

The Where, When, and Why of the Korean War

Tell America

11 - GREATER DANBURY AREA [CT]

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

43 - KANSAS CITY MISSOURI #2

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

Bob Jones, Vern Scott, Gene Winslow of Ch 43 (L-R) during Tell America Q & A session at Shawnee Mission Northwest High School in Shawnee, KS



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.

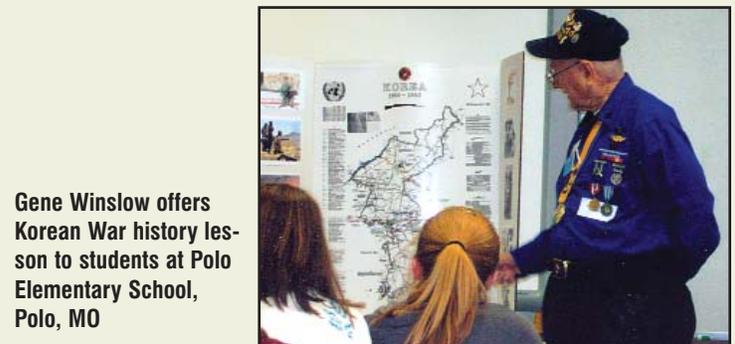
*Robert R. ("Bob") Jones
13975 E 35th St., S Apt. 428
Independence, MO 64055-2673
816-836-0969*



Gene Winslow, Paul Wolfgeher, Bob Jones (L-R) distribute giveaway items during Ch 43's Tell America presentation to students at Minable Elementary School in Minable, MO



Bob Jones explains the symbolism of the 73rd Heavy Tank Bn. shield pin to students at Polo [MO] Elementary School during Tell America presentation



Gene Winslow offers Korean War history lesson to students at Polo Elementary School, Polo, MO



Paul Wolfgeher speaks to students at Kingston [MO] Elementary School

Dear Korean War Vets,

Throughout my highschool experience history has been one of my most challenging, but most interesting class. I wanted to thank you for taking time out of your day to talk to our class. Walking into this class I knew nothing about the Korean War (maybe a little). But walking out I had your hearts pour into something you believe in, protection of your country. My oldest brother is currently in Afghanistan I pray everynight that God brings him home 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,

Doni Moody 10

Thank you from Doni Moody to Ch 43 Tell America presenters

Dear Korean War Veterans,

March 29, 2010

Thank you for taking the time to come teach us about your experiences. It was made exciting to learn about your past because you were all so emotional and I could tell you organized well. Thank you for organizing well. The pictures helped add to my learning. It was very interesting how well you all knew your specific areas. Paul, you had amazing props for us and they helped me visualize the navy you were in. Bob, I enjoyed how well you described your tank for us. Gene, in class we are learning about the invasion of Inchon and you allowed me to visualize

the invasion and help me in class. Gene, you ~~help~~ gave me more specific details about the flights into China, which will also help me with my notes.

To all of you: I hope you realize how valuable your information is and keep sharing it with the world. I know that we will keep including our friends and family on the hardships and challenges you had to go through.

Thank you!

-Sandy Tucker, Shawnee Mission Northwest

A letter of appreciation to Ch 43's Tell America team

Dear Mr. Bob Jones,

If I could, I would like to sincerely thank you for coming into my class the other day and sharing your experiences with us. Really the opportunity presented itself to hear a first-hand account of war from a Veteran. Of course we learn about the war from books and documents, however, nothing is more beneficial to my learning experience or brings the personal details of war more evident than being able to hear you and the other Veterans. I recently wrote a paper on the evolution of tanks and other war-timer weaponry and especially found your talk interesting. The details you gave about the tank added further insight about what it was like to be in one. I have greatly appreciated this learning experience and wish more opportunities like this one could present itself. Once again, I would like to thank you for this valuable opportunity you have so graciously provided to:

Sincerely,

Ciara Malone

Shawnee Mission Northwest

Ciara Malone of Shawnee Mission Northwest offers gratitude to Ch 43 members

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. 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
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Covington, OH 45318-1643,
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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

186 - ST. CHARLES COUNTY [MO]

A couple students took the time to write us nice letters of appreciation after our Tell America presentation.

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

April 21, 2008
To: Mr. Bob Snowden, Mr. Frank Williams, Mr. Chris Christifulli, Mr. David Woodcock, and Mr. Bob Peitz

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,
Alyssa Irmeier
Senior at Fort Zumwalt North

Thanks to Ch 186 from Fort Zumwalt North

Dear Mr. Allen Wiley,
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 1st person point of view I forgot 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,
Erin 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

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