

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, OR, CALL 205-594-4565. TO PREVIEW, WWW.LUCIFERPATCH.COM.

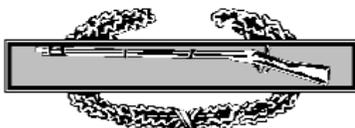
ATTENTION: KOREAN WAR VETERANS

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:

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