

America's Forgotten Victory!

# KOREA VETERANS

## The Graybeards



Official Publication of  
**THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION**  
January - February 2011 Vol. 25, No. 1



# The Graybeards

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



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**MAILING ADDRESS FOR CHANGE OF ADDRESS:** Administrative Assistant, P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407. **MAILING ADDRESS TO SUBMIT MATERIAL/ CONTACT EDITOR:** Graybeards Editor, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067. **MAILING ADDRESS OF THE KWVA:** P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407. **WEBSITE:** <http://www.kwva.org>

In loving memory of General Raymond Davis, our Life Honorary President, Deceased.

### We Honor Founder William T. Norris

**Editor**  
**Arthur G. Sharp**  
152 Sky View Dr  
Rocky Hill, CT 06067  
Ph: 860-563-6149  
[sharp\\_arthur\\_g@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net)

**Advertising Manager**  
**Frank Bertulis**  
99 Deerfield Ln  
Matawan, NJ 07747-1332  
Ph: 732-566-2737  
[FBEB@optonline.net](mailto:FBEB@optonline.net)

**Publisher**  
**Finisterre Publishing Inc.**  
3 Black Skimmer Ct  
Beaufort, SC 29907  
[finisterre@islc.net](mailto:finisterre@islc.net)

### Membership Office

**Address Changes, Corrections,  
& All Membership Questions**  
**Jamie Reynolds**  
Membership Administrative Assistant  
PO Box 407  
Charleston, IL 61920-0407  
Ph: 217-345-4414  
FAX: 217-345-4415  
[Membership@kwva.org](mailto:Membership@kwva.org)

**Webmaster**  
**Jim Doppelhammer**  
Double Hammer Computer Services  
683 Castle Dr  
Charleston, IL 61920-7471  
Ph: 217-512-9474  
[webmaster@kwva.org](mailto:webmaster@kwva.org)

### National KWVA Headquarters

**President**  
**William F. Mac Swain**  
8452 Marys Creek Dr  
Benbrook, TX 76116  
Ph: 817-244-0706  
[BillMacSwain@charter.net](mailto:BillMacSwain@charter.net)

**1st Vice President**  
**James E. Ferris**  
4311 Lazybrook Circle  
Liverpool, NY 13088  
Ph: 315-457-1681  
[RedDogFerris@aol.com](mailto:RedDogFerris@aol.com)

**2nd Vice President**  
(VACANT)

**Secretary**  
**Frank E. Cohee, Jr.**  
4037 Chelsea Lane  
Lakeland, FL 33809-4063  
Ph: 863-859-1384  
[FCohee@kwva.org](mailto:FCohee@kwva.org)

**Asst. Secretary**  
**Jacob L. Feaster, Jr.**  
(See Memb. Mgmt.)

**Treasurer**  
**J Tilford Jones**  
6958 Heatherknoll Dr  
Dallas, TX 75248-5534  
Ph: 972-233-7263  
[TilJ@flash.net](mailto:TilJ@flash.net)

**Asst. Treasurer**  
**Glen Thompson**  
1037 Rockledge Dr  
Garland, TX 75043-5206  
Ph: 214-284-6515  
[GThomp@tx.rr.com](mailto:GThomp@tx.rr.com)

**Membership Management**  
**Jacob L. Feaster, Jr., Supervisor**  
22731 N Hwy 329, Micanopy, FL 32667  
HPh: 352-466-3493 Cell: 352-262-1845  
FAX: 352-466-3493 [JFeaster@kwva.org](mailto:JFeaster@kwva.org)

**Jim Doppelhammer**, Data Base Develop.  
(See Webmaster)

**Jamie Reynolds**, Data Base Input  
(See Address Changes, etc)

### Directors

#### Term 2008-2011

**Jeffrey J. Brodeur**  
48 Square Rigger Ln., Hyannis, MA 02601  
Ph: 508-790-1898 [KVAMANE@aol.com](mailto:KVAMANE@aol.com)

**Richard E. Brown, Sr.**  
2307 Gring Dr., West Lawn, PA 19609  
Ph: 610-670-2886 [Rebp1@comcast.net](mailto:Rebp1@comcast.net)

**George E. Lawhon**  
600 E Weddell Dr #91, Sunnyvale, CA 94089  
Ph: 408-734-0305 [George.E.Lawhon@gmail.org](mailto:George.E.Lawhon@gmail.org)

**Luther E. Rice, Jr.**  
414 Water St, Aurora, IN 47001-1242  
Ph: 812-926-2790 [LERiceJr@yahoo.com](mailto:LERiceJr@yahoo.com)

#### Term 2009-2012

**Luther Dappen**  
510 W Pipestone Ave., Flandreau, SD  
57028-1619  
Ph: 605-997-2847 [LHDappen@yahoo.com](mailto:LHDappen@yahoo.com)

**Marvin Dunn**  
1721 Briardale Ct., Arlington, TX 76013  
Ph: 817-261-1499  
[MarvDunnJr@yahoo.com](mailto:MarvDunnJr@yahoo.com)

**Glen Thompson**  
1037 Rockledge Dr., Garland, TX 75043  
Ph: 214-284-6515 [GThomp@tx.rr.com](mailto:GThomp@tx.rr.com)

**Ezra F "Frank" Williams**  
2 Cedar Ln., O'Fallon, MO 63366-3404  
Ph: 636-240-6806 [EzraW@centurytel.net](mailto:EzraW@centurytel.net)

#### Term 2010-2013

**James Fountain**  
14541 Soho Dr., Florissant, MO 63034  
Ph: 314-974-3579 [BudFon@netzero.net](mailto:BudFon@netzero.net)

**Arthur S. Griffith**  
499 Mechanic ST Apt 1  
Leominster, MA 01453-4431  
Ph: 978-833-0892 [ArtArmy299@yahoo.com](mailto:ArtArmy299@yahoo.com)

**Thomas M. McHugh**  
217 Seymour Road  
Hackettstown, NJ 07840  
Ph: 908-852-1964 [TMMcHugh@msn.com](mailto:TMMcHugh@msn.com)

**Thomas W. Stevens**  
5310 W. 122nd Terrace  
Overland Park, KS 66209-3518  
Ph: 913-696-0447 [StevensT@swbell.net](mailto:StevensT@swbell.net)

### Appointed/Assigned Staff

**Judge Advocate**  
**Billy J. Scott**  
196 W. Crescent St., Boyce, VA 22620  
Ph: 540-837-2179 [BillScott33@msn.com](mailto:BillScott33@msn.com)

**National Legislative Director**  
**Edwin R. Buckman**  
216 Montreal Dr.  
Hurst, TX 76054-2217  
Ph: 817-498-0198  
[ERB7464@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ERB7464@sbcglobal.net)

**National Veterans Service Officer (VSO)**  
**Arthur E. Hills**  
4300 Esta Lee Ave., Killeen, TX 76549  
PH: 254-526-6567  
[AHills@hotmail.com](mailto:AHills@hotmail.com)

**National VAVS Director**  
**J. D. Randolph**  
1523 Pinebluff Dr., Allen, TX 75002-1870  
Ph: 972-359-2936  
[Randy9683@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Randy9683@sbcglobal.net)

**KWVA Liaison to Canadian KVA:**  
**Garry J. Rockburn**  
518 East Ave  
Kirkville, NY 13082-9706  
Ph: 315-656-8528  
[ottawa1932@netzero.com](mailto:ottawa1932@netzero.com)

**KWVA Liaison to Korean-American Assn.**  
**Eugene Chin Yu**  
4349 Miller Dr., Evans, GA 30809  
Ph: 706-399-7179  
[ECYu@cms-us.com](mailto:ECYu@cms-us.com)

**Chaplain Emeritus**  
**Robert Personette**  
7136 Oak Leaf Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95409  
Ph: 707-539-7276 [PamP@vom.com](mailto:PamP@vom.com)

**Chaplain Emeritus**  
**Leonard F. Stegman**  
4707 Broadway St. Apt 123  
San Antonio, TX 78209-6202  
Ph: 210-822-4041 Fax: 210-805-9127  
[Hallo6@aol.com](mailto:Hallo6@aol.com)

**National Chaplain**  
**Leo G. Ruffing**  
3500 Doerr Rd., Portsmouth, VA 23703-3183  
Ph: 757-484-8299 [LRuffing1@cox.net](mailto:LRuffing1@cox.net)

**Washington, DC Liaison**  
**Warren Wiedhahn**  
13198 Centerpointe Way, Suite 202  
Woodbridge, VA 22193-5285  
Ph: 703-590-1295  
[JWiedhahn@aol.com](mailto:JWiedhahn@aol.com)

(ART III, Sect 1G, Bylaws)

**Budget/Finance Committee**  
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HRM Group, Inc.

**Tell America Committee**  
**Larry Kinard**, Chairman  
2108 Westchester Dr  
Mansfield, TX 76063  
Ph: 682-518-1040  
[Larry.Kinard@yahoo.com](mailto:Larry.Kinard@yahoo.com)

**Revisit Committee**  
**Tom Clawson**, Chairman  
953 Gorman Av  
St Paul, MN 55118  
Ph: 651-457-6653  
[TimClawson@charter.net](mailto:TimClawson@charter.net)

**Warren Wiedhahn**, Coordinator  
13198 Centerpointe Way, #202  
Woodbridge, VA 22193-5285  
Ph: 703-590-1295  
[JWiedhahn@aol.com](mailto:JWiedhahn@aol.com)

**Ethics and Grievance Committee**  
**Stephen Szekely**, Chairman  
1516 Laclède Rd  
South Euclid, OH 44121-3012  
Ph: 216-381-9080  
[SxDszek@sbcglobal.net](mailto:SxDszek@sbcglobal.net)

**National Ceremonies Committee**  
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See detailed list of committees at  
[WWW.KWVA.ORG](http://WWW.KWVA.ORG)



# From the President

William Mac Swain

A new year has begun and I look forward to accomplishing a few things that will make our recruitment of Korean Service veterans a better possibility. We will, of course, continue to recruit our war veterans as more and more learn about our existence.

I attended my chapter meeting, which two new prospects attended. They were so happy to find other Korean War veterans with whom they could talk that they wanted to sign up immediately as members of National and our Chapter.

At our Christmas time chapter meeting we found a veteran who was in need of some help. We named him our Christmas Angel for the day, fed him, and gave him some funds to help a little. Korean veterans do this kind of work in their communities and even more by helping other veterans in need.

I get many newsletters from chapters, and I read each of them. That is one way I can keep myself pumped up for most any task. Those newsletters make me proud to be associated with other Korean War veterans, especially when I see all that they do in the name of their chapters.

As we grow older and a little more mature, we sometimes must slow down. But, every little thing that we do for others usually gives us a very warm feeling. It even produces a little pride in an accomplishment others will never understand until they have taken the time to do for others without any motive except to serve.

We did it when we were young, not because we had to do it, but because we knew it should be done. That feeling usually becomes engraved in our memories, but not necessarily when we do it. More often, it's afterwards that we realize it was something we could be proud of.

Your Board of Directors worked through December 2010 to finalize where the 2012 Annual Membership Meeting will be so it can be presented to the membership for approval. Three areas were under consideration: Detroit, MI, Fargo, South Dakota, and St Louis, MO. We decided on St. Louis.

## Your Board of Directors worked through December 2010 to finalize where the 2012 Annual Membership Meeting will be...We decided on St. Louis. The dates will be October 10th - 13th, 2012.

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Meanwhile, the Korea Veterans of America, Chapter 299, in Massachusetts has been at work on the 2011 Annual Membership Meeting to be held in the Boston area. They found a hotel in Quincy, MA. The dates for the meeting are October 28-31, 2011, at the Marriott Hotel – Quincy. The 2013 Annual Meeting will also be presented to the membership at the 2011 Annual Membership Meeting. Most probably the venue will be Washington, DC in July, since that will be the culmination of the 60th Anniversary of the Armistice signing.

Finally, I have been contacted by the Department of Defense 60th Commemorative Committee, which has set up an office in Crystal City, VA. The Committee has invited me to give them some suggestions as to how they might help Korean veterans during the 60th Anniversaries.

I have asked Larry Kinard, my Tell America Program Chairman, to give them discs of the various posters and maps and the video tape used during the 50th Commemorative so they can update a few of the posters and the video about the war for 60th Commemorative use. This will

allow KWVA chapters that have Tell America groups the opportunity to update their materials and become eligible to receive new material mailed to them free.

I have also asked the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs in Korea to send us additional books to distribute to our chapters.

So, this year we will again celebrate a 60th Year Anniversary for many of our members who served in the Korean War during this year. I hope all will take part in any activity within your area. I also ask that each of you remember those who did not have the opportunity to witness the generosity of the Korean people, especially those Korean Americans who you might meet in your area or travel to some function put on by them.

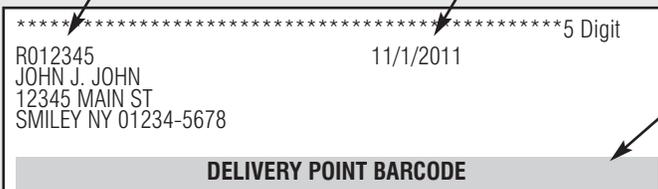
We are the spokesmen for those who were Killed in Action or are still Missing in Action from their countries. So, speak to every American as to how important the Korean War was for maintaining South Korea's freedom and how it also stopped the spread of communism. We did achieve a victory, no matter what the world may think.

*William Mac Swain,  
KWVA President*

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**COVER:** Marine Barracks 8th & I: Lance Cpl. Carlton Williams practices before the start of the 65th anniversary ceremony of the Battle of the Chosin Reservoir in Seoul, Republic of Korea Nov. 10. Williams, a member of the United States Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon, celebrated the Marine Corps' birthday by performing for retired Marines and service members who fought in the battle. (Photo by Cpl. Bobby J. Yarbrough)



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**Frank Cohee**

**Patches and more patches**

In the Nov-Dec 2010 issue of *The Graybeards*, I wrote about Art Samuel, a

young man who is in a wheel chair and has muscular dystrophy. Art is saving military patches and I asked that you send him any that you had lying around just taking up space. Following are two of the letters that I have received in response to that request.

*From Ray Wells:*

Arthur: I am sending you a couple dozen patches and I will send more as they become available. Since I supply all kinds of unit and overseas patches for Korean War and Service Veterans, Disabled American Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion members, we get a lot of different designs and styles of patches from national and international manufactures. I think there are 24 patches enclosed. I will keep you in mind and if somehow you can let me know what you're looking for I'll try to help. In the meantime you take care dear friend and may God Bless you and your family and I hope you have a blessed and wonderful new year.

Ray Wells

*From Rosemarie Adragna-Elliott*

Hello Mr. Cohee, I was very touched by the letter in the November-December issue of *The Graybeards* from Art Samuel, who wants to honor veterans by collecting patches. I recently joined the Korean War Veterans Association to honor my Dad, Mike Adragna, who passed in January of 2010. Even though I am not personally a veteran of the Korean War, my Dad was so involved with the organization that I felt compelled to continue to honor him by joining. I even actually read the entire magazine each time it arrives. I sent Art a patch from my Dad's collection and wished him well in his quest. What a touching story! It is because of the young people like him that our veterans will always be remembered. I'm very grateful

that his letter was chosen to be published. Thank you!

Rosemarie Adragna-Elliott,  
Proud daughter of a proud  
Korean War (Chosen Few)  
Marine Corps Veteran

**Secretary's Note:** *Mike Adragna was a life member who joined the KWVA on 6/18/1996. He was a member of MI Chapter #256.*

In addition to the letters, I received a phone call from member Richard Clayton, from Meadville, PA. Richard said that he has been a patch collector since he was a kid and that he has a lot of extra ones. He got most of them from troop trains as they passed through his area. He plans on sending them to Art Samuel, but he asked for Art's phone number so he could speak to him first.

*Questions that need to be answered NOW (but might never get answered)*

As most of you know, or maybe you do not know, I get several requests almost every day, some by e-mail, some by phone, from KWVA members and non-KWVA members, looking for information. Most of them have to do with getting information about a family member (mostly fathers) after they have passed away and who did not want to talk about their time in Korea. Now, the survivors want to know everything about his or her service while in Korea. I am sorry, but it is too late. In a lot of cases, the veterans' files were destroyed in the St. Louis fire and I have no way to get the information they are looking for. Following is an example of one such request:

Hello Sir: My name is Philip Bister. My dad, Joe Bister, was in Korea. He is now 81 years old. When God takes him home, I would like to know how to give him a military funeral. He would never talk about his time in Korea to us kids, so I don't know much about his time there. I know he was there twice. I would also like to know more. Can you please help me?

Thank you,  
Sincerely,

Phillip Bister

*Here is my response:*

Philip:

Go to our website, [www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org). From the home page, click on Links to Websites of Interest. That will take you to another page. Then, click on U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs Home Page, VA Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents, 2010 Edition. Chapter 7, pages 63- 68 describe the Burial and Memorial Benefits.

You need to make a decision whether or not your father is going to be buried in a VA National Cemetery or a private cemetery. If you decide on a VA National Cemetery, they will take care of everything, including military funeral honors.

If you select a private cemetery, you will have to arrange for a military funeral. Most American Legion and VFW posts have their own color guards that will conduct the military honors. So you must contact them and make the arrangements.

You can find out more about your father's service by going to our website listed above. From the home page, click on How to Request Military Service Records or Prove Military Service. Then, just follow the instructions.

**Secretary's Note:** *Please help your family and help me or my successor. If you cannot share your experiences in Korea with your family, at least write them down and put them in a sealed envelope to be open only upon your passing.*

Make sure they have a copy of your DD Form 214 and any other records that you now have in your possession. It will make it much easier for them to obtain any benefits or compensation they are authorized.

Your family can request your records, but they may have been destroyed in the infamous St. Louis fire. If you were discharged between 1912-1960, your records may have been destroyed.

**Advice from the VA:**

*VA Urges Veterans to Sign Up for Direct Deposits, Treasury Publishes Final Regulation to Phase Out Paper Checks by 2013*

WASHINGTON - The Department of the Treasury announced a new rule that will extend the safety and convenience of electronic payments to millions of Americans and phase out paper checks for federal benefits by March 1, 2013. Officials at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) urge Veterans to sign up for electronic payment of their benefits.

“Receiving VA benefits electronically will increase the security, convenience and reliability of these vital payments,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. “VA encourages Veterans who are now receiving their benefits in paper checks to set up direct deposits before the deadline.”

On March 1, 2013, VA will stop issuing paper checks. People who do not have electronic payments for their federal benefits by that time will receive their funds via a pre-paid debit card. Called the Direct Express card, it is issued by Comerica Bank as the financial agent of the U.S. Treasury.

Another deadline affects people receiving VA’s compensation or pensions for the first time after May 1, 2011. Those people will automatically receive the benefits electronically. Anyone already receiving federal benefit payments electronically will be unaffected by the changes. To learn more about the federal government’s switch to direct deposit – or to change VA benefits to direct deposit — visit [www.GoDirect.org](http://www.GoDirect.org). Information about the federal government’s “Go Direct” campaign is also available at 1-800-333-1795.

Along with payments for VA benefit, the change will also affect recipients of payments from Social Security, Supplemental Security Income, Railroad Retirement Board, or Office of Personnel Management.

For more information about VA benefits and programs, go to [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) or call toll free 1-800-827-1000.

## Assistant Secretary’s Report

### Check Your Mailing Label

Subject: KWVA Membership Dues  
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Has your KWVA Membership expired, or is it close to expiring? If you don’t know, or have forgotten when it expires, there are several ways to find out your membership expiration date:.

1. Check the mailing label on the outside back cover of your *Graybeards* magazine [See a facsimile of mailing label on page 3]. Your membership expiration date is on the right of your KWVA Member Number, or
2. Check the Home Page of the KWVA website, [www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org), and click on the link in red in the center of the page that reads:

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Then enter your KWVA Member Number where shown, or

3. Call the KWVA Membership Office at 217-345-4414, or
4. Email KWVA Membership Office at: [Membership@kwva.org](mailto:Membership@kwva.org) and request it.

### Bylaws Extracts

See the following KWVA Bylaws extracts concerning the above:

1. Any dues paying member of the Association loses all rights and privileges of membership upon nonpayment of annual dues by the dues-due date.
2. If the membership termination was due to simple non-payment of annual dues, then a former member will be automatically reinstated upon receipt of dues payment for at least one (1) year’s renewal.
3. The payment of annual Association dues is a condition of initial and/or continuing membership in the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. This includes any Regular member of any Chapter or

Department chartered by the Association, other than those listed in Article 1 A. of these Bylaws who are not required to pay dues.

No Association, Department or Chapter officer shall be allowed to conduct KWVA business or attend any meeting, or represent themselves as a member unless he or she is a current Member in good standing. Each Regular or Associate Member is responsible for maintaining their individual dues current.

4. Each person who becomes a new Regular member of a Chapter must become a Korean War Veterans Association, Incorporated Regular member, through the application process in the SPM, and must maintain Regular membership in the Association to remain a member of a Chapter.

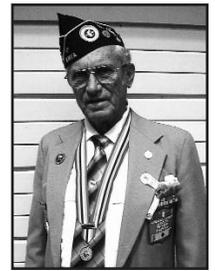
It is important that you renew your membership prior to its expiration [one month in advance of expiration, if possible] to prevent it from expiring. If it expires, your membership will become “Inactive” and your *Graybeards* magazine will cease. In addition, if you are assigned to a chapter, you are subject to being removed from membership in the chapter and are no longer eligible to hold an office if you are a chapter or department officer.

Should you have any questions concerning your KWVA Membership, do not hesitate to call or email me [see below].

Yours for a better KWVA,

*Jake Feaster*

*Jake Feaster, KWVA Ass’t Secretary/  
Supervisor - Management Info System, 22731  
N Hwy 329, Micanopy, FL 32667,  
JFeaster@kwva.org, (H): 352-466-3493, (C):  
352-262-1845, FAX:352-466-3493*



Jake Feaster, Supervisor  
Assistant Secretary

## Kansas group seeking MOH for Fr. Kapaun

According to a 26 January 2011 article in the Kansas City Star, a group of Kansas senators and representatives is seeking a Medal of Honor for Fr. Emil Kapaun, who we have been featuring in *The Graybeards* in recent issues. The Secretary of the Army recommended in 2009 that the medal be authorized. It would literally take an Act of Congress to get authorization, but it can be done. In recent years belated MOHs have been awarded to Tibor Rubin and “Woody” Keeble (Korean War), Richard Etchberger (Vietnam), and Theodore Roosevelt (Spanish-American War). In fact, the only Medal of Honor awarded to a living recipient since the Vietnam War was presented to Staff Sergeant Salvatore Giunta, U.S. Army, on 16 November 2010 for heroism in Afghanistan. So, it would not be unusual for Congress to authorize a Medal of Honor for Fr. Kapaun.



# 60TH ANNIVERSARIES KOREAN WAR REVISIT KOREA TOURS



*2010 – 2013*

**FAMILY MEMBERS OF KOREA VETERAN'S ARE ELIGIBLE**



*Veterans are greeted at the Battle of Chipyong-ni Commemoration.*

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

**2011 DATES TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON!**

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## We all served under the same flag©

Quite often I receive comments from people deriding branches of the armed forces in which they did not serve—or even their own. Sometimes the folks are just jesting. Other times they are serious. At times, I wonder if the latter group is expressing deep-rooted envy of another service or they are jealous of the other service's accomplishments. As our younger generation citizens say, "Whatever."

Want examples? Okay, but I will make them general. A couple issues back we ran a story "Death by Truck," written by a Marine. A few readers contacted me and complained that he was denigrating the Army's Second Infantry Division. What he was doing was reporting what he saw. I explained that to a protester or two who supported the Army, as if the Marines and the Army were at war with each other instead of a common enemy. Their retort to me was, "Of course, you're going to stand up for him. You were a Marine, too." Talk about a no-win situation.

Hey, public relations arguments and urinating contests between Soldiers and Marines have been going on for eons—and not just between the members of the two services. Outsiders have opinions about inter-service rivalries.

President Truman hated the Marines; President Regan loved them. They really should not have played favorites between them, since the two Presidents were Commanders in Chief of both branches—and the rest of the armed forces as well. What a lot of people tend to forget is that each branch has a specific job to do—part of which is to support the other branches when necessary.

**There is no valid reason for people who served in one branch of the armed forces to lash out at their counterparts in another. We may have ended up in different branches than other people, but we all served under one flag, that of the United States.**

Then there are the infantry veterans who have commented on the easy life Sailors or Airmen had during the Korean War. "While we were freezing our 'butts' off on the front lines, these guys were warm and cozy aboard their ships or air bases in Japan," these critics say. That argument doesn't hold water. "These guys" were fighting the same war from a different place. How many of those critics in the foxholes on Hill 10489.5 waved off Navy, Marine Corps, or Air Force fighter planes or bombers when they dropped ordnance on enemy positions?

A third group comprises combat veterans who look down on support personnel who never made it to the front lines. That's the luck of the draw. Some service members get assigned as cooks, meteorologists, clerks, etc. They did not always choose those MOS' or special duties. Maybe not a lot of them would have traded their weather balloons or typewriters for M-1s or BARs and volunteered for an outpost on a barren hill, but some did—and some died.

So what brought all this on?

On 17 January I attended a Parris Island Band concert that was part of the City of Beaufort's (that's South Carolina) 300th birthday celebration. Beaufort and Parris Island have a long-standing symbiotic relationship. Anyone who lives in

Beaufort is intimately associated with the Parris Island Band, since it performs often—and well—at functions in and around the area. The 17 January performance was outstanding, as usual.

Part of the band's repertoire was a medley of service "hymns" or theme songs. The narrator asked people in the sizeable crowd to stand as their branch song was played. He also asked the people with them to stand as a gesture of support. As each group stood, the rest of the crowd applauded loudly, long—and equally enthusiastically—for the "standees," regardless of their numeric representation. (There were only two Coast Guard veterans who stood, one of whom is our publisher). Everyone else can learn a lesson from the "equal representation applause."

The crowd did not play any favorites (although the band did). They recognized that even though Beaufort is primarily a Marine Corps and Navy town because of the presence of Parris Island, the Marine Corps Air Station, and a Navy hospital, every other branch of the service is equally important. Sure, there will always be inter-service rivalry. Hopefully, though, it will remain good natured in tone.

There is no valid reason for people who served in one branch of the armed forces to lash out at their counterparts in another. We may have ended up in different branches than other people, but we all served under one flag, that of the United States. The people of Beaufort recognized that and applauded Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen and Airwomen, and Coast Guard veterans equally. We should all do the same—especially those critics who are talking to an "equal representation" editor of a military association magazine.

### 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.

<b>Jan-Feb</b> .....	<b>Jan 15</b>
<b>Mar-Apr</b> .....	<b>Mar 15</b>
<b>May-June</b> .....	<b>May 15</b>
<b>July-Aug</b> .....	<b>July 15</b>
<b>Sept-Oct</b> .....	<b>Sept 15</b>
<b>Nov-Dec</b> .....	<b>Nov 15</b>

**Annual Management Overview****KWVA Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) FY2010**

In the Fiscal Year 2010, the Korean War Veterans Association performed very well. However, we have many VA Medical Centers that do not have KWVA VA VS Representatives or volunteers to support our veterans.

The State Departments and Chapter Presidents, as well as the General Membership, should be proud of our volunteers for support to all veterans.

We do have shortcomings in a few states. I am sending letters to all chapters asking for their help in getting more VA VS Representatives and Deputy Representatives and Volunteers in all VA Medical Centers.

I have two handouts for their use. One is titled, *Guidelines for VAVS Representatives and Deputy Representatives*. The other is *The Volunteer's Guide to Customer Service and Service Recovery*. I will send them out to the State Departments and Chapters along with the letters.

This year we started supporting Youth Volunteers (16 to 18 year old high school students) during summer vacation. Youths volunteered 2,224 hours at the VA North Texas Health Care System; they are part of the regular scheduled hours.

KWVA total volunteer hours have decreased 14% from last year. Compared with all other VSOs, we must have a higher decrease than them.

- a.) 451 Members volunteered in the Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) that services both the VA Health Care Systems and the VA National Cemeteries.
- b.) 34,876 Regular & Youth Scheduled Hours.
- c.) 1,613 Occasional Hours.
- d.) Total of 36,489 Hours, with an average of 81 Hours per person. Our VAVS Representatives' and Deputies Representatives' parts of the local VA committee attendance was 398 Hours, with a total volunteer hours of 36,887. Using the VA's Monetary Value, based on \$21.58 per hour, we saved the VA

\$769,093.96.

e.) We also gave cash donations of a total of \$23,742.00.

The top four (4) Chapters with the most hours are as follows:

1. Chapters 215/270, Dallas VA Medical Center, 7,514 hours: \$162,152.12.
2. Chapter 14, Florida Bay Pine VA Medical Center, 4,473 hours: \$59,258.68
3. Chapter 64, NY Harbor Health Care System, 3,104 hours: \$55,719.56
4. Chapter 147, Providence RI VA Medical Center, 2,152 hours: \$46,440.16

All organization, National Advisory Committee members, and Non-NAC hours were valued at \$12,535, 936.

We can improve by having more KWVA representatives and volunteers in more VA Medical Centers. We have volunteers in 64 facilities. However, we have only 47 facilities with VAVS Representatives and Deputies. We are down from last year.

Our shortcoming is that we do not have VAVS Representatives and volunteers in many of the major hospitals. We can improve with help from our State Departments and Chapters getting more members volunteering. I will make a list of major hospitals if that is what is needed.

I hope this report will help you understand how we are doing. I receive VAVS Quarterly meeting minutes and attendance from each Medical Center.

*J.D. Randolph - VAVS Director  
National VAVS Representative*

**HOLD THE DATES**

Remember, the dates and place for the 2011 Annual Membership Meeting have been set. The dates are 28-31 October. The site is the Marriott Hotel-Quincy, about 11 miles from downtown Boston. The members of host chapter 299, Korea Veterans of America, urge you to set the dates aside and join them.

**The first nurse to revisit Korea**

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Mary Reid, a member of CID 310, Olympic Peninsula [WA], delivered the below Memorial Day speech at a tiny cemetery in Joyce, Washington, a small community very close to Crescent Bay, located on the Olympic Peninsula of Washington State.*

As she described the day, "It was a clear, bright sunny day, with a little breeze which created a soft murmur, much different from the strife that I'll never forget."

Her speech

The Korean War began on June 25, 1950, when the North Koreans crossed the 38th Parallel into South Korea. We had only a small number of troops for occupation duty there. In using delaying tactics, they provided enough time for more troops and supplies to reach Pusan. With heavy fighting and the success of the Inchon Landing, our forces and the UN forces were able to reach the Yalu River in October 1950. The war seemed over.

Our unit, the 10th Station Hospital, left for Korea in mid-October with orders for Chinampo, North Korea. We arrived in Pusan Harbor on the 9th of November. We noticed an unpleasant odor, but in our excitement we ignored it.

We were loaded onto buses and taken to the 21st Evac Hospital. We saw only military vehicles, no civilian cars in traffic or parked on the street. People were walking, but the scene was colorless and the people looked worn and drab, as did everything else. Women carried babies in blankets tied around their waist, and men carried A-frames with huge loads strapped to their backs. There were no advertisements for shops, stores or even saloons. The worn buildings told of poverty, neglect, sadness and war.

After three weeks of working in a POW camp, we were glad to board a train for ASCOM City near Seoul. The Chinese military were hidden in the mountains as we traveled to ASCOM City. They launched a big attack in huge numbers. Our thin northern line was pushed back, and the second retreat was on.

Our week in ASCOM City tending to the casualties off the battle lines, with one canteen of water and two helmets of warm water per day, gave us training for living in dirt.

Continued on page 71

**Year-End Report, 31 December 2010**

# Legacy of the Korea War Foundation, Inc.

Garland, TX - Legacy of the Korea War Foundation (LKWF) marked its first few months with the following successful achievements:

- Incorporated in Texas
- Granted exemption by the IRS as a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) Public Charity
- Created its own web site, [www.legacykw.org](http://www.legacykw.org)
- Held start-up cost to only \$875

With only volunteers, no employees or contract workers, LKWF expects to rank among the most efficient nonprofits in America. It pledges to spend at least 90% of all contributions on its stated purpose, to educate America about the Korean War.

Our near-term goal is to produce enough funds to publish KWVA's magazine, Korea War – *The Graybeards*, and to raise forty to eighty thousand dollars yearly for the Tell America Program.

To meet this healthy fund-raising goal, LKWF intends to target Korean businesses, the Korean American community, ROK veterans in both Korea and America, and Korean churches in America.

## Contributors to date

In keeping our promise of openness about our finances, we list the following contributors to LKWF in 2010 during our short existence:

Paul Y. Song, MD of Santa Monica, CA	\$5,000.00
Sam Johnson Chapter 270 of Richardson TX	\$1,300.00
Pan Am Universe Tours of Palisades Park NJ	\$1,000.00
Lee Dauster of Sonora, CA	\$1,000.00
Glen Thompson of Garland, TX	\$910.00
Ezra Frank Williams of O'Fallon, MO	\$200.00
Jin W. Kim of Los Angeles, CA	\$100.00
Miles Brown of Hurst, TX	\$100.00
Henry J. Binder of Sun City Center, FL	\$100.00
George Henry of Washington, DC	\$50.00
William F. Mac Swain of Benbrook, TX	\$25.00
James Fountain of Florissant, MO	\$25.00
Julie Park of Manhattan Beach, CA	\$20.00
Thomas McVean address unknown	\$20.00
Charles Lee of Plano, TX	\$20.00
<b>Total 2010 Contributions</b>	<b>\$9,870.00</b>

## Our Goal: Stamp Out Ignorance About the Korean War



Legacy of the Korea War Foundation aims to demand that American history books tell the true story about the Korean War and its accomplishments. Our first goal is to stamp out ignorance about the Korea War in our public schools and among the American public.

Because US history books treat the Korean War as a minor

event, most American students graduate from high school with no understanding of it. They have no idea why American forces fought in the Korean War or that we stopped the spread of communism and saved the world from a wider war, perhaps a third World War and possibly a nuclear disaster.

We must correct the view that the Korean War was simply a civil war between North and South Korea. Our job is to impress on Americans that the Korean War happened because Joseph Stalin approved, encouraged, and supported it with funds and the latest war materials. Recently released translations of cables from the Russian Archives disclose Stalin's involvement in North Korea's invasion of the South. Stalin controlled the war until his death on 5 March 1953.

## Your Help Is Needed to Build a Database of Potential Donors



Please join our effort by sending us the names and addresses of Korean American individuals and businesses you believe are interested in preserving the legacy of the Korea War. Mail this vital information to our Treasurer at the following address:

J. Tilford Jones  
6958 Heatherknoll  
Dallas, TX 75248

The story of  
**Major General Raymond L. Murray**

**HIGHPOCKETS**

**The Man. The Marine. The Legend.**

by Zona Gayle Murray

"We're going to take our dead, wounded and equipment when we leave. We're coming out, I tell you. As Marines or not at all."

Lt.Col.  
Raymond L. Murray  
Chosin Reservoir,  
December 6, 1950

Major General  
Raymond L. Murray

It is good to hear the whole story: Ray Murray was the hero of the Chosin Reservoir, where he saved thousands of Marines by leading a fearful, bloody trek to safety. His story is well known and has been recorded many times; it will be sung for centuries if the universe has any order at all.

Correspondent, *John Van Doorn*, Winner of the Ernie Pyle award

Mall orders with check to: **Book \$20.00 Shipping \$5.00**  
Z.G.Murray, Ste108A Box 211  
300 Carlsbad Vig Dr., Carlsbad, CA 92008-2999

# Scholarships available for direct descendents of Korean War veterans

By Frank Cohee



Lakeland, FL - I wrote an article in the Sep-Oct 2010 *Graybeards* about the offer from the Friends of America Veterans of the Korean War (FAVKW) to provide a \$1,000.00 scholarship to 12 direct descendents of Korean War veterans. At that time I told you that President Mac Swain and I were trying to develop a plan to make sure the selection process is fair to our entire membership.

## The requirements:

- 1) The recipient must be a direct descendent of a member of the Korean War Veterans Association.
- 2) The recipient must:
  - be a high school senior
  - have a grade point average at high school of 3.5 or above
  - be officially accepted as a freshman for the first semester (August-December) of 2011 by a two-year accredited vocational college or four-year accredited college or university in the USA.
- 3) There can be no more than one recipient from a state. That way, we will have 12 states of our 50 states represented in this scholarship program.

## The selection process:

If you have descendents who meet the above requirements, please send me:

- their names and a resume that proves they do meet those requirements
- your name, membership number and relationship to the descendant

There will be a drawing if there is more than one applicant from any one state. I will have a disinterested person do the drawing, probably one of my neighbors.

If we get more than one submission from a state, and we do not receive the twelve submissions, I will submit all of the applicants to the FAVKW.

## Deadline

Please submit to me the name of your applicant no later than May 15, 2011.

## Questions

If you have any questions about the process, please contact me at 863-859-1384 or [FCohee@kwva.org](mailto:FCohee@kwva.org)

## 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	GRAYBEARDS	LOCATION
• Henry K. Ahlo IHO of Active Members of HI Chap. 1		HI
• Raymond Bosch		OH
• James Britt III		AZ
• Edward C. Buffington		CA
• Elaine Burkhart IMO Vernon Byrum		GA
• Louis M. Ellison		IL
• Warren Emery IMO Warren Emery's shipmates		DE
• T. D. Farmer Jr. IMO Lt. Col. Clifton Lidsey		AL
• Jim W. Fredlock		FL
• Verlon H. George		FL
• John C. Griffith IMO John J. Laurino		NJ
• Chester M. Harvey Jr.		AZ
• Terry Lloyd		UK
• Keith Lovekamp IMO Erwin Kleinschmidt		VA
• Denis McMahan		WI
• Donald S. Maxwell		CA
• Kurt E. Meyer		FL
• Andrew Morrison IMO Martin Connally		FL
• Robert E. Murphy		OK
• Paul Overgaard		MN
• Plateau Chapter 297		TN
• Charles Spiegel Jr.		NY
• Paul J. Wright		MI
• Jerome L. Zeilman		MO
	<b>KWVA</b>	
• Areva, NP Inc. IMO Frank Jaschke, Jr.		VA

## ANNOUNCEMENT...

Please send ALL Member Information Changes to the KWVA Membership Office... to avoid any unnecessary delays in processing.

- Change of Address
- "Snowbird" fall and spring move dates/address changes
- Phone Number Change/Update
- Email Address Changes/Additions

- Death Notices (including date of death)
- New Member Applications
- Dues Renewal Payments

Email to: [membership@kwva.org](mailto:membership@kwva.org) or "Snail" Mail to:  
KWVA Membership Office  
PO Box 407  
Charleston, IL 61920-0407  
Phone: 217-345-4414 Fax: 217-345-4415

Thank you.

# From Rose of Sharon to scholarship

Well, there is the key to a successful Rose of Sharon sales and scholarship fund. It's preparation—and practice. Maybe other KWVA chapters can use the key to open their own fund drives.

By Staff Writer Flower E. Prose

Saginaw, MI -Chapter 251, Frankenmuth-Saginaw, MI, held a successful Rose of Sharon sale around Memorial Day and Veterans Day 2010. According to Bob Simon, Past Commander of the chapter, "We collect quite a few thousand dollars from Rose of Sharon sales."

The entire chapter becomes involved. "We use 62 members to sell roses on Friday, Saturdays, and holidays," he explained. "We operate 2 shifts in front of 2 Wal-Marts, 1 Sam's Store, 1 Krogers, and 1 Pat's Food Center."

The chapter puts the receipts from the sales to good use. Simon reports that they provide around seven \$750 scholarships to graduating seniors from Michigan high schools who plan to attend a college or university in state the following fall.

"The scholarship recipients must be grandchildren of one our

chapter members," Simon stressed. "The 2011 scholarship winners' names will be announced in April."

To date the chapter has eleven applicants. "If we do not get enough applications from KWVA grandchildren, we provide scholarships to students without a KWVA sponsor."

Simon believes that other chapters can do the same thing as well as his does. He offers a few hints.

"All chapters that sell Roses of Sharon should have signs in front of stores as roses are sold," he advises. "We have 8 of these signs in front of the stores at which we sell: 2 at each Wal-Mart, 2 at Sam's Club, and 1 each at Kroger's in Frankenmuth and Pat's Food Center in Freeland."

The signs help prepare donors. "People coming toward stores have their money ready before they get to the door," Simon observed. "Our sellers wear our blue KWVA jackets and caps and gather the money in 1 gallon plastic jugs, decorated with KWVA and Stars and Stripes."

The system works well. "We collect coins, mostly \$1 bills, \$5 bills and even \$10 and \$20 bills," he said. "Just for the record, ladies do give the most money," Simon concluded (as a challenge to men).

Well, there is the key to a successful Rose of Sharon sales and scholarship fund. It's preparation—and practice. Maybe other KWVA chapters can use the key to open their own fund drives.

**CHAPTER 251**

## KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION INC.

**Where Your K.W.V.A. Donations Go**

- HOYT PARK VETERAN'S PLAZA
- R.E.A.D. ASSOCIATION
- RESCUE MISSION
- MAKE-A-WISH FOUNDATION
- SAGINAW CHILDREN'S MUSEUM
- SPECIAL OLYMPICS
- THE HIDDEN HARVEST
- THE SOUP KITCHEN
- HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
- TOYS FOR TOTS
- SAGINAW TWP. SEARCH DOGS
- SAGINAW ANIMAL SHELTER
- ST. MARY'S BURN UNIT
- U.S.O.
- BENCH FOR VETERAN'S PLAZA
- SAGINAW COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
- SAGINAW CHILDREN'S ZOO
- BIG BROTHERS / BIG SISTERS
- UNDERGROUND RAILROAD
- THE FISCHER HOUSE FOUNDATION
- SALVATION ARMY
- RED CROSS
- V.A. HOSPITAL
- MICHIGAN'S OWN MILITARY MUSEUM
- KOCHVILLE'S CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND
- KOREAN WAR VETERAN'S SCHOLARSHIPS
- THE KOREAN WAR MONUMENT
- CELL PHONE CARDS FOR VETERANS
- FAMILIES OF IRAQ SOLDIERS
- OPERATION UPLINK
- VIETNAM MONUMENT

*Thank You*  
Frankenmuth - Saginaw Korean War Veterans Chapter 251

## Now Hear This:

All comments concerning, or contributions for publication in *The Graybeards* should be sent to:

Art Sharp, Editor  
895 Ribaut Rd. #13  
Beaufort, SC 29902  
or emailed to:

sharp\_arthur\_g@sbcglobal.net

## National KWVA Fund Raiser Flower Rose of Sharon

The Rose of Sharon is the National KWVA fund raising flower. The Rose of Sharon is sold by the dozen.

- Sample order is 4 dozen @ \$12 plus \$3.00 S/H.
- Minimum order is 20 doz. @ \$60 plus \$5.00 S/H.

Order from: Earl House  
1870 Yakona Rd.  
Baltimore, MD 21234  
Phone 410-661-8950



Make Checks payable to: Maryland Chapter - KWVA

# The Atomic Cannon in Korea

By Bill Russell

The atomic cannon, developed in 1949 as a huge artillery piece to fire a nuclear weapon, was basically a “super” 240 mm gun that was the biggest in the arsenal and mounted on the German K5 railroad gun carriage. It was nicknamed “Atomic Annie,” derived probably from the nickname “Anzio Annie,” the big German K5 gun used against the Americans during the landings in Italy in World War Two.

The massive gun underwent a three-year development period. The project was completed in time for a demonstration model to be used in the Dwight Eisenhower’s Inaugural Parade in January 1953. On May 25 of that year, the atomic cannon was tested at the Nevada Test Site called Frenchman’s Flat. The demonstration resulted in the successful detonation of a nuclear shell at a range of 7 miles. It was the first and only nuclear shell fired from the cannon.

The explosion occurred 524 feet above the desert floor with a force of 15 kilotons, the same force that devastated Hiroshima in 1945. (A kiloton is a measurement of the yield of a nuclear weapon equivalent to the explosion of 1,000 tons of trinitrotoluene (TNT). Witnessing the spectacular event were 2,500 soldiers and 500 official guests. Some soldiers huddled in trenches less than two miles away.

As a tactical exercise, the soldiers charged towards the explosion a few minutes later, with the mushroom cloud still hanging overhead. Units became disoriented in the swirling dust churned up by the winds created by the tremendous pressure of the nuclear explosion. One wonders how many of those soldiers survived or how their lives were probably shortened by this foolhardy exercise.

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**The explosion occurred 524 feet above the desert floor with a force of 15 kilotons, the same force that devastated Hiroshima in 1945. (A kiloton is a measurement of the yield of a nuclear weapon equivalent to the explosion of 1,000 tons of trinitrotoluene (TNT).**

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There were at least 20 of the cannons manufactured at a cost of \$800,000 each, for deployment to Europe and Korea. Apparently they were shifted around frequently to avoid being detected by opposing forces. However, because of the development of missile-based nuclear artillery, the M65 (as it was officially designated) was virtually obsolete soon after it was developed.

The atomic gun’s effectiveness in Korea is questionable at best. If the use of nukes in Korea was considered, wouldn’t it have been more effective to simply drop them from an airplane rather than shooting a nuke over a mountain? Nevertheless, the gun remained in the U.S. Army’s arsenal as a prestige weapon until 1963, when it was deactivated.

It is not known how many “Atomic Annies” were deployed to Korea. We are aware of at least one that author John Martin Campbell wrote about in his book, *Slinging the Bull in Korea*. He cited the two soldiers who saw one and didn’t know what it was until a captain explained what it was and that he was pulling it back by orders from his headquarters.

Much has been written about the administration’s debate in the winter and spring of 1953 about whether to expand (or end) the war with nuclear weapons and compel the Communists to accept an armistice. By May of 1953 it appears that the decision to use nuclear weapons was on the planning table. Based on this, it would seem improbable that the atomic cannon was deployed

before the armistice. In fact, according to reports, the atomic cannon and the Honest John nuclear-capable missiles were introduced into Korea in January 1958, when the Reds had begun their massive military build-up in violation of the ceasefire terms.

The Communists came to the conference table in June 1951 but it was not likely under a nuclear threat as has been suggested. The atomic gun was still in development at that time. And, as everyone knows, negotiations went on for the next two years. In November 1952, when I was serving in Korea, Eisenhower visited the war zone and promised to end the war. How? Did he have the atomic cannon in mind?

As has been reported, some have suggested he did, but the atomic cannon was not emplaced in Korea at that time. It was not deployed until January of 1958, according to information on the internet. However, only those soldiers who were crew members of the gun(s) in Korea know for certain.

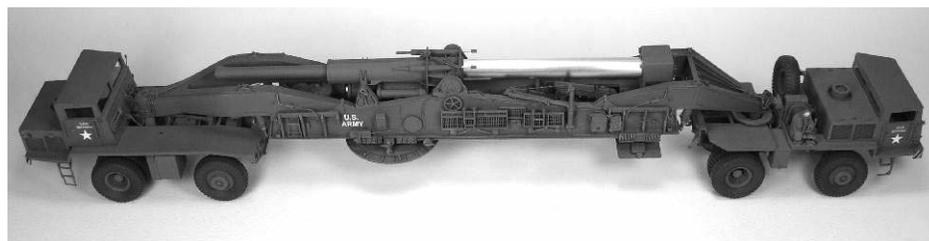
So far as ending the war, it was seven months after Eisenhower became president and eight months after he came to Korea with the promise to end the war that a ceasefire was signed by both parties. In Eisenhower’s defense, however, he didn’t say when. Whether or not the Communists were influenced by the threat of nuclear action is debatable.

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Sources: Wikipedia.com, YouTube.com, the free library. com., and article, Beyond Brinkmanship: Eisenhower, nuclear warfare, and Korea, 1953-1968, and other related websites

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*William Russell, a former U.S. Army Combat Correspondent, is a member of CID 173 Mid-Florida. Reach him at 1000 Winderley Pl., Unit 240, Maitland, FL 32751-4118, 407-260-1540, BillRider29 @embarqmail.com*



# ‘Atomic Annie,’ the 280 MM Cannon

By “Ski” Sherman

Prior to May 25, 1953, the only way to deliver an atomic device to the enemy was by airplane. Other delivery systems, such as rockets and missiles, were still in various stages of planning and development. The U.S. Army insisted that, since its soldiers were required to take ground in a battle, they needed a tactical atomic weapon. The Air Force argued for control of all nuclear armaments.

The largest tactical artillery pieces that were readily available at this time were the 240 M.M. Howitzer and the 8 inch guns of WWII. An entirely new weapon and its ground equipment were needed. The weapon should be a long-range artillery gun piece, capable of being moved cross country, around corners of most village roads, and not too heavy for most bridges. Its firing tube or barrel would have to be large enough to handle the smallest atomic projectile then in development.

The 280 MM (11 inch) shell was designated the T-124. That shell had a Mark 9 nuclear warhead. The complete shell was 54-1/2 inches long, and weighed 803 pounds. It had three-timed altitude fuse settings to choose from.

During 1949-1950, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, knowing that the Army’s Picatinny Arsenal in Dover, NJ was close to completing the T-124 Atomic Shell, authorized the Army’s ordnance department to produce 20 guns that could use them successfully. A new era in Army and U.S. history was about to emerge.

The big gun’s tubes were made at the Army’s Watertown, NY Arsenal; the gun was assembled at its arsenal at Watervliet, NY. By early 1952, “Atomic Annie,” as the gun was nicknamed, was ready.

The gun tube was 40 feet, 2 inches long. The complete unit, ready for traveling at a speed of 35 miles per hour, was 84 feet, 2 inches long. The gun and its carriage were moved by two transporters specially made to move the gun. The transporters were tractors, one at either end of the assembly, which could either pull or push. They could even move the

weapon sideways by turning at right angles to the center section. The “A” and “B” units were also connected by telephone or radio.

The transporters carried the crew and equipment and possessed the capability to carry two non-nuclear round. The complete unit, road ready, weighed 85 tons, which was not much more than the heaviest artillery piece then in use. The unit, which could fit into a landing ship if it was necessary, could be fired from a Lanyard at 20 feet or electrically from a position miles away.

The system had its own electrical generator and hydraulic systems for lifting the gun onto its traveling carriages and ramming home the shell power charges. The turntable allowed the gun to rotate a full 360 degrees with a four-man crew. It was also capable of being prepared by manual power.

On the arrival of “Atomic Annie” for duty at the artillery center at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, a full year was spent training with the gun testing various techniques (with non-nuclear) warheads on the Fort Sill Firing Range.

On May 25, 1953, at Camp Desert Rock, a desolate outpost in the Frenchman Flats area of the Nevada Proving Grounds for atomic weapons, U.S. Army Observers waited anxiously to find out if a nuclear war head would stand being suddenly hurled at a speed of 2060 feet per second, furiously spinning, and exploding in an air burst over a target 6-1/2 miles away. Or, would it explode prematurely in the cannon barrel, obliterating the immediate surroundings with its explosive force of 15,000 tons of TNT, equal to that of Little Boy, the atomic bomb that wasted Hiroshima in 1945?

The ultimate test shot was code named “Grable” by the Atomic Energy Committee. LtCol Donald L. Harrison wrote, “I had the task of physically ramming out the atomic round in case of a misfire. I gave a big sigh of relief when the activated round cleared the big tube with only the big gun’s normal thunderous noise.” Undoubtedly, the rest of the gun crew gave a collective sigh of relief

when the atomic round went off, exploding as planned more than 6 miles away at a height of 524 feet. Its radioactive mushroom-shaped cloud of earth and dust rose majestically 35,000 feet into the atmosphere.

For the firing of the atomic shell, the gun was on ground high enough to be in a direct line of sight to ground zero and the explosion. Once the firing data was computed, the gun crew, positioned in a trench nearby, received firing commands by telephone. The gun was fired by a 20-foot lanyard.

The next step for “Atomic Annie” and her 19 sisters was for combat gun crews and field artillery units to be organized and shipped out to support U.S. ground forces. “Atomic Annie” was assigned to the 265th F.A.B.N. The 265th was deployed to Baumholder, Germany in November 1953. In the three years “Annie” served in Germany, she participated in three maneuvers, five demonstrations, three 600-mile road trips, and two dignitary visits. In 1956, Cardinal Spellman of New York City gave a blessing that “she never be fired in anger, but that she would ever stand for peace with her power.”

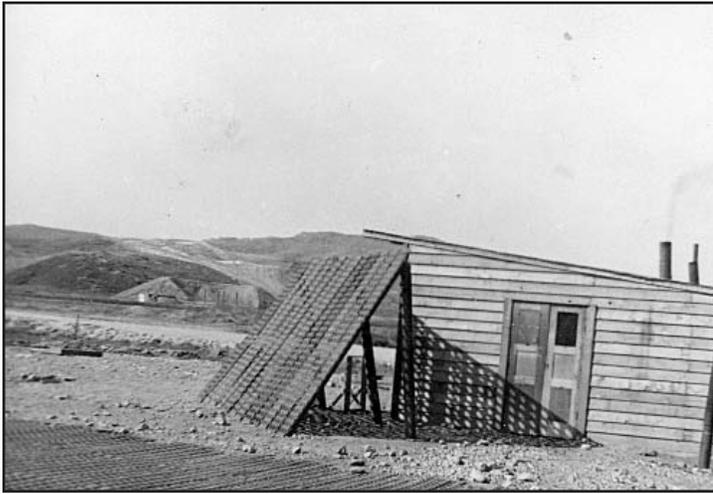
The 280 MM Cannon was gradually taken out of service during the 1960s. “Atomic Annie” now rests in retirement at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, while “Atomic Ike” can be found on display at the Army Ordnance Museum at Aberdeen, MD.

I had the proud distinction of serving on “Annie” from March 1953 until 1956 from Fort Sill to Fort Bragg to Baumholder, Germany.

As I understand it, one gun was sent to Korea from one of the battalions in Okinawa. Originally, news of the deployment was only hearsay. Evidently, one was actually sent there. In any event, the “Atomic Annie” story is a piece of Cold War history that has been ignored and overlooked in today’s history.

TSgt George (“Ski”) Sherman, USAF (Ret), uses the above story to present to JROTC and ROTC units in his area. Reach him at 450 N McDonald Ave #12, Deland, FL 32724, 386-738-1984.





Left, the alert shack at K-13

At right, Harry Bauser displays a "tow" used to pull aircraft at K-13. The barrels in the rear are filled with sand and stacked there to halt the hot air blast from the engine when a plane is parked and ready for a mission



An Army artillery position at K-13, located next to the alert shack



always on overnight alert to also protect the airbase. These jet planes proved to be too fast to engage the slow moving "Bedcheck Charlie" piston prop planes. Nevertheless, they were a comforting factor when they would scramble and take off with their engine afterburners blasting away during a red air alert.

Occasionally, during the night we were awakened by the air raid siren indicating a red air alert. These were caused by the Communist North Koreans flying what we called "Bedcheck Charlie" aircraft flying across the front lines to inflict whatever damage they could to our most northern air bases. The planes used by them were all piston-engine prop aircraft like the Russian built Yak-18 and the PO-2.

The PO-2 aircraft in particular was built with wood and fabric and fitted with bomb racks. It was invisible to radar and impervious to infrared seekers because of its small engine, making it a stealth-type aircraft. Air defense of our base at Suwon was the responsibility of the Army. If I recall, they were called "SCARWAF" personnel, who were assigned to the Air Force base.

They were situated out in the open, barren perimeter of the air base in tents. The SCARWAF personnel had anti-aircraft 50 caliber machine guns mounted on half-track vehicles. These intrusions by the

communists were mostly for harassment, and did little or no damage. But, when the sirens blew, we still ran outside into the sandbag shelters. A few of these piston aircraft were shot down in our area by a Navy pilot flying a piston-engine, land-based WWII-era Corsair fighter.

I also remember the night the sky was glowing bright orange during a red air alert when some communist planes bombed some oil storage tanks in the port city of Inchon. The 51st Fighter Wing shared the one and only runway at my airbase with the 8th Fighter-Bomber Wing. They flew the F-80s and then changed over to the F86s, flying ground support and bombing missions.

Also on that side of the base was a squadron of F-94 all weather-radar equipped jets, which was

We had a few Marine Corps pilots assigned temporarily to the 51st Fighter Wing while I was there. One in particular was a then Major John Glenn, who later became an astronaut and a U.S. Senator from Ohio. While with us, he shot down three Mig-15s. On the aircraft assigned to him he had "Mig Mad Marine" painted in big letters on the left side of the fuselage.

*Harold (Harry) Bauser, 8 Redwood Rd., Saugerties, New York, 12477, (845)-246-5818*



Aircraft 584, "Mig Mad Marine," piloted by USMC Maj John Glenn, an exchange pilot at K-13

## Missing in America Project (MIAP)

You may wonder why I would write an article about veterans finding the remains of military veterans that are resting on shelves of funeral homes and mortuaries throughout our country. I will explain.

About two years ago, I was at the veterans cemetery located by the town of Igo, in Shasta County, California. There was an event going on at which a group of leather-clad motorcycle riders was assembled. I asked what was going on. I was told that these bikers were veterans rendering honors to “passed on” veterans who had never been so honored.

As I delved into the program, I was amazed to hear that hundreds—no thousands—of unclaimed cremains (created remains) are resting in funeral homes all over the United States. Many of these remains are those of veterans who have never been given a proper burial with military honors. Some of these remains date back to the American Civil War.

A few years ago a dedicated Vietnam veteran named Fred Salanti, then of Grants Pass, Oregon, found a veteran’s remains that were never claimed and therefore never buried. While investigating further, Salanti came upon many of these unclaimed veterans’ cremains in funeral homes and mortuaries locally and nationally. As a result, the “Missing in America Project” was founded.

The MIAP has now increased in size and become a nationwide organization. The members work mostly at their own expense to bring these forgotten heroes’ cremains to a proper closing. Before the cremains can be buried in a state or national cemetery, they must be properly identified and proven to be veterans. This sometimes takes hours of research.

To demonstrate the depths to which the research can go, a Buffalo Solider (from the 1800s Indian wars) was found in an indigent graveyard (“Boothill”) outside Phoenix, Arizona. This soldier was a holder of our nation’s highest honor, the Medal of Honor.

Last year the local MIAP members found that there were two highly decorated veterans (Silver Star Medal holders) from Shasta County who had not been interred or honored. Based on their decorations, they deserved to be buried in Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, DC.

Several MIAP members from the West Coast, along with Linda Hartman (Shasta County Supervisor) and her family, formed a group to take the two veterans’ cremains to Arlington and give them a proper heroes’ burial. They mounted their motorcycles and, along with the Hartmans’ motor home, traveled some 3,000 miles to Arlington National Cemetery. While en route, they stopped in Phoenix and added the above mentioned Medal of Honor holder’s cremains.

The Missing in America Project is a very worthwhile program that is not widely known about. The local MIAP group meets every other month on the second Wednesday, at the Igo, California VA Cemetery. They render honors for the cremains they have researched and collected.

As an added note, over 2,600 unclaimed remains were found recently. Of them, 19 were World War One and 5 were from our own Civil War. The research continues.

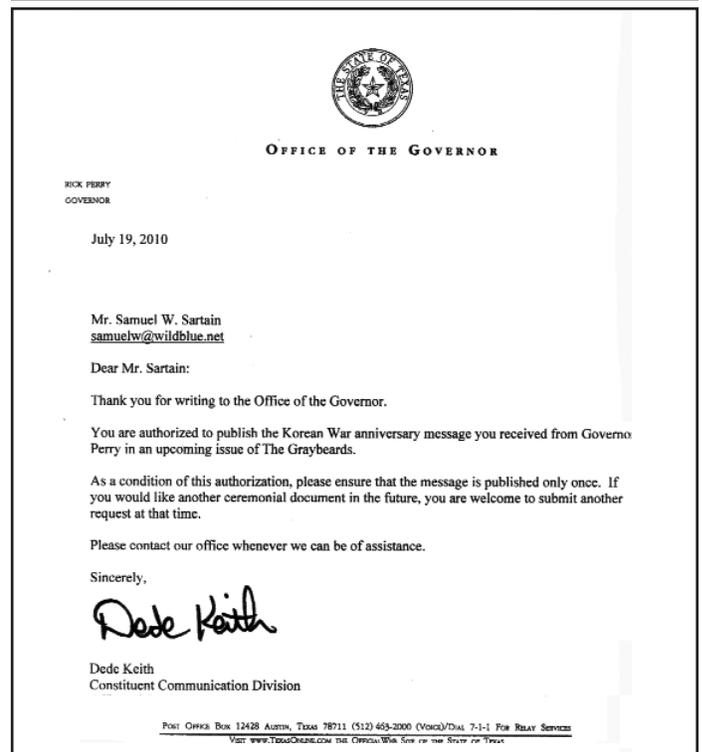
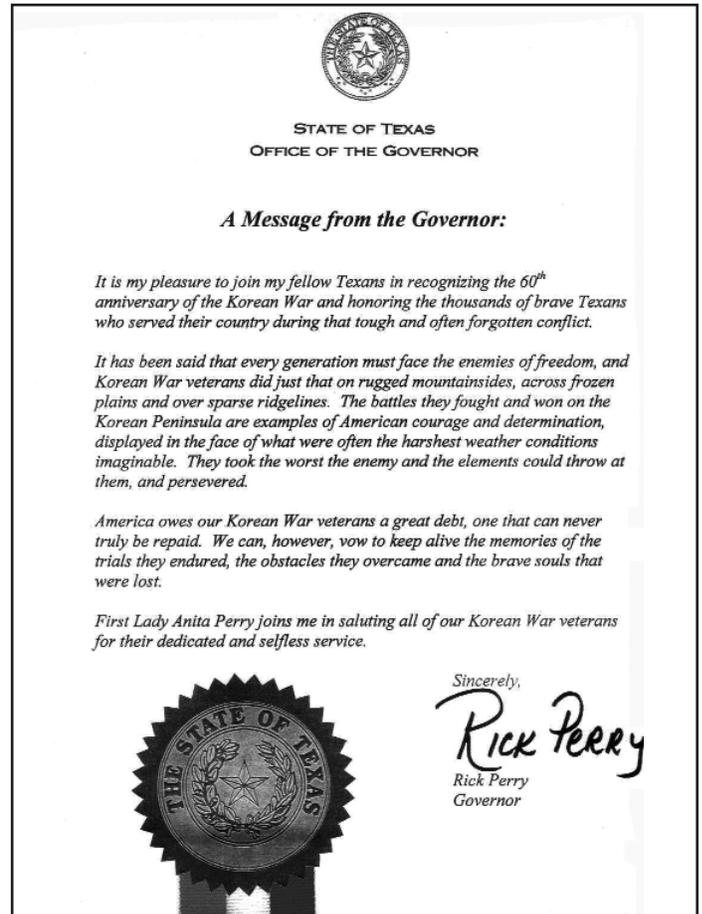
Access [www.miap.com](http://www.miap.com) for more information.

James W. Gibson, 3540 Tamarack Dr.  
Redding, CA 96003, (530) 245 4492

## Texas Governor Recognizes 60th Anniversary

Governor Rick Perry of Texas took the time to recognize the 60th Anniversary of the start of the Korean War. Here is his proclamation.

Sam Sartain, [samuelw@wildblue.net](mailto:samuelw@wildblue.net)



# Stranger helps reunite Purple Heart with family

By Jake Russell - Jacksonville (Ill.) *Journal-Courier*, Posted : Friday Apr 23, 2010 9:35:01 EDT

JACKSONVILLE, Ill. — A Korean War veteran's Purple Heart bought for a dollar at a weekend garage sale in Jacksonville sparked a mystery that intertwined Tuesday with a Gurley, Ala., woman's yearlong mission.

The medal, encased in a faded black box, included a newspaper clipping from an unknown newspaper reading: "Pvt. Veer M. Krause, grandson of Mrs. Emma Krause of 727 N. Elm Ave. was killed in action in Korea on Sept. 8.

"The family of Private Krause was notified of his death Tuesday. He had been attached to the 38th Infantry and had been in service one year. He was sent to Korea Aug. 19."

It might never be known how the medals ended up in Jacksonville.

A man who was searching for bargains saw them and felt the need to try to find the soldier's family.

"I thought it was pretty sad to be buying a Purple Heart in a yard sale," said the man, who did not want to be identified. "There was a time I would have just walked the other way and thought nothing of it, but with the stuff going on in the Middle East, I think it's a pretty sensitive thing. If somebody had a piece of my family history, I'd want them to help me out with it."

The man had never seen a Purple Heart in a yard sale. When he asked the woman why she was selling it, she told him it was from a family friend and didn't mean anything to her.

He enlisted the newspaper's help Tuesday and a search led the paper to Judy Krause-Mobley of Gurley, who had submitted an e-mail to the Korean War Veterans' Association newsletter last year.

"Both my father and my uncle served with the Army in Korea," she wrote. "My uncle, Pfc. Veer M. Krause [also known as Worth Krause], was killed in Korea in 1950. He was 20 when he died. He was from Norfolk, Va. I would appreciate anything you or your members can do to help me with my search."

A search of the address in the newspaper clipping indicated it was in Portsmouth, Va., which is in Norfolk County.

Mobley was able to provide detailed information about the soldier.

The paper enlisted the help of U.S. Rep. Aaron Shock's office, which was able to provide Krause's service number and other details about the man who died at the age of 20 at Naktong Bulge in South Korea.

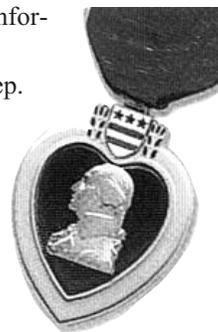
"He must've been an outstanding young man," Krause-Mobley said. "He must've done something very brave."

Krause-Mobley has been searching for information about her relative for about a year. The only picture she has is a class photo from when he was 8. She didn't even know his name was Veer until recently when she visited his gravestone; her family always knew him as Worth.

"This is very special," Krause-Mobley said. "It's like you've heard about somebody all your life and all of a sudden, they're real. They were a part of the family that you had lost and found. We love him even though we never knew him and don't even know what his face looks like."

<http://www.myjournalcourier.com/articles/heart-26531-purple.html>

Thanks to David C. L. Bauer, Editor of the Journal-Courier (Jacksonville, IL, for granting us permission for one-time republication of the article by Jake Russell "Stranger helps reunite Purple Heart with family."



## ATTENTION VETERANS

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

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# 60TH ANNIVERSARY MEMORIES

## Tied to a tree and showered with cold water

Packed with the other sardines in a leaking barge, I came ashore at Inchon in 1953, boarded a train apparently made from junkyard scraps, and landed—after “processing”—in Bupyong, home of the 304th Signal Battalion’s Radio Company. This rice-paddy village was off MSR#2 between Inchon and Seoul, and a few miles south of Ascom City. The devastation of war was evident in wrecked buildings and on Korean faces. The strange land and people made me feel like an invader from Mars.

“Bed-Check Charlie” stopped raiding after the cease-fire. Before that, when Charlie flew his single-prop plane at night over Radio Company, the men scrambled out of the huts with their weapons and jumped into foxholes and bunkers around the compound, some manning machine guns. The enemy aviator lobbed grenades in the pitch darkness, hoping to hit men and equipment, his vision impeded by searchlights from the ground. Most of his grenades managed to plow up the rice paddies.

Bruce Bottum was the radio-teletype operator who relayed the progress of the armistice negotiations from Panmunjom to Tokyo, before and during the signing in July. In August, he was at Munsani, reporting on Operation Big Switch, the major prisoner exchange. (There would be POW exchanges into 1954.)

As the Chinese and North Korean prisoners approached the exchange area on trucks, they stripped down to their shorts in protest against their American-made clothing. They shouted “Banzai! Banzai! Banzai!” incessantly and waved small North Korean flags. With their fists they broke the windows of the train that would take them back to North Korea, intentionally making their hands bleed on the broken glass. With their blood they wrote defaming slogans on the sides of the train against the Americans.

Bruce was a witness to this exhibit of

fanaticism and rage. One of the American prisoners was a high school acquaintance of his, a downed fighter pilot who was purportedly tied to a tree and suffered cold water thrown on him in the freezing cold of winter.

The mission of the 304th Signal Battalion (headquartered in Seoul) was to supply 8th Army with radio, wire, photo, and crypto support. Our company, on the site of a World War II Japanese radio station, was the radio-teletype arm of 304th Signal. We slept in the wood-and-cement huts that the Japanese built. There was a mine field outside the compound—and lots of raggedy kids, dust, mud, and stink.

Radio Company was originally in a palace in Seoul. Fire there in 1951 made it move to Bupyong. I was assigned to the radio repair shop. My MOS of 1649 (Fixed Station Radio Repairman) was of little use in dealing with the mobile equipment I found. Our mainstay was the AN/GRC-26, dubbed “Angry 26.”

These walk-in radio-teletype/voice rigs were mounted on deuce-and-a-halves for quick deployment. Radio electronics were based on vacuum tubes. Remember them? Bristling with antenna posts, our company would have been an easy target from the air, had the Chinese and North Koreans not been pinned down by our forces.

The heartbreaks of the war must include the plight of the war orphans. Like other units in Korea, Radio Company hosted an orphanage, where the children had food, clothing, a place to live, and as much cheer as we could provide—such as Christmas parties in our mess hall.

I am proud to have participated in the rescue of South Korea from the communists, whose ferocity and determination to deliver South Korea to Kim IL Sung caused enough bloodshed and suffering to still spring tears among those who remember.

But, after everything is said and done, we must dwell on the importance of our action in Korea. This is best summarized, I think, in the words of a label

for the Korean War that I recently came across: “The substitute for World War III.”

I think we can all be proud of the stunning result for the people of the Republic of Korea.

*Anthony J. DeBlasi*  
455 Shady Nook Rd.

West Newfield, ME 0409  
207-793-8808, tonyjdb@metrocast.net

## Life Aboard *Shoveler*

After the invasion into Inchon Red Beach, we went to Eniwetok in the Marshall Islands for atomic bomb tests and the first hydrogen bomb to be tested. What a sight! It resulted in a complete white cloud that was much different from the atomic bomb clouds.

I finally got home after 33-½ months overseas. It was July 1951. I took thirty days leave. While I was at home, President Truman extended my enlistment—along with those of a lot of other service members—for a year. My enlistment was supposed to be up in October of that year. No such luck.

I received orders to report aboard the minesweeper *USS Shoveler* (AM 382), at San Pedro, California. The ship, which had just come out of the “Mothball Fleet,” was named after a bird, as were most of the other minesweepers.

We had our shake-down cruise off the coast of California. Our complement comprised 86 men, including officers. Only 13 crew members had ever been to sea before. A lot of men were just out of boot camp, so they had to learn the process of mine sweeping. But, we were ready after a couple months.

Our assignment was to patrol the east coast of Korea with two sister ships. We arrived in Sasebo, Japan to refuel and take aboard supplies. We departed Japan, arrived on station, and met with one sister ship, *USS Toucan* (AM 387).

We learned that a couple days earlier, one sister ship, possibly *USS Symbol* (AM 123), was taking some civilian prisoners who had emerged from a little village just below the Yalu River. When its small boat from the ship came alongside, one Korean

# 60TH ANNIVERSARY MEMORIES

threw a grenade into the boat, killing a Chief Petty Officer and wounding a couple crew members.

The other members from the ship had weapons. They opened fire, killing the Koreans. The ship took her dead and wounded back to Japan. She would be back in a week. So, we met with *Toucan*.

During the day, we would sweep mines to keep a five-mile sea lane open from Wonsan to the Yalu River. Between our two minesweepers, we could make a quarter of a mile in one pass, so we swept during the day and patrolled at night.

At night time, we would be a half mile off shore. Once in a while we would catch North Korean convoys coming from the north and heading south. As a result, our gunnery crews got some target practice.

We stayed in North Korea for two months at a time, after which we would go back to Sasebo for R&R. While there, we resupplied and took on fuel and ammo. On the second trip we made back to the Yalu River, we encountered the same situation as did our sister ship earlier.

Some North Koreans came out from the village to surrender. I guess they wanted to get out of the war zone with their children. So, we took them aboard, making sure they had no weapons or grenades. We notified naval command that we had these prisoners. They instructed us to take them down to an island below Wonsan, where there was a POW camp. After we did that, we returned to North Korea to meet with *Toucan* and resume sweeping the sea lanes and patrolling at night.

After two months we returned to Sasebo for R&R and to resupply our ship. That was our routine. On our third trip to the north we were sweeping up near the Yalu River, when another boat came out from a village. Our captain did not want to make the trip down to the POW island again, so he radioed a South Korean patrol boat we had down the coast from us and asked its commander to take these people aboard and transport them down to Wonsan.

The patrol boat was actually one of our PT boats, but without torpedoes. It had a twin fifty-caliber machine gun in a turret.

When the patrol boat reached our position, it did not even slow down. It approached speeding by us from our stern to the bow, firing its fifty calibers across our bow toward the people in the boat, killing them all. I think there were 6 or 8 of them. Our captain raised the patrol boat on the radio and asked the South Korean captain why he killed all those civilians.

The South Korean replied simply, "We don't take prisoners." The two captains exchanged some angry words after that.

Our captain declared that if it weren't for the possibility that doing so would not cause a big commotion between the South Korean and U.S. governments, he would have blown that patrol boat out of the water. To put it mildly, he was irate.

Later that night, we had the watch. I stood it with a Chief Warrant Officer named Hartmann. We had the 8 p.m. to midnight watch. It was a clear, moonlit night, and the seas were calm. We were on the flying bridge when we came by the area where the shooting had happened earlier in the day. We could see the dorsal fins of the sharks. I guess they were feeding on these poor civilians who were killed. That was not a pretty sight.

We worked our way down the coast of Korea, sweeping as we went. Just above Wonsan was an island called Songjin. During WWII the Japanese had used Korean slave labor to honey-comb this island. They put their cannons on railroad wheels and laid tracks so they could wheel them to openings and shoot at our ships.

We were on patrol, coming down the coast of Korea. We were about four miles from shore. At about 6:30 a.m., the warrant officer and I detected two splashes in the water on the starboard side. I said, "They are firing at us from Songjin."

I hurriedly took a fix on the location from where the shells emanated. We turned to our port going out to sea and sounded general quarters. When our captain came on the bridge, we told him what happened. We saw a destroyer down the coast from us and radioed it. As it approached us, we gave him the bearing and distance from us. The destroyer laid a white phosphorous shell in there and the

area became filled with white smoke.

We went back towards Songjin and opened fire with our three-inch gun. Its range was three miles. We fired about ten rounds before the captain gave the order to cease fire. We went back out to the five-mile limit from shore, rejoined *Toucan*, and resumed our duties of sweeping down around Wonsan.

After this two-month period ended, we returned to Sasebo. I was transferred off the ship. I was due for discharge. The Navy sent me back to San Diego, where I was processed and discharged.

When I got home, people did not even look at me. No one other than my parents and fiancé said "Thank you" or "Welcome home." I just got on with my life.

I married and raised a family. Here it is sixty years later! I just received a letter from the President of South Korea thanking us for our service in Korea, as did thousands of other Korean War veterans who were there sixty years ago.

I also received a Presidential Unit Citation from the South Korean government and from our United States government. I have fond memories of our time in Korea. Those we will never lose!

## Under age, but overly eager

**M**arvin Nigg, from Chicago, IL, joined the Marines on his 17th birthday. His father wouldn't sign for him; his mother had passed away when he was young. So, he signed his father's name.

Marvin spent Christmas Eve and Christmas Day at Parris Island. After boot camp he was picked to go on a Mediterranean cruise. He thought this was great. Then, the Korean War began.

Nigg was taken off the heavy cruiser and put on a troop ship that sailed through the Suez Canal to Japan. He volunteered to be in the Raider Battalion. But, Gen. MacArthur changed his mind and decided at the time to make the Inchon Landing. After about two weeks of reorganization aboard ship, the Raiders became the 7th Marines.

As the troop ship was leaving, the Marines found out that Nigg was underage. With all the confusion aboard ship, he

# 60TH ANNIVERSARY MEMORIES

pretended to be part of a work party and hid under a lifeboat. His buddies brought food to him. But, after about two days, they caught him and relived him of his rifle. Again, because of all the confusion, he slipped away and went down the nets without his rifle at the Inchon Landing. Luckily, there was little opposition.

After fighting their way and taking Kimpo Airport and capturing the city of Seoul, the Marines were sent to a rest camp for about three days. They caught Nigg again. This time, Col Homer Litzenberg took responsibility for him and sent him to a rest camp in Japan.

Nigg was at a U.S. Air Force camp at which things were so confused they didn't know if Nigg was wounded or just at the rest camp. The second morning Nigg was there a doctor asked him if wanted to go home or back to duty. He told them he wanted to go back to duty. So, they sent him back to Korea, where he served with his buddy from George Co., 7th Marines. He was back in combat immediately.

When the gunner in his squad was wounded, Nigg carried him out; the gunner came back and was wounded a second time. After that, he was sent to a different company. Nigg then acted as assistant gunner several times. After the Marines chased the North Korean Army across the Yalu River, the allies said the war was over. It wasn't over by any means. The Marines ended up at the Chosin Reservoir.

About three days later, unknown to them, they were overwhelmed by 120,000 Chinese Soldiers. The weather at this time was 20 to 30 degrees below zero. The forces at the reservoir numbered 15,000 total troops, mostly Marines from the 1st Marine Division. The rest comprised some remnants of the U.S. Army 7th Infantry and a couple hundred British Royal Marine Commandos. All of them had to fight their way back to the harbor at Hungnam.

When the Marines, Soldiers, and Commandos finally got back to the harbor, UN forces were flying out some of the men in the worst shape. But, they could only take a few at a time. They kept putting tags on Nigg—and he kept taking

them off and putting them on men worse off than him. When he was asked why, he said, "My feet are already frozen, and I can't feel them. So, I'm going to walk down."

After the Chosin Reservoir battle, which lasted from November into December 1950, ended, the troops finally made it to the ships—what few there were. On the way home, on 21 April 1951, Niggs' gunner returned with him. The two of them still keep in touch and get together at least once a month.

Niggs said he wouldn't want to do it over again, but he has no regrets. He said that, fortunately, he served with the best: the U.S. Marine Corps.

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Marvin Nigg passed away in December 2009. His friend and fellow Wisconsinite, Tom O'Halloran, submitted this story. Reach O'Halloran at P. O. Box 69, Phelps, WI 54554.*

## Life on an LCU: Inchon, Korea, October 1952 to August 1953

After completing the Transportation Corp's five-month Harbor Craft Deck Officers' Course, and spending three months in sunny, but very hot Okinawa, I landed in Inchon on a gloomy cold day in October 1952. I took a long train ride down to Pusan, where I was given orders to report back to the 339th Transportation Harbor Craft & Marine Maintenance Company in Inchon.

By late 1952, the Port of Inchon was offloading 55,000 tons of cargo a week. Much of this cargo consisted of new 2-1/2-ton trucks with automatic transmissions. As Inchon had tides ranging up to 30 feet, most deep-water ships could not come into the harbor. They had to anchor a couple miles offshore, from where the cargo was offloaded onto barges.

It was the 339th's mission to provide tug boats, barges, and LCMs to transport stevedore crews out to the ships to do the unloading. There would often be 20-30 vessels waiting to be unloaded. It was a 24/7 operation.

My first assignment was as harbor/beach master. We coordinated the movement of smaller ships into the tidal basin, where

they could be unloaded at the dock, and supervised the beach landing or debarking of replacement troops who were transported by Landing Craft Utility (LCU) from and to the troop ships.

Then, I received the assignment I enjoyed the most in Korea. I became "skipper" of a 115-foot LCU. Our main mission was to carry 400-500 Soldiers at a time from a troop ship to shore. They would stand "shoulder to shoulder" for the couple-mile ride into or from the beach.

My crew comprised a Sgt (1st mate), Cpl (engineer) and 8-10 Japanese sailors. The Japanese supervisor had been the Captain of a Japanese freighter prior to WWII. He had made over thirty trips to the United States. Now, every morning, he was sweeping the deck of this young 2nd Lieutenant's cabin.

I never found out what he did during WWII. Because of the Koreans' deep dislike of the Japanese, they could never go ashore. By the end of the Korean War, the Japanese crews had been replaced by Koreans.

On occasion, when we were not needed for moving troops, we would bring equipment such as a tank, or a couple of trucks, and rice up to South Korean Soldiers defending outpost islands between Inchon and the 38th parallel. My "chart" was a Texaco highway map. I hadn't learned anything about road maps as navigational aids in Deck Officers' School at Ft. Eustis.

One night, when our boat was in dry dock, a small propeller-driven North Korean plane flew over Inchon. The pilot dropped three bombs. One hit a Korean house, another struck a small brewery, and the third hit the petroleum dump to the east of Inchon. The dump burst into flames and burned all night.

The antiaircraft units surrounding the port immediately opened fire and filled the sky with tracers for a long time. For about a week after that we had to wear our steel helmets and carry weapons. I guess we were supposed to add to the air defense capabilities of the area.

The armistice was signed on July 27th, 1953. Shortly after that, Operation Big Switch began with the exchange of prison-

# 60TH ANNIVERSARY MEMORIES

ers. The exchange actually started before July 27th. In April, sick and wounded were exchanged, and it took us quite a while to build "cages or cells" on our Landing Craft in order to transport North Koreans from the LST's that delivered them to Inchon.

North Korean Soldiers had been in prisons on Koje Island. They had been very difficult to deal with. They were brought under guard on LSTs up to Inchon, where the vessels would anchor and the Koreans would be transferred to LCUs from the 339th.

A series of wire compartments had been built on these landing craft; 20 or so North Koreans would be placed in each cell. They were guarded by infantrymen with fixed bayonets. Once the landing craft reached the shore, the POWs were loaded on rail cars or trucks and taken north to be released. Once on the trucks, they showed their defiance by banging their mess gear on the vehicle sides while yelling shouts of derision.

The American POWs were exchanged to the north of Inchon and flown by U.S. helicopters to the port. The 339th transported them out to a waiting troop ship, on which they went home in relative comfort; one man for every three bunks.

I returned to the States on that same ship.

*Philip M. Campbell  
1512 Chateaufort Place  
Detroit, MI 48201-2111*

*313-393-8830, phil1512@sbcglobal.net*

## The enemy could have walked right between us

I belonged to the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team. We made two combat jumps in Korea. One was on 20 October 1950, at Sukchon-Sunchon, North Korea, 25 miles behind enemy lines. The second was at Munsan-Ni, South Korea, on 23 March, 1951, 42 miles behind enemy lines.

We were only about 3,500 strong when we landed in Korea, minus casualties, which put us at about 2,600. On or about February 1951, our unit was trucked up to Wonju, where the 2nd Division was overrun by Chinese and North Koreans. Our unit was to plug the big hole. We were scattered from ridge to ridge for miles.



Joe Henmueller speaks to crowd at Chicago 60th Anniversary commemoration. Behind him are (L-R) Chicago Fire Dept. Chaplain Fr. John McNalis, Ch 25 Commander Leonard DeFabio, Pres. Of Korean War National Museum Denis J. Healy, Sr.



Color Guard from Ch 23 at Chicago 60th Anniversary ceremony



A large crowd assembled at Chicago 60th Anniversary commemoration

My right flank buddy (in my squad) was on a hill way over, but we plugged the hole. We were so far apart the enemy could have walked through us easily. We did not receive any replacements until sometime in the fall of 1951, when they

broke up the Ranger Companies and sent them to our headquarters.

*James E. Bockman, 4035 E. Calypso Ave., Mesa, AZ 85206, jbec187@msn.com*

# 60TH ANNIVERSARY MEMORIES

## Families like hers were the true Korean heroes

My story is not one of major battles or stories of isolated firefights, action at sea, and so forth. It's only a small part of what other Soldiers in the rear did to help in the Korean War effort.

Did I know where Korea was? I knew it was near China and Japan. Now, I have many significant memories of my time there. One stands out, perhaps because I had framed a Christmas card I had received many years ago from my CO, Lt. Hanson, of HQ Company, who shared the card with Lt. Col. George O. Larmer, the Battalion Commander of the 724th TROB.

The 724th Railroad Operation BN had 32 points in its territory, handling railroad traffic moving through their respective locales. These stations at the time were referred to as RTOs. My station was Kupo (or Cupo).

Lt. Hanson's card read:

"Hi Ed,  
Been a long time but still haven't forgotten that cold winter night in Korea when you kept the RR running."

Lt. Hanson, I believe, was referring to a hospital train that we were trying to get to Pusan from the north, non-stop. There was a hospital and a hospital ship located in Pusan. The date was February 24, 1952. Sasang Station, the station north of Pusan Jin Station, was all backed up with trains because of a loss of communication with Pusan Jin Tower. Therefore, it could not



Wreath laying ceremony at Daley Plaza in Chicago (L-R) Ch 23 Commander Arnold Feinber, Korean Consul General the Honorable Chul Huh, Alderman James Balcer, Leonard De Fabio

accept south-bound traffic.

Lt. Hanson let me go to Pusan by jeep with my interpreter. We acquired a single motor car that belonged to the Korean National Railway, which had been used many times by their President. All night long we would go back and forth on the track to Pusan Jin, clearing one train at a time. As a result, the hospital train came through non-stop.

In retrospect, I had no regrets participating in the Korean War. Then again, I did not serve on the MLR. Regardless of where I served, my personal investment over 60 years ago was all positive and well worth it. I would never have met so many fine people, including the high school boys I met and talked with who were always telling me Korea will be a great nation some day.

Then there were all the railroad men, station masters, interpreters, and a house boy who was a North Korean from Sinuiju. He made his way south with his mother and brother to Kupo to make their

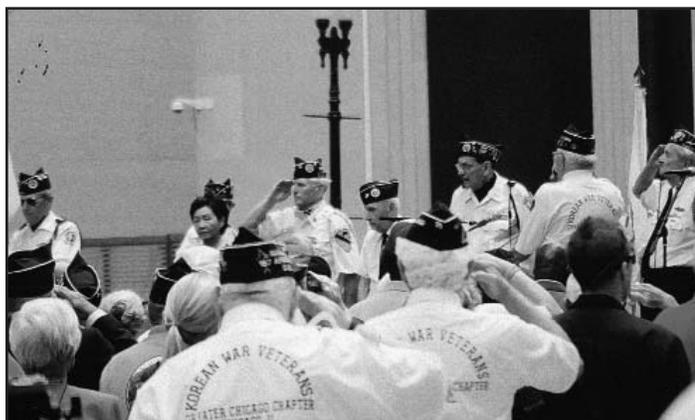
home. All of my dirty clothes were washed by hand by their mother for a very small sum of money. As I think of it now, I feel humble and embarrassed over it.

When the time came to return home, I met her for the first time, because she had asked her son if she could say goodbye to me. When she came to the station, she brought a double-shaped heart holder made out of cloth to be used as a sewing needle holder to give to my mother.

I did not give it to my mom. I framed it like the Christmas card I had received from Lt. Hanson and Lt. Col. George O. Larmer. I bowed to her, took her hand, and kissed it. It was a very sad goodbye.

To think that I was in the presence of such a strong mother who struggled to make a home for her two sons. How could I ever forget her? It was families like hers that were the true Korean heroes.

*Edward L. Forster, 106 Circuit Road  
Winthrop, MA 02152, 617-846-0738  
Kupo511@verizon.net*



William Stenberg, Sgt-at-Arms of Ch 25 (w/1st Cav patch) leads Pledge of Allegiance at Daley Plaza in Chicago



A 21-gun salute performed by 933rd M.P. Co., Illinois Army National Guard at Chicago 60th Anniversary commemoration

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# Korean War Veterans' Mini-Reunions

## G-3-1 Korea

The G-3-1 Korea Association held its annual reunion Nov 8-11, 2010 in Springfield, VA. Highlights were:

- A dedication of a monument memorializing the 149 Marines from "Bloody George" Company, 3rd Bn., 1st Marines killed in action during the Korean War.
- A celebration of the 235th Birthday of the Marine Corps, with a cake-cutting ceremony at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Quantico, VA. The oldest Marine present and recipient of the first piece of cake was "Skipper" George Westover, George Company's CO during the Inchon and Seoul Campaigns.
- A book-signing of "Give Me Tomorrow," the untold story of the stand of the Marines of George Company, by Patrick O'Donnell.
- The unforgettable fellowship with comrades of 60 years ago.

*Carleton "Bing" Bingham, Secretary, G-3-1 Korea, 1453 Patricia Drive, Gardnerville, NV 89460, 775-265-3596, bingbingham@msn.com*

See back cover for G-3-1 monument dedication photo

"Skipper" George Westover, G-3-1's CO during the Inchon and Seoul campaigns



## 92nd AFA

The 92nd Armored Field Artillery ("The Red Devil Battalion") held its 13th annual reunion 8-10 November 2010 at the Holiday Inn Superdome, in New Orleans. As usual, everyone had a great time.

Unit veterans began their meetings in Washington DC in 1998.

*Dick Lemmon, 547 W. Black Rock Rd  
Meridian, ID 83646*



## USS Sphinx (ARL 24)

Thirty-eight people attended the 21st reunion for crews of the USS Sphinx at Branson, MO, 13-16 September 2010. Four shipmates from WWII were there. In fact, attendees include crew members who were on board from the commissioning in 1944 until the final decommissioning in 1989. That included shipmates from WWII, Korea, Vietnam, and special operations off the coast of Central America in the 1980s.

Veterans representing the Korean War era included Eddy Sanchez (Laredo, TX); Frank and Mary Ironi (Sauk Centre, MN); Hollis and Pat McBroom (Clinton, AR); Norman and Kay Ponder (Baytown, TX); Lou Ott (Olathe, KS); Floyd and Colleen Engle (Bedford, PA); Ernie and Mary Skiles (St. Louis, MO); Robert and Jean Myers (St. Joseph, MO); and Jean Myers, widow of Jim Myers (Kansas City, MO).

*Eduardo ("Eddy") R. Sanchez,  
2519 Garfield St., Laredo, TX 78043*

## Sphinx in Korea

Sphinx (ARL-24) was laid down as LST-963 on 20 October 1944 by the Bethlehem Steel Co., Hingham, Mass.; named Sphinx and redesignated ARL-24 on 11 September 1944; launched on 18 November 1944; converted into a landing craft repair ship at the Merrill Stevens Drydock, Jacksonville, Fla.; and commissioned on 10 May 1945.

The outbreak of hostilities in Korea created a need for Sphinx's repair facilities in the Far East. She was recommissioned on 3 November 1950. After outfitting and holding shakedown training, she stood out of San Diego on 17 August 1951 and proceeded via Pearl Harbor to Japan. Sphinx arrived at Yokosuka on 29 September and operated from Japanese ports until 7 May 1952. During this time, she repaired and serviced fleet units that were being used in Korea. The ship returned to San Diego on 4 June 1952 and operated along the California coast until redeployed to the Far East from 3 March to 9 December 1954. Sphinx operated along the west coast during 1955 and, on 31 January 1956, was again placed out of commission, in reserve, and berthed at San Diego.

Sphinx received one battle star for Korean service and eight for service in Vietnam.

*Source: Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships,  
<http://www.history.navy.mil/DANFS/s16/sphinx.htm>*



**More** ➤

## 630th Engineers Light Equipment Company, Korea

Comrades of the 630th Engineer, Korea met at Fall Creek Inn in Branson, MO for their 14th annual September reunion. Veterans and family members enjoyed many hours of visitation and fellowship.

A highlight of the 3-day event was touring The College of the Ozarks (also known as Hardwork U), Point Lookout, MO.

2011 reunion dates are 11-14 September 2011. Anyone who served with the 630th in Korea is encouraged to attend.

*Oscar Viehland  
9587 Woodland Rd.,  
Robertsville, MO 63072  
(636) 285-4402  
ogvccv@att.net*

Members of the 630th Engineers Light Equipment Company, Korea at their 14th annual reunion



# Korean War Veterans' Mini-Reunions ..... (Continued)

## Co. M, 279th Inf. Regt., 45th Inf. Div.

Several members gathered recently with their "Support Unit" and the "Leader of the Pack."

**RIGHT:** The men of Co. M., 279th Inf. Regt., 45th Inf. Div. at their recent gathering



**BELOW:** Co. M's support group—their ladies



The leader of the Co. M "pack," Gene Ruetz, with Bill Taylor at their reunion

## Monument honors forgotten Korean War heroes

Sep 4, 2009

By Pfc. Kim Jun-sub, 8th U.S. Army Public Affairs

**HWACHON DAM**, Gangwon Province, Republic of Korea — A monument was unveiled Sept. 2 [2009], to recognize the forgotten heroes who helped to capture the critical Hwachon Dam hydroelectric plant during the Korean War.

Eighth U.S. Army Deputy Commanding General Maj. Gen. Michael Kuehr attended the ceremony where the monument was unveiled to honor the sacrifices of the Korean Labor Organization, the group that provided crucial intelligence on the power plant to U.N. forces in 1951.

The ceremony was hosted by the Korean Hydro and Nuclear Power Co. Ltd. and the Korean Labor Organization Commemoration Association.

The KLO was a group of North Korean refugees that assisted U.N. troops with such tasks as carrying ammunition and supplies, unloading cargo ships and handling the deceased.

The Hwachon Hydro Power Plant was built in 1944 during the Japanese occupation of Korea. Today, it remains the sec-



Hwachon Dam Memorial honoring forgotten heroes is unveiled at hydroelectric plant.

ond largest hydroelectric facility in South Korea, with a capacity of 108 million watts.

The Hwachon Dam was occupied by enemy forces during the early days of the Korean War. U.N. forces captured the Hwachon Dam with the help of the KLO, although their story has remained largely untold.

The Hwachon Dam was a critical piece of real estate during the war because of the energy it provided. President Rhee Syng-man, the first president of the Republic of Korea, encouraged then 8th Army commander Gen. James Van Fleet to take the power plant.

Van Fleet accepted this challenge and launched a series of

Continued on page 58

# Senator meets with Korean War vets

Senator Wyden meets with Korean War veterans in Mayor Mike Murphy's office in Grants Pass, Oregon (Photo by Dean Bosche)



U.S. Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) invited Korean War veterans to a meeting in the office of Grants Pass Mayor Mike Murphy in 2010, as he has done for several years. The meeting was a prelude to a town meeting to be held down the street.

Wyden began the mini-meeting by asking Department of Oregon Commander Neil McCain to open with the Pledge of Allegiance. Following that, McCain presented to the senator's group copies of the Oregon Calendar he had created. It depicts the incidents that happened in Korea from June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1953 and includes a memorial for each month honoring a service member who was killed in action that month.

McCain also presented a booklet that lists all KIAs from Oregon by county and the branch of the service in which they served and a CD which contains the calendar and the Oregon KIAs in one file. Senator Wyden asked if he could share the booklet.

McCain said, "Since I made these, and there is no copyright, I would consider it an honor for you to share them." Moreover, he suggested that Chapter 315 Chaplain Ron Duke read the Senate Bill 1877, which encourages all vets and military personnel not in uniform to salute the flag in circumstances when it is honored, e.g., during the playing of the National Anthem. The Senator agreed to the idea.

Wyden also accepted the suggestion that he read the names of the Korean War KIAs from Josephine County, as he has done in the past. Following the meeting in the mayor's office, the group walked about a half a block to the building in which the town meeting was to be held. Seats were reserved there in the front war for Korean War veterans.

Mayor Murphy introduced McCain to the 85 people in the audience. McCain asked all the veterans in the crowd to show their hands. More than half of the audience raised their hands. Next, he introduced Duke, who read the information about SB 1877.

The next person to participate was CID 315 Director Vern Beck, who has a gifted voice that all can hear without a public address system. Beck read the Pledge of Allegiance. McCain reported that he was facing the flag, which prevented him from seeing the audience directly. But, several people told him that almost all the veterans in the crowd saluted the flag. Obviously, the exposure to SB 1877 had an immediate impact on them.

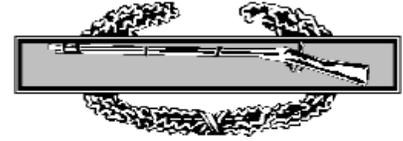
Finally, Senator Wyden read the list of KIAs from Josephine County and asked for a moment of silence in their honor. The "moment" of respect for the KIAs lasted for a full minute, which the senator ended with a heartfelt "Amen." That ended the KWVA representatives' participation, since the meeting itself was 100% politics. They simply remained in their reserved seats.

At the end of the meeting, many people came to shake our hands and thank us for our service. McCain slipped away as the Senator was leaving to thank him for the reading and remembrance. To McCain's surprise, the senator stated that he planned to read at each town meeting the names of the fallen on my list from the county in which the meeting was held. That was a significant gesture, since every one of the 36 counties in Oregon except one had suffered at least one Korean War casualty.

Neil M. McCain, 541-660-6104,  
<http://www.kwvador.com/kwvaservice.htm>

# What the CIB means to me

By Joe Langone



**"It is awarded to those who actually fought against an armed enemy of the United States in ground combat. I hope you never get the chance to win one, but if you do, you better do us, who earned it, proud."**

When I was a thirteen-year-old boy I wanted to be an infantryman. I never played cops and robbers, but I always played games mimicking the Marine infantry hitting the beaches in the South Pacific. When I turned eighteen, I joined the Army and requested an infantry company. I was soon on my way to Fort Dix, New Jersey, having been assigned to the 9th Infantry Division to do my basic training.

Back in the late 1940s, most of the Soldiers making up the U.S. Army were poor and usually had only an eighth grade education, or a few years of high school behind them. But, we had other attributes going for us. We were strong, tough, wiry, and eager to learn.

Most of us who had looked to this moment most of our young lives took to the training like ducks taking to water. We admired our sergeants and officers, as most of them were WWII veterans.

I remember the first time I saw a Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) on the dress uniform of one of our sergeants.

"What's the badge for, Sarge?" I asked one of our drill sergeants.

He just looked at me as though asking himself, "Can this kid really be this stupid?"

"It's called the Combat Infantryman Badge," he explained. "It is awarded to those who actually fought against an armed enemy of the United States in

Continued on page 70



# Korea in photos

Dr. Jasper C. Lupo's father, Jasper Lupo, served in the Signal Corps in the Korean War in 1952-1953. During that time he took over 450 color slides. Dr. Lupo has kindly agreed to let us use a few. Here they are.

If anyone can identify the people, places, and times, please let us know. Dr. Lupo was able to identify some of them, but he is still in the process of researching them. Send any information you have about the photos to Arthur G. Sharp, Photo ID Manager, 895 Ribaut Rd. #13, Beaufort, SC 29902.



Lt. Jasper Lupo



How many kids can fit into this jeep?



Mr. Johnson, Lt. Lyon, Lt. Jasper Lupo (L-R) at Chunchon



A cold, snowy landscape



Climbing the stairs to...?



Who is this lady—and what is she doing in a nice place like this?



Not your ordinary soldiers



A Korean street scene



Anyone know this lovely lady?



The building is sited perfectly for this picture



Brrr!!!



Footprints in the snow



Three Korean women



A Korean funeral?

More on page 53

## 13 BILL CARR [DE]

On 7 December 7 2010, Pearl Harbor Day, members of our Wounded Warrior Committee visited Walter Reed Army Medical Center. During this visit we presented two checks: one for \$8,000.00 was delivered to Senior Chaplain Col. Paul Buck, Operation Helping Hands. The other, for \$7,000.00, was presented to SgtMaj (Ret) Dan Bullis, Vice President for Patient Services of the Walter Reed Society.

This brings the chapter's total for 2010 to \$27,000.00. Additionally, we delivered Christmas cards, phone cards, an assortment of candy, and a collection of gifts donated by Sussex County residents and the Investors Bank of Lyndhurst, NJ, via Mr. Charles Giangeruso of the Lyndhurst NJ Police Department.



James Gonyea, Ed Johnson, Jim Wolfe, John Weidenhof, Pfc Darlington, who was wounded seriously in Afghanistan, Chaplain Paul Buck, George Goss, Chaplain Norwood, Chaplain Ko (L-R) at Ch 13's check presentation to Walter Reed Army Medical Center



James Gonyea, Treasurer of the Walter Reed Society, Ed Johnson, Pfc Darlington, SgtMaj (Ret) Dan Bullis, Vice President of Patient Services, Walter Reed Society, George Goss, John Weidenhof, Jim Wolfe (L-R), at Ch 13's check presentation for Patient Services at Walter Reed Army Medical Center

The committee members, Walter Koopman, George Goss, Jim Wolfe, Ed Johnson and John Weidenhof, completed their fourth

visit. They pay special tribute to the Reunion Group of Harrisburg, PA, Charles and Judith Egrestiz, for their generous contribution.

The Chapter Wounded Warrior Fund has contributed \$75,000.00 in cash, gift cards, and phone cards. That is in addition to the playing cards, stationery, postage stamps, back packs, socks, sweat clothes, watches, wallets, hand-held electronic games and hand-painted Tote Bags.

We are working currently on plans for the Third Annual Golf Tournament to be held in May 2011.

John W. Weidenhof, President  
26 Whitehaven Way, Lewes, DE 19958

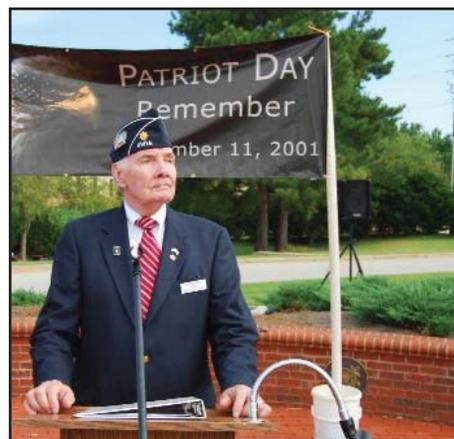
## 19 GEN RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

On Veterans Day in 2010, Secretary/Treasurer Jim Conway and President Bob McCubbins spoke at a luncheon to the Parc at Buckhead retirement center veterans and families.

Chapter President Bob McCubbins gave the featured speech at the Falcon Airfield in Peachtree City, Georgia on Patriots Day, while member Bob Moore sang "Amazing Grace" at the National Museum of Patriotism event at Centennial Olympic Park in downtown Atlanta.



Jim Conway (L) and Bob McCubbins speak to veterans and families at the Parc at Buckhead



Bob McCubbins speaks at the Falcon Airfield in Peachtree City, Georgia on Patriots Day



Bob Hendershott (L), Dr. James T. Laney (C), and Jim Conway at the doctor's 83rd birthday party in Atlanta

The Korea-Southeast Chamber of Commerce held a 83rd birthday party for Dr. James T. Laney, U.S. Ambassador to Korea during the Clinton administration.

At a Christmas service, the Reverend Byeongho Choi, of the Bethany Presbyterian Church in Marietta, presented a very generous check to chapter President Robert McCubbins.

Jim Conway, conatlanta@comcast.net



Reverend Byeongho Choi (R) presents check to Ch 19 president Robert McCubbins (L) as Col. Dae Yong Mun watches



Rev. Choi meets with Ch 19 members at Christmas service in Atlanta

## 108 WESTERN OHIO [OH]

Eight of our members make monthly visits to the VA Medical Center in Dayton, OH. We take snacks and visit the veterans on the hospice and nursing home floors.

We ask about their service, family, and treatments, and pray for them.



Ch 108 members who visit the Dayton, OH VA Medical Center (L-R) Doug and Naomi Burch; Jim and Shirley Palsgrove; Roy and Marilyn Roller, Harvey and Barb Zimmerman

## 158 WILLIAM R. CHARETTE (MOH) [FL]

For the second consecutive year, we had a Korean War display in the Winter Haven, FL library for the month of November 2010. Display items were furnished by National Secretary and chapter First VP Frank Cohee, chapter President Charles Appenzeller, DSC recipient and Department of Florida Judge Advocate Bill McCraney, and chapter members Dick Champion and Don Black.



Frank Cohee stands by his display at Polk Outpost 27 Visitor Information Center

Since Secretary Cohee is also a Diplomat of Tourism for Polk County, FL, he put up his own Korean and Vietnam War display at Polk Outpost 27 Visitor Information Center during their Veterans Day celebration from November 10-13, 2010.

Frank Cohee, fcohee@kwva.org



Ch 158's display at the Winter Haven, FL library

## 181 KANSAS #1 [KS]

Thirty five members and their ladies gathered to celebrate the holiday season with their annual Christmas lunch at the Sheraton Hotel in Overland Park, Kansas on December 4. Two nights later, the chapter gathered again at an informal social in the VFW Post in Lenexa, Kansas. Everyone had a good time at both events.

Outgoing Chapter president Don Dyer has passed the gavel to Tom Stevens, who was elected as Commander for 2011 and 2012. Tom served as a Superfortress tail gunner in Korea and flew 27 missions out of Guam.

Don Dyer, [ddyer15@everestkc.net](mailto:ddyer15@everestkc.net)



Don Dyer (R) passes gavel to incoming Ch 181 Commander Tom Stevens

## 259 CENTRAL INDIANA [IN]

Representatives of St. Vincent Heart Center of Indiana were guest speakers at our November meeting. Their well-received presentation was on the subject of a patient's choices as to medical care when near death.

Touching on a not-so-popular topic as end of life, they elaborated on duties a person should perform before reaching the state where they can not speak for themselves. Family members are often faced with hard decisions regarding life-sustaining medical care, even though there is no hope of recovery. "Advance Directives" can be prepared that will clearly state our wishes about "life supporting" medical procedures and equipment.

The importance of having written documents that instruct



Nan Gerson RN,ACM, Care Coordinator, addresses members of Ch 259 at their November meeting as chapter officers (shown seated) Planning Dir Jack Beaty, Treasurer Thomas Shepherd, Cmdr Tine Martine, Secretary Bill Ensign listen

Tine Martin, Ch 259 Commander, Susi Plough, MSN, Rev. Susan Jacques, Staff Chaplain, Laura Rushinsky, MS, CCRN, Nan Gerson, Nurse Practitioner (L-R), at November meeting



medical care staff in advance can ease some of the pain for loved ones. These directives should be readily available to hospital staffs in case of a patient who is traveling away from home. A card needs to be carried making it clear that last wishes have been declared and are in written form and properly witnessed.

Some state laws are different in regards to "last care options," but medical facilities will honor the written instructions of non-residents.

The presentation covered many aspects of these subjects to include consideration of religious beliefs, patients' knowledge of what care would be available, and the outcome of such treatment.

Members left the very informative meeting with a new sense of preparing their families and future care givers for the final arrangements that we know will be made necessary.

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

## 289 MOUNTAIN EMPIRE [TN]

On 23 November 2010, we held our fourth annual Pumpkin Pie party, at the Community Living Center (CLC) in the VA hospital in Johnson City. There was plenty of pie for patients, their visitors, and staff.



Bob Shelton (L) and Bill Reed of Ch 289 assist Santa at Johnson City, TN VA hospital

Three weeks later, on Tuesday, 14 December 2010, two of our members, along with members from other veteran service organizations, helped deliver Christmas gifts and a meal to the 225 male and 25 female residents in the domiciliary. Members had donated \$300 towards the purchase of the gifts.

Our Christmas party was planned for 16 December, but had to be canceled at the last minute because of a snow and ice storm that knocked out power to part of Kingsport.

Carol Shelton, cshelton37663@yahoo.com

## 301 FOOTHILLS [SC]



Lewis Perry, Francis Thompson, Larry Sally (L-R) of Ch 301 at the Upcountry History Museum in Greenville, SC

On November 6-7, 2010, the Upcountry History Museum in Greenville, SC hosted displays from several groups in honor of Veterans Day, including our chapter.

Three members, Lewis Perry, Francis Thompson, and Larry Sally, helped staff the tables for this two-day event.

Nell A. Thompson, Secretary  
P. O. Box 6903, Greenville, SC 29606

## 313 SHENANDOAH VALLEY [VA]

### Chapter presents gift to Gen Sharp

On 26 October 2010, while he was in Washington, DC to meet with congressional leaders and other government officials,



Lew Ewing of Ch 313 presents a gift box of apples to General Sharp at the Korean War Memorial in Washington, D. C. with Vice Commander Chuck Bachman looking on.

General Walter L. Sharp took time from his schedule to lay a wreath at the Korean War Memorial.

General Sharp, Commander U. S. Forces Korea, is the proud son of Earl Sharp, then a U. S. Army 1st Lt who fought in a number of fierce battles in the Punchbowl region during the Korean War. Whenever he is in Washington, General Sharp always insists on laying a wreath at the Memorial to honor all of the veterans of the Korean War, both living and dead.

To show our appreciation to General Sharp, and to thank him for his service to our country and for his dedication to the Korean War veterans, chapter members presented General Sharp with a gift box of delicious Virginia apples when he was at the Korean War Memorial.

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

## 316 MODESTO [CA]

We participated in different events this past year, including the election of new officers. For example, we participated in the Modesto Veterans Day Parade and we held a well-attended Christmas party.

We are grateful to all our members for their donations and help to the chapter throughout the year.

Joe Cordova, 3512 Beachler Dr.  
Modesto, CA 95356



Joe Cordova, new President of Ch 316



Secretary Judy Tarter, Past Commander Ruby Brawley, Treasurer Rex Embry (L-R) of Ch 316



1st Vice Commander Mike Stavrakakis (L) supervises chow line at Ch 316 meeting



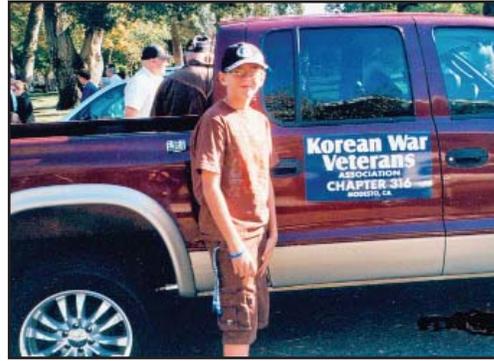
Christmas dinner at Ch 316's gathering



Past Commander Ed Schoonover (L) relaxes at Ch 316 meeting



Members of Ch 316 participate in Modesto, CA Veterans Day Parade



Kellen Cordova guards Ch 316's truck at Modesto event

## U.S. Soldier MIA from Korean War Identified

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

Army Sgt. First Class Wallace L. Slight, 24, of Yates City, Ill., was buried Dec. 3 2010 in Van Meter, Iowa. Representatives from the Army met with Slight's next-of-kin to explain the recovery and identification process, and to coordinate interment with military honors on behalf of the Secretary of the Army.

On Nov. 1, 1950, Slight was assigned to M Company, 8th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division, occupying a defensive position in North Korea, along the Nammyon River, near a bend known as the "Camel's Head." Two enemy elements attacked the 1st Cavalry Division's lines, collapsing their perimeter and forcing a withdrawal. Almost 400 men, including Slight, were reported missing or killed in action following the battle.

In 1953, a U.S. soldier captured during the same battle reported that a fellow prisoner of war had told him Slight had died on the battlefield during the attack.

Between 1991 and 1994, North Korea gave the United States 208 boxes of remains believed to contain the remains of 200-400 U.S. servicemen. North Korean documents turned over with one of the boxes indicated the remains in one of the boxes were exhumed near Unsan County, North Pyongan Province. This location correlates with the location of the 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment on Nov. 2, 1950.

Analysts from DPMO and the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) developed case leads with information spanning more than 58 years. Through interviews with eyewitnesses, experts evaluated circumstances surrounding the soldier's captivity and death and researched wartime documentation of his loss.

Among other forensic identification tools and circumstantial evidence, scientists from JPAC used dental comparisons and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory used mitochondrial DNA – which matched that of Slight's brother and half-brother—in the identification.

For additional information on the Defense Department's mission to account for missing Americans, visit the DPMO web site at [www.dtic.mil/dpmo](http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo) or call (703) 699-1420.

# El Paso Korean War Veterans Team With The Korean Community 60 Years Later

By Marshall Davis

June 25 commemorated 60 years since the beginning of the Korean War. The El Paso Korean Association, with their visionary president, Doug Park, led the way by discovering the availability and acquiring a group of 100 photographs documenting the experience of Korea from the end of WWII in August 1945 to the cease fire and repatriation of prisoners of war in Korea, July, 1953.

The pictures are provided by the Museum of the Korean War in Seoul, Korea. With El Paso being one of the first showings of the pictures, they are continuing to tour and appear in exhibits set up by Korean community associations across the country.



The interior entrance to the El Paso photo exhibit

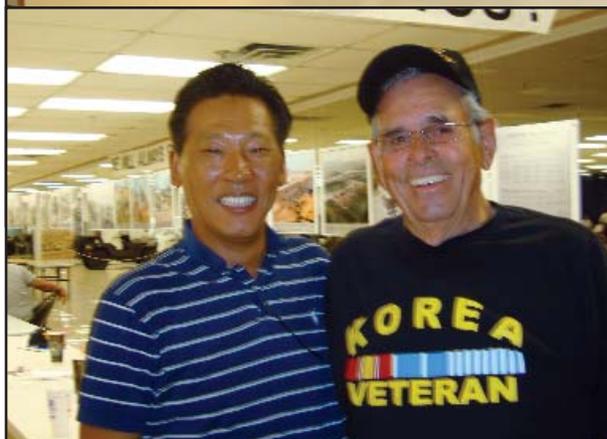
Early in his planning, Doug Park, the Korean Association president, contacted Roy Aldridge, who is Dept of Texas KWVA president and president of the Colonel Joseph C. Rodriguez MOH chapter (CID 249) here in El Paso. As a team, the two groups obtained the use of and support of the staff at the First Armored Division Museum on Fort Bliss and set up the exhibit for showing June 24, 25 and 26.

The museum has a large display area and a presentation area with seating and audio and video capabilities. Starting with a color guard, the opening and closing ceremonies were blessed by the choir of the El Paso Korean Baptist Church singing the national anthems of the US and the Republic of Korea and a most popular Korean folk song.

The opening on Thursday, June 24, honored Fort Bliss officials and local dignitaries. At the closing ceremony on Saturday, June 26, we were honored by the Korean Consul General from Houston, Yun-Soo Cho, and



The banner that hung outside the Museum of the Korean War in Seoul



ABOVE: A few of the pictures from Korea in El Paso

LEFT: El Paso Korean Association President Doug Park and CID 249 President Roy Aldridge

the presentation of over 40 medals and plaques of appreciation to Korean war veterans who were present. A standing-room only crowd of over 200 people witnessed the event.

Korean war veterans were further honored Saturday evening as guests of the El Paso Korean Association for a formal dinner at the Centennial Club, on Fort Bliss.

Reach Marshall Davis at 3831 Hillcrest Dr., El Paso, TX 79902-1706, 915-351-9139, Cell: 915-479-4812, 2dents@sbcglobal.net



RIGHT: Cold in Korea in a picture at El Paso

# ARMISTICE DA

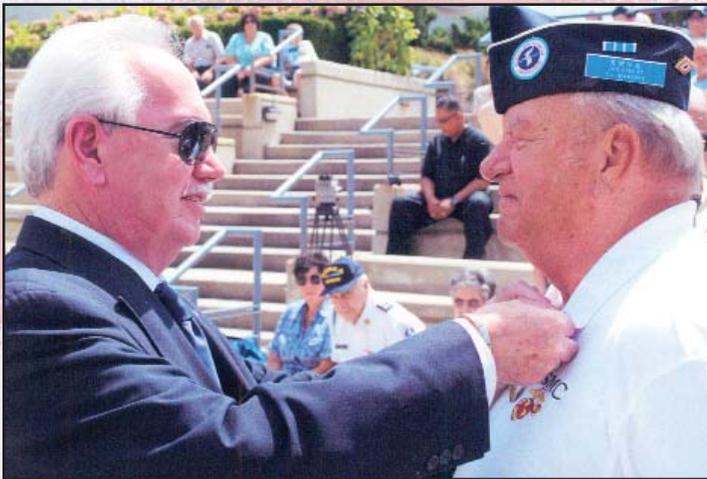
## Ceremony held in Atlantic City NJ

A large crowd attended a Korean War Memorial Commemoration at Atlantic City, NJ on July 27th, 2010. Three wreaths were placed at the Memorial Wall, where the names of all 900 New Jersey veterans who died in the war were honored.

The ceremony included the presentation of medals to some attendees, including Ch 53, Union County [NJ] President Joseph Specht, who received the New Jersey Korean War Service Medal.



A mélange of medals waiting for recipients



Sgt Joseph Specht, USMC, President of Ch 53, receives medal at Atlantic City commemoration

George Bruzgis, KWVA Department of New Jersey State Commander, and a member of Ch 170, Taejon, worked hard and for long hours putting the program together to make it the success it was.

Guest speakers included Kevin J. O'Toole, New Jersey State Senator from the 40th District, and Assemblyman Gordon M. Johnson, 37th District.

Michelle Mooney, NBC Channel 40 anchorwoman, sang the National Anthem and "God Bless America."

Michelle Mooney, NBC Channel 40 anchorwoman, sings U.S. National Anthem at Atlantic City



Joseph Specht (back right) with his family at Atlantic City July 27th event and Richard Alexander (standing center), Ch 53 member, in background



Richard Alexander (standing at right) with his family and friends at Atlantic City

This report is a compilation of contributions from Martin Frances Farricker, Sr., 15 Clay Circle, Brick, NJ 08724, 732-840-4062, and Louis Quagliero, 142 Illinois Ave., Paterson, NJ 07503-1638, 973-279-6402

# Y CEREMONIES



Veterans and guests “remember” at New Jersey Armistice Day event (Photo courtesy of Richie Alexander)



A large poster announcing the Atlantic City commemoration

Below, Dr. Richard Onorevole, Commander of Ch 170, delivers the Invocation and Benediction at Atlantic City



Bugler plays Taps at Atlantic City, NJ Wall of Honor on 27 July



“Taps” is played at the New Jersey Memorial Wall



Richie Alexander remembers his friend Terry Boyle, who was KIA on T-Bone in March 1953. Boyle was a medic with the 7th Div. He received the Silver Star for his heroic actions



New Jersey State Commander George Bruzgis and Michelle Mooney share a light moment at Atlantic City

More ➤



Some of the Ch 170 members at the New Jersey 60th Anniversary ceremony



Korean dancers perform for guests, including some 200 veterans, at San Francisco event

## San Francisco

The Consulate General of the Republic of Korea, San Francisco, sponsored a 60th Anniversary commemoration dinner on 24 June 2010. As Consul General Jeong Gwan Lee wrote in his invitation to guests, "This event has been planned as one of various Korean Government's commemoration programs promoted under the theme of remembrance and legacy; honor and gratitude; friendship and cooperation."

Attendee Stanley J. Grogan of Ch 264 noted that, "This particular 60th Anniversary celebration was a resounding success. The program and dinner were enjoyed by all."

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

Consul General Jeong Gwan Lee makes a point at San Francisco 60th Anniversary commemoration



Consul General Jeong Gwan Lee, looking at camera, with guests including Lynn Woolsey (D-CA), Anna Eshoo (D-CA), Leland Yee (California State Senator), and John Stevens, KWVA member

Below, scenes of Korea (1950-53) on display in San Francisco



BGen Daehyon Jung, ROK Army, Director, Center of Military History, Army HQ, P.O. Box 501-22, Gyeongju Chungnam ROK (L), and Stanley J. Grogan pose at San Francisco gathering

## Minnesota veterans gather

**M**innesota veterans and others gathered on 19 June 2010 on the Capitol Plaza at the Minnesota State Capitol in St. Paul to commemorate the start of the Korean War.

Chairman Tom Clawson and members of the South Korean Association in Minnesota headed the event.

Blair C. Rumble, 969 Lombard Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105



Korean delegation places flowers at the Korean War Memorial in St. Paul, MN



Local USMC Color Guard at the Minnesota 60th Anniversary event



Larry Gaga, first recognized President of the Minnesota Korean War Association



The Korean Presbyterian Church Choir sings at the Minnesota State Capitol



Dignitaries at the Minnesota Korean War Anniversary event (L-R) MN Lt Gov Carol Molnau, Minnesota Korean War Veterans President Ed Valle, Master of Ceremonies and former broadcaster Stan Turner, Deputy Commissioner of Programs and Services, Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs, Reggie Worlds, Pastor Yong Ok Son, Deputy Commissioner General (Chicago) Young Yong Lee, Past VFW State Commander Stan Kowalski, Korean Consulate General (Chicago) Stephan S. Huh

## Chicago

**T**he South Suburban and Greater Chicago Chapter members got together in downtown Chicago to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the start of the Korean War.

Arnold Feinberg, 8916 Leslie Drive, Orland Hills, IL 60487



Wreath laying ceremony at Eternal Flame in Chicago: Ch 23 Commander Arnold Geinberg, Consul General Chul Huh, 11th Ward Alderman James Balcer, Ch 25 Commander Leonard DeFabio

More ➤



Members of Ch 23 (L-R) at Chicago 60th Anniversary commemoration: Gerald Grohn, Jerry Arnold, Art Schultz



Ch 23 drill team led by Color Guard Commander Bill Minnich

### 33 – MARYLAND [MD]

Shortly before 10 a.m., on July 27 – Korean War Armistice Day –, the colorfully dressed Korean ladies finished their pre-program choral concert by singing “Arirang” and “God Bless America.” Chapter 33’s Honor Guard was ready for its participation in the yearly commemoration ceremony at the Korean War Veterans Memorial on the National Mall in Washington DC.

With solemn dignity and well-practiced movements, the Honor Guard presented the colors, creating the proper mood for the KWVA members and several hundred other spectators, most of whom needed no reminder, and some of whom were barely aware of the Korean War.

By the end of the ceremony, the Korean and U.S. national anthems had been played and a variety of speakers had recounted their ties to the war and its veterans. Among the speakers was South Korea’s ambassador, His Excellency Duk-soo Han. The closing MIA ceremony, which included a bagpiper, left some of the viewers in tears.

Then, our Honor Guard led a procession of the speakers and other officials, followed by foreign military attachés in uniform, along the Curb of Nations, where the national flags of the United Nations countries had been planted next to the name of each nation that had participated in the UN’s defense of South Korea. Here, each attaché carefully placed his wreath and then saluted. The bugler played Taps – and the floral tribute program ended.

Early in the afternoon, the Honor Guard was present at Arlington



Ch 33 Honor Guard marches past large crowd during Armistice Day ceremony



Honor Guard from Ch 33 serves at Washington DC Armistice Day event

National Cemetery for the more somber memorial ceremony at the Korean War Veterans’ Meditation Bench, close to the Tomb of the Unknowns and the Amphitheater. A key part of the event involved veterans, as they stepped forward to lovingly lay roses upon the bench.

Honor Guard member Sam Fielder read his poem, “Remembrance,” which visibly touched many of the viewers, who included veterans, their family members, and tourists. Afterward, a French army officer told Sam how much he had been moved by the poem.

The annual Armistice Day commemoration ceremony is sponsored by the Korean War Veterans Foundation, whose Executive Board is responsible for overseeing the Monument. The Foundation’s Armistice Day Committee is responsible for planning, conducting, and financing the activities.

In addition to providing the Honor Guard, Chapter 33 members have assisted in much of the Committee’s work, alongside other Korean War veterans in the metropolitan Washington DC area. The Committee is now evaluating the program and will embody the results in their current plans for future Armistice commemorations through 2013; volunteers are most welcome.

Readers can see, and download, a copy of the Monument photograph shown on the cover of the July 27 official program handout. It is the same photo that was used by the U.S. Postal Service on seventy-five million first-class postage stamps issued to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Korean War Armistice on July 27, 2003. Go to [www.WilliamEdwardAlli.com](http://www.WilliamEdwardAlli.com)

Bill Alli, [BillAlli39@Verizon.net](mailto:BillAlli39@Verizon.net)

## 56 – VENTURA COUNTY [CA]

**W**e celebrated the 57th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice on 24 July at our monument in Santa Paula. Fifteen members of the Korean Veterans Association, Western Region of the United States of America, from Los Angeles, CA, attended.

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



Korean and U.S. veterans of the Korean War unite once again at Ch 56's Armistice Day commemoration



Members of Ch 56 fold the "Stars and Stripes" at their July 27th commemoration



The Ch 56 Rifle Squad participates in the Korean War Armistice Day event



Commander Kim Hae Soung of the Korean Veterans Association speaks to the crowd at Santa Paula commemoration as Ch 56 Commander David Lopez looks on

## 142 – KOREAN WAR VETERANS [MD]

**O**n July 24th, we held the 60th Commemoration of the Korean War at our local Korean Monument in War Memorial Park. We were honored to have as our Guest Speaker, Col William E. Weber, who is also a member of CID 142.

Col Weber reminded those in attendance at the ceremony that, "We were sent to save South Korea and by God Almighty, that's what we did." We had several people comment that they learned more about the Korean War from the Colonel's Speech than they did from any book or other person.

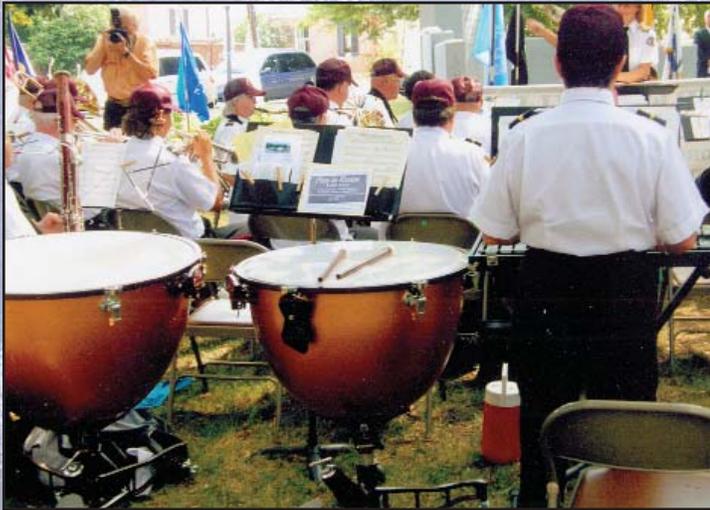
We had both state and county officials in attendance, along with family and friends. The chapter received a Proclamation from both the



COL William E. Weber, guest speaker at Ch 142's Armistice Day event (Photo by Anthony Malavenda)



Edward Chow, MD State Secretary of Veterans Affairs, addresses crowd at Ch 142's July 27th commemoration (Photo by Anthony Malavenda)



**Rohersville Band, conducted by Holley Feathers, provides music at Frederick, MD Armistice Day gathering (Photo by Anthony Malavenda)**

Governor's Office (presented by State Secretary of Veterans' Affairs Edward Chow) and the Frederick City Mayor's office (presented by Alderman Shelley Alo) in recognition of this day.

Also, we had the Rohersville Band, the oldest community band in the State of Maryland, providing its outstanding renditions of military music and salutes.

Bob Eader, c/o P. O. Box 1647, Frederick, MD 21702

**187 – WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS 2000 [MA]**

**W**e observed the 60th anniversary of the start of the Korean War on 25 June. The event was held at the Korean War Memorial at Court Square in Springfield. Chapter Commander Richard Reopel led the ceremonies. Guest speakers included Congressman Richard Neal (D-MA) and Springfield Mayor Domenic Sarno. (All photos courtesy of chapter member Nick Flannery)

James K. Stathis, 42 Pine Grove Dr., South Hadley, MA 01075



**Commander Richard Reopel of Ch 187 addresses gathering at Court Square**



**Congressman Richard Neal delivers remarks to Ch 187 event**



**Springfield, MA Mayor Domenic Sarno talks to crowd at 60th Anniversary commemoration**



**Prayers are offered at the Springfield, MA 60th Anniversary ceremony**



**Ch 187 members render a salute at Springfield MA to remember 25 June 1950**

## 312 – ANTIETAM [MD]

**O**n June 26th, 2010, we sponsored a remembrance event commemorating the 60th anniversary of the start of the Korean War. The event was held in the Kepler Theater on the campus of Hagerstown Community College. It was an extensive program that included displays and exhibits prior to the main program, as well as period and patriotic music performed by the local Rohrersville Band.

Among the displays, there was a collection of photo posters depicting Korea in the 1950s provided by the KWVA of Washington. Prior to the main program, we were presented with several proclamations from various governmental offices, including a certificate and letter from U. S. Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) and proclamations from the Maryland Senate sponsored by State Senator Don Munson and Hagerstown Mayor Bob Bruchey. Later in the main program, a proclamation was also received from Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley.



The display at Ch 312's presentation that summarized the Korean War



Les Bishop, Julianne Albowicz (representing Sen. Mikulski), Mayor Bob Bruchey, Sondra Funk (representing Sen. Munson), Ch. 312 Commander Wayne Winebrenner at Hagerstown, MD event

The main program included an overview of the Korean War, which was read by Commander Wayne Winebrenner, a video message from President Lee Myung Bak, two featured speakers, a taekwondo demonstration, and a memorial service honoring those who were killed in action from Washington County, Maryland.

The program, which required months of planning, was aided significantly by the Defense Attaché staff of the Republic of Korea Embassy in Washington DC.

The opening part of the program included the presentation of the colors by our Color Guard and the singing of the United States and Korean national anthems. We were honored that Maj. Kyungchan Roh, Assistant



President Tae Ha Lee of Korean War Veterans Association of Washington and colleague at Ch 312's commemoration



Edward J. Chow, Jr., BGen Kook Kwan Kim, Maj Kyungchan Roh (L-R) in Hagerstown, MD



BGen Kim addresses attendees at Ch 312's 60th Anniversary Commemoration

Defense Attaché, sang the Korean national anthem.

Our two featured speakers were Mr. Edward J. Chow, Jr., the Maryland Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and BG Kook Kwan Kim, Defense Attaché from the Korean Embassy. Both speakers paid tribute to the Korean War veterans and thanked them for their service.

The program closed with a moving tribute to the 31 men from Washington County who lost their lives during the Korean War. As each name was called, a bell was rung in their memory. An Honor Guard from the local AMVETS presented a wreath; the program closed with the somber echo Taps.

There were well over 200 people in attendance, and the program was well covered by the local press and television. Our chapter is only in its third year of operation, and is very proud to have been able to sponsor such an extensive program.

Les Bishop, P.O. Box 868, Funkstown, MD 21734

# Members in the NEWS



## John Drescher

The Membership Chairman of Chapter 59 Northeast New York, Mr. John Drescher, finally received his long overdue medals. The Ceremony was held following an annual breakfast sponsored by the Rensselaer County, NY Veterans Service Agency.

It was also Mr. Drescher's 80th birthday. What a wonderful way for him to celebrate.

*James Busher, Second VP, Jbushers2@aol.com*



John Drescher of Ch 59 receives his medals from the Rensselaer County Executive Kathleen Jimino

## Edward R. Fellabaum, Jr.

Edward R. Fellabaum, Jr., the Secretary of CID 70, Ohio Valley, was inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame in Columbus, Ohio in a 5 November 2010 ceremony. (There are quite a few Korean War veterans in this listing since 1992.)

Fred McGee, who served in Korea with the U.S. Army, where



Ohio Director of Veterans Services Bill Hartnett (Korean War U. S. Navy veteran), Edward R. Fellabaum, Jr., Ohio Governor Ted Strickland (L-R) at Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame ceremony



Bill Hartnett, Edward R. Fellabaum's family, Governor Strickland, Fred McGee (L-R) at Fellabaum's induction ceremony

he earned a Silver Star and a Purple Heart, sponsored Fellabaum. McGee is also a member of Chapter 70.

Fellabaum earned the privilege of 'riding' in the Veterans Day Parade in Columbus. He marched in that same parade with the Lead Color Guard of Gahanna Ohio VFW Post 4719 in 1970.

The ceremony ended with the appearance of General Colin Powell, who greeted and saluted each participant. It was quite a day for a 'coal miner's kid' from Powhatan Pt., Ohio. (The ceremony video can be viewed at the website for the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame - Class of 2010; individual photo bios can also be viewed.)

## Hershell E. Lee

Hershell E. Lee placed a holiday wreath in memory of those who served and are serving in the United States Air Force at an 11 December 2010 ceremony at Danville [IL] National Cemetery.

He noted that, "Since this program started several years ago, I have presented a wreath on behalf of the United States Air Force. I have always felt it an honor to honor all those that are buried at the VA National Cemetery in Danville. It always takes place each year at the same time across America."



Hershell Lee presents wreath at ceremony in Danville, IL

The Danville program was part of the “Wreaths Across America” program. The ceremony—and Lee—were featured in the local *Commercial-News* newspaper.

### Chapter 317, Sgt. Billy Freeman, celebrates KWVA charter

The Rome [GA] News featured Ch 317 in an article written by Lydia Senn, titled “Local war veterans to celebrate charter.” Senn quoted chapter Commander Charles Patterson, who told her, “They call it the forgotten war,” but the men who spent months of their lives away from family and friends fighting have not forgotten their time spent in Korea.

Korean War veteran Jim Mehaffey explained that the KWVA charter says that what the men did in Korea mattered. “We feel like now we’ve got a rightful place in history,” he said.



A celebration of Ch 317’s charter receipt (L-R) Houe Lee, President, Southeastern Korean Association, Holly Strewn, chapter’s attorney, Wilson H. Adams, Historian, Charles W. Patterson, Commander



A crowd assembles for Ch 317’s charter celebration (L-R) Officers J.W. Bowen (Secretary); Charles W. Patterson (Commander); Holly Strewn, Wilson H. Adams (Historian); Richard M. Prater (1st Vice-Commander); George Wallace, Jr. (Chaplain/Treasurer); Jim Mehaffey (Adjutant); Bill Burchett (Trustee); Jack Burchett (Trustee); Richard W. Kelley (2nd Vice-Commander)

### Ron DeVore visits Washington

Gulf War veteran Jerry Emmitt drove Ron DeVore and his wife Joyce from their home in Barren County, Kentucky to Washington DC. There, they met Ron’s daughter, Michele Phillips, and grandson Jamie, who flew up from Tampa, Florida to join them to attend the 60th anniversary of the Korean War, 24-27 July 2010.



Jerry Emmitt, Michele Phillips, Brett Guthrie, Ron DeVore, Jamie Phillips (L-R) at United States Capitol Building Balcony overlooking the Presidential Inaugural Portico



LEFT: Ron and Joyce DeVore, stand in front of Ron’s image on the Korean War Memorial during 60th Anniversary ceremonies

BELOW: Mrs. Han Buk-soo, wife of South Korean Ambassador, graciously poses with Jamie Phillips

Ron is honored to have been chosen to have his image etched on the wall of the Korean War Memorial.

Brett Guthrie, 2nd District Kentucky Congressman, generously gave Ron, Joyce, Michele, Jamie and Jerry a personally guided tour of the historic United States Capitol Building and the White House. They felt as though they were walking in the steps of giants.



Ron DeVore, 17 Buena Vista Estates Cave City, KY 42127, mikki800@yahoo.com

Continued on page 52

Visit the Korean War Veterans Association Website:  
[www.KWVA.org](http://www.KWVA.org)



# Monuments and Memorials

Korea: the Forgotten War, Remembered

## 137 – MAHONING VALLEY [OH]

### Austintown, OH



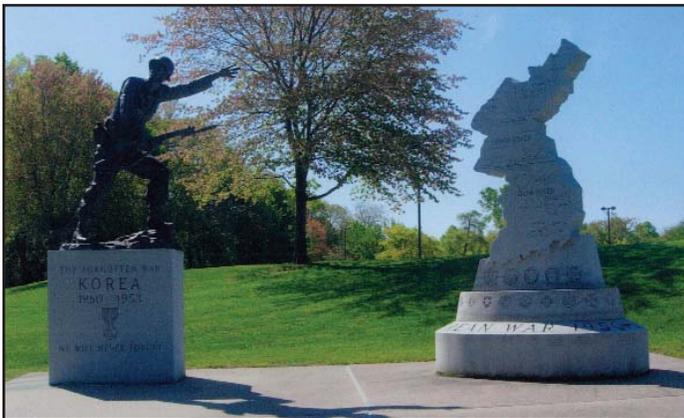
The KWVA Memorial in Austintown, OH, courtesy of Ch 137

This Memorial is in Austintown, OH, thanks to Chapter 137. There are 122 names of KIAs etched on it.

*Joan Onstott, 3022 ST RT 59 Lot E-6  
Ravenna, OH 44266-1673*

### Hauppauge, NY

One of the first monuments in the State of New York dedicated to Korean War veterans is in Hauppauge, NY. The monument, funded by Suffolk County residents, was unveiled there at the Armed Forces Plaza on the Veterans Memorial Highway.



A view of the Hauppauge, NY monument

Members of Ch 64, Central Long Island, coordinated the event.

### Washington, DC

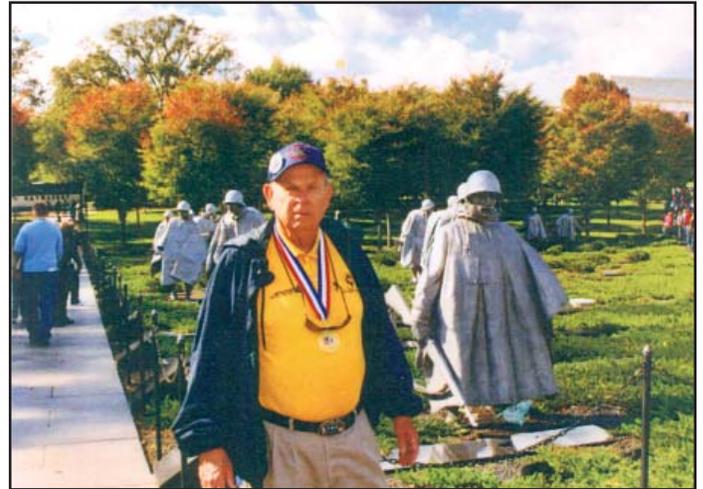
#### A veteran of such patrols

I may have told you before I was only 12 years old when Pearl Harbor was attacked and 15 when the war ended. However,

because we school kids gathered scrap iron, aluminum, copper and steel and pooled it for pick up to be made into some type war material, that allowed my family to become Charter members of the WWII monument. (I carry this card with pride).

I understand there are only about 830,000 Charter Members in the country out of a population of over 300,000,000. So it was a great honor to pull up and see my name on the screen on the computer when we visited Washington D.C.

We first toured the WWII Monument. It is so large the crowd seemed small. We spent much time there. Then, we moved on to the Korean War Monument, where the crowd was much larger. The difference in daytime and back at night is unexplainable. I have never seen anyone leave it with dry eyes.



Leroy Rogers at Korean War Memorial in Washington DC

When we went back at night on a cold, rainy, foggy October evening and saw the images on the large wall, the scene just blew my feeble mind. A young man was leading a tour group and telling his version of the Memorial. Being an insurance agent for almost 53 years, I asked the young man if I might say a few words. The crowd got deathly quiet.

I told the crowd to look at the expressions on the faces of the images and try to recognize their problem, as I could! They were caught in a minefield, just like we got caught one night and we were scared to death! One cannot explain this unless they have seen it, in my opinion.

Cameras started flashing and several people in the group asked questions. The whole thing kind of embarrassed my wife, Fay and our son Phil and his wife. But, I just knew how much more meaning it would have coming from one who had been there.

Lastly, I would like to thank the senders of the many responses I received via, emails, phone calls and snail mail from my question in the Jan/Feb 2010 issue of *The Graybeards*, p.61,

about whether the Second Division left the states as a unit. I was told they did. However, I got different opinions re: the wearing of the patch in combat.

*M. Leroy Rogers, 413 Belle Meade Dr.  
Maryville, TN 37803-6701, 865-982-6030  
LeroyRogersUSA@hotmail.com*

## Chosin Reservoir Memorial dedicated in St. Louis, MO

On 2 October 2010, the Gateway Chapter of the Chosin Few and KWVA CID 44, Missouri #1, dedicated a memorial to honor all troops that fought the Battle of the Chosin Reservoir. The monument is a four-foot by four-foot black granite stone with one side cut to represent the side of a mountain. The son of one of our members was the guest speaker, LtCol John Caruso, USMC (Ret). More than 275 people attended the dedication.

The memorial is located in Forest Park, near the Jewel Box and the Korean War Memorial, a highly visited location in St. Louis. The memorial is built on the site of the first Korean War Memorial built in the U.S., which was destroyed by a Vietnam protester in late 1960. That memorial was dedicated by the Mayor of St. Louis on July 2, 1951.

The owner of the Korean House Hangoon Kwan restaurant, Jay Kim, and his son Han Kim, provided a lunch after the ceremony "To honor the people who saved his country from communism."

The Chosin Few Memorial was designed and built by The Chosin Few Gateway Chapter President, Harry Hope, who is also Vice Commandant of CID 44.

*Harry Hope, 13040 Ambois Dr.  
Creve Coeur, MO 63141, 314-878-6936*



**ABOVE:** Officers of the Gateway Chapter, Chosin Few at the St. Louis Memorial dedication (L-R) Harry Hope (President), Bob Neubert (Secretary), Nick Zak (Treasurer), Jim Hellman (VP) pose showing the backside of the memorial.

**RIGHT:** The front of the St. Louis Chosin Few Memorial



**ABOVE:** Side view of the St. Louis Chosin Few Memorial



**LEFT:** The first Korean War Memorial site in St. Louis



Guest and attendees at St. Louis Memorial dedication (L-R) Tom Boyer, Joe King, Larry Hickey, Joe Caruso, Charles Stockhausen, Jim Hellmann, Harry Hope, Don Gutmann, George Klenk, Bob Wootten, Nick Zak, Ken Mertz, Harry Thompson, Forest O'Neal, Bob Neubert, Elmer Dapron, Bill Schulte, Mike Flowers, Bob Nicholas (In front, in chairs) Gene Snyder, George Stumm (Not shown) Leon Kielhofner, Gene Mika, Bits Paillou, Milton Sonoerman, Russ Ziegler

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# Christmas 2010

## 19 - GEN. RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

At our annual Christmas party, we had two interesting and informative speakers. Gunny Sgt. Stephen Cahn represented the Marine Corps Toys For Tots Program, and Ms. Merrily Baird,

former CIA operative agent, informed us on the comings and goings of the North Korean top brass, Kim Chong-il and his son, Kim Chong-un.

We also had the pleasure of watching President Kenneth Fannon present an award to Life Associate Member Burlin Cantrell. As of December 2010, Burlin has taken part in 1,872

military funerals. This is a sign of true patriotism.

Dallas Shell  
9902 Coeburn Mountain Road  
Wise, VA 24293



Sgt Cahn with Ch 19 members (L-R) Edwin Johnson, Jack Robinson, James Hoover



Merrily Baird informs Ch 19 members about North Korean events

## 250 - CHARLES B. THACKER [VA]

Like everyone else, we had to battle the weather but still had good attendance for our annual Christmas Dinner. We had an attractive and efficient waitress, Jessica Hill, to treat us and take

care of our needs at Prime Sirloin in Norton, VA. As usual, the food was delicious and, as veterans, we were treated with respect by all those in the restaurant.



Jessica Hill, the efficient waitress at Prime Sirloin who served Ch 250 members at their Christmas party



Members of Ch 250 and guests at their Christmas party

## 251 - SAGINAW/FRANKENMUTH [MI]

We held our annual Christmas Party on 8 December 2010. A total of 92 people, including KWVA members, wives or lady friends, enjoyed an All-You-Can-Eat Chicken Dinner at Zehnders Restaurant in Frankenmuth, Michigan.

Additionally, we conducted a food drive for the needy. Members Bob Simon, Don Hart and Bob Wodarak delivered 552 lbs. of non-perishable food to the Hidden Harvest Soup Kitchen in

Saginaw to feed the needy people.

The highlight of the evening was a group called "Gemutlichkeit Verein." They sang about ten Christmas songs in German. The audience would sing verses 2 and 3 and they sang the remaining verses in German. (They had us swinging!)

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



Bob Wodarak, who personally donated over 200 lbs. of food for Ch 251's non-perishable food drive



"Gemutlichkeit Verein" sings at Ch 251's Christmas party



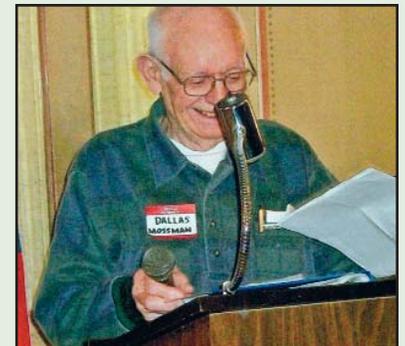
Bob Simon, Co-founder, Past Commander, and current Public Relations Director of Ch 251, emcees chapter's Christmas party



Don and Caroline Hart (front) traveled 130 miles to attend Ch 251's Christmas party



Dallas Mossman, Ch 251's POW/MIA Representative, speaks at the chapter's Christmas party



**MEMBERS** from page 47

**Martin J. Goge receives KWVA President's Award**

Martin J. Goge, a member of Chapter 142, Col. William E. Weber, Frederick, MD, received a President's Award from KWVA National President, William F. Mac Swain. Chapter Commander Kenneth Davis presented the award at the December 8, 2010 chapter meeting.



Kenneth Davis (R), Commander of Ch 142, presents plaque to Marty Goge

The rest of the chapter offers its congratulations to Marty.

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



The plaque presented to Marty Goge of Ch 142

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- 4—12 Aug WWII Guadalcanal Post Tours: Fiji & Tarawa
- 4—15 Aug Military Adventure Dive & History Tour of Guadalcanal Dive Iron Bottom Sound
- 10—18 Sep WWII 67<sup>th</sup> Anniv Battle of Peleliu
- 15—25 Sep WWII Eastern Front Russia
- 27 Aug—10 Sep VN "Saigon to DMZ"
- 27 Aug—8 Sep VN I Corps
- ★ 8 - 13 Dec WWII 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Wake Island, Pearl Harbor & Guam

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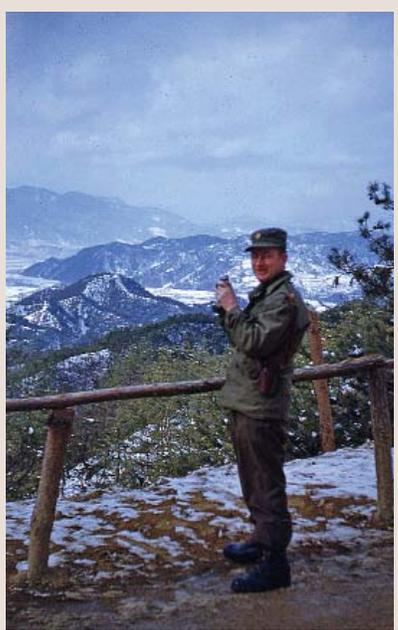
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## Korea in Photos (continued from page 31)



Lt. Lyon getting the picture?



ABOVE: Is that a real animal? BELOW: Seoul City Hall in winter



Lt. Jasper Lupo

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

# Tell America

## The Tell America Honor Roll

Since the beginning of the Tell America Honor Roll of KWVA chapters in the September-October magazine, I have heard from several chapters that have Tell America programs active that I didn't know about. I am very

pleased to add the following chapters to the list of those who very definitely are making a difference in their communities. At this point, 91 of the 237 active chapters have working Tell America programs.

Chapter	State	Representative
12 Capt Paul Dill	Delaware	Samuel T. Riebel Jr.
13 Bill Carr	Delaware	Edward J. Johnson
19 Gen. Ray Davis	Georgia	Robert McCubbins
82 Albuquerque	New Mexico	Jerry Chapman
84 Iron Triangle	Oregon	Jim Leiper
89 Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Harold Mulhausen
112 Lake Erie	Ohio	Steve Szekeley
123 Locust Grove	Virginia	Angelo Lavaiona
142 Col. William H. Weber	Maryland	Ken Davis
164 Dale H Williams	Michigan	Harry Nelson
191 Tidewater	Virginia	Clyde Laudermilk
192 Crystal River	Florida	Hank Butler
283 Columbia County	New York	John Neary
308 Tri County	Indiana	Edward Bailey Jr.
311 H. Edward Reeves	Arizona	John McKinney

In addition we have individual Korean vets who are not affiliated with a chapter but do make presentations to their local schools. Those that I have heard from who are actively conducting Tell America programs in the schools are Tom Keller, Lakewood, Colorado, and Carl Cramer, Newburg, Pennsylvania.

I feel certain there are other individuals and chapters that I don't know about, and I would very much like to add your name to this list. I would appreciate hearing from any chapter or individual KWVA member that is not listed here and who is making presentations about the Korean War to schools or communities.

### We are out of books

To everyone interested in the books "Korean War: Education for Students," developed and published by the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs in South Korea:

In the September-October issue of *The Graybeards*, I mentioned that we had the books and I would send them out to chapters to use in the schools for their Tell America programs. Thanks to all who asked for the books, and who were willing to pay postage, the books have been sent out.

Unfortunately, we do not have any more books at this time. We have contacted the South Korean

Embassy and asked for more. At this point, we don't know if more will be available, but I am accumulating names of those people

who want them, and I will call if we get them.

Larry Kinard,  
National Tell America Chairman

## 30 - INDIANA CHAPTER ONE [IN]

Our Tell America program has gotten off to a great start. Lynn Shady, our Chairman, has a great program with a great group of veterans. As of Thanksgiving 2010, they had visited 5 schools for a total of 3,554 students.

Blackhawk Middle School has hosted us each year. Twenty-three veterans were there, all in uniform, representing several wars, including WWII, the Korean War, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Afghanistan, and Iraq. They took



23 veterans tell their stories at Blackhawk Middle School in Fort Wayne, IN



Tell America participants from Ch 30 take part in the flag raising ceremony at Jefferson Middle School (L-R) Ron Barnhart, Lynn Shady, Unknown, Mel Franke, Carl Fowler, Unknown, Lyn (?), Cletus Rumschlag, two unknown Vietnam vets. Seated is Ch 30 Commander Ken Roemke

part in the school's Americanism Day, narrated their war experiences, and answered students' questions.

Members also appeared at Jefferson Middle School, where they helped with a flag raising ceremony. Later, they gave presentations to the students in their classrooms.

Lynn Shady presented an American flag to Principal Caywood at Holland Elementary

School as part of the veterans' appearance there.

Members started more visits to different schools after the holidays. The students really enjoy the veterans—as the veterans do them. Both the students and the veterans especially seem to enjoy the question part of the program.

Mary Anna Roemke  
Publicity Director  
P. O. Box 15102  
Fort Wayne, IN 46885



Lynn Shady, Ch 30 Tell America Chairman, presents an American flag to Holland Elementary School Principal M. Caywood



Members of Ch 30 being honored at Blackhawk Middle School (L-R) Don Barnhart, John Dalman, Ed Hagadorn, Bernie Huesing, Dave Martin, Bud Mendenhall, Ken Roemke, Harold Schick, Lynn Shady, Bernard Wisniewski, Elise Olsen

### 54 - THOMAS W. DALEY, JR. [NJ]

Members of our chapter visited schools on Nov. 10, 11, 12, and 15 2010. We presented our "Tell America" program to the delight of the students and the faculties at Williamstown HS, Triton HS, Haddonfield Middle School, and Voorhees Middle School.

The nearby attachments are a small part of the many letters we received from the students and the faculty of the schools.

Andy Jackson, Commander,  
jacksonx@erols.com

Dear Veteran,

On behalf of the students, faculty and staff at Triton High School, thank you for attending our Veterans Day program and for your continued service to our country.

Sincerely,

Alicia Ford and Rebecca Vives  
History Club Advisors  
Social Studies Department  
Triton Regional High School

Thanks to the Tell America reps of Ch 54 from Triton High

*Thank you, Thank you,  
Thank you!*

*Thank you for serving our  
Nation...*

*Thank you for Sacrificing so  
much...*

*Thank you for preserving our  
freedom...*

*Thank you for Sharing  
your experience!*

*Special*

*It was a  
privilege to  
meet you,  
Happy  
Veteran's Day!*

*With Gratitude,  
Miss Wistleridge's  
Social Studies Classes*

A sample of the "Thank You" letters students sent to Ch 54 for Tell America presentations

## 142 - COLONEL WILLIAM E. WEBER [MD]



Bob Mount, Ch 142, with Mrs. Bernard's class at Oakdale High School (Richard Toms' is pictured in the inset)

We visited four Frederick County Schools in 2010, most recently at Oakdale High School, where our friend Coleen Bernard teaches. Mrs. Bernard started her first Veterans Club ten years ago under the Korean War 50th anniversary program and has had a veterans club every year since. This has brought the program to three schools, and we

have worked with her every year.

Richard Toms and Bob Mount spoke to 12 classes at Oakdale High School, which shows that the program is expanding beyond Mrs. Bernard's classes to those of her associates.

We had the added pleasure of speaking to students in the Kim Korean Language school in Olney,

MD. These students are the children of Korean-Americans. They attend regular classes during the week and Korean Language classes on Saturday. The school invites Korean War veterans and their direct descendents to attend the language classes without charge. It was tempting, but none of the speakers signed up.

Our program is expanding.

Thanks to the efforts of fellow member Bob Miles, we are beginning to display information, and talk about the Korean War in Senior Centers around Frederick County, Maryland.

*Richard L. Martin  
Publicity Chairman  
8113 Glendale, Dr.  
Frederick, MD 21702-2921*

## 199 - MANASTOTA [FL]

Members attended a ceremony at Bradenton River Middle School, in Bradenton, FL on 10 November 2010. The school welcomes all veterans to this ceremony, at which 1,000 students gather in a large open courtyard.

A significant number of dignitaries, politicians, and members

of the media attend as well.

Our chapter donates \$500 to this school to be awarded to top essay winners.

*Thomas G. ("Skip") Hannon,  
4721 Mount Vernon Drive,  
Bradenton, FL 34210, 941-795-  
5061, colonelglenn@verizon.net*



Commander "Skip" Hannon of Ch 199 addresses crowd at Bradenton River Middle School



Mrs. Pittman, a teacher at Bradenton River Middle School, stands to right of "Skip" Hannon (L) as essay winners smile in appreciation of their awards from Ch 199

**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



# Welcome Aboard!

## New Members of the Korean War Veterans Association

### ALABAMA

RO42679 GLEN H. COX

### ARIZONA

RO42757 LES W. AYRES  
RO42744 DONALD B. HOXIE  
A042774 EDITH A. POSEY  
RO42653 DONALD ROSS  
RO42770 HAROLD E. STERN

### CALIFORNIA

LR42776 JOHNNY E. BAKER  
RO42689 MOSES F. DIAZ  
LR42676 CHARLES S. JOHNSON  
RO42754 JOSEPH A. METZ  
RO42759 THOMAS PUGLIESE  
LR42645 GENE D. RAMEY  
RO42678 RENE P. REGALOT  
RO42656 THOMAS V. ROHRBACK

### COLORADO

LR42761 FREDERICK A. POWELL

### CONNECTICUT

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RO42671 LUCIEN A. LEGER

### FLORIDA

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RO42712 JAMES J. CANAVAN  
RO42632 DOUGLAS P. CONE  
RO42706 NEEL D. DAVIS  
RO42669 JAMES P. DAY  
RO42685 GINO N. DIPARDO  
RO42624 RALPH R. HAGER  
A042751 DONNA W. HAWES  
RO42620 ROBERT C. MILLER  
RO42691 EDWARD L. PAYTON  
RO42690 PAUL I. REVERE  
RO42684 ANTHONY SCIRICA  
RO42682 GORDON G. TALBOT  
LR42692 HUBERT A. TARCAI  
RO42726 ROBERT E. WADE  
RO42748 ARLIN S. WEINGOLD

### GEORGIA

RO42714 J W. BOWEN  
LR42646 ROBERT E. CROOM

### HAWAII

LR42630 STANLEY H. HASHIRO  
LR42631 IWAO NAKAMURA

### ILLINOIS

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RO42686 DAVID A. BAYLIS  
RO42708 CHARLES J. BROWN

LR42724 EARNEST W. COMSTOCK  
RO42687 MARVIN W. EICHELBERGER  
RO42730 DONALD R. HILL  
RO42743 WILLIAM E. HOGAN  
RO42735 DONALD R. MULLINS  
RO42775 PEGGY RAMSEY  
LR42749 JOHN P. SCOTT  
RO42688 LEO W. STEINBRENNER  
RO42663 CHESTER R. WASIK

### INDIANA

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RO42675 BYRL C. HARLAN

### KENTUCKY

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RO42764 GORDON M. GOLD

### LOUISIANA

RO42644 JOHN C. WEBB

### MARYLAND P042725

JAMES G. MACIJSKI  
RO42635 WARREN MCCHESNEY  
RO42740 SYLVESTER L. WALKER

### MASSACHUSETTS

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A042755 SUSAN S. CHUN  
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RO42626 JOE NASYPANY

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# Recon Missions

## Thomas Gregord

My father, Thomas Gregord, was a medic during the Korean War with Med Co., 35th Inf Regt. I know this because it is on his DD214. He was always reluctant to speak about his time in the service. Unfortunately, he died on June 2, 2010 without ever divulging much.

I certainly respect his desire not to talk about it, but I would like to know more about his unit and its activity during the war. I believe his unit was attached to the 25th Infantry Division, but that is based on my research and may be inaccurate.

He entered active service on October 9, 1952 and was released from active service on October 8, 1954. His DD214 lists 1 year, 2 months, and 6 days of foreign service. I located his DD214 and some ribbons and medals near the time of his death. He identified a combat medical badge, and a Korean Service medal that has 2 bronze service stars on it. He could not identify some of the others.

In particular, one of them, based on my research, appears to be a unit citation medal and has two oak leaves on it, but it is not listed on his DD214. That item leads me, in part, to ask if you or anyone else, or any other resource, may have information about his unit.

Any guidance you could provide would be greatly appreciated.

Allyson Lehere, 250 Melbourne Avenue  
Boardman, OH 44512, 330-719-0933  
alehere@juno.com

## Lambert Vervoort

I am writing on behalf of Mr. William Vervoort, a neighbor of mine. His brother, Lambert Vervoort, was killed in action in Korea. He was with the Battery B, 38th Field Artillery, 2nd Division in 1950. His body was never found.

If any of your readers recognize any of the soldiers in the nearby picture, William would appreciate being contacted as he would like to communicate with anyone who knew his brother or any man in the picture.



Lambert Vervoort, 3rd from Left, Front

Lambert T. Vervoort's hometown was Bemus Point, NY 14712. William R. Vervoort's address is 1578 Autumn Rd., Spring Hill, FL 34608, 352-556-4663 (Home), 716-560-7358 (Cell).

John J. Mari, 8337 Philadelphia Ave.  
Spring Hill, FL 34608

## Korean War POWs in Russia?

There was an article on p. 19 of the May/June 2007 issue regarding South Korean prisoners of war taken to Russia. Also, I remember my husband saying American prisoners were sent to Russia and never repatriated.

I am writing a book titled *Forget Not - The Winter of Discontent*, since my husband was a Marine in the Korean War. Would you or any of your readers have information documenting this aspect of the war?

Anyone who would like to provide a brief biography of their experiences in the war is welcome to contact me.

Dorothy P. Campbell, 148 Milltown Road  
Brewster, NY 10509

## Conrad C. Gifford looking for old buddies

I was a Corporal in the 29th Infantry Regiment, Company M or Headquarters, in the Wolfhound Division. I served in Korea from the spring of 1951 to April of 1952. I would like to renew the friendships that were formed in that period.

Conrad C. Gifford, 11970 W. Brookside Ct.  
Homosassa, Florida 34448-3706; 352-628-5139

## MONUMENT from page 28

artillery attacks to clear the Chinese soldiers who were defending the plant. After each attack, the Chinese soldiers seemed to recover quickly and managed to put up a new set of cannons each time.

In April 1951, a KLO unit infiltrated the Chinese ranks and discovered the reason for their quick recovery: their cannons were fake wooden sculptures. These KLO infiltrator reports led to a successful raid on the power plant.

The KLO heroes from the Hwachon Power Plant raid remained largely unrecognized after the 1953 armistice that brought a 56-year ceasefire to the Korean peninsula.

"During the Korean War, thousands of KLO members were killed or left missing while they were infiltrating North Korea. The surviving KLO members are very few and we are now old, like the falling leaves of a tree," said Lee Chang-gun, chairman of KLO Commemoration Association. "I truly appreciate to see today's ceremony before the last leaf falls."

<http://www.army.mil/-images/2009/09/04/49802/army.mil-49802-2009-09-04-090928.jpg>

## Reunion Calendar: 2011

Mail your info to Reunion Editor, The Graybeards, 895 Ribaut Rd. #13, Beaufort, SC 29902 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

**USS Noble (APA 218)**, 4-7 April, Yuma, AZ. POC: Art Laurey, 928-503-0139 or 928-503-0135

**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

**Air Force 5th Comm Sq. Div.**, 28-30 Apr., Orlando/Kissimmee, FL. POC: Bill Wilson, 321-267-9253, bwilson1956@efl.rr.com or Ted Winsted, 601-214-4154, twins2382@aol.com

**76th Engineer Construction Bn.**, 28-30 Apr., Lebanon, TN, Comfort Suites, 615-443-0027. POC: E.P. "Zeke" Gandara, 6832 S 90th Street, Lincoln, NE 68526-9708, 402-477-7230, 402-440-9609 (Cell), ZekMil@windstream.net

**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

**502nd Tactical Control Group (Korea), HQ and 605th, 606th, 607th and 608th AC&W Sqs.**, 30 Apr.-4 May, Biloxi, MS. POC: Bill Aylward, 703-715-0448, waylward1@verizon.net

### 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

### JUNE

**3 Bn./34th & 2 Bn./21st Inf. Regts, 24th Inf. Div.**, 14-17 June, West Des Moines, IA, Drury Inn & Suites. (Any 24th Inf. Div. personnel are invited). POC: Robert D. Wegner, 3990 W Ave., Manning, IA 51455, 712-653-2234, bwegner27@yahoo.com

### JULY

**91st MP Bn., 289th, 58th, 512th, 560th, and 563rd Companies, 54th Trans. Co.** (U.S. Army), Pusan (1952-54), 26-28 July, Frankenmuth/Birch Run, MI. POC: Bob Simon, 7286 Spring Lake Trail, Saginaw, MI 48603, 989-792-3718, robsimoncondo@charter.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

**630th Engineers Light Equipment Company**, Korea, 11-14 Sept. (Site to be determined). POC: Oscar Viehland, 9587 Woodland Rd., Robertsville, MO 63072 (636) 285-4402, ogvccv@att.net

**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

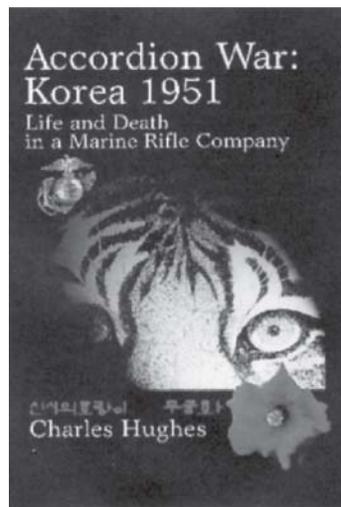
**25th Inf. Div. Assn.**, 25 Sept.-1 Oct., Honolulu, HI. POC: Sarah Krause, P.O. Box 7, Flourtown, PA 19031, TropicLtn@aol.com, website at www.25thida.org

### OCTOBER

**D-2-7, 1st Marine Div.** (Korea), 12-16 Oct., Quantico, VA. POC: Ric Barron, P.O. Box 96, Hamburg, NJ 07419, RicBD27@gmail.com

**151 Combat Engineer Bn.**, 13-16 Oct., Lebanon, TN, Comfort Suites. POC: Jack & Ruth Cato, 212 S Maple St., Lebanon, TN 37087, 615-444-9273, rmcato@charter.net

**92nd Armored Field Artillery Bn.** (Korea), 23-26 Oct., Branson, MO. POC: Guy McMenemy, 12027 Westover Dr., Cypress, TX, 281-469-2819, bravecannons@sbcglobal.net



## Accordion War: KOREA 1951

"Wow! What a book you have written... Thanks for telling our story..."

**Bob Gates,**  
Marine rifleman,  
Korean vet.

"...extremely well written...it could be a best seller."

**Harry "Ace" Martucci,**  
Marine rifleman,  
Korean vet.

"Couldn't put it down...I savored this one... Thanks for writing this book." **John Simpson,**  
Marine rifleman, Korean vet.

"This is a gripping work and a must reading."  
**Korean War Project Newsletter**

"This book is hard to put down. The writing is terrific...Well done Doc."

**GySgt John Boring, USMC (Ret)**  
*Leatherneck* Magazine of the Marines, Sept. 2007.

Order: [www.trafford.com/06-0192](http://www.trafford.com/06-0192), [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) or send check or money order for \$25 to: Charles Hughes 2303 Elaine St. Arkadelphia, AR 71923 for an autographed copy.

## After Action Report

# Trip to Ji Pyung-Ni Battlefield

On Sept. 10th, 2010, Dr. Hubert Hojae Lee, of CID 202 (Orange County, NY), and a few members of the Korean American Foundation paid a tribute to the Ji Pyung-Ni Battle Monument (Chipyong-Ni), situated at Yang Pyung. Korean War veterans, headed by 6.25 KVA President Park Kwang Man, of Ji Pyung Branch, warmly welcomed and joined us in saluting the heroic soldiers who gave their lives.

Then, on Sept. 11th, the Korean American Foundation, USA presented \$10,000.00 to orphaned and handicapped children in the Yang Pyung region at a musical concert that was provided by many renowned opera singers and pop singer Yoo Yeol.

The Ji Pyung -Ni battle was crucial in making a counter-attack against the fourth fatal attack by 300,000 Chinese soldiers against Korean Army and U.N soldiers on Feb. 13-15, 1951. Col. Freeman, 23rd Regt., 2nd Div., 8th Army, was instrumental in protecting South Korea from the enemy, along with LtCol. Montclair of the French battalion. Montclair, a hero during WWII as a three-star general, served in the Korean War with a degraded rank of LtCol.

With these two military commanders' unique strategy, and the support of the 5th Cavalry Regt., it became possible at Japing-Ni to repel the Chinese attack, prevent the spread of communism in Korea, and win the Korean War.

The Chinese attack by 300,000 well-trained fighters almost wiped out the sig-

nificance of the victory attained by General MacArthur's Inchon Landing. Moreover, it reportedly killed more than 5,000 American and UN troops. The battle forced President Harry Truman to halt General MacArthur's march toward the Yalu River, a borderline between North Korea and China.

Many historians and pundits are still debating the wisdom of MacArthur's intention to use an atomic bomb to end the Korean War. General Alexander Haig, Jr., confirmed that intention when I had an interview with him several years ago. Most Korean people believe that President Harry Truman's myopic view permanently divided Korea into the two Koreas we have today. If General MacArthur had been allowed to carry out his military strategy to



The monument at Ji-Pyung-Ni



Veterans salute Korean War heroes at Ji Pyung-Ni



Dr. Hubert Lee (R) with members of the KVA at Ji Pyung-Ni



KVA members greet Dr. Hubert Lee at base of Ji Pyung-Ni monument

smash the communists by using the bomb, there would be only one Korea today.

Imagine the waste of limited economic and human resources on both America and South Korea for the past 60 years, especially the sufferings and sadness of many divided Korean families in that time. There is strong justification on the side of Korean people for General MacArthur's historical vision in asserting that "There is No Substitute for Victory in the Korean War," though there would have been a serious fallout following the use of an atomic bomb. I believe that the benefit of a united Korea would far outweigh the cost of the fallout.

The historical mistake made by Harry Truman will continue to plague America in the future in terms of Far East Asian security and a balance of power, as China emerges ever stronger—enough to be threatening the deeper involvement by the United States of America with an economic stability and military security in the Korean Peninsula.

The emerging Chinese threat today, economically, militarily and politically, not only to the Korean Peninsula, but also to America, vividly reminds us of the Opium War with Britain in 1842, which resulted in the loss of Hong Kong, the China-Japan War in 1895, in which the territories of Taiwan and Chosun were lost, and the failed war with Japan in 1931.

General MacArthur's military and political leadership to unite Korea once and for all may be rooted deeply in the understanding of those histories. Without Freeman's and Montclair's successful strategies and attack at Ji-Pyung Ni, and General MacArthur's heroic military merits, Korea's economic miracle and blossoming democracy could never be possible.

Ji Pyung Ni's battlefield in this sense should be remembered forever in the history of the Korean War and in the perspective of envisioning the fate of Korean peninsula in the face of China's emerging imperialism.

*Dr. Hubert Hojae Lee, 1st VP, CID 202, Orange County [NY], is President of the Korean American Foundation, USA Commissioner of Human Rights, Orange County, NY. Reach him at 31 Maple Ave., Chester, NY 10918-1322, 845-469-7684, DrHLee@frontiernet.net*

## Veteran recalls turning point in Korea

*Hersch Chapman, Special to the Fort Leavenworth Lamp*

In early February 1951, 8th Army Commander Lt. Gen. Matthew Ridgway directed the 23rd Infantry Regimental Combat Team and its attached French battalion to seize and occupy Chipyeong-ni, Korea, a key road and rail junction east of Seoul. Chipyeong-ni was taken with little resistance on Feb. 3, 1951, the 4,500-man 23rd immediately set up a perimeter defense with patrols ranging out to locate and engage the enemy.

The move placed the 23rd way out in front of the lines and in an exposed position, baiting the Chinese Communist Forces to attack. The 4th Chinese Field Army, led by Gen. Lin Piao and with troops from Manchuria - rated as the strongest major Chinese unit, took the bait. Five Chinese divisions attacked all around the 23rd RCT's perimeter, with the most success on the south side against the 2nd Infantry Battalion, particularly Company G. The 23rd RCT was completely cut off and surrounded by Feb. 13.

The 23rd was well entrenched with plenty of supporting fires and supplied by air drops of ammunition and supplies. Hordes of Chinese, spurred on by signal flares, bugles, horns and whistles, stormed the entire perimeter. Enemy mortar and artillery pounded the RCT's troops and the center of their perimeter. Many RCT staff officers were killed or wounded, including 23rd RCT Commander Col. Paul Freeman, who was wounded.

The Chinese eventually broke through the Company G positions and reached supporting U.S. artillery pieces. They were unable to exploit further, perhaps because their leaders and buglers were slain.

In a brilliant move, the 2nd Battalion sent a tank-infantry team outside the perimeter to circle around and engage the enemy from their rear on the positions the Chinese had captured. At the same time, the RCT reserve rifle company attacked to secure the lost positions, and a 5th Cavalry tank-infantry force, Task Force Crombez, fought north to the 23rd RCT's perimeter, ending the siege. Thousands of fleeing Chinese were mowed down.

When the battle was over, 526 enemy

## The victory at Chipyeong-ni was the first major defeat of the Chinese Communist Forces in the war...

dead were counted on McGee Hill, 493 on Schmitt Hill and 362 on Curtis Hill- all in the Company G area. The efforts of Company G's Soldiers had been gallant, heroic and superhuman.

It was estimated that 15,000 Chinese were killed in and around the 23rd RCT perimeter. Gen. Lin Piao was beheaded by the Communist High Command for his great losses.

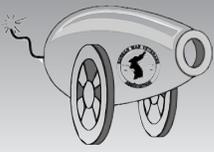
The 23rd RCT losses were 630 killed, wounded or missing.

Four months later, the enemy sought peace talks. The victory at Chipyeong-ni was the first major defeat of the Chinese Communist Forces in the war and symbolized the revitalization of the United Nations Forces.

The deeds of valor and sacrifices of those who fell at Chipyeong-ni were recognized when Ridgway, before a joint session of Congress in May 1952, stated, "These American fighting men, with their French comrades-in-arms, measured up in every way to the battle conduct of the finest troops America or France has produced throughout their national existence."

The Command and General Staff Officer Course Class of 2000 dedicated a painting depicting this battle to the Command and General Staff College. It hangs in the Lewis and Clark Center.

Editor's note: Retired Col. Hersch Chapman graduated and was commissioned from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., in 1950 and retired from the Army in 1980. A former director of the Department of Strategy and Command at the Command and General Staff College, he was a rifle platoon leader with the 23rd Infantry Regimental Combat Team at Chipyeong-ni in 1951. He lives in Leavenworth, KS.



# 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 895 Ribaut Rd. #13, Beaufort, SC 29902. 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.

## Code of Conduct follow-up

It has been one year since my article on the Code of Conduct appeared in the January/February 2010 *Graybeards*. As a result, I received 196 requests from the members of the KWVA to become subscribers to the Code. This, incidentally, is the largest annual increase of subscribers since the Code was originated in 2006.

I have set as a goal 1,000 subscribers since, at the present time, there are 569 subscribers on the roster of the Code of Conduct. In an attempt to reach this goal, I have sent letters to the Presidents of the 16 Departments of the KWVA requesting their help in attaining this goal.

The Code of Conduct was conceived in 2006 by then KWVA President Louis T. Dechert to remind the membership of the Code of Honor that our founders established.

Steve Szekely, sxdsezek@sbcglobal.net

## Tanks have more armor than trucks

Bill Marshall's story in the Jul/Aug 2009 issue ("The Role of the Signal Corps," p. 13) about radio crews reminded me of my best friend's comment about being in Commo and being attached to the tankers or infantry.

As he noted, "The tanks have many inches of armor and the Commo trucks had none." He told me that his truck's windshield had several holes in it after a mission following the tanks. My friend remembered that at one point he was given a half-track. It had 3/8" of armor.

My buddy Ed Sampler was so good on a key that he only got to be on a couple of those missions. I got to visit with Ed only one time over there. He survived and made it home okay.

Marvin Reed, 2900 Right Hand Canyon Rd.  
Palomino Valley, NV 89510

## Memorial Day 1953

I will never forget Memorial Day 1953. I got off a United States troop ship in the city of Pusan, the southern-most city in Korea. Nothing like visiting a foreign city for the first time, to step off the boat and need to be very careful not to step on women and children.

The road away from the ship was a single, solid ribbon through a moving mass of homeless refugees. This mass of starving, displaced people had been driven south before the onslaught of Communist troops until they reached the ocean and had no other place to go.

I will never forget the thought that raced through my mind. For the first time I understood why I was in the Army, here. I

never wanted to see this scene repeated, upon the U.S.' fruited plains.

Peter deLisser, peter@delisser.com

## USO show featuring Jack Benny and Errol Flynn

Here is my "two cents worth" regarding the USO show that I enjoyed while I was serving in Korea with the 581st Signal Radio Relay Company. The date was July 2, 1951; the site of the show was in the vicinity of the K-2 airstrip.

The nearby photo verifies the date, the location, and the names of the performers. Unfortunately, the photo is blurry, but I have a record of their names from a letter that I sent to my parents. From top to bottom they are Jack Benny and Errol Flynn; movie star Marjorie Reynolds; singer Benay Venuta; Frankie Remley, guitar player in Phil Harris' orchestra; accordionist June Bruner; memory expert Harry Kahne; tap dancer Dolores Cay and, in Jack Benny's words, "an up and coming star, Steve McQueen."

When Jack played his violin, I realized that, in spite of all the jokes about his non-existent talents as a violinist, he was really an accomplished musician.

Errol Flynn, whose scandalous affairs were making the headlines back home, directed his remarks to the nurses who were sitting in the front row in the audience while watching over the many wounded who were able to attend the show. He said, "Do you know all those things they're saying about me? Well, they're all true!"

The nurses giggled and the rest of us roared with laughter.

The highly appreciative audience enjoyed the show thoroughly. And, for a few treasured hours, the war was forgotten.

Norman J. Deptula, P.O. Box 922, Webster, MA 01570

The sign announcing that Jack Benny et al were in town



## Father Felhoelter

I was wounded at the Battle of Taejon on 16 July 1950. One thing that is missing from the story on p. 64 in the Nov/Dec 2010

issue is that a medical officer told all of us who could walk to get up and start walking toward Taejon. Many of us who did may have escaped a similar fate to Father Felhoelter and the other soldiers. (Incidentally, his real name was Herman Gilbert Felhoelter.)

Robert M. Alip, 1212 Kinau St. Apt 1506, Honolulu, HI 96814-1207, 808-599-2850

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Here is a little more info on Father Felhoelter with a link to check it out:*

### **Care for Wounded Cost Priest His Life**

Volunteering to remain with wounded soldiers cost Franciscan Father Herman Gilbert Felhoelter his life during the Korean War. Born in Louisville, Ky., in 1913, ordained in 1939, he was a chaplain in World War II, receiving the Bronze Star for bravery.

Again a chaplain, in Korea, he offered to stay behind with the wounded at Taejon when American troops moved to another location. Enemy soldiers soon overwhelmed this position, and Father Felhoelter and the others were killed on July 16, 1950.

He posthumously received the Distinguished Service Cross and was honored at the National Chaplains' Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery.

<http://www.osv.com/tabid/7637/itemid/5308/Care-for-Wounded-Cost-Priest-His-Life.aspx>

### **I was there**

Just to set the record straight, Chaplain Felhoelter was not at the Pusan Perimeter! He was killed at the Kum River on 16 July 1950.

Most of the Editor's Note in the Nov-Dec. 2010 edition of *The Graybeards* is correct. We were prevented from breaking out of the roadblock and from resupply by far superior numbers of the North Korean Army and the number of burned-out vehicles on the road. Our Regimental Commander, Col. Meloy, and a few wounded were evacuated on a tank which made it through the roadblock.

When darkness fell, we were told to carry what wounded we could and escape by going over the mountains and make our way to Taejon. It was more or less "every man for himself." Although that phrase was not spoken, that attitude prevailed.

The wounded who could not be moved were left with the medics and Chaplain Felhoelter at the base of the mountain, not the top, in the expectation they would be treated humanely. As we know now, they were not.

Take it from me, I was there.

Bill Borer, [mrbill10@bellsouth.net](mailto:mrbill10@bellsouth.net)

### **The Air Force landed with the Marines**

I only learned of the KWVA a few weeks back. I signed up as soon as I heard about you. I really enjoy *The Graybeards*, having just received my second copy this week.

I was not in Korea for very long. I was one of 13 USAF airmen landing at Wonsan with the Marines. I was evacuated on 22 December 1950. We were at Wonsan long enough to enjoy Bob Hope's USO troop, but we moved up to Hamhung in just a matter of days.

We airmen were sent in to set up a control tower, radio station

and crypto unit at K 27. K 27 served as the airbase to support the Marines and other units involved in the battle at the Chosin Reservoir and to support the efforts to maintain the harbor at Hamhung for United Nations use.

Bryl C. Harlan, 323 Acre Ave., Brownsburg, IN 46112-1317, 317-440-3444, [bdharlan@comcast.net](mailto:bdharlan@comcast.net)

### **Clint Eastwood was not in Korea**

I just had to clarify a glaring error in the November/December 2010 issue, p. 63, re Clint Eastwood, which stated, "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." That is absolutely wrong!

Eastwood was drafted into the U.S. Army and had basic training at Ft. Ord, CA. He became a swimming instructor and bouncer at the NCO club, and never left Ft. Ord or California. He was discharged in 1953.

Source: Military.com and various Google searches.

Warren G. MacDonald, USA (Ret), 6373 Winding Lake Dr., Jupiter, FL 33458-3744, Tank Co., 32nd Inf. Reg., 7th ID Korea 1951-1952, (Heartbreak Ridge to the Punchbowl and other exciting, eventful places), [wmacdonald2008@comcast.net](mailto:wmacdonald2008@comcast.net)

### **Eastwood liked Ft. Ord and Carmel**

I saw an article in this month's *Graybeards* with Gilbert saying, "Joseph Brown may never have seen Clint Eastwood at Heartbreak Ridge, but be assured that Clint Eastwood was an infantryman and in Korea during the Korean War." Sometimes the truth does get spun.

I went through Fort Ord in 1952 for my basic training and Clint was a lifeguard at their pool. (We had to prove we could swim.) To my knowledge, he spent his whole service time at Fort Ord, and liked it so much that he opened a restaurant called "Hogsbreath" in Carmel. He later served as Mayor of Carmel and bought a home on the Pebble Beach Golf Course.

Gunnar Osterberg, [gunsbabs@cox.net](mailto:gunsbabs@cox.net)

### **The USMC was not too happy with Clint Eastwood**

Clint Eastwood survived a crash of a Douglas AD bomber. He and the pilot swam three miles to shore. The plane ran out of fuel. That is why he has a scar on his chin. But he never served in Korea.

Being a former platoon leader in "C" Co., 38th Inf., 2nd Inf. Div., I take issue with the movie "Heartbreak Ridge." The heavy fighting for that hill done mostly by the 23rd Inf. Regt. of the 2nd Inf. Div. No Marines were ever on that hill.

I have a friend who is a retired USMC Command Sgt. Major. during the filming of that movie at Camp Pendleton, CA, he had a run in with Clint Eastwood. "Dirty Harry" did not win that one.

The USMC was not too happy with that movie and the manner in which the Marine Corps was portrayed. I just wanted to set the record straight.

Rogers Marshall, 1688 Pickering Ct. Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

### **He said so himself**

In an article in the *AARP Magazine*, Clint Eastwood stated he

had never served in Korea. He said the same thing during an appearance on the Bill O'Reilly show on Fox News.

I am a big fan of Clint Eastwood, but you have to believe it when Clint says himself that he was not in Korea. He did play characters in at least two movies, "Heartbreak Ridge" and "Grand Torino", who were Korean War veterans, though.

Thomas Sherry, 340 US Highway 11  
Gouverneur, NY 13642

### And on another TV show...

One member, Bernard E. Dykes, reported that Clint Eastwood told host James Lipton of Bravo's "Inside the Actors Studio" that he had not served in Korea, which he labeled a "police action."

Dykes was a tank commander in Korea with the 23rd Tank Co. Reach him at 60 Pamoqua Ln., West Islip, NY 11795, 631-669-5013

### From IMDB (Internet Movie Database):

Drafted and served in the US Army, assigned to Special Services. He was a swimming instructor. [1950-1954]; While serving in the Army during the Korean War, he survived a plane crash landing into the Pacific, north of San Francisco, and swam two miles to shore. Because he had to testify about the incident, he was not sent to Korea with his unit.

Source: <http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0000142/bio>

### The Atomic Cannon (See the full story on pages 14-15)

*EDITOR'S NOTE: We received a tremendous amount of feedback about the atomic cannon. So, with the exception of two "full length" stories and a couple responses here, we will defer some of our other feedback for the next issue.*

In 1956 I was with the 1st Cav at Camp Drake, outside Tokyo. I was in 15th QM, which included the division transportation. Our motor pool was just outside Camp Drake.

There was a 280 Atomic Cannon in a secured motor pool next to us. It was there for only a month or so. The cannon was heavily guarded 24 hours a day by 2 American guards walking inside and 2 Japanese guards walking outside.

W. R. Ames, 5437 S. Doyle Terr.,  
Homosassa, FL 34446

### There was one at "Ike's" parade

I attended President Eisenhower's inaugural parade in Washington DC. There was an atomic cannon in it. It was huge, and had a truck at each end.

I never saw one in Korea, where I spent one year with the 78th AAA Gun Bn. 90mm.

Stan Britton, Sr. 21 Oak St., Danbury, CT 06811

### It took a crane to load one

We saw an atomic cannon somewhere in 1953. Someone took photos of it because of its unusual nature, because it was called an atomic cannon, and because it had to be loaded with a crane.

I do not know on what army base the photo was taken or who the soldier is.

Marvin H. Schafer, 2741 E. Sylvia St.,  
Phoenix, AZ 85032



The atomic cannon dwarfs an unidentified Soldier



It would have been hard to hide an atomic cannon



The atomic cannon was one big gun

### Was the atomic cannon a psychological weapon in 1953?

I was assigned to the Dept. of Gunnery Enlisted Staff and Faculty Btry. during 1955. The Atomic Cannon was part of the armament at that time, conventional shells (no atomic).

The Army announced officially in 1952 that an artillery piece capable of firing an atomic shell had been developed, and the first atomic shell had been fired (I think at Yucca Flats, Nevada). But, there was no indication as to when it might go into service.

The atomic shell was first fired as a test in 1953. I have no knowledge that it was ever sent to Korea. If so, maybe a crew member will respond. Since the first firing test was in 1953, and the truce was signed 27 July 1953, would it have been there during combat?

I think the weight of the cannon was in excess of 50 tons. The projectile weighed approximately 400 pounds; the range was 35,000+ yards. The cannon rested on two built-in platforms and was carried from place to place by two hoist-lift type motorized machines.

I spent 1956 in Korea as an Artillery Survey Party Chief in the 1st F.A. Observation Bn., HQ Btry., I Corps. We interacted with all the UN artillery that was still in Korea, and I didn't see or hear of any equipment as mentioned.

All firing with the cannon was done with conventional shells, except for the testing in 1953.

Arles W. Pease, 929 Clearwood Ave.  
Kingsport, TN 37660



"Atomic Annie" at Ft. Sill, OK in 2007



Was there a bigger cannon than "Atomic Annie" as it appeared at Ft. Sill, OK in 2007?



A crew mans "Atomic Annie"

## Whence came those Christmas carols?

While reading the latest *Graybeards* I noticed a few items that need correcting.

- Page 23 - Cpl. Frank H Smith. This had to be the 5th Regimental Combat Team as the 24th did not have a 5th Regiment.

- Pages 28 & 56 - I believe that the 19th and 34th are Regiments of the 24th Infantry. There were no 19th & 34th Divisions in Korea.

- Also, the 187th Airborne was a separate Regimental Combat Team. It was originally part of the 11th Airborne Division.

One question: does anyone with the 24th Division recall the Christmas Carols on Christmas Eve of 1951? There seems to be a question as to the source of these carols.

The platoon that I was in was on an outpost. For years I believed that was the Chinese playing them, as it sounded like it was coming from in front of us. There was not a guy there that thought otherwise.

A year or so ago I read in the 24th Division Taro Leaf that it was the U.S. Army playing them. Who is right?

Tom Donaghy, atomtomd@cfl.rr.com

## Hill 1051

### A gruesome discovery

I am not sure if it the hill was number 800 or 1051. I served with the 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division. We retook a hill the Chinese had overrun. When we came up over the top of the ridge, there was a tent still standing on my right. I and some other Marines took a quick look inside.

The officers in the tent were all done for. One had a whiskey bottle in one hand and a shot glass in the other. He got hit so hard and fast he fell over and froze.

Down the ridge a couple men came out from under a pile of trees. I have often wondered if they survived the war. Anyway, Soldiers were caught in their sleeping bags. The Chinese had a field day.

At the end of the ridge, the Chinese had tied several Soldiers back to back around some trees and turned their own flamethrowers on them. They were still burning. Needless to say, we took no prisoners for a long time.

Two helicopters brought up a little crawler tractor. The operator worked one whole day to dig two trenches. The graves registration guys, with the help of some South Korean laborers, dumped the Chinese all askew. The U.S. troops were put in canvas bags after they were relieved of their dog tags. Then, they were laid neatly in a row and buried.

We went on to other business. I have often wondered if any of them were dug up and brought home. I don't seem to be able to find out.

Paul James, 64 Lilly Lane, Red Creek, NY 13143

## 30 years in Leavenworth

I was an SFC Squad Leader with the 24th Inf., 19th Regt., C Co. We were in a bad firefight. I had a bunch of troops who would not come forward to attack a trench full of Chinese soldiers. I was up front near the trench. But, all my troops held back.

The Chinese almost killed me.

One of our troops ran out on us. He didn't show up again until we left Korea. When we did get to Japan, the Army threw the book at him. He was sentenced to 30 years at Ft. Leavenworth. He did the time, but I always wondered what happened to him.

Raymond C. Fryer, P. O. Box 283  
Owensville, MO 65066

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Fryer did provide the name of the man who received the 30-year sentence. In the interest of prudence, we thought it best not to include the man's name.*

### **Medal clarifications re Paul Steen**

Right now, Korea is the most dangerous place in the world, so please remember our troops serving in the ROK today.

I commend KDSM recipient Paul Steen and the members of the KWVA Minnesota Chosin Chapter # 41 on their outstanding accomplishment of getting the KDSM license plate bill signed into law by the state of Minnesota. It is very difficult to get any bill passed through the legislature and signed by the governor. Outstanding job, Paul, Commander Bill Hoehn, and all Minnesota Chapter # Chosin 41 members who contributed to this great accomplishment for the KWVA.

I will address the letter from Lou Pelosi regarding Paul Steen and his chapter affiliation with KWVA/KVA Chapter # 299. Mr. Steen was a member of the Korea Veterans of America before they even became a chapter of the KWVA; he stayed as a member with Ch 299 for several years after that. The nearest Minnesota chapter to Mr. Steen was 80 miles away. They were unaware post-war Korea veterans could even join the chapter.

Today, Paul drives 160 miles round trip to make meetings with the Minnesota Chosin Chapter # 41. He should be commended for that. Mr. Pelosi also had questions about Mr. Steen's National Defense Medal.

Mr. Steen served in Korea from 1961-62, which was during the Vietnam War. Those service dates make Paul eligible to wear the National Defense Medal. The other ribbons came into effect 30 years after the Korean War and are retroactive.

Mr. Pelosi also wondered about Paul Steen's Republic of Korea (ROK) Presidential Unit Citation (PUC). Mr. Steen's unit was awarded the ROK PUC in Korea. He wore it in Korea, and as a member of the KWVA, he can wear it now.

Many war veterans believe the ROK PUC was only awarded during the Korean War. This is not true; if members are going to challenge their counterparts, they should get their facts correct. The ROK PUC has been awarded many times since 1953.

### **ROK/PUC History**

The ROK PUC is issued by the government of South Korea to both Korean military and foreign units. The last major issuance of the decoration was during the Korean War, when the decoration was bestowed to several U.S., UK, and Commonwealth military units. By order of the Korean government, the award was also authorized retroactively to every unit of the United States Army which had deployed to Korea between 1950 and 1954. The award was also awarded to Commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Korea, for service between 09 December 1999 to 24 April 2002.

1. It was also awarded to all who served in the 7th Infantry Division while that division was deployed in Korea from any timeframe between 1953-1971. This order was issued by General Westmoreland.

2. Units of the 2nd Infantry Division were awarded the ROK PUC on three occasions during peace time service: 1965 to 18 Aug. 1982, 19 Aug. 1982 to 19 Dec. 1995, and 20 Dec. 1995 to 29 Dec. 1999, to show military competence and comradeship to the Korean nation, which is in keeping with the highest military traditions of the United States Army.

3. The ROK PUC is authorized for permanent wear by personnel assigned to the organization during the period cited. Other personnel may wear this decoration while serving with an organization stationed in the Republic of Korea to indicate the unit has been awarded the ROK PUC.

I hope we don't have the ribbon police watching every photo of our members in The Graybeards now. Negative attitudes and prejudices against post-war Korea veterans have hurt KWVA membership. Without them we might have 37,000 members instead of 17,000.

We need more members like Paul Steen and those of Minnesota Chosin Chapter #41. The late Marty O'Brien and KWVA Cpl. Clair Goodblood Augusta Maine Chapter #79 were the only chapters to help with post-war Korea service legislation. We could use more help and try to emulate these two fine KWVA chapters.

Jeffrey J. Brodeur, B-4/7 CAV , B-5/17 CAV, 2nd  
Infantry Division, Camp Garry Owens Korea 1988-89,  
Recipient of the Korean Defense Service Medal, KVA-  
MANE@aol.com

### **Drumming out of the service**

I heard about this when I went to Mountain Home AFB, Idaho in 1954. At the time I believed the story, but now I think it was a military version of an "Urban Myth."

Old timers at Mountain Home told about some guy who was drummed out before they got there. All the old timers knew his name.

I can't remember what his alleged crime was. Our orderly room was next to the flight line and it was about four miles to the main gate. The "drummees" wore a class A uniform from which all the military insignia and rank had been removed, including the buttons, which were cut off by shears.

He was forced to march on the painted line that divided the road going to the main gate. The Air Police at Mountain Home had 1952 Chevrolet 3100 1/2-ton pickups painted blue with white tops. The drummer from the base band sat on the right front fender and played a snare drum while the truck followed the "drummees."

Traffic leaving the base followed this sad little procession and traffic coming in to the base had to pull over and let it go by. I don't know if the truck carried the man's belongings-or even if he had any belongings.

Once he got to the main gate he was on his own for the last 12 miles to town.

Dick Larrowe, P. O. Box 1239, Sandy, OR 97055



# 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.

## ALABAMA

MICHAEL O. DUEITT  
GEORGE E. LYON  
JOHN B. MONTGOMERY

## ARIZONA

RUSSELL J. BANCROFT  
JOE A. PARK

## CALIFORNIA

CHARLES B. ARMSTRONG  
RICHARD A. BACCIOCCO  
EDWIN CORDEIRO  
FLOYD DE ANDA  
JERRY C. HOLLER  
PHILBERT L. JOLLY  
BONIFACIO S. PAZ

## COLORADO

MARTIN K. 'SONNY' CANAPE

## CONNECTICUT

PAUL E. DUNPHY  
RICHARD J. GAMMIE  
JOSEPH V. PORTUESE  
VINCENT A. ZITO

## DELAWARE

FLORENCE C. DILL  
GEORGE GOTT SR.  
ALFRED HOLLIDAY

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JOHN C. EVANS  
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KENNETH J. DIEDERICH  
ROBERT L. FAUSER  
MYRL R. FISHER  
LOUIS E. GRASSER  
HOWARD L. HALLBERG  
CURTIS D. HANSON  
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PHILIP W. SCANLON  
LYLE D. SOLTAU  
RALPH H. SPIHLMANN  
RAYMOND E. SPROSTON  
CROTIS TEAGUE  
DONALD L. WILSON

## IOWA

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## KANSAS

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## MINNESOTA

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## MISSOURI

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CARL F. SCHUBERT  
GEORGE E. SELLERS  
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DOMENIC J. LENTINI  
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DONALD E. ROACH  
PAUL L. RUBRIGHT  
CHARLES A. THOMAS

## RHODE ISLAND

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## SOUTH CAROLINA

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RALPH B. JAMES

## VIRGINIA

HARRY H. BLACK

### 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

Visit the Korean War Veterans Association  
Website: [www.KWVA.org](http://www.KWVA.org)

# 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 VII of our continuing series on Father Emil Kapaun. The Wichita Eagle (Kansas), December 13, 2009 Wednesday

## Part 7: Former POWs say his miracle was providing them hope

BYLINE: ROY WENZL; The Wichita Eagle  
SECTION: a; Pg. 1: LENGTH: 2330 words

*"Perfection is acquired through our efforts, and if we try to become saints, someday we will be saints." — Father Emil Kapaun*

Chase Kear does not seem at first glance to be the poster boy for a Vatican investigation involving sainthood. He chews a little dip, hits targets at turkey shoots, listens to country music when he rolls. In his Facebook profile photo he dresses the part of a half-naked bandito in a sombrero. He's a self-described redneck; also foolish and drunk and stupid at times in the past, he says, though less so since his accident.

He takes comfort in knowing that Jesus reached out to sinners, and a sinner Chase Kear sometimes is. Jesus loves him anyway.

His life changed when it should have ended on Oct. 2, 2008. A pole vaulter on the Hutchinson Community College track team, he felt something go slack in the flex of his vault pole as he turned upside down in midair. He overshot the mat.

The impact on the ground caved in the right side of his skull. He stopped breathing; paramedics stuck a tube down his throat. His eyeballs stared sightless in different directions. His limp arms and legs would not move when paramedics jabbed them.

"He was dead," family doctor Joe Davison said later.

Surgeons sawed off the right side of

his skull to relieve the brain's swelling.

Family and friends began chanting Hail Marys, Our Fathers and a prayer to Father Emil Kapaun.

The Kears barely knew who Kapaun was. But reciting the Kapaun prayer before daily Mass is what Catholics do in Colwich. It's a wisp of a town northwest of Wichita, surrounded by wheat fields. The diocese has handed out Kapaun prayer cards for the sick for decades. Davison, when he learned how bad Kear's injury was, steeled himself to comfort a grieving family, and secondarily planned for permanent care. If Chase survived, he would surely be an invalid needing diapers. Other doctors made the same predictions to Chase's parents, Paul and Paula. Paula said they should pray. They and their friends said thousands of prayers to Kapaun. After that something crazy happened. Doctors called it impossible.

.....

Kapaun's comrades revere him to this day. Some of them pray to him.

Mike Dowe, living in Houston now, has prayed to the soul of his friend every night since Kapaun died.

Bob McGreevy, who revived in the prison camp Death House while praying to Kapaun, went home to Cumberland, Md., after the war and married Marian, the prettiest girl in town. He worked for the Postal Service, raised children and regained enough health to run marathons,



Fr. Kapaun

including in Boston and New York.

Marian died five years ago; McGreevy still cries. He never cried in the prison camps.

At POW reunions, he and Al Brooks grin sometimes, and tell POWs at the dinner tables that "whatever you do, keep eating." It is a wry salute to Kapaun, who had demanded that they eat Chinese birdseed to stay alive.

McGreevy has prayed to Kapaun every night since he heard in the Death House that Kapaun died alone there.

"I will say an Our Father and a Hail Mary," he said. "Then I pray to him: 'Father Kapaun, thank you so much for giving us the courage to keep going.'"

Doctors told Chase's parents that he'd probably die either because of the brain damage or because they'd been forced to breach the blood-brain barrier that prevents infection.

When he had hit the ground, his brain had rattled inside his skull in the same way the clapper bangs inside a ringing bell.

When he awakened, doctors were mystified. Science could not explain this. They still predicted death, or life as an invalid. But then the impossible happened. Chase started talking. He started recognizing people. The doctors could barely believe what they saw. After less than a month in the hospital, Chase went home wearing a T-shirt that said "Miracle Man."

Herbert Miller, when he learned a few

years ago that there was an annual Father Kapaun Day in Kapaun's hometown, drove halfway across the United States with his wife, Joyce.

They reached Pilsen, a town so small he could walk the length of it in minutes, bad ankle and all.

In the decades since Kapaun had shoved aside his executioner, Miller had worked, fished and raised two adopted children. In the big garden in back of his house he raised watermelon, cantaloupe, collard greens, sweet corn, string beans, peppers, tomatoes, cucumbers and peas. Sometimes, looking at all those good things to eat, he remembered how they had all starved.

He has lived a good life.

Lake Ontario lies only five miles away; he likes to go there, look out over the water.

Sometimes when he mows the lawn his mind wanders. He got to do all those things because Kapaun saved him.

He cries sometimes when he thinks of Kapaun. When he pulls off his sock at night, he looks at a lower leg forever reddish, black and blue, the ankle twisted, the skin pitted from grenade fragments.

In Pilsen that day, Miller, not knowing anybody in town, asked around about Father Kapaun. Pilseners looked at him warily.

So he told them that one day in North Korea, he had lain in a ditch. And a guy had pointed the muzzle of a rifle at his head.

"And then this guy came walking across the road . . ."

At that point, people threw their arms around Miller's neck. There were still people who remembered Kapaun, still baked kolaches, still spoke the Czech that Kapaun spoke in sermons.

A local caretaker of the Kapaun legacy, Rose Mary Neuwirth, showed the Millers around.

When Miller stepped onto the grounds of the church, he caught his breath.

He stood on his wounded leg and stared at a bronze statue of Kapaun with his left arm around a limping soldier who has a bandage wrapped around his wounded leg.

.....

Chase Kear believes Christ and Kapaun saved him. He knows critics of the church will ridicule this.

After news stories appeared in June about the Vatican investigating him as a Kapaun "miracle," cybercritics ridiculed his family, his faith.

"I don't care what they think," he said.

His neurosurgeon, Raymond Grundmeyer, has said to newspapers and the Vatican that Kear's survival is miraculous.

Kear says he's trying to figure out what he's supposed to do now. Was he spared for a reason? If so, for what? Not many things scare him, he says. That question scares him. In church on Sundays, he no longer mumbles his way through the Catholic prayers. He says them for real. Women hug him. People shake his hand. But what now? "I was given my life back," Kear says. "There must be a reason. "What is it?"

.....

As early as 1990, Kansas Rep. Dan Glickman asked the military to review whether Kapaun deserved the Medal of Honor. Before the war ended, Kapaun was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his battle deeds, the military's second-highest award. For that reason, and because so many years had passed, the military rejected Glickman's request. Glickman's successor, Todd Tiaht, took up the cause in 2001. He also got a no. But Kapaun's friends would not give up; Dowe and the others kept writing letters, telling stories.

Tiaht, learning that Kapaun's Distinguished Service Cross had been awarded for his battlefield courage, asked for a review of Kapaun's deeds in the prison camp.

By coincidence, an instructor at West Point had begun researching a book about Korean War POWs. Lt. Col. William Latham, a veteran of the Persian Gulf War, interviewed Dowe, William Funchess, Miller and many other men, and they all told him about Kapaun.

Latham collected a thick file of eyewitness accounts of Kapaun's heroism. He turned copies of it over to Kapaun's brother and sister-in-law, Eugene and Helen Kapaun.

They turned it over to Tiaht, who

gave it all to the Army.

Those papers helped spur what happened next.

.....

By this past summer, a large number of Kapaun stories had been collected by the Rev. John Hotze, the judicial vicar of the Wichita Diocese now in charge of the sainthood investigation.

His assignment had taken years. To meet Vatican rules on sainthood, he had needed to find a provable "alleged miracle" to persuade the Vatican to beatify Kapaun as a potential saint. That done, he — and Kapaun — would then need heavenly intervention: a second provable miracle, occurring after beatification.

Had anyone ever miraculously survived a scientifically unexplainable injury or illness after people prayed to Kapaun?

Hotze found the Kears. Then he found a second family in Wichita who decided not to talk publicly; that family's situation involved a teenage daughter who survived a catastrophic autoimmune disorder.

Last summer, at Hotze's request, Vatican investigator Andrea Ambrosi visited Wichita and interviewed both families and their doctors. He was surprised at what he learned.

In all his experience at vetting sainthood cases, he'd never seen such promising testimonials from witnesses; several doctors involved with both Wichita families were Protestant, not schooled in the Catholic teachings of sainthood, and they were emphatic that these cases were real miracles.

He told Hotze both cases looked promising and that he would return in 2010.

Hotze had talked to many POWs by then.

The stories he heard enriched the cause, enriched his own life. POW William Hansen, shortly before he died, described to Hotze how he and Kapaun used to sneak into the "hospital" and watch which medicines were passed out by Chinese doctors for dysentery or pneumonia. Then they'd sneak in later, steal the drugs and smuggle them to American doctors.

Tibor Rubin, who won the Medal of

Honor for his Korean War exploits, told Hotze how he huddled terrified at the bottom of a foxhole one day, bullets flying. Kapaun jumped in beside him and casually reached inside his jacket.

"Hey," Kapaun said. "You want an apple? I got an apple."

Rubin told officials who gave him the Medal of Honor that he won it because his anti-Semitic sergeant tried to murder him by making him defend a hill alone against a mass charge by North Koreans. A survivor of Mauthausen death camp in World War II, Rubin was sometimes a target of anti-Semitism in the Army. Kapaun behaved differently.

"He was nice to everybody. I was a Jewish person, but he always treated me like I was a Catholic person," he said. "It didn't matter to him who or what I was."

In one battle, he was knocked out by an explosion, and awakened to see Kapaun giving him the last rites of the Catholic church.

"I was glad to see him."

Rubin said he wrote a letter to "that Polish pope" years ago, recommending sainthood for Kapaun. He said he's puzzled why the church never followed his advice.

In the prison camps, Rubin did as Kapaun did: stole food for the hungry. And when he did so, he thought of his mother, who taught him a Yiddish word, "mitzvah" — a "good deed."

"When you give out mitzvahs, mitzvahs come back to you," his mother taught him. She had told him: "When you save somebody's life, you might save an entire nation, you never know."

Rubin said Kapaun gave out a lot of mitzvahs.

.....

Hotze knows proving miracles won't be easy. The Catholic Church ruthlessly discounts most alleged miracles.

Since 1858, thousands of sick and desperate people seek miraculous cures every year at the Catholic shrine called Lourdes, in France. Only a few dozen have ever been deemed miracles.

But Kapaun's candidacy has gone a long way down the sainthood road.

Hotze made helpful discoveries. He and other priests were intrigued, for

example, when they read Kapaun's sermons delivered in Pilsen when he was still a new priest. Kapaun, the son of Czech parents, leading a Czech-speaking congregation, had written some sermons longhand in Czech and typed all of them neatly in English.

The thinker that the priests encountered in these writings surprised them with the rhythmic cadences of his sentences and the originality of his thought.

"The sorrows which we are to encounter on our journey thru life are covered with a veil," he said one Sunday. "The forgiving of wrongs is the exercising of mercy," he said on another.

"We must be on our guard that our temptations will not shake us like the wind does the reeds."

What surprised them most were passages in which Kapaun seemed to predict that he would be severely tested — and seemed to decide how he would act, how he would lead: He would emulate Jesus, who led people by becoming their servant.

In his Palm Sunday sermon on April 6, 1941, Kapaun, only 25 years old, laid out this strategy in simple, vigorous sentences. There was this one:

"Men find it easy to follow one who has endeared himself to them."

And this:

"A man finds it a pleasure to serve one who has saved his life."

And this:

"A great leader exerts a most powerful influence over the hearts and minds of his followers. Though the task of following such a leader is most arduous in itself, yet it becomes sweet and honorable, and comparatively easy in practice when the followers consider the dignity of the leader, the relation of the leader to his followers, the motives which prompt the leader, and the rewards which he offers."

Those thoughts, Hotze said, were a blueprint not only for sainthood but for how Kapaun steeled himself, nine years after he wrote them, to become the one man whom desperate men would obey when all hope seemed lost.

*Contributing: Travis Heying of The Eagle Reach Roy Wenzl at 316-268-6219 or rwenzl@wichitaeagle.com*

## CIB from page 29

ground combat. I hope you never get the chance to win one, but if you do, you better do us, who earned it, proud."

Right then and there, my young mind was made up. I wanted to earn that beautiful looking badge of honor. There was only one problem: we were not at war!

After basic training, I was assigned to a line company with the 24th Infantry Division in Japan as part of the American occupation army. I was with "B" Company of the 21st Infantry Regiment, stationed at Camp Wood, on the Japanese island of Kyushu. When I arrived at Camp Wood I was in "hog heaven."

At Camp Wood we were "real infantrymen." We trained under the watchful eyes of West Point officers, regular officers, those officers who were commissioned during war time, and our tough sergeants who, for the most part, were WWII veterans. Funny thing about our sergeants: they never bragged about their combat experiences.

I cannot recall one sergeant talking about the war. Then again, back in that Army, there was no fraternization. While in the field, the officers, sergeants, and the plain old soldiers stayed separated, especially during meals. Closeness occurred only during training and while we were at the rifle range.

It sounds kind of "goofy" now, but I really was a happy guy running through training, carrying a real weapon, and learning tactics and all other techniques taught to the ground soldier. I even enjoyed the physical training (PT) held every morning after breakfast and the runs we did at 0530 through the housing area, where the occupants really did not appreciate a company of soldiers running through with those heavy combat boots.

As our training progressed, and I was starting to build up time as a soldier in the infantry, I knew that getting that prize possession (CIB) was not in the picture, at least, not during this enlistment, as there were no wars. There wasn't even talk of a war. All of this started to change as we entered the last few days of June 1950.

On June 30, 1950, at around 2200, I had just returned from town celebrating my once-a-month pay day. As I entered the

## NURSE from page 10

main gate, the MP on duty inquired what company I was with. I told him "B" 21st. He informed me that my company had been alerted and to report in immediately.

As soon as I arrived, my officer told me to get down to the Supply Room and draw ammunition and "C" Rations for my Squad. He really didn't tell me why. I do not think he was sure himself what was going on.

At 0300 we were loaded aboard trucks. The flap on my truck was closed, since it was raining like crazy. Suddenly, the flap flew open. A Catholic Chaplain stuck his head in and inquired if anyone was Catholic. Several of us nodded; he gave us the Last Rites. It wasn't until that act was performed that I realized we were going into a very dangerous situation. It's a funny thing: at that very moment, the CIB did not enter my head.

The next morning, after a 75-mile truck drive through heavy rain, we arrived at Itazuki AFB, boarded C-54 aircraft, and flew to Korea. I had my war—but I was pretty scared.

My baptism of fire occurred on July 3 and July 4 when I was strafed by the Australians on the 3rd and the North Koreans on the 4th. On the morning of the 5th of July, we got involved in our first ground action. At that time, I had no idea that I had finally earned my CIB.

When I came home from that war, no one commented on my badge. But the veterans who had earned it commented. Sometimes they just gave you a silent handshake, mostly they just inquired where you earned it.

I thought earning the badge would be a really great accomplishment. It was. But, as I have learned, my reward, then and now, comes not from the badge, but from recognition by those Soldiers who earned it themselves. There is a bond there that I feel is greater than the award itself.

Words really do not have to be exchanged. CIB veterans know what you did to earn the badge and understand the price you paid for the privilege of wearing it. That is really the only recognition I need.

Joseph A. Langone, 16829 Acebo Dr., San Diego, CA 92128-2603

We again boarded the train for Pusan. The retreat caught our advance party near Pyongyang. They assisted with the evacuation of the wounded and didn't return to us for several weeks.

Here we were in Pusan again with the bad odor, but now we realized the whole country had the smell. The farmers used human feces for manure. The "honey-bucket" man collected it from the latrines and carted it back to the fields. (You always checked the latrines before entering). At the fields the manure was put into pits dug in the ground. To protect the manure from the elements, the holes were covered with rice straw mats open on one side to allow for the cooling process. The odor came from this and the open gutters at the sides of the unpaved roads in the city.

The women, too, were a century behind. They would launder our fatigues. They took them to the river, beat them on the rocks until clean, ironed them and returned them beautifully folded. Always, your clothes were on your cot.

On my return to Korea in 2009, as part of the Korean War Revisit Program, 59 years after the devastation we helped to create, I found the country alive, well, and happy. The country is full of color, trees have been replanted, streets are wide and paved, bridges stand intact. There are many tall buildings and high rise apartment houses.

Businesses and shops are well-constructed with no bullet holes. Cars and trucks are in bumper-to-bumper traffic, to rival New York City, as well as buses and high speed trains that provide surface travel. Airplanes, both civilian and military, keep the skies busy.

The people are well-dressed, with women free to wear modern styles or the beautiful colored delicate fabrics of their older generations. Women are in the business world, no longer taking clothes to the river or searching for useful articles in the trash.

The people walk fast, talk fast, and have the confidence to be achievers. They are polite, even in traffic, with no horn blowing, shouting, or even squealing of brakes. Their educational standards are excellent. Ninety-eight percent of the adults are literate, and on the global economical scale they have risen from next to last in 1950 to within the top 10 today. Their technology and engineering skills are recognized in other countries that hire them for projects.

The most gratifying of all is that there are no children living on the streets. The Korean families are very close and teach their children the values and rituals of the generations.

What do the Koreans think of us? As soon as they know you are an American veteran, they say, "Thank you for your sacrifice."

Our tour guide, Sofie, told us in an informal chat, "They call this the Forgotten War, but it is not forgotten by us. My grandfather told my father and my father told me and I will tell my children this: 'They did not know us, but the Americans came and saved us. We saw the blood, the missing arms and legs, the dead, and yet they came and saved us.' We will never forget you, and your story will go through our generations, one after another, and you will never be forgotten."

There was no peace treaty signed. The war just stopped. There were no celebrations. The guns were silent. Let us remember all of those who gave their lives to help the South Koreans succeed.

Statistics: the war still continues. Memorial Day is to remember and to honor those who served their country in war and peace and to maintain the ideal of "Liberty and Freedom for All." We can feel pride in them and our country for "Freedom is not Free."

A special note to the nurses who served in Korea, 1950-1953:

Please consider taking the Revisit Korea Tour sponsored by the Korean Government for Korean War veterans. When we left Korea it was a mess; to see it today is almost unbelievable. It's clean and modern, but even more importantly, the people have become confident, full of spirit and energy, the results of hard work and success.

I was the first nurse to return to Korea through the Revisit Program. They went out of their way to honor me, and I felt humbled, for I was rear-echelon, not like the MASH units.

They treated me like a queen, and it was fun. However, my real amazement was with the Korean people and the courage it took to reach this level of success in only 60 years.

*Mary Teeters Reid, 1416 Park View Lane, Port Angeles, WA 98363-5548*

*1st Lieutenant, Army Nurse Corps (ANC): 8 Nov. 1949, Pittsburgh, Pa - 6 Nov. 1953; Korea: Nov. 1950 - Dec. 1951*

# Traveling to great distances

In 2010, my wife and I wanted to host another 45th Infantry Division, 180th Tank Company Reunion in our backyard as we did in 2005. Many of the veterans, now close to 80 years or older, were unable to travel from other states, so we made the decision to travel and visit some of them.

During our visits, we presented each of them with a DVD made by my wife, Pat, from my original slides that I had taken in Korea after the truce was signed. She added very appropriate patriotic music to each DVD.

In February, we traveled to Sarasota, FL to visit our commanding officer, Retired Lt. General Roland Heiser, and his wife, Gwenne. In April, we traveled to Davison, MI, visiting Chuck Meyers and Wally Pichette. Then, it was on to Hazel Park, MI to visit Elzie Thacker.

In June, we hosted a small gathering of local vets from western New York, including Bob Reimondo, Joe Engelhaupt and Bob Enser. Our final journey was to Maine in August, where we rendezvoused with Ed Lowney, from Winthrop, MA and Bill Warren from Sanford, ME. All the aforementioned people we visited are 180th tankers.

In all, we traveled nearly 5,000 miles in our motor home. We were rewarded with countless memories and the renewal of bonds that were established when we were all together in Korea for one prime purpose: to protect the freedom for our great country, the United States of America.

*James D. Rebmann  
13957 Taylor Hollow Rd.  
Gowanda, NY 14070-9708  
716-532-4531  
par60jnj@aol.com*



**LtGen Roland Heiser (U.S. Army, Ret) & Gwenne Heiser**



**Some of Jim Rebmann's "visitees" (L-R) Bob Reimondo, Joe Engelhaupt, Howard Schafer (not a tanker, but was at Fort Knox, KY in basic training with some of the vets), Rebmann's 93-year-old father in law (who is proud of these vets), Jim Rebmann, Bob Enser**

**We were rewarded with countless memories and the renewal of bonds...**



**Jane & Chuck Meyers, Jerry Rogers, Wally Pichette, two lady friends, Jim Rebmann (L-R)**



**Cathy & Ed Lowney, Jim Rebmann, Bill & Theresa Warren (L-R)**



**Emma & Elzie Thacker**

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Problems twisting, turning or reaching due to physical problems such as...?

- Arthritis
- Obesity
- Osteoporosis
- Hemorrhoids
- Parkinson's Disease
- MS / MD / ALS
- Effects of a Stroke
- IBS / IBD Crohn's Disease
- Shoulder / Arm Injury
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- And More



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-P.M. (for D.M.), Oak Harbor, WA

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**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

## 59 - NORTHEAST NEW YORK [NY]

Over the summer of 2010, chapter members participated in events that commemorated the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War.

On June 25, 2010 we combined with CID 60, Adirondack, NY, to lead the parade through the Empire State Plaza to the New York State Korean Memorial in Albany, NY. Two of the members of Chapter 59, John Edwards and James Long, were among the guest speakers at the ceremony commemorating the 60th Anniversary.



Northeast New York Chapter 59 Officers 1st Vice Commander Ken Kuck, 2nd Vice Commander James Busher, Commander Gus DeMars at ceremony in front of Rensselaer County, NY Korean War Memorial in Troy, NY on July 27, 2010.

Chaplain John Herbert, Membership Chairman John Drescher, Treasurer Jim Long, Director Tom Town on July 27, 2010 at the Rensselaer County Korean War Memorial in Troy, New York



Adirondack Chapter 60 and Northeast Chapter 59 Officers lead Parade in Albany, NY on June 25, 2010. (L-R) Adirondack Chapter Commander/Northeast Chapter Member, John Egan, Commissioner of New York State Office of General Services (sponsor of the event), John Edwards, first Commander of Chapter 59, James Busher, Past Commander and current 2nd Vice Commander of Chapter 59



60th Anniversary Ceremony June 25, 2010 in Albany, New York at the New York State Korean War Memorial. Adirondack NY Chapter 60 and Northeast NY Chapter 59 members participated

Members participated in a ceremony at the Rensselaer County, New York Korean War Memorial in Troy, NY on July 27, 2010.

*James H. Busher, PO Box 44 Lansinbaugh Sta. Troy, NY 12182-0044, JBushers2@aol.com*

## 121 - GREATER CINCINNATI [OH]

We participated in the 2010 Cincinnati Veterans Day Parade.

*Robert McGeorge, 3296 Blueacres Dr., Cincinnati, OH*



Greater Cincinnati (Ch 121) members at the 2010 Cincinnati Veterans Day Parade (L-R) Gene Molen, Tom Schneider, Bob McGeorge, Jack Weisbrod, Dr. Lee, Dave Wedig, Don Kleigers, Russ Carlson, George Kerber

## 138 - AKRON REGIONAL [OH]

Thirty-four members marched in the 2009 Fourth of July Parade in Stow, OH. They were supported by soldiers of the 1st Bn., 145th Armored Regt, Ohio National Guard, Stow, OH.

*Don H. George, 5782 Manchester Rd. Akron, OH 44319, 330-645-1315*





Ch 138 Honor Guard at 2009 Stow, OH Fourth of July Parade (Front, L-R) Mark Hudak, Frank Thomas (Back, L-R) Sonny Cool, Bill Niebuhr, Don George



Members of Ch 138 at Stow, OH 2009 Fourth of July Parade (L-R) Sonny Cool (187th Airborne RCT), John Shaffer ("I" Co., 3rd Bn., 187th ABN RCT), Bill Niebuhr (U.S. 8th Army, Korea), Don H. George (1st Bn., 187th ABN RCT)



Soldiers of 1st Bn., 145th Armored Regt. Ohio National Guard at 2009 Stow, OH Fourth of July Parade

# APPLICATION FOR KOREA REVISIT & PEACE CAMP FOR YOUTH (PCFY) TOURS

(UPDATED 01/14/11)

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_

KWVA Member, # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date (Exp date) \_\_\_\_\_

*NOTE: If you have not yet received your membership # from KWVA please insert "applied for."*

List all your addresses, (seasonal/if more than one per year) and dates of residence, no P.O. Boxes.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Dates \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Dates \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ **E-Mail\*** \_\_\_\_\_

\*- CRUCIAL FOR IMMEDIATE TOUR UPDATES

**Korea Revisit Only**

Veterans Passport# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth (DOB) \_\_\_\_\_

Companion Name/Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

Companion's Passport# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_

*NOTE: If you do not have a passport with 6 months validity after last date of return to USA 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 (Both Tours)**

Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Period of Service in the Korean Theater (month/year) from \_\_\_\_\_ thru \_\_\_\_\_

Veterans / family member signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Complete and mail this form along with the \$450.00 deposit / service-fee per person (check, money order or Credit Card) to Military Historical Tours. Payment in full is required for applications submitted within sixty days of tour departure.*

**(PCFY) Peace Camp For Youth (Only)**

Grandchild: Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail<sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Passport #<sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_

*NOTES: 1- CRUCIAL FOR IMMEDIATE TOUR UPDATES 2- If no passport put Applied for in this block and call in when received.*

**Credit Card Authorization:**

I authorize **Military Historical Tours** by my signature above to charge my Visa, Master Card or Amex **\$450.00** Per Person,

The amount of **\$450.00** Per Person Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ **please include the 3-Digit code on back of card** \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on the Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_

*Korea Revisit related material please send to:*

**KWVA Revisit Korea Program**  
**C/O MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS**  
**13198 CENTERPOINTE WAY STE #202**  
**WOODBIDGE, VA 22193-5285**

**Phone: 703-590-1295 or 800-722-9501**  
**Fax: 703-590-1292**  
**E-Mail: mhtours@miltours.com**  
**[www.miltours.com](http://www.miltours.com)**

**Background**

The Korea Revisit program was begun by the **Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MPVA/Seoul)** in 1975 for the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War to express the **Republic of Korea (ROK's)** government's gratitude to Korean War veterans and their families also to show them the bountiful results of

their sacrifices and devotion.

**MPVA's Eligibility Requirements**

Korean War Veterans who served in or supported ground, naval, or air operations in the Korean Theater between June 25, 1950 and October 15, 1954. **Family members** of deceased or disabled Veterans are eligible to participate in the "Korea Revisit Program." An eligible applicant is allowed

to bring a family member or friend as a "travel companion."

**Expanded Eligibility**

- 1) For the 60th anniversaries (2010-13) there will be more quotas available. In addition, those who have been on a Revisit prior to 2006 can apply to return again. (Call MHT for more details)

2) Widows and family members of deceased veterans or those unable to travel are also eligible for the Revisit as **Veteran Representatives**.

### Benefits & Schedule

Free hotel accommodations for the veteran their companion or veteran representatives, meals for 5 nights and 6 days in Seoul for 2 people. If you want to bring more people you may at your expense. Accommodations are based on (2) persons per room, if you want your own hotel room you may at your own expense. All of the above items need to be requested in writing. Tours of Seoul and its vicinity, banquet hosted by the MPVA and KVA with presentation of the "Ambassador for Peace" medal, tours of the DMZ, Pan-Mun-Jom, War Memorial Museum, and the National Cemetery.

### Peace Camp For Youth (PCFY) Program for Grandchildren of Veterans

Purpose is to express the sincere gratitude of the Korean people and to build a network for future collaboration among **Families of Korean War Veterans**. Grandchildren must be at least 18 years old.

### Benefits & Schedule for (PCFY)

Same as the Veterans tour with an extra day of events and subsidizes are per person, with no companions.

### Sundry Notes

1. The MPVA Revisit Program privileges are provided for scheduled groups only.
2. Participants are required to have a valid passport that does not expire until 6 months after return to the USA.
3. Neither MPVA Seoul nor MHT Virginia U.S.A is responsible for any loss of or damage to personal or other items; medical expenses, injuries or loss of life due to any accident of any nature during the tour.
4. Hospitalization, Evacuation and Trip Cancellation Insurance is required by MPVA for all veterans, companions or veteran representatives. Insurance costs are included in the admin service charge for Korea only.
5. Transportation costs to/from Korea will be borne by each person who participates in the program. The Korean government is now subsidizing airfare for persons traveling with the MHT administered group.
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 the administrative service fee of \$450.00 per person is still required for the insurance and administration.

**FLASH**

# REVISIT KOREA NEWS

**FLASH**

## 2011 Revisit Korea Dates

Fellow Korean War veterans, families and friends,

We have just received the 2011 Revisit Korea Tour dates:

**May 23 - 29 June 21 - 27 and Sept 26 - Oct 2**

Because of Korean government budget constraints, the quotas are about one third of the 2010 tours. Consequently, if you have NOT sent in your registrations, with deposit, you must do so ASAP to be considered for 2011. All the registration information can be found on the KWVA web site, [www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org) or at [www.miltours.com](http://www.miltours.com). It can also be found in the official KWVA publication "The Graybeards". After checking these sites, and if you have additional questions, please call 800-722-9501 or 703-590-1295.

If you have already registered, with money on deposit, you will soon receive in the mail a booklet outlining what forms you must submit, as well as requesting your tour choices. Since we only have three (3) dates this year, rather than the seven (7) of last year, you MUST give us optional dates, in order of your priority. (Please don't include dates which you cannot utilize!) "First come, First served," is the KWVA policy and there will be no deviations. You must also be a current dues paying member of KWVA.

The eligibility remains the same, and can be seen on the above web sites.

Yes – the Peace Camps for Youth in July (for our grandchildren) will be scheduled again. However, we have not yet received the exact dates or quotas.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Warren Wiedhahn  
Coordinator - Revisit Korea Tours  
[JWiedhahn@aol.com](mailto:JWiedhahn@aol.com)  
13198 Centerpointe Way, Ste 202  
Woodbridge, VA 22193-5285

## I missed mail the most

Here is what I missed most during my time as an Infantry Rifle Platoon Leader in the Korean War in 1951...decent food, naps, and chances to wash up a bit. Mostly, I missed letters from friends and loved ones. We were always on the move, mostly northward, but occasionally southward when the Chinese pushed us back.

After about a month, I was wounded by a Chinese machine gunner and evacuated on a litter by a couple medics and helicopters back to a M.A.S.H. unit—just like on TV these days.

Several weeks later, I was in a VA hospital in my hometown, Washington DC. There, a bundle of mail caught up with me, 80% of which was ads and requests for donations. The other 20% was real letters. WOW!!

I sorted them by postmark dates. Then, I enjoyed the friendly correspondence, which was much better than wading through the piles of old magazines in doctors' waiting rooms.

Morton "Pete" Wood, 1st Lt., Infantry (Ret.)  
9221 Hollyoak Drive  
Bethesda, MD 20817

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