

America's Forgotten Victory!

KOREA VETERANS

The Graybeards



Official Publication of

THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

November - December 2010 Vol. 24, No. 6



Let us not forget...

The Graybeards

Official Publication of
THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION



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WWW.KWVA.ORG



From the President

William Mac Swain

On July 25, 2002, I attended my first meeting of the National Executive Council in Washington, DC. Then President Harley Coon advised me that I could not vote on any matters until after I had been elected officially and sworn in. I was the only new Director who was present since, at that time, the voting results were not known until the Council opened the ballots and those elected were read at the Executive Council Meeting.

Most were second termers. I was one of the newly elected, and had paid my own way to the meeting. President Coon had arranged for General Raymond G. Davis to swear in those newly elected Directors and Officers at the Korean War Monument later the next afternoon.

I was proud to be sworn in, and made it a point to borrow a blue jacket from one of the members from the Executive Council, P. G. (Bob) Morga, who was finishing his second term. I remember General Davis' words about what our decisions should be based on, and to always keep the membership first in our decisions.

Fast forward eight years. As your President, I attended a breakfast with Vice President Joseph Biden of the United States on Veterans Day, November 11, 2010, at the White House, where I met many of the other VSO Commanders and Presidents and proudly represented the KWVA as a viable veterans association. I got to speak to Chiefs of Staff, including General George W Case, Jr. of the Army, General Norton A. Schwartz of the Air Force, and Commandant James F. Amos of the Marines.

I reminded two of them that they were missed at our 60th Commemorative of the Korean War Banquet in July. The two replied that they were out of town and were sorry that they could not attend. I welcomed Commandant Amos into his new position as of October 2010, noting that his predecessor, Gen. Conway, had attended.

As your President, I attended a breakfast with Vice President Joseph Biden of the United States on Veterans Day November 11, 2010 at the White House, where I met many of the other VSO Commanders and Presidents and proudly represented the KWVA as a viable veterans association.

I was seated on the stage at the ceremony with Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Honorable Eric K. Shinseki, and Vice President Joe Biden. I was introduced as your KWVA President to those in attendance at the National Veterans Day Ceremony. Following the ceremony, four members of Chapter 142, Ceremonies Chairman Director Thomas McHugh, and I presented a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns. We then went to the Korean War Monument and presented a wreath there.

There were many people at our monument. We were asked to pose for pictures as we talked to many of them about the Korean War. I talked to four young college-aged people from Singapore who wanted to know what the war was about. A large group gathered and heard a rendition of the war that many of us who participate in the Tell America program give at schools and community clubs. All in all, it was quite a day and a proud moment for all of us.

I hope that the Jewish members of the Association will accept my apologies for not mentioning Hanukkah (The

Festival of Lights). It began on December 1, 2010 at sundown and ended at sundown on December 9, 2010. Hanukkah celebrates the triumphs—both religious and military—of ancient Jewish heroes. Thanks for the reminder.

Next year, I will remember to include you in time for your celebration, since it will be in the December 20, 2011 to December 28, 2011 time period, and you may receive the magazine before or during that time.

Your Board of Directors had a Board Meeting on October 19, 2010 in Irving, Texas to continue unfinished business not taken care of at its last meeting. The minutes of this meeting are included in this issue.

The Board of Directors and my staff wish all Korean War veterans a Happy New Year. Again, we thank you for the great work you do in your communities, volunteering in VA hospitals, and helping veterans who are in need. Veterans helping veterans is what we are all about.

*William Mac Swain,
KWVA President*

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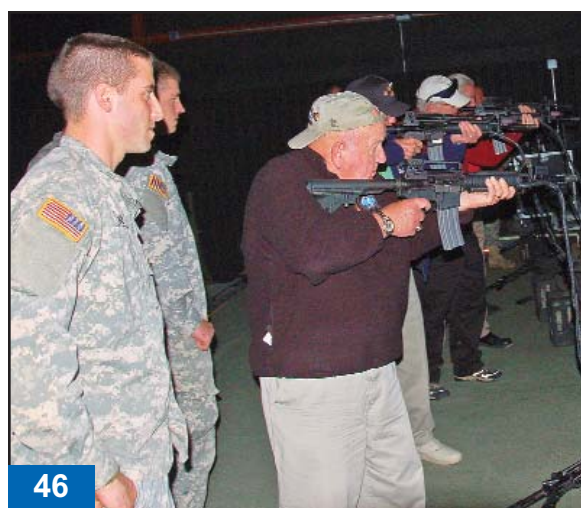
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COVER: An Airman sets a pair of boots down during a remembrance ceremony at the Lotte World Hotel in Seoul, Republic of Korea Sept. 18, 2010 for an Air Force celebration. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Evelyn Chavez)



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Frank Cohee



From the Secretary

Let's patch things up with Arthur

Art Samel is a young man looking for patches. Please send to him any patches that you might have just taking up space. Here is Arthur's request and my response to him.

Hello:

My name is Arthur. I am in a wheelchair. I have muscular dystrophy, and I am a patch collector. I am looking to get a patch from you. I don't have anything to trade or a patch list sorry.

Thanks.

Art Samel
1700 Tuckerstown Rd.
Dresher PA 19025

.....

My response:

Arthur,

I only have a couple of extra patches, which I will put in the mail to you tomorrow. I am also going to send you a pin. You may be overwhelmed with patches, because our magazine readership is about 18,000.

It would be helpful if you could tell me a little more about yourself, like how old you are, why you decided to start collecting patches, whether you collect all kinds of patches or just those related to the military, how you found out about the KWVA, if someone in your family served in the Korean War, and any other information about yourself that you are willing to share with us.

Please understand that you do not need to provide the foregoing requested information in order to get your request in our magazine, and we certainly do not want to print anything that might be an invasion of your privacy. It would just add more credence to your request.

Incidentally, I have family in Media, PA. I lived in Chester, PA during WWII, and I have been to Pittsburgh, PA many times, but I have never heard of Dresher, PA.

.....

Arthur's response:

You can put my name and address in the magazine. I am hoping to get more military

patches anyway so I can honor those who have fought and died in the military. I am 25 years old. My grandfathers were both in WW2. My uncle Ben was also in WW2.

Thanks, Art

Editor's Note: Dresher is located in Montgomery County, PA, a few miles northwest of Philadelphia. It has a population of roughly 6,000 people.

Free trip for CPL Bradley's (Korea MIA) Family

When I received the below email from Joe Mosnier (email #1), I put it in the "too hard to do pile." Joe had already contacted the VA, VFW, American Legion and some others and was told that they could not provide the information that Mr. Jeong was looking for. In fact, the VA told them to contact me.

After giving it some thought, I asked Assistant Secretary Jake Feaster to check our database to see what information there may be, if any, on MIA members. Well, Jake did his usual good work and sent me a list of eight Associate Members who were listed as relatives of MIA Korean veterans.

I started calling those Associate members; some of the phones had been disconnected, at some there was no answer, and at some I got the answering machine and left a message. In one case, the MIA had been killed and the mother had passed away.

By this time, I thought it was a worthless effort. Then, I called the last person on the list. Bingo! Her father was on Outpost Harry. He was still missing. Her mother was still living and in good health, and both already had passports. The daughter was interested in the trip. She called her mother, who was also interested. How lucky can one get?

As you can see from email #2, the Bradley family will take part in November's "Revisit Korea" program. This is what I do in my spare time.

.....

Email #1

Greetings Mr. Cohee,

I'm contacting you in your capacity as

Secretary and designated contact for the national KWVA. (I also just left you a voice-mail at 863-859-1384.)

I work at the University of North Carolina, where we recently hosted as a year-long visiting scholar a photojournalist for the Chosun Ilbo Corp. in Seoul, Mr. Jeong Gyoung-Youl. Strictly on a collegial basis, I occasionally assist Mr. Jeong with his various ongoing projects that relate to coverage of the United States and the Korean War. For example, I recently helped facilitate aspects of his visit to DC in July to photograph the interment of Ensign Langwell at Arlington National Cemetery.

As you are aware, the ROK government has expanded its Revisit Korea program for this year, the 60th anniversary. At Mr. Jeong's suggestion, the ROK government has agreed that it would be desirable to invite a widow of a US soldier who was not recovered in Korea, together with a child of the widow, for the Revisit Korea program. The invitees would participate during the upcoming Nov. 9-14 program, with costs supported on usual Revisit Korea terms.

The invitees would also be offered the opportunity to visit forensic recovery site(s) and contribute to a documentary program or film being produced by Mr. Jeong for the Chosun Ilbo media company. I am continuing to finalize details with Mr. Jeong, but this is the basic proposal in outline.

Would you be willing to discuss this possibility with me by phone? I could offer more information, answer questions, etc. Many thanks.

Sincerely,

Joseph Mosnier Ph.D., Special Projects,
Southern Oral History Program

.....

Email #2

Mr. Cohee,

Mr. Jeong has confirmed that the three Bradley family members, Mrs. Bradley, her daughter Rhonda McAuliffe, and her husband Robert Gloodt, will take part in November's "Revisit Korea" program and also contribute to the documentary effort. None of this would have been possible without your help, so we are greatly in your debt. Thanks to you and your col-

leagues at the KWVA for such generous assistance.

Sincerely, Joe Mosnier

Repairs needed for the Tallahassee Korean War Veterans Memorial

Sir,

Florida's Korean War Veterans Memorial in Tallahassee, FL is in need of repairs. I, David Causey, would like to repaint the names on the monument because they are fading. Also write down all the names on the monument to compare to a database that has all the names. I would like to do this for my Boy Scouts of America Eagle Project. Can you tell me who I need to get in contact with to get more information?

Thanks,

David Causey

.....

My response

David, thank you for your kind offer. If you are allowed to do this, please take some pictures before and after and send them to me along with a brief synopsis and I will have the information printed in our magazine, *The Graybeards*. I will send you a copy when it is printed.

I think that Chapter 153 is responsible for that memorial. I am giving you the Chapter Commander's contact information. If that Chapter is not responsible, let me know, and

I will try and get more information.

Thanks for the offer.

I have not heard anymore from David or CID 153. Nevertheless, we need more young men like him.

Who signed the Won?

I recently received this email from Allan R. Gerber, Burke, VA.

Here is the front and back of a Korean 1000 won note that I found long ago in a library book. The names on it must be Korean veterans who signed the note prior to heading home. I thought you would find this interesting.

.....

My response:

Thank you very much. I have one of those notes also, but with no signatures. I plan on writing an article for *The Graybeards* to hopefully find one of the signatories. I really appreciate your interest in the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA). If you will send me your mailing address, I will send you a copy of the magazine.



The signed Korean money

So, if any of you are among the signers, or you know any of them, let me know.

Editor's Note: The bill was signed in 1952. We cannot make out all the names and hometowns on the bill with 100% accuracy, but here are a few: Sgt Richard L. Fisher; M/Sgt Bill Day (Orange, TX); Sam Ramsey (Vega, TX); Charles Dozer (Mechanicsburg, OH); Gerald A Wilson (? , NC); Jimmie Smith (Pittsburgh, PA); James A. Estill (Maytown, KY); Tony Britto (New Bedford, MA).

Jewish War Veterans briefed

The Korean War Veterans Committee of the Jewish War Veterans (JWV) received a briefing at Hunter Army Air Base in Savannah, Georgia in August. Garrison Commander LtCol Jose Aguilar delivered the presentation.

Attendees included Chairman of the Past National Commanders Committee (PNC) Ainslee R. Ferdie, (also President of the CID 110, Miami-Dade [FL]), PNC Co-chairman Martin Greenberg, (MD), Jewish War Veterans National Commander Ed Robins of Cleveland, OH, PNC Louis Abramson of Pennsylvania, PNC Paul Bernstein of New York, who is Chairman of the National Executive Committee and a survivor of 9-11 Twin Towers, and other Korean veterans from all over the country.

Ainslee R. Ferdie, 717 Ainslee R. Ferdie, 717 Ponce De Leon Blvd. STE 223, Coral Gables, FL, 33134-2070, 305-445-3557, LawOffice@ferdieandlones.com. (For

more information about the Jewish War Veterans, go to http://www.jwv.org/programs/patriotic/korean_war_veterans)

The crowd at Hunter Army Air Base. Ainslee Ferdie and LtCol Aguilar are in the back row, right center



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: Office of 2nd Vice President, and 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, 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.*



The KWVA Wants You!

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

No Politics Please

We cannot print political material/views/criticisms

On occasion we receive requests to print letters, opinion pieces, etc., that express individuals' political views or criticisms regarding what the U.S. President, Congress, etc., is/is not doing right or wrong, who to vote for or not to vote for....

For example, a writer might present a diatribe about what a politician or government official said or did, and then say "Maybe we should remember this at election time." Or, "The Democrats/Republicans/Libertarians/Goose Down party is simply not acting in the best interests of the American public, which is something our members have to address by voting for [insert candidate's name here]."

We are prohibited by our charter from expressing individuals' or KWVA views on matters political, criticizing government leaders et al. Letters expressing such views are better suited for newspapers or other publications that entertain political arguments.

Nor can we support specific candidates in local, state, or federal elections. In fact, we cannot even support specific candidates in KWVA elections—especially if we want to keep our charter.

National Infantry Museum opens

The National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center at Patriot Park celebrated its grand opening this summer. It is located just outside the gates of Fort Benning, the Home of the Infantry, at 1775 Legacy Way, Columbus, GA 31903.

The museum is the first of its kind in the United States. The exhibits tell the heroic story of everyday infantrymen through an enviable collection of more than 30,000 artifacts. Infantry history is traced from before the Revolutionary War to action today in Afghanistan.

Admission to the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center is free. However, the museum is privately funded and made possible through generous donations.

Contact the museum at 706-685-5800 or www.nationalinfantrymuseum.com.



The day I married my sister[©]

I bumped into Sal Orlando accidentally on 17 November at a church service. We were both celebrating something special: he was celebrating Veterans Day by participating in a parade in nearby Hartford. I was commemorating the 57th anniversary of the day I married my sister Mique. (Her real name was Margaret.) Whoa! I bet that raises a question in your mind. Okay, I will explain why I was in church, why the building did not fall down (which is actually inexplicable), how I met Sal, and what it means to me.

First, let me clarify the sister thing. I really didn't marry Mique. She got married on 7 November 1953 in Waterbury, CT, our hometown. We had a horrific snow storm the day before. It was so bad my future brother-in-law could not drive the fifteen miles from his home in Ansonia to Waterbury for the wedding rehearsal. So, I stood in for him. After all, I really didn't have much to do the next day other than serve the mass as an altar boy.



"My wife. My sister"

The rehearsal went off without a hitch—until the priest said to me jokingly (I hope), "Okay, you and your sister are now hitched." I was only twelve years old at the time, and I wasn't used to priests kidding me. For years I was convinced that I had married my sister. I got further proof when her first child was born in 1955.

I went to the hospital to help her check out, since her real husband was working.

Okay, my practice of subconsciously renaming towns and cities after Korean War veterans may seem a little bit unsettling to some people. But, the veterans deserve the honor of having communities named for them.

As we left with the baby, the nun at the check-out asked me if I was going to pay the bill. Me? Were the nun and the priest in cahoots (which is nowhere near Waterbury or Ansonia)? I was not so sure—nor was I sure of my marital status at that point. Worse, I wasn't convinced that I wanted to go inside a church again for a while.

Let's flash forward to 7 November 2010. My real wife and I attended the 0800 service at St. Andrew the Apostle Episcopal Church. (Sadly, my first "wife," Mique, died in 2007. Ironically, I was attending the KWVA reunion in Reno when I received the news. So, she did have a connection to our association.) As we were walking out after the service ended, I noticed a distinguished gentleman wearing an easy-to-recognize blue jacket with the KWVA emblem on it. I introduced myself to him—him being Sal Orlando, to be precise.

At first, he did not recognize me. That was good. It means I can stand among KWVA members without being recognized, which gives me some cover when things get controversial. Once he realized who I was, we chatted. But, he was in a hurry to get to the parade in which he was marching with his comrades from CID 10, Connecticut #1. As we parted, I heard him say to another parishioner, "That's it. I am going to find a new church." (I am just kidding about that part.)

Anyway, I was glad to meet Sal. It made me think of the ubiquity of Korean War veterans. They are everywhere, living in towns which I name after them, albeit subconsciously. Wherever I travel, I identify places by KWVA members with whom I have worked and who live there, rather than by city or town names. Unfortunately, I don't always have time to stop and visit, but I do change their hometowns' names.

For example, I drove through Aleksandrowicz, OH recently on my way

to Port Clinton, OH, the gateway to some fine sailing on Lake Erie. Yeah, I know that the real name of the community is Bay Village, but that is where Frank Aleksandrowicz lives, so it becomes Aleksandrowicz to me. (Renaming Port Clinton is kind of difficult, since we have four members who live there. That is where my renaming system breaks down a bit.)

Similarly, I stopped in Newman, VA recently to visit a tank museum. Actually, the city's name is Danville, and the museum is officially known as the American Armoured Foundation, Inc. Tank & Ordnance War Memorial Museum—which is well worth a visit. Davis Newman had recommended it to me years ago, so I stopped in Newman—uh, Danville—to take a quick tour.

Okay, my practice of subconsciously renaming towns and cities after Korean War veterans may seem a little bit unsettling to some people. But, the veterans deserve the honor of having communities named for them. It's not always easy, though. Sal Orlando lives in Cromwell, CT, so if I rename Cromwell Orlando I might confuse travel agents.

If I tell people I am going to Orlando, CT they might think I am geographically challenged, since everyone knows Orlando is in Florida. Hey, I might be geographically challenged—but what can you expect from someone who married his sister?

The bottom line here is that I will continue to name towns and cities through which I pass after KWVA members who live there, even if I do it subconsciously. They deserve the honor, which is something they do not always get otherwise.

Incidentally does anyone know where I can find a highway sign to identify Cahoots, CT?

Korean War State Bonuses

South Carolina

South Carolina did pay a bonus to Korean War veterans. At the time, I received one for ten months @ \$35 per month for each full month served in a combat zone.

Paul Dobson, 217 Kay St., North Little Rock, AR 72117

For more information about State of South Carolina veterans benefits, programs, etc. access: <http://www.gov-oepp.state.sc.us/va/>

Tennessee

The State of Tennessee did not provide bonuses for Korean War veterans.

I went into the Air Force on 24 July 1951 and served until 1955. I served in Korea from July 1952 to July 1953. I did not get a bonus from the State of Tennessee.

My brother entered the Air Force in the State of Ohio and went to Alaska. He got a bonus from Ohio.

Clarence R. Towe, 4411 Cheyenne Dr., Knoxville, TN 37920-4309

Editor's Note: The Tennessee

Department of Veterans Affairs website (see below) does not reference bonuses of any type for veterans:
<http://www.tennessee.gov/veteran/benefitsstate.html>

Tax break for N.J. veterans doesn't measure up

October 12, 2010

When is a veteran not a veteran? Answer: It depends on where you live.

For example, most but not all of New Jersey's veterans get a property tax reduction of \$250 and veterans who have been given a 100 percent disability rating by the VA for injuries, or illnesses, that are service-connected get a

waiver on their property tax, which saves them thousands of dollars every year. Other states offer different packages.

Some veterans have asked the questions: How did the \$250 property tax reduction come to being? Why don't all New Jersey veterans get the property tax reduction? How is the veterans' property tax reduction handled in other states?

It all started shortly after the Korean War when there was an effort by the New Jersey veterans to get some benefit from the state for serving in World War II and the Korean War. Finally, the state legislators, in their finite wisdom, decided to put the question on the ballot for the voters to decide. The question was whether there should be a 10 percent property tax reduction for veterans or a flat \$50 reduction.

Although it might not be believable, the \$50 tax reduction was higher than the 10 percent that most people were paying in property tax and the \$50 flat rate was voted into law.

Despite rapidly rising property taxes the rate stayed steady for a great many years until there was another movement to raise the veteran's property tax reduction. Again, the state legislators decided they didn't want to raise the amount by too much. Their collective minds came up with the idea to increase the amount by increments, and it took many more years for the veteran's property tax reduction to rise to the incredibly small amount of \$250 - which still stands today.

Why don't all veterans get this property tax reduction? To quote from the New Jersey Veteran's Guide, "The New

Jersey Property Tax Exemption and Deduction require veterans to serve during a specific war period," and "received an honorable discharge or under honorable conditions." This provision also includes other state veteran's benefits as well.

For example, a young woman from New Jersey who served in the Army during the Iraq War (a specified war period) was assigned to duty in England. During her stay there, she was injured in a military accident. When she was discharged she received a 20 percent disability rating from the VA.

According to the laws in New Jersey, she isn't considered a veteran because she did not serve two weeks in a combat zone as outlined in the law concerning war periods after the Vietnam era. This also applies to others who served in the military in between war periods. They, too, do not qualify for New Jersey veterans benefits.

How do other states handle the veteran's property tax reduction or exemption? It varies from state to state. Some states will reduce the estimated assessed value (EAV) of the property by \$10,000-\$50,000 for tax purposes and base the veteran's property taxes on the reduced amount. Some states will give a flat reduction of \$1,000-\$2,000 dollars off the property tax. One state offers a 15 percent tax exemption for veterans and an additional 10 percent tax reduction for those who served in a war period, which translates to 25 percent tax reduction for wartime veterans.

Most states will waive property taxes for those veterans who have a 100 percent service-connected disability. Some states will even adjust veterans' property taxes based on the degree of service-connected disability. Many of the states use the "war period" criteria, or age and income to determine the veteran's tax reduction.

There seems to be no standard method among the states to determine the veterans' tax reduction and/or veterans' states benefits. Each state makes the decision of who is considered a veteran.

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

There have been discussions in the past to raise New Jersey veteran's property tax reduction to be in line with other states. However, based on New Jersey's present financial situation, it isn't likely that the New Jersey Legislature will increase the veteran's property tax reduction, or change the

requirements for veteran's status.

Even if the 600,000 veterans in New Jersey would raise their voices in harmony to persuade the state legislators to raise the veterans' property taxes, it would still be an uphill battle.

Carl J. Asszony of Piscataway is the

former veterans services coordinator for Middlesex County and host of the former radio program The Veterans Roundtable on WCTC 1450 AM.

Source: <http://www.mycentraljersey.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=201010120321>

KOREAN WAR BONUSES BY STATE

This chart 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, 895 Ribaut Road #13, Beaufort SC 29902.

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

Try this website, too: <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2002/olrdata/ps/rpt/2002-r-0728.htm>. According to this site, Korean War bonuses have expired in many states.

In addition to the websites mentioned above, Louis Ross sent us a copy of an Army Times report which he found in an old foot locker. The document was published originally in 1973 and revised in July 1976. It, too, had some valuable information, as noted below. Reach Louis Ross at 137 Walker Rd. NW, Cartersville, GA 30121-4930, 770-607-7943

	Yes	No	Unknown		Yes	No	Unknown
Alabama			U	New Hampshire	Y		Expired 12/31/1960
Arizona			U	New Jersey		N	
Arkansas			U	New Mexico		N	
California			U	New York		N	
Colorado			U	North Carolina			U
Connecticut	Y		Expired	North Dakota	Y		Expired 2/15/1960
Delaware	Y		Expired 1/1/1958	Ohio	Y		Expired 12/31/1958
Florida			U	Oklahoma			U
Georgia			U	Oregon	Y		
Guam	Y		Expired 7/1/1974	Pennsylvania	Y		Expired 12/31/1968
Idaho			U	Rhode Island	Y		Expired 10/31/1958
Illinois	Y			South Carolina	Y		
Indiana	Y		Expired 4/1/1957	South Dakota	Y		Expired 5/1/1957
Iowa	Y		Expired 7/4/1963	Tennessee	Y		
Kansas			U	Texas			U
Kentucky	Y		Expired 6/30/1962	Utah	Y		Expired
Louisiana	Y		Expired 12/31/1959	Vermont	Y		Expired 6/30/1967
Maine			U	Virginia		N	
Maryland			U	Washington	Y		Expired 12/31/1959
Massachusetts	Y			Washington DC	Y		
Michigan	Y		Expired 3/6/1958	West Virginia	Y		Expired 6/30/1959
Minnesota	Y		Expired 12/31/1958	Wisconsin		N	
Mississippi			U	Wyoming	Y		
Missouri		N		TOTAL	27	6	17
Montana	Y		Expired 1/1/1964	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 and Guam. That explains why there are 50 entities in the chart.			
Nebraska			U				
Nevada			U				

Call for the Meeting: E-mail from the President/Secretary August 19, 2010

Place of Announced Meeting: The Holiday Inn Express & Suites, DFW Airport, 4235 W. Airport Freeway, Irving, TX 75061

Call to Order: President Mac Swain called the meeting to order at 0900 hours, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adopt Agenda: President Mac Swain asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. Director McHugh made a motion that the agenda be adopted. It was seconded by Director Brown and approved with one opposing 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
- 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 "Present," except for Directors Brodeur and Dunn. Secretary Cohee declared that there was a quorum. He then announced that Billy Scott, Judge Advocate and Vickie Garza, Court Reporter, were also present. It was noted that this is Vickie's fourth time as the Association's reporter.

■ President Mac Swain asked for a motion to excuse Directors Brodeur and Dunn.

• Director McHugh made a motion that Director Brodeur be excused. It was seconded by Director Fountain; the motion was approved unanimously.

• Director Brown made a motion that Director Dunn be excused. It was seconded by Director Williams and approved unanimously.

Approval of Previous Meeting:

■ President Mac Swain asked Secretary Cohee to obtain approval of the minutes for the previous Board Meeting held on July 25, 2010 in Arlington, VA. These minutes were printed in the September/October issue of *The Graybeards*.

■ Director Brown made that motion; it was seconded by

Director Griffith and approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

■ President Mac Swain asked Treasurer Jones to give the Treasurer's Report for the third quarter of the fiscal year.

■ Treasurer Jones asked the Board Members to refer to the report they had been provided previously.

• He pointed out that the total assets are now \$416,444. In 2009 the total assets were \$375,993. The total revenue for 2010 is now \$ 255,730, whereas in 2009 it was \$240,099.

• There was a nice contribution from the membership directory of \$28,000, and one of our comrades left \$10,000 to the KWVA in his will.

• The total expenses this year were \$232,257. Last year they were \$228,473. The \$4000 difference is due primarily to the recent meeting in Arlington.

• Our net assets are now \$23,470. Last year they were \$11,626.

• Treasurer Jones further commented that for the past two years he has not had to withdraw funds from the Association's investments. He estimated that there will be an increase of around \$50,000 this year.

• The Association is once again in sound financial condition.

■ President Mac Swain asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Director Brown made that motion, which was seconded by Director Stevens and approved unanimously.

■ Treasurer Jones requested permission to discuss one more subject. President Mac Swain granted permission. The Treasurer commented:

• Jim Doppelhammer, the Associations webmaster, has brought to his attention that it is costing the Association \$4.50 for every copy of *The Graybeards* that is returned to the membership office or forwarded to a different address than the one that is in the database.

• If the Post Office has a change of address and we request in writing that they notify us, they will do so for a 50 cent fee, but the magazine will not be forwarded by them nor will it be returned. It will be destroyed. That's 50 cents compared to \$4.50.

• This will not affect the snowbirds if they have notified the membership office when they will be changing locations.

• Other members who change their address must notify the membership office if they want to continue receiving *The Graybeards*.

■ Director McHugh made a motion that we discontinue the return of the magazine. The motion was seconded by Director Fountain and approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

HRM Group Report:

■ President Mac Swain reported that the HRM Group that managed the Annual Association Membership Meeting in Arlington, VA and was approved by the Board of Directors and also by the membership to handle the 2011 meeting in Boston

has declined. The 2011 meeting will be planned and managed by Director Brodeur and his Chapter, 299.

Bylaws Committee Report (Status of Membership Approved Bylaw to Change the Number of Members Required to Form a Chapter):

■ Committee Chairman Lawhon reported that the change to the requirements for starting a Chapter from 12 members to 10 members has been incorporated.

Liability Insurance for all Chapters and Departments:

■ Director Lawhon made reference to the quote that he received from Past Director Dauster and that he had forwarded to all Board members.

- The quote from Century Surety Company, the only company that submitted a quote, offered coverage of a \$2 million general aggregate limit: \$1 million for personal and advertising injury, \$1 million for each occurrence, \$100,000 for rented premises and \$5,000 for medical expenses, with a \$500.00 deductible for bodily injury and property damage.

- The annual premium is \$26,507.00, including taxes and fees.
- There is also a minimum \$250.00 charge for each special event that is not included in the premium.

■ Vice President Ferris asked what was meant by special event. Director Lawhon commented that was one of the things that Past Director Dauster objected to, and since it was not defined, he asked that it be removed.

■ At the request of President Mac Swain, Director Lawhon made a motion to approve the insurance quote, only if the \$250 special event clause was excluded. It was seconded by Director Brown. There was considerable discussion, pro and con.

■ Director McHugh commented that the American Legion and VFW do not cover their posts, that it would be expensive for National, and that a lot of the Chapters already have their own liability coverage. He recommended a "no" vote.

■ Director Rice said that that his chapter has their own liability insurance and he felt that it is the responsibility of each Chapter to procure its own insurance.

■ Director Fountain commented that he agreed with that.

■ The vote was called for, with only 1 for the motion and 10 against it. The motion failed.

Report on Bylaw Item Approved by Board of Directors about Meeting Requirements on 07/25/2010, but Needing a Motion to Rescind:

■ President Mac Swain asked for a motion to rescind a bylaw change approved by the Board at the July Meeting. A conflict was revealed: the motion put before the Board on July 25 and passed by the Board was different in the verbatim minutes than what Director Lawhon said he had proposed.

- After much discussion and because of the bylaw change, which Director Lawhon said was intended to revise the bylaws to allow for a minimum of two meetings yearly, and would later be properly placed before the Board during New Business, a motion was made by Director McHugh that the bylaw change under discussion be rescinded.

- Director Thompson pointed out that a motion to rescind requires a 2/3 vote. It was seconded by Director Griffith and approved, ten for the motion and one abstention.

Presidents Report on Items Approved by Board at 07/25/2010 Meeting:

■ Harley Coon reinstatement

- President Mac Swain read the letter that he sent to Mr. Coon informing him that his hope of being reinstated in the Korean War Veterans Association has been officially sanctioned by the Board of Directors.

- Mr. Coon was reminded of his remark that he had no desire nor could he physically hold office, even at the Chapter level, and if he did decide to run for an office in a Chapter or National, the Board of Directors would probably consider this a breaking of a trust, with some sort of consequences thought to be justified.

■ Chapter 246 Approved to be Dissolved

- President Mac Swain made reference to a letter that had previously been provided to each Director addressed to inactive member Batzelle.

- While he was alleged to be the President of Chapter 246, he was not, because he has been inactive (dues not paid) since January 2008.

- The letter stated that the Board of Directors had approved a motion to withdraw the Charter from Chapter 246 for non-compliance with the bylaws of the Association.

- Also, both the Secretary of State (MO) and the Department of Corporation for Missouri have been sent letters notifying them of the dissolution.

Request from Korean War National Museum to use the Chapter Addresses on the KWVA web-site:

■ President Mac Swain commented that what they want to do is to send copies of their newsletter to each Chapter.

■ President Mac Swain then asked for a motion that we either do or do not allow them to use our database.

■ Director Brown made a motion that we do not allow them to use our database. The motion was seconded by Director Lawhon.

■ Directors Lawhon, Griffith, and Thompson spoke for the motion.

- Director Fountain commented that this is a new organization, with a new Board of Directors that is trying to get this thing off the ground.

- Director Stevens agreed with Director Fountain and commented that if we vote against providing the Chapter addresses, they can easily interrupt that as lack of support.

■ After more discussion, pro and con, Director Lawhon asked for a vote. There were ten votes for the motion and one opposed. So the motion passed.

Revise the Bylaws and SPM Sections that apply to Membership Ratification for any new Bylaw Changes by the Complete Membership through

The Graybeards:

■ First Vice President (VP) Ferris made a motion to revise the bylaws and SPM that apply to membership ratification for any new bylaw changes by the complete membership through *The Graybeards*. Director McHugh seconded the motion.

■ VP Ferris commented that there used to be 300 to 500 members in attendance at the membership meetings, and any time ratification of a bylaws change was required there were a good portion of members there to vote. He added that at that time he believed that the required quorum was 150. The required quorum is now down to 50, and at the last membership meeting there were only about 70 members in attendance. He did not think that was enough representation from the complete membership.

“All I am suggesting is that we work out some system through which we can put a ballot in *The Graybeards* and allow those people out there who wish to vote and to show concern and to get involved a chance to do it,” he said.

■ Director Lawhon stated that he had written his opinion of the motion and a copy of that was handed out to each Board member. In his opinion, the proposed motion should not be accepted, as it would not allow the members to question Board members face to face on the merits of the change. Direct questioning gives the most effective forum of accountability and the high quality of value that is not possible with the proposed amendment.

He went on to say that Article IV of the Bylaws already provides for the use of a ballot by mail should there not be a quorum at the annual membership meeting, and that there has been no mention of the cost, which he felt would be considerable.

■ Director Thompson commented that everybody on the Bylaws Committee knows that he opposes the change, and that he was going to make a move to first try and kill the motion and then, if that fails, to at least get a count as to how many are for and how many are against. He then made a motion to postpone the pending motion indefinitely. It was seconded by Director Lawhon.

■ Director Thompson then made another motion to close debate and vote immediately on the motion to postpone indefinitely. Director Williams seconded the motion to close debate. The vote was called for. There were 8 for and 3 against the motion to close debate. The motion passed.

Request from CID 311 for Reconsideration to Appoint Beverly Reeves as an Honorary Member of the KWVA:

■ Secretary Cohee told the Board of a second request received from John McKinney, Commander, KWVA Chapter 311, H. Edward Reeves, to give an Honorary Membership to Beverley Reeves, the widow of Chapter 311's namesake.

■ Director Rice commented that he felt privileged that she would want to be connected with our organization, even as an Honorary Member, and he made a motion that we accept her.

■ Director Lawhon said he agreed with Director Rice and he seconded the motion. There was discussion for and against.

■ President Mac Swain called for the vote. There were 2 votes for and 8 against. The motion failed.

Approval for 2011 Fundraiser:

■ Director Griffith presented the plan and details for the 2011 KWVA Fundraiser campaign.

- The plan is for 17,500 fliers and 35,600 envelopes.
- The cost of printing the envelopes and the tickets will be \$2,265.
- First Class postage will be \$7,700, for a total of \$9,965.
- Printing will be done by the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School.
- Prizes for the raffle will be an M-1 Rifle; a laptop computer, a camera and cash. The prizes, their order, and cash amount will be decided by the Fundraiser Committee.

■ Director Griffith made a motion to approve the mailing of the fundraiser letters first class, not to exceed \$14,000. It was seconded by Director McHugh and approved unanimously.

■ Fundraiser Committee Chairman Griffith was congratulated by all.

■ Director Thompson requested that the Chairman's name be put in front of *The Graybeards* as the contact for questions about the raffle.

Proposed Bylaws Change to add Specificity to Requirements for Meetings of the Board:

■ Director Lawhon made a motion to change the KWVA Bylaws, as follows:

“The Board has the basic management functions of planning, organizing, staffing, directing and controlling for the Association overall. Fulfilling those functions requires Board Meetings and training, and the effective coordinated formulation of policies and knowable oversight of execution thereof. The Board shall have at least two (2) scheduled meetings between Annual Association Meetings, the second or last during the days immediately preceding the Annual Association Membership Business Meeting. All scheduled Board Meetings shall be considered portal to portal return; with scheduled travel days, scheduled meeting days, and in the case of the meeting occurring immediately preceding the Annual Membership Meeting include attendance at the said Association Meeting, and return travel. All Board meetings shall provide sufficient duration to complete all Association business placed before them for consideration. The Board shall meet at any other and/or additional times that may be required by the Board of Directors ...”.

Those are the revisions to Article III (F) Board of Directors of the Bylaws.

■ Director Lawhon's motion was seconded by Director Brown.

■ In the discussion that followed, Director Lawhon pointed out that we are now a federally chartered Veterans Service Organization (VSO), with the rights and obligations that go with it. To do that, he said, we will need a structure, a stable platform for the Board of Directors on which they can depend, and from which to operate. A minimum of two meetings is a reasonable thing to do. Now, he continued, a Director who has a project in mind can depend on at least twice a year the chance to either introduce it or promote it. Also, one thing this does is that if an emergency arises and we need a third meeting, it's there if we

need it.

Director Lawhon went on to say that in his opinion it allows for emergencies to be dealt with, and gives the Board and the President the procedural vehicle to take it further, if needed.

■ When the Bylaw change was presented to the Bylaws Committee, it unanimously rejected the idea of mandating three meetings, and decided that two annual meetings were proper.

■ President Mac Swain spoke next. He spoke of the difficulties of his executive tasks, of the many unexpected items that confront him, and the extra difficulties that would arise from being compelled to have two meetings annually. He said, of course, like everything else, I'm the President, but he would have to follow the Bylaws. He emphasized that he didn't want the Board to put two meetings into the Bylaws.

■ Director Lawhon repeated that as a normal course of business, he believed that two meetings is reasonable and fitting for the opportunities and obligations that are going to be presented to future Boards and future officers of an Association that now has VSO status and obligations. He urged the Board to vote "yes" on the motion.

■ Vice President Ferris, as Chairman, asked if there was any more discussion. There being none, Director Lawhon asked for a roll call vote.

■ A roll call vote was taken. The result was 8 votes for, 2 against and 1 abstention, passing the motion.

Proposed Addition to the SPM for a Procedure for Scheduling Meetings:

■ Director Lawhon made a motion to change the KWVA Standard Procedure Manual (SPM), Section 3.9.1 " ... *Director Lawhon: Add 3.9.1.1 and 3.9.1.2 as follows:*

3.9.1 Call For a Meeting: Upon request by the President, the KWVA Secretary shall issue a call for a meeting to all Board members and others who may be required for the conduct of the Annual Membership Meeting

3.9.1.2 Meetings, Board of Directors: The President, at his discretion, shall choose the location and date of meetings of the Board of Directors. There shall be at least one other meeting than the Board meeting occurring in conjunction with the Annual Membership Meeting.

■ Director Stevens seconded the motion and the vote for approval was unanimous.

Proposed request to add definition to Requirements for Filling Association Officer/Director Vacancies:

■ Director Lawhon made a motion to change the KWVA Bylaws, Article II, Section 7 to read as follows:

Section 7. Vacancies. Association office vacancies shall be filled with the applicable method, as follows:

7.1 Elected Board Vacancies. A vacancy in any elected office may be filled by the Board until the next election or not filled if the term is less than one year for said office. They may do so at the next called meeting; or "Business Without a Meeting," should they choose to do so, using the next unelected candidate from the most recent election with the most votes. The candi-

date under consideration shall have run in that election for that office. If there is no candidate eligible, the office shall remain empty until the next Association election. A simple majority of those Board members eligible to vote and voting shall be required.

7.2 Non-full terms. Service by any officer serving less than a full term does not count against the two-term restriction.

■ Director Dappen seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Report of President's actions re status of IRS 501c19:

■ President Mac Swain reported that we are worried about the possibility of losing our deductibility status because of the way a Korean Service veteran counts against the Association since they are not considered Korean War veterans. He has prepared a letter to 3rd District (Texas) Congressman Sam Johnson, asking him to effect whatever changes can be made by Congress to fix the problem.

Legacy of Korean War Foundation.

■ Director Thompson reported on the Legacy:

- Currently we have received some donations to the Legacy of Korean War Foundation. \$1,300 from Chapter 270; Miles Brown donated \$100; Glen Thompson, \$50, Bill Mac Swain \$25; and we have loans: a \$2,000 dollar loan from Lee Dauster and the \$850 I paid for the 501(C)(3) application, which will not be due and payable until after we have at least \$10,000 in donations.

- The Legacy of the Korean War Foundation did get all its book work and legal— it got us a letter of determination and it's a fully functioning 501(C)(3).

- We are working on trying to get Hannah Kim to get that website up. Then, at least we'll have a place where people can log in, hit that donate button, and donate directly to the Foundation.

- We are working to take advantage of this holiday period when everybody's in a generous mood.

- And I would like for us to get Hannah Kim to start making contacts with donors from Korean-American and the Korean community. Hopefully, we can get her to start making those contacts.

- I see where she sent an e-mail that someone promised to donate \$10,000. And they've got another promise for \$1,000. I don't think we've seen any of it yet, but hopefully the money will roll in here pretty soon.

- We're really counting on this Christmas season to payoff. This is when everybody needs to donate, and if you're a 501(C)(3) you need to be soliciting donations during the Christmas season.

■ Treasurer Jones reported that Director Fountain contributed \$25 at the meeting.

Annual Membership Meetings.

■ Locations for the 2012/2013 Annual Membership meetings were placed before the Board for consideration.

- Director Luther Dappen contacted South Dakota KWVA Chapters 160 & 194, which are extending their support for hosting the 2012 KWVA Annual Membership Meeting. The venue

will be in the beautiful Black Hills of Rapid City, South Dakota. There are several hotels that would accommodate our group, including a banquet room, meeting room, and hospitality room, and they're served by five major airlines.

- The other proposed location is from David A. Mills, the Adjutant of Missouri Chapter, CID 96. His letter says, "I'm writing to suggest your consideration of Saint Louis, Missouri as the site for the 2012 Gathering and Annual Members Meeting of the KWVA. In support of my suggestion, allow me to state by my calculations that within 350 miles of highway of Saint Louis there are 30 active chapters of the KWVA. That fact alone seems to make it possible for more members to attend. The Saint Louis Convention and Visitor's Bureau has successfully handled conventions, attracting more attendees than the total membership of the KWVA, and their assistance is readily available if desired."

For the Good of the Order:

- Changes/New Appointments: Director Stevens to replace Director Brodeur as Membership Chairman. Motion made by Director Lawhon to accept, seconded by Director Brown and passed unanimously.

- Director McHugh to replace Director Brown as Election Chairman. Motion made by Director Brown to accept, seconded by Director Stevens and passed unanimously.

- Add Edward Bierce to the E&G Committee. Motion made by Director McHugh to accept, seconded by Director Brown and approved unanimously.

- Director Dappen to be the Chairman of the Resolutions Committee. Director Stevens made a motion to accept, seconded by Director McHugh and passed unanimously.

- Increase per diem for the Washington, DC. area: Director McHugh made a motion to increase the per diem for the Washington, DC area to a minimum of \$20.00 per day for travel days and \$30 for meeting days. Director Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Treasurer Jones played Taps, President Mac Swain gave the benediction and the salute to the Flag.

The meeting was adjourned at 1636.

*Respectfully submitted,
Frank Cohee, National Secretary*

Editor's Address Change

It is time for me to relocate to my "southern office." Effective 1 January 2010 my mailing address will be:

Arthur G. Sharp
895 Ribaut Road, #13
Beaufort, SC 29902

Make sure you include the #13 in the address. Otherwise, there is no telling whose mail box your missives will land in.

That address will remain in effect until further notice. Of course, you can still send mail to the "northern office," but it will be forwarded to Beaufort, which means a built-in delay.

My phone # will also change. Call me at (860) 202-3088 or (860) 944-8693. The preferred number is (860) 202-3088.

KWVA Bylaws Amendments

The following change to the KWVA Bylaws was approved by the Board of Directors at their Meeting on October 19, 2010. Pursuant to Article VIII, Section 2, Bylaws Amendments the Membership is hereby notified that the change will be presented for ratification at the next scheduled Membership Meeting.

The motion to amend the Bylaws that was approved requires the KWVA Annual Board Meeting to be of a length and time to properly enable all Association business that may be at hand, and to require at least two (2) scheduled meetings between Annual Association Meetings.

The revised Bylaws text is inserted below in ***bold italics***.

"...Article III, ...F. Board of Directors. The Association Board shall consist of seventeen (17) members, being the President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and twelve Directors. The President of the Association shall be the Chairman. 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.

The Board has the basic management functions of Planning, Organizing, Staffing, Directing and Controlling for the Association, overall. Fulfilling these functions requires Board meetings and training, and the effective coordinated formulation of policies and knowledgeable oversight of the execution thereof.

The Board shall have at least two (2), scheduled meetings between Annual Association Meetings, the second (or last) during the days immediately preceding the Annual Association Membership business meeting.

All Scheduled Board Meetings shall be considered portal to portal return; with scheduled travel days, scheduled meeting days, and in the case of the meeting occurring immediately preceding the Annual Membership Meeting, includes attendance at the said Association meeting, and return travel.

All Board meetings shall provide sufficient duration to complete all Association business placed before them for consideration. The Board shall meet at any other and/or additional times that may be required by the Board of Directors, and called by the President, and may conduct business by mail without a meeting when done in compliance with Article II, Section 2. Board of Directors., D. Business Without a Meeting, of these Bylaws. It shall establish and maintain a Standard Procedure Manual and is responsible for orderly and timely actions between its regular meetings.

All members of the Board shall be notified of the time, place and agenda for the meeting. The Board shall determine excused absence using the definitions established in the SPM. No person shall receive any salary for services as a member of the Board who is eligible to vote. The Board may, from time to time, establish fees for services of the Secretary or Treasurer..."

*George E. Lawhon, Director
Chairman, KWVA Bylaws Committee*



The Sam Johnson Chapter Chapter 270 Korean War Veterans Association



Founders:
Ed Buckman
Miles Brown
PO Box 833397 Richardson, TX 75083 www.kwva270.org Ph: (972) 233-7263 email: tjl@flash.net

Past Presidents
Charles Smith
Ed Buckman

November 01, 2010

Officers:

President:
J. D. Randolph
First Vice President:
Paul Pfommer
Second Vice President:
Keith Fannon
Secretary:
J. Tilford Jones
Treasurer:
Ed Wucmsier
At Large Directors:
Richard Bove
Bill Curman
Doyle Dykes
Dick Lehe
Homer Mundy
Robert Wojciechowski

Mr. Art Sharp
Editor, The Graybeards
152 Sky View Drive
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Dear Art,

Just a note to let you know that KWVA Inc. has received a check in the amount of \$500.00 as another contribution to the Graybeards from the Sam Johnson Chapter 270. I will deposit the check into our account today.

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

Sincerely yours,

J. Tilford Jones
Secretary, KWVA Chapter 270

Appointed Positions:
Chaplain:
Ralph Smith
Color Guard
Richard Sanchez
Communication:
Doyle Dykes
Education:
Jerry Kasten
Finance Committee:
Bill Curman
Newsletter:
Glen Thompson
Quartermaster:
Gyne Harris
Sergeant-at-Arms

Korean War Veterans Association Chapter 270, Inc.

PO Box 833397, Richardson, TX 75083

Anyone remember the atomic cannon?

We came across a reference recently to the atomic cannon, which John Martin Campbell wrote about on p. 93 in *Slinging the Bull in Korea* (see the book review on p. 56). He wrote:

Our third day out, on a heavily traveled dirt road behind the forward ridges, we found an exceptionally big, long-barreled field gun that had just been pulled down from the Line by an army tractor and a dozen U.S. artillerymen. Neither Bill nor I had seen another like it, nor did we know what it was meant for until an artillery captain explained that it was an atomic cannon. Its low-yield shells were designed to wreak havoc among enemy companies and battalions. He and his men had been trained in its operation, which was the reason why they were there. But, he said, orders had come down at the last minute to scrub the mission and get the cannon back to where it had come from.

Does anyone remember the atomic cannon? Was it ever used in Korea, or was it there as a psychological weapon? Did any of our members actually see one in Korea?

Please let us know if you remember it at all. Send your remembrances to Atomic Cannon Editor, *The Graybeards*, 895 Ribaut Rd., #13, Beaufort, SC 29902.

Thanks.

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.

CONTRIBUTOR LOCATION

GRAYBEARDS

- Elzey Adams FL
- Nicanor O. Benavidez CA
- Raymond Bosch OH
- Charles F. Brewer Jr. SC
- William T. Crowe MA
- C-1-7 Reunion CT
- John P. Dempster MI
- IMO Leon Lee
- Mahoning Valley CID 137 OH
- IMO Chap. 137's 41 deceased members.
- Sam Johnson CID 270 TX
- N. E. Harris NY
- IMO Richard L. Harris
- Sven Johnson NJ
- Charles E. Keone MA
- Lloyd M. Loop NY
- Edward A. Morin MA
- Marilyn M. Roberts IN
- In Honor of the 2nd FA Rocket Battery (Korea)
- Charlene J. Stevens NY
- IMO Richard L. Harris
- Charlotte P. Tomajer NY
- IMO Richard L. Harris

KWVA

- Scott C. Massoni NY
- In Honor of the 50th Wedding Anniversary of
Charlie & Maureen Bours
- John M. McCain KS

Questions for future articles...

There used to be a quaint custom in which troops were actually "drummed off" a base after being convicted of a major violation of military protocol and for which they may have received a dishonorable discharge. When did that practice end? When was the last time any of you remember seeing or hearing of someone being "drummed off" a base?

We are also looking for stories about the Army's and/or Navy's assaults on the Hwachon Dam in April and May 1951.

Anyone who has stories to contribute about either of the above topics is invited to send them to Features Editor, 895 Ribaut Rd. #13, Beaufort SC 29902.

I arrived at Pusan, Korea on 18 October 1952, and was on the front lines by the 26th. At this point, I had been moving so fast in the Army's pipeline system since leaving the States that I could not begin writing letters to anyone. There wasn't an address for them to write to me until I arrived at my permanent unit in Korea. I was rotated through 8th Army, then down to 7th Infantry Division, then assigned to the 57th FA Bn of the 7th Div. I landed in "C" Btry of the 57th on 25 October 1952, where I finally had an address for folks to write to me.

So, after getting settled in at an FO bunker on the MLR with "L" Company of the 31st Inf Regt, I was able to start writing letters to my wife, Joyce, in Eastland, TX, to my folks in Weatherford, TX, and to my twin brother at an Air Force base in Japan. I had probably been on the front lines for a couple weeks before getting my first letter from Joyce, and maybe three weeks or so before getting a letter from Mama (from Weatherford). In her letter, Mama expressed much concern for my safety in a combat zone. (I could sort of "read between the lines.")

By this time, it was already early- to mid-November. Mama said she knew that Jack and I would not be home for Christmas—which would be my first one away from home ever. She added that since we would not be home for Christmas, maybe the two of us could get together for the day!

I don't think that Mama realized just how far away Japan was from my location on the 38th Parallel in Korea. I thought, "Fat chance of that ever happening! Here I am, with an infantry rifle company on the front lines, living in trenches and bunkers, and Jack is over there in a barracks at a plush Air Force base." I didn't tell Mama in my reply that I doubted it could ever happen. Oh Ye of little faith!

During the first few weeks on the front lines, my goal each morning was just to live through that day, thereby getting one day closer to when I would get to go home. But, the weeks went by quickly. Before mid-December, I lucked out and was transferred to the Division Air Section, which was about seven miles behind the MLR. There we had much better living quarters without daily incoming

Christmas in Korea: 1952

By Gene C. Richards

artillery and mortars from the enemy. I immediately wrote to Joyce, to my folks, and to twin brother Jack to tell them of my new assignment and my new address.

Within a few days of Jack's receiving my first letter from the Buzz Air Section, he was in his CO's office doing routine duty and carrying on a friendly conversation with Major James Sneed, his CO. Jack was Major Sneed's jeep driver. He really liked the Major.

Jack mentioned off the cuff that he had a twin brother in Korea who was assigned to the 7th Inf Div Air Section. Major Sneed looked at Jack and asked, "How would you like to spend Christmas day with your brother?"

At first, Jack thought he was kidding. But, his CO quickly told him that he could cut TDY orders for him to deliver some commo equipment to K-16, an Air Force base near Seoul, Korea. (His Communications Squadron had detachments at 6 or 7 Air Force bases scattered across South Korea.)

His CO then suggested that once he got to K-16 and made his delivery, he could get a three-day pass. It would be up to him to figure out how to get from K-16 to where I was.

Jack quickly conveyed this information to me by letter, giving me the time that he was scheduled to start his three-day pass from K-16. It just so happened that the 7th Inf Division had an L-20 Beaver airplane that, among other duties,

was used as the division's mail plane. (The mail was always picked up from 8th Army at K-16). I wrote Jack a quick letter, telling him the time our 7th Div mail plane would be landing there at K-16 on Christmas Eve day.

On Christmas Eve morning, I chatted with the pilot who was scheduled to fly the Beaver mail plane that morning to K-16 to pick up the 7th Division mail. I told him to find Jack at K-16 and bring him back with him to Able-7 airstrip. What Mama had told me in a letter just a few weeks back, that maybe Jack and I could get together for Christmas, actually happened!

Here we were, 9,000 miles from home, on my first Christmas away from home (Jack's first was '51, in Japan). But, the two of us were together! Does the Lord make miracles happen, or what?

I had flown my first mission on December 11, 1952, just a couple weeks before. On Christmas Day (the war didn't stop or take a recess, just because it was Christmas), I flew my 13th mission. When we returned to the airstrip, Jack was there to greet me. Before I could even get my parachute off, he grabbed me and gave me a big hug! It was indeed my most memorable Christmas ever. And, it happened (from this March '08 writing of this story) over 55 years ago, as suggested by our Mama, who had more faith than anyone I have ever known. I didn't think it could happen. Again, oh ye of little Faith!

There is a special bond between twins. I cannot explain it, but I know it is there. There were ten of us brothers and sisters in our family. I have always loved them all. (At the time of this writing, we have lost 3 of those 10). Even though Jack and I have gone our separate ways and lived somewhat different lives (he was a carpenter, like four other brothers), he and I have always had a closeness, and I think we sense it anytime we get together.

That special bond that most twins have is there. It is that same bond and closeness that we both felt on a Christmas day, more than 55 years ago, and more than 9,000 miles from our home.

*Gene C. Richards, 4328 Booth Calloway Rd., North Richland Hills, TX 76180
817-590-0245, ocsGene@sbcglobal.net*

Request for info: Battle at Chaun-ni/Hill 1051

There was a battle at the village of Chaun-ni on or about 18 May 1951 which has been described by some sources as a "massacre" of U.S. Army troops. We are looking to fill in some blanks about this battle.

We have the names of some of the people and places possibly connected with the battle about who and which we would like some more information. Keywords include Hill 1051, Ernest L. Graveline, Erik Larsen, Hong Chong, and 2nd and 3rd Battalion, 23rd Regiment, Second Infantry Division.

Apparently, there is a plaque in place at a school at Chaun-ni, which reads:

This plaque is dedicated to the memory of a true American hero, my colleague and friend Captain Ernest L. Graveline, Jr., M.D. Battalion Surgeon, 23 RCT, 3rd Bat., 21D and to the heroic combat medics of Task Force Zebra who treated and cared for the wounded soldiers at this site. (Chaun-ni, Korea / Hill 1051).

Captain Graveline was captured here on May 18, 1951 and died on October 15 in Camp #1, North Korea.

If anyone has any information on this battle, plaque, people involved, etc., please send it to Arthur G. Sharp, 895 Ribaut Rd. #13, Beaufort, SC 29902.

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.

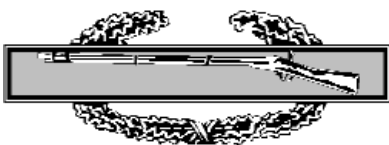
ATTENTION: KOREAN WAR VETERANS

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:

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

'You treat me, Joe'

By Forest Kimler

As a roving reporter/editor for *Stars & Stripes* during the 1962-1973 Vietnam War years, I made regular stops at the Republic of Korea on my all-but-constant traversing and covering of the Hawaii to India circulation area of our daily Pacific edition. In that 11-year period, I watched and helped chronicle South Korea's rise from the ashes of the so-called "Forgotten War" so well documented by your reporting and the contributions of the surviving veterans to *The Graybeards* publication.

It is more than gratifying to learn through your magazine that the ROK is so overtly grateful in its recognition of the service rendered and the sacrifices made by our servicemen and women in that war—so much so that the ROK government is paying 50 percent of the airfare for our veterans to come back to South Korea to see what they made possible for the Korean people to accomplish through the shedding of American blood, sweat and tears to keep them free. It is a noble gesture in recognition of a noble deed by our noble defenders of liberty who fought and died for a just cause so far from their own land of opportunity.

I was alerted to the 60th anniversary of the Korean War by the receipt of your *Graybeards Magazine* from a veteran I asked to recount what the war was like for him when the Land of the Morning Calm erupted into a hell on earth. Here is what he told me:

"I remember one time, on November 27th, 1950, we moved up closer to the Yalu River and at 3 a.m. we were attacked. I know the time, because as I went to wake my foxhole buddy, all hell broke loose. Our troops didn't know it but we were surrounded by Chinese and we started pulling back south.

We walked all afternoon and after dark we started up a mountain. We could hear the Chinese talking on another mountain. We didn't dig in. As it started getting daylight, the Chinese blew their bugles and they fired two mortar rounds that were direct hits. A GI from another squad had come up and lain down next

What his buddies and so many others had failed to appreciate was that Cpl. Carl E. White, RA 15274670, was in a bitter cold foxhole on Christmas Eve sixty years ago in 1950, serving his country and risking his life for all who benefited from his service for only \$134.50 per month, including combat pay.

to me. I felt him move, but thought it was a reaction from the blast.

He had been hit in the neck and chest and died within a few minutes. Had his body not shielded me, I would not be here now."

This veteran survivor of the Korean War is Carl White, of Roman Harbor, Proctorville, Ohio. He enlisted in the U.S. Army on January 4, 1949. He served nearly two years in the 7th Infantry Division, arriving in Pusan on September 3, 1950. White was fighting for his life and the freedom of the South Korean people in the first four days of his arrival. He continued:

"We went on patrol and artillery rounds started hitting the hillside ahead of us. You could see people running and everyone except me began firing at them. After a few odd looks at me by the old hands in the platoon, I also began to fire at them. I had hunted squirrels and rabbits before, but to shoot at a human being was a little hard to do. It didn't take too long after that, however, to get used to shooting at and hoping to hit the enemy."

White is now retired with his wife Peggy in a beautiful home by the picturesque Ohio River. They have been married 58 years and have two sons with a major pharmaceutical firm. Carl received his basic training at Fort Knox, Kentucky, before being shipped out to Sendai, Japan. He was passing through Tokyo at noon on June 25, 1950, when he heard the news of North Korea invading the South.

"At that time, even in Japan, North and South Korea seemed a million miles away and I didn't pay much attention. Little did I realize that within two and a

half months, I would be landing at Pusan with a 15-round, single-shot carbine ready for combat. It didn't take long for them to hand me an M1 rifle and I was assigned to K Co., 35th Regiment, 25th Infantry Division. Within five days we were on patrol and I had my introduction to combat. We began moving north so fast and beating the North Koreans so badly that we could see a short war. Rumors were that we would be home by Christmas. But then we were loaded into trucks and it didn't take but a few minutes to know that we going the wrong way to be going home. The Chinese had entered the war."

In December of 1950, Carl became a combat squad leader. He was only 21 years of age and was the only one left in his 3rd Squad. The rest of the squad had been killed in action, wounded in action or sent back with frozen feet. The replacements he would lead had no combat experience, and soon their ranks were being depleted.

"At one time, when we were pulling back south, our lieutenant had us set up a defense on a small hill. We could see hundreds of Chinese moving down a road. If they had seen us, we wouldn't have had a chance. When we started moving again, we ran into a road block and things became so disorganized that we began running as fast as we could. I remember stopping on a small bank to catch my breath when a burp gun kicked up the dirt on each side of me. That gave me more go-power. My squad leader at the time said he had to rest and I couldn't get him going again. At that point there were two Chinese troops within 25

feet of me and I knew I was within seconds of death or capture, but they didn't raise their rifles to fire. I wonder why to this day why and how I was able to get away."

White said he never had a chance to get to know many of the men in his platoon, because most of them were gone, killed or wounded, within three months of his arrival.

"All of that was always on my mind, and I couldn't help wondering when my turn was coming. I remember once hearing a 'pop' right beside my head that made me eat dirt fast.

It wasn't much relief remembering that you were told you wouldn't hear the one that hit you.

The hardest things to bear were the mountains, the cold weather, and the snow. There were a lot of frozen feet. I did a lot of walking between Pusan in the south and the Yalu River in the north, and sometimes some running. I think I did a fair job as a soldier and squad leader and I am proud of my service in Korea. We were able to stop Communism from taking over in the South, and possibly accomplished even more than that."

The President of the Republic of Korea wants Carl White and the thousands of veterans like him to come back to see what "more than that" they did in enabling the people of South Korea to accomplish their miracle of recovery as one of Asia's most productive "little tigers" because of the sacrifices made by the Americans in what became the "forgotten war" to so many.

"The biggest surprise I got when I got off the Greyhound Bus in Huntington, West Va., at 2:30 in the morning after being discharged on January 5, 1952, was that my mother and stepfather were there to meet me. The second biggest surprise was that my old civilian buddies, themselves, seemed surprised that the reason I had been gone for so long was because a war had been going on."

Carl said the fact that the war had been labeled a "police action" seemed to make a lot of people back in the States think the American troops had been writing tickets to the North Koreans for trespassing. What his buddies and so many others had failed

to appreciate was that Cpl. Carl E. White, RA 15274670, was in a bitter cold foxhole on Christmas Eve sixty years ago in 1950, serving his country and risking his life for all who benefited from his service for only \$134.50 per month, including combat pay.

"I remember that Christmas Eve very well because I was very cold and very scared and wondering if I would ever get to go home," he said in a telephone interview. "I also will never forget Thanksgiving Day, 1950. We had turkey and all the trimmings on the side of a mountain somewhere in North Korea. It was a sight to see our mess sergeant coming up the mountain with at least 25 or 30 Koreans carrying everything needed for our Thanksgiving Day meal.

After dinner, our platoon went on patrol and made contact with the first Chinese soldier our company had seen. I was with two other troops and we found the Chinese soldier in a small village. His first words were "You treat me, Joe."

Cpl. Carl White had a long career in sales when he finally got home—even though he felt at times that he was lucky to survive the war.

Kimler is a veteran award-winning newsman who served with the U.S. Navy's amphibious forces in the Pacific Theater in WWII. He is now retired and writes from St. Augustine, Florida. Reach him at 1255 Ponce Island Dr., Apt. C, St. Augustine, FL 32095.

From the Vault

Occasionally we resurrect some material that was sent to us but for some reason never made it into the magazine, which some people might think is a euphemism for "We lost or misplaced it." That is not usually the case. We make every effort to get most of the material submitted into *The Graybeards*. Here is some of that material.

The children and me

This photo of me with some Korean children was taken in Chunchon City, central Korea, sometime after the armistice was signed. At that time I had just been transferred from X Corps to Eighth Army (Infantry).

Thomas Nuzzo, 655 Forte Blvd., Franklin Square, NY 11010, 516-486-4723



Thomas Nuzzo and Korean children

Foundation is Formed to Ensure the Legacy of the Korea War Veterans is Never Forgotten

By Glen Thompson
KWVA Director

Legacy of the Korea War Foundation (LKWF) is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) Public Charity and is listed on Guide Star <http://www2.guidestar.org/>. You can visit us on our website at www.legacykw.org.

LKWF was incorporated and granted a 501(c)(3) exemption at no cost to KWVA. Yet, it was formed to support the Association's educational programs, such as the Tell America Program and *Korea War-The Graybeards* publication.

History

In October 2009, a group of KWVA members met with Hannah Kim to consider creating an educational arm of the KWVA that can solicit funds from Korean-American individuals and businesses. The veterans sought Hannah Kim's guidance because of her international reputation for promoting Korean War veterans' causes. For example, she successfully guided the Korean War Veterans Recognition Act through Congress.

Lee Dauster, the group's spokesman, explained the plan to KWVA's Board of Directors at the October 25, 2009 meeting. Then he introduced a motion to form a fund-raising committee charged with creating a nonprofit organization to raise funds for the Association. The KWVA Board approved Director Dauster's motion unanimously.

The new fund-raising committee decided to form a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation for a couple reasons. First, 501(c)(3) organizations have a higher standing with the IRS and the public than other nonprofits because contributions to them are always deductible. Second, many large donors limit their contributions only to 501(c)(3) organizations.

Since the committee had no funds, its members did all the research and filed all the forms—even though none had legal training or experience forming a 501(c)(3). As a result, forming the nonprofit took several months, but the committee saved several thousand dollars in legal and consulting expenses.

Our inexperience yielded some surprises. One of them was that IRS rules forbid 501(c)(3)s from funding nonprofits other than other 501(c)(3)s.

The difficulty for the committee was to find a way to organize our 501(c)(3) to financially support KWVA without writing checks directly to the Association. Since 501(c)(3)s must be organized exclusively for religious, charitable, educational, or scientific purposes, the committee chose educational.

It agreed to name its corporation Legacy of the Korea War Foundation, Inc (LKWF), and incorporated in the State of Texas, stating as its purpose, "The Corporation will provide education to the public about the Korean War."

In writing the bylaws and completing the Form 1023 application to the IRS, the committee disclosed the corporation's relationship with KWVA. The committee wrote the Narrative Description of Activities in Form 1023 to satisfy the IRS requirement that all activity must be exclusively to educate the public about the Korean War.

That Narrative Statement explained that LKWF would pay the editor of the educational publication, *Korea War – The Graybeards* approximately \$2,000 for each of six issues. It would also pay the contract publisher approximately \$22,000 for binding, printing, and mailing each of six issues of *Korea War – The Graybeards*. Finally, it expects educational material for the Tell America Program to cost about \$40,000 a year.

The IRS agreed with our proposal and issued a letter of determination granting the corporation exemption as a 501(c)(3) Public Charity on August 10, 2010.

More recently, Hannah Kim got the website www.legacykw.org up and promoting the good works planned by Legacy of the Korea War Foundation.

To donate, write your check to: Legacy of the Korea War Foundation or to LKWF
Mail your donations to:

Legacy of the Korea War Foundation
c/o Tilford Jones, Treasurer
6958 Heatherknoll
Dallas, TX 75248-5534

Dog tags go GPS

By Tom Moore

Most veterans remember receiving their dog tags, hanging them around their necks, and feeling them as a silent statement of commitment. The dog tags themselves individualized the human being who wore them within a huge and faceless organization. But, did you ever wonder about those two oblong, 2" x 1 1/8", M-1940, notched, single-hole, steel-corrosion resistant, dog tags and ball chains you were issued, and which became a permanent part of you?

There was a myth about the dog tag notch, i.e., that it was to be stuck between the front teeth of the deceased for body identification.

Back in 1861, some Civil War troops wore a piece of wood on a string around their necks. In 1913, Army regulations made "dog tags" mandatory. The purpose was to identify positively every fallen soldier. The Civil War identification rate was only 58%. Later, the dog tag was used primarily for the identification of the dead and wounded, and to provide essential basic medical information.

The M-1940 dog tag had indent text (sunken lettering) and rolled edges to the back. It was the only type used in WWII, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. The embossed (raised) lettering and rolled edges to the front were adopted by the U.S. military in the 1980s at approximately 50% of U.S. bases.

In the Korean War era, dog tags were set up for 5 lines of information, with a maximum of 17 characters (spaces per line). Usually, 3 or 4 lines were used, and most had last name, first name, and middle initial on the first line. The second line usually carried the service number. The Army also had Army prefixes: RA (regular army volunteer), US (an enlisted draftee), NG (National Guard), ER (enlisted reserve), and O (officer). Some dog tags also carried the blood type here.

During the Korean War, there was no rhesus factor on the blood type (+ or -);

Missing Soldiers

that technology did not exist. On some dog tags (Army), the third line carried tetanus date and blood type. On Marine dog tags, bt (blood type), and t “letters” were dropped. Most Army fourth lines carried religious preference, C (Catholic), H (Hebrew), P (Protestant), or were left blank for no preference.

The Navy listed USN-USNR and religious preference, mostly on the fifth line. In the Vietnam era, the Marine Corps added gas mask size (xs, s, m, l, xl) to their dog tags. Serial numbers were used exclusively until the end of 1967, when the use of Social Security numbers (nine digits) was introduced.

There was a myth about the dog tag notch, i.e., that it was to be stuck between the front teeth of the deceased for body identification. In reality, the notch on the M-1940 dog tag (authorized on 12 Dec. 1940) was used to seat the dog tag into a model 70 addressograph (imprinter). This hand-held machine was used to imprint or transfer the raised letters and numbers on the dog tag to a casualty reporting medical form for tagging individual personnel. A pin in the imprinter allowed the dog tag to be inserted only one way, face up, with the notch in the lower right position.

During the Korean War (before DNA), POWs would place a dog tag in the mouth of a deceased POW, which helped identify some of these men later. The “John Wayne,” P-38 or P-51 can openers were also attached to the dog tag chain by many troops. The Dept. of the Army today has developed a new dog tag, which will hold 80% of a soldier’s medical and dental data on a microchip.

The Marine Corps is testing the yellow Tactical Medical Coordination System (“Tacmedcs”) which uses radio frequency technology, electronics, and global-positioning systems to pinpoint the wounded.

Records confirm that the one military possession veterans retain most is their dog tags.

*Thomas E. Moore
20838 Gleneagles Links Dr.
Estero, FL 33928-5902, 317-849-1924*

Soldier Missing from Korean War Identified

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) announced today that the remains of a serviceman missing in action from the Korean War have been identified and will be returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

Army Cpl. Floyd E. Hooper, 27, of Stratton, Colo., was buried on Nov. 13 in his hometown. In February 1951, his unit, the 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, fought against Chinese Communist forces in support of Operation Thunderbolt, an operation to sweep and clear enemy forces occupying areas south of the Han River.

Strong enemy forces supported by artillery fire forced his unit to withdraw to a defensive perimeter where he was captured on Feb. 4, 1951, near Yangp’yong, Korea. After the 1953 armistice, it was learned from surviving POWs that he had been held in a POW camp in Suan County, North Korea, and died of malnutrition and dysentery just a few months later.

Between 1991 and 1994, North Korea gave the United States 208 boxes of remains believed to contain the remains of 200-400 servicemen. North Korean documents turned over with one of the boxes indicated the remains were exhumed near Suan County. This location correlates with Hooper’s last known location.

Analysts from DPMO developed case leads with information spanning more than 58 years. Through interviews with surviving POW eyewitnesses, experts validated circumstances surrounding the soldier’s captivity and death, confirming wartime documentation of his loss.

Among other forensic identification tools and circumstantial evidence, scientists from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command used dental comparisons and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory used mitochondrial DNA - which matched that of his brother - in the identification of his remains.

More than 2,000 servicemen died as prisoners of war during the Korean War. With this accounting, more than 8,000 service members still remain missing from the conflict.

For additional information on the Defense Department’s mission to account for missing Americans, visit the DPMO web site at <http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo> or call 703-699-1169.

U.S. Department of Defense

Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs)

Also recovered were:

- **Cpl. Frank H. Smith**, U.S. Army, 5th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, who was lost on July 25, 1951, in South Korea while under enemy attack. His remains were identified on May 25, 2010.

- **Sgt. Donald M. LaForest and Master Sgt. John G. Linkowski**, both U.S. Army, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, lost early November 1950, in North Korea while advancing on enemy forces. Their remains were identified on July 27, 2009.

- **Cpl. Harry J. Reeve**, U.S. Army, 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, who was lost on Nov. 1, 1950, in North Korea while advancing on enemy forces. His remains were identified on July 27, 2009.

- **Pfc. Charles H. Higdon**, U.S. Army, 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, who was lost early November 1950, in North Korea while advancing on enemy forces. His remains were identified on July 27, 2009.

- **Cpl. Stanley P. Arendt**, U.S. Army, L Company, 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, who was lost on November 1, 1950 in North Korea while advancing on enemy forces. His remains were identified on July 27, 2009.

- **Master Sgt. Roy E. Head**, U.S. Army, Headquarters Company, 49th Field Artillery Battalion, who was lost spring 1951 at a POW camp in North Korea, where he died of malnutrition. His remains were identified on May 11, 2009.

A message from a 'Digger's Daughter'

Just prior to Thanksgiving 2009, the daughter of an Australian Korean War veteran visited St. Louis in an effort to view as many Korean War monuments as possible during her brief three-day stay. She did it in respect to a promise she made to her father, who died early in 2008, and because Australia did not, until recently, have memorials for any specific conflict era, but single memorials for all veterans of all wars.

The daughter started an email friendship with a woman from the St. Charles, Missouri area. The woman suggested that the daughter visit and stay with her in St. Charles and visit all the Korean Memorials in the St. Louis and St. Charles area.

Once the Aussie's daughter confirmed her travel plans, the St. Charles woman contacted a KWVA National officer, who in turn contacted Frank Williams of CID 186 and State Commander for Missouri. A date was agreed upon for visiting the Korean Memorials and a time was set up for her to visit with other chapter members while visiting the City of St. Peters, in St. Charles County.

It was a very emotional meeting for the daughter, who was so impressed that we had taken our time to help her achieve her mission and promise to her father. The below copy of a letter written by her father may have some meaning to *Graybeards* readers who may have had some contact with his unit during the Korean War.

The Letter

Private Henry Richard William Miller
Royal Australian Infantry Corps
1st Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment
HQ Signals 1st Platoon - NX 2900047
Korea 3rd April 1952-17 March 1953

Private Stanley Buttenshaw
Royal Australian Infantry Corps
1st Battalion, The Royal Australian Army NX24n9
Korea 6th July 1952 -12th July 1952 KIA

My father Harry served in Korea with The 1st Royal Australian Regiment and in Malaya with The 2nd Royal Australian Regiment. The eldest son of a World War 2 "Rat of Tobruk" veteran, Harry joined the army at 18 years of age along with his childhood friend Stanley. Just after finishing basic training 1RAR was warned for service in Korea. They travelled on the troopship Devonshire from Sydney Harbour bound for Korea.

Stanley was intent on following Harry into the army and enlist with someone else's birth certificate in order to make the age qualification. While sailing to Japan the Australian Army discovered Stanley was really only 17 years old. On arriving In Japan

So Long, Digger

We're off to Aussie, Fellar, and we hate to leave you here
Gawd, we didn't think we'd part like this when we started out last year
Remember the march through Sydney? we were really glad that day
We were going to Korea and it had to end this way
And the days we spent on the Devonshire, our first long voyage by ship
We laughed and joked, not dreaming that this was your one way trip
It's still hard to believe that it's happened, that you'll march with us no more
that you've grounded Arms forever and fought your last cruel war
Yes, we're going back to Aussie...Mate and we're going to march again
and we'll try to make it a better place so you won't have died in vain
and while the band is playing our marches, old and new,
we'll swing along there proudly, knowing you are marching too
Yes, you'll always march beside us and when our time is through
We'll muster on that last Parade...to march again with you.
IN LOVING MEMORY OF ALL OUR VETERANS WHO SERVED IN KOREA

Stanley was put back onto a troopship bound for Australia. By the time the troopship arrived in Australia Stanley had turned the legal age of 18 years and re-enlisted in the army.

Stanley arrived in Korea on the 6th July 52 and sadly while out on patrol was ambushed and KIA just 38 days later. Stanley is buried in the United Nations Memorial section Tanggok Cemetery Korea. Till his passing in July 2002 Harry mourned the loss of his best mate-never understanding why he came home and his mate didn't.

Harry loved a beer—as all good Aussies do. He would even have you believe beer can save your life. One story often told while he was in Korea was of a time he and another soldier were on guard duty at their Camp. Feeling quite thirsty they thought they wouldn't be missed for 5 minutes so went off to have a quick beer in the short time they were gone the watch tower was hit and blown up by a bomb!

While in Korea on the 25th April 1952 the Battalion attended an Anzac Day ceremony with the Turkish Brigade. 1RAR were stood down for 24 hours because they were all too drunk to fight. In that time they had stolen a US jeep and crashed it into a mine-field and hidden the extra beer in the fire buckets.

Sadly there was no welcome home parade for the Korean vets and even less recognition for the role they played. It is with sadness that Korea has been known as the Forgotten War here in Australia as well. After 50 years the Australian government finally awarded the Australian Service Medal to those who served In Korea and just recently the Australian Defence Medal.

A national memorial dedicated to the Korean Veterans was opened In April 2000 in Canberra. The Korean Association here

Continued on page 61



60TH ANNIVERSARIES KOREAN WAR REVISIT KOREA TOURS



2010 – 2013

FAMILY MEMBERS OF KOREAN VETERAN'S ARE ELIGIBLE



In July, Peace Camp For Youth Participants (Grandchildren of Korean Vets) with Secretary of State Hilary Clinton & Secretary of Defense Robert Gates in Seoul. (Send for '11 subsidized tour info)

NOTE: THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT PAID 50% OF THE VET'S AIR-FARE AND 30% FOR THE COMPANION IN 2010

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Korean War Veterans' Mini-Reunions

C-1-7, USMC

C-1-7, First Marine Division (1950-53), veterans got together for their 14th reunion, 26-30 2010, in Washington DC. There were 75 people in attendance, including guests.

We also visited the Marine Corps Museum.

*Bill Farrell, 2010 Reunion Chairman
19 Centre Village Drive, Madison, CT 06443*



Above, C-1-7 members at their 14th reunion and left, the C-1-7 spouses at Washington DC gathering

84th/62nd Engineer Construction Bns.



84th/62nd Engineer Construction Bn. members at Warwick get-together

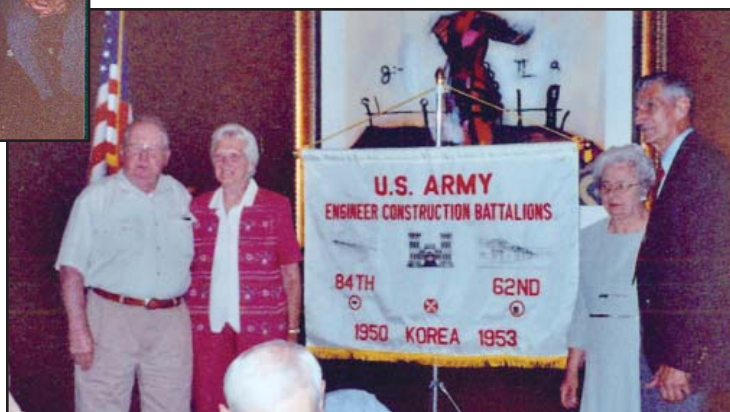
Veterans of the 84th/62nd Engineer Construction Battalions held a reunion at the Crown Plaza at the Crossing, Warwick, RI, 13-17 September 2010. Harold and Carol Nelson of Warwick and Joe and Ruth Butkus of Trumbull, CT co-hosted the gathering, which included wives and friends.

Attendees visited the mansions at Newport, RI, the Korean Veterans Cemetery in Exeter, RI, and the Mystic [CT] Seaport. Everyone enjoyed the reunion.

Next year's reunion is scheduled for Dubuque, IA.

Andrew C. Barilla, 1220 Vermont Rd., Bel Air, MD 21014-5454, 410-838-8358

Co-hosts of the 84th/62nd Eng. Const. Bns, Harold and Carol Nelson (L) and Joe and Ruth Butkus



179th Heavy Tank Co., 45th Div.

Ron and Peggy Orlandi, of Duluth, MN, hosted our annual reunion, 22-24 June, at the Hotel Grand Victorian in Branson, MO. Eleven tankers attended, along with their families and friends. Altogether, there were 44 people in attendance.

Everyone had a great time visiting, seeing old friends, telling stories, laughing—and even crying a little.

We held a memorial service, as we do at every reunion. We lit a candle for each of our departed tankers, and one for any departed tankers who are unknown to us. This time we had a total of 92 candles lit. Each candle is extinguished as the tanker in whose name it is lit is read.

Our 2011 reunion will be held in Chattanooga, TN.

*Johnnie ("Red") W. Baker, 1144 Rodney Rd.
Port Gibson, MS 39150-5633*



ABOVE: Attendees at the 179th Heavy Tank Co.'s get-together in Branson, MO



The ladies of the 179th Heavy Tank Co.



RIGHT: The tankers of 179th Heavy Tank Co. were more than names on a wall



ABOVE: 92 candles in honor of departed 179th Heavy Tank Co. members

LEFT: The proud members of the 179th Tank Co. at Branson reunion

Korean War Veterans' Mini-Reunions

6th Helicopter Company & the 150th Maintenance Company

During the September 9-12, 2010 period, the 6th Helicopter Company and the 150th Maintenance Company held their 22nd annual reunion in St. Charles, MO, a suburb of St. Louis.

During the war, the two companies were stationed at Chuncheon, Korea. They were assigned to the 45th Transportation Battalion, 8th Army.

We had another very busy and exciting reunion again this year as we explored the St. Charles and St. Louis area. We toured the state-of-the-art technology and historic architecture of the Anheuser-Busch flagship brewery. In addition, we rode the tram to the top of the famous St. Louis Arch, known as the Gateway to the West.

The highlight of our reunion was a very impressive ceremony at the O'Fallon Veterans Memorial Walk located in O'Fallon, MO. At the ceremony we remembered and honored the deceased veterans and wives from our 6th/150th family. We were assisted by members of the O'Fallon Veterans Council.

The 6th Helicopter Company and the 150th Maintenance Company hold their reunion in early September each year in various locations throughout the country. We are always looking for



6th Helicopter Co./150th Maintenance Co. reunion attendees (Kneeling) Al Longarini, Lew Ewing, Valta Ross (Standing) Ken Montgomery, Warren Smith, Ralph Snyder, Fred Bell, Bill Graumann, Charlie Pech, George Westmoreland, Kerm Stroh, Jack Ryan, Ron Haugland

men who served in Korea with either of these companies. So, if you served in, or know someone who served in, either of these companies, we would encourage you to contact us for information regarding next year's reunion.

*Lewis M. Ewing, 310 Clay Hill Dr., Winchester, VA 22602,
540-678-1787, lewewing@comcast.net*

19th & 34th Divisions

The Divisions got together recently. Members will gather again 25-27 April 2011 in Pigeon Forge, TN. (See Reunion Calendar for details.)

Leo Gosnell, 2865 Hwy. 414
Taylors, SC 29687, 864-895-1842



19th and 34th Divisions veterans
at a recent reunion

1st Field Artillery Observation Bn. Assn.

The 1st Field Artillery Observation Battalion Association, call sign, Nathan Hale, and motto of video et audio, held its annual meeting in Vienna, VA, just outside Washington DC, to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the association and to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the beginning of the Korean War.

The members and spouses toured the Washington DC area, making stops at the WWII, Vietnam, Korean War Memorials, and observing the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknowns. At the Korean War Memorial site, the membership, while posing for a group photo, became instant celebrities.

Other tourists became aware that we were Korean War combat veterans. They all wanted to photograph us in front of the statues. During the "paparazzi" photo flashes, we became celebrities. We had our "15 minutes of fame."

We were also honored spontaneously by a group of high school JROTC cadets who were ordered to fall in to formation and stand at attention. They saluted us and thanked us for our service. That was a very heartfelt and touching moment for all of us "old timers" from the "Forgotten War."

*Walter J. ("Wally") Bracich, Secretary
8811 Northcote Ave., Munster, IN 46321-2727,
219-972-2354*

Members of 1st FA Observ. Bn. Assn. at Korean War Memorial on 15 Oct. Glenn Fox, Gerard Himmelberg, Larri Goetz, John Palla, George Hintzsche, Wally Bracich, Darrel Wehling, George Brkovich, Roger Meier, Ralph Mueller



1st FA Observ. Bn. Assn. members at Washington DC (Standing, L-R) Ralph Mueller (Sec.), George Brkovich, Glenn Fox, John Palla (Treas.), Grover Baldwin, Gerard Himmelberg, Roger Meier (VP), Jake Jacobson (Seated, L-R) Walter Bracich (Pres.), Bernard Rhees, Larri Goetz, George Hintzsche, Paul Sakreopf, Darrel Wehling (Past Pres.)



East Tennessee

Several East Tennessee Korean War veterans gathered, as they do every year, to commemorate the end of the war. Organizer Leroy Rogers advises veterans in the region to "circle the last Saturday in July every year, because it will always be closest to the 27th, when the war ended for us."

Leroy Rogers, 2nd from left, and Eldon Moore, 2nd from right, with two unidentified attendees at Tennessee reunion



Korean War Veterans' Mini-Reunions

8221st Field Artillery

Several of us got together at Colorado Springs, CO in September. Our gathering invoked a lot of memories, such as our withdrawal from North Korea. In fact, 25 December marked the 60th anniversary of that withdrawal.

Some 95,000 people opted to take their chances outside the People's Republic of Korea and waited for days in freezing weather to board a ship. The withdrawal from Hungnam at that time reminded me of late 1944, when Finland was forced to cede Karelia to the Soviet Union.

George B. Pakkala, 10401 Wystone Ave., Northridge, CA 91326-3041, 818-368-1987



Veterans of the 8221st Field Artillery at Colorado Springs, CO



Civilians waiting on the Hungnam waterfront for transportation to freedom

155 howitzers at the last perimeter, surveyed by the 8221st F.A., U.S. Army



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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 Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Korean Reunion

The Korean Reunion in Laughlin, NV has been held for seventeen years. I've gone to it for the past seven years, as have several of my fellow Ch 56 comrades [Ventura County, CA] and I have met Korean veterans from all over the country. We have some veterans who attend every reunion.

The next reunion will be held at the Circus Circus in Las Vegas, NV in October 2011.

*David Lopez, Commander, Ch 56,
3850 W 180th Place, Torrance, CA 90504*

An inter-service group exchanges stories at Laughlin, NV gathering: David Lopez (24 INF 19 INF 2 BN G), Henry Guevara (505 MP BN B), James Lee (1st MarDiv), John Campos (1 CAVD 5 REG 3 BN HQ), Manuel Maucillas (1st MarDiv)



Eutimeo and Rachel Beas, Fina and Rudy Arellano, David Lopez (L-R) at Korean reunion in Laughlin, NV



Three life members of Ch 56, David Lopez, Henry Guevara, David Lopez (L-R) share memories at Laughlin, NV reunion



Contingent from Ch 56 at Laughlin, NV (Standing, L-R) Henry and Alice Guevara, Rudy and Fina Arellano, David Lopez (Sitting, L-R) Eutimeo and Rachel Beas, John and Ann Campos

Chapter & Department News

EDITOR'S NOTE TO CHAPTER REPS: If you have sent in news and/or photos that have not appeared in The Graybeards within six months of submission, it may be because your chapter is on the "Temporarily Non-Compliant" list. To find out if you fall into that category, check with Jake Feaster. He will advise you of your chapter's standing, why it is temporarily ineligible for inclusion in the news, and how to get off the "Non-Compliant" list.

The Editorial office staff cannot furnish the information you need to regain your eligibility.

2 NORTHWEST ALABAMA II [AL]

We held our annual picnic at Veterans Park in Florence, AL on 11 September. There were eighty people in attendance. Chapter President James Taylor distributed commemorative plaques and other items from the Korean government in remembrance of the 60th anniversary of the beginning of the war.



Large crowd enjoys activities at Ch 2's annual picnic



James Taylor, President of Ch 2, makes presentations at chapter's picnic



Bill Gober (L) and Millard Liverett of Ch 2 man the chapter's booth at the Northwest Alabama State Fair



The first place ribbon issued to Ch 2 for its display at the Northwest Alabama State Fair

A story in the local newspaper before the picnic resulted in 22 veterans attending who had never been to one of our meetings or were members who have been inactive for some time.

We also set up a booth at the Northwest Alabama State Fair in September. We received a blue ribbon for first place and a monetary prize.

Lee Makinson, Sec/Treasurer, makinson@comcast.net

19 GEN RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

Eight members were in attendance as Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue signed the Annual Veterans Day Proclamation honoring all who served.

Sunny Park, a Korean by birth, was the featured speaker at a Ch 19 luncheon. Sunny remembered fondly tasting his first orange at the age of nine. An American soldier gave him the orange.

At our recent luncheon, three members received the Korean Peace Medal for their service during the Korean War.

James Conway, conatlanta@comcast.net



Jim Conway, Bill Keoho, Bob McCubbins, Gen. (Ret.) Harold Dye, Ron Clark, Bob Moore, Urban Rump, Bob Hendershott of Ch 19 (L-R) watch Georgia Governor Perdue sign the Annual Veterans Day Proclamation



Sunny Park speaks to Ch 19 members



Korean Peace Medals are presented to Ch 19 members (L-R) Mr. Kim Yi, Edwin Johnson, Alan Hall, Dae Yong Mun (Korean Veterans Assoc.) and Thomas Knight

20 HAWAII #1 [HI]

Recently, the City Council of the City and County of Honolulu honored members of our chapter. Seventeen members attended the ceremony in which the City Council of Honolulu, Hawaii presented a proclamation honoring veterans of the Korean War.

Howard S. Okada, 446 Kawaihae St., Apt. 348,
Honolulu, HI 96825-5206, 808-523-9026



Hawaii Korean War veterans being honored (Front, L-R) Ken Joyner, Daniel Carvalho, Harold Yamaguchi, Samuel Suzuki, Shiro Taniguchi, Robert Naki, Tommy Tanaka, Leonard Kaae (Back) City Council members Rod Tam, Ikaika Anderson, Todd Apo, Lee Donohue, Nestor Garcia, Ann Kobayashi



More Hawaiian Korean War veterans (Front, L-R) Harry Takane, Jack Hirai, Nick Nishimoto, Fred Ito, Lori Priore, Hideo Tomita, Herbert Schreiner, Jimmy Shin, Fred Wakugawa (Back) City Council members Ikaika Anderson, Todd Apo, Lee Donohue, Nestor Garcia, Ann Kobayashi, Rod Tam

29 SSGT WILLIAM E. WINDRICH #3 [IN]

We participated in the Whiting, IN July 4th Parade.

Herbert A. Verrill, 1833 169th St.
Hammond, IN 46324-1733, 219-844-4369



A contingent from Ch 29 led by Luis Aguilera, Al Solis, and Herb Verrill (L-R) displays their banner at the Whiting, IN 4th of July Parade



Need a hand? The Ch 29 Escort vehicle is available for members marching at Whiting, IN

60 ADIRONDACK [NY]

Senator Roy McDonald had a brunch to honor “Veterans of the Year” from different Saratoga County veterans organizations. We chose Lincoln Orologio, who was honored with 12 other veterans.

Ray Waldron, EXADRAY@aol.com



Bagpipers pipe their way in the Whiting, IN parade



Lincoln Orologio, Ch 60 “Veteran of the Year” (L), and Senator Roy McDonald



Courtney Jurick, Miss Sagamore Valley [IN] 2010, rides in style at the Whiting, IN 2010 4th of July Parade



Members of Ch 60 honor Lincoln Orologio (Sitting, L-R) Roger Calkins, Mert Eggleston and Eugene Corsale (Standing, L-R) Ray Waldron, Lincoln Orologio, Senator Roy McDonald and James McConkey

102 IMPERIAL VALLEY [CA]

The Imperial County Board of Supervisors presented a Proclamation declaring 27 July 2010 as "National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day." The ceremony was held 13 July 2010 in front of the County Court House.

Chapter President N.O. ("Benny") Benavidez thanked the Board of Supervisors for the Proclamation and for flying the Colors at half mast in front of the Court House.

N. O. Benavidez, P. O. Box 5, El Centro, CA 92243,
760-352-3929, jefebenavidez@att.net



N. O. Benavidez, George Speers, Vicente Palacio, Marvin Lyons, Gonzalo Bonillas, Ch 102 members (Sitting, L-R) listen as Korean War and Vietnam veterans, county and city officials, and visitors in the background observe Proclamation ceremony

PROCLAMATION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF IMPERIAL DECLARING JULY 27, 2010 AS "NATIONAL KOREAN WAR VETERANS ARMISTICE DAY"

WHEREAS, the United States holds as its highest ideals, freedom, democracy, and self determination and strives to spread them to every man, woman, and child on earth; and

WHEREAS, the United States entered the Korean War to bravely fought in the cause of freedom and democracy; and

WHEREAS, the Korean War is often referred to as the "Forgotten War," but it is important to educate the citizens of this County about the contributions and sacrifices the men and women of our armed forces and their families made to uphold the principles of democracy and freedom during that war; and

WHEREAS, 54,246 American soldiers suffered casualties, over 36,568 were killed, more than 100,000 were wounded, and over 2,000 American troops are missing in action; and

WHEREAS, the American soldier strives to be a symbol of freedom, democracy, and kindness around the world and the citizens of Imperial County owe their appreciation to all veterans who have fought for our liberty, many paying the ultimate sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, Korean War veterans are especially dedicated to the ideals of freedom and democracy; and

WHEREAS, the Congress, by Public Law 104-19, as amended (U.S.C. 127), designated July 27, 2002, as "National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day"; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the County of Imperial Board of Supervisors honor the Korean War veterans for their service to the American people; and

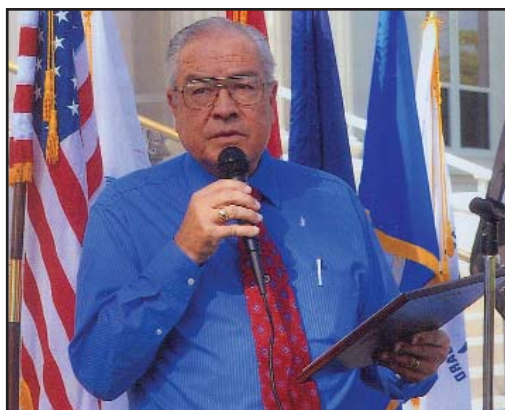
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County of Imperial Board of Supervisors honor American veterans who fought in the Korean War and proclaim July 27, 2010 as,

"NATIONAL KOREAN WAR VETERANS ARMISTICE DAY IN IMPERIAL COUNTY"

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors, of the County of Imperial, State of California, during a regular meeting on the 13th day of July, 2010, by an affirmative roll call vote.


LOUIS A. FUENTES, Chairman
Imperial County Board of Supervisors

The Proclamation awarded to Ch 102



Imperial County Board of Supervisors Vice Chairman Jack Terrazas reads the National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day Proclamation

115 JOHNNIE JOHNSON [OH]

Since we are getting older, it was decided that we needed to ride in parades. Fourteen members rode in the Labor Day Parade. Altogether, we participated in five parades this year.

We got together at Lima, Ohio Metro Park on September 11, 2010. Every year, the Piqua, Lima, and Findlay, Ohio chapters get together at one of the chapters' local parks for the "Route 1-75" reunion. This year Johnnie Johnson Chapter 115 of Lima, Ohio was the host.

Wilbur L. Hurd, Secretary, 1760 Arlington Drive,
Lima, OH 45805, 419-228-6046



Members of Ch 115 on their trailer in a Labor Day Parade. (2nd Row, L-R) Bob Stratton (Pickup Driver), Bill Plavoet (Master of Arms), Tom Routson (President), Stanley Hill (Chaplain), Wilbur Hurd (Secretary), Vera Siebanoller (Historian) and Max Reynolds (1st Row) Don Warneke, David Jarvis



Piqua and Lima Chapter Presidents with Ohio Governor's wife Francis Strickland. She was a guest speaker at the reunion



Ohio chapter members exchange stories at "I-75" reunion in Lima



Nothing like a catered meal to bring Ohio veterans together, in this case at Lima "I 75" get-together

137 MAHONING VALLEY [OH]

We have an active Color Guard. Maybe its members, like everyone else, can travel coast to coast on a Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway someday.

We have one section of that yet-to-be-realized highway that runs through Mahoning County. Past President John Pariza spearheaded a project to get a section of I-680 named the Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway.

Each year we conduct a "Laying of the Roses" ceremony at the Korean War Memorial in Youngstown, Ohio. As the name of each deceased hero from the Korean War is called, a surviving family member, accompanied by a veteran, takes a rose to the monument and lays it at the base as the veteran accompanying the family salutes. If no family member is present, a veteran places the rose.

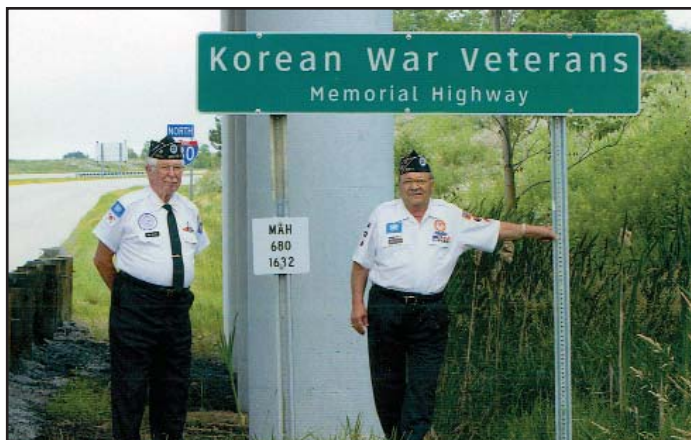
A Marine Corps color guard handles the honor of laying a wreath at the marker on the memorial commemorating Youngstown's Medal of Honor winner, Marine PFC John D. Kelley.



A member of Ch 137 places a rose at the base of the Youngstown, OH Korean War Memorial



A large bouquet of roses adorns the base of the Youngstown, OH Korean War Memorial



Bob Bikalik (L), Ch 137 VP, and John Pariza, highway naming project leader highlight the section of I-680 that runs through Mahoning County [OH]

The service is concluded by our chapter firing party's rifle salute, which is followed by "Taps."

Charles A. Stepan, 175 Erskine Ave.
Youngstown, OH 44512

142 COLONEL WILLIAM E. WEBER [MD]

The membership voted at its 13 October 2010 meeting to change its name to Colonel William E. Weber Chapter 142 KWVA of Frederick County, MD, INC.

Richard L. Martin, Publicity Chairman
301-663-6360, rlmaem@comcast.net

158 WILLIAM R. CHARETTE (MOH) [FL]

Several members attended a luncheon in Tampa, FL on October 9, 2010, hosted by the Korean Government's Minister of Veterans Affairs and the Kim family. The chapter had two reserved tables.

There were ten seats at each table. At each table were veterans, some of their spouses, and an officer and his spouse from Central Command located at McDill Air Force Base in Tampa.



Attendees at Tampa luncheon (Standing L-R) Frank Cohee, National Secretary and 1st VP of Ch 158, Don Black, Bill McCraney, Judge Advocate, Department of FL, Unknown Col. from Sweden, Ron Fuller, Ch 158 Treasurer, Jim Bradford, Commander, Department of FL, Unknown Col. from Korea (Sitting) Charles Appenzeller, Ch 158 President, and Dick Champion

Each veteran was presented a 60th Anniversary Medallion by the foreign officer seated at their table. Bill McCraney, a recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross, was one of the guest speakers.

Frank Cohee, fcohee@kwva.org

170 TAEJON [NJ]

On 19 September 2010 we participated in the annual memorial service at St. Philip the Apostle Church for those killed in the Korean War and deceased chapter members. Commander Dr. Richard Onorevole arranged the service. Adjutant Perry Georgison set up the brunch at Chumley's Restaurant following the service. The event was introduced in 1995 by three-time Purple Heart recipient George Job, at the same time the chapter was organized. It has continued since.

Jr. Vice Commander Kenneth Green and Color Guard Captain

Henry Ferrarini advanced the colors, followed by Commander Onorevole, who served as lector and delivered two readings from scripture. New Jersey State Commander George Bruzgis, nineteen chapter members, and their family members moved toward the front pews as the congregation sang "The Battle Hymn of the Republic."



Chaplain Robert Domanoski, Ch 170, reads prayer as a memorial to Korean War veterans killed in action



Ch 170 members and wives enjoying food and fellowship after church ceremony



Robert Fatovic, Richard Onorevole, and Kenneth Green (L-R) at Ch 170's memorial ceremony



Edward Frye, Ch 170 Finance Officer, his wife Cathy, Color Guard Captain Henry Ferrarini and wife Jane (L-R) at brunch following memorial mass



The priests of St. Philip the Apostle Church stand with the Korean War veterans of Ch 170

Sr. Vice Commander Robert Fatovic and Historian Louis Quagliero presented the Eucharistic gifts during the memorial mass, during which Pastor Theemas Pankiraj called for a round of applause for the Korean War veterans who occupied the first two pews. The Rev. Ireneusz Pierzchala served at the mass and spoke about the sacrifice of the veterans and those who died in the war.

At the end of the mass, Commander Onorevole led the veterans out of the church as the congregation applauded and sang "God Bless America." Afterwards, members, guests, and three priests gathered for photos near the entrance of the church before heading to the restaurant. All in all, everyone had an enjoyable time of fellowship.

Louis Quagliero, 142 Illinois Ave.
Paterson, NJ 07503, 973-279-6402

173 MID-FLORIDA [FL]

We hosted quite a 60th Anniversary celebration. Participants included senior members of the Korean community, people from three Korean churches, the Korean Veterans of Central Florida



Scenes from Ch 173's 60th Anniversary commemoration

(yes, real South Korean veterans), the VFW band, fifty members of our chapter and their guests, National Gold Star wives, mayors, South Korean representatives from Miami, and other dignitaries. There were over 400 guests and members in attendance.

Charlie First, 5439 Denise Ave., Orlando, FL 32810-3609, 407-429-5539, CFirst@cfl.rr.com

174 SPRING HILL [FL]

Our Color Guard participated in the September 11th memorial held at VFW Post 10209 for all those who perished on 9/11/01. Color Guard members included Roger West, Joe Seyfried (Treasurer), Bob Bestercy (Chaplain), Richard Mellinger (Commander), and Bob Johnson (Sgt-at-Arms).

We held our Annual Fall Festival Dinner/Show and Dance on Saturday, September 25, 2010 at the Spring Hill VFW Post 10209. The event featured an "all you can eat" buffet. Shazadi & "Jewels of the Desert," a Belly Dance Troupe, entertained us.

After the show, John Martin & the "KeyNotes" Band provided music for dancing.

We held our annual picnic on 16 October at Spring Hill Crews Lake Park. Fun games followed a catered "all you can eat" buffet, and Commander Mellinger gave out door prizes. The weather was perfect and everyone had a good time.



Color Guard from Ch 174 (L-R) Roger West, Joe Seyfried, Bob Bestercy, Richard Mellinger, Bob Johnson



"Jewels of the Desert" interspersed among members of Ch 174 (L-R) Joe Pignatiello, Joe Seyfried, Rich Mellinger, Lou Schneider, Bob Johnson



Members of Ch 174 and their guests gather under the trees for their annual picnic



"Oklahoma" members of Ch 174 at the Show Palace: Bob & Lois Bestercy, Ralph & Pura Gonzalez; Bob & Janet Johnson; Jerry & Myrna Lax; Jerry & Lil McCollum; Rich & Barbara Mellinger; Tom Murphy; Lou & Carol Schneider; Joe & Kathleen Seyfried; Gene & Anna Stretz

Ten days later, we continued the chapter's social activities. Several members met at the Show Palace in Hudson, FL on 26 October 2010 for a buffet luncheon and a performance of the musical "Oklahoma."

Joseph Seyfried, Treasurer, 11020 Belltower St.
Spring Hill FL 34608, 352-688-1388,
kandi5@iuno.com

175 LT BALDOMERO LOPEZ (MOH) [FL]

Members attended a Salute to Our Troops at the Tampa, FL Fairgrounds, presented by the Florida Independent Towing and Recovery Association. The site was a sight to behold.

The Sheriff's Office was there for the Honor Guard. Our members were asked to do the Inspection of the Flags.

Eleanor Bitz, 414 S. Edgewater Dr.,
Plant City, FL 33565, 813-754-7939



A contingent from Ch 175 (L-R) Al McAdoo, Sam Hayes, Ralph Hawkins, Bill Sarver, Murdock Ford (President), Bob Bitz at Salute to Our Troops event



A sight to behold at the Tampa, FL Fairgrounds

186 ST. CHARLES COUNTY [MO]

We have new officers to serve during the July 2010 – June 2011 term:

- Commander – Dick Saip
- 1st Vice Commander - Art Minor
- 2nd Vice Commander – Bob Breig
- Adjutant – Bob Greeley
- Judge Advocate – Don Baur
- Treasurer – Bob Kumises



Frank Williams, Missouri State Commander, swears in the Ch 186's 2010-2011 officers (L-R) Bob Greeley, Don Baur, Dick Saip, Bob Breig, Art Minor, Bob Kumises

Members worked to clean the Korean War Memorial in Forest Park in St. Louis. The Memorial was dedicated to all KWVA veterans in the St. Louis-St. Charles area. All six KWVA chapters in the area share the multi-year cleaning sessions.

Salvadore "Chris" Christifulli, Historian
923 Annabrook Park Dr., O'Fallon, MO 63386
636-294-1836, SChristifulli@charter.net



The cleaning crew from Ch 186 at the Korean War Memorial in St. Louis (L-R) Art Minor, Bob Breig, Bob Osborn, Bob Cummiskey

215 WALTON H. WALKER [TX]

On 18 September 18, we commemorated POW/MIA Recognition Day with presentations to chapter members Col. James Stone (MOH) and Staff Sergeant James Hall, and a moving POW Remembrance Table presentation by KWVA President Bill Mac Swain.

We also celebrated our 10th anniversary with recognition of charter members Bill Mac Swain, Bill Hoyle and Larry Kinard.

Alves "AJ" Key, 817-504-6837
alveskey@sbcglobal.net



KWVA President Bill Mac Swain conducts POW/MIA table presentation at Ch 215 meeting



Staff Sergeant James Hall (R) receives POW/MIA Trophy from Bill Mac Swain (C) as Larry Kinard observes



Bill Mac Swain (L) presents POW/MIA Trophy to MOH recipient Col. James Stone (C), with Larry Kinard's assistance

234 KVV OF ATLANTIC COUNTY [NJ]

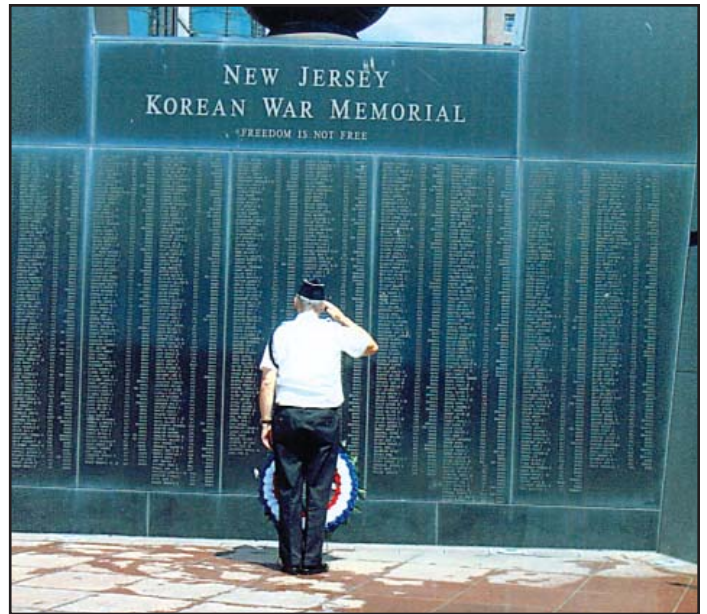
We participated in the wreath laying ceremony at the New Jersey State Korean War Monument at Atlantic City on 25 July and in "Operation First Response Walk for the Wounded" on the Ocean City boardwalk on 2 October.

Our chapter was chosen for the second straight year to lead the walk.

Eugene Corcoran, 408 Joseph Ave., Linwood, NJ 08221, 609-926-3130, MercyRNNJ@aol.com



Presentation of the Colors at 25 July wreath laying ceremony at Atlantic City, NJ by Ch 234 members (L-R) Neil Wannan, Gene Corcoran, Sal Occhiolini, Frank Peters



Past Commander of Ch 234 John Varallo places wreath at New Jersey State Korean War Monument



Ch 234 Honor Guard waits for the beginning of the three-mile walk at "Operation First Response Walk for Wounded" at Ocean City, NJ (L-R) Gene Corcoran, Frank Peters, Neil Wannan, Gil Boyer, John Varallo



Frank Peters of Ch 234 "Presents Arms" at New Jersey Korean War Monument



Commander Gil Boyer, Chaplain Tony Musarra, and Bugler Bill Coulter of Ch 234 (L-R) present closing prayer at Atlantic City, NY 25 July event

256 NORVILLE B. FINNEY [MI]

We held our annual picnic on 15 August 2010 in Frazer, MI. There were 65 people there, all of whom had a good time.

Our chapter is growing every month due to the various events which we attend or participate in.

Jim McCarthy, 2nd Vice Commander, 2159
Parliament, Sterling Heights, MI 48310



Combing the cooler at the Ch 256 picnic



Cheers and chairs at Ch 256's annual picnic



Members of Ch 256 behind the sign of the times at their picnic



Seeking the shade is a favorite pastime for Ch 256's picnic attendees



Relax is the theme of the day at Ch 256's annual picnic

258 NORTHERN RHODE ISLAND [RI]

We welcomed a new member, Antonio Fiocca.

Our Color Guard performed at the North Providence Senior Center on Memorial Day.

Byunghoon Bang, President of Goodwork Korea, presented medallions to our members as mementos of gratitude. He became dedicated to the cause of recognizing service members who fought for Korea's independence when he worked for a government sponsored program in 2003. The program's purpose was to present medallions to service members who had not been recognized previously. He has continued that practice on his own.



Dick St. Louis, Ch 258 President (L), welcomes new member Antonio Fiocca

The chapter members receiving medallions included Jim



Ch 258 Color Guard at North Providence Senior Center (L-R) North Providence Mayor Charles Lombardi, Norman Derosier, Dick St. Louis, Gil Botelho, Frank Meo, Gene Pezzullo, Norman Paiva, Dick Mende, Senior Center manager Karen Testa

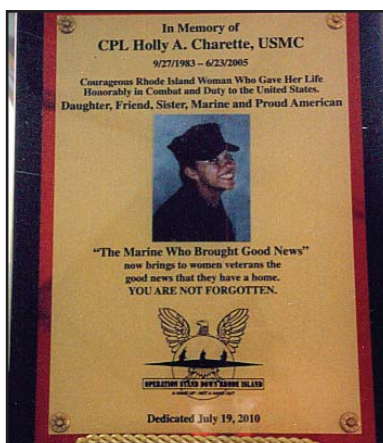


Recipients of medallions presented by Goodwork Korea to Ch 258



The first home in Rhode Island for female veterans

A remembrance of CPL Holly A. Charette, USMC



Boardman, Gil Botelho, Pete Boyd, Richard Cedor, Norm Derosier, Tom Dorazio, Bob Ducharme, Jack Keenan, Ray Kruszyna, Joseph LaFontaine, George Leonhardt, Ted Low, Dick Lother, Antero "Ted" Martin, Dick Mende, Frank Meo, Bill Mulchey, Raymond Pacheco, Tom Paglianini, Norm Paiva, Sr., John Palmieri, Alvin Parkin, Gene Pezzullo, John Pina, John Ramieri, Pete Robert, Dick St. Louis, John Salisbury, Herb Southworth, Maurice Trottier, Roland Watts, and Erik Wieselguist.

We attended the dedication of the first home in Rhode Island for female veterans. It was dedicated in memory of CPL Holly A. Charette, USMC, the first woman from Rhode Island killed in Iraq. She died at the age of 21.

Dick St. Louis, 95 Orchard Meadows Drive, Smithfield, RI 02917, 401-231-5802

259 CENTRAL INDIANA [IN]

Members joined other veterans for a tour of Camp Atterbury, Indiana's training facilities for our troops who are headed for Afghanistan. The Center, which is managed by the Indiana National Guard, supplies vehicles, weapons and other equipment for the trainees orientation.



Tine Martin, Ch 259, with a mock M-16 and a .50 caliber machine gun (on the left) as Les Adams looks on

There are lists of English to Arabic words to help our troops communicate with citizens of their area of operations. The charts are on the walls in the dining hall so troops can study them while they wait in line.

The young and sharp looking men and women in their "Cammies" made us proud to be with them.

The program included a Sentry Dog demonstration, a visit to the Base Museum, a meal with the troops, and a sample of weapons training done with video screens and pneumatic pressured rifles and machine guns to simulate muzzle blasts and recoil.

Indiana State Commander Tine Martin and chapter members Les Adams, Bill Ensign, Bill Kim, and John Quinn enjoyed trying out the "weaponry."

Other men on the tour included a WWII nose gunner with 34 missions and a Vietnam vet who was a door gunner in "choppers."



John M. Quinn of Ch 259 on the firing range at Camp Atterbury

Lani L. Ropkey, the Director of the Ropkey Armor Museum, was guest speaker at the October meeting of the Indiana State KWVA. Lani's husband, Fred Ropkey, served in the U.S. Marine Corps as a Tank Driver in Korea. She gave a pleasant and very educational program to members from around the state. The event was held at the Lebanon American Legion Post.

She explained the history of this Crawfordsville, IN museum that has one of the most complete collections of military tracked and wheeled vehicles in the country. Some of the inventory dates as far back as WWI and up to the "Desert Storm" battles in Iraq.



Indiana State Vice Commander Paul Dickerson presents Lani Ropkey with a certificate of appreciation, as Ch 259 MIA/POW Officer Clarence Voglegesang, Commander Tine Martin, and Secretary/Treasurer Bill Ensign observe

For years the vehicles have been used in parades and even in movies. The movie "Tank," starring James Garner, another Korea veteran, used one.

The museum is located on farm land close to I-74, west of Indianapolis. It is a treat for those who enjoy seeing the weaponry of the past. On display are replica weapons and other pieces of battle gear. There's even an early version of aircraft used for water landings.

No admission is charged, but donations are accepted. More detail is available on the website, www.RopkeyArmorMuseum.com

John M. Quinn, Saggi32@aol.com

Rhode Island Chapters

Rhode Island chapters participate in 60th Anniversary events

All three Rhode Island chapters participated in 60th Anniversary commemorations, jointly and individually. Ch 258 sponsored a picnic to recognize the event, and members attended the National Advisory Council Boston Chapter celebration. All veterans who attended the event received medals from the Boston Chapter.



Welcome to Ch 258's 60th Anniversary picnic



Members of three Rhode Island chapters commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Providence



Commanders of the Rhode Island chapters at Providence commemoration, Antero Martins (Ch 117), Robert Hartley (Ch 147), Dick St. Louis (Ch 258)

Members of all three chapters, Ocean State #1 (CID 117), West Bay Rhode Island #2 (CID 147), and Northern Rhode Island (CID 258), participated in a commemoration at Providence.

Richard N. St. Louis, 95 Orchard Meadows Dr.,
Smithfield, RI 02917-1800, 401-231-5802



Ch 258 members meet with Master Hong (C) at Boston event. (L-R) Herb Southworth, Bill Mulcahey, Master Hong, Norm Derosier, Frank Meo



Koreans provide entertainment at Boston 60th Anniversary commemoration

Chow time at Ch 258's picnic



DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA

The department held a well-attended meeting at Ocala in September.

Carol Becker, Historian of Chapters 169 & 188



Charlie First, Dept of Florida 1st VP



LEFT: Joe Gruber, Ch 169 VP (L) and Jim Bradford at Dept. of Florida meeting

BELOW: Jim Bradford, Dept of Florida Pres, Eddie Ko, Dept of Florida America/Korea Liaison, Charlie First, Dept of Florida 1st VP (L-R)



Dept. of Florida officers (L-R) Richard Arcand, Treasurer; Joan Arcand, Secretary; Gene Gillette, 2nd VP; Jim Bradford, President; Charlie First, 1st VP; Bill Shibley, 3rd VP; Harold Sievers, Chaplain



Ch 169 representatives at Dept. of Florida meeting (L-R) Tom Thiel, Don Van Beck, Carol Becker, Joe Gruber, Bill Simunek, Ted Jansen, Art Canale, and Jackie Gleason. Not pictured, but also present, were Jack Reynolds and Warren Sell

Korean War Veterans Group visits Camp Atterbury, IN

Members of a local Indiana Korean War veterans group toured Camp Atterbury in Edinburgh, Ind., while visiting the post on Sept. 29, 2010. During their visit, they had the opportunity to use a weapons simulation system, better known as Engagement Skills Trainer, and engaged virtual targets using the M4 Carbine.

Spc. Roger Stevens, a weapons trainer with the Range Training Team at Camp Atterbury, gave instructions on operating the M2 .50 caliber machine gun.

Photos by 1st Lt. Jay Hildebrand, Camp Atterbury Public Affairs



KWVA members touring Camp Atterbury



Spc. Roger Stevens instructs KWVA visitors to Camp Atterbury on operating the M2 .50 caliber machine gun

Ch 258 featured in newspaper

The *Valley Breeze & Observer* [RI] included a mention in its July 1-7 2010 issue of Ch 258. The story noted that Lillian Kruszyna, of North Scituate, RI, presented to Ch 258 President Richard St. Louis the American flag that draped her husband Raymond's casket.

Raymond Kruszyna, who served aboard *USS Richard E. Kraus* (DD 849), was a member of the KWVA. He died on 28 November 2009.

Irwin Braun

The Palm Beach [FL] Post carried an article in its 24 June 2010 that featured Irwin Braun, a member of CID 17, LT Richard E. Cronan [FL]. The article, written by Samantha Frank, profiled Braun's career and Army life.

She notes that "He was promoted from a private to an intelligence sergeant in the 32nd Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. It was his job to gather information about the enemy, and he did so by making detailed sketches of enemy weapons and their locations."

Frank also wrote that he is actively promoting the history of the Korean War. "I want to get the word out that the Korean War was an important war," he said. "Forty-five million South Koreans live in freedom today because of us."

She explained that "To mark the 60th anniversary of the Korean War, Braun recently gave a lecture at the county's West Boynton Branch Library about the legacy of the war.

He also speaks at local schools."

Frank concluded with a quote that sums up the feelings of many of his Korean War veteran counterparts. "I'm happy that I served our country to the best of my ability," he said.

Read the article at <http://www.palmbeachpost.com/services/staff/samantha-frank-12144.html?sort=desc&page=5>

Reach Irwin Braun at 9989 Harbour Lake Cir Apt 102 Boynton Beach, FL 33437-6106, 516-623-7062

Ch 231 honors Hisashi Morita

The Big Island chapter of Hawaii honored Hisashi Morita during the 60th Anniversary Ceremony of the Korean War held on 25 June, 2010. As part of the event the chapter proudly awarded Morita, who was a POW for 28 months, with a display of his military service medals in appreciation for his honorable, faithful, and dedicated service to our country.

LtCol (Ret) Robert L. Montague, chapter service officer, presented Morita with the beautiful medals display case and citation. Robert L. Montague, 1590 Kilikina St., Hilo, HI 96720



LtCol Montague (R) presents award to Hisashi Morita

CITATION

To: Hisashi Morita in Appreciation for Honorable, Faithful, and Dedicated Service. He Distinguished himself over and above the call of duty, for Gallantry, and Perseverance as a former Prisoner of War.

He demonstrated the Attributes of a seasoned Combat Soldier, wounded in action, in the defense of his country. It is with Deepest Gratitude, and Pride that we recognize your personal sacrifice and extreme hardship that we present this award. We shall forever remember.

FREEDOM IS NOT FREE

Nick Paganella

Nick Paganella wrote about the 60th Anniversary commemoration at Shipyard Park at the Charlestown [MA] Navy Yard in his "Veterans Corner" column of the 15 August 2010 Framingham, MA *Daily News*. One paragraph stood out. It was a quote from General Kyu-jin Kim, Ministry of Veterans Affairs, Republic of Korea:

Above all, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the United States of America's passion and support and for the veterans who shared their blood to defend the liberty and peace of the Republic of Korea. Thanks for the noble sacrifice from all of you.

He continued:

We Korean people know very well what our life would be like today if the United States soldiers had not fought shoulder to shoulder with the Korean troops. In Korea, I can tell you that the Korean War is by no means forgotten. We will never forget the war. We always remember the Korean War veterans. Thank you veterans and the families of the veterans.

Enough said.

Nicholas Paganella, 20 Antrim Rd., Framingham, MA 01701-4421, 508-872-5895, Antrim@rcn.com

Ch 138 and Carol Camp

On 14 September 2010 Summit County [OH] Korean War veterans were on hand to give homeless veterans a warm

welcome and support as they "combat" life on the streets. Our Stand Down has a Hand-up, Not a Hand-out, philosophy that is carried out through the work of hundreds of volunteers and organizations. The Summit County Veterans Council is the sponsor of Stand Down and all veterans organizations make up this Veterans Council of Summit County. Your Association's Chapter 138, Akron Regional, is a significant contributor to our effort.

I have worked on Stand Downs for several years, having seen such events in Columbus and Dayton, Ohio when I was on our governor's advisory committee of women veterans. Our Summit County Veterans Council comprises all of our county veterans organizations, which work together with our community services to make this Stand Down work.

Carol Camp is such a support to our Stand Down Committee. He is the immediate Past Commander of VFW Firestone Post 3383 (this post provides a home for our annual Stand Down) as well. Carol clearly keeps the Korean War veterans together and it is great to volunteer with him.

We gave a Hand up, Not a Hand-out this year to 409 veterans, compared to 383 in 2009. I know that the guys who manned the Korean War veterans station for our Stand Down will be so happy to be recognized in The Graybeards. They work at getting donations and purchasing items that they can give out to the homeless veterans as they pass their station.

These items that will provide the homeless include under-clothing, socks, hats, scarves, toiletries, jackets, coats, hoodies, etc. Each station/table is manned by an organization or community group, or veterans organizations (KWVA, Akron VA Clinic, Veterans Service Commission, Department of Jobs & Family Services, Health Department, Legal Aid, etc.)

Laura Williams Dunlop, Stand Down Chairman



Harvey Thorla, Bob Britt, Carol Camp, Patty Britt (Aux), L-R, members of Ch 138, at Summit County Stand-Down



Monuments and Memorials

Korea: the Forgotten War, Remembered

24 – CHARLES PARLIER [IL]

Decatur, IL

We now have an ADA-approved sidewalk to the KWVA Memorial located at Graceland Cemetery in Decatur, IL. Construction of the sidewalk was an Eagle Scout Project finished in 2009. The marker was just added.

*Jerry L. Seymour, 352 W. Arch St.
Mount Auburn, IL 62547-9701, 217-825-5874,
GearShift3a1@yahoo.com*



The sign identifying the Korean War Memorial Walkway in Decatur, IL

RIGHT: A memorial and urn dedicated to Sgt. Richard Baughman and donated by his wife at Decatur, IL

BELOW: The KWVA Memorial at Decatur, IL, with new sidewalk at the extreme left



CH 24's "Blue Blazer Brigade" at Decatur, IL memorial



The Baughman family, with Mrs. Baughman 4th from right



Robert Garrett, Ch 24 President, delivers the eulogy at the Decatur, IL dedication

191 – HAMPTON ROADS [VA]

Suffolk, VA

We dedicated a bench which we purchased and placed on Air Force Drive in Albert G Horton, Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery in Suffolk, VA. The ceremony was held on 6 November.

*Tim Whitmore, Secretary
twhit35@gmail.com*



Cemetery Director Dan R. Kemano (L) welcomes Ch 191 Commander Clyde Lauder milk (R) and John Denning (back to camera) to Albert G. Horton, Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery

Ch 191 Chaplain Leo Ruffing (far right) shares words of inspiration



Dan Kemano briefs members of Ch 191 at cemetery



Clyde Lauder milk and Chaplain Ruffing of Ch 191 uncover the bench



Clyde Lauder milk begins the Ch 191 dedication ceremony



Clyde Lauder milk, Leo Ruffing (seated), Tim Whitmore, William Harrison, John Denning, Clinton Capehart, Dan Kemano, John Edwards, Verdie Cooke, Sr. (standing, L-R) at Ch 191 bench dedication



The Memorial Veterans Cemetery ceremony is conducted in a peaceful setting



Marble bench dedicated by Ch 191 to those who served and to their families who supported and waited



Clyde Lauder milk, John Denning, William Harrison, John Edwards, Tim Whitmore, Clinton Capehart, Leo Ruffing, Verdie Cooke, Sr. (L-R) of Ch 191 at Suffolk, VA bench dedication ceremony



KWVA Decals



Courtesy of KWVA Recruiting Task Force Committee.

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

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

(Plus postage, NO handling fees)

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

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.

174 – NATURE COAST [FL]

Our officers and auxiliary officers were invited to the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Banquet on Saturday, October 9, 2010. It was held at the Doubletree Hotel Grand Ballroom in Tampa, FL, to honor all the veterans who fought and served in Korea. A full course lunch was served while a violin and cello quartet played music.

After the lunch, the keynote speaker, Kim Tae-Young, Korean Minister of Defense, was introduced. Awards and gifts to all present followed.



The Ch 174 contingent at the Tampa, FL Commemoration banquet

In attendance were Chaplain Bob Bestercy and his wife Lois; John Ross and his wife Carol; Bob Johnson (Sgt at Arms) and his wife Janet (Aux President); Richard Mellinger (Commander) and his wife Barbara (Aux Chaplain); Joe Seyfried (Treasurer) and his wife Kathleen (Aux Secretary); Ron Webber; Roger West and his wife Dotty (Aux Treasurer).

*Joseph Seyfried, Treasurer
11020 Belltower St
Spring Hill, FL 34608
352-688-1388, kandi5@iuno.com*

286 – EAST TEXAS [TX]

James Gill, our chapter President, received a personal invitation from the Korean Embassy in Washington, D C to attend a National 60th Anniversary of the Korean War in Taegu, Korea. A total of 12 nations was represented, with each country sending 2 veterans. The only exception was the United States, which was asked to send four.

Each veteran could bring a family member. The Americans were hosted by the Korean Army Academy at Yeong-Cheon.

The American group left Chicago on 21 June 21 2010, landed in Inchon, Korea, traveled by bus to Daegu, and stayed in the Hotel Inter-Burgo.



Jim Gill, John Gaddis, South Korean Army Cadet Captain, Billy Lynn, Gen Lee, Leo Glover, at the National Cemetery in Korea



The celebration of the end of the war is a national holiday in South Korea, which lasts several days. Many of the ceremonies were nationally televised; all were attended by thousands of Korean people.

Billy Lynn, a survivor of the Inchon invasion, Nak-Dong River defense line, and the Chosin Reservoir fighting, delivered a ten-minute speech to the Korean Army Academy. It was also published in the seminar catalogue.

Wherever the veterans appeared, the Korean people were gracious and eager to say "Thank you." The most amazing sight was how the Korean people have rebuilt the country from the horror seen in the war to the beautiful, energetic, modern country it has now become.

Our veterans came away feeling good about the war they had fought and proud of what had been achieved because they helped to keep South Korea free.

*Nancy Martin, Secretary
15716 Big Oak Bay Road
Tyler, Texas 75707-7714*



U. S. delegation at Daegu seminar (L-R) Billy Lynn, James Gill, John Gaddis, Leo Glover, Gen Lee



Korean Army Academy cadets pass in review for visiting veteran delegations

Billy Lynn of Ch 286 speaks to audience at the Korean Army Academy



Billy Lynn (L), Ch 286, meets with his son Andy (R) and Korean War Academy Supervisor MajGen Kim after speech

Continued ➤



The American delegates are presented floral wreaths at a nationally televised program on Korean tour



Chapter Worship With Local Korean Church

On September 19th, members and spouses of our chapter attended the worship services with our Korean brethren at their church, named "Our Beautiful Church," in Winchester, VA as they celebrated their Korean Thanksgiving Day Services. It was a day of wonderful fellowship as members of the church warmly greeted us even before we entered the building and it didn't end there. They could not have done anything more to make us feel welcome.

The majority of the service was in Korean. However, everything, including the Pastor's sermon, was projected on the wall in English. We sang the hymns in English while most of the congregation sang in Korea, but it sounded just fine.

A member of the congregation read a Letter of Greeting from Mr. Yoon, Soon Gu, Consul General of the Republic of Korea, and Miss Gee Yun Lee read a Letter of Thanks, thanking us for our assistance during the war.

The highlight of the day was when Pastor Chong presented a Certificate of Appreciation to our Commander, Lew Ewing, who accepted it on behalf of the chapter. The inscription read, "In appreciation of your tireless efforts in support of our Korean Armed Forces during the Korean War. Your dedication to our country and its military is commendable and an honorable addition to the fight for freedom throughout the world."



Ch 313 members at Winchester, VA Korean Church Service (L-R) Edgar Tufts, Rev. Chong, Church Bachman, Lew Ewing, Charles Hoak, Lew Ebert, Jack Keep, Tom Franklin, Herb Taylor, Paul Campbell, Don Jones, Ray Fish, Richard Smith and Bill Scott

A member of our Chapter, Rev. Jack Keep, closed the services with some brief comments followed by the Benediction. Following the church services, they treated us to a very delicious luncheon, which, of course, included Kimchi.

Lewis M. Ewing, Commander, 310 Clay Hill Drive, Winchester, VA 22602, 540-678-1787, lewewing@comcast.net

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Danville [IL] Library exhibit features Korean War

The Danville [IL] Public Library featured an exhibit about the Korean War throughout the month of July. The exhibit included pins, photos, newspaper and magazine articles, pamphlets, and other forms of information about the war. It also provided information about Korean War memorials, e.g., a local memorial, the state memorial in Springfield, and the Korean War Memorial in Washington DC.

One of the photographs depicted Robert E. Wurtsbaugh, the first person

from Vermilion County, in which Danville is located, killed in the Korean War—and for whom CID 21 is named. In all, there were 23 service members from the county who died in the war.

Some of the items in the exhibit were provided by Hershall Lee, who was one of the speakers at the first 60th Anniversary of the Korean War commemoration held in Danville. The ceremony took place in front of the Korean War Memorial.

Hershall Lee, 212 Kentucky Ave., Danville, IL 61832-6532



Hershall Lee speaks at Danville, IL Korean War Memoria



A sizable crowd honors Korean War veterans on July 27th at Danville, IL commemoration



A patriotic red, white, and blue wreath adorns the Korean War Memorial at Danville, IL



Magazines of the Korean War era on display at Danville library



Left and above, the Korean War in pictures at the Danville exhibit

The Where, When, and Why of the Korean War

Tell America

168 – QUAD CITIES [IL]

We took part in a "Trains, Planes & Automobiles Salute to the Military" event on 11 September 2010. As part of the event, we had a wonderful table display created by Bob Fitts. The theme was "A 'Tell America' to all the people."

The wonderful sunny weather matched the disposition of the great crowd.

Art Holevoet
16801 County Highway 5
Atkinson, IL 61235-9655
309-936-7621



LaVerne Smith (L) and Bob Fitts at Ch 168's Tell America table



Members of Ch 168 display their jeep at "Trains, Planes and Automobiles Salute to the Military" (L-R) Bob Fitts, LaVerne Smith, Don Doulke, Art Holevoet

306 - WEST MICHIGAN [MI]

One of our main endeavors has been to go into area schools as part of the "Tell America" program. We have been at

Kelloggsville High four times and Hamilton Junior High once. We have also visited Union High School (3 times), Grand Rapids

Christian High (3-4 times), Allendale High (4 times), Godfrey-Lee (4 times), and a home school.

Once a month we visit the residents at the Veterans Hospital. Several of our members go there a few times a week to volunteer.

This past summer we sponsored ice cream socials for the veterans. We hope to continue them in 2011.

Richard Swanson
260 Vindale SE
Kentwood, MI 49548



No mistaking that these veterans at an ice cream social are members of Ch 306 (note the sweatshirt). Members are (L-R) Commander Sherwin Nagelkirk, Sec/Treasurer Bob Cherry, John Erickson, Robert Green



Bob Mulder, Rod Chapman, Bob Cherry, Sherm Nagelkirk, Jim Van Dyke, Rich Swanson, Bob Green (L-R) at Ch 306 ice cream socia

Carl Cramer

Carl L. Cramer offered Tell America presentations to four sophomore classes at the Shippensburg [PA] School District on 10 November 2010. He handed out Korean War Education for Student booklets that he received

from Larry Kinard.

The high school features a historical display in the large glass case inside its entrance lobby area. The exhibits depict all wars from WWII until the present.

Cramer supplied all the articles in the case about the Korean War. That part of the exhibit is highlighted by a copy of The Greybeards and a picture of the Korean War Memorial in Washington, DC.

Cramer is a Life Member of KWVA and Ch 142, Colonel William E. Webber, in Frederick, MD.

Contact Carl L. Cramer at 2 E. Main St., P.O. Box 98, Newburg, PA 17240-0098, 717-423-6425, thecramers@a.net

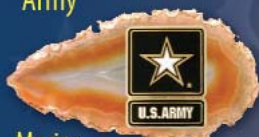


The display case at Shippensburg Area High School

Carl L. Cramer "Telling America" at the Shippensburg School District on 10 November 2010

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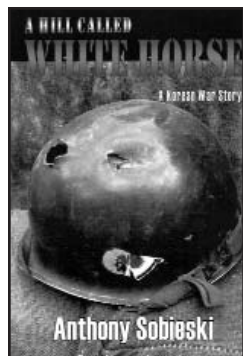
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Book Review

A Hill Called White Horse: A Korean War Story.

Anthony Sobieski

Authorhouse. Bloomington, IN, 2009. 216pp. ISBN 978-1-4389-4036-6



The battle for White Horse (aka Hill 395) was too long. The story Anthony Sobieski tells about the battle is too short. But, it certainly holds the reader's attention throughout this brief account of the 213th Field Artillery Battalion's role in the October 1952 attempt by the Chinese to secure control of the Chorwon Valley.

Sobieski employs an unusual literary device to tell what he says is simply "a Korean War story." It is a mix between fiction and nonfiction that works to perfection.

He tells the story of the first two days of the battle through the eyes of two forward observers (FOs), Lieutenants Joe Adams and Jack Callaway, who found themselves in the midst of the ferocious battle between hordes of Chinese troops and the 9th ROK ("White Horse") Division.

Here is how Sobieski describes his approach:

As the reader might have noticed, this book is referred to as a 'story' and is 'based on real events'. Well, is this the true story of what happened to Lieutenants Adams and Callaway and the 213th Field Artillery Battalion or not? The answer is overall yes it is what happened on a dark foreboding hill in the middle of Korea fifty-six years ago. And yes, Joe Adams, Jack Callaway and others in this book did perform these feats of bravery for one another. I have taken literary license when dealing with theirs and others specific actions and words, and have changed certain things to fit the overall story better to give it a flow. I quickly realized it was impossible to recreate an almost minute by minute account of actions and who said what, so that is why I did not label this book as the 'true story of ...'

Okay, with that caveat out of the way, we can concentrate on the story.

Even though Sobieski "invented" the dialogues between and among the actual men who fought in the battle, he does not fictionalize what went on. That is made clear in the back matter, which includes interviews with Callaway and Adams, a list of the men named in the account, e.g., Captain Jack Helm, LtCol Leon Humphrey, Sergeants Bud Sawyer and Phil Erbes, and some facts regarding the battle.

The mingling of facts about the battle and the invented dialogues create a dramatic narrative which actually makes readers feel as if they were there to feel the adrenaline rush Callaway, Adams et al felt, the terror and panic that sometimes affected the participants, the emotions of friendly and enemy combatants....In short, it is a sterling account of a small portion of a large battle that draws readers into the true effects of battle.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The information regarding the author's back-

ground in a previous book review (see Sept./Oct 2010, p. 57, "Fire For Effect! Artillery Forward Observers in Korea") was incorrect. Mr. Sobieski writes, "While I appreciate being thought of as a Korean vet, I never served in the army, nor the artillery nor in Korea. I am an Air Force veteran who writes about the Korean War. Also, my father is not a 2nd Infantry Division member; he served with IX Corps artillery."

Incidentally, *A Hill Called White Horse* was recently named a Silver Award winner for 2010 by the Military Writers Society of America.

Reunion Calendar: 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.

APRIL

19th & 34th Divisions, 25-27 Apr., Pigeon Forge, TN, Holiday Inn Express, 888-774-4366. POC: Leo Gosnell, 864-895-1842

3rd AAA AW BN (SP), 26-28 Apr., Pigeon Forge, TN, Park Grove Inn., POC: Leon L. Espe, Secretary, 1043 Vilas St., Leavenworth, KS 66048, 913-250-5133, lespe@kc.rr.com

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

USS WASP (CV/CVA/CVS-18) & USS Hobson (DD 464/DMS 26), 29 Apr.-4 May, Charleston, SC. POC: Richard G. VanOver, 6584 Bunting Rd., Orchard Park, NY 14127, 716-649-9053

MAY

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

67th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing (all units) 9-13 May, Lancaster, PA. POC: Holly Faux, 570-698-5543, fauxhr@gmail.com

73rd Tank Bn./73rd Armor, 11-15 May, Pigeon Forge, TN. POC: Curtis Banker, 4 Westcott Rd., Schuyler Falls, NY 12985-1940, 518-643-2302, curt0742@hughes.net

Army Counterintelligence Corps Veterans, Inc (ACICV), 15-19 May, New Orleans, LA. Hotel Provincial. POC: Bill Ward, 425-881-0306, billward21@comcast.net

AUGUST

Second Indianhead Division, 24-29 Aug., St. Louis, MO. All former or current 2 ID veterans welcome. POC: Bob Haynes, 224-225-1202, 2idahq@comcast.net or 2ida.org website

SEPTEMBER

10th Inf. Div./8th Cav. Regt., 9-11 Sept., Branson, MO. For veterans of infantry training at Ft. Riley, KS, Nov. 30, 1953-Apr., 1954 and/or who served at Camp Crawford and Camp Wittington, Japan 1953-1956. POC: Alan Sanderson, 319-283-4043, a.wsanderson@q.com, or Steve Bosma, 408-270-1319

Veterans of VI Corps; Seventh Army; 6th Army Group; 3d, 36th, and 45th Infantry Divisions; 1st Allied Airborne Task Force; 1st Special Service Force (1944-45) (family members, friends, and military historians are welcome). Reunion/Tour of Southern France invasion beaches (ANVIL/DRAGOON) and Rhone Valley area of operations. 13-24 Sept. POC: Wilson A. Heefner, 7205 Park Woods Drive, Stockton, CA 95207-1409, 209-951-4748, w.heefner@comcast.net



Welcome Aboard!

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Recon Missions

Robert Stankus

I am looking for fellow member Robert Stankus of Co. B., 51st Signal Bn. He was from the Chicago area.

Stankus was the Supply Sgt. from 1953-55 in Korea, near Uijongbu.

Herbert Janssen, 7 Beth Ln., Hampton Bays, NY
11946-2401, 631-728-8620

Looking for a driver from Fox Co.

There was a photo in the March/April 2009 issue, p. 48, of a bridge somewhere in Korea with an overturned truck next to it ("Anyone recognize these pics?"). I had a situation near a bridge if this type, although I am certain it was not the one in the picture.

My experience took place at the front line when I was with Hdq Co., 2nd Bn., 14th Regt, 25th Div. We had a message center run late at night to deliver a change in patrol orders. We had to get them to a personnel carrier on the other side of a bridge.

Our mission took place during flood conditions. We had to turn on to a road to cross a river to meet the personnel carrier. We went too far. We reached the next road to the right of the one we were supposed to use and got our jeep stuck near the bridge there.

My driver/messenger walked back in the moonlight to another company and called the motor pool to get us out. They said okay, but we would have to wait until 1 p.m. the next afternoon, since there were many other vehicles stuck.

So, we called Fox Co. for help. They told us to walk across the bridge and a GI truck would meet us there. When I got to the end of the bridge—it was partially gone. The bridge that had been there was similar to the one in the aforementioned picture, but it was made of heavier material, was considerably longer, and had railings.

Anyway, the Fox Co. soldier drove his truck as far as he could go on to what was left of the bridge, then stood on the hood of the vehicle and reached for the patrol orders I was handing him.

I realized when I was walking back to the jeep that I should have taken the spare tire to use as a life preserver, since the bridge was shaking as I crossed it and I could have fallen in to the river.

Maybe the truck driver from Fox Co. will see this and contact me. I did meet one driver from Fox Co. near here, but he said he was not the one I am looking for.

George A. Carter, 7601 63rd St. N,
Pinellas Park, FL 33781, 727-545-1118

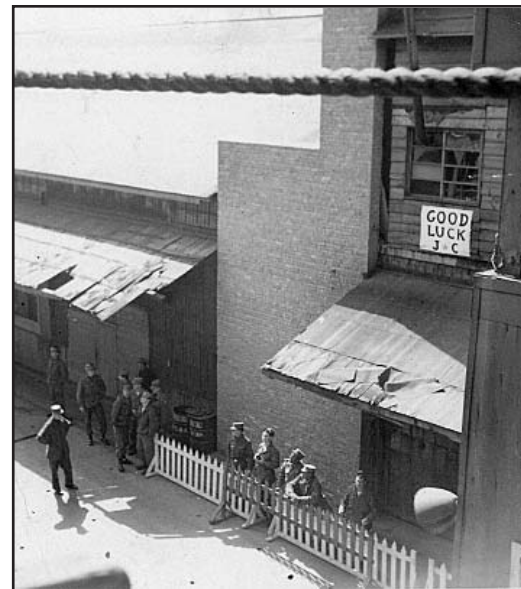
Goodbye, John, Jack, and Joe...whoever you are

Here are pictures of a going-away party on 10 December 1954 for John, Jack, and Joe. The only one in the group photo whose identity we know is Harold Kenney—and that is only because he submitted the pictures.

He was with the Air Force in Pusan, with Hq Co. in 1954-55.

Can anyone fill in the blanks?

Harold F. X. Kenney, 6105 Palmetto St.,
Philadelphia, PA 19111-5729



Good luck somewhere in Kore



ABOVE: John, Jack, and Joe are here somewhere with Harold Kenney (1st Row, right)

LEFT: An unknown speaker says "good bye" to John, Jack, and Joe

Jim Crandall

I am looking for Jim Crandall. He graduated from Alhambra, CA High School in 1945. Jim was a tower controller at Kimpo in 1949-1950.

Lou Ives, 1109 Fox Ridge,
Earlysville, VA 22936, avmidn@aol.com

Veterans of 224th Regt., 40th Div

I am looking for members of the 224th Regt. of the 40th Div. As of now, we have located 17 members. There are another 1,500 somewhere.



Dan and Laurel Warden are looking for 224th Regt. members

We had a great time in Las Vegas in October with the 40th Div., where about 300 people attended our reunion. We include the 160th, 223rd, 140th, 224th, the 578th Combat Engr., the 40th Div. Rec. Members of any of the above units are welcome to our group. But, my main goal is to find 224th Regt. members.

Dan Warden, P. O. Box 404, Selma, OR 97538,
541-597-2979, dandw@frontiernet.net

Edgar Paul Bowman

I am looking for information about my uncle, Edgar Paul Bowman, who served in Korea with the U.S. Army. I am not sure, but I believe he was there in 1952 or 1953. I do know that he was stationed at Camp Breckenridge, KY in 1952.

Here is what else I know about him. His serial number was 52301594, and he was assigned to Co. "F," 502ABN Inf. Regt., 101st ABN Div.

Any help would be appreciated, as we are trying to create our family's military history.

Roger D. Bowman, 401 Latimer Heights,
Danville, KY 40422, 859-239-9012

Napolean Lawrence

Do your records show any information on a Pvt. Napolean Lawrence, a draftee from Louisiana who is supposed to have been in the 7th Armored Division Band in Camp Roberts, CA from January 1953 until he was shipped to Korea in April or May, 1953?

I have the rosters for that band for January 1953 and July 1953, but he does not appear on either of them. I was the supply sergeant of that band during that period, and don't remember him. Any help will be appreciated.

Wallace Nolin, Akron, OH,
wallyn71@aol.com

840 EAB HQ & Ser Co.

I was in Korea in 1952-53 with 840 EAB Hq. & Ser. Co., turning a rice paddy into a 9,000-foot airstrip (K-55, Osan). I hope someone who was there or who had a relative there will contact me. 840 EAB was an East Tennessee unit.

Curtis S. Allin, Jr., 1309 Lodwick Dr.,
Louisville, TN 37777-4727, 865-970-3540

31st Field Artillery Battalion, 7th Infantry Division, Able Battery

I am a veteran of 31st Field Artillery Battalion, 7th Infantry Division, Able Battery. I have been trying to locate veterans who were in my unit in Korea from 1951 to 1953.

I landed in Pusan, Korea, 18 Oct, 1951 and was involved in several battles, pushing the North Koreans back as far as Pyongyang. I was assigned to a 155 Howitzer and a 4-ton truck. While at "Heart Break Ridge" we were shelled from below and our gun was demolished. Eventually we were able to drive the truck back to base and were issued another gun.

After fifteen months in Korea, I was shipped back to the states and was discharged on 5 June 1953.

Is there any way I can get in contact with the fellows in my unit? I know that some vets are not very likely to talk about their service experience, as I have been for many years, but now I am wondering just where they are. I only have first names that I can remember from that experience.

Any help you can give me would be greatly appreciated.

Gerald (Jerry) J. Thompson, 110 5th St E,
Canby, MN56220-1325, 507-223-5149

"The Tiger"

I am writing this letter for my brother, Dominick Conti. He has been enjoying The Graybeards for some time now.

Dominick has spoken to a few veterans who have said they have heard of a person in Korea who was called "The Tiger." He does not remember getting an issue with this person's name. Dominick would like to know if there was such an issue and, if so, someone could send it to him at 865 Travis Ave., Staten Island, NY 10314-5707, 718-983-5921.

My husband was also in Korea, from 16 Sept. 1950 to November 1951. He is a disabled veteran as a result of his time in Korea.

Rose Voloshin, 443 Stobe Ave.,
Staten Island, NY 10306

HQ 980th FA Bn.

I am trying to locate members of my old outfit—if it still exists. That is HQ 980th FA Bn.

I was the Sergeant in Charge of Liaison, called Gallahad Red. We served on line with the 224th Inf. Bn of the 40th Div. We ate and slept there, supplied comms and wire, and came and went on their patrols.

It has been sixty years since then. If anyone has any information on the unit, please let me know.

Bernard Adler, 16 Ipswich St., Auburn, ME 04210,
207-783-6038, badler2@roadrunner.com

Member wins free trip to South Korea



Ralph Nonnemacher at Incheon International Airport

Ralph Nonnemacher, a member of CID 147, West Bay Rhode Island #23, who served with Co. K, 3rd Bn., 7th Regt., 3rd Inf. Div., was fortunate enough to win a complimentary trip to South Korea to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the start of the Korean War.

He was chosen as 1 of 19 Korean War veterans worldwide who were invited to attend with

their spouses. Nonnemacher's daughter Donna accompanied him on the trip. His incredible journey to Seoul began on 5 September 2010.

The party flew from Kimpo Airport to Pusan, where they visited the UN cemetery to honor the soldiers from sixteen countries who sacrificed their lives during the Korean War and were buried

there between 1950 and 1953.

Reach Nonnemacher at 364 Woodward Rd., Providence RI 02904, RalphKVet@cox.net. 401-421-4057

Photos submitted by Bob Hartley, Commander, CID 147, P.O. Box 661, Coventry, RI 02816

Ralph Nonnemacher (R) and his daughter Donna (C) meet their travel guide and interpreter, Ji Seon Park (aka "Joy"), at Incheon International Airport



Two Korean War veterans, one Turkish (L) and one Colombian, place a wreath at the Pusan cemetery



Seventy UN members and guests observe a moment of silence at the UN cemetery



Ralph Nonnemacher and his daughter Donna hook up with an unidentified U.S. Marine at the airport



The group including Ralph Nonnemacher visits the UN cemetery at Pusan



The nineteen winners of the free trip to South Korea

Associate member did USO tour in Korea

In the July/Aug issue of *The Graybeards*, there was a story (p. 62), about a USO show in Korea featuring Jan Sterling and her husband, Paul Douglas. The writer called Sterling "a class act." He also recalled seeing other stars, including Jack Benny and Errol Flynn.

Chapter 173 has its own USO "hero," Forrest ("Forry") Haynes. Forrest was a member of a foursome called the Mid States Four which, in addition to him, included Bob Mack, Marty Mendro, and Phil Hansen. Forrest is the only surviving member of the quartet.

The Mid States Four made its tour during the summer of 1951, performing before many units over a two-month period. It has been reported that the quartet was the most traveled USO group to perform in Korea. Eighth Army Commander Gen. James A. Van Fleet awarded the group a special citation for their efforts in entertaining the troops.

On a related note, Forrest was recently inducted into the International Music Hall of Fame.

NOTE: This story appeared in CID 173's (MID-FLORIDA) September 2010 newsletter, p.4. We sent out our crack research team to do a bit of research on the group. Here is what we learned, courtesy of http://www.barbershopwiki.com/wiki/Mid_States_Four

The Mid-States Four is the Barbershop Harmony Society's 1949 International Quartet Champion. Quartet Members: Tenor: Bob Rodriguez; Lead: Marty Mendro; Bari: Forrest Haynes; Bass: Art Gracey. Replacement Members: Bass: Phil Hansen (1982); Tenor: Don Barnick (1999)

Extended History

A quartet was organized by four employees at the Bell & Howell Company. Marty Mendro, lead; Forrest Haynes, baritone; and Bob Corbett, bass. Haynes had been a member of a quartet that was one of the last to appear on the Keith road show circuit on stage and radio.

Mendro, a soloist in church choirs during his younger years, was introduced to barbershop harmony at Bell & Howell during World War II. The foursome became 6th place international finalists in 1945 and 1946 and were Illinois District champions in 1946.

When three of the quartet members left Bell & Howell, the group changed its name to the Mid-States Four. The president of the Mid States Insurance Company had taken an interest in the quartet and offered to sponsor them, providing uniforms and expenses in return for jobs done for his firm if they would use the corporate name.

Art Gracey, formerly with the Fort Dearborn Four of Illinois, joined the quartet replacing Corbett, who was forced to give up singing with the group due to the pressure of business obligations.

The quartet finished third at the international contest in Milwaukee in 1947 with Bob Rodriguez singing tenor. Rodriguez, later known as Bob Mack, had studied voice in Chicago.

The Mid-States Four were second at Oklahoma City in 1948 and became the Society's eleventh quartet champion in Buffalo in 1949.

The quartet became famous for its ability to combine smooth styling of currently popular songs with madcap comedy and serious barbershop ballads. They were featured on barbershop chapter

shows throughout the United States and Canada and appeared with many big-name entertainers on commercial shows.

In 1950, during the Korean conflict, the Mid-States Four traveled more than 24,000 miles, doing a total of 33 shows for more than 52,000 United Nations troops. Their schedule took them to the front lines as well as to recreational areas and hospitals in Korea and Japan.

They left the show circuit around 1966 but came out of retirement in 1982 with Phil Hansen replacing Art Gracey who had died. They performed in the Association of International Champions show at the 1983 international convention in Seattle. Hansen came from a singing family and was a veteran of several quartets, among them the Memories and Madness Quartet.

Tenor Bob Mack died in the spring of 1988. The quartet made a cameo appearance on the golden anniversary Association of International Champions show with Don Barnick of the 1979 Champion Grandma's Boys and 1992 Champion Keepsake filling in as tenor.

AUSSIE from page 24

in New South Wales hold many functions for the Diggers who defended their country all those years ago. They are the most gracious and grateful of people. They honour our Korean veterans with the highest dignity and respect. Harry was awarded the "Ambassador To Peace" medal in 2001 on behalf of the Korean government and its people—the first time I have seen my father cry.

The Australian government has now made it compulsory that the Korean War be part of the history curriculum for all Australian schools. It has only been in the last 10 years that the Korean Vets have marched here in Sydney on Anzac Day. But, when the "Blue Berets" pass in the parade it is just wonderful to see them march.

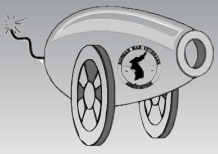
Every Anzac Day there is at least one member of this family who marches alongside the Korean Diggers with the rest on the sidelines to ensure the public know who they are when they pass by. Harry had 6 children who in turn had 23 children and to date there are 12 great grandchildren. So, as you can see, Aussie Korean vets will NEVER have a chance to be Forgotten!

A heartfelt Thank you for your kindness and your generosity. It has been my pleasure and such a privilege to be given the chance to honour and thank the (American) veterans who fought alongside my father and his best mate.

May God keep you safe. You will never be forgotten.
An Aussie Diggers Daughter.

Glenda Miller
1586 Windsor Road
Vineyard
New South Wales
Australia 2765, gm.miller@bigpond.com.au

*Submitted by Chris Christifulli, 923 Annabrook Park Dr.,
O'Fallon, MO 63366-8410, 636-294-1836
SChristifulli@charter.net*



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.

Please forgive the tears

As I sit here looking through the latest issue of *The Graybeards*, I see all these old gray-headed men, and I recall that these are the same young, strong, brave men who served with me in Korea. They are the young men who had my back, with whom I shared so many hardships, the ones who would take any risk to save mine or their other buddies' lives.

You will have to forgive the tears, but I miss it, and I always have. I miss the danger, the shared hardship, the laughter, and the tears. We went through hell together, and never once questioned why we were there.

Some of us were drafted and sent there against their will. Others enlisted. Regardless, we actually thought we were doing it for America and thought it was worth the sacrifice. I still do.

I would like to finish out my days by climbing to the top of one of those hills where I lost several friends and have someone shoot me. I can see it now: my buddies all gathered around me, trying to stop the bleeding, helping me smoke a cigarette, and giving me encouragement by saying, "Hang in there, Keeney. You're going to be all right."

Incidentally, I was with Charlie Co., 7th Inf. Reg., 3rd. Div., in 1951 and 1952.

Leroy Keeney, PO Box 1022, Ceres, CA 95307-1022,
pasnwind@msn.com

A forgotten battle in a forgotten war

Our reunion of the Thunderbird 45th Div in Oklahoma City, Sept. 24-25, 2010, indicated that the bad memories (PTS) of war are still locked in the minds of many 80-year-old vets. In particular, a luncheon meeting of many combat medics who served at Christmas Hill proved that the trauma has been a life-long problem since they served as young men at ages 19-21.

The casualty listing that I researched and printed for them made them aware that they were the lucky ones to come out of that battle. The realization that the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 180th Regt, with a full complement of 1,088 men, suffered, in only 18 days, 330 casualties—or 30%—with most in the front trenches!

The 45th Div. field report indicated "the 180th was only at 35% of combat effectiveness and replaced by the 179th on July 19."

What is most insulting to those of us who served there is that the 45th Division history, the Stars & Stripes, and the AP made no mention of the Christmas Hill battle, but accentuated a parallel battle, Pork Chop, on the western sector, and all the "peace

negotiations" going on at Panmunjom.

We visited the 45th Div. Museum. The display of July 1953 battles list made no mention of Christmas Hill. A couple of us met with the curator and emphasized that their omission of historical battle data was an insult to those who served there. We found our book, *Christmas in July*, in a pile of un-catalogued books. It was not even referenced in the library!

We were assured that the book would be properly filed and placed in library and the history display of July 1953 would be properly written and displayed. (The "we" includes me, Ray Kalil, and Donald Nicol, who were co-authors of the book and who served at the Christmas Hill battle.)

I realize that there are a lot of historical omissions during the hectic pace of war, but I feel the obligation to correct a significant omission on behalf of all who served there with so many who "gave their tomorrow so we could have our today."

Wayne Pelkey (a trench Mud Dog at Christmas Hill),
wppelkey@charter.net

Editor's Note: Based on subsequent emails from Mr. Pelkey, the curator of the museum will reference and place *Christmas in July* on the library shelves. In addition, he has asked for a copy of a list Mr. Pelkey has compiled in chronological order by name and rank of the casualties of both the 180th and 179th Regiments for this period which, he says, "is more staggering than I even recalled."

Thanks for serving...now pay your back taxes

I have been following the comments for the past several months about New York State not paying a bonus to our vets. Let me add something to that.

I served in Korea from April 1956 to August 1957 with the 24th Inf. Div. We were the only Army unit receiving the extra \$20 per month for hazardous duty pay, it was so dangerous.

Upon returning home, I started working. In 1958 I received a letter from the New York State Income Tax Department stating that I had not paid New York State income tax for the years of 1956 and 1957, and they required me to appear before them.

I accepted their invitation and informed the agent that I had been serving in Korea. He asked if I had an apartment there off base. I explained that there was no such thing as "off base," because it was still a war zone. Even the generals didn't have off base apartments.

He pulled out the rule book and read to me that if I had an apartment off base in Korea, it would be my permanent address. Since I didn't, my address during those years was 36 King Ave.,

Yonkers, New York. Therefore, I owed the state \$108 dollars in back taxes, fines and penalties for not paying my taxes on time.

How's that for a "Thank you for your service" from New York State!

E. Russell Uboldi, 10 Newcom Ct.,
Fairfield Glade, TN 38558

He lost the election

A former U.S. Army Captain running for re-election for Congress for Pennsylvania's 8th District had a campaign slogan that read "World War II, Vietnam, Iraq." He forgot the Korean War!

I called the campaign office and told them I wasn't happy about the omission. They apologized and explained that it was an oversight.

That was not an excuse, I said. Oh, well: he lost the election anyway. He may be forgotten, but the Korean War will not be.

Walter D. Hinrichs, 2195 Martin Dr.,
Gilbertsville, PA 19525-8505

Ridgway and trucks

In the Sept/Oct issue, Richard Sexton responded to my article, "Death by Truck" (p. 65, July/Aug 2010). He wrote, "Did Ridgway tell the Army to get rid of their trucks? I would love to see that directive."

I did not uncover a specific directive from Ridgway. But, I did locate some corroborating evidence. Andrew Salmon wrote in an article the following (*Korea Times*, 1/10/10):

Savior of the South

Credit for holding the line in the face of the war's biggest attacks must go to a much rougher diamond than MacArthur.

Gen. Matthew Ridgway had taken over the position of U.S. 8th Army Commander in Korea from Gen. Walton Walker following the latter's death in December.

Walker's offensive dash – he was a protégé of mobile operations maestro Gen. George Patton – had contributed to the UNC catastrophe in North Korea.

Ridgway, a paratrooper, insisted that troops dismount from vehicles, leave roads and dominate high ground. (*Italics added*) His tactics were more cautious than Walker's, but more successful.

Fred Frankville, Fsf Frank@aol.com

EDITOR'S NOTE: We cannot reprint the entire article here due to copyright laws. It is available at <http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/include/print.asp?newsIdx=58792>

Sept./Oct. 2010, pp. 72/73, "Korean War Vets still remember": A few inconsistencies

With regard to the subject line above, I have the following observations.

1. Joseph Brown may never have seen Clint Eastwood at Heartbreak Ridge, but, be assured, Clint Eastwood was an infantryman and in Korea during the Korean War.

2. Kenneth Colebank may have been a member of the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team (one of my two units in Korea between 1950 and 1953), but he was not a member of the

101st Airborne Division if he parachuted into North Korea near Pyongyang in 1950 with the 187th. The 187th did not become a part of the 101st Airborne Division until September 1956.

3. If the U.S. Navy allows Gunners Mates like Earl Buckler to open fire at will, without orders, it is no wonder we suffer so many casualties from friendly fires. Planning to fire at "black spots" which turned out to be friendly tanks reveals a lack of training and discipline we can do without.

4. When the shooting ended July 27, 1953, the North and South Korean Armies were not "right back where they started," warily eyeing each other across the 38th parallel. When the shooting ended, I was on Hill 604 in the Kumwha Valley in North Korea, well north of the 38th Parallel, with the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team.

The final Chinese attack objective, to retake Seoul, was stopped just like the fighting. We withdrew to the Kansas Line.

Bob Gilbert, Infantry, ppfcg@mchsi.com

Canadian casualties in the Korean War

A total of 26,791 Canadians served in the Korean War. A total of 516 Canadians died during the war in Korea: 312 were listed as "combat" deaths; 204 died as the result of disease, drowning, suicide or vehicle accidents. About 40% of the Canadian deaths in Korea were "non-combat" deaths. It seems probable that the American experience in the Korean War was similar. The numbers you have provided tell me that about 38% of American deaths in Korea were non-combat deaths.

Most Canadians were rotated back to Canada after a year of service in Korea. All Canadians were volunteers. None of us were conscripts. We were not "called up" or forced to go. In fact, the "Special Force," of which I was a member, was recruited especially for the Korean War.

I believe that the classification of deaths is a difficult and somewhat inaccurate process. I had a friend who died when he was hit by a Chinese artillery shell. That was an obvious combat death. Another soldier from my battalion died when he was accidentally shot by one of his own men. He was climbing a hill towards his position in the dark and the Canadian doing the shooting thought he was an enemy soldier. Is that a combat death, or not?

Jeeps were very dangerous vehicles. You will recall that General Patton died in a Jeep in WWII. General Walker, the first U.S. commander in Korea, also died in a Jeep accident. Jeeps had no seat belts and no roll-over bars! I think that generals were always in a hurry and that did not help.

During most of the war, Canada had three (3) infantry battalions in Korea at one time. Each battalion had about 900 soldiers. More than 90% of the combat deaths were from the infantry battalions. Obviously, the support services had many of the vehicle and other non-combat deaths because they were the ones doing the driving of jeeps and trucks. The roads in Korea were very hazardous. Drivers were sometimes shot by snipers even far behind the front line.

I hope that my comments are helpful to you. "Bonne chance," or good luck, as we sometimes say in Canada.

Mike Czuboka, czuboka@mts.net

Cardinal Spellman and Francis Kinsella

I am enclosing a 1951 photo of myself and Cardinal Spellman of New York City. It was taken at a Christmas Mass for all troops in Korea during that year. I was with The 7th Infantry Div., 31st Regt, Fox Co.

The picture, which was taken by photographers from the New York area, was shown on a television news program by John Cameron Swayze. My mother saw it on TV, and my family went to the news station to try to get this picture. The television folks gave them the film, from which we had pictures made of the scene. It was a memorable Christmas for the entire family.



Cardinal Spellman and Philip M. Kinsella at Christmas mass

Hopefully, some old Army buddies would have a few memories of this time.

Phil Kinsella, 27 Henry Street, Moonachie, N.J 07047,
201-440-0746, NannyDk@aol.com

Father Lewis Felhoelter

I have been reading about Father Emil Kapaun, a true hero. His name brings to mind Father Lewis Felhoelter, the first Army chaplain to be killed in the Korean War.

Father Felhoelter was with the 24th Inf. Div. at the Pusan Perimeter when his unit was overrun by the North Korean Army. He had stayed behind to administer last rites to some dying GIs. Later, when they discovered his body, he had his hands tied behind his back and he had been shot in the back of the head.

When I enlisted in the Army in March 1949, I had basic training at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas with the 5th Armored Division. At that time, Father Felhoelter was one of the chaplains in our unit. He was a very friendly, outgoing person, well liked by everyone.

He spent most of his time in the field with the troops. I was quite shocked when I read about the account of his death in the paper.

I served in Korea with the 120th Combat Engineer Bn, 45th Inf. Div.

Charles Roddy, Roddycrjr@wmconnect.com

EDITOR'S NOTE: Does the story below identify where Father Felhoelter was slain?

The Chaplain-Medic massacre was a war crime that took place in the Korean War on July 16, 1950, on a mountain above the vil-

lage of Tunam, South Korea. Twenty critically wounded US Army soldiers were killed by members of the North Korean People's Army during the Battle of Taejon.

Operating at the Kum River during the Battle of Taejon, troops of the US Army's 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division were cut off from resupply by a roadblock established by North Korean troops of the NK 3rd Division. The roadblock, proving difficult to break, forced US troops to move through nearby mountains to evacuate their wounded back from the front lines.

One group of 20 critically wounded US troops was stranded at the top of a mountain. Attended to by only an unarmed chaplain and a medic, the wounded were discovered by a North Korean patrol. Though the medic was able to escape, the North Koreans executed the chaplain as he prayed over the wounded, then killed the rest of them.

The massacre was one of several incidents that provoked a response from US commanders to establish a commission to look into war crimes during the war. The North Korean commanders, concerned about the way their soldiers were treating prisoners of war, laid out stricter guidelines for handling enemy captives.

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chaplain-Medic_massacre

Lower back injury, shrapnel, Hepatitis... all in a day's work

In July 1950, we assembled at Mount Fuji Base Camp, Japan. Our ten-man squad included six new South Korean civilian recruits who did not speak English at all and were practically unarmed. Even by the time we arrived in Korea, our South Korean civilian recruit soldiers had not been issued any M1 rifles or arms.

Two other squad members were U.S. Soldiers who spent time in the U.S. "Big Eight" Prison in Japan. I was ordered to be the leader of this squad, because my veteran squad leader went AWOL in Mount Fuji, Japan before we left for Korea.

We were shipped out from Mount Fuji, Japan to Korea. We spent over five (5) weeks aboard a Navy troop ship before arriving in time for the successful invasion landing at Inchon, Korea. We offered a lot of thanks to the U.S. Navy battleship *USS Missouri* (BB-63) for blasting Port Chongin in North Korea and for watching over us during the surprise invasion of Inchon. One night, during a patrol on the Hans River, I tested the depth of the water and got a low back injury because of the wet rock.

During the winter of October, 1950, we moved up to Iwon, North Korea, traveling by tanks, trains, foot... We were hiking with lots of mortar rounds dropping on our squad daily. We never even had winter clothes or boots.

Our first battle was supposed to be a 24-hour night patrol on one of the highest frost mountains in Cho-I-Won, North Korea. We were caught in a mortar round crossfire and ambushed by North Korean soldiers. On the second day of my time as a squad leader in Korea, I rescued my assistant platoon sergeant, who was blinded in both eyes in an open fire area.

At one point, I got hit on my left leg by a mortar round fired by North Korean soldiers. I also captured three Chinese soldiers that week while on patrol. On the fourth day, we were rescued by our own U.S. troops. Then, in November 1950, I and other sol-

diers were flown out of North Korea by a U.S. Air Force cargo plane to the 35th Hospital in Kyoto, Japan.

I had acquired Hepatitis-Jaundice, an inflammation of the liver. There, I met a lot of fellow servicemen who caught Hepatitis while in combat.

Robert K. C. Young, 1329 Akalani Loop, Kailui, HI
96734-4121, 808-263-9315, served with 7 INFD 17 INF
1 BN B

Piper Laurie's upcoming book

Thanks for putting my photos of Piper Laurie in the May-June issue. I have heard from other Korean vets who saw the same USO show.

Piper Laurie, who was born in Detroit in 1932, two years after me, also in Detroit, has a book that Random House will release on 21 June 2011. It's titled *Learning To Live Out Loud: A Memoir*. I look forward to reading her book.

Tom Chilcott, 1020 Livingston, Brighton, MI 48116

Thanks for the overwhelming feedback

Not too long ago I sent a couple photos and a letter regarding a visit to Korea by Jan Sterling and Paul Douglas. (See "Paul Douglas was just along for the ride," July/Aug 2010, pp. 62-63.) The response has been overwhelming.

Simply put, I cannot respond individually to everyone who got in touch with me. Their letters, faxes, etc., brought me some vivid memories, some good, some bad. Naturally, I don't know everyone who got back to me. I may have seen or heard some of them as we passed on a ship or a hill, in a depot, or in a passing convoy or during a long road march. We were all trying to do our jobs and waiting to get back home.

In any case, no one will ever know the feelings we experienced in Korea unless they have been there. The feedback I have been getting is proof of the idea that we are truly a "Band of Brothers." I thank the people who took the time to correspond with me—and I am especially fond of the good memories they invoked.

Joe Russo, 901 Schisler Dr., Florence, NJ
609-499-2593

Piper Laurie gets locked out

In April of 1953, I was at Camp Drake near Yokohama, Japan preparing to go to Korea. My folks wanted me telephone them in Dubuque, Iowa whenever I had an opportunity. After making arrangements to call home with a Japanese telephone representative, I walked out of a very small office in the corner of a large building.

As I approached the middle of the north side of this structure, a U. S. army bus rolled to a sudden stop next to me. The bus door flew open. To my astonishment, out jumped a very attractive young American woman. I stopped moving and just watched her movements.

She ran by me rapidly and raced up four steps to what appeared to be a multiple door entrance to this big building. After going to each of the four doors and trying to open each one, she found all of the doors locked shut.

She again tried each door with no successful entry. Bounding down the steps, she surprised me by coming over to me and asked,

"How can I gain entry to this building when all the doors are locked shut?"

Earlier in this same morning I had attended a meeting in this same building to hear a lecture on hemorrhagic fever found in Korea. I answered her by telling her, "This structure is an auditorium with the main entrance on the opposite side from our location here."

She said, "Thank you for your help," then turned around and entered the bus, which started to travel to the other side of the auditorium.

I went back to my barracks to await further processing for Korea. While I was there, some of my buddies were saying there would be a USO show tonight in the building I had just left. Piper Laurie, a movie star, was the main program entertainer.

I did not know anything about this Piper Laurie. I decided it might be a good thing to take in the show.

When Piper Laurie was introduced to us, it turned out that this was the very attractive young lady I had met earlier that same morning at the false entrance to the auditorium. It was quite a surprise to me.

She put on a delightful show for all of us that evening. I will remember that pleasant event for the rest of my life.

Duane Datisman, 225 Princeton Place,
Dubuque, IA 52001, 563-690-0104

Sometimes I feel like Sisyphus

Editor:

Re "What are the real Korean War casualty numbers?", Sept./Oct. 2010, p. 7

Do you honestly believe the 17,672 "Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater)" had nothing to do with the Korean War? Let me put it another way: if we were not fighting the Korean War would we have sustained those casualties? If not, then why not include them with the other casualties to come up with the total "War Deaths" figure. By the way, why is there a dual standard; why do we quote "Combat Deaths" for the United States while quoting "War Deaths" for the other 21 Nations?

If you believe that we would have sustained those 17,672 casualties if we were not fighting the Korean War then you must address the following: the 17,672 deaths spread over three years results in an annual rate of 5,000+ which means, at that rate, for the forty years of the Cold War the U.S. sustained over 200,000 Non-Combat deaths. Who believes that?

I know two things. One, it was important for President Truman to keep the 'body count' down after all these men were dying in a Police Action, not a war (so he said) and you're not supposed to have high casualties performing crowd control and traffic functions.

Harry Truman has been dead a long time; there is no reason why we must continue to live with his mistakes. Two, that was not a Police Action. It was a war, one of the bloodiest—if not the bloodiest—we've ever fought, and 54,000+ G.I.'s did not return home.

Let me ask the question again—How many G.I.'s died in the Korean War?

Robert E. Love III, 135 Tanglewood Place,
Morganville N.J. 07751

Editor's Note: The figures quoted and the breakdown between

"Battle Deaths" and "Other Deaths (In Theater)" are provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Therefore, the VA is the proper place to direct this letter. We did not do the breakdown.

Incidentally, those of you who remember their Greek mythology might recognize Sisyphus as the king who was punished by being compelled to roll an immense boulder up a hill, only to watch it roll back down, and repeat this act throughout eternity.

Stand Down at East Bay

On 5 August 2010, after nearly a year of planning and extensive coordination involving hundreds of volunteers and an impressive array of medical, social, and legal services, a group came to life as the East Bay Stand Down. The event was among the most effective activities of a joint effort between VFW Chapter 1525 and KWVA Chapter 264, Mount Diablo [CA].

Stand Downs are so called because in time of armed conflict troops on the fighting front are relieved periodically from the field of battle to rest, recoup, clean up, and replenish. In our case, with the help of the Concord Vet Center and countless volunteers, homeless veterans are now able to stand down to find new directions for their lives.

The East Bay Stand Down is unique among all of the fifty states. It is the only four-day Stand Down in the entire country. And, it offers to homeless veterans the most comprehensive array of services and the greatest number of supportive volunteers to be found in any of our metropolitan centers.

On the appointed day, military units assembled a well-organized camp in anticipation of the arrival of 405 homeless male and female veterans from the surrounding seven counties in the San Francisco Bay area.

More than 2,300 civilian and military volunteers worked 24 hours a day for 4 days to support the operation. What was done? Medical, dental, and legal services were provided at no charge. The homeless veterans received complimentary haircuts, massages, and chaplain counseling.

Meal services were a logistical challenge. A dedicated team of cooks, servers, and support staff produced 8,263 meals at the opening event—a new record for Stand Downs. The food ranged from barbecued beef brisket to salmon, and included a full-service breakfast for each of the four days.

Stand Downs have proven effective in breaking the deadly cycle of homelessness. The East Bay Stand Down has an objective of placing 20% of eligible participants directly into residential programs and providing opportunities that lead directly to gainful employment.

The East Bay Stand Down began at Camp Parker, Dublin, CA. Since 1999 the organization has benefitted 2,500 veterans in need. Ch 264 is glad to play its part.

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

Chinese soldiers

Regarding the article about Chinese Soldiers on p. 63 of the Sept/Oct issue: I served as the Bn. Int. Sgt in the 2nd Bn., 32nd Inf., of the 7th Inf. Div. from October 52 to May 53. We received at least 50 Chinese POW reports during that period. Each and

every one for whom we had a report served in the Nationalist Army. They all stated they were told they were now part of the Red Army after their units had surrendered.

The reports from Division I referenced came to us after the POW's were interrogated by Intelligence personnel. They included name, rank, where they were born in China, how long they had been in the Nationalist Army and the Red Army, and military specialty if any. Each report was, in effect, a biography.

In most cases, as far as how much service they had, they had us beat by a mile. The ones who we captured were sent to the rear ASAP.

Our battalion had a Korean who had served in the Japanese Army in China. He did a radio listening watch to pick up any intelligence. He was joined by a Chinese-American soldier my last couple of months who spoke a different dialect of Chinese.

Floyd Wells, kwvet@msn.com

A doctor in uniform

I remember a Chinese prisoner we took on Heartbreak Ridge in September or October 1951. This guy showed up in front of our position yelling in English, "Don't shoot." We took him in.

The prisoner told us that he was born in China, but went to the US for medical school. He had returned to his village in China to practice medicine, but the military grabbed him and put him in the army. He said they gave him a choice: go in the army or we will shoot you here.

He said that he had been walking for several nights and hiding out during the day until he found our line. In November, we were sent to Koje Island to guard prisoners and take on replacements. While we were walking by one of the compounds, someone called to us. It was the same guy, now the compound doctor. So much for being a volunteer.

P.S. I went on a revisit trip last May/June. It was the trip of a lifetime, both in the way we were treated and seeing the change in the country after 60 years. A fantastic two-week trip. Well worth going.

Bob Hanna, C Company, 23rd. Inf., 2nd. Div.
bobjoy34@msn.com

This was more than a theory

On the matter of Chinese Nationalist army troops fighting under the Communists during the Korean War, this is more than a theory.

During the beginning of November 1950, the 1st Marine Division engaged the Chinese Communist Forces (CCF) for the first time at Sudong-ni at the foothills of the mountain range leading up to the Chosin (Changjin) Reservoir. The 7th Marine Regiment, under which I served as a Combat Intelligence Man, captured two prisoners, on I believe November 1, 1950. One of the two died of his wounds; the second was in good health.

Our interrogation of the second went slowly at first, until it we realized that the prisoner was speaking in Cantonese, not the expected Mandarin. Our Interpreter/Interrogator spoke fluent Mandarin and knew that the written language was common to both dialects. So, the interrogation continued, first by writing on the ground with a twig, and then on paper. The prisoner immediately showed recognition and understanding, and was eager to respond

to the questions and volunteered more information than requested.

It turned out that the prisoner was a Nationalist soldier before the Communist victory in China. He stated that at the time of the Communist victory, many Nationalist commanders surrendered their entire units to the Communists. Some of the Nationalist officers were executed and replaced with Communist officers and political commissars. The rank and file troops were indoctrinated, and their units became instant Communists.

The prisoner was from the 124th Division of the 42nd CCF Army. He volunteered substantial information on the Chinese entrance into Korea, Order of Battle information, disposition of units, battle plans, etc. Significant insight was provided on how the Chinese operated and communicated, and the amount of knowledge given to the field levels which, with American units, is usually reserved to command levels.

The Chinese 124th Division was soundly defeated in a week, easing the way to the Chosin plateau and reservoir. In April 1951, the reconstituted 124th and the 42nd CCF Army faced the 1st Marine Division again in the Central front. With their defeat, history repeated itself.

Herb Lum, S-2, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division,
P. O. Box 1170, Kamuela, HI 96743

Admission to an omission

I inadvertently omitted the names in one picture caption of the two ladies who helped serve the refreshments at CID 259's annual picnic (Sept/Oct 2010, Chapters, p. 39). Even though they insisted they didn't need the publicity, they should be recognized.

The ladies are Janet Freshour and Virginia Martin.

John M. Quinn, Saggi32@aol.com

USS Los Angeles (CA-135), 1945-1975

The Graybeards occasionally carries stories of navy ships that patrolled off Korea's coastal water. One cruiser that hasn't gotten much attention is *USS Los Angeles*. (See the nearby ship's history, taken from <http://www.history.navy.mil/photos/sh-usn/usnsh-ca135.htm>.)

Los Angeles earned five battle starts for service during the Korean War. That is something worth mentioning.

John Savino, USMC, 7541 Niantic Ave.
Micco, FL 32976

What is that medal?

I read the current issue (Sept/Oct. 2010). On the back cover there is a picture of a person holding a Minnesota auto license plate. I am wondering what medal is depicted on the plate. What is the medal for, and how is it related to the Korean War?

Could you please enlighten me re this. I have never seen it before.

William J. Moore, BPMOOR@aol.com

Editor's note: We asked Paul Steen, the gentleman holding the license plate in the photo, to explain what the medal is. Here is what he told us.

The medal is the Korea Defense Service Medal. The legislation creating the medal was signed into law by President Bush on December of 2002, in honor of those who served in Korea from 28 July 1954 to the present time. The qualification for the medal is 30

History of USS Los Angeles

USS Los Angeles, a 13,600-ton Baltimore class heavy cruiser built at the Philadelphia Navy Yard, was commissioned in July 1945. She went to the Far East late in 1945, serving there a year. The cruiser then returned to the U.S. and was decommissioned in April 1948.

Los Angeles was brought back to commissioned status in January 1951, in response to an urgent need for more heavy gunships during the Korean War. She made two combat tours, in May-December 1951 and in October 1952 - May 1953, during which her 8" and 5" guns were actively employed supporting United Nations ground forces and in bombarding enemy targets along the coast of North Korea.

In 1953-63, Los Angeles deployed eight more times to the Western Pacific to "show the flag" in a frequently troubled region. She was modernized during the later 1950s, receiving the capability to launch "Regulus" surface-to-surface guided missiles, and in early 1960s to better fit her for flagship service with a heavier foremast and long-range radar. Decommissioned in November 1963, USS Los Angeles was laid up on the west coast until May 1975, when she was sold for scrapping.



consecutive or 60 days non-consecutive service in Korea. (An exception is granted if a service member is wounded in combat and requires medical evacuation.)

Those who served in the initial fighting from the June 1950 to July 27 1953 era are entitled to the Korea War plate, depending on how individual states recognize the time periods. As for Minnesota Korea veterans who served in this era, it would be from 1950 to 1955, which correlates with the VA.

There will be many veterans who qualify for the Korea Defense Service medal and probably aren't even aware of it. It has to be recorded on your discharge papers "214." Especially for those who served before December 2002, a DD "215" would be required, as it is an addendum because of the time served previous to the enactment of the bill.

One thing to remember about this award is that it's a "boots on the ground" medal, unlike some previous awards granted. For some awards, as long as recipients served in the designated time era of war, but weren't actually in the theater of operations, they would still qualify for the medal. e.g., the blue/white ribbon called a Korea Service Ribbon. The bottom line is that the criteria for the Korea Defense Service Medal and the Korea Service Ribbon are distinctly different.

Paul Steen, 507-445-3131
tarzpj@federatedwildblue.com

Okinawa is omitted

I am a WWII and Korean War veteran. I was with the 7th Inf Div. in 1951, and I served as a 2nd Lt. in Fox Co., 31st Polar Bears in Korea.

I am writing about the front cover of the Sept/Oct issue. I cannot understand how you could leave out the Battle of Okinawa. That was one of the biggest battles of the Pacific. It involved 3 Marine Divisions and 4 Army divisions, plus thousands of Navy ships.

What happened to you advisors?

Kenneth Radnitzer, 811 Mapleton Ave.
Oak Park, IL 60302

Editor's Note: We get out Sept./Oct. magazine cover from the VA every year. The administration produces a special poster to honor POW/MIAs, Veterans Day, or other special events. We do not control the contents of the cover, nor do we want to. Our intent is to be in sync with the VA to honor our veterans.

I cannot speak for whoever designed the cover, but it would have been impossible to list all the major battles of all the wars—or even all the wars—in which U.S. service members have participated. For example, significant battles like the second Tripolitan War, Mobile Bay, the Boxer War, the “Banana Wars,” Tarawa, Peleliu, and Chosin Reservoir are not mentioned specifically. To list them all would take up both the front and back covers—and a couple other pages as well.

Anyone who would like to access some of the past VA Veterans

Day posters can do so at <http://www1.va.gov/opa/vetsday/gallery.asp>. There is a “Contact us” button on the menu bar on the page where comments can be addressed.

We thank the VA for allowing us to use their art work.

Commendable, but...

The picture on the back cover of *The Greybeards* of Sept/Oct/2010 and the story on Page 60 commending Paul Steen for his efforts in obtaining a Korean Defense Service auto plate are commendable! However, there appear to be some items that should have been scrutinized much more carefully by the editorial staff.

Paul Steen is shown in the picture with a Chapter 299 KWVA cap and in the page 60 article as a member of Chapter 41. Does he belong to two chapters? Also, he has the Korean Presidential Unit Citation Ribbon on his left side and the National Defense Ribbon among the cluster of ribbons on his left side while his time in service does not qualify him to wear them. At this point, I am not sure of the validity of displaying the other ribbons in the cluster.

In the next edition of *The Greybeards* please rectify.

Louis M. Pelosi, 12 Third St., Saugus, MA 01906-3627, 781-233-6280

Visit the Korean War Veterans Association Website:

www.KWVA.org

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Lt.Col.
Raymond L. Murray
Chosin Reservoir,
December 6, 1950

Major General
Raymond L. Murray

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Leatherneck Magazine of the Marines, Sept. 2007.

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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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ARIZONA

F. J. ACEVEDO
JAMES F. 'JIM' BORK
WILLIAM H. COOPER

ARKANSAS

HARLAND DEAN BAIN
DELMUS MOSER
HERMAN H. WATERS

CALIFORNIA

BEN H. ARNOLD
HARLEY V. ATTEBERRY
LEE V. BARKLEY
NEAL D. BEEBE
FRANK R. BRITTON
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JAMES L. MCMURTRY
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COLORADO

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GERALD W. ANDERSON
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RICHARD E. JARVIS JR.

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

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 VI of our continuing series on Father Emil Kapaun.
The Wichita Eagle (Kansas), December 11, 2009 Wednesday

Part 6: The Miracle of Father Kapaun

BYLINE: ROY WENZL; The Wichita Eagle
SECTION: a; Pg. 1: LENGTH: 1898 words

Father Emil Kapaun: POWs call him 'a hero and a saint'

*"He died because he loved and pitied us.
He died that we might live."*

— Father Emil Kapaun

The legend of Father Kapaun and the quest to elevate him to sainthood began in September 1953 as soon as Communist guards released prisoners at the end of the Korean War. A little band of fierce-looking Americans, with balding and bluntpatting Ralph Nardella at their head, carried Emil Kapaun's gold ciborium and a rugged wooden crucifix, an inch shy of four feet tall. They had risked their lives in a final act of defiance to bring those items across the fence line; the guards wanted to confiscate them, but Nardella and the others had threatened to stay in North Korea.

They walked directly to foreign correspondents covering the prisoner release and said they had a world-class story to tell. Within hours, wire services were sending it worldwide: the story of Father Kapaun, along with photos of Nardella, Joseph O'Connor and Felix McCool holding the crucifix.

They told how he'd had tobacco pipes shot out of his mouth as he dragged wounded off battlefields. They said he saved men on the Death March, washed the underwear of the sick, made pans out of roofing tin, stole food.

"Maybe I shouldn't say it," O'Connor said in a wire-service story that appeared in *The Wichita Beacon*, "but he was the best

food thief we had."

The stories appeared in papers around the world and made Kapaun an international hero.

Clarence Anderson, a doctor, told how Kapaun asked guards to forgive him even as they prepared his murder.

O'Connor told how Kapaun celebrated Mass under fire, spreading bread and wine on the hood of his jeep, never flinching at explosions.

"I am a Jew," Sidney Esenstein, another doctor, told the reporters. "But I feel deeply the greatness of the man, regardless of religion."

Nardella said Kapaun had planned to give \$1,000 in back pay to the poor in his parish in Kansas. Nardella had pledged from POWs for \$1,000. Nardella wanted to deliver it himself.

The stories astonished Kapaun's grieving family; they had not known the details of his heroism.

They told reporters stories of a kid who played priest when other boys played cowboys; who, as a young altar boy on the way to Mass, got off his bike to pick flowers for the altar.

Strangers thrilled to Kapaun's deeds. But when reporters asked his mother about Emil, Bessie said she had opposed her son's return to the Army.

"But he said the boys needed him more than we did — and he went."

.....



Fr. Kapaun

Kapaun would have been upset had he known the risks his friends took to honor him.

Back in the camp, Walt Mayo, after the dying Kapaun handed him the ciborium, had hid it; guards took it anyway. Weeks later, Mayo, Nardella and the others nearly rioted when a prisoner saw the camp commander's 4-year-old daughter throwing it in the air and catching it. Nardella demanded it; the Chinese refused until war's end.

In the two years before their release, many prisoners talked about Kapaun day and night. A few weeks after Kapaun died, when a profane Marine Corps fighter pilot named Jerry Fink was brought to camp, Kapaun was nearly all he heard about. Even a tough Muslim POW named Fezi Bey told Fink that Kapaun had awed all the Turks.

"He is not of my religion, but he is a man of God," Bey said.

Fink was a Jew with little interest in Christianity. He was also an artist, and he hated the guards. When Nardella said he wanted a shrine to honor Kapaun and defy the guards, Fink vowed to do something profound.

What happened became the next chapter in the Kapaun legend: the Jewish warrior carving a sculpture of the crucified Christ in a mud-hut hell.

Fink spent weeks picking over firewood. He selected pieces of scrub oak for the cross and fine-grained cherry wood for the body.

Other prisoners, including Mayo's buddy Phil Peterson, showed Fink how to tear up old GI boots, removing the steel

arches. Fink and Peterson spent weeks filing steel on rocks until they had sharp blades.

Fink made a chisel out of a broken drainpipe; he spent months carving a 47-inch-by-28-inch cross. He carved a 2-foot-long body and a bearded face that others said looked surprisingly like the face of Kapaun.

He twisted radio wire to make a crown of thorns. He sneaked up to the building of the camp commander, smashed a window, and used the ground glass to sand the sculpture.

Guards demanded to know who the face was.

"Abraham Lincoln," Fink lied. The guards regarded Lincoln as a kindred spirit.

But when at last they saw it was Christ, some guards spat at it; others threw Fink into a punishment hole. But they seemed afraid to touch the sculpture.

Years later, when Fink visited Kapaun's friends and family in Kansas, he talked of hate. "I can still bring up the hate. It's what kept me going."

But what made him carve the cross, he said, was the story of a man who rejected hate, who told all the Jerry Finks of the world to love their enemies. Fink did not emulate that idea — but he risked his life to honor it.

"If the meek shall inherit the earth, it will be because people like Father Kapaun willed it to them," Fink told reporters in Wichita. "I am a Jew, but that man will always live in my heart."

Visits by Fink and others brought some peace to the Kapauns; but it was not enough.

Bessie cried every time reporters called. She would sometimes play a recording of Emil's voice, giving a sermon over Armed Forces Radio in Tokyo not long

before he shipped out for Korea. She would listen to her son talk about saints, and how they were tested. And she would cry.

When reporters asked Enos Kapaun about Emil, the old farmer looked at the ground.

"You know," he said, "since he is gone, I am just no good."

.....

The Catholic Church saw Kapaun's potential for sainthood, but for decades did little to push it.

Wichita Diocese Bishop Mark Carroll, Kapaun's boss when he served as a Pilsen priest, told reporters that Kapaun was a saint soon after POWs revealed his heroism. The diocese began collecting information; books were contemplated.

The church hierarchy decided that because Kapaun was a chaplain, its Archdiocese for the Military Services should lead the investigation.

Decades passed. Eventually, bishops succeeding Carroll realized that the understaffed chaplain service never pressed sainthood to conclusion; the Wichita Diocese decided to take over.

.....

The POWs never gave up.

Kapaun friends including Moose McClain, Mayo, Mike Dowe and others came repeatedly over the next decades to Wichita and Pilsen; they testified on tape, signed affidavits, wrote polite, insistent letters to the Army and the church.

They asked the military to review whether Kapaun should receive the Medal of Honor.

A fellow 8th Cavalry soldier who was awarded that medal said Kapaun should have received it, too.

"Maybe they thought a guy who didn't carry a gun shouldn't win the Medal of Honor," Tibor Rubin said.

.....

No POW did as much for Kapaun after the war as Dowe. Over six decades he was a diplomatic and determined advocate for his friend.

Months after his release, Dowe went to work at the Pentagon, where he told of camps, tortures, heroes, collaborators — and Kapaun.

Army officers, impressed, introduced Dowe to Harold Martin, an editor at one of the nation's respected media giants, the Saturday Evening Post. Martin, a gifted writer, helped Dowe write a story that on Jan. 16, 1954, brought an extended account of Kapaun's heroism to a worldwide audience.

"He was a priest of the church, and a man of great piety," the two men wrote. "But there was nothing ethereal about him, nothing soft or unctuous or holier-than-thou . . . outwardly he was all GI, tough of body, rough of speech sometimes, full of the wry humor of the combat soldier. In a camp

where men had to steal or starve, he was the most accomplished food thief of them all. In a prison whose inmates hated their communist captors with a bone-deep hate, he was the most unbending enemy of communism, and when they tried to brainwash him, he had the guts to stand up to them and tell them to their faces that they lied."

Dowe served Kapaun and country: He worked for an Eisenhower presidential commission studying prisoner of war conduct; he turned himself into a nuclear physicist, doing important work with nuclear weaponry and the Star Wars program. All the while, he told people about his great friend.

In 1955, actor James Whitmore played Kapaun in a national television show, "The Good Thief," wearing an eye patch, stealing food, praying in violation of camp rules. Some script lines came right from Dowe's story in the Post.

.....

They had made Kapaun a hero; the stories resonated everywhere.

Nardella, when he got a hero's welcome in New Jersey, was surprised to learn that local newspapers and citizens had already raised the \$1,000 Nardella had pledged for the Pilsen poor fund. Before Nardella took it to Kansas, that fund would grow much larger — to \$8,300.

The Army by then had awarded Kapaun the Distinguished Service Cross, its second-highest award.

In May 1957, Cardinal Francis Spellman, friend to popes and one of the most prominent religious figures in the U.S., sat with Carroll in Wichita and honored Kapaun as they named a Catholic high school after him, the seed money for which was brought by Nardella.

At dinner that night, they heard impassioned speeches.

"Father Kapaun's courage had the softness of velvet and the strength of iron," Mayo told them.

"More than a man," said Anderson, the doctor. "A hero and a saint."

Nardella told them that he had nearly died one day from beriberi and pneumonia.

"It was the lowest point in my life," Nardella said, until Kapaun came to his hut.

"Before you have an Easter you must have a Good Friday," Kapaun told him.

Continued on page 79

MOH Recipient PFC Eugene A. Obregon Honored

Korean War MOH recipient PFC Eugene A. Obregon, USMC, was honored at an unveiling ceremony of the "Wall of Honor" and memorial in Los Angeles. Approximately 300 people attended the ceremony.

Obregon, who was KIA in Seoul, Korea on September 26, 1950, received the Medal of Honor posthumously. With the help of the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation, more than 3,449 names dating from the Civil War to the present are inscribed on the black marble wall.

The names on the wall show the spirit of sacrifice and brotherhood which moves all these recipients of the Medal of Honor to willingly make the supreme sacrifice so that comrades in the battlefields and at home might live in freedom regardless of race or religion—although "Freedom is not Free."

In addition to PFC Obregon's family, present and honored were the families of S/SGT Ysmael Villegas and PFC David Gonzales, both KIA in 1945 in Luzon, Philippines. Both men also earned the Medal of Honor (posthumously). All three recipients lived in Los Angeles, CA.

The Monument is located in Father Serra Park, on Olvera Street, in Los Angeles. It is in front of the L.A. Union Station, where commuters and tourists observe it daily.

The guest speaker was SGT. William D. Lansford, USMC, WWII, founder of the Obregon Foundation. Lansford worked tirelessly for fifteen years to bring the Foundation to fruition. The keynote speaker was Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa.

The Master of Ceremonies was Superior Court Judge Frederick P. Aguirre, who gives of himself unselfishly and is a strong advocate for education. Even though Aguirre has limited spare time, he makes presentations for veterans groups locally and nationally.

*Gus Montano, 40th RECON Co
8180 Villaverde Dr., Whittier, CA
90605, 562 693-3074*

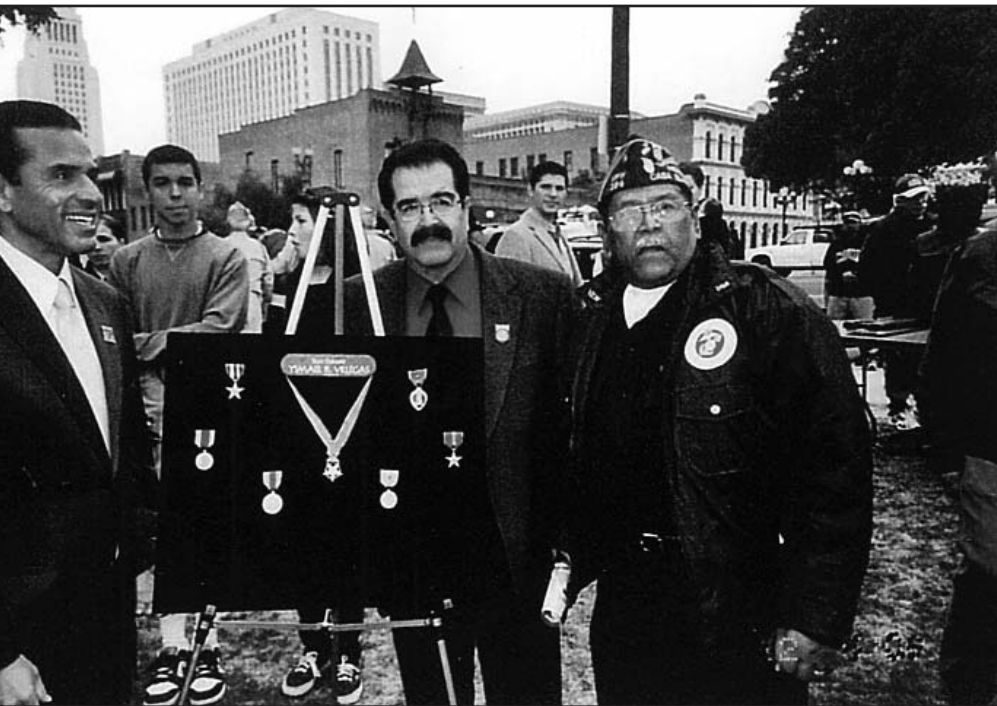


The Los Angeles Wall of Honor honors 3,449 recipients, including PFC Eugene Obregon

By his courageous fighting spirit, fortitude and loyal devotion to to rescue the wounded man and aided essentially in repelling traditions of the United States Naval Service.



PFC Obregon's sister, two of his nephews, and Marine Corps League members display picture of a ship named in his honor



Two sons of S/SGT Ysmael Villegas and Los Angeles Mayor Villaraigosa at Wall of Honor ceremony

duty, Private First Class Obregon enabled his fellow Marines the attack, thereby sustaining and enhancing the highest



Wife and son of MOH recipient David Gonzales with Mayor Villaraigosa at Los Angeles Wall of Honor event

The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the MEDAL OF HONOR posthumously to

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS EUGENE A. OBREGON

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

For service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving with Company G, Third Battalion, Fifth Marines, First Marine Division (Reinforced), in action against enemy aggressor forces at Seoul, Korea, on 26 September 1950. While serving as an ammunition carrier of a machine-gun squad in a Marine Rifle Company which was temporarily pinned down by hostile fire, Private First Class Obregon observed a fellow Marine fall wounded in the line of fire. Armed with only a pistol, he unhesitatingly dashed from his covered position to the side of the casualty. Firing his pistol with one hand and, despite the great peril to himself, dragged him to the side of the road. Still under enemy fire, he was bandaging the man's wounds when hostile troops of approximately platoon strength began advancing toward his position. Quickly seizing the wounded Marine's carbine, he placed his own body as a shield in front of him and lay there firing accurately and effectively into the hostile group until he himself was fatally wounded by enemy machine-gun fire. By his courageous fighting spirit, fortitude and loyal devotion to duty, Private First Class Obregon enabled his fellow Marines to rescue the wounded man and aided essentially in repelling the attack, thereby sustaining and enhancing the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.

(signed) HARRY S. TRUMAN

Official Membership Application Form

The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407 (Telephone: 217-345-4414)

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE Assigned Membership Number: _____

KWVA Regular Annual Dues = \$25.00 ♦ Associate Membership = \$16.00

MOH, Ex-POW, Gold Star Parent or Spouse & Honorary - \$0.00

Regular Life Membership: (May be paid in lump sum or 6 equal payments by check over a 12 month period.)

Ages up to and through 35 years of age:\$600

Ages 36 through 50 years of age:\$450

Ages 51 through 65 years of age:\$300

Ages 66 years of age and older:\$150

Please Check One: ☐ New Member ☐ Renewal Member (# _____)

Please Check One ☐ Medal of Honor ☐ Regular Member ☐ Regular Life Member ☐ Associate Member
☐ Ex-POW ☐ Honorary ☐ Gold Star Parent ☐ Gold Star Spouse

(Please Print)

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle/Maiden Name _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Year of Birth: _____

Email _____

Chapter Number/Name (if applicable) # _____

All Regular members please provide the following information if applicable

Unit(s) to which Assigned

Branch of Service

Division _____ ☐ Army
Regiment _____ ☐ Air Force
Battalion _____ ☐ Navy
Company _____ ☐ Marines
Other _____ ☐ Coast Guard

Dates of service:

WithIN Korea were: (See criteria below)

From _____ To _____

WithOUT Korea were: (See criteria below)

From _____ To _____

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the above information provided by me for the purposes as indicated, is true and correct."

[If you are applying for membership in a category other than Section 1, par A.1., of the "Criteria for Membership," complete the "Certification of Eligibility for KWVA Membership" form on next page.]

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Make checks payable to: KWVA

Mail to: **Korean War Veterans Association Inc., P. O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407** (Telephone: 217-345-4414)

(Or you may pay by Credit Card)

Credit Card # _____ ☐ VISA ☐ MASTER CARD (only)

Expiration Date _____ V-Code _____ Your Signature _____

Adopted 10/26/2009

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.

1. **Service in the United States Armed Forces.** Any person who has seen honorable service in any of the Armed Forces of the United States, defined as Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard, 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.
2. **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.
3. **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.
4. **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.
5. **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.

1. Must not be eligible for Regular membership.
2. 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.

Parades

19 – GEN RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

On 7 August we participated in the Alpharetta, Georgia Old Soldiers Parade. Some chapter members marched, others followed in the jeep and convertible.

Jim Conway, conatlanta@comcast.net



The Ch 19 contingent in the Alpharetta Old Soldiers Parade (L-R) Bob Moore, David Kwang, Ron Clark, Tom Gump, Urban Rump

195 – METRO DENVER [CO]

Again, we participated in the 4th of July Parade as part of the week-long celebration known as the Greeley Stampede, in Greeley CO. Over 30 Chapter members made the trip to northern Colorado for this event, which was attended by some 50,000 plus spectators.

These spectators were not only loud and enthusiastic, but also very kind and gracious in their comments and greetings. As you can imagine, they were eagerly welcomed by the Korean War veterans who participated.

*Kenneth E. Camell, 3120 Baylor Dr., Boulder, CO 80305
303-494-2013, CamellK@yahoo.com*



At the end of the 4th of July Parade, Ch 195 members (L-R) Bob Nelson (w/U.S. flag), Abe Villarreal and Dave Owens (w/banner), Frank Montijo, Don Geist, Ken Camell, Leo Thielen, Joe (w/garland), Gene Mauldin (w/KWVA flag)

A contingent of Ch 195 members at the Greeley CO 4th of July Parade displaying the 60th Anniversary banner (which was provided by Dave Owens) Abe Villarreal and Dave Owens, Ray Wells, Ken Camell, Don Geist, Bob Nelson w/U.S. flag, Gene Mauldin (L to R)



The U.S. Army flag side of the float with the enthusiastic Ch 195 Korean War veterans who thoroughly enjoyed the loud ovations from the welcoming spectators in Greeley, CO



Flat bed trailer with 16+ Ch 195 members surrounded by bunting, banners and the five Service Flags of the Armed Forces at Greeley, CO



Ch 195's talented and extremely loud bagpipers Ken Giese, John and Dave Monday



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 25th anniversary year of the outbreak of the Korean War, to express their gratitude to veterans of the War and to show them the bountiful 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 Inchon 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.

Returning POWs

I have two pictures of returning POWs from Camp #4 or #6 in early September of 1953. They were taken from USS Repose at Inchon. One is of officers, one of enlisted men.

Willard Adams, RM3, USS Repose (AH 16), wadams@newwavecomm.net



This photo of officers was taken early in September 1953 at Inchon from deck of USS Repose (AH 16). The prisoners were from camp #4 or #6



Enlisted prisoners being exchanged

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.

KAPAUN from page 71

But the dinner showed how fast the memories of people can fade.

Kapaun's brother Eugene, as his wife related later, was mystified to hear Carroll and Spellman mispronounce his and his brother's last name as "KAYpin," rather than "kuhPAWN."

For years after, Eugene — who served as a maintenance man in the school that bore his own name — tried to correct people. No one listened. Eventually even people in Pilsen said "KAYpin."

The diocese as early as the late 1950s was handing out Kapaun prayer cards, one of which went to a two-story house in south Wichita.

There, where two parents and nine kids competed for two bathrooms, Sylvester and Frances Hotze raised a son who knew Kapaun because his parents taped the prayer card to the bathroom mirror; John Hotze saw Kapaun every time he brushed his teeth.

Later, after Hotze was ordained, he asked to serve Kapaun's parish at Pilsen, an

hour's drive north of Wichita. Hotze felt called.

By 2001, when the diocese decided to step up efforts to investigate Kapaun's candidacy for sainthood, Hotze became the logical choice to gather information and make a case to the Vatican.

He began to call old soldiers. They were glad to help him.

Kapaun's war buddies had never given up pressing his case. Over decades, as all hope seemed lost, they kept telling his story, suggesting the Medal of Honor, suggesting their friend belonged in the ranks of saints.

Hotze traveled. He taped interviews with Dowe, William Funchess, Herb Miller, Bob McGreevy and others.

In 2009 they heard news from the U.S. Army.

It made their skin tingle.

Part VII in the series: Former POWs say Kapaun's miracle was providing them hope.

Contributing: Travis Heying of The Eagle. Reach Roy Wenzl at 316-268-6219 or rwenzl@wichitaeagle.com

Korean War Veterans Association
Membership Administrative Assistant
P.O. Box 407
Charleston, IL 61920-0407

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Gwan Bridge and Busan, 2009. Photo by John P. LaPlante