S. Army and Marine Corps artillery battalions and associated units that served in the Korean War, most of which are covered by at least one interview in the following chapters. The following chapters are the crux of the book.

If anyone ever had any illusions about the dangers FOs faced in Korea, Sobieski dispels them. Rather, the narrators do. They tell some harrowing stories about their jobs, which include some interesting observations. Readers will learn, for example, that Ethiopian troops were promised “a place and

Continued on page 79





# Recon Missions

## Any "Persuaders" in the Audience?

I served in Korea from June 1951 to June 1952 with the 17th FA BN Btry B, also known as the "Persuaders." After I spent about two weeks hauling ammunition and stringing barbed wire on the Kansas line, Lt. Edminston asked me if I would like to transfer to fire direction center.

I told him I would welcome the job. This turned out to be the one of the best jobs I had while in Korea, even though it was a 24/7 assignment.



Capt. Stivers, Btry Cmdr.,  
17th FA BN, Btry B



Lt. Edminston and Jimmy Baker, orphan adopted by Baker Co., with First Sergeant in background



Sgt. Gail Fasse with  
Jimmy Baker at 8th  
Artillery

The 17th was assigned to the 8th Army and further assigned to U. S. divisions within the 1st and 9th Corps. We spent some time around Kumsong and Heartbreak Ridge. Captain Stivers, from IL, was our battery commander.

I have enclosed some pictures taken while I was in Korea. Maybe someone will recognize them. If anyone remembers the 17th FA BN, you can get in touch with me.

Gail E. Fasse, 504 NW Durango Ct., Blue Springs,  
MO 64014, 816-427-5330, [gailfasse@att.net](mailto:gailfasse@att.net)



Sgt. Gail Fasse at Exec Post

## 32nd QM Base Depot – 55 QM Depot, 530th Service Co. – MHE – Shop?

Who are the Soldiers in the photo with Jerry Simonar? (He is seated in the front.) Please let him know.

Jerry Simonar, 1619 Main Street, Luxemburg, WI,  
920-845-2555 or 920-845-5151  
[simonar2@centuryel.net](mailto:simonar2@centuryel.net)



Who are these members of 32nd QM Base Depot – 55 QM Depot, 530th Service Co., MHE – Shop with Jerry Simonar?



# Welcome Aboard!

## New Members of the Korean War Veterans Association

### ALABAMA

LR42392 JOHN H. ANDERSON  
R042306 WILLIAM L. GUNNELLS  
R042442 THOMAS W. MCCLELLAN  
R042377 JOHN F. MORASH SR.  
R042292 MAURICE NIEVES  
LR42273 DAVID W. REANEY  
R042356 EDGAR A. STEVENS

### ALASKA

LR42295 DOROTHY K. ROGGEVEEN  
LR42367 JOHN J. TRAUTNER

### ARIZONA

LR42368 ALBERT J. COOTS  
R042422 CHARLES R. ZEEK

### CALIFORNIA

R042315 LAWRENCE M. BAGDAN  
A042310 JOSHUA I. BASHIOUM  
A042343 RYAN BETHEA  
R042323 HERBERT FINKELSTEIN  
A042363 MERLE E. FINNEGAN  
R042314 LIM S. HALL  
R042291 KEITH E. KENNEDY  
R042410 WARREN G. LE GARIE  
R042361 DALE C. LUEDTKE  
R042335 MERVYN D. MAURATH  
R042389 HAROLD J. MAYFIELD  
R042318 HECTOR S. POMPA  
R042350 JESUS J. RAMIREZ  
R042391 MICHAEL A. SABOL  
R042388 TOMAS E. SCHUYLER  
LR42276 FRED N. SUTTER JR.  
R042293 JUDY W. TARTER

### COLORADO

R042369 JAMES E. H. CLOSE  
R042307 JUAN C. GARCIA  
R042303 CLARENCE L. 'CAL' KOBRIN

### CONNECTICUT

LR42287 JAMES W. BUSSEY  
R042290 ROBERT T. HEID  
R042399 JOSEPH W. HENDRON  
R042280 GERALD J. NAVES  
R042393 RICHARD F. PAGANO

### FLORIDA

A042366 NORMA O. AKINS  
LR42317 RICHARD E. BARHAM  
LR42434 DANIEL V. CAHOON  
R042400 BOYD R. CAMPBELL  
LR42446 ROBERT A. CROSSMAN  
A042445 JOSEPH DI BERARDINO  
R042439 RAYMOND J. EDWARDS  
R042417 FRANCIS E. GIBBONS  
R042418 THEODORE W. GRIESINGER  
R042401 CHARLES H. GUNNOE  
R042419 J. DOUGLAS HORTON  
R042372 ROBERT C. KOHLI  
R042415 MAURICE LAMOTHE

R042406 WILLIAM K. LAPLANTE  
R042449 NORMAN C. LINDAS  
R042427 GEORGE L. LINGENFELTER  
R042420 RAYMOND L. MONK  
R042437 JOHN H. MOORE  
R042448 RICHARD PADGETT  
R042447 JIN S. REICHARD  
R042414 ALFRED L. ROTHFUSS  
R042319 D. A. SCHLUMBOHM  
R042354 HAROLD V. SELLEY  
LR42382 WILLARD A. SMITH JR.  
R042416 WAYNE R. STEMPLE  
R042360 MAX STUMBORG  
LR42451 PAUL R. VARNES  
R042450 SIDNEY H. WILLIAMS

### GEORGIA

R042327 J. STANFORD FISHER  
R042316 VINCENT MELILLO  
P042370 GEORGE F. PENNINGTON  
R042429 MACON M. WHITE

### HAWAII

R042325 STANLEY S. FUJII  
LR42302 KENNETH R. JOYNER SR.  
R042281 ROLAND M. VIEIRA

### IDAHO

R042346 ALLAN J. CERIALE  
R042359 BURTON P. HUISH

### ILLINOIS

R042324 WALTER R. CANNON  
LR42421 CHARLES W. HEIPLE JR.  
R042338 ROBERT L. VARSALONA  
R042378 ROBERT C. VOSS

### INDIANA

R042431 WILLIAM H. HAMBROCK

### KANSAS

R042394 PHILIP W. FEEHAN  
R042348 HUGH A. SPRAGUE

### KENTUCKY

LR42331 ROBERT S. HOWE

### LOUISIANA

LR42351 JOHN MELANCON JR.

### MARYLAND

R042398 ROBERT J. DALTON  
R042438 JAMES F. DRAY  
R042328 MICHAEL J. FASANELLA  
A042386 NANCY J. SPRING  
R042345 GEORGE O. WARRENFELTZ  
R042423 WILLIAM W. WITTLER

### MASSACHUSETTS

R042397 RALPH E. CAMPBELL  
R042373 DAVID H. KENNEDY  
R042332 ROBERT S. MABLE  
R042374 DANIEL R. PIANTAGGINI  
R042375 JOHN M. SCANNELL

### MICHIGAN

R042301 RUSSELL G. COLE  
R042285 JACK L. CUSTER  
R042428 THOMAS F. KEARNEY  
R042432 RICHARD SAWICKI

### MINNESOTA

A042308 LINDSAY M. BASHIOUM  
A042309 RALPH W. BASHIOUM  
R042349 MICHAEL C. CASEY  
R042305 BENJAMIN S. JAFFRAY  
R042286 JAMES C. LIEBL  
LR42347 DONALD E. STEMPE  
R042341 RALPH R. WHEATON

### MISSISSIPPI

R042435 CHARLES E. BURCHFIELD  
R042333 PAUL R. CLINE  
R042358 CHARLES R. DUKE  
R042355 ATWOOD T. PARNELL  
R042340 HARRY R. GADD  
R042409 ELBERT D. 'DUANE' HILL  
LR42330 JAMES R. VIELBIG

### NEBRASKA

A042304 DAVID L. HENDEE

### NEW JERSEY

R042396 ROBERT C. ECKMAN  
R042411 JOHN E. MOSKO  
LR42408 ROBERT J. O'TOOLE

### NEW MEXICO

R042312 FOGEL R. CAVIN JR.  
R042279 JOHN G. CRITES

### NEW YORK

R042381 HAROLD R. BOERKE  
R042353 JOHN BOOR  
A042275 MARIE A. BUSHER  
R042297 JOHN O. EVERY  
R042443 HENRY W. GRONEZNIAC  
R042337 HAROLD W. KRAMBECK  
R042364 DANIEL A. MAGUIRE  
R042365 JERROLD ROSEN  
R042362 STANLEY G. RUSHKOSKI  
R042282 ITALO SGARAGLIA  
R042380 CARMINE J. VICCICA

### NORTH CAROLINA

R042371 JAMES J. CHAJKOWSKI  
R042334 FRED E. FLETCHER  
R042440 RAY M. FORE  
R042311 S. LLOYD GANN  
R042436 NORWOOD K. OATES

### OHIO

R042413 RONALD D. DUTTON  
R042357 HOWARD G. MENZEL  
R042412 GEORGE A. REHM  
R042289 HOWARD F. ROBINSON  
R042274 CARL D. THORNTON

### OKLAHOMA

LR42329 DOW W. MCCARTY  
R042383 WILLIAM J. STEWART

### PENNSYLVANIA

R042326 JOHN J. FAGAN  
LR42296 THOMAS F. GARMAN  
R042430 DAVID C. GOURLEY  
R042425 LOUIS M. KRAMER SR.  
R042278 CHARLES T. THOMPSON  
LR42441 ROBERT A. VERTACNIK

### RHODE ISLAND

A042344 RICHARD F. ANDREWS

### SOUTH CAROLINA

R042313 JAMES I. BROWN JR.

### SOUTH DAKOTA

R042322 VERN L. ANTHONY  
R042444 JOE BROWN THUNDER  
R042300 JAMES H. ENGLAND

### TENNESSEE

R042395 CHARLIE B. BOHN  
LR42407 JAMES W. DUTCHER  
LR42342 JOE HENDRICKS FOX  
LR42433 JOHN UNDERWOOD JR.  
A042321 TAE-HUN YOON

### TEXAS

LR42402 LEON L. ANDERSON  
R042376 JOSEPH E. ARNOSKY  
R042284 HERMAN L. BAUMAN  
R042336 JAMES M. BINGHAM  
A042384 EDUARDO BOTELLO  
R042298 JAMES H. CAWYER  
R042403 ALBERT D. FARR  
R042390 WILLIAM D. FRANK  
LR42294 JOHN J. JAHODA  
LR42352 WILLIAM H. KREILICK  
R042379 CHRISTIAN F. LAMPE JR.  
R042283 DONALD G. MCMILLAN  
A042405 BROCKLEY K. MOORE  
R042277 JOHNNY NAVARRO  
P042288 E. N. PANTAZIS  
LR42404 HANSFORD B. SMITH  
LR42339 LEON D. VANDERWATER  
R042320 HOMER L. WALKER  
LR42299 DALE E. 'WHITEY' WHITESITT

### UTAH

R042426 WILLIAM J. DUMAS

### VIRGINIA

A042385 STEVEN G. SPRUILL  
R042424 EDWIN L. TISDALE

### WASHINGTON

R042272 WILLIAM A. CONDON

### WISCONSIN

R042387 DAVID H. ALBERT



# Members in the



## Members of Mid-Florida Chapter

Several Korean War veterans were featured in a recent article by Susan Jacobson in the Orlando [FL] Sentinel. Among them were Tom and Marian Roberts of Winter Park, Bob Balzer of Deland, and Grady Reichard, of Maitland, who served two tours in Korea during the war.

Jacobson interviewed the veterans at an event organized by the Mid-Florida Chapter (CID 173). Among the attendees were members of the local Korean community.

One paragraph in the article sums up Koreans' gratitude for UN intervention in the war:

The ceremony was meaningful to Pauline Yi, 52, who is from South Korea and married to a South Korean man born during the war. She said she is grateful to the American people for their sacrifice and for coming to the aid of her country. "We are so lucky."

Bob Balzer, who submitted the article, noted that "We had a 45-piece orchestra, and Koreans cooked for and fed 400 people."

Ironically, Balzer was pictured in the newspaper article, which we cannot duplicate here, article saluting with his left hand. He explained that, "I just had my shoulder operated on and had to salute with my left hand!"

Reach Bob Balzer at 811 Orangewood Ave.  
Deland, FL 32724-2587, 407-822-9068

## Tennessee veterans celebrated

The Knoxville [TN] News carried an editorial posted at midnight on 24 August headlined "Korean War veterans are due recognition." It began with this paragraph:

American soldiers involved in the Korean War 60 years ago this summer have finally begun to win deserved recognition in recent years. The recognition comes, unfortunately, as many of those who fought there and served during that time are passing from the scene.

The editorial quoted several Korean War veterans, including two KWVA members, John D. Cannon and Leroy Rogers, both of Maryville, TN. Rogers is very active in promoting matters related to the war. The writer noted:

Veterans of the Korean War from East Tennessee gathered in Maryville recently to share their memories while observing the 60th anniversary of the beginning of that brutal conflict....Leroy Rogers, a Maryville veteran whose letters to the editor in recent years have helped East Tennesseans remember its Korean War veterans, put the annual reunion together. He said the turnout on July 31 was "the most we've had, and most of those here had never been to a reunion."

The conclusion of the editorial summarized what many Korean War veterans have been saying for years:

At the same time, the war demonstrated that Americans would stand and fight when the larger issue of freedom was threatened, as it was in Asia in 1950.

That is all the more reason to remember the soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen who answered their country's call between 1950-53 and ensure they are never forgotten.

Those words not only apply to the readers of the *Knoxville News*,

but people everywhere who still don't have a deep appreciation for what Korean War veterans did 60 years ago.

**Editor's Note:** One entry in the editorial was a bit puzzling. It quoted a veteran who described himself as "a physician's assistant with the 3rd Marine Division near the Manchurian border." He recalled that, in minus-40 degree temperatures, "I had to carry morphine in my mouth to keep it from freezing." According to the lineage of the Third Marine Division:

Deactivated 28 December 1945

1952-1964

Reactivated 7 January 1952 at Camp Pendleton, California as the 3rd Marine Division.

Redeployed during August 1953 to Camp Gifu, Japan. Redeployed during February 1956 to Camp Courtney, Okinawa

*That piece of history precludes any 3rd Marine Division Marines from being in Korea at the time of which the veteran spoke, presumably in late 1950 at the Chosin Reservoir. And physician's assistants? Were there any of them in Korea, at least with that title?*

*Just wondering.*

## Storden man [Paul Steen] succeeds in push for Korean Service plate

By DAVE FJELD

Cottonwood County Citizen, Windom [MN]

For years, Paul Steen has picked up his license plates for his Chevy pickup just like anyone else — at the local Deputy Registrar's office.

But last week, the Storden man was receiving his newest plates in Worthington from Sen. Jim Vickerman of Tracy. Understandably, these weren't just your average, everyday, run-of-the-mill Minnesota license plates.

No, these were the very first Korean Defense Service plates issued by the Minnesota Department of Motor Vehicles. And Steen, who served in an ammunition unit near the Demilitarize Zone in Korea in 1961 and '62, was receiving them because of his efforts and work with Vickerman in having them created.

"I was very well pleased with the process," Steen said of the bill's passage by the Minnesota Legislature. "This is in recognition of (veterans) service there.

"When I noticed that there were a number of other states that already had (this plate), I felt that lended support to Minnesota also needing such a plate."

Minnesota becomes the ninth state, to offer such license plates to veterans. Other states include Oklahoma, Illinois, Maine and Oregon.

And, yes, the Korean Defense Service plate is different than the Korean War plates some veterans already have on their vehicles. The Korean War plates in Minnesota are for those veterans who served in the war through January of 1955.

The Korean Defense Service license plates are for those veterans who served for at least 30 days in Korea after July 27, 1954. Steen was one of those veterans.

Today he is a member of the Korean War Veterans Association Chapter 41, the Frozen Chosin of Mankato. He also points out that about 28,500 service personnel are still serving in Korea today.

"This actually winds up being a 'boots-on-the-ground' plate

because you actually had to be in Korea to get the plates,” he says. “If you have soldiers who served during this time who weren’t actually in Korea then they wouldn’t be eligible.”

The plates feature the Korean Defense Service medal to the left of the plate letters and numbers. The words “Korean Defense Service” are written across the bottom.

Work on passing the license plates in the Minnesota Legislature began in January when the 2010 legislative session started. Steen had hoped to have the plates approved a year earlier, but it was too late in the 2009 session to bring the bill forward.

However, early in the 2010 session Vickerman introduced the bill on the Senate floor. He recalls a chilly reception from fellow senators when he discussed introducing the bill.

“I was told that the state didn’t need another license plate and that most legislators would say, ‘No,’ “ Vickerman recalls. “But I said that if I get it on the senate floor, they won’t vote against it.

“I said, ‘I’m going to bring it and I’m going to get it passed.’ You’ve just got to put your mind to it and do it!”

Vickerman’s experience in the legislature helped in getting the bill passed. Ultimately, it was approved as part of a much larger transportation bill.

Meanwhile, Rep. Rod Hamilton of Mt. Lake introduced the bill in the Minnesota House.

Steen was at the State Capitol in May when Gov. Tim Pawlenty signed the plates into law. After the bill was signed, Pawlenty began asking questions of the veterans who served in post-war Korea. Steen and a couple of other veterans who were on hand for the signing shared stories of their service in Korea. Some of the stories were revelations to Pawlenty.

“There was some sincerity we could see with Governor Pawlenty,” Steen said.

Steen believed the plates are a way of recognizing veterans who served in post-war Korea. Even though it was “peace time” in Korea when Steen served in 1961 and ’62, he was among soldiers who saw more than peace-keeping duty.

“I was under machine gun fire when there was a coup to overthrow the government from the 16th to the 21st of May (1961),” Steen said, noting that Pawlenty was surprised that he had never read

about such post-war action.

“I told the governor that there are so many things — firefights and what have you — that have never been published.”

However, their service is not forgotten and is visibly remembered through license plates of which a Cottonwood County man played a big part.

*This article and photos are published with the permission of the Cottonwood County Citizen, Windom, MN.*

## Vermilion County IL declares July a month of commemoration

### PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, ON JUNE 25, 1950 THE KOREAN WAR BEGAN WITH THE DECISION OF PRESIDENT HARRY S. TRUMAN AND THE UNITED NATIONS TO DEFEND THE NATION OF SOUTH KOREA FROM AGGRESSION BY NORTH KOREA, AND ENDED BY CEASEFIRE ON JULY 27, 1953, AND

WHEREAS, THE ARMED SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN OF THE UNITED STATES ANSWERED THAT CALL TO SERVICE AFTER SO RECENTLY DEFENDING OUR NATION AND FREEDOMS IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR, AND

WHEREAS, SUCH SERVICE TO THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM AND INTERNATIONAL ORDER AND STABILITY WAS AT A GREAT COST AND SACRIFICE BY OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN SERVICE AND THEIR FAMILIES, SUCH SACRIFICE STILL REMEMBERED TODAY, AND

WHEREAS, IT IS VITAL THAT THE SACRIFICE AND SERVICE RENDERED BY OUR VETERANS OF THIS WAR OUGHT NEVER TO BE FORGOTTEN AND IN FACT THEIR SERVICE AND SACRIFICE AS WELL AS THEIR FAMILIES, MUST BE PERMANENTLY REMEMBERED AND HONORED, AND

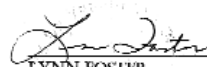
WHEREAS, THERE IS A GREAT DANGER THAT AS TIME PASSES MEMORIES OF SUCH VALOR MAY FADE OR THE HISTORY OF THEIR ENDEAVORS BE PUT ASIDE OR FORGOTTEN,

It is therefore hereby proclaimed that the month of July shall be designated in Vermilion County Illinois as a month to commemorate veterans of the Korean War and their families and that such veterans and families shall be remembered in thought and in prayer especially during the month of July now and hereafter in the years to come, so that this war may never become the ‘forgotten war,’ nor any veteran left unremembered but always honored in thought and prayer.

SO PROCLAIMED AND DESIGNATED BY THE COUNTY BOARD OF VERMILION COUNTY ILLINOIS AT ITS MEETING ON THE 10th DAY OF August, 2010.

  
JAMES "MOUSE" MCMAHON  
VERMILION COUNTY BOARD CHAIRMAN

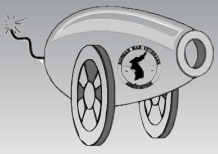
ATTEST:

  
LYNN FOSTER  
VERMILION COUNTY CLERK



Paul Steen displays Minnesota Korean Defense Service plate





# Feedback/Return Fire

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

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

## Were the Chinese soldiers in Korea formerly Nationalist troops?

I would like to talk to the Chinese you refer to in the May/June issue re "volunteers" in Korea. Our info about the "volunteers" at the time was that they were formerly Nationalist army troops who were forced into the first waves to be killed off for Mao and his fellow gangsters.

I have a good friend here who was one of the first U.S. troops in Korea. He said the first Chinese POWs told him that. Some were taught by American Missionaries and spoke good English.

Davis Newman

**Editor's Note:** We would like to learn more about Mr. Newman's theory. Is there any truth to it? Anyone who would like to comment on the subject is invited to send their ideas to *Graybeards* Editor, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067. And, just for clarification purposes, the young man was talking about today's Chinese military, not about the Korean War version. I should have made that point clearer in my editorial comments.

## A fishing boat should have fish aboard

I'd like to find some of my buddies from 1961-62 at K6/Camp Humphries. I was in the HQ Battery of the 4th Missile Battalion, 44th Air Defense Artillery, 38th Artillery Brigade. We had nuclear Nike/Hercules in six batteries, which were in turn protected by Hawk missile batteries.

When I was there, our unit was near the west gate at K6. One night, a fishing boat with four NK guerillas aboard sailed into the bay a couple miles west of K6, on the Yellow Sea. A Korean working at our major radar site on a hill adjacent to the bay saw the boat on radar and alerted the OIC that the boat shouldn't be there.

When the OIC asked why not, the Korean said a fishing boat would be full when returning, and with the tide out, as it was, there wasn't enough water depth to accommodate a returning fishing boat.

The OIC alerted the Security and Military Police. A firefight ensued when the boat reached the shore near the radar site. One guerilla went back into the water and was not found, two were captured, and one was killed, as I recall.

Roger Digel-Barrett, Battalion Supply clerk/driver,  
533 Ballman Rd., Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-1429,  
740-927-6083, Digbar1@yahoo.com

## Three bridges named

On p. 29 of the May/June issue there was an article about the



A sign outside "C" Co., 1st Tank Bn., 1st Mar Div's CP in Korea

Freedom Gate Bridge. It was a railroad bridge which we used to run our tanks over. The Libby Bridge, also mentioned, was new. The pontoon bridge used to cross the Imjin River was the Spoonbill Bridge. I crossed it many times.

Tom O'Halloran, 1st Tank Bn., 1st Mar Div, 1952-53,  
P. O. Box 69, Phelps, WI 54554

## White Sands Proving Ground Signal Corps Activities

The Korean War and the "Broomstick Scientists" article by George N. Gianopoulos in the March-April 2007 *Graybeards* Magazine, p. 52, caught my attention, as I, with 10 other enlisted men, occupied the first floor of the first barracks in the 1st Ordinance Guided Missile Support Battalion at this base.

Our initial assignment was TDY from Evans Lab at Fort Monmouth, NJ to modify the WWII Signal Corps Radar System 584 to support future Missile Programs at White Sands, New Mexico. During 1948-1949, we were the Signal Corps Engineering Labs Field Station No.1. In late 1949 we became the 9577th Technical Service Unit under the Command of Col David R. Guy.

All our efforts in this technical field were controlled by Dr. Ozzie Covington and technicians from Draftees (Broomstick Scientists) and contracting Electronic Industries personal.

Initially, our unit headquarters operated out of Holloman Air Force Base near Alamogordo, New Mexico. Modifications to tracking and plotting resulted in the NASA programs in later years. We had satellite tracking stations in the mountains of the missile range to track V-2s and other rocket systems.

I was the original general draftsman assigned in February 1948, and I worked at numerous jobs at Holloman Air Force Base prior to being assigned to Dr. Covington at White Sands. I start-

ed my career as a professional draftsman. I worked in the V-2 assembly building initially. As documentation of the engineering efforts increased, the drafting department grew also. We graduated to a WWII Butler Building.

In 1951, I left for further training and eventually ended up in Korea. My wife and I revisited White Sands Missile Range for the 40th Year Pioneer Group Reunion in 1985 in El Paso, TX.

Ralph E. Reynolds, LTC-AUS (Ret), 5055 Terra Lake Circle, Pensacola, FL 32507-9087, 850-497-9036, AUS8390@coxnet

### **Jack Benny, Errol Flynn, and Marjorie Reynolds**

Joseph Russo mentioned in his "Feedback" article, "Paul Douglas was just along for the ride," p. 62, July/Aug 2010, that he had seen Jack Benny in Korea. I also saw a show in Korea featuring Jack Benny when I was a member of D Co., 21st Regt., 24th Inf. Div. He was with Errol Flynn and Marjorie Reynolds. I do not remember the location of the show. I do recall that it took place in the summer of 1951, not too far from the front lines.

Marjorie Reynolds was a beautiful blonde woman who was not a big name star, but she did appear in movies and later on TV shows.

Also in the show was a comedian called "Professor Backwards." He told jokes—and could write a letter on a blackboard starting at the end and writing it backwards to the beginning without an error.

I was a Jack Benny fan. We never missed his Sunday radio show, so it was great to see him in person.

Another show that I saw featured "Grandpa Jones," Mary Klick, and Ramona. They used a big flatbed trailer for a "stage." Grandpa Jones told jokes and sang songs with the ladies. Among the songs were "Mockingbird Hill" and "That good old Mountain Dew." That show, too, was very close to the front lines, just below the hill on which we were dug in.

I saw a show at our county fair starring Grandpa Jones. He sat on the edge of the stage after it was over and signed autographs. I got his autograph and said, "I remember when you put on a show for us in Korea."

He remembered it well. "It was pretty rough over there," he replied.

From the service members' standpoints, it was great that the movie stars took the time and risked their personal safety to visit Korea to entertain the troops.

Thomas Sherry, 140 U.S. Highway 11  
Gouverneur, NY 13642

### **Memories of Hongehon**

*Re: July/August article, "Death by Trucks," by Fred Frankville, p. 65.*

I was attached to the Regt. Hdqts. Btry., 11th Marines, as a Forward Observer from January 1951 through February 1952. This article brought back lots of memories.

In May of 1951 we were going north on the Main Route and told to set up on the two highest peaks near Hongehon. We received radio messages to stay alert, because the 2nd Army Division had been cut off

As we moved up the road, it was blocked. We encountered a total disaster. Burned bodies and Army vehicles of all types were all over the area. We had to stop. We did check the bodies to see if anyone was alive; no one was. All the bodies had no boots, no weapons, and no ammo.

I do not remember seeing any other Marine units in the area at that time.

We reported back to our main unit and were told to get out of there because large Chinese units were still in the area. The incident must have just happened, because Graves Registration was nowhere to be seen and the bodies had not started to decay.

A few days later we returned to the area. It was all picked up, and we did set up near Hongehon in support of the 1st and 7th Infantry units of the 1st Marine Division. They had cleared the area of all Chinese units.

John (Jack) Kunasek, 16 Sequoia Dr., Feeding Hills  
MA 01030, nanny1639@aol.com

### **A Cross in honor of Father Kapaun**

I have a picture of a Cross and Jesus that one of the POWs carved in honor of Father Kapaun. I believe it was carved by a Jew who was also in the POW Camp. (See the photo on p. 70.)

The Cross hangs in a Wichita, Kansas high school that was named after Father Kapaun. It's called "Kapaun High School."

This past summer, in either June or July, there was a story on TV and in the newspapers that reported on an event in which people walked 60 miles from Wichita, Kansas to Pilsen, Kansas, Fr. Kapaun's home town. I believe it was in honor of the long walk that Father Kapaun took helping the other POWs along the way. Some of the people who started out on this walk had to drop out because of the heat and health reasons.

Eileen Goetz, 2710 Walnut St., Hays, KS 67601

### **A BGen in a fog...**

I enjoyed the note on page 7 of the July-August, 2010 issue concerning the shoulder patch on page 10 of the May-June, 2010, issue and Frank Carrano's note on page 61 of the July-August issue on the same subject.

Many years ago, when I was an "Army-Brat" growing up at Fort Benning, the Army Services Forces patch was described as, "A Brigadier General in a fog, surrounded by red tape."

The more things change, the more they stay the same.

Chuck MacLaughlin, 126 Valley Lakes Dr.  
Santa Rosa, CA 95409

### **Giving credit where credit is due**

We carried a story in the July/Aug 2010 issue describing a 60th Anniversary event at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, p.54. One member, Herb Potter, emailed Tom Eviston, who submitted the original story, to clarify who should receive at least some of the credit. Here is the email exchange between the two members.

*Herb to Tom*

Tom,

I enjoyed the article in the July-August issue of *The Graybeards* regarding the 60th anniversary of the start of the Korean War. But, I was disappointed that no credit was given to the Air Force Museum (renamed the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force), since that is



where the activities took place. The Museum is located at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

Herbert Potter, Indianapolis, IN,  
herbandbev2000@yahoo.com

Tom to Herb

Hi Herb,

Thank you for your email concerning the 60th anniversary of Korean War as published in the recent edition of *The Graybeards*. There was so much wonderful information available at website [www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/korea.asp](http://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/korea.asp) that the acknowledgement slipped by my attention.

There are several great links at this site that are very worthy of any Korean War veteran's attention, particularly the link to each branch of our military services, and their contributions to the war effort.

Thanks again for your input.

Best Regards,

Tom Eviston, [tompurcell6@yahoo.com](mailto:tompurcell6@yahoo.com)

### Death by truck

I have just read Fred Frankville's "Death by Truck" (July/Aug, p. 65) about the 2nd Division. I was a tank commander in a tank company of the 23rd from 5 Aug 50 until the middle of Jun 51. I disagree with some of his observations.

I recognize that Frankville was writing about one incident in the overall war. However, the 2nd Division had a great history throughout the war. Everything I note here is copied from newspaper articles I have in a scrapbook.

PUSAN BULGE: "2ND Div. Regiment makes history smashing 2nd Red Naktong Drive." HOENGSONG: "This action against a major enemy roadblock north of Hoengson, Korea on 1-2 Jan. 1951 made possible the withdrawal of elements of five ROK divisions." The 23rd received the So. Korean Presidential Citation for this action.

WONJU: "One brilliant and bloody stand by a single Allied division turned the tide of defeat in Korea and restored the morale of the retreating United Nations Army. In eight days of sub-zero cold the greatly outnumbered U.S. 2nd division doggedly met attacks with counterattacks and killed an estimated 12,000 North Korean troops—an average of 1500 each day."

"The 2nd Division also was officially credited with saving the Eighth Army from disaster when the Chinese Reds struck suddenly in North Korea in November. It held the line while other divisions escaped south from exposed positions beyond the Chong-chon River."

CHIPYONG: If the Korean War has produced a name to match those of Bunker Hill, the Alamo, Anzio, and Guadalcanal, it is that of Chipyeong. It became a military classic when an American regimental combat team and a French volunteer battalion stood up and out-fought four Chinese divisions although cut off and isolated from neighboring units. There was no attempt to withdraw or break out of this encirclement. The Chipyeong garrison held fast until help came to them. By doing this they inflicted the first major ground defeat on enemy masses since the battle of Wonju." The 23rd received the Presidential Citation for this action and also a Commendation.

CHINESE SPRING OFFENSIVE: "Reds began withdrawing from half of the Korean central front today after losing nearly 60,000 men, by

allied estimates. Most of the Red casualties were inflicted by the U.S. 2nd Division, which the communists set out to destroy. The 8th army said the 2nd Division killed or wounded 37,500 Reds in five days."

Nick Rutherford's 2nd Division took a savage pounding by most of two CCF armies (six divisions) and with scarcely a pause had launched a vigorous counterattack. Gen. Van Fleet awarded the entire 2nd Division a Presidential Unit Citation for its heroic defensive stand from May 16 to May 22. (This is the same action in which Frankville said the 23rd was overrun. It didn't happen.)

Did Ridgway tell the Army to get rid of their trucks? I would love to see that directive.

Richard Sexton, Tank Co 23rd RCT  
25736 Packard Ln., Renner, SD 57055

## Thanks for Supporting *The Graybeards*

Members are invited to help underwrite the publications costs of *The Graybeards*. All contributions in any amount are welcome. Mail your donations to KWVA Treasurer J Tilford Jones, 6958 Heatherknoll Dr., Dallas, TX 75248-5534. All contributions will be acknowledged, unless the donor specifically requests to remain anonymous. And, if you have an "In memory of" (IMO) request, include that as well. We thank you for your generous support.

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• Estate of Harry E. Batchelder	FL
---------------------------------	----

NOTE: Harry Batchelder designated in his will a contribution of \$10,000.00 to the KWVA. Members are encouraged to make similar donations through their estates. Such donations benefit the KWVA as it carries out its function as a Veterans Service Organization.



# 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.

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### 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



# KOREA: MY ARMY LIFE (1951-53)

Continued from the July-August,  
2010 Issue; Vol. 24, No. 4

By Paul Bonham

The hills all had names. The Chinese were entrenched on many of them; the Americans, Turks, Greeks, and British held many more. The Chinese forces would wait until night and then try to retake the hills by infiltrating them or by direct assault. During the time of OP Harry, a hill in the 3rd Division sector, the 9th FA Bn. would fire steady all night long. It got to be that a person off duty could sleep right through a 1,000-round barrage without waking.

On days when there would be a lull in the action, the men played softball, horseshoes, or just rested. Of course there was always care and cleaning of equipment, and the trucks were continuously bringing up ammo, fuel, and supplies to be unloaded and stored. Sometimes our ammunition dump was full. Just that quickly it would be depleted. The roads were always busy and it took a top-notch motor pool sergeant to keep all the vehicles running and ready to move at a moment's notice.

The bunkers were constantly being up-graded, and weekly inspections kept them ship-shape. At night we had movies on a hillside in the Headquarters Battery area. The hillside was located almost directly under the guns of Baker Battery. Sometimes the show was given a boost,

when 'B' Battery had a "fire mission." The theater also served as the church for the Battalion on Sunday mornings.

The time for R and R arrived none too soon. After being taken to Kimpo Air Base, we flew to Tokyo in a C-130 transport plane. There were men from all the divisions and countries involved in the fighting. We had quite a few from Belgium in our group. We stayed at the Ernie Pyle Hotel and just rested and toured the town. We called home and did some shopping at the Ginza. It was good to be in class A's for a while, but we had to get back to the front after about 10 days.

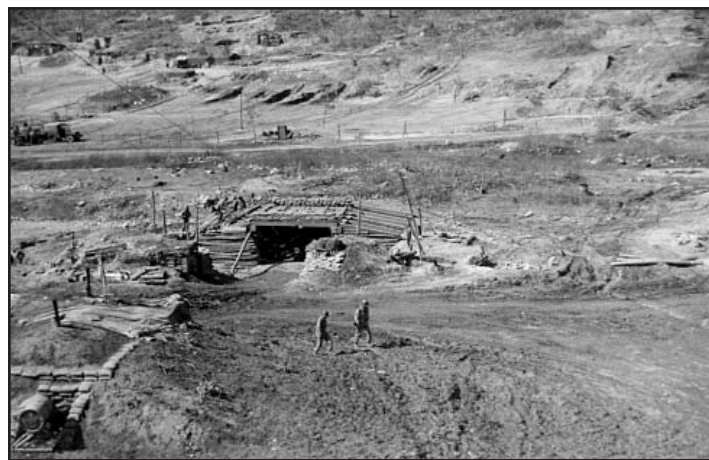
Sometime during these days, Richard and I took a Jeep and driver and went down to Kimpo Air Base at Seoul to see our cousin, Tom Laymon. He was in the

Air Force, assigned to a transport unit there. It was good to see him and catch up on the news from home. He never did come up to our area to see us. I wonder why.

The rain, snow and mud made movement slow, and the practice "RSOP'S" were sometimes a lesson in futility. However, in this time of stalemate, the practice missions kept everyone ready for all kinds of action. Firing at bunkers during the day and interdiction fire at night became a routine that we endured. The gun crews had their howitzers in great condition.

I was promoted to First Lieutenant on June 17th and named the Battery Executive Officer. I now was in charge of 6 howitzers, their respective gun crews, and the fire direction center.

#2 on the way  
courtesy of "B"  
Btry., 9th FABN,  
3rd ID in July  
1953 at Kumsong



"B" Btry. area, with crew bunker in foreground and gun bunker ahead



Capitol ROK troops moving off line on 15 July 1953 during action in Kumsong sector

In late June and the first days of July 1953, we knew something big was happening and the 3rd Infantry Division was prepared to move. First, they planned to send us into action near Chorwon. Then, the big Chinese push came in the Kumsong sector to our right, and we moved fast. The 3rd moved out in July, and we replaced a ROK Division on the line in that sector. The US 2nd Inf. Div. replaced the 3rd in the Kumwha sector.

The Chinese were sending thousands of troops south and overrunning everything in their way, including the 555th FA Bn. The troops could not tell the North Koreans and Chinese from South Korean troops. Before they were aware of it, they had Chinese troops on top of them.

When the 3rd Inf. Div. and all Ninth Corps artillery moved into a 6-mile long valley back of this front, the Corps Artillery (over 120 guns) was in that one small area. We fired VT armed shells in on top of our tanks to clear the way for the beleaguered artillerymen of the 555th to ride out on the tanks. There were eight-inch howitzers aligned next to our guns. From this time until the Armistice was signed, the guns fired around the clock and we had trail arcs dug 360 degrees.

We had heard the prisoners were released at Koje Island. It was hot and



The Bonham brothers, Paul (L) and Richard (R) in Korea in 1953

dusty one minute, and then it would rain and rain some more the next. The forward observers at the front would report Chinese troops by the hundreds and the FO's would ask for a TOT (time on target). That meant that in the next instant all 120 guns of the Corps could fire and have all the rounds explode at the same time on the same target. The Forward Observers would then exclaim, "They're all gone." This was repeated many times in the next two weeks.

There was no let up in the firing right up until 2300 hours on July 27th. The 'cease fire' came and an eerie silence extended over the entire front. There was no celebration, just a time to be wary and try to relax. During all this time the guns were in the open and everyone lived in tents.

After a few days, and all the formalities of the armistice were taken care of, the battalion moved to the rear, and the guns of the 9th Field Artillery Battalion were covered for the first time in nearly three years of continuous fighting.

During July and August, much

time was spent in training and keeping a wary eye to the north in case the North Koreans and Chinese wanted to start something again. There was time spent just keeping the equipment ready and clean.

Richard and I helped train a Korean Artillery Battalion for a few weeks. That was a unique experience, to say the least. We were able to see the discipline given out by the Korean Army officers.

A lot of the men were being rotated back to the States. Our turn came in late September. We shipped out of the Battery and left Korea from the port of Inchon on the troop ship General Grant. We crossed the Pacific Ocean without getting seasick and went under the Golden Gate Bridge and then on to Camp Stoneman, CA. All the houses looked funny with the TV antennas sticking out of them. TV's were just a novelty when we left in the fall of 1952.

The ride on a troop train was almost enjoyable. It was full of troops just back from the Far East after a year or so. The daylight part of the trip was through the majestic Rocky Mountains in southern Utah and Colorado. I remember going under the Royal Gorge Bridge in Colorado. A few of the guys missed the train after a brief stop in Salt Lake City.



St. Patrick's Day 1953 in Korea as LT Paul Bonham participates in RSOP



I went on to Camp Carson, CO for separation on October 7, 1953. My mustering out pay was \$300, and I received an advance payment of \$100. Wow!

After leaving Camp Carson with all that money in my pocket, I spent two delightful days in Casper, Wyoming with my future wife, Nancy. She was teaching there. Being so close to Denver, this gave me a chance to woo her in person and not via the post office as I had done for the previous eleven months. We had a good time together, which gave me a chance to see the people Nancy had been telling me about in all those letters.

After I left Wyoming, within two days I was back on the farm helping my Dad pick corn. It was sure good to be home for Mother's 'home cooking.'

My parents were always very positive about the fact that they had two sons in the Army. Mother was a schoolteacher who expected a job to be done right, if not the first time, then after several more tries. Dad was a farmer and an agriculture economist. He had a Masters Degree from Purdue in Agricultural Economics, and was both Richard's and my inspiration for going to Purdue.

Mother wrote to one of us every week while we were in the service. Our sister, Carolyn, was teaching in Gary, IN, and kept our '50 Buick running for us.

During all the time I was coming from California, getting separated, spending time in Wyoming, and eventually getting home, Richard had to stay in California for a court-martial case involving one of the troops under his charge as a compartment commander on the ship. He then spent some time in the hospital at Camp Carson, but was finally separated with a clean bill of health. He arrived back in Warren on October 30th, almost 3 weeks after I got home.

As a postscript to all this, after a recommendation by our commanding officers, the People of the United States awarded both of us the Bronze Star Medal for Meritorious Service against an armed enemy while with the 3rd Division Artillery in Korea. For this, I am very proud.

*Paul I. Bonham*  
5656 W State Rd 124-90  
Markle, IN 46770-9133  
(260) 694-6106

# POW/MIA INVESTIGATION

## JPAC teams return from search for missing Americans from the Korean War

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii (Aug. 17, 2010) – An investigation team from the U.S. Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) returned to Hawaii recently after searching for fallen Americans in Guangdong Province, the People's Republic of China. This was the second of two visits to Guangdong Province this year, the first occurring in April.

The investigation team successfully uncovered evidence and information associated with Americans missing as a result of a suspected crash of a U.S. aircraft in November of 1950.

The team investigated the alleged crash site and burial which is near the last known vicinity of the aircraft in question, and searched for human remains, life support, and other material evidence (personal and military issued items). Material evidence and some personal effects were found and brought back to JPAC's Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii for analysis. This material evidence is used to specifically correlate the site to the crash.

Investigation teams authenticated leads from eye witnesses, conducted field research, and gathered additional information. Their work will help set the groundwork for any future recovery teams by clearly defining the work that will be required to properly and efficiently recover the site at a later date.

The U.S. and People's Republic of China have cooperated during POW/MIA accounting missions in the past, resulting in the identification by JPAC of U.S. remains from World War II, the Korean War, the Cold War and the Vietnam War.

Falling directly under the U.S. Pacific Command, the jointly-manned organization of more than 400 military and civilian specialists has investigated and recovered missing Americans since the 1970's. To date, close to 8,000 Americans are still listed as Missing in Action from the Korean War.

The ultimate goal of the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, and of

the agencies involved in returning America's heroes home, is to achieve the fullest possible accounting of Americans lost during the nation's past conflicts. Visit JPAC on the web at [www.jpac.pacom.mil](http://www.jpac.pacom.mil)

"Until They Are Home"

This message was sent by: JPAC, 310 Worcester Ave, Bldg 45, Hickam, HI 96853

## Soldiers Missing from Korean War Identified

**Cpl. Roy Stewart**

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

He is Cpl. Roy Stewart, U.S. Army, of Jackson, Miss. His funeral will be held Tuesday at Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C. Representatives from the Army's mortuary office met with the next-of-kin of Stewart to explain the recovery and identification process and to coordinate interment with military honors on behalf of the secretary of the Army.

Stewart was assigned to Company A, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, deployed to North Korea near Kujang-dong. In late November 1950, he was captured by enemy forces and reportedly died March 14, 1951, while in captivity near Pyoktong, North Korea.

During Operation Glory in the fall of 1954, North Korea turned over 4,167 caskets including remains they claimed to be those of Stewart. This was part of an agreement in which each side would return remains of enemy soldiers. The United States returned caskets containing the remains of more than 12,000 communist soldiers. At the time the Army was unable to identify Stewart and the remains were buried as "unknown" along with 415 other service members.

In 2008, an analyst from DPMO and an independent researcher concluded they had evidence that supported identification of several unknown soldiers buried at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu. The remains were

# TEAM RETURNS FROM CHINA

exhumed in September 2008. Scientists from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command identified Stewart's remains through dental comparisons and circumstantial evidence related to the 1954 turnovers.

More than 2,000 servicemen died as prisoners of war during the Korean War. With the accounting of Stewart, 8,023 service members still remain missing from that conflict.

## Sgt. Charles P. Whitler

United States Army Sgt. Charles P. Whitler will be buried Sept. 2 in his hometown of Cloverport, Ky.

In early November 1950, Whitler was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, occupying a defensive position near the town of Unsan by the Kuryong River known as the "Camel's Head." Two enemy elements attacked the U.S. forces, collapsing their perimeter and forcing a withdrawal. Whitler's unit was involved in fighting which devolved into hand-to-

hand combat around the 3rd Battalion's command post. Almost 400 men were reported missing or killed in action following the battle.

In late November 1950, a U.S. soldier captured during the battle of Unsan reported during his debriefing that he and nine American soldiers were moved to a house near the battlefield. The POWs were taken to an adjacent field and shot. Three of the 10 Americans survived, though one later died. The surviving soldier provided detailed information on the incident location.

Analysts from DPMO developed case leads with information spanning more than 58 years. Through interviews with eyewitnesses, experts evaluated circumstances surrounding Whitler's captivity and death and researched wartime documentation of his loss.

In May 2004, a joint U.S.-North Korean team, led by the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, excavated a mass

grave near the "Camel's Head." An elderly North Korean man reported he had witnessed the death of seven or eight U.S. soldiers near that location and provided the team with a general description of the burial site.

The excavation team recovered human remains and other personal artifacts, ultimately leading to the identification of seven soldiers from that site, one of whom was Whitler.

Among other forensic identification tools and circumstantial evidence, scientists from JPAC and Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory also used dental comparisons and mitochondrial DNA - which matched that of Whitler's sister and niece - in the identification.

For additional information on the Defense Department's mission to account for missing Americans, visit the DPMO Web site at [www.dtic.mil/dpmo](http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo) or call 703-699-1420.


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Raymond L. Murray  
Chosin Reservoir,  
December 6, 1950

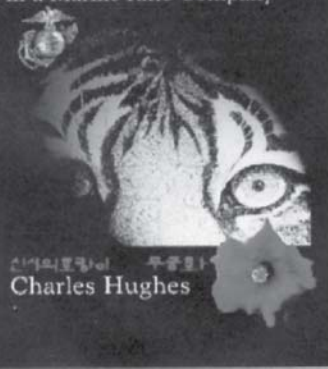


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Raymond L. Murray

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# FATHER KAPAUN

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Wichita [KS] Eagle ran an eight-part series on Father Kapaun in December 2009. Deputy Editor Tom Shine graciously offered to let us reprint the series in its entirety. We will do that in serial fashion, since the series is too long for us to include in one issue.

We offer our deep gratitude to writer Roy Wenzl and Deputy Editor Shine for permission to reprint the articles.

## This is Part V of our continuing series on Father Emil Kapaun.

The Wichita Eagle (Kansas), December 11, 2009 Wednesday

Father Emil Kapaun: As hundreds die, Kapaun rallies the POWs;  
Part 5: The Miracle of Father Kapaun

BYLINE: ROY WENZL; The Wichita Eagle

SECTION: a; Pg. 1: LENGTH: 1267 words

"No sincere prayer is ever wasted." - Father Emil Kapaun

At sunrise on Easter Sunday, March 25, 1951, Father Emil Kapaun startled POWs by donning his purple priest's stole and openly carrying a Catholic prayer missal, borrowed from Ralph Nardella.

He had talked atheist guards into letting him hold an Easter service, a favor they soon regretted.

No one there would ever forget this day. The most moving sight the POWs ever saw.

At sunrise, 80 officers — bearded, dirty and covered with lice — followed Kapaun up a little rise, to the cold steps of a bombed-out church. They gathered in a circle around him. Kapaun held a crude crucifix made from broken sticks. He looked thin and filthy; except for the black eye patch, he looked to Walt Mayo like one of the ragged apostles.

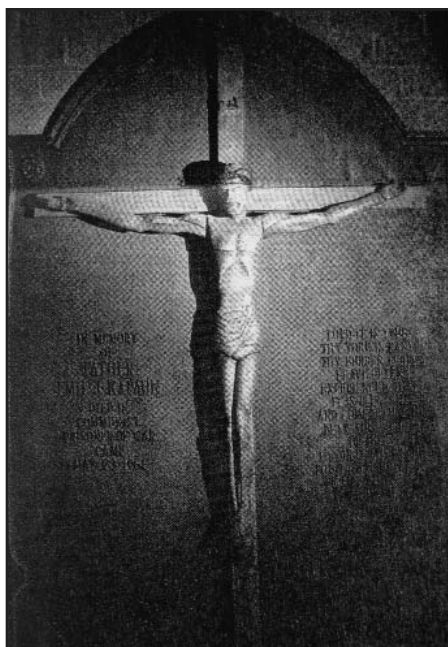
Kapaun began speaking, and his voice caught; he said he didn't have the equipment to give them a proper Mass. But then he held up his ciborium, the tiny gold container that before his capture had held communion hosts he had placed on tongues of soldiers.

He opened Nardella's prayer missal, and as he began to recite from it, the Christians among them realized what a risk he was now taking. He was beginning not from the Easter promise of rebirth but from the dark brutality of Good Friday.

As the guards glared, Kapaun read the Stations of the Cross, describing Christ's condemnation, torture and death. Captives who had been mocked and tormented and beaten listened as Kapaun spoke of Christ being mocked and tormented and beaten.

Tears flowed.

Kapaun held up a rosary. He asked the non-Catholics to let the Catholics indulge for a bit; they knelt as he said the rosary, recited the glorious mysteries of Christ rising, ascending, defying death for all time.



A Cross at Kapaun High School that was carved in honor of Father Kapaun



Fr. Kapaun

A voice rose in song. A POW, Bill Whiteside, had a beautiful voice, and he raised it now to sing the Lord's Prayer, a recital that gave goose bumps to Sidney Esensten, the Jewish doctor.

Kapaun spoke. His theme: forgiveness.

And he said he did not feel qualified to advise them about life because, "I am not any better than you are."

Then they all sang as Kapaun had taught them: loud so that the enlisted men could hear. Starving men sang at sunrise, the same song Whiteside had sung, the Lord's Prayer, a song they laced with reverence.

.....

Kapaun had rallied them all.

When guards demanded that Ralph Nardella stand before the prisoners and recite what he had learned about Communism's founders Marx and Engels, Nardella yelled out with a straight face to fellow captives that he'd learned a lot from "Marx and Engels and Amos and Andy," the last two being fools from an American radio program. POWs laughed; the guards glared.

There were now hundreds of acts of defiance in the camps every day. Kapaun and a prisoner named William Hansen stole dysentery drugs from the Chinese hospital and smuggled them to Esensten.

Herb Miller, inspired by Kapaun, began to read a pocket Bible, which one of Miller's fellow prisoners hid from the Chinese by sticking it in a bandage he'd wrapped around his knee. The one place



The interior of Father Kapaun Church, Pilsen, KS (Photo by Eileen M. Goetz)

the Chinese would never search on them was a bandage, Miller thought grimly. They let the men die of their wounds.

William Funchess, in the officers' camp, had taken to reading aloud at night from his own pocket Bible, putting his soul and his syrupy Carolina accent into every tender reading. The men always asked for the 23rd Psalm, and sometimes asked him to read it 15 or 20 times in a row. Funchess would read it to them and feel at peace.

Again and again Mike Dowe and Funchess and the others saw Kapaun defy the Chinese monitors in the propaganda classes. He never raised his voice, but he challenged them every time, and Funchess after a time began to realize he did it not just to rally them to the flag but to rally them to live.

Every time Kapaun defied them, it was a reminder to starving prisoners that standing up was the opposite of giving up.

A Chinese officer one day, outraged by POW defiance, told them he would shoot them all, and bury them "so that your bones will forever fertilize the soil of North Korea."

There was a brief silence. Then Kapaun spoke:

"What a dumb son of a bitch!"

In private moments, Kapaun would

renounce his swearing.

One day, filled with anger at the camp commander, Comrade Sun, Kapaun told Dowe, "When Jesus talked about forgiving our enemies, he obviously did not have Comrade Sun in mind!"

But he recanted after he cooled down.

"We need to forgive our enemies," he told Funchess. "We need to love them, too."

The Chinese by this time had removed the North Korean guards, who had guarded the prisoners since the camps opened.

The North Koreans hated the Americans who had mauled them so badly before the Chinese entered the war.

The Chinese, embarrassed by all the deaths, took over administration along the Yalu River, though all it really meant at first was that they starved POWs at a slower rate and replaced brutal guards with slightly better guards.

But like the North Koreans, the Chinese hated religion, and Comrade Sun made sure Kapaun knew it. Dowe came across Kapaun one day, and was surprised to see him smiling. Kapaun stared down a road leading south.

"What are you thinking of, Father?" Dowe asked.

He was daydreaming, the priest replied. "Of that happy day when the first American tank rolls down that road."

Kapaun looked at Dowe.

"Then I'm going to catch that little so-and-so Comrade Sun and kick his ass right over the compound fence."

There was at least one healing, prisoners said later.

Kapaun one day walked into a hut and took an apparently dying prisoner in his arms. Chester Osborne Jr. was one of Moose McClain and Dowe's closest friends, but they saw, with eyes trained by experience, that he would die soon. Kapaun cradled Osborne in his arms, laid Osborne's head on his shoulder. Kapaun then bluntly told Osborne to quit dying.



Kapaun-6 Welcome to Pilsen. KS, the home of Chaplain Kapaun (Photo by Eileen M. Goetz)



As a "precaution" he told him, "I'll give you the last rites, just in case." But he told Osborne to fight harder for his life. Then he prayed, for about five minutes.

Osborne rallied. This surprised everybody in that hut.

Most men died quickly when they got that sick, and a lot of men got sick now. Some of them had noticed something at the Easter service: Kapaun looked ill.

\*\*\*\*

Shortly after Easter, Kapaun came to Esensten, looking feeble, hobbling on a stick, in obvious pain.

Esensten touched Kapaun's leg. Then he pulled up Kapaun's trouser and saw swelling, blue and black discoloration. He pressed a finger into a foot; the dent did not go away.

Esensten stood up angry. You should have told me, he said. One leg was twice the size of the other.

Kapaun stood silent.

We need to treat this immediately, Esensten said. He said he wanted Kapaun to lie down and stay down.

"No," Kapaun said.

.....

Funchess awoke one night soon after to the sound of a man being shoved into his hut. The guards had transferred Kapaun here, perhaps to separate him from McClain, another troublemaker they disliked.

Kapaun was in pain. When Funchess saw his leg, he knew this would cause much suffering in a hut where 14 men slept jammed against each other and stepped on each other to get to the latrines at night.

"Would you like my spot next to the wall?" Funchess asked. Because of his injured foot, he had taken that spot weeks before. "The wall will give you protection."

For once, Kapaun did not argue with a Good Samaritan; he said yes. Funchess lay beside him in the dark, warming the priest's frail body with his own.

Part 6 in the series: Father Emil Kapaun forgives guards, welcomes death

*Contributing: Travis Heying of The Eagle. Reach Roy Wenzl at 316-268-6219 or [rwenzl@wichitaeagle.com](mailto:rwenzl@wichitaeagle.com)*

## 60 Years Ago

# Korean War vets still remember

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**It lasted three years and cost more than 36,000 American lives. Those who were there will never forget it.**

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*By Jim Warren - [jwarren@herald-leader.com](mailto:jwarren@herald-leader.com)*

A milestone in U.S. history is passing Friday. Sixty years ago, on June 25, 1950, Communist North Korean forces invaded South Korea, kicking off what, at various times, was called a "police action" or "the forgotten war," and is now known as the Korean War.

It lasted three years and cost more than 36,000 American lives.

Those who were there will never forget it.

James McKinney, 78, of Harrodsburg was 18 when he arrived in Korea on Oct. 10, 1950.

"We went into combat six days later," he said. "I was scared to death. I kept thinking, 'What in the world have I gotten myself into?'"

Lexington's Joseph Brown, 78, an Army rifleman, fought at a spot in North Korea that soldiers named Heartbreak Ridge, which later gave its name to a 1986 Clint Eastwood movie. Brown remembers the weather and the trenches on the ridgetop, apparently dug by Communist Chinese troops. But, he quips, "I never saw Clint Eastwood."

"I was scared from the moment I got off the boat over there," he said. "But my assessment is any war is a good war if you walk away from it in one piece and have any of your mind left."

Brown, McKinney and other members of Chapter 219 of the Korean War Veterans Association gathered at American Legion Post 341 in Lexington on Wednesday to have lunch and cake and ice cream in honor of the anniversary. Now they, like the veterans of World War II, have become old men who still remember the daring things they did on distant battlefields as young men.

Korea was unlike any war the United States had fought before. America had not been attacked, as in World War II. Instead, Americans were fighting under a United Nations flag to help U.S.-supported South Korea resist the better equipped North Korean army.

Given the political atmosphere of the early 1950s, Washington saw the invasion as part of a vast Communist plan for eventual world domination and moved to block it. But the war produced no dramatic final victory, and many

Americans never quite gave the Korean conflict the fervent patriotic support that World War II received.

McKinney's war ended in July 1951 with a mortar round.

"We had set up a temporary motor pool to work on vehicles, and they mortared us one morning right after daylight," he said.

McKinney was treated at a MASH unit — the kind of medical outfit later made famous in a movie and television show of the same name — then shipped to Hawaii, California and finally Fort Knox. Sixty years later, he wonders how soldiers in Korea kept going through the heat and the cold.

Kenneth Colebank, 80, of Lexington can't forget the cold. He was a member of the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team, part of the 101st Airborne Division, which parachuted into North Korea near the capital, Pyongyang, in late 1950. But when China entered the war a few weeks later, the outfit was ordered to hurry back to Seoul, South Korea.

"We had only a few trucks, so we went in sequence," Colebank recalled. "You would ride 45 minutes, then get out and walk, and then ride some more. It took us three days, and it was 40 below zero."

Earl Buckler, 81, of Lexington was a gunner's mate on the Navy destroyer *Moale*. Buckler remembers his ship docking at Pohang, South Korea, in deep fog. He gazed toward shore, saw black spots through the fog and realized they were tanks.

"I thought, 'This is it,' because our ship was in shallow water and we couldn't turn around," he said. "But I thought at least I could take one of them with me."

Buckler was about to fire when he was told the tanks were friendlies.

Lexington's Harry Walsh, 81, was a mess sergeant in Korea in 1952. People didn't shoot at him, but he was constantly moving his cooking operation as the fighting shifted back and forth.

"I always tried to get at least one hot meal up to the boys on the line every day, if possible," Walsh said. "But most of the time you couldn't,

because the enemy would lob mortars on top of you.”

John Marsh, 78, of Cynthiana served in the Marines and later became a colonel.

He has fonder memories of the time Jan Sterling, a popular blond actress of the 1950s, performed for the troops.

“She looked around and said, ‘Who is the youngest one here?’ I was 19, and everybody pointed at me. So, she kissed me and put lipstick right across my face. I didn’t wash my face for weeks.”

Carl Tungate, 79, spent most of his Korean War tour training South Korean soldiers. But he really remembers going out on a night patrol with 14 other men.

“American soldiers aren’t always quiet, but on this occasion everybody was really still,” Tungate said. “A 150-man Chinese patrol came right past us. I was carrying the radio, and I called in artillery and mortars right on top of them.

“I’ve thought many times about the people who died that night because of my action,” he said. “I still wonder about those people, I wonder what they would have been if they had lived. You know, they all had families just like we did ...”

During the later stages of the Korean War, fighting went on while peace talks continued for months. The shooting finally ended July 27, 1953, with North and South Korean armies right back where they had started, warily eyeing each other across the 38th Parallel. The tension between the two nations continues to this day.

Many American soldiers came home from Korea without the joyous welcome that troops returning from World War II had received. But some at least, like Tungate, were honored by those who understood how much they had sacrificed.

Tungate said the troop ship carrying him stopped briefly in Japan.

“There was a big aircraft carrier sitting there in the harbor, and the whole side of that ship was filled with Navy personnel saluting us,” Tungate said. “I still remember that. That kind of thing stays with you.”

Reach Jim Warren at (859) 231-3255 or 1-800-950-6397, Ext. 3255.

EDITOR’S NOTE: This article is published with the permission of the Lexington [KY] Herald-Leader. Read the entire article at: [www.kentucky.com/2010/06/25/1322904/korean-war-veterans-still-remember.html](http://www.kentucky.com/2010/06/25/1322904/korean-war-veterans-still-remember.html)

## 60th anniversary

# Task Force Smith honored

By Walter T. Ham IV, 8th U.S. Army Public Affairs

South Korean and U.S. officials and servicemembers gathered July 16 to honor the 60th anniversary of Task Force Smith at the Jukmiryeong War Monument in Osan City, South Korea. U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Hong Yoon-ki, 8th U.S. Army Public Affairs.

OSAN, South Korea — The 60th anniversary of the first U.S. battle of the Korean War was commemorated July 16 in a ceremony at the Jukmiryeong War Monument here.

Held during a mid-summer monsoonal downpour at the monument on the ridgeline where Task Force Smith made its stand, the ceremony was attended by Osan City Mayor Kwan Sung-wook and 8th U.S. Army Deputy Commanding General Maj. Gen. Robert Williamson.

In that first engagement between U.S. and North Korean forces, the American Soldiers in Task Force Smith were outnumbered nearly 10 to 1.

Named after its commander, Lt. Col. Charles B. Smith, Task Force Smith was one of the first units that arrived in Korea from Japan by air. It consisted of around 500 U.S. Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry and A Battery, 52nd Field Artillery Battalion of the 24th Infantry Division.

This small but determined group of U.S. Soldiers went up against nearly 5,000 enemy soldiers and 33 enemy tanks with a limited amount of anti-tank weaponry and munitions.

Even though Task Force Smith eventually had to withdraw, their tenacious defense during the Battle of Osan delayed enemy forces for several hours.

“That day and the fight that followed were more than just battles of armor, artillery and infantry. They were the opening shots of a war of ideas that exists even today,” said Williamson. “Task Force Smith represents the notion that there is no sacrifice that will not be borne by South Korea and the United States in order to preserve the political integrity and territorial sovereignty of the Republic of Korea.”

The Osan City mayor said the Korean



South Korean and U.S. officials and service members gathered July 16 to honor the 60th anniversary of Task Force Smith at the Jukmiryeong War Monument in Osan City, South Korea.

U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Hong Yoon-ki, 8th U.S. Army Public Affairs.

people will always remember the service and sacrifices of Task Force Smith.

“Our people will never forget the service of the Soldiers and how they played a major role in saving our homeland, which brought this land freedom and peace,” said Kwan.

In a message for the memorial ceremony, U.S. Army Gen. Walter L. Sharp, commander of United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command and U.S. Forces Korea, said that the outnumbered task force should always be honored but never repeated.

“It is important that we continue to remember the heroic example of Task Force Smith: to honor the sacrifice of its men, to reflect on its demonstration of commitment by the United States to the Republic of Korea and to ensure that we never again send such an ill-prepared force to fight our enemies,” said Sharp. “The best way to honor these fallen is to ensure that today’s servicemembers are armed with all we have learned from our past so that they are ready to meet the challenges of tomorrow.”

“Today, the forces of the ROK-U.S. Alliance, the strongest alliance in the world, stand ready to defend the Republic of Korea, at a moment’s notice, against any threat or provocation,” said Sharp. “While we take time today to honor the legacy of Task Force Smith, we also remain resolved to making sure that there are no Task Force Smiths in the our future.”



## Official Membership Application Form

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P. O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407 (Telephone: 217-345-4414)

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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 10/26/2009

## CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR KWVA MEMBERSHIP

In addition to completing the KWVA membership application form on page 1, 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 Medal of Honor recipient 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 \_\_\_\_.
- ☐ 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 the 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.

- 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, is eligible for membership if:  
a. Said service was within Korea including territorial waters and airspace at any time, September 3, 1945 to Present, or  
b. Said service was outside of Korea, June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955.
- Medal of Honor.** Any KWVA Member, who is a Medal of Honor recipient, is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.
- Prisoner of War.** Any person held as a prisoner of war by the North Koreans, Chinese, or Russian forces during and after the period of hostilities from June 25, 1950 forward is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.
- Gold Star Parents.** Any parent whose son/daughter was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.
- 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 (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

#### B. Associate Members.

- Must not be eligible for Regular membership.
- 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 KWVA Charter and its Bylaws and Standard Procedure Manual, shall be eligible for Associate Membership in the Association. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

**C. Honorary Members.** Any person of good character may be elected as Honorary Member by vote by the Board of Directors. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

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



# Aloha Chapter [144] Continues Memorial

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

Since 2004, we have assumed the responsibilities of continuing the Korean War Memorial

Ceremony every June 25th at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl. This year's 60th anniversary was a joint venture with the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Honolulu and KWVA Hawaii Chapter 1.

We were fortunate to have Hawaii's Governor, Linda Lingle,

the recently retired Chief Justice Ronald T.Y. Moon, the first Korean-American to serve as Chief Justice of any Supreme Court in the United States, and Mayor "Mufi" Hannemann of Honolulu give their remarks.

U.S. PACOM Commander

Admiral Robert F. Willard provided the keynote speech. An enormous number of wreaths were presented at the ceremony to honor our fallen comrades.

*Jimmy Shin, P. O. Box 88232,  
Honolulu, HI 96830  
808-951-1141*



Hawaii Governor Linda Lingle and Consul General Bong-Joo Kim display a Commendation presented on behalf of the State of Hawaii to Ilgok Foundation Jae Sun Choi



## Message from the President of the Republic of Korea

### Promise Fulfilled

By Lee Myung-bak, President of the Republic of Korea

Sixty years ago on the early morning of June 25, 1950, Communist North Korea invaded the Republic of Korea. The Korean War would test our will and commitment to defend our freedom in the face of Communist aggression. The Korean War was the first large-scale military confrontation to take place since the start of the Cold War; it would be known as one of the deadliest wars of the 20th century.

Sixteen countries, including the United States, came to defend the Republic of Korea under the United Nations banner. During the three years of war, approximately 37,000 American soldiers lost their lives. These brave young men and women in uniform came to "defend a country they never knew and a people they never met." Their outstanding courage, selfless sacrifice and unbreakable will allowed us to defend our freedom, attain peace and become a democratic, free and open society. Fortunately, the Korean War ended in 1953. Unfortunately, however, an armistice ended the Korean War without reunification of the Peninsula, leaving Korea as the only divided country in the world today.

As we commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of the Korean War, I offer our deepest, most sincere gratitude to all the American veterans and their families for what they did. The friendship and bond that we share is reinforced by the strong and robust military alliance, which in turn was the basis for the Republic of Korea's remarkable twin achievements of the last six decades, namely achieving economic growth and becoming a true liberal democracy.

Now, the Republic of Korea hopes to contribute to global peace and common prosperity. The year the Korean War started, we were one of the poorest countries in the world with a per capita GDP of less than forty US dollars. In 2009, we officially joined the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC), becoming a country that once received aid to one that now provides for others. This transformation took place in just one generation. Attaining and maintaining peace is our shared responsibility. In this regard, the Republic of Korea is taking part in peacekeeping operations in fourteen countries around the world. This year, we will be hosting the G20 Summit in Seoul and in 2012 we will host the second Nuclear Security Summit which was first hosted by the United States. These will all be opportunities for us to strengthen international cooperation which is

▲ "A Promise Fulfilled," by Lee Myung-bak

◀ Honolulu Mayor Mufi Hannemann at Punchbowl



# Memorial Day Ceremony at Punchbowl

so vital in resolving many of the global challenges we face collectively. By doing our part, we hope to ensure a better future for all.

New Hope  
of Korea

The Republic of Korea is a partner, working together with the United States in many parts around the world. The Joint Vision for the Alliance that President Obama and I agreed to last year is a vision for a strategic alliance befitting the 21st century. The Vision helps us face the global challenges of today and tomorrow such as climate change, nuclear proliferation, terrorism, financial crisis and energy security through close partnership based on shared value and mutual trust. Such partnerships allow us to prepare for and effectively tackle the multifaceted challenges we are bound to face.

Our brave and dedicated men and women in uniform are working alongside each other to defend freedom, liberty and peace. In Iraq, Afghanistan and off the coast of Somalia, they are working, rebuilding and forging ahead to make our world a safer, better place. The

Korea-US Free Trade Agreement which has been signed three years ago and which is awaiting Congressional consent will elevate our partnership and make it stronger. It will also expand the role of the United States in the Northeast Asian region.

Our two countries have been working closely together regarding the sinking of our navy vessel, the Cheonan, by a torpedo attack by a North Korean submarine. The United States has displayed once again its commitment as an ally and friend as we deal with this tragic event. North Korea, meanwhile, has not changed at all; it is still adamantly hanging onto its desire to acquire nuclear weapons. The Korea-US alliance must continue to work with the international community and convince North Korea to give up such reckless ambitions.

Our aim is to achieve peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula. We seek common prosperity for both Koreas and we strive to achieve peaceful unification of the Peninsula. The Korean Peninsula must cease to be synonymous with strife and division; it must now become the new cradle of peace for Northeast Asia and beyond.

The phenomenal growth that we achieved is something that Koreans are proud of and a remarkable achievement of American foreign policy. The alliance is also an example for others. Whenever I am in Washington DC, I pay tribute by visiting the Korean War Memorial. I meet with the Korean War veterans and they tell me how proud they are to see Korea doing so well today. I, along with all Koreans, feel profound respect and gratitude to all the veterans.

As we have been doing for many years, we are inviting Korean War veterans and their families back to Korea. We hope they will be able to witness how much Korea has changed over the years. We hope they will feel how grateful we are; we hope they will always remember our deep appreciation and affection.

The Republic of Korea and United States share a bond that will endure. This bond was forged in the trenches of war sixty years ago but it is my hope that it will become an alliance that brings peace and prosperity to all in this new century. I am confident that it will.

Consul General  
Bong-Joo Kim  
delivers a talk  
to Punchbowl  
attendees



Hawaii  
Governor Linda  
Lingle address-  
es the crowd at  
the Punchbowl  
on 25 June



Chief Justice Ronald T. Y.  
Moon speaks at the June  
25 Punchbowl commem-  
oration



Keynote speaker Adm  
Robert F. Willard deliv-  
ers remarks at  
Punchbowl ceremony





# APPLICATION FOR KVA REVISIT KOREA 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, # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: If you have not yet received your membership # from KWVA insert "applied for."**

Companion Name/Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

**List all your Addresses, (if more than one residence per year) and dates you reside in each one, no P.O Boxes.**

**Main/** \_\_\_\_\_ **City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_ **Dates** \_\_\_\_\_

**Summer.** \_\_\_\_\_ **City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_ **Dates** \_\_\_\_\_

**Winter.** \_\_\_\_\_ **City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_ **Dates** \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Veteran's Passport# \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Companion's Passport# \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: If you do not have a passport with 6 months validity prior to travel dates, and have applied for a new one, please insert "applied for" in the space provided and contact MHT when you receive it.**

## Veteran's Korean Service Information

Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_, Service Number \_\_\_\_\_

Period of Service in Korean War (month/year) from \_\_\_\_\_ thru \_\_\_\_\_

## Veteran's Certification

I am a member in good standing (or have applied) with the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA).

**Veteran's/ family member signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

(Complete and mail this form along with a \$400.00 deposit per person (check, money order or Visa/MasterCard only) to Military Historical Tours. Payment in full is required for applications submitted prior to sixty days of tour departure.)

## Credit Card Authorization

I authorize **Military Historical Tours** to charge my Visa / Master Card,

The amount of \$ 400 Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_ please include the 3-Digit code on back of card \_\_\_\_\_

Your name as it appears on the Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_

## Korea Revisit related material please send to:

**KWVA Revisit Korea Program**  
**c/o MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS (MHT)**  
**13198 CENTERPOINTE WAY STE #202**  
**WOODBIDGE, VA 22193-5285**

**Phone: 703-590-1295**  
**Fax: 703-590-1292**  
**e-mail: mhtours@miltours.com**  
**www.miltours.com**

## Background

The Korea Revisit program was begun by the Korean Veterans Association (KVA/ Seoul) in 1975, the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the outbreak of the Korean War, to express their gratitude to veterans of the War and to show them the bountiful re-

sults of their sacrifices and devotion.

## KVA's Eligibility Requirements

UN Korean War Veterans who served in or supported ground, naval, or air operations in the Korean Theater between June 25, 1950 and October 25, 1954 or a family member of a veteran killed in action in the

Korean War are eligible to participate in the "Korea Revisit Program." A veteran is allowed to bring a family member or friend as a "travel companion."

## Expanded Eligibility

1. Due to the 60th Anniversaries (2010-13) there will be more quota's available.

In addition, those that have gone on a previous Revisit tour, can apply to return again. (Call Military Historical Tours for details)

2. Widows and family members of deceased veterans, or of those veterans physically unable to travel, are also eligible to go on a Revisit tour.

### Benefits and Itinerary

Free hotel accommodations and meals for 5 nights and 6 days.

Accommodation is based on (2) persons per room.

Tour of Seoul and its vicinity

Banquet hosted by the Chairman of the KVA with presentation of the "Ambassador for Peace" medal and its certificate

**Day 1:** Arrival and hotel check-in

**Day 2:** Wreath laying Korean National Cemetery, Visit the KW Memorial.

**Day 3:** Visit Panmunjom, Banquet.

**Day 4:** Tour of Korean Folk Village.

**Day 5:** Visit the Incheon Landing Memorial, Museum, & Freedom Park.

**Day 6:** Departure

### 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 life due to any accident of whatever nature during the revisits. Trip cancellation insurance is available and highly recommended.

4. Hospitalization and evacuation insurance is required for and provided to all veterans and spouse/companion by MHT. Cost is contained in the administrative service charge.

5. Transportation costs to and from Korea will be borne by each person who participates in the program.

6. Applications will be received/accepted on a "First-come, first-served" basis.

7. Use of frequent flyer miles or other "free" transportation, is allowed but an administrative service fee of \$400.00 per person is still required.

**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.

FLASH

# REVISIT KOREA NEWS

FLASH

## Revisit Korea Tours will continue!

We have been notified that the Revisit Korea Tours, which were started in 1975, will continue in 2011. In addition, we have been informed that the ROK government will continue to pay 50% of the veterans airfare (both domestic and international) and that they will pay 30% of the spouse/companion airfare.

We have now experienced four (4) very successful 60th Anniversary Commemorations this year in Korea. All of them were very professionally organized and the ROK military services were assigned to conduct specific events. The last one for 2010 will be the 60th Anniversary of the Chosin (Changjin) Reservoir Campaign, 8-14 November.

The 2011 specific dates have not been announced yet. However, the months are May, June, September, October and November. In addition the "Peace Camp for Youth" (for our grandchildren) was so successful this year that it has been scheduled again for next July.

Since KWVA has a policy of "First Come, First Served," don't delay. The annual quotas are always over subscribed, and you don't want to miss out!

## Revisit Korea eligibility expanded

The ROK government recognizes that the veterans are getting older so they have relaxed the eligibility requirements. A veteran can return again, and many are, asking a child or grandchild to accompany them this time. In addition, the spouse, or descendent of a deceased or incapacitated Korean War Veteran can represent the veteran in Korea, and take a child/companion with them.

For specific information, or to register, call 703-590-1295. Or, you can register on line at: [www.miltours.com](http://www.miltours.com). You can also receive information by going to: [www.KWVA.org](http://www.KWVA.org). Then click on Revisit Korea Tours.

Sincerely and Fraternally

Warren Wiedhahn  
KWVA Revisit Korea Coordinator  
Woodbridge, Virginia  
[JWiedhahn@aol.com](mailto:JWiedhahn@aol.com)

## BOOKS from page 57

maiden as a wife if they fought well and survived." In fact, the storyteller adds, "It was rumored they were caught collecting casualty ear tips to send home to substantiate their claims of courage in combat. The U.S. postal service began to inspect their mail bags en route to Adiss Ababa (p. 176)."

The Dutch "...took whatever they could carry from our supply of materials, sandbags, tarpaper, etc., and at night we would try to take back whatever they took from us...The Dutch soldiers were a good group to be

with...(p. 157)." Another respondent stated, "I remember lots of fire missions. How important they were, I don't know. I had a little duel with a Chinese mortar crew one day and I prevailed because I was using a 105mm howitzer with VT fusing (p. 153)."

The book is replete with interesting tidbits about a war within the war. It presents a side of the war that may not be familiar to a lot of people—which is why it is so interesting to read.

## Looking for advertisers

We are always on the lookout for more advertisers in *The Graybeards*. If you know anyone who is looking to place an ad, or you have a lead, contact our Advertising Manager, Frank Bertulis, at 99 Deerfield Ln., Matawan, NJ 07747-1332, (732) 566-2737, [FBEB@optonline](mailto:FBEB@optonline).



**Korean War Veterans Association  
Membership Administrative Assistant  
P.O. Box 407  
Charleston, IL 61920-0407**

**Address Service Requested**

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**Paul Steen holds Minnesota Korean Defense Service Plate. Story on page 60.**