

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

# Tell America

### 108 – WESTERN OHIO [OH]

For 17 years, Ken Williamson, fellow Korean War veterans and I have conducted the “Tell America Program” in countless schools in Miami County and beyond. On February 22, 2012, we were conducting the first day of the program at Troy Christian School, Troy, OH. The class consists of 10th grade students and their teacher, Steve Shively (my son). At the end of the session, a student, Addy Younce, approached us and asked if we knew her great grandfather, Jim Palsgrove.

As both Ken and I smiled, we explained to this student that we did indeed know Jim Palsgrove. Jim is also a Korean War veteran and our chapter’s VA Center Visitation Chairperson. His wife, Shirley, is a member of our Auxiliary. We found out that two of their great grandchildren are Troy Christian Students.

To further connect us, Jim is also my cousin. The nearby picture shows Steve, Jim, Jim’s great grandchildren (Addy and Matalie) and myself during the 2nd day of our presentation.

On May 17, 2012, Ken and I com-

pleted another successful school year presenting the “Tell America Program” and Veteran’s Day Programs. Since starting our programs, we have been on the road 796 hours, traveled 30,820 miles, and spent 1,085 hours in schools (classrooms and assemblies) with 45,071 students and 2,471 teachers and guests. We are honored to share the history of America’s challenges to these students and are constantly amazed at the connections we are able to experience: both for us and the students.

The Good Lord willing, we will continue these programs in the 2012-2013 school year.

Incidentally, we often receive letters of appreciation from students. Here is a sample:

Dear Mr. Shively,

I would like to thank you for the service you have given this country. I do not understand what it means to be a soldier, or what it means to risk your life for something greater than yourself. I don’t know what it is like to leave your family, your

friends, your home, to fight in some far away land. I can only imagine the rough times you have been through, and what they may have looked like.

I have heard stories about your experiences in the Korean War, your son (my teacher) respects you very much, as I respect you for what you have done and for who you are. I am glad that men like you have served our country in the greatest way possible. It means a lot to be able to have

the freedoms that others are not as fortunate to have.

I understand completely that because of people like you, we are able to have those freedoms. We live in a great country, and I am thankful for all of the men and women who serve our country in anyway.

Thank You,

Alex Moritz

*Fred Shively, 1842 W Parkway Dr., Piqua, OH 45356, 513-473-5345*

### 131 - NORTHWEST OHIO [OH]

We awarded our annual \$1,000 college scholarship to Anthony Wayne High School graduating senior Brian Vogtsberger, who entered The Ohio State University. To be eligible in our Tell America program, applicants are required to participate in the Korean War research project and complete a 250-word essay explaining their lasting impression of the veteran, the Korean War’s role in American history, and its impact on global democracy.

Here is Mr. Vogtsberger’s essay:

#### Success in Korea

Some of the most important unsung heroes on the world were those soldiers involved in “The Forgotten War,” or the Korean War. Even though some argue that it was a stalemate, the Korean War was a successful military venture because it helped contain the spread of communism in the world. During this time period, communism was one of the main fears for the American people.

Consequently, the Americans felt strongly about getting involved in the fight against

communism. Korea was the focal point of this fight and could determine the fate of many other nations.

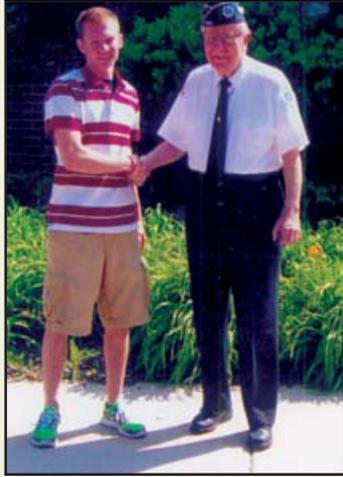
Other nations knew this as well. That is why China supported the North which was for communism, while America backed the South. In the end, the United States Navy proved themselves superior by taking the ground inward from the sea. The war finally ended when a cease fire treaty was signed on the 38th parallel. If the U.S. had not gotten, the South would have been taken over by the North and it would have been all communist. Many South Koreans would have lost their lives during the takeover of their country.

America’s success in the Korean War was crucial because without it, communism would have been more widespread throughout the world. It showed that the U.S. was willing to commit to helping countries overcome the onset of communism. Therefore, “The Forgotten



Ch 108 Tell America group at Troy Christian High School (L-R) Fred Shively, Matalie Younce, Steve Shively, Addy Younce, Jim Palsgrove

Brian Vogtsberger (L) with Ch 131 Education Committee Chairman Len Tomasik



War” proved itself a success through the containment and control of communism in Korea and the world.

Louis G. Streb, Secretary, 415 Turnbury Lane, Perrysburg, OH 43551, 419-874-7037, lgstreb@buckeye-express.com

## 172 – HANCOCK COUNTY [OH]

We were busy this spring, with presentations at St. Wendelin High School in Fostoria on March 29th; The Hancock County Lawn and Leisure Show, March 30, 31 and April 1 in Findlay; and an Armed

Forces Day booth on May 18th and 19th at the local fairgrounds.

Harry C. Biddinger, 1 Windstone Ct., Findlay, OH 45840, 419-957-7837 (cell)



Presentation by Ch 172 members Don Van Renterghen (L) and Bill Webb at St. Wendelin High School



Ch 172's booth at the Lawn & Leisure Show in Findlay, OH



Co-Chairmen Ray Jameson (L) and Don Van Renterghen of Ch 172's Tell America Committee

## 227 – SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN [WI]

We have participated in a “Tell America” program for the past ten years. We have presented our programs at schools of all levels, ranging from elementary to high

school and universities.

Jim Becker, 3709 Candle Ct. Apt. 3, Racine, WI 53402, Jbecker625@wi.rr.com



Members of Ch 227 at Reuther Central High School, Kenosha, WI: Bob Boulden, Jim Becker, Ed Slovak, John Kamperschroer, Instructor Dave Underwood of Reuther High School (L-R)

## The Truth About "Choggies"

How valuable were "Choggies" to the U.S. forces in Korea? Could they be trusted? What specific services did they provide that the Soldiers could not--or would not--perform for themselves? Why did "Choggies" work for U.S. forces? Who paid them? Did other UN military units employ them? Were they more trouble than they were worth?

Please send your information and stories about "Choggies" and their value to "Choggies" Editor, *The Graybeards*, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

# Thanks!

As we have noted in past issues, there is no shortage of thanks extended from Koreans to the veterans who fought for their country's freedom over fifty years ago. Here are more results.

## 44 – MISSOURI #1 [MO]

We were invited as special guests to attend the first regular concert of the Korean-American Choir of St. Louis, held on June 3, 2012. The Korean-American Association of St. Louis hosted the event. (No one was allowed to take photos of the performance.) The choir, conducted by renowned Korean Conductor Mi Jin Im, consisted of about 20 young Korean ladies and 6 young Korean men.

The first half of the program included "Panis Angelicus" (Cesar Franck), "Ave Verum Corpus" (W.A. Mozart), "Festival Gloria" (Jim Stanton), "Dry Bones" (arranged by Mark Hayes), and "The Battle of Jericho and Joshua," (Hyo Won Woo). The second half was a little more festive, with "A Little Jazz Mass" (Bob Chicott), "Do Re Mi" (Richard Rodgers), "Nostalgia" (Hee Gab Kim), "All of You" (Hang Gi Yoon), and other pieces. There was also a comedy skit called "The Third Daughter of the Noble Mr. Choi," arranged by Byeong Hee Oh.

The program closed with a medley of folk songs from around the world. Afterwards, refreshments were served.

It was a very entertaining evening, enjoyed by over 400 individuals and the chapter members attending, which included Cmdr. Don Gutmann and wife Phyllis, Dwight Henderson and wife Dolores, Harry Hope and wife Terrie, Kenn Dawley and wife Jackie, and Walt Schoenke and wife Beverly.

Kenn Dawley, 382-A Autumn Creek Dr.  
Manchester, MO 63088, 636-529-1355

## 54 – THOMAS W. DALEY, JR. [NJ]

We received this invitation:

My name is Kevin T. Kim and I am the Executive Vice President of the Korean American Association. Our Organization had planned



Fort Dix Army Honor Guard at Atlantic City KWV Memorial

Ch 148 Commander Charles Koppelman (L) with Mr. Eugene Chin Yu, President of The Federation of Korean Associations, USA, Co-Chairman, at the 2012 Appreciation Party



to host the 2012 Korean War Commemoration Ceremony on June 25, 2012 at 11:00AM at Philip Jaisohn Memorial Center located at 6705 Old York Road, Philadelphia, PA 19126. Following the ceremonies, all the guests were to re-convene at a local Korean restaurant about 5 minutes away for a delicious Korean lunch. The ceremonies will consist of several speeches by distinguished guests and as a part of the ceremonies, and special commemoration medals were going to be given out by the Korean Consulate General from New York Korean Consulate to the Veterans of the Korean War.

Four chapter members attended the ceremony: Charles Reed, William Wildman, Jimmy Krysztoforski, and Frank A. Brown.

Andy Jackson, [captjack71@comcast.net](mailto:captjack71@comcast.net)

## 170 – TAEJON [NJ]

### Paramus Church Honors Korean War Veterans

Eighteen chapter members and their guests attended a ceremony in their honor at the Korean Methodist Church in Paramus, NJ on 16 June, 2012. Also honored were Salvatore Scarlato, the President of the Department of New York and National KWVA Director, and members of CID 64, Central Long Island. New Jersey State Commander and former National KWVA Director George Bruzgis was also in attendance.

The Reverend Dr. Timothy Myunghoon Ahn, Pastor, welcomed Korean War veterans, guests, and family members. Sr. Vice Commander Kenneth Green and Jr. Vice Commander Henry Ferrarini of Ch 170 advanced and posted the Colors. Miss Jiyoung Lee sang the Korean and American national anthems in a salute to the flags.

Reverend Matthew Na offered the invocation, after which chapter Commander Dr. Richard Onorevole introduced guest speakers. They included New Jersey State Senator Kevin O'Toole, Korean General Consul Mr. Young Mok Kim, County Executive of Bergen County Mrs. Kathleen Donovan, and former Mayor of Edison, NJ, Mr. Jun-choi.

Following the speeches, attendees shared a special Korean dinner and pleasant conversation in the church hall. One or two Korean church members sat at each table with the veterans.



Jr. Vice Commander Max Mandis of Ch 148, Elaine Mandis, Fran and Charles Koppelman (L-R) at the 2012 Appreciation Party

Lunch following Georgia Korean War commemoration with Mr. Sunny Park, Consulate Kim, Gen. (Ret.) Larry Ellis (L-R)

After dinner, chapter member Robert J. O'Toole, the Mayor of Cedar Grove, NJ, and his Korean wife Young-ok gave a beautiful testimony on how they met in Korea, married, and produced seven children. Robert offered his testimony in English for the veterans and guests; Young-ok spoke in Korean for the church members. Their son Kevin was also a Cedar Grove mayor, as was their daughter, who was the youngest person ever to hold the office of mayor in the township.

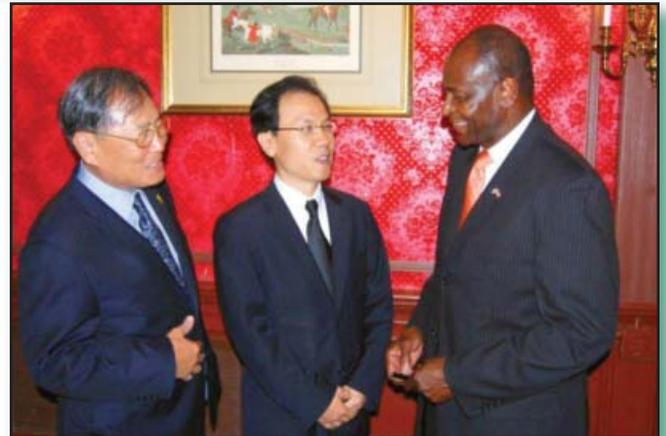
Sal Scarlato spoke to the audience about the Korean War and described the memorabilia at a display table. He provided many of the items, including three rifles used in the war: an M1 Garand, a Cal. 30 carbine used by U.S. troops, and one of the enemies' favorite weapons, a Mosin-Nagant rifle, Cal. 762x54.

Following the speeches, Pastor Ahn distributed gift items, and Commander Onorevole presented special certificates. Pastor Ahn placed ribbon medallions over the heads of the honored veterans and Korean War hats on their heads.

Korean church members provided entertainment after the presentations, including songs by Miss Lee, choir singing, and traditional Korean music.



Wreath laying at the Georgia State Capitol with Mr. He-Beom Kim, Consul General of Republic of Korea



To close the beautiful evening of friendship, Pastor Ahn offered a benediction, Taps was played, and the Colors were retired.

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

## 199 – MANASOTA [FL]

The St. Petersburg Korean Presbyterian Church again invited Korean War veterans and their wives to join them for a nice dinner and a night of Korean entertainment, including a movie of South Korea as it looks today. It showed the towering modern buildings, wider streets and bridges for vehicles and for people walking, now dressed in western clothing. They told us that Seoul looks like Las Vegas, brilliantly lighting up the evening sky.



Korean Baptist Church members and Ch 121 guests



Chapter 199 members Frank Petraglia (L) and Thaddeus Sobieski (R) flank Mr. Kyung Ho Cha, President and host of the inviting society

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