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See detailed list of committees at www.kwva.org
We are preparing for our Annual Membership Meeting in Boston now. By the time you receive this magazine we will have completed our meeting. I look forward to seeing and meeting many of our members from the Boston area and surrounding states.

In July of this year the Board of Directors attended “The Gathering,” which is a group of Korean War veterans who have made it a point to be in Washington DC for the past 27 years to attend a ceremony conducted at our Korean War Veterans Monument. There are many members of our Association who have attended. There are, of course, non-members who also attend.

The ceremony this year was not quite up to par, so the Association and those who direct “The Gathering” are looking into a way to not let this Armistice Day Ceremony fail expectations, especially for the remaining 60th Anniversary years. The Board of Directors attended a reception at the Capitol during this time frame and met some of the members of Congress, as well as some of the Korean hosts for this reception.

I have the opportunity to give you some future dates that will have happened just before you receive the November-December issue. First, my Ceremonies Group will be in Washington DC to attend the Veterans Day Ceremony at the National Cemetery. This information was included in the July-August issue. November and December also have many Korean Military Remembrance days. Notable are November 25th, CCF Counteroffensive into North Korea; November 27th, Chosin Reservoir Battles; November 29th, Battle of Kunu-ri; December 10th, Wonsan-Hungnam Campaigns; December 24th, Hungnam Evacuation Operation completed.

There are many other battles in Korea that each of us can remember during these months in the 37 months of the Korean War. Special and religious dates are: November 24th, Thanksgiving; December 16th, Hanukkah; December 25th, Christmas. I hope you all have the opportunity to gather with your family and remember all those who are not now present with you and to thank your God for all the blessings bestowed on you and yours.

We Korean War veterans are very blessed to still be able to celebrate these dates, pray for our country, and show our patriotism.

There are many good things in the works at this time. I have information that the Korean War Monument Foundation has been given Korean paintings worth five million dollars to be used to raise funds for the Monument Wall that will contain the names of all those killed in action from the United States. The wall will be placed in the Korean War Monument area.

Also, I have recently received information that the Korean War National Museum is planning on building in New York City. You may think this is not a good move, since they have always been trying to build the museum in Illinois. But, I believe that the new Board of Directors for the museum has information about funding that may have affected that decision.

The museum has asked to make a presentation at our Annual Membership Meeting this year. This was granted; further progress information will be placed in The Graybeards and on our website. I suggest that you check their website at www.kwm.org also.

Congress has been going from one crisis to another all this year. Consequently, the bill about the Korean Service Veterans I reported on during the May-June President’s Message has fallen in priority. I hope to hear more about it so I can update you of its progress in a later issue.

I also reported that we received 5,000 books on the Korean War for our “Tell America Project” from the Korean government. We have, but a problem about shipping them to us has arisen, since our contact at the Embassy has returned to Korea and a new attaché has been assigned.

Somehow, the message did not get passed on that the books were to be shipped to the KWVA. We have already had some calls from chapters, but until we solve the shipping problem from the Embassy in Washington, D.C. to us, we must wait for the approval to do so from the Korean government. Most political problems within governments are not solved easily.

Our election process has been modified to help with the problem of some members not receiving their Graybeards soon enough to send in their ballots on time. Since the bylaws must be changed properly, the change approved by the Board of Directors was inserted in the July-August issue of The Graybeards and will be approved at the October Annual Membership Meeting. There is a detailed explanation in this issue of why the change was necessary and the date changes.

If you wish to run for an open office in the Board of Directors for the 2012 Election, please be sure and look in this issue for the date your submittal will be due.

William Mac Swain
KWVA President

The Graybeards Deadlines

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

Jan-Feb .................................................................Jan 15
Mar-Apr ...............................................................Mar 15
May-June .............................................................May 15
July-Aug .............................................................July 15
Sept-Oct .............................................................Sept 15
Nov-Dec ............................................................Nov 15
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In this issue I give you examples of e-mails that I receive almost daily and my responses to those messages. In some cases, I hope someone can help the person sending the e-mail.

Blood-stained Korean Flag

Gentlemen:

I’m looking for a Korean War veteran who came to our Embassy a few years ago carrying a blood-stained Korean flag. He said he drove a tank in the war. During an engagement with the enemy he saw a wounded South Korean soldier lying on the ground, clutching a flag. He got out of his tank, picked up the Korean, carried him to the tank, and later delivered him to a field hospital.

When he left, the Korean gave him the flag as an expression of gratitude. When he came to the Embassy, he said he thought it was time to give it back. Do any of you know who he is and where I can find him?

President Lee Myung-bak of South Korea will address a joint session of the U.S. Congress next month and I’d like to try to get that story into his speech.

Thanks very much for any help. My phone numbers are below.
John Brinkley, Executive Communications Director, Embassy of the Republic of Korea, 2450 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington DC 20008,

Here is my response:

I tried to return your call and left a message. Events like this are almost impossible to verify. In this case, I will put the information in our semi-monthly magazine, The Graybeards. Hopefully, we will get some response.

1951 Year Book, 5th Armored Div., Camp Chaffee, AR

Dear Sir;

Thank you for your service to our country. My father had 10 years in the National Guard and his cousin, my uncle, was wounded at Pork Chop Hill. The purpose of this e-mail is to find someone interested in a photo album, cigar box of memorabilia, and a 1951 year book of the 5th Armored Div., Camp Chaffee, Ark.

This is how I came about possession of these items. A couple years ago my son’s then girlfriend’s step-dad threw these items in the trash. My son asked him about them and he said that he was adopted and they belonged to his step-dad and he wanted nothing to do with them.

My son, recognizing their value, took them out of the trash and brought them home to me. I posted this story on one of the military websites I frequent and got little response and no takers as to my donating these items to a Korean War vet or organization. The items belong to one William O. Taylor.

I thank God for this gift of resurrection and would thank Him even more if I could find a place where they could be saved, displayed and cherished. There are lots of photos but with no captions and a few personal items. If you have any interest or could point me in the right direction, I would greatly appreciate the honor of this opportunity to share these small treasures and I would be happy to answer any questions to the best of my ability.

Thank you.

Frank’s comments:

I have not yet responded to the foregoing e-mail. My response would have been to send the items to our museum, but as you read in this issue the location of the museum has been moved to New York and it is still a long way before it is completed. Most of us will be gone by then, so maybe someone still living and who was assigned to the 5th Armored Div. can make better use of them.

Have You Heard?

VA launched the telephone service, Coaching into Care, to provide assistance to family members and friends trying to encourage their veteran to seek health care for possible readjustment and mental health issues. “Those closest to Veterans are often the first to recognize when Veterans are having difficulties,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. “Family members and friends may not know what to say to encourage their Veterans to seek much needed readjustment and health care. The Coaching into Care line will help them find the right words.”

To help Veterans address problems and make good decisions about care, the Coaching into Care program offers unlimited, free coaching with family members or friends. This phone line is connected to VA’s Veterans Crisis Line, Caregiver Support Line, and the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans. This way, if the caller or Veteran is in an immediate crisis, has concerns regarding care giving for a disabled Veteran, or is seeking assistance regarding homelessness, one number covers it all.

The toll-free number is 1-888-823-7458, 8 a.m. – 8 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, and online at http://www.mirecc.va.gov/coaching/. The Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255, press 1 for Veterans.

Phone Calls and Minutes

There are a couple other items that are sort of personal, but here they are anyway:

Telephone Calls:

I try to return all of the several calls that I receive every day—but only if I recognize your name or if you leave me a message on my answering machine. Otherwise, do not expect a return call. There are so many calls that I get that say unknown for the name. If there is a call and there is a name I look on the database. If you are a member, I will return the call. Please help by leaving a message on the answering machine. Thanks.

Minutes:

Some of you probably do not know how the minutes of our
meetings are handled. We hire a recorder who records verbatim (at least what the recorder can hear and understand) everything that is said at the meetings. The recorders do not come cheap.

The recent board meeting in DC cost the Association $7.25 per page. The recorder makes two hard copies of the minutes, one for the President and one for me to file, and an electronic (email) copy that is sent to both of us. The minutes for the last Board meeting totaled 281 pages!

In addition, there was an executive meeting that resulted in an additional 61 pages. There is no way that those verbatim minutes could be published in The Graybeards, which is limited to 80 pages. So, the verbatim minutes have to be reviewed by someone and condensed to fewer than 6-8 pages. That someone is me.

This time I was able to condense the 281 pages into six pages for publication in The Graybeards. Those six pages cover all of the action items, motions, etc., made during the meeting. This took me several hours over several days and our President made several changes to the first release.

I made the changes and tried to resend them. Not one of my three operating computers let me send them. The details of why that happened would blow your mind, so I will not go there.

Long story short: one of my grandsons (of course) fixed the problem, so you are getting the minutes in this issue. So at least read them because a lot of effort and frustration are contained in those minutes.

Your Secretary,

Frank Cohee
P.S. I need a raise.

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 Heatherknot Dr, Dallas, TX 75248-5534. All contributions will be acknowledged, unless the donor specifically requests to remain anonymous. And, if you have an “In memory of” (IMO) request, include that as well. We thank you for your generous support.

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<td>Frank Cohee</td>
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Important Information For All Members: 2011 Election Changes

At its July 2011 meeting, the Board of Directors approved changes for the submission dates of applications and ballots for future elections. The KWVA membership will vote on these changes at the October Membership Meeting. The changes are designed to eliminate common problem areas found in past elections.

Each year there are members who receive the voting issue of The Graybeards over a month late and do not have time to submit a ballot for voting. Since we cannot change the mail system to enhance earlier delivery, our proposed changes will eliminate that problem and allow an additional month to submit a ballot.

Please read the following information that shows the new closing and submission dates. (Changes are shown after the dates involved.)

Candidate resumes and ballots will be published in the Jan/Feb issue of The Graybeards. (Two months earlier each year.)

If you want to run for office, you must submit paperwork prior to December 15th each year of the year preceding the election. That is two months earlier than previously submitted. For example, if you want to run for office in 2013, you must submit your paperwork by December 15, 2012.

The voting ballots must be submitted to arrive by May 10th—one month earlier than previously submitted.

Tabulation of ballots will be finalized by May 15th each year—one month earlier than in previous years.

The changed requirements will allow an additional month for submission of delayed ballots and give members an additional month to mail ballots to the CPA, to arrive by May 10th each year.

KWVA departments and chapters will now have additional time to disseminate candidate information at meetings.

As soon as all candidate applications and resumes are verified and sent to The Graybeards editor, the Chair of Elections will have them posted on the KWVA website.

After the CPA has completed the tabulation of ballots, on or after May 15th, the election results will be posted on the KWVA website. The official notification system has not been changed.

Common errors made in the past by candidates at the time of submission include:

• Failure to submit early, eliminating time for corrections to be submitted.
• Failure to release the Application Information to the Committee.
• Failure to include required information.

Please verify the SPM Form 4.9-1 requirements list several times prior to submission.

Dates of submission in SPM section 3.6.2 will be changed after approval by the membership at the October Membership Meeting. Form 4.9-1 Section 1 is quite clear.

I look forward to receiving your applications.

If you have any questions, contact the Elections Chairman ASAP.

Respectfully,

Thomas M McHugh, Director
Elections Chairman
Korea Revisit Participants during a re-enactment at the Chipyong-ni Battlefield. Be there for the 1952 battle ceremonies next year!!!

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It’s funny what you don’t know about people and their connection to the Korean War. Sometimes we will never learn what we don’t know if we don’t attend reunions.

I attended my high school graduating class’ picnic recently to commemorate the 53rd anniversary of our graduation in 1958. Ours is a somewhat different class when it comes to holding reunions. So are most classes.

We held a 26th year reunion because the committee chairman quit just before the traditional 25th and said, “If someone else wants to do it, go ahead.” By the time that someone else stepped in, it was too late for a 25th, so we had a 26th.

Then, after our 50th anniversary get-together, a classmate pointed out, needlessly, I might add, that some of us are getting older and may not be around much longer, so we should hold reunions more often. (Notice how these same observations apply to veterans organizations?) So, we put together a 53rd commemoration picnic. Some people called it a 53rd Reunion, but it was really our 11th. It’s all in the wording.

Many reunions are not what they are labeled. A college graduate will say, for example, “I am attending our 45th class reunion, which we hold every five years.” Well, technically, that would be 225 years after graduation. If it’s the 45th reunion, and it is held every five years, that’s 5 x 25 = 225. I should live that long.

Anyway, those of us who graduated from different grammar schools together held mini-reunions at our picnic. Waterbury, CT, where I grew up, had a plethora of public and parochial schools. There was one public school on every street corner, it seemed, and one Catholic school for every saint, until the diocese started doubling up on the names. I attended a school named after two saints, Peter and Paul.

The name of Father John Crawford arose at the picnic among St. Thomas and SS Peter and Paul Parochial school graduates. (The SS has nothing to do with the German Army of WWII fame, although our nuns, the oxymoronically named Sisters of Mercy, might have qualified to join—indeed, lead—that organization.) He was the principal of St. Thomas before he was traded to SS Peter and Paul for two nuns, a worn-out missal, and a six pack of holy water.

His athletic teams at St. Thomas were pitiful. Each school had baseball and basketball teams in the city’s Parochial League. There were about ten schools represented in each league. Saints Peter and Paul was a traditional power house in both sports. God and all the saints combined couldn’t help St. Thomas.

Father Crawford probably sent a letter of thanks to the Pope every night for three years after he got traded. He arrived at SS Peter and Paul in 1953. The next year we won the city baseball championship and advanced to the state tournament title game. I don’t remember who won the game, but St. Lawrence O’Toole of Hartford was the state champion that year.

Darn, I wish I could remember who won that final game!

One of the oddities on our 1954 team was that I was the only starter not named Billy or Bobby. Our coach, a Waterbury cop named Joe Bagley, who ran the team as if he were a drill instructor and we were recruits, learned quickly not to say things like “Pick up a bat, Billy,” or “Grab a glove, Bobby.” Every time he did, six kids would be standing by his side eagerly awaiting the coach’s instructions. So, he’d say “Everybody not named Billy or Bob pick up a bat.” That left me, so I got a lot of extra playing time. Sadly, Father Crawford did not. He died at a rather early age.

Father Crawford was a nice man and a benevolent principal—especially where his ballplayers were concerned. After the baseball season ended, he bought the entire team tickets to a Red Sox game and paid all our expenses. I don’t remember the details, but the Red Sox either won or lost. In either case, their pitcher that day was a 6’7” dude named Frank Sullivan. He was a Korean War veteran—and so was Father Crawford, as I learned at our recent picnic. Sullivan had to be the tallest infantryman in Korea!

Father Crawford always had a somewhat off-balance posture, as if his neck had been injured at some point. As I found out, it had been. A couple of my classmates informed me at the picnic that he had been wounded in WWII and Korea while he was serving as a chaplain. I had never known that. And, I never would have found out if I hadn’t attended my high school class’ 53rd—uh, 11th—reunion.

Catholic Chaplain John Crawford died several years ago. I never got the chance to salute him for his service to our country in two wars. I salute him now, along with all the other chaplains who have served so valiantly in our nation’s armed forces.

Now, if I could only remember who won that championship game in 1954.
ARLINGTON, VA - JULY 25, 2011

Call for the Meeting:
• Letter from the President/Secretary, May 8, 2011

Place of Announced Meeting:
• Crowne Plaza National Airport Hotel, 1480 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA

Call to Order:
• President Mac Swain called the meeting to order at 0900 hours, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. In the absence of the Chaplain, he then gave the invocation.

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

KWVA Board Members:
• William F. Mac Swain, President; James E. Ferris, 1st Vice President (no response-absent); Larry Kinard, 2nd Vice President; Frank E. Cohee, Jr., Secretary; J. Tilford Jones, Treasurer; Richard E. Brown, Sr., Director; George Bruzgis, Director; Luther Dappen, Director; Marvin Dunn, Director (no response-absent); Lewis Ewing, Director; James A. Fountain, Director; Arthur S. Griffith, Director (no response-absent); George E. Lawhon, Jr., Director; Thomas M. McHugh, Director; Luther E. Rice, Jr., Director; Thomas W. Stevens, Director; Ezra "Frank" Williams, Director

• Secretary Cohee noted that all officers and directors were not present, but declared that there was a quorum. 1st VP Ferris, Directors Dunn and Griffith were excused.

• President Mac Swain introduced the new and reelected officer and directors: Larry Kinard, 2nd Vice President, and Directors Richard Brown, George Bruzgis, Lewis Ewing, George Lawhon and Luther Rice. He also introduced Judge Advocate Billy Scott, Jennifer Young, the recorder, John (“Sonny”) Edwards, Commander Department of Virginia, Warren Wiedhahn, Coordinator for the Revisit Program and Washington, DC Liaison and Marty Goge, Member of Ceremonies Committee.

Installation of recently elected Board members:
• Judge Advocate Scott installed the new and reelected officer and directors.

Adopt agenda:
• Director Brown made a motion that the agenda be adopted; it was seconded by Director Stevens and passed unanimously.

Approval of Directors Rules of Decorum and Debate:
• President Mac Swain read the nine rules. Director McHugh made a motion that rule number 2 be revised to delete “The Board Member must stand when addressing the Board.” Director Lawhon seconded the motion; it was carried without any opposition.

Approval of previous Board of Directors Minutes of 10/19/2010 meeting:
• In lieu of having Secretary Cohee read the minutes, Director Williams made a motion to approve the minutes as published in the Nov-Dec 2010 Issue of The Graybeards. Director Fountain seconded the motion; it was approved without opposition.

Approval to destroy ballots for 2011 election:
• Director McHugh made a motion to destroy the ballots. It was seconded by Director Bruzgis; it was approved without opposition.

Approval to ratify the Business without a Meeting 12/13/2010 that approved St Louis, MO as the location for the 2012 Annual General Membership Meeting:
• Director Brown made a motion to ratify the meeting; it was seconded by Director Stevens and approved without opposition.

• President Mac Swain commented that although the Board has approved the location it still has to be approved by the General Membership. The President then appointed Director Fountain as the Chairman for the meeting and thanked him for what he has already done in preparation for the meeting.

Approval to ratify the Business without a Meeting 03/03/2011 that approved a revisit to the Bylaw Change to have at least two board meetings each year:
• Director Lawhon commented that this meeting was not in order according to Roberts Rules of order. He made a motion that the meeting be declared not legal. Director Fountain seconded that motion. The motion was carried with 7 for and 3 against.

Treasurer’s Report:
• Treasurer Jones commented that he was proud to report that the Association is financially sound.

• At the end of June 2011 we have a balance of $502,855, whereas at the end of June 2010 we only had $403,857.

• In June of 2009 our investments were $284,898.

• In June of 2011 they were $368,073.

• Our fund raiser this year, headed by Director Griffith, has already raised $58,765, with only $11,200 in expenses, resulting in a net of $47,460; there are still about three months to go.

• Last year at this time our fund raiser had only collected $1,900.

• Member Wayne Doenges needs to be thanked by all of us, because he donated the M-1 rifle that is one of the fund raiser prizes. Thanks also need to go to our webmaster, Jim Doppelhammer. Jim donates the office space for our membership office. Our auditor says that is worth $1,200 a month.

• President Mac Swain stated that he and the Treasurer, because of some changes in management and advisors, had changed the Association’s investments from Wells Fargo to First Advisory Pathway Advisor. He asked for a motion to approve that change. Director McHugh made the motion to accept the change; it was seconded by Director Bruzgis and approved with no opposition.

Report on the Revisit Program:
• Revisit Coordinator Warren Wiedhahn reported that the quota for 2011 was 230 and that it has been very successful. A peace camp for youths 18 or older has been established. This is also called the Grandchildren Program. At present, there are 15 grandchildren in Korea participating in the program.

Ethics and Grievance Committee Report:
• President Mac Swain asked for a motion to go into the executive meeting. This meeting is closed to all but the board members and
members of the executive committee. Business conducted at that meeting is of a personal nature and confidential and will not be released for publication. A motion was made by Director Williams to go into the executive meeting; it was seconded by Director Dappen and approved without opposition.

**Resume Regular Board Meeting:**

- 2nd VP Kinard made a motion to resume the regular board meeting; it was seconded by Director Lawhon and approved without opposition.

**Request from Nick Pappas to be reinstated in the Association:**

- Secretary Cohee read a letter that had been sent to him by Nick Pappas requesting reinstatement in the Association. Nick apologized for his actions that resulted in him being expelled. Director Rice made a motion that Mr. Pappas be reinstated; it was seconded by Director Fountain and carried by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of 8 to 4.

**Request to appoint a committee to recognize deserving past and present elected and appointed officers and directors:**

- Director Williams made a motion to appoint a committee to recognize past and present elected officers and directors by awarding plaques to the selected individuals. Director McHugh seconded the motion. Director Stevens made a motion to amend the original motion to include the comment that the committee would be appointed by the President. The amendment was seconded by Director Fountain and approved with one objection. President Mac Swain then repeated the motion as amended. “The president shall appoint a committee to recognize deserving past and present elected and appointed Officers and Directors.” The motion was then voted on and was approved with one objection.

**Request to change the date of submission to have all candidates for election submit their application by Dec. 15:**

- Director McHugh made a motion to change the date for submission of the candidates’ resumes to Dec. 15 instead of Feb. 15, and that the completed ballots be sent to the CPA by May 15. Director Lawhon seconded the motion. President Mac Swain commented that this would require a change to the bylaws. The motion passed unanimously to also change the bylaws and place the dates in the SPM.

**Request to increase the mileage allowance from $ .40 to $ .50 for KWVA trips to and from Washington, DC area only:**

- Director McHugh made a motion to increase the mileage reimbursement from $ .40 to $ .50 for meetings in Washington DC, effective with this meeting. Director Rice seconded the motion; it was approved without objection.

**Request to allow Chairpersons to have committee members’ names changed in the database without waiting for approval at a Board meeting:**

- Director McHugh made a motion to have the committee members’ names changed by the Secretary in the database without waiting for approval at a Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Director Fountain. The motion was approved without objection.

**Request to authorize a Legacy Life membership by giving life members the opportunity to nominate a son, daughter, grandson or granddaughter, niece or nephew, as their legacy life member. Dues to be determined upon authorization:**

- This request was submitted by Mike Glazzy, Commander of the Department of California, and presented by Secretary Cohee. President Mac Swain commented that if this request is approved it will require a change to our charter that requires approval by Congress.

Director McHugh made a motion that no action be taken on this request at this time. Director Dappen seconded the motion; it was approved without objection.

**Request for the Board to discuss the Arizona Department’s status and to determine actions that may be required:**

- This request was submitted by Director Lawhon. President Mac Swain stated that he also wrote to the Attorney General of Corporations in Arizona and told them that the Department of Arizona was no longer a bona fide arm of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. and that we would have no liability for a Department that used the name of State Department of Arizona for the Korean War Veterans Association.

**Request for the Board to discuss the status of Texas Chapter 76 and to determine actions that may be required:**

- This request was submitted by Director Lawhon. President Mac Swain commented that Chapter 76 has turned in their charter. They are still in operation. Some members are still members of National, but many are not. They are no longer chartered by the Association and are not listed as an active chapter in our database. They are no longer called Korean War Veterans Association members, but are now called “Korean War Veterans,” period.

**Request to make a verbatim record of all called meetings available to all voting Board members:**

- This request was submitted by Director Lawhon. Director Stevens commented that what he already gets in the summary printed in The Graybeards is sufficient. The verbatim minutes for all Board, General Membership and Executive meetings would be placed on the website. The Executive portion of the Board Meeting would have a double secure area, meaning that two passwords would be required to access that area.

- Director Lawhon made a motion that upon request a verbatim record of all future called meetings will be available to all voting Board members. Director Fountain seconded the motion; it was approved without objection.

**Request to give clarification regarding resolutions when a bylaws change results and when a bylaw change does not result:**

- This request was submitted by Director Lawhon. Essentially, there was an error in the bylaws that required all resolutions to go to the general membership for ratification. This was not the intent. Only those resolutions that require a bylaws change need to go to the membership. Since this was just an administrative change, no motion was necessary.
Request to consider establishing a Sons of Korean War Veterans Association:

- This request was submitted by Jerry Charles from Washington State. A copy of his letter was in the May-Jun 2011 issue of The Graybeards entitled "Sons of Korean Veterans: Good Idea or Not?"

The only response received was from Past Director Lee Dauster. Lee essentially thought it was a good idea. Unfortunately, not only would this require a bylaw change it would require a change to our Federal Charter.

- A bill is being drafted so that Service Veterans can become members, for IRS purposes only, as a War Veteran so that we will not lose our deductibility. Director Bruzgis made a motion that we take no action at this time. The motion was seconded by Director McHugh.

- Director Lawhon made a motion to amend the motion to take no action at this time to read to consider at some other time. The amendment was seconded by Second Vice President Kinard and approved without opposition. President Mac Swain than asked for a vote on the amended motion to consider at some other time and it was approved without opposition.

Recommendation to change the name of the National Association to William T. Norris National Association of Korean War Veterans Association:

- This recommendation was submitted by Raymond A. Waldron. Commander of CID 60. President Mac Swain commented that this is a problem. Not only would we have to change our charter, but we would also have to change our corporation and our name with the IRS. None of these changes are that easy to make, and it takes a lot of time and paperwork. Director Williams made a motion that the recommendation be denied. The motion was seconded by Director Dappen and approved without objection.

Resolution to disallow the use of Chapter VI Roberts Rules," Subsidiary motions," i.e. POSTPONE INDEFINITELY at Association Business Meetings:

- This resolution was submitted by First Vice President Ferris as not being in the best interest of the Association. After review by the Resolutions Committee the resolution was rejected for two reasons:

1. There were and are legitimate uses of Roberts Rules of Order to gain the opportunity to resubmit the main motion for consideration.

2. Neither Roberts Rules of Order nor unfamiliarity with its content or usage give sufficient cause for anyone to ban its usage, in part or full.

A motion was made by Director Lawhon to approve rejection of the presented resolution. The motion was seconded by Director Dappen and approved with one objection. Director McHugh then made a motion that the terminology of “postpone indefinitely” be placed in the special rules for every meeting. The motion was seconded by Director Stevens and was carried with a vote of 6 for and 5 opposed.

Selection of location and date for the 2013 Annual General Membership Meeting:

- President Mac Swain commented that he would be out of office at that time, so we are making the decision for the next President. The logical choice is Washington DC, because 2013 is going to be the actual 60th Commemorative of the Korean War armistice. However, Director Dappen had recommended the Black Hills of South Dakota. Director McHugh made a motion that the meeting be held in Washington, DC. The motion was seconded by Director Fountain and carried with a vote of 9 for and 2 opposed.

For the Good of the Order:

- President Mac Swain commented that he had two things to bring before the Board: one was the National Korean War Museum. Congress has finally signed a bill for the museum to be built in Chicago, but no funds were allotted. “I would like to have approval by the Board to allow me to tell the CEO of the Museum that The Korean War Veterans Association does want a Korean War Museum built,” he said. Director Lawhon made a motion that we associate ourselves with the Museum. Director Dappen seconded the motion; it was approved without objection.

- Secretary Cohee submitted a request from First Vice President Ferris that the Association change the SPM to make the Immediate Past President the Ex-officio of all Board Meetings. This was accepted in the form of a motion. The motion was seconded by Second Vice President Kinard. Director McHugh proposed to amend the motion to postpone it until the October 2011 meeting in Boston. Director Dappen seconded the amended motion and it was approved without objection to be postponed until the October 2011 meeting in October.

- Director Lawhon discussed The Graybeards mailing list involving the postage required to send it without justification to people around the world. President Mac Swain agreed to review the list and to eliminate those that should not receive the magazine.

- Director Lawhon discussed the Board of Directors meeting in Norfolk at which the Board approved Department and Chapter websites. One item, not resolved was who paid for it.

  - Tom Thiel, Department of Florida, established a Department of Florida website using a Microsoft software program called Expression. Director Lawhon made a motion that the KWVA Treasurer be directed to pay a one-time sum not to exceed $100 to support any Chapter or Department eligible for a website. There was no second, so the motion failed.

  - Director Lawhon purchased the software at a cost of $96.99 and requested that he be reimbursed for that purchase. Director Fountain made a motion to reimburse Director Lawhon for the Expression software. The motion was seconded by Director Rice and passed without objection.

- President Mac Swain commented that there was one last business item to consider: supporting the addition of a Wall of Remembrance at the Korean War Veterans Memorial. Director Bruzgis made a motion to that effect; it was seconded by Director Ewing and approved without objection.

- There was a hand salute to the flag led by President Mac Swain. Director Fountain made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by 2nd VP Kinard; the meeting was adjourned at 1646.

Respectfully submitted,
Signed/Frank E. Cohee Jr.
National Secretary, KWVA

September – October 2011

The Graybeards
The membership is hereby notified that elections will be held in the spring of 2012 for the following National Korean War Veterans Association, INC. (KWVA) offices: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, and four (4) Directors for the years 2012-2015.

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

**Requirements:**

Applicants must:

A. Present proof of service by submitting a separate signed Official KWVA Membership Application Form showing eligible service years and a statement releasing the application form for verification by the Elections Committee (no fee required).

B. Present a current photograph, suitable for publication in The Graybeards.

C. Submit a letter, signed and dated, limited to approximately one (1) page, including the following:
   1) Your intent to run for an office and the office sought.
   2) A resume of your qualifications for this office, stating any experience that will be of benefit to the Association.
   3) Your current mailing address, telephone number and KWVA membership number.
   4) Your email address, if available.
   5) Alternate email address and alternate phone number, if available.
   6) A statement that you will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and that you understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for your removal from office.
   7) A statement that your dues are current through the whole term of the office that you are seeking. Note: Payment of delinquent dues shall not be retroactive for the purpose of establishing eligibility to run for office within the Association.

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

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

Address application packages and questions to: Thomas M. McHugh, Election Committee Chairman, 217 Seymour Road, Hackettstown, NJ 07840: Ph: 908-852-1964 Email: TMMcHugh@msn.com

The KWVA election process is as follows:

- The ballots are also published in that edition.
- Members cast their ballots by May 10th and mail them to the KWVA-approved CPA.
- The CPA counts the ballots and reports the results via certified tally sheets to the Elections Committee.
- The results reported by the CPA are verified by the Elections Committee.
- Copies of the completed and verified tally sheets are sent by certified mail to each of the 15 Board Members, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and to each of the candidates for office, regardless of whether they are a winner or loser.

Frank Cohee
KWVA National Secretary

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**New novel about the Korean War:**

**PUBLIC INFORMATION**

**Written by a sergeant from the 7th Infantry Division,**

it tells the story of a young soldier who arrives in Korea during combat in 1953 and follows his adventures during a 16 month tour of duty. He becomes a combat correspondent and writer for the *Pacific Star and Stripes*, travels widely, associates with a number of indelible characters (which will be familiar to veterans who were there), engages in combat, gets in trouble and even finds love.

The book is carefully researched and includes recently discovered information about the conflict. The characters speak military jargon, including colorful curses, and issues arising from both sides of the 38th Parallel are examined—prison camps, repatriation, activities of the U.N. Forces, the “Army Way,” and leave in Japan. Basically, it’s a coming of age story under harsh circumstances.

**Readers have called it “hilarious...moving...poignant.”**

The soft cover 380 page book retail for $25.

A special 20% discount is offered to readers of *The Graybeards*. Visit www.frogworks.com and enter the coupon code "KVET" for the discount. The first 50 pages of the novel are available free there, too. Also available from Amazon.com for download.

The KWVA Board met in Washington DC on July 25, 2011 for its semiannual meeting. This coincided with the “27th Gathering” that takes place every year to remember the end of the Korean War.

All Korean War veterans are invited to attend the event, which is organized and directed by KWVA member and Chairman Jack Cloman with the assistance of Washington DC Event Consultant Jim Fisher.

The program began Sunday evening with the 4th Annual Korean War Armistice Day Commemoration and Peace Vigil and a candle lighting ceremony near the Korean War Memorial under the direction of Hannah Kim and sponsored by the Korean American Association of Greater Washington and the Korean War Veterans Armistice Day Committee. President Mac Swain, 2nd VP Larry Kinard, and Treasurer Tilford Jones spoke to an audience of Koreans and KWVA members.

Several other events took place on the days following, including a Memorial Service, Armistice Day Commemoration, and Memorial Ceremony at the Korean War Memorial, a brief presentation by President Mac Swain at the Korean War Veteran Bench near the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and then a final commemoration banquet.

On the morning of July 26 everyone attended a Memorial Service at the Crowne Plaza Hotel conducted by the Rev. Jack Keep, an ordained minister and the Chairman of the Tell America program of Chapter 313 in Winchester, VA. I was very moved by his words on that morning, and I feel that they are worth sharing with the readers of The Graybeards.

Here is the text of this service by the Rev. Jack Keep.

MEMORIAL SERVICE, July 26, 2011

Scripture Psalm 1. Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. 2. But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and in his law doth he meditate day and night. 3. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. 4. The ungodly are not so; but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. 5. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. 6. For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous; but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

Do you sometimes get the feeling that the country we live in today is not the same country you were born in?

I know that every generation says that the younger generation is “going to the dogs,” but you and I have lived through several generations, and we have seen a decline in the things that really count.

Yes, we have seen many advances in technology, in the medical field, in the tools of our labor – whether in the home or on the job. People are far more prosperous today, even in recession, than they were in our youth. Most of us were children during the great depression, yet we never thought we were poor. I could go on and name many areas where there have been great improvements – but is material prosperity the only measure of greatness?

When all is said and done, one question needs to be asked: what has happened to the moral and spiritual life of our country?

Men and women of our generation remember when Americans stood with their hands over their hearts when the “Stars and Stripes” went by; when men removed their hats as a funeral passed by; we remember when the Bible was read in school, hymns were sung and prayer was offered. We remember when decent men did not swear in the presence of a lady; when government bureaucrats did not forbid the use of the name of God or of Jesus Christ to be used reverently in public speech. We remember when most of the nation attended church on Sunday and most businesses were closed on the Lord’s Day.

Amidst the excessive hysteria about raising the nation’s debt limit, one brave journalist wrote: “Why not raise the moral ceiling?”

In 1965 Daniel Patrick Moynihan lamented that 25% of black households were headed by women – today that figure is 70%, and across all races it is 41%. What in the world has happened to the institution of marriage? I have little doubt that in this audience many of you have been married to the same person for 40 to 50 years!

Jerome Harrison, the writer I referred to, went on to point out that the public policy has led to neighborhoods where unwed mothers (usually teenagers) produce unruly youths who are housed by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, doctored by Medicaid, taught by Head Start, and fed by food stamps. This leads to an existence that endorses a poverty both moral and spiritual, according to the writer. Whatever happened to shame? We have downgraded deviance.

There has to be a better way

We are told that you cannot legislate morality, but that is a half truth. There are all kinds of laws that involve morality. It is true that a law does not guarantee obedience; there will always be lawbreakers. But laws against perjury, theft, and murder are straight from the Ten Commandments.

What can be done is to remove the policies, laws and practices that have led to the sorry moral and spiritual condition of the nation we love; instead of hindering morality we should be restoring LIBERTY for the advancement of moral and spiritual life in America.

We are here this morning to memorialize those who were our comrades in arms 60 years ago. Thousands of them lost their lives or suffered in Prisoner of War camps; others are still missing in action. And over the years our comrades have passed into eternity, one by one.

Why do we fight?

The very first Americans went to war as a nation to gain independence and liberty from a tyrant king across the ocean. In later wars we fought to free others from enslavement to dictatorships.

For many years those of us who fought in Korea wondered if after all the bloodshed and misery it was worth it all. After WWII we Americans expected a total victory. But the shooting ended where it started.
It was only after 50-60 years that we can see the result of what we and our allies fought for long ago. If it were not for those sacrifices, South Korea would be as impoverished and enslaved as the people in the north.

I am not speaking of material property, but of freedom: freedom of speech, freedom of self-determination, and freedom of religion.

Many years ago I walked through a park in New York and stopped at a monument dedicated to those killed in action in WWI. At the bottom was this text from John’s Gospel, chapter 15, verse 13: “Greater love hath no man than this: That a man may lay down his life for his friends.”

The text is not specifically about war, but it expresses a profound truth about the measure of love. It certainly is true of every soldier who threw his body on a hand grenade to save his buddies. It is true of every man who gave his life or risked his life to save others.

But it is also true of all who gave their lives to purchase the freedom of a people who we had never known. A man once asked Jesus, ‘Who is my neighbor?’ Our Lord’s answer was the parable of the good Samaritan: “Our neighbor is the one who needs our help."

Now allow me make a spiritual application.

I said a moment ago that this text was not about war, that it is only an application of the text. Jesus was talking about Himself and the fact that He was about to die for our sins.

The Bible describes our condition in sin as being in bondage, slaves to sin, as being at enmity with God. I ask you this: if the greatest love is lay down one’s life for his friends, how great a love is it to die for one’s enemies?

The Apostle Paul, in the 5th chapter of the epistle to the Romans, says that: “When we were enemies, we were reconciled by God by the death of his Son,” and again: “For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” (Rom. 5: 7-8)

How great is the love of God? Let me remind you of a verse many us memorized early in Sunday School:

“For God so loveth the world that he gave his only begotten Son; that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” (John 3-16).

This is true liberty—“If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.”

My friends and comrades, we need a restoration of faith in God if our nation is to be great again! I am happy to see a revival of patriotism and appreciation of the military in our country to the degree it exists. Sadly, it took the lives of over three thousand people to bring it about. I am glad to join in the singing of “God Bless America,” but the Bible says, “Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD.”

If America is to be blessed by God, she needs a revival of faith and righteousness. If we are to continue to be free, we need to restore responsibility, rather than dependence on government to control our lives, because that is the path to slavery.

May the memory of our fallen comrades of Korea and of all our wars be sacred in our memories as we gather here today. And may we go back home to promote the cause of freedom, of righteousness and the love of God and country.

The Night Before The Truce

Who remembers where he or she was the night before and the day the July 27, 1953 truce took effect? Frank Fontano does. If anyone else does, please let us know.

Frank R. Fontano
3731 Sandra Ct.
Wantagh, NY 11793-1628
516-735-1552

Frank Fontano, 2 INFD 9 INF K, the night before the Korean War was over

Lary Green (L) and Frank Fontano by the DMZ

FAST FACT

I and IX Corps were truly international in their compositions. At the beginning of 1951, I Corps comprised the U.S. 25th Inf. Div., the ROK 1st Inf. Div., the Turkish Brigade, and the 29th British Inf. Brigade. IX Corps consisted of the U.S. 1st Cav. and 24th Inf. Divisions, the ROK 6th Inf. Div., the 27th British Commonwealth Brigade, and the Greek and Philippine Battalions.

They faced 7 Chinese communist armies and 2 North Korean corps in the central sector at that time. Each Chinese army was equivalent in strength to one U.S. corps. Nevertheless, the UN forces did not give up Seoul easily.

Visit the Korean War Veterans Association Website: www.KWVA.org
A
other incident, or series of incidents, I look back on as amusing after all these years, but was not so damned amusing at the time. We had a Brigadier General as the Division artillery commander. He will remain nameless in my story, but he developed what he considered a brilliant strategy for the use of batteries of 105mm howitzers.

Those artillery pieces with the ammunition that was available during the Korean War had a range of about 10 to 12 thousand yards. When fired from their positions well to the rear of the MLR they could reach a certain limited distance into the enemy fortifications. The enemy knew that distance as well as we did.

Our General decided that he would fool the hell out of the enemy with a simple strategy of towing the howitzers up to the front line just behind our dug in bunkers and trenches, thereby giving them a sudden range of penetration well into the enemy support units behind their front line. I am sure it was very effective and very lethal for about 30 or 40 minutes while they were firing. Then they would hook up the howitzers and haul back down to the rear.

We all knew that the enemy had what is called counter-battery radar, which traces artillery projectiles back to their origin from several different radar positions, thereby establishing a triangulation which precisely pinpoint the howitzer location. So, the howitzers hauled out of the area. For the next three or four hours we experienced a very lethal shower of incoming artillery rounds on all of our area from which the howitzers have fired.

The Chinese did this several times. Each time the result was the same for us as after they had departed. The last, and thankfully the final time, while we were in those positions, Division Artillery was having so much fun that the General brought along the Colonel commanding the 15th AAA A W Battalion, who was my top boss.

In this case, they figured a little wrong on their timing, or the Chinese had good intelligence on what was going to happen. About fifteen or twenty minutes after they began firing the howitzers, Chinese artillery rounds came raining in on all of us, including the General and my Colonel. They were both sitting around in a jeep and suddenly had to run for cover in a rice paddy and hunker down in some of that honey pot mud for about thirty minutes until the firing let up enough for them to bug out back to Division Headquarters.

It must have been pretty tough on them, because about a week or ten days later we learned they were both awarded the Silver Star for that action. All we got out of it was a good laugh seeing them run out of the area.

Another fact of life in a combat zone that could be pretty depressing, as anyone who has had such experience will tell you, was viewing the bodies of your fallen comrades. It was an experience to be avoided at all possible. But, the usual practice in the combat areas in which I served was to bring bodies out to the nearest aid station, where they were picked up sometime during the following morning. With bodies in combat, rigor mortis sets in very quickly, and the bodies outside the aid stations would be stacked like cord wood. It was not a pleasant scene. We had some good days and some bad days, and a morning walk past the aid station could tell you just how bad a day it was.

In combat, when your concentration is focused mostly on taking care of yourself and your men, and using all the guns, equipment and supplies provided by the Army to accomplish that goal, things have a way of getting lost. Picture this: my men were out in the open on a warm day. Some of them had their mess gear with them and had maybe taken their shirts off. When the enemy fire started coming in on the position, everybody ran for cover and left everything behind. Later, when the shelling ceased, they may or may not have recovered all the gear they had with them when it started.

Well, there came a time when I was transferred to Battery C from Battery A. In that Battery they had a new supply officer who was dedicated to maintaining a strict inventory of all equipment and supplies in the combat zone, just as he had done back in the States. We had a few clashes over some of these losses in my platoon, but he outranked me in seniority. Worse, he was backed strongly by the Battery commander.

I was running out of excuses for my losses when an extraordinary thing happened at my CP (command post) bunker. Just outside the bunker I had a supply trailer parked with camouflage netting over it for concealment. On this particular day, the Chinese opened up on our area and bombarded us for about two hours. This was fairly heavy stuff and could do a lot of damage. We were all hunkered down in our bunkers when one of these shells hit very close, shaking the hell out of my bunker.

After the shelling stopped, I went out to check on all of my men and equipment and discovered that we had sustained a direct hit on that supply trailer. Among other things, that trailer had a few rounds of 40 mm shells, and the direct hit from the incoming round had blown up those shells, the whole trailer, and everything that had been in it. From that day onward, every time the supply officer asked me where something was that had been lost, I told him that it was in that trailer.

By the time I left, that trailer would have had to have been the size of about three 18 wheelers to contain all the things that I told him had been in that trailer. But he left me pretty much alone after that because he knew that whatever loss he was concerned about, it would have been in that trailer.

Another incident that I recall as a real tragedy (all loss of life in combat is a tragedy) involved a friendly fire accident. In every area in which my platoon was engaged, whether attached to the 31st or 32nd Regiments of the Division, we always had strong air support, which we could call upon if it was needed. We didn’t use it too often because we had a lot of artillery support that was generally pretty effective.

In one of our ground engagements the big planners back in Division Headquarters decided that we needed to use some air support for softening up some enemy positions. They conceived plans on how this would be done. Since the targets were often quite close to our own dug-in trenches and bunkers, air personnel on the ground came forward and lay down colored panels that told the pilots the boundary limits for their bombs when they made their bombing runs. On this particular mission, somebody got their signals wrong and the bombs fell on our own troops. There were quite a number of killed and wounded; we all felt terrible about it. It was a mistake, but in wars mistakes happen.
A humorous incident occurred in one of the areas in which our platoon operated. It may have been in Kumhwa, but it could have been one of the other areas, I can’t be sure. We had moved into the area, were all dug in, and had the task of helping the artillery units back behind the MLR get set up for firing missions in our area. With field artillery in each particular area you establish several registration points where the artillery pieces test fire rounds until they are sure they are locked onto that point and know they can hit it accurately. Then the forward observer is able to direct fire from a particular registration point by directions of so many yards east/west and north/south of the registration point to hit an enemy target.

In this particular area there was a small plot of rubble marble monuments that really stood out. We selected it as a registration point and fired on it with several artillery pieces from the rear area until we were sure they had a very good fix on it for future missions. One of the artillery fire missions was interdiction fire on enemy personnel building or repairing new bunkers and trenches.

A couple days after we established this marble monument registration point, a work detail came into view that began working on some new trenches. We watched them for a while and pondered when to call on the artillery to set up a fire mission. As we watched, the work detail took a break and sat down on the monuments in the registration point area. Now, that may not seem humorous to everyone, but to GIs in a war zone it was hilarious—and it was the easiest fire mission the artillery ever had.

Another interesting story that I could never forget involved enemy artillery fire into our rear areas. These bombardments usually occurred unexpectedly, and often aroused suspicion that someone was directing the fire, as in the case of the houseboys previously mentioned.

During my time in Korea, I was assigned to Battery A initially, and later to Battery C. One day, when I went back to the Battery A Headquarters from my platoon area on the front lines, I had lunch with Captain Douthite, who was the Battery Commander.

We discussed a few items concerning my mission with the 31st Infantry Regiment, and left to go back to the front line. Shortly after my jeep driver turned out of the area, enemy artillery started to rain in on the Battery Headquarters. My driver and I drove rapidly back to the front lines where it was safer. Captain Douthite later found a Korean with a radio, which he had apparently been using to direct the enemy artillery fire.

Another rear bombardment story involved the main supply route (MSR), some distance behind the front line that was used to move ammunition and other supplies all along the area. This area was always subject to artillery interdiction fire from the enemy. We all knew this and tried to time our travel on it when it seemed most likely that it would be free of incoming rounds. This was really nothing better than a guessing game, but we convinced ourselves that there were some hours better than others.

One day, which I will always remember, my jeep driver and I were headed along the MSR coming back to the rear area behind my platoon headquarters when intense enemy shelling suddenly started. At that time there were a number of deuce and a half trucks barreling down the road toward us. The road was just wide enough for two lines of traffic. Of course, everybody was intent upon getting out of the shelling area as quickly as possible.

Shells were falling on both sides of the road, and I was trying to convince my driver that we were going to be okay, and not to worry—while inside I was as scared as he was. But he was driving, and his ability to concentrate on what he was doing was very important. Unfortunately, he was so nervous that he got too close to the oncoming traffic and our jeep front left wheel glanced into the wheel of one of the oncoming trucks.

I went flying out of the jeep onto the side of the road. Fortunately, we all traveled with the windshields flattened down on the hood, so my body never touched the jeep. I landed on my shoulders and skidded a few feet, but when I got up I was okay, except for some bleeding. My driver had stopped the jeep, which was not badly damaged, and we got back on the road and out of there as quickly as possible.

One more anecdote: after we had been established in the Kumhwa Valley positions and well dug in, we would have occasional visits from staff officers from 7th Division Headquarters. Those of us on the MLR understood that this was to be expected, and that they should be shown every courtesy. But we came to dread their arrival after a few weeks because the level of enemy fire on our positions always seemed to elevate significantly just after their visits. We found this a little difficult to understand, because people were always moving around our positions, and the enemy had to be observing this movement at all times.

Eventually, it dawned on us what was causing the increase in incoming rounds. These guys from Headquarters always wore brand new clean fatigues, well pressed, and decorated with a red scarf around their necks. We were
involved one of my squads that was in a temporary anti-aircraft role after coming off front line combat. They were treating this like R&R because they were not under any fire. This left them in the mood to celebrate. Somehow or other—and I never did find out how—they got their hands on some illicit alcoholic beverage that had been brewed up by some of the Koreans.

We had all been warned that such a beverage could be very dangerous and should not be consumed. They ignored all these warnings. The next thing I knew there was a radio call from the squad that they needed to see me right away. I scrambled over as quickly as my jeep driver could get me there, only to find that out of a squad of six men two were completely blind and the remaining four were having vision problems.

I immediately got in touch with the medics. A team of field doctors and their assistants arrived quickly and began getting this rot gut liquor out of their systems. Within three days they had all recovered their eye sight, and swore to me that they would never touch any of that stuff again. I believed them because I know how scared they were when they had lost their sight and feared that it would be permanent.

The second incident involved another of my squads that had just come off front line combat and again were looking to celebrate. We usually took it pretty easy on them in these situations and let them relax. The usual assignment was temporary anti-aircraft duty in which we all knew they were not going to see any enemy aircraft. I would just insist that they clean up their equipment and maintain a good clean squad encampment.

About two days after they had moved into their area, I made an unannounced inspection just to see how they were doing. They all seemed to be pretty happy and enjoying their non-combat assignment, but the atmosphere in the area seemed a little abnormal, almost nervous anxiety. I hung around a little longer than usual and re-inspected some tent living areas, but found nothing that explained the nervous atmosphere.

As I was again walking around the area, the squad leader came up to me and said, “Lieutenant, I think you may have missed something in the tent area.” Now, this was one of my best squad leaders, and I trusted him fully. So, I went back into one of the tents and did a more thorough inspection.

Bending down and looking under one of the cots, what did I see but two moon faced Korean girls quietly snuggled up in blankets. I found out later that one of the ambulance drivers for the medics had a little business going where he would bring girls up from the rear areas to provide a little recreation for the men. I did not make a big deal out of it except to insist that they all visit the medics to get all possible treatment against diseases that they could have contracted. Of course, they assured me that it would never happen again, but I took that to be less earnest than the pledge made by the men that temporarily went blind.

In this memoir I have tried to recount what became for me the more normal experience that I had in combat in Korea. However, none of these experiences had the intensity and massive use of fire power that I witnessed in the Triangle Hill campaign. I have prepared a separate memoir describing my involvement in that campaign, which will appear at a future time.

Reach David Keefe at 5 Claire Pass, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866, 518-450-1500
36,000 Canes to be given away
National Veterans Day Program

Small Georgia Based Company Honors U.S. Military Veterans

A pharetta, Georgia, September 7, 2011 – U.S. military veterans will be honored this Veterans Day in a national program in which 36,000 state-of-the-art folding canes will be given free of charge to veterans in need of mobility assistance. “Hugo Salutes Our Veterans” will give out Hugo® Folding Canes to U.S. military veterans at all U.S. Sam’s Club locations nationwide from November 9, 2011 through Veterans Day, November 11, 2011. Sam’s Club Membership is not required. Proof of U.S. military service may be required to be eligible.

The Hugo Folding Cane that will be given out retails for $29.99 and is a beautiful patriotic blue. Its ergonomic soft-grip handle provides superior comfort, is appropriate for both left and right hand users and includes a wrist strap for extra confidence.

Hugo Salutes Our Veterans is a patriotic annual tradition launched by AMG Medical Inc., an Alpharetta, Georgia head-quartered company. AMG Medical started the program in 2007, giving out 5,000 canes to honor the parents and relatives of the company’s employees who served in the U.S. military. Hugo Salutes grew to 25,000 canes in 2009 and 36,000 canes in 2010. This year, with the backing of Hugo, Sam’s Club, Os-Cal, Tums, MegaRed, Move Free, Aleve, Zantac 150, Neosporin, Band-Aid, Gas-X, Centrum Men’s and Centrum Women’s, Hugo Salutes Our Veterans will again give out 36,000 Hugo Folding Canes over three days, November 9-11 2011, while supplies last. Each Sam’s Club location will have 60 Hugo Folding Canes to give out and they will be available on a first-come basis. To find a Sam’s Club near you, visit SamsClub.com.

The Hugo Folding Cane that will be given out retails for $29.99 and is a beautiful patriotic blue. Its ergonomic soft-grip handle provides superior comfort, is appropriate for both left and right hand users and includes a wrist strap for extra confidence. Sturdy, functional and stylish, the Hugo Folding Cane has multiple settings to accommodate people between 5’ and 6’3” in height. The cane automatically unfolds and locks into place for use. To store, the cane conveniently folds into four sections.

Philip delBuey, Global President of AMG Medical Inc., said, “For all of us at AMG Medical, Hugo Salutes Our Veterans is a way to express our deepest appreciation to all veterans for their selfless contributions to our country. Our company’s mission is all about helping people stay active and connected to family, friends and their community. With this year’s program, we will have given out more than 100,000 canes. We hope that many veterans will benefit from Hugo Salutes this year.”

“The Department of Veterans Affairs is grateful for the generosity of citizens and businesses that honor the service and sacrifice of Veterans and their families. Actions such as those of Hugo Folding Cane, which has been involved in this effort for a number of years, are appreciated by VA because they support VA’s mission to honor our Nation’s promises to America’s heroes,” said Josh Taylor, Press Secretary for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

History of Marine Serpent, Post WWII

(See story on page 64)

In response to the increased demands on U.S. sea power during the U.N. police action in Korea (sic), Marine Serpent was acquired by the Navy from the Maritime Administration 8 May 1952 and assigned to duty with MSTS. Manned by a civil service crew, Marine Serpent completed activation at San Francisco 13 September, thence sailed to San Diego where she departed for the Far East 15 September. During the remainder of the Korean conflict (sic), she made six voyages out of west coast ports including Seattle, San Francisco, and San Diego to Japanese and South Korean ports. During late May and early June 1953 she shuttled among the offshore islands including Cheju-Do and Koje-Do to transport interned North Korean POWs. Between 7 and 18 June she steamed from Yokohama, Japan, to Seattle.

After the establishment of uneasy peace on the war-torn peninsula 27 July, Marine Serpent departed Seattle 8 August to carry replacement troops to the troubled Far East and to return veterans to the United States. During the rest of 1953 and much of 1954 she made seven runs to the western Pacific. After returning to Seattle 24 October 1954, she was placed in reduced operational status until 23 December when she again sailed for the Far East. Arriving Inchon 12 January 1955, she sailed via Sasebo and Okinawa to Haiphong, French Indochina, where she arrived 20 January. During the next 4 months she operated along the coast of Indochina transporting Vietnamese refugees from the Communist-dominated North to a new life of freedom in the South. In addition she evacuated French troops and military equipment southward to ports such as Saigon and Tourane. In mid-May she completed her duty in troubled Southeast Asia and returned to Japan. After steaming to Inchon and back, she departed Yokohama 31 May and sailed to the west coast where she arrived at Seattle 13 June. She returned to reduced operational status at Seattle and on 17 August 1955 transferred to the Maritime Administration at Olympia, Wash. She entered the National Defense Reserve Fleet and her name was struck from the Navy list 17 August. Into 1969 she remain[ed] berthed in Puget Sound at Olympia.

Marine Serpent received three battle stars for Korean service.


USNS Marine Serpent
What Really Happened At Hoengsong?

I read recently an article about the Hoengsong Massacre in February 1951. The article, written by deceased military historian Gary Turbak, and published in VFW Magazine, February 2001, described the massacre in detail.

Theories abound as to why over 1,900 American, 99 Dutch, and 9,844 ROK Soldiers died at Hoengsong, whether they were all killed in the same battle on one day or over a period of days, who was responsible for the massacre….Are there any definitive answers to such questions?

Our editorial staff would be interested in your observations about the “massacre” or pointers to where we can learn more about it. For example:

• Was it really a massacre, or simply a battle in which one side dominated?
• Could the tragic loss of life have been prevented?
• Over how much territory (mileage wise) was the massacre spread. For example, did it include the village of Kudun, where Canadian troops discovered scores of American bodies?
• Why didn’t the Army send relief troops to help the troops at Hoengsong? Or did it?
• Was it simply a case of the Americans, the Dutch, and the ROK troops being in the wrong place at the wrong time?
• Why were they in that vicinity in the first place?
• Did they exact a cost from the Chinese before they were overrun?
• Was the loss of life due to a command failure?
• Did the U.S. military try to cover up the massacre to the press, the public, and other troops?
• Why did it take almost a month before the bodies were discovered?
• Did the military brass learn anything from the battle?
• Was there any connection between the Hoengsong Massacre and a similar, smaller-scale event at Chaun-ni on May 22, 1951?
• Could lessons learned at Hoengsong have been applied to prevent the Chaun-ni battle, during which over 300 American Soldiers lost their lives?
• Were the bodies recovered and returned home?
• How long did it take for other troops in Korea to learn about the massacre?
• Did other troops learn about the massacre at Hoengsong at all?
• Did anyone try to avenge the losses?

As I said, questions abound.

Please let me know your thoughts on the Hoengsong battle. (You don’t have to answer all the questions, of course. Just pick and choose.) We may not solve any of the mysteries, but we may shed some light on the events that led up to and contributed to the “massacre.”

As a first step toward our “investigation,” let’s start with the story of one of the few survivors of the battle at Hoengsong. The writer was a Dutch Soldier, whose story is truly amazing.

Dutch Volunteers Fighting In The Korean War
Written by Elie van Schilt, veteran NDVN soldier

Chapter XIII

Lying Severely Wounded in Enemy-held Hoengsong for 18 days

A corporal…is the only one among those missing at Hoengsong who was found alive eighteen days later. He lay for eighteen days in the snow, exposed to the cold, in the ruins of Hoengsong. The Chinese came along daily and, hard to believe, provided him with a little food and tobacco. During the great attack he had been wounded in the leg, could not stand, and collapsed. That began the most horrible period of his life. Here is his story, told in first person.

Around us hell had broken out. Dutchmen, Americans and Chinese ran around shooting in all directions. A little later a bunch of Chinese stood nearby, and around me cars were on fire. Mortar grenades hit the little church, probably also phosphor grenades; it caught fire immediately.

All around me mortars and hand grenades exploded again and again. The Chinese must have been hit by their own fire; it was as chaotic for them as for us. The shooting increased in intensity. Later, a couple of Chinese came and took my wristwatch. They thought I was dead.

In the distance I heard tanks rattle. I hoped the Americans would undertake a counterattack, but the sounds became weaker and weaker. Then, I hoped for my comrades to launch an attack and free me. I tried to crawl to a place less visible. That did not work.

My leg was completely stiff; the wound hurt horribly. This condition lasted for hours. I lived under an unbearable nervous strain. What would the troops do: retreat and leave me behind? I did not know at all what was going on and how serious the situation was.

When it gets bright, the Chinese will find me, I thought. I cannot do anything, I lie here, powerless. In the light of burning fires I see Chinese soldiers running, a bad sign for me. The shooting increased in intensity. Later, a couple of Chinese came and took my wristwatch. They thought I was dead.

The night passed slowly. The wound hurt terribly. This condition lasted for hours. I lived under an unbearable nervous strain. What would the troops do: retreat and leave me behind? I did not know at all what was going on and how serious the situation was.

The night passed slowly. The wound hurt. I suffered under the cold. Finally, daybreak came and the Chinese moved on, fearing the attack of our aircraft. The cold was unbearable, and I suffered intense thirst. Then, among the smoking ruins, I saw a sole person walking. He was a South Korean soldier, also wounded, but lightly.

I signaled him to come over. I was lying in open terrain. Should the Chinese come back, they could see me lying there from the road. On the opposite side of the road stood our motor vehicle fleet, burnt out. If I could lie under one of these vehicles I was less visible and somewhat protected against snow or rain.

With the aid of this South Korean soldier—and thanks to uttermost exertion—we managed to reach the motor vehicles.
Completely exhausted, I moved under a three-ton truck and crawled under the loading platform. After darkness set in, the Korean left me. But, he left a roll of sour drops behind. Never in my life had anything been more valuable to me than this roll of sour drops. The producer had christened them “Lifesavers.” That is what they have been to me.

Later that day, when evening set in, the Chinese returned and attempted to get some of the cars started to take them with them. Tens of them walked between the cars. I did not dare to move, fearing they might find me. As they tried to start cars and drive off with them, some came so close that I could have touched them.

I feared most that someone might succeed in starting the truck under which I lay, run me over, and leave me openly exposed. What I feared happened. After a couple failed attempts, a Chinese managed to start the engine. The fumes blew into my face as he drove a little forward and backward to drive the car out. Every time I saw the car’s bottom move over me, with all my energy I tried to get away from the wheels. Then the car moved forward. I felt a crack in my leg and severe pain. He had driven over my wounded left leg with the left back wheel.

I wanted to yell because of the pain, but I had to constrain myself so as not to alarm the other Chinese. It could have been worse if the truck had run over my breast or head. Luckily, the Chinese did not dare to make a light, fearing our airplanes.

Afterwards, I must have lost consciousness. When I regained consciousness, most cars had disappeared, and so had the Chinese. The following days were horrible. I suffered hunger and thirst, not to mention the cold. But the thirst was the worst.

After 4 or 5 days, rain set in. Next to me there was a large puddle. Using my hands I took water out, but I could not drink as much as I wanted. The hunger worsened. At times it was so severe that I put sand in my mouth. But, I spit it out again immediately.

At times aircraft flew over. I waved with a neckerchief, hoping they would see me. On the seventh day snow set in. This was a relief! I could eat snow to fight hunger and thirst. By then the cold was the worst, especially at night.

I lost feeling in my legs. I feared they were both frozen. I also saw Chinese patrols approach. Sometimes I felt the urge to call them. Then they could end my suffering. But there was always something preventing me from calling. I still had hope that our troops would return to Hoengsong and would find me. I had a feeling that I would come out of this alive.

On the ninth day I could not take it any longer. My wound hurt horribly, as did my broken leg. I feared that it might be infected. I decided to call the next Chinese patrol and see what would happen then. To be a POW would be better than to die here of starvation and dehydration. If I were lucky, I might even be exchanged.

At noon I saw the first Chinese, and yelled as loud as I could. The patrol stopped and looked into my direction. I waved with my neckerchief. The Chinese came over circled around me and looked at me from all angles while they spoke to each other. My impression was that they meant no harm.

When I told them I was hungry and thirsty, one of them gave me a drink from his canteen. Another gave me something looking like birdseed. It helped against the hunger. I also was given some tobacco. They cared for and bandaged my wounds. Then they carried me to a Korean house where I was protected somehow, at least against the weather. In any case I owe my life to these Chinese.

At times they came back and gave me a little to eat and drink. They never were hostile. What puzzled me is that they did not transport me off to a prison camp, but I assume they did not know how to get me there.

I believe that it was on the sixteenth day that I heard tanks on the road southward. There was heavy firing in the area. I had renewed hope that our troops would come back. But it was only an armed patrol, assisted by a few tanks, which retreated after having made contact with the Chinese. Only two days later did the Americans come back, and I was found.

I still see them coming: two Marines with bayonets. They slowly proceeded among the ruins and approached the house where I lay. I heard them talk, but I was too weak to move, let alone crawl out of the house.

I yelled with all the energy I had left. The Marines heard me and came in. I don’t know what happened after that. The Marines later told me that I had embraced them like a mother does her children. But everybody will understand.

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**Life and Death in a Marine Rifle Company**

*Accordin War: Korea 1951*  
_Life and Death in a Marine Rifle Company_  
*Charles Hughes*

...A gifted writer...This book is hard to put down. The writing is tensile...Well done, "Doc" Gysg John String, (Ref) Leatherneck Magazine of the Marines, Sept. 2007

*Vel of Our Fathers* come close but you called it"Maxwell Baker, Vietnam, Korean Vet, HMCV*

...A quality read. Your descritions... Are like paintings without the sounds; however, your recounting of the artillery barrages was deatening." Bob "Doc" Wickman, Korean vet

"This is one of those rare books that begs to be read in one reading... The reader can smell both the gunpowder and the kimchi... Well done, Doc." Pat Ashby Lubin, Military Writers Society of America

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The Graybeards September – October 2011
Donald Farinacci

Donald Farinacci, the author of Truman and MacArthur: Adversaries for a Common Cause, which was mentioned in the March/April 2011 issue, has been chosen as a finalist for the Korean War Book Award, sponsored by the Military Writers Society of America. If it is selected, it will be the book’s second award. The book received a second place award from the Society for best national book in the history genre for 2010.

Farinacci’s article, “Crisis in the Koreas: Chilling Parallels Between 1950 and 2010,” appeared on p. 54 of that issue.

Read an article about him, his book, and where it can be purchased at this website address: http://northport.patch.com/articles/east-northport-author-nominated-for-award

South Dakota Veterans Honored

The mayor of Mitchell, SD, Lou Sebert, signed a proclamation in July declaring July 27th as Korean War Day in the city—the home of the Corn Palace, which is worth seeing once.

Korean War veterans were honored at a ceremony and a dinner at the local VFW from noon to 4 p.m. Ch 194, MGN Lloyd R. Moses, sponsored a military display owned by Bob Hills. The collection comprises Korean War weapons, uniforms, proclamations and other items.

The current VFW Post Commander, Darwin Buus, who served in the U.S. Navy during the war, is the Judge Advocate of Ch 194.

About 26,000 South Dakotans served in the U.S. military during the Korean War. Of that number, 160 died in action. Three of them were from Davison County, in which Mitchell is located.

Merle Heidenreich, 320 So. Broadway, Watertown, SD 57201

John Barwinczok Inducted Into NY State Veterans’ HOF

John Barwinczok, of Auburn, NY, a U.S. Navy veteran and member of Ch 296, Cayuga County, was inducted into the New York State Senate Veterans’ Hall of Fame, Class of 2011. State Senator Mike Nozzolio honored Barwinczok during a special ceremony at the state capitol in Albany for his distinguished military career and dedicated volunteer work to support local veterans.

NY State Senator Mike Nozzolio presents certificate to John Barwinczok

The Senate created its Hall of Fame “to honor and recognize outstanding veterans from the Empire State who have distinguished themselves both in military and civilian life. Their meritorious service to our nation deserves the special recognition that only a Hall of Fame can provide, as a fitting expression of our gratitude and admiration.

Here is his citation:

John Barwinczok’s distinguished five year Navy career included being a member of the Under Water Demolition Team 2, the precursor to the Navy SEALs. John also served as Post Master for the 6th Fleet in Europe as well as serving a year on a destroyer. Just prior to his discharge, he and his fellow servicemen received “greetings” from President Truman, cancelling all discharges because of the Korean War and thus extending John’s service for another year.

Upon his discharge, John worked at General Electric as a test technician. After a short time he left GE to work for the Department of Defense, to complete his high school education and enroll in college. During his 35 year career with the Federal Government, he served in many capacities from inspector to Quality Manager for the Syracuse and New York areas. John retired in 1987 but his hard work ethic led to the formation of his own company, JB Quality Consulting, which he ran for nearly 15 years.

Always trying to help veterans in his community, John is the founder of the Korean War Veterans Association chapter in Cayuga County where membership has grown from 12 to 82 people in only two and a half years. The chapter raised more than $43,000 for a Korean War monument to honor Cayuga County veterans of the Korean War. The monument was dedicated on July 30, 2006, and is a part of the Veterans Memorial park in downtown Auburn, New York.

John and his loving wife Ginny reside in Auburn, New York, where they have been lifelong residents and active members of the community.

Reach John Barwinczok at 25 Leavenworth Ave., Auburn, NY 13021-4552, 315-253-6022, JBarwinczok@verizon.net

Sal Orlando Featured At 43rd Div. Memorial Event

The 43rd Infantry Division Association is erecting a memorial in Middletown, CT to honor the division. There was a ceremony held 5 August 2011 on the grounds of the State Veterans Ceremony to break ground for the memorial.

Photos in the Middletown [CT] Press included prominently Sal Orlando, a member of CID 10, Connecticut #1, and a veteran of the 43rd.

According to staff writer Clare Michalewicz:

The division had a long history before it was officially retired in the 1990s...During World War II, it was the only division to serve in all theaters of the Pacific Campaign—South Pacific, Southwest Pacific, and the Philippines. Later, during the Korean War, it was deployed to Germany to join NATO forces. During World War II, men in the division received 11,806 medals, including two medals of honor and 75 distinguished service crosses. Units associated with the Division have fought in every major American conflict.

Reach Salvatore Orlando at 275 Main St., Cromwell, CT 06416-2304, 860-635-0417


Donald Edwards

Donald Edwards presented the commencement speech to the 190 members of the graduating class of Brown Mackie College – Tucson,
AZ on 22 June 2011. Edwards, a member of Chapter 4, Edward W. Rhoads, and the founder and President Emeritus of the 772nd Military Police Battalion Veterans Association, spoke on the theme of realizing dreams.

He told the graduates that, “Your dreams and the future will provide you with every opportunity to continue to succeed. It is now time to capitalize on that opportunity.”

Edwards summed up his message with a simple acronym: D = Degree; R = Responsible; E = Enthusiasm; A = Attitude; M = Motivate. Let’s hope his five-point message resonates with his listeners.

Contact Donald N. (“Don”) Edwards at 3661 N Campbell Ave. #378, Tucson, AZ 85719-1527, 520-745-1868, donemkt@aol.com

## Korean War National Museum Announces Move


Senator Daniel Inouye was among several other dignitaries invited to ceremoniously “break ground” on the site for the new facility that will further enhance the Department of Defense’s mission to account for its missing U.S. personnel.

Falling directly under the U.S. Pacific Command, JPAC is a jointly-manned organization of more than 400 military and civilian specialists that has, with its predecessor organizations, investigated and recovered missing Americans since the 1970s.

The ultimate goal of the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, and of the agencies involved in returning America’s heroes home, is to achieve the fullest possible accounting of Americans lost during the nation’s past conflicts.

### 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

For more information on the Korean War National Museum, please go to www.kwnm.org (http://www.kwnm.org/).
The Barking Dog On Christmas Hill

By Rego Barnett

One of the last things Soldiers in the middle of a firefight would expect to hear was a dog barking. Yet, some did during the fighting at Christmas Hill in July 1953, just before the armistice was signed. Fifty-seven years later the mystery of the barking dog was solved.

One veteran of the battle, James Hood, raised the question of Wayne Pelkey after he survived a deadly patrol near OP Queen.

“When we got pinned down by Chinese fire, we heard a dog barking,” Hood recalled. “It barked for some time, until our mortars fired back. Then he went silent.” As it turned out, it wasn’t the mortars that silenced the critter.

“We thought it strange that a dog was out there. Some of us speculated the Chinese had guard dogs. You were on the outpost before us so maybe you know. Did anyone have a dog for a pet?” he asked.

Pelkey knew something about the matter. Hood, his friend, had been in a bunker at the bottom of Easy Finger. (As an indication of how tough the battle at Christmas Hill was, Hood was one of only eight men in their E Co., 180th Regt., 36-member platoon that survived it, in addition to many repos from K Co., 180th Regt.) The two men had gone through basic training together.

They and John Judd were drafted together November 11, 1952 and went through sixteen weeks of basic at Ft. Jackson, SC, then shipped overseas in March 1953 on a seventeen-day troop voyage to Japan. They were assigned to the 180th Regt. of 45th Division and trucked to Sandbag Castle, their first stop to the trenches and meeting the enemy.

After three cold months under fire, they were pulled off line and sent to Inje for a supposed month’s rest. It lasted only six days, after which they were rushed on July 1 to Christmas Hill to hold off the Chinese hordes that had pushed the ROKs off it. They were in an area known as OP Queen and OP Texas, where they were pounded daily by the Chinese while sustaining heavy casualties. They were replaced on line July 18 by the 179th Regiment of the 45th Division.

As Hood recalled, the dog would growl and bark at anyone with Oriental features and a distinct smell. He theorized that since the Chinese and Koreans ate dogs this canine apparently had an instinctive aversion to them.

Hood’s company had its pet mongrel dog that they took with them when they moved from Inje to Christmas Hill on July 1st 1953. But, it was left behind on July 18th when the 179th relieved them during a hectic night exchange. Another comrade, Hank Nicol, had told Pelkey that he had also heard a barking dog down at the tip for a day or two.

As Hood recalled, the dog would growl and bark at anyone with Oriental features and a distinct smell. He theorized that since the Chinese and Koreans ate dogs this canine apparently had an instinctive aversion to them. Nevertheless (if it was the same dog), it ended up with the Chinese, who used it for nefarious purposes.

As Lt. Donald (“Hank”) Nicol reported in Christmas In July, a book he edited that was written by twenty veterans who were members of the “Thunderbirds,” he was assigned on July 26, 1953 to lead a patrol to help recover the bodies of some members of Easy and King Companies of the 180th Regt., 45th Inf. Div. (See pp. 98-101 in the book.) En route, they passed several small bunkers which Easy Company had used in its position. Nicol heard a dog barking frantically as he passed the last bunker.

The Chinese had tied the dog to a bunker in what Nicol described as “an ingenious warning device, more dependable than any trip flare.” He made a throat slitting motion to his patrol members as a gesture to dispatch the dog quietly. Instead, one of them shot the dog with his M1. So much for stealth!

As it turned out, the Chinese were using the bodies for bait, hoping to lure the American patrol into a trap. Their ruse worked. After a brief firefight, and several injuries to the members of the patrol, Nicol’s group made it back to friendly lines. Unfortunately, they had to leave the bodies behind.

Later, Nicol had to answer numerous questions about the dog. A commo man had reported its presence to HQ, which started a rumor of a “Chinese Canine Corps.” Nicol had a hard time explaining that it was only one dog.

Pelkey did not have the heart to tell Hood that one of the 179th Regt. patrol members shot his mascot. Hood had valued the small brown mongrel, which would always give an alarm when the Chinese were near. Apparently, the animal could smell them from fifty yards away because of their significant garlic odor. (Pelkey acknowledged that he, too, had been saved while on one of his patrols in the valley when he detected the smell of garlic.)

It took half a century, but at last the mystery of the barking dog at Christmas Hill was resolved.

What was a “Hank”?

“Hank” was another term for bugout. It came from Hank Snow’s song, “Movin’ On.” A bugout was a panicky retreat which, although talked about often, seldom really happened, according to an entry in Christmas in July.
186 – ST. CHARLES COUNTY [MO]

We rededicated our St. Charles, Missouri Memorial on April 30, 2011, in St. Peters. Added at this time were four granite blocks that list fourteen of the major Korean War battles, inclusive of their dates, etc., along with the overall statistics of the war.

The fifth granite block, immediately in front of the large marble monument, and three granite benches, were added to the main Memorial when it was moved from its original location to the present site two years prior. The memorial site is shared with the Vietnam Memorial. Both are located on the City of St. Peters’ property.

Monuments and Memorials
Korea: the Forgotten War, Remembered

We rededicated our St. Charles, Missouri Memorial on April 30, 2011, in St. Peters. Added at this time were four granite blocks that list fourteen of the major Korean War battles, inclusive of their dates, etc., along with the overall statistics of the war.

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Landscaping that enhanced our Korean Memorial was added after the rededication, compliments of the City of St. Peters. The city will maintain both memorials.

Salvadore Christifulli, 923 Annabrook Park Dr.
O’Fallon, MO 63366-8410, 636-294-1836
S.Christifulli@charter.net

Visit the Korean War Veterans Association Website:
www.KWVA.org
The 865th AAA AW Bn. held a reunion in Oklahoma City, OK recently. George Kaprelian, gkaprelian@att.net

Attendees at the 865TH AAA AW BN reunion in Oklahoma City, OK

A large group of veterans who served with the 91st Military Police Bn. attended a reunion in Birch Run, Michigan in July 2011. The battalion comprised the 289th, 560th, 563rd, 58th, and 728th Military Police in Pusan, Korea from 1952-54. This was the group’s ninth reunion to date.

Eighteen attendees visited Michigan’s Own Military and Space Museum on 27 July. Stan Bozich, a member of Ch 251, Saginaw/Frankenmuth [MI], is the director of the museum—the only one of its type in the United States.

Cabinets contain the bust of Michigan’s Medal of Honor recipients—in uniform—and the state’s past seven governors (some of whom are also MOH recipients). All in all, there are approximately 146 cabinets containing busts, uniforms, and other artifacts pertaining to the state and its heroes.

This is the description on the museum’s website:

Michigan’s Own Military & Space Museum honors Michigan soldiers, sailors and aviators who fought in the Spanish American War, World War I, American North Russia Expeditionary Force (“Polar Bears”), World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Gulf War and the War on Terrorism. It also includes exhibits devoted to Michigan’s Astronauts, Governors, Cross Recipients and 28 individual Medal of Honor Recipients.

Michigan’s Own is unique in the United States in that it is the only repository devoted to the wartime experiences of one state’s people. http://www.michigansmilitarymuseum.com/

Robert J. (“Bob”) Simon, 7286 Spring Lake Trl, Saginaw, MI 48603-1684, 989-792-3718 RobSimonCondo@charter.net

91st Military Police Bn. reunion attendees at Michigan’s Own Military & Space Museum (L-R): Manny Sanchez, Don Hart, Ron Walker, Don Martin, Dick Lyra, George Frohmader, Joe Vetere, Norm Murray, Milt Megrin, Stan Bozich, Bob Simon, Dick Suchodolski, Bob Biehn, Alex Crowe, Jim Bouldin, Arlen Blumer, Bud Parker

The men of the 91st Military Police Bn. (Front, L-R) George Frohmader, Manny Sanchez, Bob Simon, Don Hart, Ron Walker (2nd Row, L-R) Jack Walker, Milt Megrin, Bud Parker, Don Priore, Dick Suchodolski, Arlen Blumer, Dick Lyra (3rd Row, L-R) Norm Murray, Jim Bouldin, Don Martin, Bob Biehn, Joe Vetere
Veterans of service in the Korean Military Advisory Group (KMAG) met 18-21 July 2011. It was the fourth reunion the group has had in the 58 years since the cease fire, July 27, 1953. Over 90 invitations sent out by coordinators Robert and Barbara Greaves resulted in getting 10 old soldiers together, some with their companions. Robert served in KMAG in 1953-54 with the ROK Army 73rd Signal Construction Battalion.

The group assembled near Michigan’s “Little Bavaria,” Frankenmuth, a very interesting old-culture town about forty miles north of Flint, MI. A most noteworthy part of the tours around Frankenmuth was a visit to Michigan’s Own Military and Space Museum; truly great exhibits. If you are ever in the Flint, MI area, check it out.

The event terminated with a ceremonial banquet at the Black Forest Inn. Colors were posted by American Legion Post 150 of Frankenmuth, MI with the support of John Mella, American Legion National Vice Commander for the Central Region. He is a nearby resident who also made a presentation as part of the program.

In an effort to establish a treasury to support future reunions, Barbara Greaves obtained a quilt done in a patriotic motive which raised $80 when auctioned off at the ceremony.

Being a rather small group, we got to know each other pretty well in those four days. How many will be willing and able to make the next reunion—and how many more can we find to join us?

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

Have a Mini-Reunion?
Send your photos and a short write-up to The Graybeards editor for publication!
By Rego Barnett

Jimmy Shin has made a habit of supporting living and deceased Korean War veterans and their families and helping to educate the community in the “50th state” about the history of the Korean War.

Since 2004, he has taken over the responsibilities of continuing the Korean War Memorial Ceremony every June 25th at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl. This year’s event was no exception. The 61st anniversary was a joint venture with the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Honolulu, Hawaii and the Korean War Veterans Association Aloha Chapter.

Jimmy Shin, one of the event coordinators, said, “We were very fortunate to have Consul General Young-Kil Suh, Vice Admiral, ROK Navy (Ret.), give the Memorial Remarks.”

He noted that the other guest speakers comprised a “Who’s Who” of dignitaries. They included Hawaii’s Governor Neil Abercrombie and Honolulu’s Mayor Peter Carlisle, who offered commemorative remarks, and USARPAC Commanding General Lt. Gen. Francis J. Wiercinski, who provided the Keynote Speech.

One of the highlights Shin pointed to was the number of wreaths. “We are very proud to announce that 58 wreaths from the federal, state, and local government, as well as from the Korean community, were presented at the ceremony to honor our fallen comrades,” he revealed.

Shin observed that, “With profound respect and gratitude, the ceremony was dedicated to the brave service men and women of the United States of America who served in the Korean War.” The list of Korean War veterans organizations that contributed to and participated in the event offered proof of the brave men and women he referenced. The list included four other KWVA chapters: Hawaii Chapter #1 (20), Kauai (47), Big Island (231), and Maui No Ka Oi (282).

But, the ceremony was not dedicated exclusively to the American veterans.

Consul General Su, Young-Kil told the attendees that the Korean people were appreciative of everyone’s efforts to save their country. He emphasized that, “Looking back on the past 61 years, in the 1950s, Korea looked hopeless and its future seemed very much in doubt, after the Korean War left the already poverty-stricken country completely devastated with little hope. But thanks to the valor and selfless sacrifice of the Korean War veterans and the robust ROK-US alliance, the Republic of Korea has successfully become a free and democratic country that promotes human rights.”

Moreover, he said, “I am confident that the Republic of Korea and the United States will continue to work closely together, based on our firm alliance, to defend freedom and peace on the Korean Peninsula, in Northeast Asia, and beyond. The blood-tied bond that we have shared will continue to serve as a cornerstone for bringing peace and prosperity to the world.”

His words redounded well on the relationship between the United States and South Korea that has lasted over sixty years, and promises to obtain for years to come. As the Consul General concluded, “The Korean government and the Korean people owe a huge debt of gratitude to the US government, Korean War veterans and their families. As Consul General of the Republic of Korea, I express my sincere appreciation for what you have done for our country throughout the past years. We will never forget the commitment and dedication of the Korean War veterans for a greater cause. You proved to us, through your example, that freedom is not free, but it can be maintained.”

So will Shin’s dedication to sponsoring the annual commemoration at the Punchbowl. Shin says that he is already working on next year’s event—and he expects it to be as significant and well attended as the others that have preceded it.

Reach Shin at P.O. Box 88232, Honolulu, HI 96830 808-951-1411 alohakwva144@yahoo.com
Again

Since 2004, the KWVA Aloha Chapter has taken over the responsibilities of continuing the Korean War Memorial Ceremony every June 25th at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl.

Consul General Young-Kil Suh speaks at Punchbowl ceremony

U.S. Army Pacific Commander LtGen. Francis J. Wiercinski makes comments to Punchbowl audience

Honolulu Mayor Peter Carlisle offers remarks at June 25th ceremony in Hawaii

A display of 58 wreaths at Punchbowl

Korean War pictures on display at Punchbowl
Chapter 170 Members Attend Special Recognition

Members of Chapter 170, Taejon [NJ] attended the 37th annual Retiree Appreciation Day at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, the oldest continuously occupied military post in America. (President Thomas Jefferson signed West Point into law in 1802.) The event honored retiring military personnel from West Point, with a special recognition to the cadet class of 1951.

Chapter President Richard Onorevole led a busload of fifty Korean War veterans and family members to this prestigious event. The contingent included Department of New Jersey State Commander George Bruzgis.

More than 100 “old timers” stood on the sideline as the Class of 2011 cadets marched by to honor them. The announcer stated they were members of the “Class of 1951.” Some were in wheelchairs; others were using canes. They all “stood tall,” however.

Just behind them in the stands with thousands of civilians and veterans from all wars, Taejon chapter historian Lou Quagliero remarked that “These old timers are Korean War-era veterans. A large percent of this 1951 cadet class had to end up in the Korean War that year.”

Later, he met some of them and shared memories as fellow Korean War veterans. After all, they were about 22 years old in 1951, the same age as some of the Taejon chapter members—including Quagliero.

At the conclusion of the Parade Grounds event, the 1951 cadets and invitees—including chapter and family members—went to the cadet mess hall for lunch. Some of the chapter members met with the 1951 cadets there. They may have been the only Korean War group to have that privilege.

Two first-year cadets were assigned to each table. They shared their experiences as cadets and asked questions about the chapter members’ participation in the Korean War.

After lunch, the tour bus awaited, which left us no time for photos with the cadets or more fellowship with the 1951 class members. Instead, we followed activity chairman William Burns’ guided tour, which included a visit to the West Point museum and a history lesson about the Revolutionary War.

Among the exhibits in the museum were artifacts of West Point, beginning with the 1700s, uniforms of all wars, helmets, guns, military items, and too many other items to mention. The West Point museum is well worth the trip. The exhibits give visitors a sense of history as they journey through the rooms and hallways.

Before we came to the museum, everyone looked at the West Point part of the Hudson River, which British ships tried to navigate during the Revolutionary War, only to be stopped by a huge 150-ton steel chain across the water. The British could not ram the chain because of the possible damage it would do to their ships.

Continued on page 72
Day At West Point

Ch 170 Commander Richard Onorevole and his wife Cathy at West Point

Dept. of New Jersey Commander George Bruzgis (L) and Ch 170 members Sr. Vice Commander Robert Fatovic and Finance Officer Edward Frye on West Point excursion

Chaplain John H. Leonhard of Ch 170 and his wife Norma enjoy West Point

Thomas Boyle (L), Ch 170 Surgeon, and Robert Fatovic display comradeship at West Point

Several Ch 170 members gather at a West Point monument (1st Row, L-R) Lou Quagliero, Raymond Cohen, Edward Frye (2nd Row, L-R) Richard Onorevole, George Bruzgis, John H. Leonhard, Louis DeStefano, William Burns (3rd Row, L-R) Robert Fatovic, Pasquale Candela, John DiLonardo, Thomas Boyle

Adjutant Perry Georgison of Ch 170 and his wife Camille, editor of the chapter’s monthly newsletter, the “Taejon Post,” at West Point
On 30 June 2011, ten members of the chapter visited Walter Reed Army Medical Center to deliver presents to the patients of Ward 57, home of Warrior Care, to present a check for $20,000.00 to the Walter Reed Society’s Warrior/Family Support Fund. We delivered candy, cookies, chips, pretzels and Red Lobster gift cards to patients and their families for off-campus visits. We also delivered 100 tubes of toothpaste, toothbrushes and floss and weight lifter gloves for wheelchair patients.

We visited a number of young warriors and their families. Many of the wounded are 19- to 27-year-old warriors struggling to recover from single and multiple amputations caused by IEDs and roadside bombs. The warriors and their families showed great spirit and a desire for the wounded Soldiers to return to society or their units.

This was our fifth and final visit to Walter Reed, as the hospital is closing. Patients will be moved to the Joint Command Hospital at Bethesda, MD prior to September 1, 2011. Since starting our program in December 2007, the chapter’s Wounded Warrior Fund has donated cash, gift cards, stationery, postage stamps, phone cards, watches, wallets, hand-painted tote bags, and an assortment of other gifts totaling in excess of $100,000.00.

Beginning in January 2011 we instituted a drive for new members. The chapter has long depended on the wives of members to support our programs, mostly without recognition. The associate membership requires an interest in the KWVA. What group better exemplifies interest in the success of the KWVA? Our membership chairlady, Elsie Purchase, signed up 8 of the wives—and she has also recruited 3 new regular members.

We have instituted a speaker program. Each month we invite a speaker to address the problems facing our elderly population.
They discuss state and federal veterans benefits, casualty assistance, health issues, diabetes, dental, hearing loss, etc. To date, the Delaware Commissioner of Veterans Affairs, Delaware Veterans Home Administrative Director, Casualty Assistance Officer, Dover AFB, and a certified nurse from the Beebe Hospital speakers bureau, who spoke about (diabetes), have delivered presentations.

The meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at American Legion Post 28, Millsboro DE. The board begins at 1200, lunch starts at 1300, and the general meeting is at 1400, beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance, salute to MIAs, and our speaker presentation.

The speaker portion, which is open to the public, usually takes 20 to 30 minutes, including a Q&A session. The Sgt. of Arms clears the room of visitors and the general meeting begins.

The introduction of speakers and the lunch inclusion have increased attendance and interest.

John W. Weidenhof, 26 Whitehaven Way, Lewes, DE 19958, 302-644-3889, Weidenhof4@aol.com

19 GEN RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

Georgia Governor Nathan Deal honored us on Georgia Veterans Appreciation Day.

At a recent luncheon, we had a drawing for seven Samsung digital cameras provided by the Korea Society of New York. Our speaker, Dr. Susan E. Copeland, drew the winning names.

We again participated in the Alpharetta (Atlanta) Old Soldiers Day Parade. This “small town U.S.A.” parade has been held every year since 1942.

Jim Conway, Secretary/Treasurer
conatlanta@comcast.net

Georgia Governor Deal displays Proclamation of Recognition Day to Ch 19 members for their service in the Korean War

Ch 19 members and Georgia Veterans Commissioner Pete Wheeler at a wreath laying ceremony to honor the 740 Georgians who gave their lives during the Korean War

Camera winners at Ch 19’s luncheon
On July 27, 2011, over 300 members, spouses, and friends attended a memorial service at the National Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl in Honolulu. A number of chapter members are also members of the Japanese American Veterans Association.

Howard S. Okada, 1434 Punahou St.
Honolulu, HI 96822, 808-265-1898

51 RICHLAND COUNTY [OH]

The Mansfield, OH Memorial & Patriotic Association annually sponsors several events, including a Memorial Day Church Service on the Sunday preceding Memorial Day, and a parade on Memorial Day. For 2011, chapter member Elisha “Chug” Floro wrote and produced a dramatic service entitled “Gone, But Not Forgotten” that was centered around Abraham Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address.

In President Lincoln’s invitation to the Gettysburg Cemetery dedication on November 19, 1863, he was asked to provide a few appropriate remarks. In less than five minutes, and using only ten sentences, the President delivered the most revered words ever spoken to memorialize the fallen at Gettysburg and, by extension, the commemoration of all those who have given “the last full measure of devotion” in the service of our nation who “shall not have died in vain.”

The church service began with a bagpiper leading a “Parade of Flags” as some fifty American and veterans posts flags were carried into the sanctuary by veterans from the various organizations and properly posted. The piper then piped in the American flag and the five military branches’ service flags. (The American flag was a replica of the 34-star flag that flew over Gettysburg on the day of the Gettysburg Address.)

In the large side room adjoining the church’s sanctuary, the wall was covered by four large casket flags. A large replica of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier rested in front of the “Wall of Flags” in full view of the congregation.

After the Prayer of Invocation, the National Anthem, patriotic anthems by the Chancel Choir, and a brief sermon by the pastor, the narrator read the Gettysburg Address, during which the 179th Airlift Wing Color Guard unfolded a large American flag in the...
Chancel and held it to the end of the address. At that point, the Color Guard performed “The Dressing of The Flag.” At the end of the ceremony, the folded flag was presented to the congregation.

Then the narrator explained that “When the Flag is folded; when Taps are played, the Nation pauses. When Taps are played, the Nation remembers that they are gone—but not forgotten.”

Taps were played, the bagpiper played “Amazing Grace,” and all in attendance sang “The Battle Hymn of The Republic.”

Bill Woodrow, 1658 Wilmington Point, Mansfield, OH 44904, 419-756-5932, billwoodrow1928@gmail.com

**MONROE COUNTY [NY]**

Our President, Roger Hill, was notified by Congressman Tom Reed’s office that he was hosting a group of dignitaries from Korea, and would like to have them visit our Korean War Veterans Memorial in White Haven Memorial Park in Perinton, NY, while they were in the area.
We arranged with White Haven’s maintenance chief to have a tent set up (as an extremely hot day had been predicted) and assembled a good turnout of our members and veterans from the area.

Earlier, Ambassador Kim, assisted by Assemblyman Hong, honored each chapter member by presenting them with the “Ambassador for Peace” Medal and ribbon!”

Joe Vogel, 1st VP, 1432 Leicester Rd.
Caledonia, NY 14423

116 CENTRAL OHIO [OH]

We marched in the Upper Arlington, OH Independence Day Parade. Mott’s Military Museum of Columbus, OH supplied a military vehicle in which some of our members rode. Large numbers of people viewed the parade, which demonstrated how gracious they are.

Most of them applauded and said “Thank you” as our members passed by.

Arthur J. Dossman, 22759 Ringgold Southern Rd.
Stoutsville, OH 43154-9528
740-477-2855, ADossY@yahoo.com

117 OCEAN STATE #1 [RI]

We installed our new officers on 21 July 2011.

Antero (“Ted”) L. Martins, 54 Ferncrest Dr.
Pawtucket, RI 02861-3224
401-724-4664, TedMartins30@gmail.com
Our new officers for 2011-12 are Commander Luther Rice; Senior Vice Cmdr. Bob Karp; Jr. Vice Cmdr. Ralph Cole; Treasurer Archie Abner; Adjutant J.D. Largent; Chaplain Tom Largent; POW-MIA Officer Clarence Vogelgesang; Service Officer Ivan Chipman; Sgt.-at-Arms Alvin Bamberger.
Our Color Guard presented the colors at a National League game between the Cincinnati Reds and Colorado Rockies.

Members of local veterans organizations presented checks totaling $1,600.00 to the staff at the Southeastern Indiana Career Center to help defray the cost of students traveling to California to participate in a national competition. Several of our members attended, including Bob Karp (DAV), Clarence Vogelgesang (DAV), Archie Abner, Marvin Curls (VFW), Luther Rice, and VVA Commander Fred Lester.

Luther Rice, Commander
414 Water St., Aurora, IN 47001

137 MAHONING VALLEY [OH]

We have new officers for the 2011/2012 year. They include Commander John Pariza, 1st Vice Commander Bob Bakalik, 2nd Vice Commander Bob Vitullo, Adjutant Frank Sloat, Treasurer Fred Ciarniello, and Chaplain Richard Koker

Frank Sloat, Adjutant, 120 Lakeside Way
Warren, OH 44481

142 COL. WILLIAM E. WEBER [MD]

We dedicated a beautiful bronze plaque in honor of the men and women who served in the military during the Korean War.

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

ABOVE: Standing next to Ch 142's plaque (L-R) Orval Nelson, Bob Eader, Wendell Murphy, Bob Mount, Glenn Wienhoff, Gene Rinehart, Reggie Kephart, Jim Miller

LEFT: A close up of Ch 142's new plaque prior to dedication service

BELOW: Ch 142's plaque covered and attached to wall prior to dedication service

138 AKRON REGIONAL [OH]

We elected new officers on 4 May 2011. They were installed on 1 June 2011. The slate includes President Arnon Cool; 1st VP John Stiles; 2nd VP Carl Thornton; Secretary Carl Canon; Treasurer Robert Britt; Chaplain John Galloway; Trustees Loren Bean, Donald Booth, Kenneth White.

Carl Canon, 4512 Conestoga Trl., Akron, OH 44321
330-666-9644, CLCanon1@aol.com

172 HANCOCK COUNTY [OH]

We are proud of our community involvement and our Rose of Sharon Scholarship Fund Drive. Since 2006 we have awarded $5,5500.00 in scholarships. We have also been participating in our county’s Armed Forces Day weekend held each May at the county fairgrounds. This year nine members assisted with the project.
For the past two years we have been sponsoring a commemo-
ration banquet marking the beginning and subsequent years of
the Korean War. This year State KWVA Secretary Howard Camp
was our guest speaker and installer of our officers for the coming
two-year period. Over 100 members and guests attended the ban-
quet held on 16 June.

Our officers are President Weldin Neff, VP John Dutton,
Treasurer Paul McDaniel, Secretary Harry “Cliff” Biddinger, and
Chaplain Cliff Peterson.

John Dutton, Weldin Neff, Paul McDaniel

Robert Morrison (L) and Charles McDougall, 2 of the 20 Ch 172 members
who assisted with Rose of Sharon Drive

Recently, Pennsylvania Governor Tom Corbett signed a bill
designating a section of a road in York County, PA in honor of
Korean War veterans. Chapter 178 was the driving force behind
this dedication.

Members of Ch 172 at their Armed Forces Day booth: Weldin Neff, Ray
Jameson, Robert Neff (Project Coordinator)

New officers of Ch 172 (L-R) Harry Biddinger, Paul McDaniel, Ron Dutton,
Weldin Neff

For the past two years we have been sponsoring a commemo-
ration banquet marking the beginning and subsequent years of
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two-year period. Over 100 members and guests attended the ban-
quet held on 16 June.

Our officers are President Weldin Neff, VP John Dutton,
Treasurer Paul McDaniel, Secretary Harry “Cliff” Biddinger, and
Chaplain Cliff Peterson.

Harry Biddinger, 1 Windstone Ct.
Findlay, Ohio 45840, 419-423-5785
State Representative Stan Saylor - 94th District sponsored the bill.

Jo Anna J. Shovlin, District Director
Hon. Stanley E. Saylor (R-94)

186 ST. CHARLES COUNTY [MO]

At each of our monthly meetings, we try to have a guest speaker. One of the speakers was Jim Kohlmann. His wife Patricia accompanied him with a part of his program to make our attending members aware of a courtesy volunteer service for St. Charles seniors. It is called “Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).”

They also presented a scaled-size model of USS Missouri to our Commander, Dick Saip, and our Navy/Marine members. At a later date, Jim presented a scale model of a B-29 bomber to our Air Force veteran Darold Woodcock for our Air Force members. He also presented a Sherman Tank scale model to Army veteran Homer Scott for our Army members.

All the models were very detailed—and greatly appreciated.

Several of our members participated in a fund raising activity in April.

Salvadore Christifulli, 923 Annabrook Park Dr.
O’Fallon, MO 63366-8410, 636-294-1836,
SChristifulli@charter.net
We received a Certificate of Senatorial Recognition from U. S. Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) for our efforts in creating a Korean War Monument and Memorial Wall in our area.

Work on our monument at Northern Nevada Veteran’s Memorial Cemetery in Fernley is progressing nicely. We are almost finished except for the addition of more veteran and sponsor bricks.

Bob Wallace, rrsur@juno.com

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On May 28th, 48 members and guests gathered at the VFW Park in Turlock, CA for the chapter’s 10th anniversary. Several members served a marvelous lunch, and viewed members’ memorabilia of the Korean War and service.

Dr. Tao Im, Noel Im, Mrs. Im, Ch 203 President Larry Johnson (L-R) at chapter’s anniversary observance
Our special guests were Dr. and Mrs. Tao Im and their daughter, Noel Im. Dr. Im, our speaker, left South Korea in 1971. His medical degrees are from Loma Linda University and Medical School. His practice is in anesthesiology.

He indicated that he will never forget the sacrifice of all veterans who served to preserve freedom for the South Korean people.

Further, he said he could not have become a doctor or enjoyed his family’s blessing without our sacrifice. A question and answer period followed his talk.

Donald E. Strand, Secretary, 2160 El Camino Dr.
Turlock, CA 95380-3604, 209-634-9498

Ch 215 chaplain Dr. Don C. Jones gave the Memorial Address.

After Doyle Dykes, chapter 2nd VP, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Ch 215 chaplain Dr. Don C. Jones gave the Memorial Address.

After the Town North Concert Band played branch of service songs, the Class Act Tap Dance Company entertained with two performances. Louis Holmes of Ch 215 gave the POW/MIA presentation. William Hoyle, Past President of Ch 215, and Paul Pfrommer, 1st VP of Ch 270, placed the memorial wreath. Doyle Dykes, 2nd VP Ch 270, played Taps.

Forty-four Ch 270 members and spouses at the event were Ed and Betty Arnett, David Bentley, Ken and Grace Borchers, Ernest Bousquet, Dick and Sylvia Bové, Jim and Gail Bradshaw, Miles Brown, Bill Carman, James and Harlene Cawyer, Billy Joe Denton, Freeman and Lana Dunlap, Doyle Dykes, Burt Forse, Tom and Ginger Gregg, Joe and Pat Haug, Patricia Jetton, Gui Jung, George Kraus, Tai Hui and Nam Mook Lee, Dick Lethe, Mary Marks, Homer and Ethel Mundy, their daughter Clara Helmbright and her escort Richard Asivido, Paul and Nancy Pfrommer, Epi and Helen Quintanilla, Richard and Rosemary Sanchez, Joe and Debbie Seiling, Glen Thompson, Ski Wojciechowski, Ed and Elizabeth Wuermsner, Bert Yuttal, and Jay Zo.

Members and guests enjoy camaraderie at Ch 203’s picnic

Folks peruse the memorabilia at Ch 203’s anniversary event

Korean War. The event was held in the Atrium at the Dallas VA Hospital on Sunday, 24 July. The Town North Concert Band started playing patriotic music at 2:30 p.m.

Dick Bové, chapter Director and master of ceremonies, opened the program at 3:00 p.m. After the invocation, the chapter’s Color Guard posted the colors while the Town North Concert Band played the U.S. and South Korean national anthems.

After Doyle Dykes, chapter 2nd VP, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Ch 215 chaplain Dr. Don C. Jones gave the Memorial Address.

After the Town North Concert Band played branch of service songs, the Class Act Tap Dance Company entertained with two performances. Louis Holmes of Ch 215 gave the POW/MIA presentation. William Hoyle, Past President of Ch 215, and Paul Pfrommer, 1st VP of Ch 270, placed the memorial wreath. Doyle Dykes, 2nd VP Ch 270, played Taps.

Forty-four Ch 270 members and spouses at the event were Ed and Betty Arnett, David Bentley, Ken and Grace Borchers, Ernest Bousquet, Dick and Sylvia Bové, Jim and Gail Bradshaw, Miles Brown, Bill Carman, James and Harlene Cawyer, Billy Joe Denton, Freeman and Lana Dunlap, Doyle Dykes, Burt Forse, Tom and Ginger Gregg, Joe and Pat Haug, Patricia Jetton, Gui Jung, George Kraus, Tai Hui and Nam Mook Lee, Dick Lethe, Mary Marks, Homer and Ethel Mundy, their daughter Clara Helmbright and her escort Richard Asivido, Paul and Nancy Pfrommer, Epi and Helen Quintanilla, Richard and Rosemary Sanchez, Joe and Debbie Seiling, Glen Thompson, Ski Wojciechowski, Ed and Elizabeth Wuermsner, Bert Yuttal, and Jay Zo.

Ch 215
GEN WALTON H. WALKER [TX]

&

270
SAM JOHNSON [TX]

Chapters Celebrate 58th Anniversary of the Cease Fire Agreement

An estimated 175 Korean War veterans, spouses, and other patriots attended the Anniversary Program celebrating the 58th anniversary of the cease fire agreement ending the
We participated in a fundraising event on August 6. The event, held in Grants Pass, OR, was similar to one we held last year.

Our purpose was to familiarize the community with our existence. We made many contacts, and collected a total of $34 in donations.

Incidentally, we have a new Commander, Henry Nussbaum.

Members staffed a booth for five days at the Josephine County Fair in August.


A staff writer for the News-Tribune, Kim Sloan, wrote an impressive piece regarding the Koreans and their appreciation for the veterans’ contributions, titled “Koreans say thank you on eve of armistice anniversary.” Sloan began with “Two cultures from opposite ends of the Earth came together on a Korean battlefield more than six decades ago to fight against Communism in what many called the first battle of the Cold War.”

Interestingly, Sloan used a quote from Keon Lee to note that the history of the war has been passed down from generation to generation: “And while [Keon Lee] wasn’t even born when the war took place, he said, ‘I have heard many great things from my father about it.’”

Choi shared an interesting tidbit about the war as he translated for his father, Jae Choi, who talked about his interactions with the American soldiers as a boy in South Korea. Sloan wrote,

We welcomed Keon Lee, president of the Korean Association of Rome and Northwest Georgia, and members of the local Korean community to a recent meeting. About 40 Korean families hosted a dinner that night to thank Korean War veterans for their contributions. At the dinner they shared stories about what the veterans did for their country and what it means to them.

Peace Choi, a 23-year-old student studying political science at the University of Georgia, and his family, who own KC’s Home Cooking in Cedartown, prepared the meal for the veterans.

That same night we introduced and installed new officers. The guest speaker was Rome News-Tribune [GA] Editor Charlotte Atkins.

The new officers are President Charles W. Patterson, 1st Vice Commander Richard M. Prater, 2nd Vice Commander William R. Kelley, Secretary J.W. Bowen, Treasurer/Chaplain George H. Wallace, Jr., and Adjutant/Judge Advocate James R. Mehaffey.

The Board of Trustees comprises Chairman James R. Mehaffey, Raymond B. Burchett, and Jack B. Burchett.

Bruce Pence, Ch 315 Secretary/Media Officer, Dean Bosche, Media Officer for the Department of Oregon, Vern Beck, Ch 315 Director, Neil McCain, Department of Oregon Commander and member of Ch 315 (L-R) at fair in Grants Pass, OR

Mrs. Ann Lee (L) and Ch 317 lawyer Holly Strawn at recent meeting

New officers of Ch 317 (L-R) Charles W. Patterson, Richard M. Prater, William R. Kelley, George H. Wallace, Jr., James R. Mehaffey

Bill Burchett (L) of Ch 317 presents flag to Keon Lee
“Some of the food Jae Choi received from American soldiers — yams and pinto beans — are a part of his restaurant’s menu today.”

As Choi concluded, according to Sloan, “It’s an unusual honor for me to have a chance to serve the Korean War veterans….They have demonstrated great courage for generations to follow.”

Read the entire article at http://romenews-tribune.com/view/full_story/14850156/article-Koreans-say-thank-you-on-eve-of-armistice-anniversary?

Charles W. Patterson, 56 N. Avery Rd., NW
Rome, GA 30165, 706-234-8424

319 LAWTON [OK]

The veterans of the “Forgotten War” were not forgotten on Saturday June 25th. About 35 veterans and chapter members attended a memorial service at the New Light United Methodist Church in Lawton to commemorate the 61st Anniversary of the Korean War. The veterans were gratefully remembered and honored for their service in Korea.

Randy Durham, Secretary, faocsalumni@sbcglobal.net
The Graybeards

September – October 2011

DEPARTMENT OF OREGON

We made our first appearance at the Oregon State Fair this year. The fee was right: it was free. The location may not have been the best, but we did get some exposure, and that is what counts. We Korean War veterans welcome the opportunity as a complement to TV interviews, newspaper articles, and our “Tell America” programs.

Our 2nd Vice Commander, Leroy Duncan, drove three hours to help staff the booth. He is dedicated to serving the Department.

The experience was an eye-opener for us. The State Fair was quite large compared to a county fair, but we seemed we have more visitors to the booths at the latter. Apparently, there is so much to see at the state fair that attendees cannot visit it all in one day, so booths like ours are secondary destinations.

Conversely, since the county fairs are smaller, most—if not all—of the attractions, including booths like ours, can be seen by visitors in one day.


The Johnnie Johnson Story

One of our most famous Korean War veterans died at age 79. His name was Wayne Archer ("Johnnie") Johnson.

Johnson was eighteen years old when he entered the Korean War as a Private in the 21st Infantry Regiment. On July 11, 1950, he was captured by North Korean soldiers.

In the early days of imprisonment, Johnson started his famous list. American planes accidentally shot up the building where Johnson and his fellow prisoners were housed, killing most of them. Not wanting to see their deaths go unrecorded, Johnson used the stubs of pencils and strips of wallpaper and cigarette packs to begin listing the names and fates of the dead.

When the North Koreans started moving American POWs, more than 100 men died during a 120-mile mountain march. That winter, 300 more POWs died while camped at the icy Yalu River.

At one point, guards discovered a copy of Johnson’s list and beat him for maintaining what they called “criminal propaganda.” Johnson famously replied, “It’s not propaganda; it’s for the families.”

When he was released in 1953, the list included almost 500 names—all smuggled out in a toothpaste tube. He told officials about the list, but it did not become well known until 1994. Readers Digest was one of the venues telling his story.

In Lima, Ohio the local chapter of the KWVA, CID 115, and a street have been named after him. In 2002, the U.S. Army awarded Johnson the Silver Star.

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

Gene King, former President of Ch 115 (L) and "Johnnie" Johnson
On Saturday, July 23, 2011, we held our annual Armistice Day commemoration at Memorial Park in Colorado Springs. In front of the chapter’s beautiful granite monument facing Pike’s Peak, the crowd of chapter members, regional Korean community, and Colorado Springs residents remembered those who died and remain missing in the war.

The guest speaker was LtCol. Tara O, an instructor at the United States Air Force Academy. She has a PhD in public policy from the University of Texas at Austin.

Mike Thomason, coloradoveteran@hotmail.com

We commemorated the 58th Anniversary of the Korean War armistice signing at our monument in Veterans Park, Santa Paula, CA at 10 a.m. on 30 July. Korean War Veterans Commander Hae Soung Kim was our speaker.

Seventeen other Korean Soldiers from the Western Region, Los Angeles area, accompanied him. They presented their wreath; former Ch 56 Commander Steve Chu presented our wreath.

The general public presented 25 other wreaths in honor of their loved ones who have passed, as well as for those who died in the Korean War.

David Lopez, 3850 W. 180 Place Torrance, CA 90504
We held a ceremony on July 27, 2011 at 11:15 a.m. at the New York State Korean Memorial in Albany, NY to commemorate the 58th Anniversary of the end of the Korean War.

The ceremony included a Color Guard from the Marine Corps League in Schenectady, NY and an invocation by Rev. Kyungbae Oh of the Korean United Methodist Church in Albany, NY.

Speakers were Col. Roy Conklin (Ret.), John Egan, a member of Chapter 59 and the former Commissioner of NYS Office of General Services, Michael Breslin, Albany County Executive, and Col. John Edwards (Ret.).
Edwards was the first President of Chapter 59, a veteran of WWII, Korea and Vietnam, and a former POW and Purple Heart recipient. Conklin, a member of Ch 60, Adirondack [NY], was on Heartbreak Ridge on July 27, 1953 at the time of the cease fire.

Following the ceremony, the CEO of the Albany Korean Community presented 20 Certificates and Medals of Appreciation to the Korean War veterans in attendance.

Marie Busher, Secretary, P. O. Box 360, Lansingburgh Station, Troy, NY 12182, 518-237-9367, jbushers2@aol.com

137 – MAHONING VALLEY [OH]

We held a Laying of the Roses ceremony on 26 June 2011 at our Memorial. The Memorial includes a plaque honoring MOH recipient PFC John Doran Kelly, USMC.

Kelly, a member of C Co., 1st Bn., 7th Regt, 1st Marine Division earned his Medal of Honor posthumously on 28 May 1952. (See his MOH citation at http://www.homeofheroes.com/moh/citations_1950_kc/kelly_john.html)

Frank Sloat, Adjutant, 120 Lakeside Way, Warren, OH 44481

Flag bearers of Ch 137 laying roses on June 26, 2011 (R-L) Roger Gardner, Fred Ciarniello, Sal Mustano (member behind flag is unidentified)
Vietnam War veterans presented the American and South Korean flags as participants and onlookers shared a moment of silence. The ceremony continued with traditional Korean music performances from Washington Sorichung and the Pansori Institute of Washington.

“When my government forgot us, the Korean people have never stopped to recognize and thank us,” said President William F. Mac Swain of the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA), a federally chartered organization representing more than 16,000 Korean War veterans in the United States. “If you look at a picture from the sky of the Korean Peninsula at night, South Korea is filled with lights and energy and vitality and a booming economy; North Korea is dark. Korea was worth fighting for,” added Mac Swain.

President Lee Tae Ha, speaking for the Korean War Association, said he and his comrades were grateful for the bloodshed alliance forged between Korea and the United States. “Korea and America go together,” he stated at the end of his speech.

The next speakers, Larry Kinard, director of KWVA’s Tell America Program, and Tilford Jones, of the Legacy of the Korea War Foundation, spoke about the importance of educating America’s students to ensure that the Korean War is no longer forgotten in the history books and the public’s consciousness.

“Freedom is not free,” remarked Col. William E. Weber, who lost his arm and leg while serving in WWII and Korea. “We must make sure the story of the Korean War is kept alive.”

Col. Weber has been campaigning to build The Wall of Remembrance at the Korean War Memorial to engrave the names of all the fallen soldiers from 1950-1953.

Dr. Paul Song, son of a Korean War veteran, led the audience into the candle lighting ceremony at 7:27 p.m. to pay solemn tribute to the millions of service members who have fallen as a result of the tragic war. Dr. Song indicated that the burning candles also represented our common hope for peace and stability in the Korean peninsula. He is the grandson of Sang Don Kim, the first popularly elected mayor of Seoul (in 1961). He is married to journalist Lisa Ling, older sister to Laura Ling who, with Euna Lee, was captured by North Korea in 2009.

Following Alice Park’s rendering of the song “White Dove, Fly High” by Casting Crowns, an American Christian band that recorded the song in PyeongYang during their trip to North Korea in 2009, Sam Kim addressed the efforts of Korean Church Coalition for North Korea Freedom to shed light on the lingering pain and suffering in the Peninsula.

“When June 25 is commemorated, July 27 is seldom known,” said Hannah Kim, founder of Remember727. “If we forget Armistice Day, we forget that we must carry the torch to bring closure to the war.”

“The Korean War changed the fate of all of us. I hope that each one of us would go home after today with greater recognition of the importance of remembering July 27, so we can think about what we can do together to foster reconciliation and an eventual end to the war,” said emcees Eddie Lee and Esther Kim. They led the veterans and audience in singing the quintessential Korean song, Arirang, as they closed the event.

President Obama, on 25 July, issued a presidential proclamation designating July 27, 2011, as the National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day, calling upon all Americans to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities that honor America’s distinguished Korean War Veterans.

The Korean American Association of Bakersfield, California hosted a Remember727 commemoration on Wednesday, 27 July, from 6:25 p.m. to 7:27 p.m., at the Korean War Memorial in Truxtun.

Korean War Veterans Honored On 61st Anniversary

A special event to commemorate the 61st anniversary of the Korean War armistice was held on July 27th at the Howard Johnson Hotel in Fullerton, CA to honor Korean War veterans.

Continued on page 60
Kim Jin Ok Is Okay

Kim Jin-Ok, the top DEA agent from Korea, invited two members of Ch 56 (Ventura County, CA) to visit Korea at his expense. Chapter members Gregory Garcia, Jr. and John Campos were lucky enough to go on the all-expenses-paid trip.

Mr. OK also paid for twelve other veterans from different parts of California to visit Korea.

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

A Letter Of Appreciation

Max Hunt, a member of Ch 259, Central Indiana, received this letter of appreciation. He served at a different time than the John Lees, the father of the letter writer, in the same unit, 2 Inf Div, 9th Regiment, Co. K. (Mr. Lees was not a member of the KWVA.)

Mr. Hunt:

My name is Karen Lees, you were kind enough to send my mother a photo of the 2nd Inf Div, 9th Reg., Co. K. My mother said you had a nice phone conversation.

Mr. Hunt, I just wanted to thank you for sending [the photo] and speaking with my mother. You can imagine that my mother’s loss is great. This year my parents would have been married 60 years.

I also wanted you to know that as a child of a Korea War Veteran that we the children do remember and we share the stories to as many people who will listen. There is even a Facebook page for children of Korea War Veterans. It’s filled with children whose fathers had made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. It’s filled with stories of pride and gratitude.

I thought my father was a special and unique man. As I have had the opportunity to meet more men from this war, I have come to realize that they are all very special men. Of course, my father is my hero and all that he has taught me remains with me. I miss not being able to ask him for advice and yet I seem to know what he would tell me if he were here.

Mr. Hunt, I thank you for your service. For the sacrifices you made. I know that the painful memories are fresh and real. Please know sir that it was not in vain. Know that we are grateful, even when at times we do not seem so.

Thank you for your service. Thank you for all that you have done for your country. I can assure you that you are not forgotten and that the children will continue to tell the stories of the brave men who fought and died so that others could live and prosper.

God Bless,

Karen Lees, 9946 Valderama Way
Sacramento, CA 95829

Thanks to John Quinn of Ch 259 for bringing the letter to our attention.

19 – GEN RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

The Korean Atlanta Society invited chapter members to a 61st Anniversary dinner in Atlanta.

At our 2 August luncheon, we presented a plaque of appreciation to Ambassador Chun Hae-jin, Consul General of the Republic of Korea. The ambassador is returning to Korea for future assignment.

Major General Maria Britt, Commanding General of the Georgia National Guard, was our speaker.

Jim Conway, conatlanta@comcast.net
On 23 June 2011 the Korean American Association of Bergen County, NJ held a dinner and show to demonstrate their ongoing appreciation for those American veterans who fought in the Korean War in the 1950s.

The celebration was held at Pine Plaza in Palisades Park. Korean girls in their beautiful costumes played drums—an ever popular form of entertainment. There was also beautiful dancing. The dancers used huge decorative fans. Altogether, the Korean entertainers put on an impressive show that day.

Those of us in attendance never cease to marvel at the Koreans’ continuing generosity.

Warren P. Dartell, 211 Hayward Pl.
Wallington, NJ 07057

Ch 48 Attendees at Korean American Association Appreciation Dinner
Florida Members Participate In Korean Independence Day Observance

Members from several Florida chapters and the Department of Florida participated in an observance of Korean Independence Day.

Gil Harris, Historian, 12589 Green Acres Dr
Lyndonville, NY 14098-9662,
MGHarris1cav@yahoo.com

Florida members scan the collage on Korean Independence Day (L-R) Charlie First (Commander, Dept of Florida), Carol Becker (Ch 173 1st VP), Charlie First, Sid Williams, Bill Shibler, Tom Ritten (Ch 188 Sgt.-at-Arms)

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★ 24 Mar – 5 Apr VN 40th Anniv 1972 Easter Offensive & Col John Ripley Dong Ha Bridge
12—24 Apr VN Scouts Out Armor & Mech Ops
19—27 Apr Turkey: Istanbul & Battle of Gallipoli
18 – 28 May 94th Anniv American WWI Battlefields

★ 1 – 6 Jun WWII 70th Anniv of the Battle of Midway

1 – 9 Jun 68th Anniv of D-Day: Normandy to Paris
10 - 22 Jun VN 1st & 3rd MarDiv I Corps Return
9 – 18 July MAT Yap – Manta Ray Dive Adventure
16 - 23 Jul WWII Guam Liberation “Mariana Islands Campaign 1944” Post Tour: Saipan & Tinian

13198 Centerpointe Way, Ste 202 Woodbridge, VA 22193-5285
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mhtours@miltours.com
Memorial Day 2011 was the culmination of a project started early in the school year in 2010. The seventh and eighth grade students of the Current Affairs class of Ms. Jennifer Whitson in the Steelville [MO] Middle School took on a project to raise funds to build a memorial to Korean War veterans from Crawford County, MO, the location of Steelville, MO.

Chapter Commander Walter A. Timson believes that “This is a first for school children in the United States.”

The idea to do this project came from a suggestion by Henry Stroud, Vice Commander of CID 281, Rolla, MO, who works as a substitute teacher at the middle school. The students raised money by holding special programs at school, doing odd jobs in the community. Their original goal was to raise $3,000, which they far surpassed. They also were involved with the design of the memorial, talked with Crawford County officials, and received permission to have the monument erected at the county courthouse.

They next set out to get names of as many Korean War veterans as possible who reside currently, or did reside, in Crawford County. The students also worked with Daejeo Middle School, Busan, Republic of Korea on this project. The students at Daejeo Middle School also raised money which was sent to the Steelville Middle School students to help pay for the monument. The final amount raised from all sources was in excess of $5,500.

The deadline that was set for completion and dedication of the monument was May 30, 2011, which they met. A number of dignitaries attended the dedication, including U.S. Representative Blaine Luetkemeyer, Missouri State Senator Dan Brown, Missouri State Representative Jason Smith, KWVA Department of Missouri State Commander and National Director Frank Williams, Mrs. Myungsook Goo, Assistant Principal of Daejeo Middle School, Busan, Republic of Korea, along with two students from Daejeo Middle School, a representative of Republic of Korea, Ministry of Patriots’ and Veterans Affairs, Mrs. Mihee Guiles, President Pulaski County, MO Korean Association, members of CID 281, many VFW and American Legion members, and a large number of residents of Crawford County, MO.

Steelville Middle School is one of the schools in the area that CID 281 members visit during our Tell America presentations. The students, staff, and faculty have become a very important part of our program.

Walt Timson, Commander
112 Fairburn Dr., Rolla, MO 65401
573-426-3520, waldj1@fidmail.com
We experienced a unique twist to our “Tell America” program this past July when, in a reversal of the customary format, Ms. Shannon O’Meara, a graduating 8th grade student from the St. Jude Elementary School, Monroe, CT, presented us with a five-page, well-researched paper she wrote entitled “The Forgotten War, POWs (and MIAs).”

In recognition of her effort, member Art Sheehan presented Ms. O’Meara with a “Certificate Of Appreciation” on behalf of Chapter President Brendan Sniffin and MIA Chairman Stan Britton. The members all recognized and appreciated the work she devoted to her project, as well as the passion that moved so young an American student to have thought enough about the “Forgotten War” to determine to try to set the record straight on its important historical significance.

Gerard (“Art”) Sheehan
572 Moose Hill Rd
Monroe, CT 06468
203-268-2172

Art Sheehan of Ch 11 presents Certificate of Appreciation to Shannon O’Meara

The Tell America program is alive and going strong in Kansas City and surrounding towns. Paul Wolfgeher heads the program.

Paul was with the 1st Loud Speaker and Leaflet Co., U.S. Army. He has over 1,000 propaganda sheets that were dropped over North Korea to get them to surrender. He also has some propaganda sheets that the North Koreans dropped on our troops. The kids like this part of the program.

Other Korean veterans helping are Bob Jones (73rd Tank Bn.), Gene Winslow (MTG-20 2nd Marine Air Wing), and Vern Scott (Sec Sen Comm 6920 Sec USAF).

Rob Hassig, a teacher at Shawnee Mission Northwest High School, summed up the students’ appreciation for our efforts in this letter:

It is always so gratifying as a teacher to see my students swarm each of you after a presentation. That means you’ve made an impact and connection. They are always so eager for your visit. I never cease to be amazed by how you all stay in great shape and never seem to age. I appreciate Bob’s addition. A new aspect of the war gets developed and I am the richer as a teacher for it.

You are my highlight to our Korean War unit and really bring my lessons and lectures to life. Thank you for your time, your involvement, the treasures you bring to my students, and your continuing services to our country.

Robert R. (“Bob”) Jones
13975 E 35th St., S Apt. 428
Independence, MO 64055-2673
816-836-0969
A letter of appreciation to Ch 43's Tell America team

Dear Mr. Bob Jones,

I, if I could, I would like to sincerely thank you for coming into my class the other day and sharing your experiences with us. Reading and speaking to us about our Tell America Program and sharing a firsthand account of war from your viewpoint. Of course, we don't know what it's like to be a soldier, but we try to make an effort to try to learn more and connect to the soldiers and made us feel more connected to their experiences. So being able to hear from you and see the letter that you wrote, I truly, sincerely wrote a poem that enclosed our thanks and other sentiments that all students found your talk, interesting. The details you gave about the war and the battles fought against them, as well as the human cost, really made me think. I have gained more appreciation for our country and its brave and selfless soldiers. So, thank you for that inspiration. I would like to thank you for this incredible opportunity you have so graciously extended to us.

Sincerely,

Doni Moody
Shawnee Mission Northwest

Ciara Malone of Shawnee Mission Northwest offers gratitude to Ch 43 Tell America presenters

Dear Korean War Vets,

Throughout my high school experience, history has been one of my most challenging, but most interesting classes. I wanted to thank you for taking time out of your day to talk to our class. Hearing your experiences in Korea, the lessons you've taught by example, I know everything I know about the Korean War (maybe little). But walking out, I had your hearts return into something you believe in, passion of your country. My eldest brother is currently in Afghanistan. I pray every night that God protects him and sends safely each one of you guys talked about. Something that sparked my brain into thinking into broader thoughts. Thank you so much for telling me like it was.

Sincerely,

Ciara Malone
Shawnee Mission Northwest

Thank you from Doni Moody to Ch 43 Tell America presenters

Dear Korean War Vets,

Thank you for giving us time to share stories of your experiences. It was more exciting to learn about your war because you were all so emotional, and I could tell you organized well before you organized well, you prepared your people well to go to war. I was very interested. You will tell me all your special areas. Even if you had amazing plans for us and your soldiers will visualize their actions now in God, inspired from you, if you allowed us to visualize.

Sincerely,

Doni Moody

The Sept.-Oct. 2010 Tell America section included our article about the letter we received from Korean exchange student Young Ah Hong that was written in Korean. Here is the translation.

Note: The letter in Korean was published in the Sept-Oct issue of The Graybeards.

Ah Hong's thoughts about Korea and its young adults' attitude also speaks much the same of our youth today. As she stated, and which we experienced, wars have various consequences. Sacrifices are made for us to have the freedom we enjoy today.

Ken Williamson and I have heartfelt gratitude for what she expressed about our Tell America Program.

Fred Shively
Ch 108 Tell America Chairperson
415 Walnut St.
Covington, OH 45318-1643
513-473-5345

108 -- WESTERN OHIO (OH)

The Sept.-Oct. 2010 Tell America section included our article about the letter we received from Korean exchange student Young Ah Hong that was written in Korean. Here is the translation.

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Fred Shively
Ch 108 Tell America Chairperson
415 Walnut St.
Covington, OH 45318-1643
513-473-5345

More
To the two gentlemen who talked about Korea with such a flair:
Many people are not familiar with Korea as a country. When Asia is mentioned, people tend to think about China first, and Japan second. The rest seem to just blend together. My country, however, started to become more developed a while back, and some of our industries are now known around the world by their names.

The world started to take notice and interest in Korea, and today I am proud to be a Korean wherever I am. No, I am no longer ashamed to be called a Korean.

Korea is a small country, but one that hides innumerable history. There has been much pain and suffering in its history, including some that is difficult to believe. An example is the Korean War that two of you so eloquently discussed. My feeling about this matter is one of profound sadness. Beyond that, words fail me. It was humiliating enough for us to endure as a nation the indescribable suffering and persecution under the Japanese rule, but to have fellow Koreans living in the same peninsula point their guns at each other in anger was truly a tragedy.

Lately, I have noticed waning interest among the teenagers and young adults like me in finding out more about this war and reflecting on it. We seem to only hear about it from others. We simply think that the North Koreans are wrong and that they are abnormal. This is where the understanding of the Korean War stops rather than going deeper into realizing the various consequences of the war. Yet we know that it is only because of so many people’s sacrifices that we have the Korea that it is today.

Truthfully I was surprised. I was astounded to find people who are not Koreans take such interest in the Korean War, to see them discuss it as well as its consequences along with what kind of a country Korea is. I can only express my deep gratitude for coming to our school with such a great presentation.

We know that the United States is a strong country. The entire world holds their focus on the U.S., and listens carefully to what it has to say. Frequently I look at the U.S. and think how great a nation of freedom it is. I would very much like to show the rest of the world that Korea too can grow further and develop into a strong nation like the U.S. I would like to go beyond the boundaries of culture, language, appearance, whether one is an American or an Asian, to unite as people of understanding and live in freedom from war, and fill our days with harmony.

P.S.: Your presentation was incredibly cool x 100. I am very proud of you both.

From Young Ah Hong

---

Fred Shively (L) and Ken Williamson of Ch 108 flank Young Ah Hong of Daejeon, Korea

---

Salvadore Christifulli, 923 Annabrook Park Dr., O’Fallon, MO 63366-8410, 636-294-1836, SChristifulli@charter.net

April 21, 2008

To: Mr. Bob Gordon, Mr. Frank Williams, Mr. Chris Christifulli, Mr. David Woodcock, and Mr. Bob Fitz

Dear Korean War Veterans,

I just wanted to say thank you for taking the time to speak with us. The Korean War is one of the most interesting wars in my opinion and it was amazing to hear your experiences. It really opened my eyes to life in the service and life at that time. No words can express my gratitude for your service, but thank you very much.

Sincerely,
Ryujea Yimnieor
Senior at Fort Zumwalt North

Thanks to Ch 186 from Fort Zumwalt North

Dear Mr. Allen Willey,

Thank you for coming in and talking about your war experiences with us. I really got a lot out of it because the books don’t have a first person point of view. I tried to ask you but my dad told me to tell you that he is Steve Owenby and wanted to know how you were doing. My Grandpa was a Korean War Veteran and never really talked about it, even though I never asked, I always wondered what he experienced in the Korean War.

Thank you,

Jim Owenby

My grandfather did not want to talk about it

All Chapter and/or Department news for publication in The Graybeards should be mailed to Art Sharp, Editor, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or emailed to: Sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net
Welcome Aboard!

New Members of the Korean War Veterans Association

ALABAMA
R043312 WILLIAM G. MOTE
R043402 JAMES K. TURNER
R043382 RICHARD L. WOOD

ARIZONA
R043349 KENNETH A. HOLCOMB JR.

CALIFORNIA
R043372 DONALD J. ARENSDORF
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R043381 WILLARD W. ERICKSON
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LR43371 NICHOLAS M. SPANOS
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WISCONSIN
R043329 WALTER A. LASKOWSKI
Were You Aboard Gen. Hase?

Does anyone remember being aboard USNS General Hase on 17 May 1952 when we crossed the International Date Line? Or, were you aboard USNS General Patrick when we arrived at the Port of Seattle on or about 26-27 February 1953? If so, please contact me.

Pat R. Vigil, 317 60th St. NW
Albuquerque, NM 87105

Captain Francis R. Baker

I am looking to hear from Captain Francis R. Baker or anyone else who remembers me from June and July 1953 at Outpost Queen near Christmas Hill, Korea.

I was in HHC, 2nd Bn., 180th Regt., 45th Div.
Russ Ballard (Sgt), P. O. Box 549
Ellington, CT 06029, 860-875-2343

Where Was Java Junction?

While looking over some old pictures, I found one taken somewhere between Seoul Air Base (K-16) and Chunchon (K-47) at a place called Java Junction. I traveled the route several times and stopped there for coffee. Where was it?

I was stationed with 5th Comm. Sqdn. Div., first in Seoul and second at Kimpo, between the springs of 1954 and 1955.

If anyone remembers where Java Junction was located, please let me know.

Gordon L. Kimball, 107 Yarmouth Rd.
Gray, ME 04039-7500, 207-657-3242

Sgt. Donald G. Grinnell

I am trying to find Sgt. Donald G. Grinnell. He was in Co. E, 31st Inf. Regt. He was wounded badly on 5 June 1951.

If anyone knows of his whereabouts, or has any other info on him, please contact me.

Lloyd Pitman, P. O. Box 71
Preble, NY 13141, 315-751-4396

Basic Training At Schofield Barracks HI

I want to hear from anyone who took basic training with me in spring 1951 at H.I.T. C., Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, 30th Bn., 35th Co.

Ivan Turnbull, Sr., P.O. Box 217
Newburg, MO 65550, 573-762-2002

Is This Pilot Or His Family Still Alive?

Albert Murphy served with the U.S. Army in Korea in 1952-53 in the Heavy Equipment Co. H&S Co., 73rd Engineer Combat Bn., 19th Eng. Grp., 10th Corps, 8th Army, Far East Command. He has two pictures of a plane that crashed landed very close to where they were working above the 38th Parallel. The pilot was okay, and most of the plane was intact.

Here are the markings on the plane: VA 923, with 516 D on the wing. The letter D was on the tail. Mr. Murphy believes that if the pilot or any members of his family were still alive, they might want the pictures.

The pictures are on Facebook under the name Loren Murphy.

Please let him know if you can help him track down the pilot, date of crash, etc.
Reckless

I am a Navy Corpsman who spent 46 months in the service, 24 in the Navy and 22 months with the Marines, 14 of which were in Korea. While I was in Korea there was a horse named Reckless that carried ammo to the front. Should you have any info on Reckless, I would appreciate it.

I was with Weapons Co., 3rd Bn., 5th Marines. I am not sure if the horse was with the Army or the Marines, but it was an amazing animal.

Robert J. ("Jim") Titus, 5601 Grizzly Bluff Rd., Ferndale, CA 95536, 707-786-9996

EDITOR'S NOTE: Sgt. Reckless was attached to the 5th Marines. There is a website dedicated to him. It is http://www.sgtreckless.com/Reckless/Welcome.html

187th RCT At Chosin?

Virgil McKinney of Scottsburg, IN contacted The Graybeards’ office recently to ask if the 187th RCT had participated in the Chosin Reservoir battle. Did it?

If anyone has an answer to his question, please let The Graybeards’ editor know. Mr. McKinney’s number is 812-752-4523.

578th Engr. (C) Bn., 40th Inf. Div.

Anybody recognize the Soldiers in this photo? If you have any information about them, please get in touch with Melvin L. Kneer, 2503 W. Virginia St., Evansville, IN 47712-5655, 812-423-0395

Toddy?

Does anybody remember the chocolate drink Toddy? The two soldiers in the nearby photo are both holding cans of the beverage. One, Leo Schivelbein, noted, “I can’t explain the chocolate drink called Toddy. We were twenty years old then.”

Incidentally, the picture was taken somewhere behind Heartbreak Ridge. Schivelbein and his buddy, Bob Hackley, were members of the 160th Regt., 40th Inf. Div.

Please send your info about Toddy to Graybeards Editor, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

International Korean War Memorial

Does anyone have any information about the International Korean War Memorial? It is located in San Pedro, CA, but I haven’t heard anything about it for a while.

Ken Markstrom, 5410 W. Freeway Lane
Glendale, AZ 85302, KCMarkstromAZ@aol.com

The International Korean War Memorial

25th Division/ROK-PUC

For people who served with the 25th Division from 5 May 1953 to 9 July 1953, your unit was awarded the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation. If that citation is not listed on your DD-214, write to me and I will send you a copy of General Orders #19, dated 10 March 1955.

President Syngman Rhee awarded the citation dated 18 September 1954 for “exceptionally meritorious service in the Republic of Korea.”

Louis Ross, 137 Walker Road NW
Cartersville, GA 30121-4930
2nd Plt., Co. F., 5th Cav Rgt.

I would like to hear from any comrades who served with me on the Pusan Perimeter, especially Hill 303. I received a battlefield promotion to Master Sergeant, and was acting platoon leader from Aug. 13 to Feb. 21 1951.

On Feb 21 that year—my birthday—I received my third wound, after which I was evacuated to the states.

I was with 2nd Plt., Co. F., 5th Cav Rgt.
Robert E. Gabe, 165 Cortland Dr.
Valatie, NY 12184, 518-784-3231

Clarence Davis

On p. 47 of the May/June issue, there was an item regarding Ch 54’s (Thomas W. Daley, NJ) Tell America program. The speaker was Clarence Davis, not Clarence Williams. The school at which he spoke, Orchard Friends, is in Riverton, not Camden, as originally reported. And, the student listed as his grandson is actually his granddaughter.

Chris Trost

We included the wrong phone number for Chris Trost, who was looking for members of Co. “A,” 15th Inf. Regt., 3rd Inf. Div. His correct phone number is 773-286-3317.

Robert Maguson

The photo in the July/Aug article, “Have You Ever…?,” p. 73, by Robert Maguson, included the wrong photo. The correct photo and caption are below.

Clarence Davis

Two Korean Soldiers, Robert Maguson, and his son Mark (L-R) at the wreath laying ceremony at the USA Memorial
Almost 60 years later the Korean War is still claiming soldiers’ lives

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Thanks For The Quad-50s
I enjoyed the July/Aug 2011 article about quad-50s, “The Story of My Army Days,” by David W. Keefe, p. 16. In the last days of the Korean War, from the fall of Pork Chop to the cease fire, our platoon, 1st of Baker Co., 32nd Inf. Regt., 7th Inf. Div., held a roadblock and line along a creek bank in the valley where a road went out to Pork Chop. Old Baldy, which had fallen back in March, was not more than 200 yards away.

I only had a few days left of my tour of duty, and this was the worst position I’d seen to date. Our front was a potential Chinese playground. We only had one good thing going for us in this position. Back up the road to our rear, there was a quad-50 sited to give us support.

The “Big Boy” fired a couple of night missions and it was beautiful. No Chinese company could have survived for more than two or three seconds against such fire. I felt a lot better about my chances to rotate when I saw the work the quad could do. I could see no reason why each platoon should not have two of them!

Robert Compton Miller
maureen12@embarqmail.com

There Should Be A Combat Decoration For Field Artillery Personnel
Pages 29 and 70-71, Jan/Feb 2011 issue, contained an excellent and well-written letter: “What the CIB Means to Me,” by Joe Langone. The author was a soldier who went from occupation duty in Japan during June 1950 into the worst part of the Korean War. At that time, the U.N. forces were all but thrown out of South Korea, barely holding onto the Naktong River line’s Pusan perimeter until the successful Inchon landings of September 15, 1950, had all but ended the North Korean invasion until the Chinese entered the war later that fall.

The writer was very pleased to have been awarded the Combat Infantryman’s Badge for his combat service of more than 30 days during the early and most difficult stages of the war, but was not entirely accurate in his understanding of eligibility for this award.

The writer quoted one of the sergeants in Mr. Langone’s 9th Infantry Division (in which he received his basic training, before being assigned to Company B of the 21st Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, then on occupation duty in Japan). He said, “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.”

On July 3-4, 1950, Mr. Langone received his baptism of fire. On July 5 he was involved in his first ground action, earning a CIB. He pointed out that the reward is recognition by those soldiers who earned it themselves and that “CIB veterans know what you did to earn the badge and understand the price you paid for the privilege of wearing it.”

Unquestionably, Mr. Langone and thousands of other infantrymen who served in WWII, Korea, Vietnam and subsequent American military operations earned the CIB. Sadly, not all its recipients earned it. Some received it merely because they served in an infantry unit, most of whose elements were in front line combat, although they may actually have all been in the rear areas.

I was a Field Artillery Second Lieutenant and then a First Lieutenant with Able Battery and subsequently Headquarter Battery of the 160th Field Artillery Battalion, 45th Infantry Division from Thanksgiving Day in 1951 until October 4, 1952. I joined the unit initially as Service Battery’s Ammo Trains Commander.

After a month in Japan and a week or two in Korea, when the 45th Infantry Division replaced the First Cavalry Division in the fall of 1951, I was reassigned to Able Battery as a Forward Observer (FO). I spent several months rotating between the battery area and assignments as the FO for Able, Baker or Charlie Company of the First Battalion of the 279th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division. At that time, the division was stationed southwest of Chorwon, North Korea, facing the Red Chinese armies.

During the course of my various assignments, occasionally incoming Chinese artillery rounds fell near me while I directed many fire missions to support both defensive and offensive operations of the infantry companies to which I was assigned at various times. Occasionally I had to fight with an M2 carbine, along with infantrymen who had M1 rifles and BARs.

My major combat action occurred in late January 1952. I was Charlie Company of the First Battalion of the 279th Infantry Regiment’s FO. Our mission was to cross no man’s land and attack a terrain feature in the shape of a T (known as T-bone Hill). Its top feature, somewhat higher than its base, was held by Chinese infantry armed with mortars and at least one 76 mm gun.

During the course of this operation, while I accompanied the company commander, both of us engaged in occasional small arms fire fights with Chinese. When we retreated, at the operation’s conclusion, we were pinned down in a draw by Chinese mortar fire. To screen our retreat, I radioed for smoke shell. Since
none was available in the 160th Field Artillery Battalion, my request had to be relayed to an infantry 4.2 mortar company. Their fire successfully screened our withdrawal. But, we were still under the direct fire of a Chinese 76 mm gun. One of the rounds from it blew off the head of the man in front of me.

The only difference between the other officers and men in Charlie Company, my FO Sergeant, radio operator and me was that the former were infantrymen who wore crossed muskets on their dress uniforms while we were artillerymen, with crossed cannons on ours. All of them received and certainly deserved the CIB, which is apparently awarded for 30 days service in a front line infantry regiment. None of us received it. Subsequently, I became greatly disillusioned with the policies awarding this decoration while I was on a two-day trip to the Division’s headquarters at Yong Dong Po, about 70 miles south of the front lines and a dozen or so miles south of Seoul.

After checking my own personnel records at our battalion’s rear headquarters, I went next door to the 279th Infantry Regiment’s rear headquarters. The first thing I saw was a Sergeant wearing a CIB. I asked him, “Sergeant, when did you get back from the front?”

He answered, “Sir, I have never been up front, nor have any of the other men here in this rear headquarters, all of whom have been awarded the Combat Infantryman’s Badge. We are all on duty in a front line infantry regiment.”

The Japanese manufactured an unauthorized decoration for artillery officers and men. It resembles a CIB, except that it is scarlet, instead of blue, with crossed cannons instead of crossed muskets. I bought one as a souvenir. Although I wear my uniform at least annually to march in our town’s Memorial Day Parade, I never wear this unauthorized decoration. An enlarged copy of it appears on the cover of the recently published book, The Guns of Korea.

In some of the more recent wars, such as the Iraq and Afghanistan operations and possibly even earlier ones, anyone in combat (defined as being under enemy fire, I guess) has received some kind of a combat decoration from the United States Army. Even before that, medical personnel who served at forward and possibly personnel in certain other branches. In some of the more recent wars, such as the Iraq and Afghanistan operations and possibly even earlier ones, anyone in combat (defined as being under enemy fire, I guess) has received some kind of a combat decoration from the United States Army. Even before that, medical personnel who served at forward and possibly personnel in certain other branches. Furthermore, light plane pilots and artillery air observers (of which there were one or two from each battalion, including ours) who flew daily missions to call in artillery fire over Chinese or North Korean lines were awarded the air medal plus oak leaf clusters for each five missions thereafter.

However, there has been no authorization of a combat decoration for field artillery personnel whose units were in combat against the enemy, particularly those of us who served as FOs with a front line infantry company or were under the command of a lieutenant in that position. Those of us who were FOs fought in the same way as if we were in the infantry. We were exposed to enemy small arms fire along with the infantry and fired our carbines at the enemy while the infantrymen fired their M1s and BARs.

I suggest that the United States Army obtain applications from those of us in the artillery who qualified for such an award and give it to us retroactively, marking our service records accordingly.

Frank S. Berall, 9 Penwood Rd.
Bloomfield, CT 06002, 860-243-3441
frank_berall@cppberall.com

We Had A Great Track Team At Camp Carson

On September 28, 1953 I was drafted out of my senior year of college and sent to the Division Division (DD) at Atterbury, IN. Just after completing my basic training I received a letter from Madison Square Garden in New York inviting me to return to the Garden to compete in the Knights of Columbus Shot Put Championship, since I had won the year before. Perplexed about what to do because I was in the Army during a war, I met an officer friend, Vincent Diorio. He took me to Special Services.

They were kind to me, but said we were moving to Camp Carson, Colorado. At Carson they let me train and flew me to Floyd Bennett Field in New York City. I was happy, since I lived in New York City.

Unfortunately, I lost the competition at the Garden and returned to Camp Carson. Colonel Gilbert, who was in charge, said I was to be assigned to Special Services to be the base track coach. I was a football and baseball player, and not especially happy in track and field.

The Colonel said General (his name escapes me here) wanted a full complement of athletic teams, and advised that we needed a baseball coach. Billy Martin, of New York Yankees fame, was sent to Carson and assigned as the baseball coach. We roomed together with assigned duties of track and baseball respectively.

I would love to hear from members of my very good 1954/55 track teams. So, if anyone reading was a member of the Camp Carson Track Team, please contact Vincent N. Gattullo at 917-270-5661 or vgattullo@apdaparkinson.org (lower case sensitive).

Shell Shocked?

In May, 1952 I was in a jeep driving along the MLR near the Punch Bowl when the Chinese started a mortar shelling. A shell exploded directly over my head and leaflets came floating down.

I grabbed one out of the air. It showed a picture of two couples sitting under a beach umbrella drinking cocktails. The location looked like Miami Beach.

The leaflet contained the standard surrender information. I mailed this home to my parents in Indianapolis. Before my re-visit to South Korea last month I tried to find it but it got lost over the years.

Rey Colglazier, 210 Rivera Dr.
St. Simons Island, GA 31522, 912-638-3258

Bringing Back Memories

Several items in recent issues of The Graybeards have piqued my interest. One was the mention of the “Atomic Cannon.” I went to Aberdeen Proving Grounds for basic and tech training in April 1952. During one of our many-mile hikes we were ordered to break ranks and get off the road. Then, a huge two-part truck carrier went past hauling massive cannon.

The truck had two tractors with a drop-frame carrier in the middle. Drivers talked to each other by a radio intercom system. I
Life Aboard General W. F. Hase

I came home aboard General W. F. Hase in June of 1952. The trip took about sixteen days. After about seven days at sea, the engines quit at about 2:30 a.m. All 4,000 of us “rotatees” were awake wondering what was wrong. After about three hours of repairs, we continued toward San Francisco.

The first thing that we learned aboard was to stay out of the open stair wells because someone was always sea sick at the top end. Several of us ate, slept, and lived on the rear deck, where there were ropes available to drag our clothes in the sea for cleaning. That worked well.

And the safest diet was crackers and a little cheese.

Clay Speiser, 1912 South Lyndale Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57105-2424, clspeiser@aol.com

In the Korean War, the ship was a passenger on the Empire Fowey and the Empire Orwell (the troopships were named for English rivers). These vessels were former German cruise liners seized as reparations in 1945. (As a sideline, when I first sailed to the Far East (Hong Kong) we moored in Colombo alongside a French vessel, the Felix Roussel, which was taking Foreign Legion troops to Indo-China. The same ship later conveyed the “Battalion francais de UNO” (Le Piton), to Korea.

My trip out was to Kure, Japan, whence I was transported to Pusan by an LST, Charles MacLeod. The less said about that leg of the trip, the better!

Les Peate, jlepae@rogers.com

Arthur Hodapp

This is in reference to Page 16 In the May/June 2011 issue and the late PFC Arthur L. A. Hodapp. The reference suggests he was MIA when the 5th RCT was in fact off the line at KoJe Do Island in April, 1952. In searching my files, I see that Pvt. Hodapp in actuality was a casualty the previous year, in 1951.

The following information was found among the records of the 5th Regimental Combat team at the National Archives and Records Administration facility in College Park, MD, and from among records published online.
Special Order (SO) 15, dated 29 January 1951, records PFC Hodapp as assigned to Co. A, 5th RCT. Special Order 39, dated 13 March 1951, records the same Pvt. Hodapp was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge.

The records of Korean War US Army casualties kept by the National Archives (and available on their website) show two casualty records for Hodapp. One shows that this same Pvt. Hodapp was listed as “missing in action” on 18 February, 1951, and “Returned to Military Control,” with the disposition being made 24 February. At that time, the 5th RCT was operating along the Han River. My records show that the 1st Bn. of the 5th RCT moved to a reserve position from attachment with the 21st Inf. at 1125 hours 17 February. Thus, Pvt. Hodapp’s battalion was not involved in significant combat at the time of the above incident.

A second record for Pvt. Hodapp notes him as of 23 April 1951 as “captured, died non-battle.” The date of disposition is given as 3 July, 1951. The American Battle Monuments Commission Korean War Honor Roll website includes the following conclusion regarding Pvt. Hodapp’s service and death.

“Private First Class Hodapp was a veteran of World War II, serving in Germany. In Korea, he was a member of Company A, 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regimental Combat Team. He was listed as Missing In Action on February 18, 1951 and returned to duty on February 24, 1951. He was taken Prisoner of War while fighting the enemy near Undum-Jang, South Korea on April 23, 1951 and died while a prisoner on July 3, 1951 at POW Camp #1, North Korea of Dysentery. His remains were not recovered.”

Many casualties for the 5th RCT in early 1951 were as a result of the UN offensive of April 22, 1951 and the Chinese Communist offensive of April 25, 1951. A total of 188 5th RCT men were listed as MIA during that April and Pvt. David L. Hodapp ER 16207581, Company A, was among them. The list records him as Missing near Unoam Jang, Korea, April 23, 1951. Many others of the 5th RCT are listed as MIA on that date.

I see on the Internet that his recently identified remains were recently interred at St. Joseph’s Cemetery in Freeport, IL. This is all the information I found in my files and searching the Internet. I have written histories of the 5th RCT In Korea and I have extensive files relative to the 5th RCT. I served in Company E, 5th RCT from January to November 1952.

Albert J. McAdoo, Ch. 175, 7506 S. Mascotte St., Tampa, FL 33616, 813-837-2728

Were These Real Names?

We asked in the May/June 2011 issue if the Chinese and North Koreans were using real names of American GIs on propaganda leaflets they distributed during the Korean War. John J. Baker, author of Waiting For Dawn: Manchuria, Yalu River, North Korea Dec 1950, who served with the 24th Division, offers a possible explanation in this excerpt:

Latrine Rumors Flying: 24th Inf Div Lost Its Colors In Korea?
Fact: No Way Jose.

The only thing we lost in Korea during the first week in July 1950 was our duffel bags!

“Truck Blown Off Road by Enemy Fire…”

Fact: Seoul City Sue, Communist Propaganda Radio announcer, said on her radio broadcast, “We have taken a lot of American POWs here, and I will tell you who they are”. and she read what was on my duffel bag!! Baker John J. RA 122-77-413 RM10 Imperial Hotel Ave A Tokyo, Japan

She stopped and said, “This is Japanese, no American address!!!”

Of course not!! They had our duffel bags, not us!!

Seoul City Sue stuck her foot in her own mouth and we had a good laugh.

Baker also notes that LtGen. Willoughby, Tokyo, GHQ, G-2, Military Intelligence, made recordings on 78 rpm records of all radio transmissions from Seoul City Sue. There was a total of 331 communist propaganda messages on the 98.6 MEG AM band. All the recordings were transferred into booklet form. The data is on display at Fort McNair, HQs Military History, Washington DC.

Reach John J. Baker, 34/24 ID 34th REG 1st Bn HQ Co, at 839 Newton St., Monterey, CA 93940-1209, 831-375-3328

While Seoul City Sue broadcast, troops kept fighting

President’s Comments

Please refer to “From the President,” May-June 2011 issue, third paragraph.
Even though you probably received many letters about it, I decided that I had to write to you. South Korea is not a miracle. They developed a democratic Republic through hard work and intelligence.

The communists did attack another nation: South Vietnam.

Communist aggression was not stopped where it started. There have been many aggressive acts by the North against the South since 1953.

John O. Rough, 182 Crown Point Dr.
Carson City, NV 89706, 775-841-4168

There Is No American Section In The UN Cemetery in Busan

In the May-June issue, P. 39, there was a photo of a young man with the 2010 Peace Camp Tour standing next to a small hard frame U.S. flag in the U.N. cemetery in Busan. The caption referred to the location as the U.S. area of the cemetery.

Although some of the U.N. participants have sections set aside for their fallen, there is no U.S. section in this cemetery, except for the Wall of Remembrance, on which the names of the 36,940 Americans who did not come home are engraved.

What this photo shows is a small area set aside for a group of American Korean War veterans who willed to be buried in Korea. The bronze markers were issued by the Department of Veteran Affairs.

Joe De Palma, Ch 64, 17A Woodbridge Rd., Ridge, NY 11961-1337, 516-821-6493, depaljs7@aol.com

The Stupid SOB On The Two-Holer

When I read the May-June issue, the article on page 61 about “The Only 12-Holer…” reminded me of an incident that happened to me about the time the war was over.

I was in the 74th Engineer Combat Battalion. We were stationed near Kumhwa when the Chinese broke through and pushed us back toward Kapyong. There we had bivouacked beside a small creek. As you can imagine, toilet facilities were very limited. But since we were in an engineering outfit, we had lumber.

Some plywood was used to make a temporary toilet like a big box turned upside down. It had two holes, but no roof. It was placed across the creek from the staff tents on the bank of a gully.

One afternoon I had to go, so I was using the facilities out in the open before God and everybody. There was a lot of rubbish in the gully that was burning slowly. In fact, it was just smoldering.

Somebody had thrown ammo into the rubbish. While I was sitting there, a round went off. Since a bullet is heavier than the casing, the bullet and casing go in opposite directions when it fires. There was no reason for me to move, because there was no way to know which way the next one would go. Of course, this got the attention of all the staff people, who started coming out of the tents.

Our Executive Officer, Major Conley, asked where that round had come from. I yelled back that it was from the trash pile. About that time another round went off.

Major Conley yelled, “Who is that stupid SOB sitting over there on the ***house who won’t move?”

I suspect he was referring to me.
taken 9,000 casualties—the effort was somewhat incredible.

She inspected the honor guard and a band played the Star Spangled Banner. She received a decoration (the 7th Infantry Bayonet Pin) from General Smith, Commanding Officer of the 7th Infantry. The pomp and circumstance prompted General Van Fleet to utter, “She will have to bare her breasts for this.”

When she left, everything returned to normal. The show and pretension were over. However, she was the highest ranking civilian to visit the 7th Infantry.

Irwin Z. Braun, Sgt., HQ Co., 32nd Infantry
7th Division, 9989 Harbour Lake Circle, Unit 102
Boynton Beach, FL 33437, 516-305-9360

Patriots’ Day/Patriot Day
In anticipation of the Tenth Anniversary of Patriot Day, I wish to clarify the confusion over the use of Patriots Day and Patriot’s Day in the President’s article in the July-August 2011 edition of The Graybeards, Vol. 25, No. 4, p.3.

Asking any nonresident of the New England states about Patriots’ Day will get you a “Duh” and a blank stare! History buffs, do you remember, “The shot heard round the world?” Echoes can still be heard of the Battles of Lexington and Concord fought on April 19, 1775 in Middlesex County, Province of Massachusetts Bay. Farmers and shopkeepers (the militia) faced the red-coated British regulars at North Bridge and on the Greens, beginning the American Revolution.

Annually, on the third Monday of April, designated Patriots’ Day, civic minded New Englanders remember those colonists who fought and died defending our individual freedoms.

One year into the 21st century, on September 11, 2001, “Uncle Sam” experienced a second act of war when terrorists launched air attacks deep within our shores at the World Trade Center, New York, the Pentagon, Washington, DC and the State of Pennsylvania. These acts of war bring comparison with the December 7, 1941 Japanese assault on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, “A day that will live in infamy.”

Subsequently, the 107th US Congress passed Public Law 107-89, amending title 36 of the United States Code, to designate September 11 of each year as Patriot Day.

Michael J. ‘Mike’ Glazzy, 3361 Williams Rd.
San Jose, CA 95117-2579, 408-296-8282,
MichaelGlazzy@att.net

A Soldier’s Sorrow
Last month I received a letter from my friend’s wife Gail notifying me that her husband and my war buddy had passed away. Ed Shymanski and I were Soldiers together in Tank Co., 31st Inf. Regt., 7th Div.

Ed and I were CIB men, and both were in Korea when the war ended. We were close friends at a time when, with rotation and all, it was hard to form lasting relationships. But Ed and I always kept in touch.

Before Ed married he visited me. He was from Detroit and I live in Staten Island, NY. He wanted to see the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge, which connects Brooklyn and Staten Island, because his company provided steel for it. We rode back and forth on it so he could get a good look. Years later he, his wife, and their three kids visited me. His passing is a great loss.

A friend and fine Soldier like Ed Shymanski is a precious find. I hope that when my time comes, Ed and I can keep in touch once again. There is something between war buddies that lasts forever.

Harry A. Thambounaris, 320 Sprague Ave.
Staten Island, NY 10307

EDITOR’S NOTE: Edwin Shymanski, of Livonia, MI, died on 16 July 2010.

New License Plates In Alabama
I thought that you would be interested in seeing the new vehicle tags for Alabama this year. The state came up with a new design and it looks fairly good.

We are proud that Alabama is one of the leaders in producing a new tag to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Korean War.

Paul E. Riley, 2117 Covington Dr.
Florence, AL 35630, perch2117@comcast.net

KWVA Members Are Helpful
Thank you for printing my request for a copy of the “Golden Dragon” certificate in the July/Aug issue. I was overwhelmed at getting one so quickly. In fact, so far I have received four prints!

Also, thanks for mentioning “The Mighty Quincy” (CA 71). I still think a lot about my days aboard Quincy during the Korean War.

Warren D. Plaster, 864 Old Hollow Rd.
Buchanan, VA 24066, 540-254-1970

Kudos to Lt. Clark
I was pleased to see in the July-August issue Thomas Moore’s article about Lt. Eugene Franklin Clark and his exploits prior to the Inchon landing. (“A Bushel Of Medals For Lt. Clark,” p. 23) It reminded me of Clark’s wonderful book, The Secrets of Inchon, which was published after his death.

I found it an exciting adventure story. I am surprised no one has made a movie about him.

Readers might be interested in hearing about this book. I doubt it is still in publication, but it can be located on Amazon.com and can be purchased for a few dollars. There is also a Kindle version.

Philip M. Campbell, Detroit MI
phil1512@sbcglobal.net

Have a Mini-Reunion? Dedicating a Memorial? Attending a Banquet
Send your photos and a short write-up to The Graybeards editor for publication!

Mail to Art Sharp, Editor, Korean War Veterans Association, 152 Sky View Drive., Rocky Hill, CT 06067
People say Korea was hot. It was sure hot on the night of November 27th and 28th, 1953. That was the night that Pusan, where we were assigned, became one giant pile of ashes.

I served with 7 TRANSP 8131 AU. Our home base was the Hialeah Compound RMP, but we were assigned to Annex 1 in downtown Pusan. That put us right in the middle of the fire when it started in the middle of the night on November 27—Thanksgiving night. There really was not much to be thankful for some people after that fire ended.

Annex 1 consisted of a mess hall, a medical unit, and one huge building. G2 was on the roof, which was mostly tar paper. Luckily, our building was spared. We kept it watered down, but the building next to us burned to the ground. Regardless of which building burned and which one didn’t, it was like “hell” all over.

We had to be on our guard all the time. We took 55-gallon drums of gasoline and dumped them into the ocean so they would not explode in the flames. Our personnel were on alert for days—31 days, in fact—before we could get any rest. We carried carbines in the “lock and load” position because we did not know what to expect.

I hope all the men I was with then, like Don, Bill, Art, Jim, and Jarvis, are all okay. Heck, if any of them are still around I would like to hear from them.

Charles L. Aylesworth, 514 W Jefferson St., Mt. Pulaski, IL 62548
Cpl Charles Aylesworth in front of the R&U Shop in Pusan on 6 June 1954

Smoke rising from Pusan homes after fire

People milling around in Pusan

Not much left in Pusan but shells of buildings

There used to be homes where the ashes are now

Even the Generals cannot save these ruins

A cold Cpl Aylesworth on patrol after fire, stopping people to check their passes

At least these kids survived the fire

Man tries to douse a burning coal pile with a fire extinguisher
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
THOMAS P. DREW
THOMAS W. GURGANUS

ARKANSAS
JOHN J. McCLUSKEY

CALIFORNIA
WENDELL V. GOODMAN
JOHN T. HARROP
GERALD L. KOMROSKY
WILLIAM F. MAR
MERC MARAN
ROBERT D. NELSON
WILLIAM J. ROBEY SR.
RICHARD M. RIEHL
CALVIN C. LOVELESS
JOHN F. ‘JACK’ HESSMAN
NANCY C. FRIEDMAN-SEAMAN
MARYLAND
NANCY C. FRIEDMAN-SEAMAN
JOHN F. ‘JACK’ HESSMAN
CALVIN C. LOVELESS
RICHARD M. RIEHL
WILLIAM JAMES ROBEY SR.

MICHIGAN
LEON KINATH
JOHN B. RAYBURN
EDWIN SHYMANSKI

MINNESOTA
ALFRED C. WOOLGAR

MISSISSIPPI
RAYMOND J. HUDACHEK

MISSOURI
JOHN J. GIBLIN SR.
ROBERT E. NEWELL
GLENN L. STRONG

NEW JERSEY
GEORGE J. NEWCOMBE

NEW MEXICO
DONALD E. BRAMAN JR.
ROBERT E. CAMPBELL

NEW YORK
MERRILL J. BELL
JOHN E. DANAHER
LARRY D. FANTO JR.
ROBERT A. JACKSON
DONALD J. JORDAN
JOSEPH A. LOVETRO
EDWARD A. MCCARTY
KENNETH J. RAPP SR.
JAMES H. ROTUNNO
JOSEPH H. STAFFORD
GEROME J. STERLACCI
FRANCIS D. SULLIVAN
MICHAEL J. SZYPER
LEO A. VISCO

OHIO
GEORGE J. ADAMICK
DAVID R. MORAIS
MAURICE L. MORIN

OREGON
ROGER A. CRABB
INA JEAN KINIK
JAMES J. O’DONNELL
MARILYN L. SHOEMAKE
CHARLES A. WARNOCK

PENNSYLVANIA
JOHN WILLIAM ABRAHAM
RICHARD M. BARRETT
DEAN O. BECK
JOSEPH J. DROZD
ROBERT A. LEVER
EUGENE B. MOWRER
JOHN J. PALYAN
WALTER F. WAGNER

RHODE ISLAND
WILLIAM F. YULL JR.

SOUTH CAROLINA
SALLIE WRIGHT

SOUTH DAKOTA
WILLIAM A. ‘BILL’ SMITH

TENNESSEE
PHILLIP E. ELLIS
HENRY D. FRANKLIN

TEXAS
RICHARD RUSSO

UTAH
JOHN L. PAGE

VIRGINIA
THOMAS W. KNOTT JR.

WASHINGTON
RICHARD RUSSO

WEST VIRGINIA
CARL S. BOBLITZ

WISCONSIN
RAYMOND O. AARUD
FRANK J. FACULJAK
FRED D. MEINERT

WYOMING
GLEN CECIL FISH

SASKATCHEWAN
ROBERT ‘BOB’ WHITE

UNKNOWN
ALLEN J. ERICKENBRACK

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

Primary Unit of service during Korean War ____________________________
Submitted by ____________________________________________
Relationship to deceased ____________________________________________

Send to: Membership, P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407
By Rego Barnett

Books have two purposes: to entertain or to educate. Some entertain, some educate, some do both. Slinging the Bull in Korea is one of the latter.

John Martin Campbell’s book is an engaging insight into psychological warfare (“psywar”) in the Korean War era. As the tagline for the book suggests, the book is “The author’s adventures in creating military propaganda foreshadow forty years of U.S. efforts to manipulate its adversaries and sway public opinion.” He does a marvelous job of relating his adventures and sketching the role of psychological warfare in Korea during the war.

One of Campbell’s first jobs is to teach the reader that psychological warfare may be considered a gray area by some people, but it is really a matter of black and white:

At one end of this spectrum, psychological warfare involves the use of propaganda composed of actual facts. During the Second World War this telling of the truth became known as white propaganda and its practitioners were called white hats, while black operations, with their black-hat practitioners, were based on outright lies or closely related deceptions. And at Mountain Home these two pronouncedly different approaches to waging psychological warfare were expressed by the invisible line, with us white hats on one side of it and the black hats on the other (40).

Unfortunately, as Campbell notes, the U.S. Congress did not always recognize the value of psywar. (Incidentally, VOA is shorthand for Voice of America.)

In early 1950, broadcasts by the VOA seemed to cause as much concern, debate, and paranoia among members of the U.S. Congress as they did in the Soviet Cominform and Politbureau….Congress, however, was reluctant to fund the VOA. The anti-Communist sentiments of the legislative branch were tempered by its distrust of the growing power of the executive branch and by the fact that the VOA’s success was difficult to measure in terms relative to dollars invested. In addition, some congressional representatives felt that the use of information obtained from partisans or spies and broadcast abroad by the United States was unethical, and that the use of propaganda was detrimental to our national image. Ironically, by sparking the Korean War, Stalin swung the support of the American public and thereby the U.S. Congress to any effort to prevent the spread of Soviet power (56).

Congress’ reluctant approval of psywar opened the door to Campbell’s Air Force career path—and to his educational and entertaining book. (He also served in the U.S. Army and Navy.)

Campbell takes us through his intensive training and assignments at Mountain Home Air Force Base in Idaho, Georgetown University in Washington DC, VOA headquarters in New York City, Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines….Along the way, he introduces us to such luminaries and “spooks” as Father Edmund J. Walsh, Vladimir Gsovski, Col. Leon E. Dostert, Fay Kohler, John Pauker, the mysterious LiCol. Hedrick, and others who came and went without notice…”off to Washington,” as they said.

As Campbell’s experience indicated, becoming a psywar specialist was not easy. Reading the book is, with one minor flaw. The problem is that it leaves too many aspects of the psychological aspect of the war unfinished. Sometimes, that is simply because the author does not have the information to fill in the blanks. For example:

More intriguing, and more to the point of this book, is the question of who wrote the CCF and NKPA messages. Obviously they were well-educated men or women….having excellent command of the American idiom and in possession of then current American newspapers and magazines. Further, they were good to very good writers. But who were they? Guesses include that they were American missionaries or missionaries’ children who had opted out of Christianity in favor of communism, that they were American military men who had voluntarily defected, that they were American prisoners who had been persuaded to write for the Communists, or, in Wolfgeher’s” opinion, that they were most likely native Chinese fellow travelers who had been longtime residents of the United States and who now had returned home. Still, the identities of these talented enemy writers remains a mystery (161).

** The Soldier to whom the author refers is KWVA member Sgt. Paul Wolfgeher, First Leaflet and Loudspeaker Co.

Many other topics Campbell covers offer similar mysteries, simply because he does not go into great detail about them. Readers who want to learn more about these topics will have to do some research on their own. That is generally a welcome task for the inherently and intellectually curious readers.

On the other hand, Campbell may write a sequel to elucidate on the less-covered subjects. That, too, would be welcome, if the sequel is anywhere near as riveting as Slinging the Bull in Korea.

For information about acquiring a copy of the book, access www.unmpress.com or call 1-800-249-7737.
Korean War Memorial Proposed

In July 2011, the Board of Directors approved supporting this initiative by the Korean War Veterans Fnd., Inc., which I chair. The Bill has been referred to the House Natural Resources Committee for Hearings when the Congress returns from recess.

To gain more co-sponsors, we need KWVA membership to contact their representatives to sign on. The nearby documents and sketch of the proposed wall explain the proposal.

I urge member support and action.

Thanks!

Col William E. (“Bill”) Weber (USA-Ret.), Chairman
Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation, Inc.
10301 McKinstry Mill Rd.,
New Windsor, MD 21776, eagle187@ahughes.net
www.koreanwarvetsmemorial.org

A PROPOSAL BY THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, INC.
FOR FULL COMPLIANCE WITH AND OF PL 99-527 WHICH AUTHORIZED A KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL BY ADOPTING A NON-INVASIVE WALL OF REMEMBRANCE

Of double-pane glass to enclose the outer edge of the pool walkway extending from the northwest corner of the USS Intrepid to the southeast corner of the Memorial Wall walkway. The clear glass wall will list U.S. KIA in Action by name, Wounded in Action, Missing In Action and Prisoners of War by number, honor KATUSA by listing numbers of KIA, WIA, MIA, and POW, and honor U.S. KIA, MIA and POW by numbers with appropriate footnotes for all. (See attached suggested type panels and footnotes.) Namor numbers and victim type will be in white engraved on the inner surface of the outside panel. US, KATUSA, KDI and UN panel namor will be in both Korean and English.

JUSTIFICATION

The Korean War remains "The Forgotten War" in the history of our nation. Mandated that this war was a benchmark of the 20th Century and notwithstanding the magnificence of the Memorial, it is inappropriate that the extent of our soldiers' sacrifice remains unknown and that their sacrifice gave birth to the catalyst that generated the downfall of the USSR's goal to dominate the world.

PL 99-527 which authorized the Korean War Veterans Memorial stated as a priority....

to honor members of the United States Armed Forces who served in the Korean War, particularly those who were killed in action, are still missing in action, or were held as prisoners of war." The Pool of Remembrance was intended to convey this by a substantial message, but the desired intent and means to convey was too subtle and the message is not conveyed to tourists.

In the tradition of our people, the surviving veterans of the Korean war support more visible recognition of their fallen comrades by recording the KIA and MIA and POW by name for posterity on a Wall of Remembrance, thereby personalizing the numbers and focusing on the enormity of their sacrifice—over 54,000 KIA, 1,234 WIA and 7245 POW. As well, our KATUSA (Korean United States Army) Korean soldiers, who served alongside our U.S. comrades in U.S. units and whose lives deserve greater recognition—over 5000 Korean soldiers known as KATUSA that served in US units during the war were KIA. Their sacrifice would have otherwise been American soldiers whom we replaced. Their names are lost to history but their numbers deserve recognition. They are not even mentioned in the Memorial though their sacrifice saved U.S. lives.

So, too should be recorded the number of casualties of our ROK (Republic of Korea), and UN brothers-in-arms that served shoulder-to-shoulder with American units.

WEST POINT from page 30

Besides, Soldiers were manning cannons on the high bluffs overlooking the river, and could have easily blown the British ships out of the water.

George Washington and his generals planned well for the defense of West Point, the area in which Benedict Arnold’s treacherous betrayal of his country took place.

On the bus trip back to Saddle Brook, New Jersey, Commander Onorevole thanked everyone for making the excursion a memorable day of fellowship, highlighted by the meetings between our Korean War veterans and the West Point cadets, Class of 1951, of many of whom paid the supreme price for their participation.

Louis Quagliero, 142 Illinois Ave
Paterson, NJ 07503

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 112TH CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION
WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2011

House of Representatives

IN SUPPORT OF KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL WALL

HON. RALPH M. HALL
(TEXAS)

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to introduce to the Congress this Memorial Wall proposal, which has been prompted to help preserve the history and legacy of the Korean War. The Korean War is sometimes referred to as the "Forgotten War," but it was a war of great significance that affected the world for decades.

The Korean War Memorial Wall is a proposal to help preserve this history and legacy. The Memorial Wall will be located on the north side of the Korean War Memorial in West Point, New York. The Memorial Wall will contain the names of all American soldiers who served in the Korean War, as well as the names of all countries who participated in the war.

In conclusion, I urge my colleagues to support this proposal in order to honor the sacrifices made by our soldiers and their families during the Korean War. Let us honor their memory and the legacy of the Korean War.
Parades

25 – GREATER CHICAGO [IL]

We participated in the annual Memorial Day Parade on May 28, 2011. This annual observance features hundreds of units marching about a mile down State St. in downtown Chicago.

We have participated for many years and, according to observers, receive the loudest and most enthusiastic ovation of any unit in the parade.

Thirteen of our members marched; there were another half dozen in the trolley.

Joe Henmueller, Commander
5641 N Olcott Ave., Chicago, IL 60631

41 – FROZEN CHOSIN [MN]

A new entrant in Sanborn, Minnesota’s Watermelon Days grand parade was an American Jeep and trailer used in the Korean War and displayed by our chapter in affiliation with the Morson Ario VFW.

Five members of the chapter rode in the Jeep. They were a bit cramped, but they made it. The members feel the Korean War is in a closet and it needs to be remembered for those who gave their life for us. Four of the riders were Army personnel during their service years. The fifth was an Air Force member.

The chapter has meetings on the first Wednesday of the month at 11:30 a.m. Commander is Bill Hoehn, 507-278-3053.

Thanks to the Lamberton News for forwarding to us the news of this parade.
Official Membership Application Form

The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.
P. O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407 (Telephone: 217-345-4414)

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 (continued from page 73)

29 – SSGT. WILLIAM E. WINDRICH #3 [IN]

We marched in the 2011 Chicago, IL Memorial Day Parade.

Herbert A. Verrill, 1833 169th St., Hammond, IN 46324

Commander Dr. Richard Onorevole led seventeen members in the 177th 4th of July Parade in the Village of Ridgefield Park, NJ. Six members, including Commander Onorevole, traveled the route in a 2-1/2 ton Korean-era truck.

The village has celebrated Independence Day with a parade since 1894—without any interruptions. It is the longest running, consecutively held 4th of July parade in the nation.

170 – TAEJON [NJ]

Chapter members participated in a homecoming parade in Mascoutah, IL on a very hot day in August. We take part in this parade on the first weekend of August every year.

Bill Juergens, PR Chairman, 100 Linden Dr., Belleville, IL 62221

Members of Ch 29 and Korean War veterans from Korea Herb Verrill, John Sanchez, Al Solis, Young-Koo-Kim, Louis Aguillera, unidentified veteran (L-R) display their car-mounted banner at Chicago Memorial Day Parade

170 – TAEJON [NJ]

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Bill Juergens, PR Chairman, 100 Linden Dr., Belleville, IL 62221

Members of Ch 29 and Korean War veterans from Korea Herb Verrill, John Sanchez, Al Solis, Young-Koo-Kim, Louis Aguillera, unidentified veteran (L-R) display their car-mounted banner at Chicago Memorial Day Parade

95 – IMJIN [IL]

Chapter members participated in a homecoming parade in Mascoutah, IL on a very hot day in August. We take part in this parade on the first weekend of August every year.

Bill Juergens, PR Chairman, 100 Linden Dr., Belleville, IL 62221

Commander Tom McCaw, Henry Wellmuenster, Charles Lee, Ken Sticka, Russ Klein, Merrill Birch, Frank Degenhardt, and Bill Cummins of Ch 95 (L-R) sit in the shade beside a float honoring World War 2 veterans at Mascoutah, IL parade

Surgeon Thomas Boyle leads Ch 170 members in Ridgefield Park, NJ parade

John DiLonardo of Ch 170 accepts award from Ridgefield Park, NJ Mayor George D. Fosdick. Raymond Cohen, Louis DeStefano (L-R) and Jr. Vice Cmdr Green (far right) look on.
After the 2-1/2 hour parade ended, we enjoyed hot dogs, beer, and soda. We also enjoyed being awarded a trophy for “Best uniform marching group.” Membership Chairman John DiLonardo accepted the trophy from Ridgefield Park Mayor George D. Fosdick.

We were all proud to be Americans on a great day to be patriots and Korean War veterans, especially as members of the large crowd cheered as we walked by. And, we were grateful to be invited to march once again.

Louis Quagliero, Historian, 142 Illinois Ave., Paterson, NJ 07503

191 – TIDEWATER [VA]

The Sons and Daughters of the War of 1812 placed a plaque in the cemetery in Portsmouth, VA on June 3, 2011 to honor 46 men from Portsmouth who served in the battle of Craney Island during the War of 1812. This was a significant battle for the Hampton Roads area of Tidewater, VA.

Chaplain Leo Ruffing represented the chapter at this event. Charles B. Whitehurst, Vice Mayor of Portsmouth, represented the city. Margaret Wynnley, the Vice President of the Virginia Daughters of the War of 1812, was in attendance as well.

Leo Ruffing, lruffing1@cox.net

264 – MT. DIABLO [CA]

Our 4th of July Parade through the City of Concord and around Dos Santo Square was highlighted by a well-attended picnic at Hillcrest Park, coupled with a memorial service at the lake.

About fifty chapter and family members were in attendance.

Everyone was enthused with the many entrants in the parade, as well as the corn contributed by Don Score and the baked beans from Bev. In attendance was Ron Craven’s son, who is on active duty with the U.S. Navy. A number of other veterans were there, too.

Our goal for next year is to attract even greater numbers. We have filed applications for next year’s parade and the picnic site.

Stanley J. Grogan, 2585 Moraga Dr. Pinole, CA 94564, 510-758-7534, SJGent@hotmail.com
APPLICATION FOR KOREA REVISIT & PEACE CAMP FOR YOUTH (PCFY) TOURS

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-Mail¹ ___________________________ Passport #² ___________________________ 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
WOODBRIDGE, VA 22193-5285

Phone: 703-590-1295 or 800-722-9501
Fax: 703-590-1292
E-Mail: mhtours@miltours.com
www.miltours.com

Background

The Korea Revisit program was begun by the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MPVA/Seoul) in 1975 for the 25th 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)
On Friday, June 24th and Saturday, June 25th, the Officers and Directors of the Department of Virginia attended the 2011 Korean War Veterans Appreciation Event held at the Sheraton Premier Hotel in Tysons Corner, VA. The event was hosted by the Korean American Association of Virginia, the World Federation of Korean Association of Commerce, and the Korean American Society and organized by the Friends of Korean War American Veterans. This was the fourth in a series of Appreciation Events. The previous ones were held at Orange County, California in 2008, and in Las Vegas, Nevada in 2009 and 2010.

It was an exciting and heartwarming experience for all of the veterans and guests who attended, beginning with a reception and ceremony on Friday evening, featuring comments by Korean and U.S. dignitaries, which were followed by a banquet and performances by some very talented Korean performers.

We were also treated to a suburb Taekwondo Demonstration by the Kukkiwon Demonstration Team from Korea. This group has traveled to more than 100 countries all over the world as a civil diplomatic corps proudly representing the Republic of Korea.

On Saturday, following breakfast, United States combat veterans, including Mr. Ed Reel, who was a Prisoner of War in Korea for 34 months, told of their personal experiences while serving in Korea during the war. After lunch at a Korean restaurant, we traveled to our Memorial in Washington DC, where Mr. John T. (“Sonny”) Edwards, the Commander of the Department of Virginia, joined in the laying of a wreath at the Memorial.

We thank all the Korean Americans who worked so hard and diligently to provide us with this wonderful experience, which they organized to show their appreciation to all the United States military personnel for what we did to help save their homeland some 60 years ago. Their sincere gratitude makes it easy to realize that the sacrifices of our men and women were justified.

Lewis M. Ewing, Secretary/Treasurer, Department of Virginia, 310 Clay Hill Drive, Winchester, VA 22602, 540-678-1787, lewewing@comcast.net
Osan Airmen honor Prisoners of War and Missing in Action

Fifty-two candles, signifying 52 service members who are still missing in action, burn bright during a POW/MIA candlelight vigil ceremony Sept. 14 at the base chapel. Members of the Osan’s Air Force Sergeants Association honored all POW/MIA’s during special ceremonies and events Sept. 12-16. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Chad Thompson)