Happy Holidays
From the Officers and Staff of the KWVA
The Graybeards is the official publication of the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA). It is published six times a year for members and private distribution. It is not sold by subscription.


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As of 7/11/12 I have been President for 135 days. A lot of things have happened in this short time. In July we had our Board of Directors meeting in Washington DC. (The minutes of that meeting appeared on p. 10 of the Sept/Oct issue of The Graybeards). If you haven’t read them, please do. Be informed as to what your Board of Directors and Officers are doing.

On 10 October 2012, we held our annual Board/Membership meeting in St. Louis MO. The minutes of that meeting are published in this issue (see p. 12). Again, please read them.

I thank Director Jim Fountain and his committee for doing an outstanding job putting this meeting together. Incidentally, Jim is termed out this year and will not be able to run again for the Board. We will miss Jim a great deal; he has done a great job as a Director.

We had an excellent member turnout, and they took part in the membership portion of our meetings. Let me explain that.

In past membership meetings, most of the dialogue, motions, and seconds of the motions came from the Board of Directors, not the members. At the beginning of this meeting, I announced that I would appreciate it if all motions and seconds to those motions came from the membership, not the Board of Directors. It made for a very interesting meeting, as the members took part in the meeting and made it a worthwhile event. Members introduced some very good ideas and discussed several items of interest to them. I was extremely pleased with that meeting.

As long as I chair these meetings we will use the same format.

Our recruiting efforts are coming along slowly, but well. Building our membership base will take time. Tom Stevens and Sonny Edwards are working extremely hard to increase our membership.

Sonny introduced a new “Recruiting Guide Pamphlet” at our St. Louis meeting. I hope we can get a copy out to all of the Chapters and Departments. It is well written and it will help you a great deal in your recruiting efforts.

In my previous message to you, I mentioned the Executive Director of the VFW and his willingness to help us recruit. He has offered us 10’ X 10’ of space at their convention next July in DC so we can set up a recruiting station. I appreciate that very much. Tom Stevens and Sonny Edwards are working on the logistics for that now.

I am trying to develop a simple, but enticing, ad that we can place in the newsletters, magazines, etc. of other VSO and Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard associations. There are hundreds of associations that have some type of media they send out to their members, e.g., the First Marine Division and the 2nd Army Division Associations. A large number of their members are Korean War veterans or veterans who have served on the peninsula of Korea since the armistice was signed.

If any one of you is artistic enough to put a recruiting ad together for those publications, please do so. Send it to me. The best one will be placed in The Graybeards with a write-up of the person who created it. And, it will be printed in any of the publications I mentioned above that will be willing to publish it.

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I have told the Board of Directors that we cannot leave any stone unturned when it comes to recruiting. I need them to think out of the box for ideas that would help our efforts. I urge all of you who are reading this message to do the same. Send your ideas to me, Tom Stevens, or Sonny Edwards.

Tom Stevens has introduced an incentive recruiting plan. Please get involved in this contest. Incidentally, last year to date we recruited 741 new members. This year to date we have recruited 815 new members, 150 of whom were recruited since we started our emphasis on recruiting.

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About The Graybeards: I am still working on some grants for this; I do not expect any results along these lines for quite a while. The effort may be a complete failure, but I have to try. I do not intend to sit back and wait to see if grants are available.

By the time this message is published, I will have sent out to all of our board members, appointed staff, and officers a rate chart for advertisements in The Graybeards. I will have asked them to take a few copies of The Graybeards and go out in their home towns to their friends or folks they do business with and ask them to purchase an ad in The Graybeards.

I will be asking each person to obtain five ads. That will equate to about 150 ads of all sizes. The income from those ads will take at least some of the financial burden off our dues paying members.

Remember, we budget approximately $170,000.00 to pay for The Graybeards each year. This comes out of your dues money. If we can eliminate this expenditure, think of all the good things we can do with this money. Scholarships perhaps, donations to worthy causes, etc. And, of course, it will make us a very healthy financial organization.

If any of you wish to participate in this venture, please contact me. I will send you the information you need. I will be
CONTENTS

Business
From the President ................................................................. 3
From the Secretary ................................................................. 6
Support the KWVA: Recruit a Vet Today .............................. 7
Minutes Of Board Meeting – St. Louis MO ......................... 12
Thanks for Supporting The Graybeards ............................. 14
Board Approves ByLaw/SPM Revisions .............................. 15
Official Membership Application Form ......................... 71

Features & Articles
Battle for Hill 1051 and Chaun-ni .................................... 11
A ‘Hard Got’ Christmas Dinner ......................................... 16
Operation Big Switch ......................................................... 58
Cutting In ........................................................................... 61
An Incredible Coincidence ................................................. 62
Lights over Lubbock .......................................................... 74
Moonlight, MiGs, and Modern Heroes Over North Korea .... 75

Departments
The Editor’s Desk ................................................................. 9
Reunion Calendar ............................................................... 13
Recon Missions ................................................................. 24
Tell America ...................................................................... 30
Thanks .............................................................................. 32
Chapter & Department News .............................................. 34
Parades .............................................................................. 44
Members in the News ........................................................ 48
Monuments and Memorials ............................................... 50
Korean War Veterans’ Mini-Reunions ................................. 52
Welcome Aboard................................................................ 57
Book Review ...................................................................... 63
Feedback/Return Fire ........................................................ 64
Last Call ............................................................................. 70

News & Notes
2012 Fundraiser Winners Announced ................................. 10
The Korean War: 60th Anniversary Stories Wanted .......... 10
At The Top of the Hill ........................................................ 17
Service Members KIA in Korean War Identified ............... 18
Keeping the KWV Legacy Alive ........................................ 20
The Fate of the 29th Independent Infantry Brigade (UK) ... 21
The KWV Legacy Project ................................................... 22
Honoring the Brave ........................................................... 23
60th Anniversary Memorial Fund-Raiser .......................... 25
Honor Flight Veterans to The Quad Cities ........................ 26
Friends Remembering Friends? ........................................ 27
These Kids Are Anything But ‘Board’ ............................ 28
A Successful Search For A Korean Vet’s Son ..................... 42
James L. Stone Sr. Passes On ............................................. 43
Recognition Accorded to Units By the U.S. Military ........ 46
The View From The Sky Tower ........................................ 49
Memorial For Korea Service Veterans? ......................... 56

Introducing the Exclusive Veterans Commemoratives™

U.S. MILITARY SERVICE

ELITE Bomber Jacket

- Your jacket will be customized with your choice of U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or Coast Guard Service Branch Patch, woven with official thread colors as shown below. Shown at left with U.S. Army Patch.

- Five years in the making, our top quality Military Bomber Jacket is ready for Members and Veterans of the U.S. Military to enjoy as a fitting tribute to their Service to Country. No detail has been spared in creating this highly personalized, rugged yet dressy jacket:
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  - Features include heavy duty brass zipper, outside storm flap, nylon lining with polyester fiberfill, pleated bi-swing back, inside breast pocket, two side entry pockets, two flapped cargo pockets.
  - Available in Brown or Black, in sizes 3XL. Tall sizes are available in LT - 2XTL (2XL - 3XL and Tall sizes LT - 2XTL Add $25).
  - Created in partnership with Burks Bay of Minnesota and backed by our Veterans Commemoratives warranty - You may return your jacket within 30 days of purchase for replacement or refund - no questions asked!
  - Thank you priced at just $199*, payable in two interest-free payments of $99.50* each.


YOU HAVE EARNED THE RIGHT TO WEAR THIS SPECIAL BOMBER JACKET.

ORDER TODAY AND RECEIVE A FREE SERVICE EMBLEM ZIPPER PULL WITH EACH ORDER!

CALL TOLL FREE TO ORDER: 1-800-255-3048

OR, MAIL TO: Veterans Commemoratives™ Two Radnor Corporate Center, Suite 120, Radnor, PA 19087-4599

☐ YES, I wish to order my U.S. Military Service Elite Bomber Jacket as follows:

  - Please send me my FREE Service Emblem Zipper Pull.

  PATCH CHOICE: ☐ ARMY ☐ NAVY ☐ AIR FORCE
  ☐ MARINE CORPS ☐ COAST GUARD

  COLOR: ☐ BROWN or ☐ BLACK

  SIZE: (See Chart Above) ☐ S ☐ M ☐ LG ☐ XL ☐ XXL ☐ 3XL
  TALL SIZES: ☐ LT ☐ XLT ☐ 2XLT
  ☐ Tolls 3XL and LT-2XLT Add $25*

☐ I prefer to pay as follows:

  ☐ Enclosed is my check/money order payable to “Veterans Commemoratives” for $199* as payment in full, OR

  ☐ Charge my credit card $199* as payment in full, OR

  ☐ Charge my credit card in two interest-free monthly payments of $99.50* each.

  ▶ Add $25 to your first payment. *Plus $14.95 for Shipping and Handling. **PA Residents add 6% sales tax.

  EXP. Date: ___ / ___

  Signature: __________________________

  SHIPPING ADDRESS: (We CANNOT ship to P.O. Boxes) Allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.

  Name: ______________________________

  Address: ____________________________

  City __________________ State ______ Zip ______

  Phone # (______) ______ Fax # ______ Email ______

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FOR OTHER FINE MILITARY JACKETS, COMMENORATIVE WATCHES, RINGS & ACCESSORIES VISIT US ONLINE AT VETCOM.COM
Here are a few e-mails and/or telephone calls that I have received recently:

**KWVA-Still Unknown To Many Veterans**

A friend of mine, whose memory is not real good right now, served in Korea in 1952-53 with the Engineers, building roads etc. Are there any military units that have publications or associations that would help to read for info concerning his service there? For instance, I served in WWII 99th division and they have a newspaper. Appreciate any help.

*Here is my response*

The Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA) issues a semi-monthly magazine called *The Graybeards* that may be of interest to him. In order for him to receive it he needs to join the Association. The dues are $25 annually. Go to our website at www.kwva.org and you can download a copy of the application. You can also view previous issues of the magazine.

**DOD Certificate Still Available**

Recently I received a telephone call from a lady who works at the Concord Care Center located in Garner, Iowa. They have a Korean War veteran in the Care Center who says he never received his DOD Certificate and she asked me if I could get one for him. Could you please send him one? His name and address is as follows: Wayne E. Rasmus, (US Army), Concord Care Center, Garner, Iowa 50438. I would very much appreciate it. Thank you.

If you did not receive yours, contact Joni at joni.m.smith9.ctr@mail.mil.

**Pictures Of The 1st Cavalry Division From The Korean War**

A few months ago my friend and I were in Cumberland County, Virginia, when we stumbled upon some old negatives. After doing some research and asking our world history teacher about the uniforms and patches, we found that they are most likely from the Korean War.

It appears as though the patches belong to the 1st Cavalry Division. I have attached some scanned copies of the negatives we developed for you to look at. (There should be nine attachments.) If you know if they’re actually from the Korean War or not that would be great!

Also, if you are interested we can send you some of the developed images.

Thanks, Darcy Flanagan, darcyflanagan4@gmail.com

*My response to Darcy*

They definitely are pictures of the First Calvary in Korea. I wore the same cap as in the first picture and lived in the same type of tent as shown during my last few months. I also recognize the snow. Ha! Yes, I would like some of the developed images.

Thank you very much for your interest in the Korean War. I may be able to use some of the pictures in our semi-monthly magazine, *The Graybeards*. The First Cav. has its own association. You might want to send the pictures to them also. Their e-mail address is Firstcav@1cda.org.

**News of Interest from VA**

*From Kevin Secor*

Veterans Service Organizations Liaison
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 202-461-4836

The National Resource Directory provides online support and access to over 10,000 services and resources. Please visit www.NationalResourceDirectory.gov. Also, please be sure to check your particular state for any additional benefits that may be offered.

Below are some links you may find useful that are located on VA’s website at VBA.

- National Guard & Reserve
- Our Performance
- Quick Benefit Summaries
- VOW to Hire Heroes Act
- Federal Benefits for Veterans & Dependents
- Regulations & References
- VA Claims Transformation
- Regional Offices
- Voter Assistance

Frank Cohee, National Secretary

**The Jutlandia Story**

At the onset of the Korean War, the Danish government furnished a fully-equipped and staffed hospital ship as its contribution to the UN effort. The government provided the 8,500-ton ship *Jutlandia* in July 1950 to fulfill its requirement and began to assemble a staff.

The conversion of the vessel, which was built in 1934, was completed within three months. After the process was done, the Danes had a modern hospital ship containing 300 beds, 3 operating theaters, a dental clinic, and X-ray facilities. The ship was staffed by a competent medical staff whose average age was forty.

Competition for jobs aboard the ship was fierce. Between 3,000 and 4,000 nurses applied for the 42 positions available. About 200 were selected for interviews. Doctors and/or nurses were allocated four to a cabin.

*Jutlandia* sailed from Copenhagen in January 1951 and began its service at Pusan in March 1951. (Some reports suggest that it left Denmark in September 1950 and arrived at Pusan the next month.) At the beginning, it served primarily as an evacuation hospital. After a while Jutlandia returned to Denmark, where a helicopter deck was installed after its second tour. Then, the ship returned to Korea for its third and final tour. That time it anchored at the onset of the Korean War and began its service at Pusan. It was decommissioned twelve years later.
working with Advertising Manager Frank Bertulis and Editor Art Sharp on this. Of course, we need to be cognizant of how many ads Art can print in order to accommodate postal service requirements and avoid compromising the quality and amount of the magazine’s content.

My wife and I were invited to have breakfast at the White House on November 12th with President Obama and his wife, along with several other heads of veterans’ organizations. After the breakfast we went to the Tomb of the Unknowns to lay a wreath in honor of all our fallen comrades. From there we moved to our National Memorial on the Mall for another wreath laying ceremony.

We will be introducing a new ceremony called “Turn towards Busan.” At this event, we merely turn towards the east and salute while Taps is played. In Korea they will be doing the same thing to memorialize the invasion at the Busan perimeter. Tom McHugh will be heading this up. Tom is also termed out this year. We will certainly miss all the great things that he has done as a Director.

Sadly, Art Griffith has chosen not to run again. Art has done a bang-up job on our fundraising events. He has brought in over $200,000.00 dollars as our fundraising chairman. Many thanks—and WELL DONE, Art.

Tom Stevens has decided to run again. I am grateful for that decision; Tom is dedicated to our recruiting program. Good luck, Tom.

On November 17th, the U.S. Military Academy at West Point honored all veterans at the Army vs. Temple football game. They focused on Korean War veterans. I represented the KWVA at halftime.

In closing, I remind you that we are all recruiters. Now, we are all advertisement executives as well. This is our KWVA. It can—and will—go on for generations to come if we make sure it does. The means are in our hands; all we need to do is execute them.

We cannot let our fallen comrades down. We must assure that the KWVA is a permanent VSO forever.

Thank you for your support, and God Bless you and your families.
60TH ANNIVERSARIES
KOREAN WAR
REVISIT KOREA TOURS
2010 — 2013
FAMILY MEMBERS OF KOREA VETERAN’S ARE ELIGIBLE
CONTACT MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS FOR DETAILS

Love Korea! Peace Camp For Youth Program Grandchildren pose in native garb
during their fun and rewarding July tour of the Republic of Korea!

THE ROK GOVERNMENT’S MINISTRY OF PATRIOT & VETERAN
AFFAIRS REDUCED VETERANS & COMPANION AIRFARE & PEACE
CAMP FOR YOUTH (GRANDCHILDREN) PARTICIPANTS FOR 2012!
REGISTER NOW, DON’T BE LEFT OUT IN 2013!
703-590-1295 * 800-722-9501 * WWW.MILTOURS.COM
The Beer Doesn’t Taste As Good Sometimes®

At first glance, Czechs and South Koreans don’t have much in common. They live on different continents, favor different foods, speak different languages, prefer different cars...in short, they have more differences than similarities. They do, however, share one common characteristic: their love of freedom.

Historically, Czechs and South Koreans know something about a lack of freedom. In recent times (if you can count the 1905-1945 timeframe as “recent”), the South Koreans lived under Japanese rule. They did not truly gain their freedom until 1953, when UN troops helped them throw off an attempt by their brethren to the north to unite them under communist rule.

The Czechs, on the other hand, did not gain their freedom until 1989, when their young people decided they had had enough of communist rule and carried out their “Velvet Revolution.” The communist leaders acceded to the young Czechs’ demands and relinquished their power. That led to the formation of the Czech Republic.

Veterans from the 21 nations that sent aid to South Korea between 1950 and 1953 are well aware of how their contributions helped a poor country grow into a financial heavyweight that ranks among the top fifteen economies in the world. It has been sixty years since they helped the South Koreans earn their economic and political freedom—and the South Koreans have not stopped thanking them since.

One KWVA chapter commander from Michigan just told me that he called the South Korean consulate in Chicago to request a speaker for a meeting. “How many members do you have?” “Do you serve food at the meetings?” Those were the first two questions the consulate personnel asked.

The consulate sent a speaker. In fact, it sent six people—with food, 110 Ambassador for Peace medals and certificates, books and DVDs about Korean history...as usual, they did not come empty handed. Sixty years after the war, and the South Koreans still cannot forget what Americans did for them oh so long ago. The Czechs are not as profuse with their thanks to people outside their country, but they earned their freedom differently, without going to war.

I had the opportunity to travel freely through the Czech Republic in October 2012, which I could not have done as recently as 23 years ago. I learned a lot about their country, and did what I could to stimulate their economy by consuming a couple of local Pilsner Urquell and/or Budweiser beers.

Young Czechs are proud of the fact that they lead the world in per capita consumption of beer, and I was happy to contribute to their championship defense.

Young Czechs are proud of the fact that they lead the world in per capita consumption of beer, and I was happy to contribute to their championship defense. They are more protective, however, of their newfound freedom than they are their beer.

Czechs speak proudly about their upcoming presidential election starting in January 2013. It will be the first time they will vote directly for their president. And they talk with excitement about their membership in the European Union (EU) and the subsequent opportunities to travel all over the European continent now to ski, visit the beaches, and experience cultural sites. The communists always told them there was nothing to see in the west. As was the case with almost everything else the communists told them, that information was wrong.

There are still vestiges of the communists’ rule in the Czech Republic. Many of the drab gray apartment monoliths they lived in stand as testimonies to the communists’ belief that all people should live in equal apartments—and equal poverty. The Czechs are torn between tearing down those old buildings or maintaining a few of them as historical reminders of their communist rule.

In the meantime, Czechs have painted many of those buildings different colors just to get rid of the drabness of communism. They have made concomitant changes inside the buildings, because they can now shop at places like IKEA to buy furniture, rugs, and other products that express their independence. And, they express their independence in other ways.

For example, they don’t use the euro. The Czechs retain their traditional currency, the “crown,” which can be inconvenient for travelers at times. But, Czech beer tastes just as good whether it is purchased with euros or crowns. (I actually bought more than beer as I traveled throughout the Czech Republic. After all, I needed food so I would have something to wash down with the beer.)

Okay, there are differences in how the South Koreans and Czechs obtained their freedom. Regardless, they both cherish it more than do people who never lost theirs and tend to take what freedom they have for granted. There is a bit of irony at work there: the South Koreans and Czechs continue to appreciate their relatively newfound freedoms at a time when we are losing some of ours.

I am not sure the quality of the beer—no matter how good it is—can compensate for that.

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**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 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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The Korean War
60th Anniversary Stories Wanted

The 60th anniversary of the Korean War armistice is fast approaching. No doubt local, state, and national organizations are planning celebrations of some sort. With each issue we will track events being planned.

And, it is a good time to start compiling stories for our 60th anniversary special edition (May-June 2013). Please let us know where you were when the armistice was signed, what you were doing, what was going on where you were, last minute surprises, your emotions after learning that the armistice was signed, your concerns about leftover ammo, how you and your buddies/units/enemies/families et al reacted...whatever you feel is important to cover in the special edition.

If you have photos, newspaper clips, diary entries, or other documents that supplement your remembrances, they would be welcome. We will put everything together for the special edition of The Graybeards that we are working on.

Send your material to 60th Anniversary Editor, The Graybeards, 895 Ribaut Rd. #13, Beaufort, SC 29902. (Please make sure to include the #13 part of the address.)

The KWVA is proud to announce the following winners of the 2012 drawing:

• 1st prize: M-1 Garand
  John Schrann, FL

• 2nd prize: $2,000
  Gerald H. Hanson, CA

• 3rd prize: 50” TV
  Alfred A. Debard, NJ

We offer special thanks to the following members for their hard work and dedication to the KWVA: Otis Mangrum, Co-chair; Jamie Radnour, Admin Asst.; Jim Doppelhammer, Webmaster; Art Sharp, The Graybeards editor.

Thanks also to the KWVA membership for their donations.

Due to the drawing, we were able to contribute $44,088.60 to the KWVA's overhead costs. Membership dues cannot take care of all expenses the association accrues. It's the fundraisers like this that help. So, when you're talking to your friends who were stationed in Korea and are not KWVA members, sign them up.

There is a blank membership application in every edition of The Graybeards. Put one in your wallet so you will always have one. As the KWVA President's motto emphasizes, "Recruiting" "Recruiting" "Recruiting."

For the 60th anniversary in 2013 we are going to run a fundraiser with a one-of-a-kind M-1 Garand plus two large cash prizes. The fundraiser will start on the 15th of February 2013. The drawing will be held in Washington DC on the 27th of July 2013 at the banquet. (See the form on page 25 of this edition.)

Let's have a super fundraiser in 2013.

Art Griffith
National Director and Fundraiser Chairman

Police Action?

In 1950 to 1953
There was a Police Action
Which involved millions
And you and me.

Thousands were wounded
And they buried thousands more
And it became known as
The Forgotten War.

They dedicated a Memorial
In 1995
For heroes forgotten
And those who died.

Always remember
Believe it no more.
It was not a Police Action—
It was a War!

Herb Verrill, 1833 169th St.,
Hammond IN 46324, 219-844-4369

Editor Reoccupies Southern Office, Adopts New Office Hours

The Graybeards’ editor, Art Sharp, has moved to his winter headquarters. His new address is: Arthur G. Sharp, 895 Ribaut Rd., #13, Beaufort, SC 29902.

Please make sure you include the #13 part of the address. The mail delivery specialist likes to randomly distribute mail that does not have the proper condo number on it just to see who is actually checking what ends up in their mailbox.

Mail sent to the Connecticut office will eventually reach Beaufort, since the postal authorities in Rocky Hill do forward it. But, they don’t forward it every day. They do so on a “When we get around to it” basis. Thus, the resulting delays can make a difference regarding which edition of The Graybeards includes information sent to the wrong address.

His phone number remains the same: 860-202-3088. The same holds true with his email address, which is sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net.

Also, due to extenuating circumstances, the editorial offices are now open only 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern Standard (or Daylight Savings) Time, whichever applies, Monday through Friday. Phone messages and emails will be returned outside those hours as quickly as possible.
By Byron W. Dickerson

I became involved in the battle for Hill 1051 and Chaun-ni on May 16 or 17, 1951; I’m not sure which day. We, the Hq. Co. 2nd Bn., 23rd Infantry Regt., were on perimeter guard the night of the 17th. There were several fire fights around Bn. Hq. throughout the night.

The Chinese had infiltrated our perimeter in several places during the night. In the early morning hours, around 3-4 a.m., they withdrew. Around 0600 on the 18th we went to the mess tent that had been set up in the village of Chaun-ni.

Unknown to us, a South Korean unit on our right flank had withdrawn during the night. Before we could get through the chow line we started receiving fire from all around. Several of us went on a ridge line just behind the Bn. Hq.

One of the guys had grabbed some C-rations, which we were enjoying. There were several Marine Corsairs supporting us, along with Air Force and Navy planes. I think there were some South Africans supporting us as well.

One of the Corsairs had been hit on his strafing run. He was trailing smoke as he came back across us. The pilot opened his canopy and bailed out just south of the village. His chute never opened.

I was eating a can of fruit cocktail (my favorite) when the first Chinese hit our position. One guy with a Burp-Gun was firing at me. I never did see him, but he never hit me. A sergeant across the gully kept hollering at me, “He’s right behind you.” By this time, two other guys and me were in the cross-fire of one hellacious battle.

I don’t know what happened to that fruit cocktail, but to this day I have never eaten any more. If I just see it, I am immediately on that hill in that battle. (When my wife and I were first married I came home from work one day. She had fixed supper that included fruit cocktail. When I told her I didn’t eat fruit cocktail, her feelings were hurt. So, I had to tell her the story.)

I could hear the bullets hitting each other. The thought went through my mind that none of us on either side were going to get out of this.

We dove into a foxhole that had two entrances. This firefight lasted about two hours. Then our unit backed off and a Chinese unit moved on the hill—with us blowing their bugles! The Air Force came in and bombed and strafed the hill.

I thought I had gotten through the Chinese okay—and now our own guys were going to kill us. The air support finished off their runs with napalm, which burned to the edge of the hole we were in. I learned later that eight Chinese divisions (12,000 men each) had hit our front. I think all 96,000 of them came across that hole we were in.

This battle was on Friday the 18th. We stayed in this hole with Chinese in holes all around us until Saturday night. By this time we were behind the lines about ten miles. We got out of the hole after dark on the 19th and started our trek back to our unit. It took us until the following Wednesday morning to reach our lines.

We ran into Chinese units several times on our way back. As a matter of fact, I almost stepped on a Chinese machine gunner who had been wounded. There were two of them in the hole, both wounded, and there were more Chinese around there than in China, I think.

I learned later that eight Chinese divisions (12,000 men each) had hit our front. I think all 96,000 of them came across that hole we were in.

We had to keep down to avoid being strafed by our own guys. We had nothing to eat during this time and were very tired. The last night we walked beside a Chinese Mortar Platoon and they did not see us. About three a.m. we came upon a tank; the gunner had been wounded.

We could see them clearly, but they did not see us. We did not know who they were, enemy or our own. I was elected to call out to them. I drew a deep breath. Nothing but wind came out! The other two guys with me asked, “Are you chicken?”

I said, “You holler.”

They both replied that they would stay all night before they yelled.

I drew another breath and talked fast. I told the tankers that, “We are Gls, and we are coming through, okay?”

The tank’s .50 caliber gun and several BARs were trained on us immediately. They told us to “come on.” We slithered under the barbed wire like three snakes.

I have never been happier in my life. I don’t know the total number of casualties in this battle. In my company alone, only 48 out of our 125 members got out of it.

Byron W. Dickerson, 314 S. Horne St., Duncanville, TX 7516

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MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING – ST. LOUIS, MO – OCTOBER 11, 2012

Call for the Meeting: E-mail from the Secretary.

Place of Announced Meeting: The Double Tree by Hilton Hotel, St. Louis-Westport, St. Louis, MO.

Call to Order: President Ferris called the meeting to order at 0900, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Sergeant of Arms Sonny Edwards. National Chaplain Leo Ruffling gave the invocation.

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

Roll Call and Introductions: President Ferris asked for a roll call of the officers and directors, which was then called by Secretary Cohee:

KWVA Board Members:
Jim Ferris, President
Larry Kinard, 1st Vice President
Roy E. Aldridge, 2nd Vice President-Absent
Frank Cohee, Secretary
Garry Rockburn, Treasurer-Absent
Richard Brown, Director
Lewis Ewing, Director
Ezra Williams, Director-Absent
James Fountain, Director
Arthur Griffith, Director
J. Tilford Jones, Director
George Lawhon, Director
Thomas McHugh, Director
Luther Rice, Director
Luther Dappen, Director
Salvatore Scarlato, Director
Thomas W. Stevens, Director

Action on Absences: Director Fountain made a motion that 2nd VP Aldridge, Treasurer Rockburn, and Director Williams be excused. The motion was seconded by Director Lawhon and was passed unanimously.

Declaration of Quorum: Secretary Cohee declared that there was a quorum.

KWVA Staff: President Ferris then introduced Judge Advocate Bill Burns, Webmaster Jim Doppelhammer, Membership Administrative Assistant Jamie Rednour, National VAVS Director J.D. Randolph, and Assistant Treasurer John Barwinczok. He also introduced the Court Reporter, Jeanne Pedrotty.

Departments/Commanders/Presidents Recognized: George Bruzgis, Dept. of NJ; Sonny Edwards, Dept. of VA; and Mike Glazzy, Dept of CA.

Approval of Previous Board of Directors Minutes of 10/29/2011 Meeting: In lieu of having Secretary Cohee read the minutes, Director Brown made a motion to approve the minutes as published in the Nov-Dec 2011 issue of The Graybeards. Director Williams seconded the motion and it was approved without opposition.

Treasurer’s Report: Assistant Treasurer Barwinczok reported that the primary checking account as of 30 September 2012 has a balance of $37,737.94, and that the savings account has a balance of $40,861.05. Director Scarlato made a motion to accept the report; it was seconded by Director Fountain and approved without any opposition.

Proposed Budget for 2013: Finance Chairman Jones presented in detail the budget for 2013. Essentially, the budget increased from $16,500.00 in 2012 to $28,149 for 2013. The increase was primarily a hike in color guard expenses from $3,000.00 to $13,000.00. The grand totals were $316,785 for 2012 and $342,409 for 2013. Director Brown made a motion that the budget be approved; it was seconded by Director Scarlato and passed unanimously.

President’s Report: President Ferris commented that it is time we begin to place the KWVA and its membership on the top of our priority list. Our largest budget item is The Graybeards. It is $170,000 a year. We have to increase our membership and we need to increase the number of advertisements in The Graybeards. We also need to place more emphasis on recruitment of new members.

National Personal Records Center: At this point a Mr. Chip Ruth interrupted the meeting to announce that he was from the St. Louis National Records Center. He was invited to speak at the meeting and allowed to address the Board; he covered several important points on how one can get their records even if they were supposedly destroyed in the 1973 fire.

Korean War Veterans Digital Memorial Foundation: Mr. Jongwoo Han, President and Director, spoke about the progress of that foundation. People can go to their website, KWVDM.org, and review all of the interviews and artifacts that have been collected.

OLD BUSINESS:
Selection of Location for 2014 General Membership Meeting: Ed Valle, President of the Department of Minnesota, and Mr. Chris Wagner, Regional Sales Manager of the Kahler Hotel in Rochester, Minnesota, presented their proposal for hosting the 2014 meeting. There were no other proposals. Following the presentation, which was very impressive, Director Brown made a motion to have the 2014 General Membership Meeting in Rochester, MN. It was seconded by Director Stevens and passed unanimously. The dates will be October 15-19, 2014.

Request for Approval for a Subscription Only Option for The Graybeards: Director Stevens, Chairman of the Membership Committee, commented that the recommendation of the committee was to recommend that this request be approved. He then made a motion that it be approved. The motion was seconded by Director Lawhon and approved unanimously. The cost for the subscription will be $30 a year.

Request for Approval to Add a Surcharge for Foreign Mailing of The Graybeards: Director Stevens commented that the recommendation of the membership committee was that the request be denied. He then made a motion that it be denied. The motion was seconded by Director Griffin. There was considerable discussion following the motion, both pro and con. However, when the vote was taken, it was unanimous that the request be denied. Part of the discussion involved mailings to Hawaii at the first class rate of

November - December 2012
Stevens commented that since the proposed revision to the bylaws would be mailed as opposed to first class. It was seconded by Director McHugh and passed unanimously.

Request for Approval to eliminate Future Offerings of Life Membership: Director Stevens commented that the membership committee recommended that this request be denied. He then made a motion to that effect which was seconded by Director Jones. The motion was approved unanimously.

Request for Approval to Eliminate the Life Member Category: Director Stevens commented that the membership committee was for denying this request and he made that motion. The motion was seconded by Director Brown and passed unanimously.

Request for Approval to Schedule a Special Meeting Immediately Following The 2012 KWVA Membership Meeting: Director Lawhon made a motion for the Board to consider changing the bylaws and the SPM to allow such a meeting. It was seconded by Director Brown. A vote was taken by a show of hands at least two times, but the results were not in the verbatim minutes. As Secretary of the Association, I declare that this request was denied.

Request for Approval to Revise KWVA Bylaws, Article III, Section 4F, Board Of Directors: Director Stevens commented that there are two action items that are essentially the same. One was submitted by Director Lawhon; the other one was submitted by him on behalf of the bylaws committee. Director Lawhon made a motion that the Board consider his proposed revision. The motion, which was seconded by Director Brown, was followed by considerable discussion. A vote was eventually taken by a show of hands and the motion failed.

Request for Approval to Revise SPM, Section 3.9: Director Stevens commented that since the proposed revision to the bylaws failed, this proposed change to the SPM is now irrelevant. Director Lawhon made a motion that the revision be denied. It was seconded by Director McHugh and was defeated.

Request for Approval of a Project To Enable KWVA Members To Promote H.R. 5903: Director Lawhon made a motion that the Board approve the proposed project. It was seconded by Director Brown and was passed unanimously.

During the discussion about the foregoing project the question came up as the best time to have the members contact their congress persons, since some of them may not be in office after the upcoming election. Director McHugh then made a motion that they be contacted now and again if the incumbent is not reelected or retires. Director Griffith seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Request for Approval to Dispose Of KWVA Scrap Equipment: Past President Mac Swain requested the Board to give him approval to dispose of some scrap equipment that was still in his possession. Director Jones, Past Treasurer, commented that the equipment has already been removed from the Association’s records. Director Rice made a motion that the request be approved. It was seconded and was passed unanimously.

Request for Approval to Destroy Records From 2004: Past President Mac Swain requested the Board to give him approval to destroy the 2004 records from Past President Coon’s Administration since they are now seven years old. Director McHugh made a motion to approve the request. It was seconded by Director Griffith and was passed unanimously.

Request for Approval to Revise Bylaws Article III, Officers And Directors, Section 1, Powers And Duties. F. Board Of Directors: Director Ewing commented that the proposed revision comes with the recommendation of the bylaws committee. Remove the part that says “schedule meetings between annual meetings, the second or last…during the days immediately preceding the annual Association membership meeting” and replace with “the board shall have at least two meetings each year on a date and location selected by the President.” He then made a motion to that effect. It was seconded by Director Stevens and was passed unanimously.

Request for Approval to Revise SPM, Section 3.9 Meeting Criteria: Director Ewing made a motion that the SPM be revised to read the same as the change to the bylaws. That is, The Board shall have at least two meetings each year at a date and location selected by the President. The motion was seconded by Director Griffith and was passed unanimously.

Request for Approval to Delete Article IX-Liability Insurance From The Bylaws: Director Ewing made a motion to delete the article as it is no longer applicable. The motion was seconded by Director Rice and was passed unanimously.

Request for Approval to Delete Section 3.4.4 Chapters And Section 3.5.4-Departments From The SPM: Director Ewing made a motion that the revision be approved. It was seconded by Director Griffith and was passed unanimously.

Reunion Calendar: 2013

Mail your info to Reunion Editor, The Graybeards, 895 Ribaut Rd. #13, Beaufort, SC 29902 or email it to sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net. Include Unit, Date(s), Place, and Contact’s name, address, phone #, email address. Entries are posted “first come, first served.”

USS Renville (APA 227), open to all former crew and troops, 3-7 Apr., Portland, OR, Red Lion Hotel. Lynda Rumple, 187 Lakeshore Dr., Mooresville, NC 28117, 704-906-7622, lyndahd01@aol.com (ship’s website is ussrenvilleapa227.com)

73rd Armor Assn., 23-27 Apr., Columbus, GA. Curtis Banker, 44 Westcott Rd., Schuyler Falls, NY 12985-1940, 518-643-2302, curt0742@hughes.net

USS Ault (DD 698), 25-29 April, Erlanger, KY. Pam@GatheringsPlus.com, P.O. Box 1023, Branson West, MO 65737, 417-338-4048

MAY

67th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing (All units), 6-10 May, Plano TX. Marion Edwards, 126 Willow Ave., Greenfield Twp., PA 18407, 570-709-8551, jeeme@nep.net

Army Counter Intelligence Corps, 9-13 May, Herndon, VA, Hilton Washington Dulles Hotel. elly@cox.net

The Graybeards November - December 2012
Request for Approval to Revise SPM Form 4.9.1 Election:
Director Ewing commented that this revision was submitted by Director McHugh. Applicants for KWV A office are apparently overlooking the requirement for a statement releasing their application form for verification by the election committee. There is no change to the SPM wording. He then made a motion that the aforementioned requirement for the statement be moved into a separate line item so that the applicants would not overlook it. The motion was seconded by Director McHugh and passed unanimously.

Request for Approval to Revise Article 1, Section 1, Paragraph A, Subparagraph 4, Gold Star Parents: Director Ewing commented that this revision is to clarify the requirements for joining the Association as a Goal Star member. He made a motion that the statement that reads “any parent whose son or daughter was killed in action or who is missing in action or died as a prisoner of War during the Korean War from June 25th. 1950 to the present is eligible for life membership as a Gold Star parent” to read “while serving within Korea, including territory, water around, and air space above during the Korean War June 25th 1950 to the present.” The motion was seconded by Director Fountain and was passed unanimously.

Director Ewing suggested that the bylaws committee look into the bylaws that, as presently written, allow Gold Star parents and Gold Star spouses, Medal of Honor Recipients and Prisoners of War to vote and run for office even though they are non-paying members and are classified as regular members. The bylaws will look into the suggestion and report on their recommendation at the next Board meeting in March 2013.

For the Good of the Order:
Secretary Cohee commented that he had received a recommendation from a member that to increase membership we should delete the word “War” from the KWV A flag. Director McHugh made a motion that this recommendation be denied. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

Director Griffith discussed the fund raising projects. He suggested that the Chapters start using the Rose of Sharon for their fund raisers. Past President Mac Swain commented that a Maryland Chapter has a deal with South Korea to be the only ones authorized to sell the Rose of Sharon. President Ferris commented that the Association does not have the authority to tell the Chapters where to get their fund raising products. Director Griffith then reported that that 2012 fund raiser has taken in $58,324.00. The cost was $14,315.40, a net profit of $44,008.60.

President Ferris then asked Chaplain Ruffing to give us the closing prayer with special blessings for member Ed Buckman, who recently passed away.

President Ferris then asked the members of the Board to join with him in singing “God Bless America,” followed by a salute to the flag.

Director Brown made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Director Lawhon and passed unanimously. The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Frank Cohee, National/Association Secretary

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Board Approves ByLaw/SPM Revisions

MEMO

To: Frank Cohee, KWVA Secretary
From: Lew Ewing, KWVA Bylaws Committee Chairman
Date: November 15, 2012
Subject: Bylaw/SPM Revisions

Bylaw/SPM revisions, deletions and/or additions approved by the Board of Directors at our meeting held in St. Louis, MO on October 11, 2012.

Board Action Number 1:
Bylaws ARTICLE III, OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS, Section 1. Powers and Duties., F. Board of Directors revised to read as follows:

“The Board shall have at least two (2) meetings each year on a date and location selected by the President. The Board shall meet at any other and/or additional times that may be required by the Board of Directors, and called by the President, and may conduct business by email without a meeting when done in compliance with Article II, Section 2. Board of Directors., D. Business Without a Meeting, of these Bylaws. All scheduled Board Meetings shall be considered portal to portal return; with scheduled travel days, scheduled meeting days, and in the case of the meeting occurring immediately preceding the Annual Membership Meeting, includes attendance at the said Association meeting, and return travel. All Board meetings shall provide sufficient duration to complete all Association business placed before them for consideration. It shall establish and maintain a Standard Procedure Manual and is responsible for orderly and timely actions between its regular meetings.”

Board Action Number 2:
SPM Section 3.9 MEETINGS References: Meeting Criteria, Paragraph three. A proposed SPM change to the above paragraph was submitted to include specifying that the first meeting each year would be held on June 25th in the Washington DC area and the second to be held during the days immediately preceding the Annual Membership business meeting on a date in October to be selected by the President. Following discussion at the Board meeting, the June 25th date for the first meeting and the October date for the second meeting were removed from the proposed revision, which resulted in leaving the third paragraph in this section of the SPM intact as currently written:

“The Board shall have at least two (2) scheduled meetings between Annual Association Meetings, the second (or last) during the days immediately preceding the Annual Association Membership business meeting.” No change to the SPM is required.

Board Action Number 3:
Bylaw ARTICLE IX – Liability Insurance which read:

“Criteria and procedures for obtaining liability insurance, if needed, for the Association, Chapters or Departments shall be developed and approved by the KWVA Board of Directors for inclusion and use in the KWVA SPM” were deleted from the Bylaws since the Board decided not to make liability insurance available to Chapters and Departments through the Association.

Board Action Number 4:
SPM Section 3.4.4 Chapters – Obtaining Liability Insurance and Section 3.5.4 Departments- Obtaining Liability Insurance were deleted from the SPM since the Board voted to not make Liability Insurance available to the Chapters and Departments through the Association.

Board Action Number 5:
SPM FORM 4.9-1 Election – Official Election Candidate Form, 1: Paragraph 1. Requirements a. was rewritten to read as follows:

“Must present proof of service by submitting a separate signed current Official KWVA Membership Official Application Form (found on KWVA website or in the Graybeards Magazine) showing eligible service years.”

Paragraph 1. Requirements c. was expanded to include a new line item, (c.6), to read as follows:

“A statement releasing the Application Form for verification by the Election Committee.”

Board Action Number 6:
Bylaws ARTICLE I, Section 1, Paragraph A., Subparagraph 4. Gold Star Parents was revised to read as follows:

“Any parent whose son/daughter was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war, while serving within Korea including territorial waters around and airspace above, during the Korean War (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.”

During the discussion regarding the above, we agreed to expand the motion to include Gold Star Spouses in addition to Gold Star Parents. Thinking about that action since the meeting, I am not sure that we can revise the paragraph regarding Gold Star Spouses since the Board was not given proper advance notice that it would be discussed. If the motion can be expanded to include the Gold Star Spouses, then I would submit the following:

Board Action Number 7:
Bylaws ARTICLE 1. Section 1, Paragraph A., Subsection 5, Gold Star Spouses should be revised to read as follows:

“Any person whose spouse was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war while serving within Korea including territorial waters around and airspace above during the Korean War (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.”

Who Were The Better Fighters, The Chinese Or The North Koreans?

Two infantrymen were discussing whether they would rather fight the Chinese or the North Koreans in Korea. They argued over the differences between the two enemy soldiers. For example, one said the North Koreans were more aggressive and more brutal than the Chinese. The other claimed that the Chinese were more unpredictable than the North Koreans, and that they could have never fought together.

What do our readers think? What were the differences (or the similarities) between the North Koreans and the Chinese? Did they use different tactics? Was one group more lenient that the other? Would infantrymen rather fight the North Koreans or the Chinese if they had a chance? Let us know what you think.

Send your answers regarding the differences and similarities between the North Koreans and Chinese to Differences Editor, The Graybeards, 895 Ribaut Rd. #13, Beaufort, SC 29902.
The prospect of feasting on fresh pheasant for Christmas led to a lapse in our attention to details such as those existing in combat zones. Eli Walker and I, along with our orphaned Korean "mascot," Mike, walked slowly over eroded furrows of a battered-down cornfield. We were sure pheasants were lurking in the stubble of brown and broken stalks. We also knew that this deep river valley had been a battleground less than six months earlier.

It was Sunday, December 23rd, and we were determined to serve up a big batch of chicken-fried pheasant on Christmas night back in the squad tent. Artillerymen of the 11th Regiment occupied positions above the valley. They assured us an hour earlier that the valley had been cleared of landmines.

With Mike shouldering our M-1s and Eli and I with our shotguns we made our way down the precipitous slope toward the river valley. We came upon a wire stretched across our path. It was connected to a live trip-flare conveying the news that the valley had not been as cleared as presumed.

But flushing up pheasants was our reason for being there. We detonated the trip-flare and walked out on a plateau alongside the river. Here, farmers some months earlier had forfeited their greening crops to rampaging killers pouring southward early in the Korean War. Now the area was known as "the Punchbowl."

Overseeing the corn field were remnants of bunkers and connecting trenches. Communication wires crisscrossed the ground. The plateau that summer had been an infantry defense position and the corn field was its field-of-fire. Eli was on the opposite edge and Mike walked midway between us.

A pheasant cock flushed a few feet ahead of Mike and flew back over his head. Eli and I whirled at the same instant and brought it down, my shot hitting it in the wing and Eli's in the head. Mike retrieved it and we resumed our slow, quiet coverage of the cornfield. It was high adrenaline time. The only thing on our minds was nailing more pheasants so everyone in our tent would get their fill of a Christmas feast. Even Eli, a wily Nevadan raised on a ranch, forgot to keep an eye on the ground just ahead of his feet.

The explosion I heard caused me to duck so violently it sprained my neck. I dropped to the ground, shouting at Mike to get down as I looked around trying to determine what had happened. My first thought was that it was a mortar round, but it wasn't loud enough to be one. I flinched when I heard a "pop" overhead. A parachute flare, burning red, drifted down above Eli, who was lying on his side.

"Trip-flare!" he yelled, his voice rasping with distress. "I stepped on the sonofabitch! My foot's shot!"

I ran across the furrows to reach him. Mike, frozen in his tracks, began Sobbing.

"Don't move, Mike!" I shouted pointlessly. Mike wasn't about to move. He was only 14, but he wasn't anybody's little dummy.

I carefully cut and removed Eli's boot. The sole was indented an inch and a half into the arch. His foot was grotesquely twisted, but not bleeding. The calf of his leg had bleeding punctures caused by fragments from the trip-flare mechanism. He had stepped smack down on the flare's cannon. It discharged the flare projectile point blank into his instep, wreaking massive damage before continuing its altered, upward flight — a miracle it hadn't penetrated his upper body and killed him.

Eli's pain was immediate and almost more than this salty Marine could bear. I bandaged the open wounds and wrapped his distorted foot with my woolen sweater. I had to pry our houseboy out of the middle of the cornfield, instructing him to walk in my footsteps over the furrows to Eli. Mike quickly got a rein on his emotions and tended to Eli while I hurried to seek assistance.

Almost two hours had elapsed by the time I was able to recruit four men to carry Eli out of the valley on an improvised stretcher and get him to the 11th Marines sick bay. The sun had dropped behind the mountains and winter's evening chill quickly set in. After sweating profusely, Eli lapsed into the first stage of hypothermia. We took off jackets and long underwear to cover him. An ambulance from D Company Med came to get us. After a torturous ride over a two-rut "road," we finally reached the field hospital.

Throughout the ordeal our little Korean buddy, Mike, doggedly clutched our one bagged pheasant. Eli noticed and said, weakly:

"Don't you go and lose that bird, Mike. It was too hard got."

"No way, Eli, the little boy replied.

At the field hospital they shot Eli up with morphine and did what they could to make him feel better. Mike and I hitched a series of rides back to our unit, leaving Eli to spend a miserable night.

The explosion I heard caused me to duck so violently it sprained my neck. I dropped to the ground, shouting at Mike to get down as I looked around trying to determine what had happened.
Early the next morning, I borrowed a jeep and drove to D Company Med, carrying a fifth of Canadian Club that Lt. Ed Gaines had contributed. Hindsight assures me today that Canadian rye and morphine are not medically compatible. But because intense emotions of the moment disallowed room for common logic, donating the CC to a doped-up Eli seemed like the only act of compassion we could muster.

At the field hospital, I tucked the bottle beneath my jacket and went in to see my hunting pal. He looked a lot better than he did the previous evening.

“Lucky thing that flare didn’t go off in my foot,” he said. “I’m still gonna be gimp-y from now on, they tell me. I just hope I’ll still be able to work cattle.”

Eli said he was being flown straight to Japan instead of to the hospital ship because the injury would require a “big hospital operation.”

I slipped him the fifth of CC and he hid it between his legs. Corpsmen loaded him on a helicopter. We shook hands.

“Hope you’re nicely snockered by the time you reach Japan,” I said, not realizing that I may have done him more harm than good by giving him the bottle of Canadian.

“I plan to be,” he grinned.

Corporal Miller cleaned the pheasant. On Christmas night I cooked it in margarine from the mess galley, along with a few goodies my parents had sent. We all felt lousy, and a bit guilty, because Eli wasn’t there to share in the meager distribution of chicken-fried pheasant. We drank a little and played dime-ante poker a little.

“Poor ole Eli,” somebody said in mock sympathy. “The poor guy didn’t get to finish out his tour.” Everybody chuckled a little.

Not one of the 61 Christmas nights I’ve lived since then has gotten by without my thinking of Eli Walker and wondering if he made it okay as a rancher with his kooky foot.

Betcha he did. He was too tough to let something like that get him down.

I just hope whiskey chasing morphine didn’t kill him as he left Korea strapped in a helicopter.

I have reflected on my service (1953-1954) at the Office Of The Chief of Staff, HQ 8th Army, Yongsan, Korea. At that time, General Maxwell Taylor commanded 8th Army and all United Nations forces in Korea. Brigadier Thomas L. Sherburne was the Chief of Staff, both of whom jumped into Normandy on D-Day with the 101st Airborne division. Sherburne was the artillery commander at Bastogne; both served with the 101st until the surrender of Germany.

General Taylor’s and the Chief of Staff’s offices were located in a Quonset hut on top of a hill in a compound area that once housed the Japanese Imperial Army Headquarters. Prior to the move to Yongsan, 8th Army HQ had been located at Seoul University.

I served briefly as stenographer to Major General Paul Harkins prior to his assignment to the 45th Division. I was then assigned as steno to Brig. General Sherburne until he returned to the states in May 1954. I was again assigned to consecutive Chief of Staff replacements by Brigadier Generals Mark McClure and John C. Oakes. Many of the officers at CIS section were veterans of the 101st Airborne Division.

The headquarters at the top of the hill included Generals Taylor and Sherburne, Colonel Harden, Major Cliff Myers, Captain Pak (ROKA aide to Gen Taylor), a U.S. Army Captain, two Chief Warrant Officers, and three stenographers.

I received Top Secret-U.S. Eyes only security classification during my service at the top of the hill. I received all messages that passed through General Sherburne to General Taylor.

In September and October of 1953, I recall messages from the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon (Matthew B. Ridgway, former 8th Army Commander) that alluded to the options of U.S. intervention to help the French, who were being devastated at Dien Bien Phi, French Indo-China (Vietnam) and the effect of any possible Chinese intervention there. At the time, the influence of Ridgway on the Joint Chiefs and White House prevented any American participation in that conflict.

I also remember many G2 (intelligence) communications that dealt with the briefing of former American and UN POWs who had been released to Freedom Village at Operations Little Switch and Big Switch. (See the photo essay re Operation Big Switch on pp. 58.) There was much detail about the use of various tortures that were used to coerce confessions.

I have thought often about the officers and NCOs at the CIS Section and how each in our own way contributed to the effectiveness of the mission during those difficult days. At the end of my tour of duty, rank was frozen and I was a corporal in charge of the fifteen enlisted men in the CIS section.

Believe it or not, I still remember Colonel Harden rushing down the hall and yelling, “The General wants to see Josh NOW!”

In the past years I have sent pictures, items, and anecdotal comments to the U.S. Army Military Institute at the Carlisle Barracks in Pennsylvania. In addition, I corresponded briefly with General Taylor’s son and passed on to him pictures of his dad and also comments about his dog Po—who also served at the top of the hill.

Bobby L. Gioscia, 102 North Rd., Harwinton, CT 06791, 860-485-9390, bgioscia@att.net
Service Members KIA in Korean War Identified

The list below is a compilation of missing Korean War service members whose remains were identified in 2012. Some of the names may be duplicates from previous issues of The Graybeards. However, no matter how many times we list their names we can never forget the sacrifices they made for their country and for the people of South Korea. May they rest in peace alongside all other service members who have given their all for freedom.

**Clyde E. Anderson**
Cpl. Clyde E. Anderson, U.S. Army, Medical Company, 31st Infantry Regiment, assigned to the 31st Regimental Combat Team, was lost on Nov. 28, 1950, near Kaljon-ri, North Korea. He was accounted for on June 10, 2012.

**William T. Barker**
Sgt. William T. Barker, U.S. Army, 503rd Field Artillery Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division, was lost in February 1951, while in captivity in Pyokdong, North Korea. He was accounted for on June 30, 2012.

**Thomas J. Barksdale**
Sgt. Thomas J. Barksdale, B Battery, 503rd Field Artillery Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division, was lost on Nov. 30, 1950, near Ch’ongch’on, North Korea. He was accounted for on June 22, 2012.

**Stanley W. Bear**
Army Sgt. Stanley W. Bear, 19, of Grayson, Ky., was buried Nov. 10, in Londot, Ky. On Sept. 4, 1950, Bear and his unit, F Company, 2nd Battalion, 25th Infantry Division, battled enemy forces near Haman, South Korea. After the battle, Bear was reported as missing in action. In 1951, Korean National Police recovered remains associated with the battle and turned them over to U.S. officials. The U.S. Army was unable to identify Bear’s remains at the time, and he was buried as “unknown” in the U.N. Cemetery at Tanggok, South Korea. Later that year, the U.S. consolidated cemeteries on the peninsula and the remains were sent to the U.S. Army’s Central Identification Unit in Kokura, Japan, to determine whether they could be identified. When scientific analysis determined an identification wasn’t possible, Bear’s remains were transferred to the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii and re-interred as “unknown.” In 2011, due to advances in identification technology, analysts from DPMO and Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) reevaluated the information associated with the remains interred in Hawaii and concluded that they could likely be identified. The remains were exhumed and scientists from JPAC successfully identified Bear using circumstantial evidence and forensic identification tools such as radiograph comparison and dental records.

**Kenneth R. Block**
Cpl. Kenneth R. Block, U.S. Army, M Company, 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 31st Regimental Combat Team, was lost on Dec. 3, 1950, near the Chosin Reservoir, in North Korea. He was accounted for on May 18, 2012.

**Turnace H. Brown**
Capt. Turnace H. Brown, U.S. Army, 57th Field Artillery Battalion, 31st Regimental Combat Team, was lost on Dec. 6, 1950 near the Chosin Reservoir. He was accounted for on Aug. 17, 2012.

**David L. Catlin**
Cpl. David L. Catlin, U.S. Army, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 31st Regimental Combat Team, was lost on Dec. 2, 1950, near the Chosin Reservoir in North Korea. He was accounted for on April 16, 2012.

**Don C. Faith Jr.**
Lt. Col. Don C. Faith Jr., U.S. Army, commander of the 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, was lost on Dec. 2, 1950, near the Chosin Reservoir. He was accounted for on Oct. 11, 2012.

**Joseph W. Fontenot**
Army Cpl. Joseph W. Fontenot, 20, of Maurepas, La., was buried Oct. 27 in Whitehall, La. In February 1951, Fontenot was assigned to the 2nd Infantry Division when he was captured by enemy forces near Saemal, South Korea. He reportedly died in June 1951, while in captivity at Camp 1 near Changsong, North Korea. In 1954, United Nations and Communist Forces exchanged the remains of war dead in what came to be called “Operation Glory.” Among the remains that were turned over at that time were remains of servicemen who had died in Camp 1. All of the remains recovered in Operation Glory were turned over to the Army Central Identification Unit for analysis. Those which were unable to be identified with the technology at that time were interred as unknowns at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii.

In 2010, analysts from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) re-examined the case records and determined that advances in technology could likely aid in the identification of the unknown remains as one of seven possible soldiers. Once the remains were exhumed, scientists from JPAC used circumstantial evidence and forensic identification tools, including dental records and radiographs, to identify Fontenot.

**Pryor Gobble**
Cpl. Pryor Gobble, U.S. Army, L Company, 3rd Battalion, 31st Regimental Combat Team, was lost on Dec. 11, 1950, near Hagaru-ri, North Korea. He was accounted for on May 23, 2012.

**Elwood Green**
Master Sgt. Elwood Green, U.S. Army, E Company, 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division was captured on Nov. 28, 1950, and died in June 1951, while in captivity at Camp 1 near Changsong, North Korea.

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**Richard S. Gzik**
PFC Richard S. Gzik, U.S. Marine Corps, M Battery, 11th Artillery Regiment, 1st Marine Division, was lost on Dec. 2 1950, north near Saemal, South Korea. He was accounted for on July 11, 2012.

**Richard L. Harris**
Sgt. 1st Class Richard L. Harris, U.S. Army, L Company, 3rd Battalion, 9th
Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division was captured on Nov. 30, 1950 and died in Jan. 1951 in a POW Camp in North Korea. He was accounted for on Feb. 29, 2012.

Arthur W. Hopfensperger
Pfc. Arthur W. Hopfensperger, U.S. Army, Company B, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division, 31st Regimental Combat Team, was lost on Nov. 30, 1950, near the Chosin Reservoir. He was accounted for on Sept. 12, 2012.

Clarence H. Huff, Jr.
Cpl. Clarence H. Huff, Jr., U.S. Marine Corps, I Company, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division was lost on Dec. 2, 1950, near the Chosin Reservoir. He was accounted for on July 13, 2012.

Luther J. James
Cpl. Luther J. James, U.S. Army, Battery B, 57th Field Artillery Battalion, 31st Regimental Combat Team, was lost on Dec. 6, 1950, near the Chosin Reservoir. He was accounted for on Aug. 18, 2012.

Frank P. Jennings
Pfc. Frank P. Jennings, U.S. Army, E Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment was lost near Jeon-Gog, South Korea on April 25, 1951. He was accounted for on Jan. 18, 2012.

Henry F. Johnson
Cpl. Henry F. Johnson, U.S. Army, L Company, 3rd Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment was captured on Nov. 25 1950, and died in captivity in 1951. He was accounted for on Feb. 15, 2012.

Elmer C. Kidd
Army Cpl. Elmer C. Kidd, 22, of Seneca Falls, N.Y., was be buried Nov. 9, in Romulus, N.Y. In late November 1950, Kidd and his unit, the 31st Regimental Combat Team, known as “Task Force Faith,” were advancing along the eastern banks of the Chosin Reservoir, in North Korea when they were attacked by a massive enemy force. They began a fighting withdrawal to positions near Hagaru-ri, south of the reservoir. It was during this withdrawal that Kidd went missing. Between 1991 and 1994, North Korea gave the United States 208 boxes of remains believed to contain the remains of 200-400 U.S. service members. Analysts from DPMO and the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) developed a list of military members missing from the area where the remains were reportedly located. Kidd was listed as missing from one of the recovery sites.

In the identification of the remains, scientists from JPAC and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory (AFDIL) used circumstantial evidence and forensic identification tools, such as radiograph and mitochondrial DNA—which matched Kidd’s sister and nephew. Using modern technology, identifications continue to be made from remains that were previously turned over by North Korean officials.

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

James N. Larkin
Cpl. James N. Larkin, U.S. Army, C Company, 1st Battalion, 38th Infantry Regiment, was captured on Feb. 11, 1951, and died in captivity in April 1951. He was accounted for on Feb. 21, 2012.

Arthur W. Leiviska
Pvt. Arthur W. Leiviska, U.S. Army, L Company, 3rd Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division, who was captured in 1951 and died in captivity on April 20, 1951. He was accounted for on Feb. 3, 2012.

James C. Mullins
Pfc. James C. Mullins, U.S. Army, H Company, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, was lost on July 22, 1950, near Yugong-ni, South Korea. He was accounted for on Sept. 27, 2012.

Dick E. Osborne
Cpl. Dick E. Osborne, U.S. Army, L Company, 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, was lost on Nov. 2, 1950, near Unsan, North Korea. He was accounted for on Jan. 27, 2012.

Francis J. Reimer
Cpl. Francis J. Reimer, U.S. Army, M Company, 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 31st Regimental Combat Team, was lost on Dec. 12, 1950, near the Chosin Reservoir. He was accounted for on July 19, 2012.

Chester J. Roper
Cpl. Chester J. Roper, U.S. Army, Battery A, 503rd Field Artillery Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division, was captured by enemy forces on Dec. 1, 1950, near Somindong, North Korea, and died in early 1951 in POW Camp 5 at Pyoktong. He was accounted for on Jan. 4, 2012.

William R. Sluss
Cpl. William R. Sluss, U.S. Army, Service Battery, 38th Field Artillery Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division, was captured by enemy forces in late Nov. 1950, near Kunu-ri, North Korea, and died at POW Camp 5 in April 1951. He was accounted for on Jan. 17, 2012.

Edris A. Viers
Sgt. 1st Class Edris A. Viers, U.S. Army, Battery A, 555th Field Artillery Battalion, 5th Regimental Combat Team, was lost near Pongam-ni, South Korea on Aug. 12, 1950. He was accounted for on Jan. 17, 2012.

Chester L. Williams
Sgt. Chester L. Williams, U.S. Army, B Battery, 57th Field Artillery Battalion, 31st Regimental Combat Team, was lost on Dec. 6, 1950, near the Chosin Reservoir. He was accounted for on Aug. 28, 2012.

Willard F. Williams
Sgt. Willard F. Williams, U.S. Army, E Company, 35th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, was lost on Nov. 28, 1950, just south of Unsan, North Korea. He was accounted for on Oct. 23, 2012.

Nelson E. Young
Pfc. Nelson E. Young, U.S. Army, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 31st Regimental Combat Team, was captured on Dec. 2, 1950, near the Chosin Reservoir in North Korea and died in late 1950 or early 1951. He was accounted for on March 30, 2012.

Anyone who wishes to access the list of service members from all wars whose remains were identified by the DPMO in 2012 can go to http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo/ accounted_for/

The “Recently Accounted for” archives date back to 2007.
Keeping the KWV Legacy Alive

By President/Dr. Jongwoo Han
KWV Digital Memorial Foundation, Inc.

From one of the many benches, I listened closely as Korean War heroes stood up to share their accounts of the bravery of American soldiers at the 59th Anniversary of the Korean War armistice. That morning of July 27, 2012, the podium was graced by the Ambassador Choi Young-jin of ROK, Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta, newly elected KWVA President James Ferris of Syracuse, NY, Medal of Honor recipient Ronald Rosser, and many other heroes as well.

Four aircraft tore through the sky, evoking memories of the shrieks and cheers of soldiers during the three-year war, the longest war in the history of twentieth-century battle. Right at that moment, as I was becoming entranced by tales of the Korean War, an important question struck me: what will be remembered 10 or 20 years from now?

Who will be at this podium and on these benches in the Memorial Amphitheater of the Arlington National Cemetery, say on July 27, 2022? I realized that we need to establish a group of KWVs’ (Korean War Veterans) descendants to fill these seats and take to the podium in order to pass along the legacy of the Korean War and the brave Americans who sacrificed their lives to answer the call of the country, of the wounded, of the survivors, and of those still missing in action. We are to serve as caretakers of the KWV Digital Memorial.

On December 15, 2011, the KWVDM (www.kwvdm.org) was officially founded as a prototype collection of KWVs’ interviews and artifacts, and it has now been expanded to include more than 70 recordings of brave soldiers’ memories and 2,500 artifacts, providing us with an unprecedented picture of the war from their perspectives.

Since the era of KWVs will eventually pass, I came up with the idea of preserving continuity by passing on the legacy to the KWVs’ own family and friends through the KWV Legacy Project. This thought completely enthralled me as I headed to St. Louis, MO to attend the Annual KWVA Convention (October 10-14). With two of my KWV friends – Norman Champagne, who greatly contributed to the birth of the KWVDM, and Keith Fannon, who connected me to two Texas chapters after the convention – I spent two days driving from Syracuse, NY to St. Louis, immersed in brainstorming potential ways to convince our seniors of the power that their youngsters could wield in this era of the Internet.

Sadly, many KWVs have never talked about their service during the war. How could I motivate them to initiate this intergenerational conversation with their offspring, which seems to be the only way to keep alive the legacy of these brave Americans who answered the call of their country? The challenge was to create critical mass in the KWV’s descendants’ network. Not many were needed, just a significant amount of committed youth with knowledge of the Internet and social media networks.

How do we measure network power in Internet or online social media, such as Facebook or Twitter or Instagram, when raising millions of dollars for important issues? What is the formula? It’s all in the math: the (N-1) factorial.

Suppose that we have a KWV network of five young students from KWV families: simply apply 5 kids to our formula: (5-1)!, for which the KWV network power can be calculated as $1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4 = 24$. However, when we successfully convince one more of our kids to join the KWV network, which means (6-1)!, that equals $1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4 \times 5$, that produces a network power of 120, which is substantially larger. Our KWV descendants’ network power can go viral as we add just a small number of our kids to the current KWV network.

We can’t expect the public to dig into your attic to tell the stories that have not yet been heard. The success of your effort is going to depend on your own kids and friends. So, talk to your beloved grandsons and granddaughters. Share some pictures with them and tell them where Korea is and what happened to you, to your families, and to Koreans.

Ask them to do a little research on East Asia, and find out how critical this region will be to their proud country. Ask them to help you scan your pictures before the chance is lost to share it with other witnesses of the war you observed. Ask them to listen to your interviews and investigate all the different kinds of artifacts that the KWVDM has collected. Ask them to participate in the KWV Legacy Project and contact the KWVDM foundation, newly incorporated in 2012.

I am sure that we can help our own kids to build a community of their own that will fill the gorgeous Memorial Amphitheater on the morning of July 27 in coming years. I can’t think of any better way to preserve and pass on the memories and values that our heroes dared to share with people in an unknown land called Korea: “never give up your own men” “be nicer [to your enemies] and give what others want” to avoid another war, and “trade with North Koreans,” – views expounded by Col. Stone; the small green Bible filled with notes of his colleagues’ names and whereabouts kept intact over Bill Baker’s three-year hell in the prison camp in the estuary of Yalu River, and many other stories that you can’t hear without shedding a tear.
The Fate of the 29th Independent Infantry Brigade (UK)

By Tom Moore

The 29th Independent Infantry Brigade (United Kingdom), commanded by Brigadier Tom Brodie, sailed from Southampton, England and arrived in Korea in November 1950. They moved north in Korea, and were at the front, in combat, in December 1950. During the Chinese Spring Offensive, an operation aimed at recapturing the capital of South Korea, Seoul, the 29th Brigade found itself positioned on the lower end of the Imjin River. The Battle Of Imjin River (22-25 April, 1951), a UN delaying action, was about to begin.

The 29th Brigade had twelve miles of front to cover, which left it very thin. Its left flank was near the village of Jokseong. The U.S. Army’s 3rd Infantry Division, commanded by MajGen. Robert H. “Shorty” Soule, was to the east. Three divisions of the Chinese 63rd Army, the 187th, 188th, and the 189th, were involved in the attack on the 29th Brigade’s positions, after Chinese patrols reported the great weakness of their line.

At that time, the 29th Brigade consisted of 3 British and 1 Belgian Infantry battalions. The three British battalions were the Gloucestershire Regiment (“Glosters”), under LTC. James P. Carne, the Royal Northumberland Fusillers (RNF), under LTC. Kingsly Foster, and the Royal Ulster Rifles (RUR), under temporary command of Maj. Gerald Rickord. The Belgian battalion, under LTC. Albert Crahay, had a detachment of a Luxembourg Platoon, under Lt. Jos Wagener.

Also attached to the 29th Brigade was the Philippine 10th Battalion Combat Team (BCT), under Col. Dionisio S. Ojeda. The 29th Brigade support units at the time were the 45 Field Royal Artillery, with their 25-pounders, the 8th King’s Royal (Irish Hussars), with their Centurion MK-III Tanks, the 170 Mortar Battery, with their 3” mortars, and the 55 Royal Engineer Squadron. The men comprised a mixture of regulars, reservists, and national servicemen.

The 29th Infantry Brigade was under the command of the U.S. Army’s I Corps, commanded by LtGen Frank W. “Shrimp” Milburn. The 29th Brigade was hit with attack after attack by the strong Chinese army, which could drive through the weak British line and cut off units.

Attempts to supply the surrounded “Glosters” with air drops failed. The artillery could no longer provide support. The remains of “D” company, under Maj. Mike Harvey, escaped from Hill 235 and reached friendly lines several days later. The rest of the remaining “Gloster” Battalion on Hill 235 (Gloster Hill) was taken prisoner, including LTC. Carne. The enemy kept him in solitary confinement until his release.

After the battle, it was estimated that between 25 and 35 percent of the 29th Brigade was casualties of the battle. Imjin River remains Britain’s bloodiest post-WWII action.

Reach Tom Moore at 20838 Gleneagles Links Dr., Estero, FL 33928, 317-849-1924
Objective: To establish a program that attracts descendants of Korean War Veterans and build a KWV Legacy organization that will continue into the future by passing on the torch of Korean War veterans

What KWV Descendants (students from middle school to post-graduate programs) can:
1. Join KWVDM’s (www.kwvdm.org) Youth Program or Internship (http://kwvdm.org/participate.php?p=join, contact Dr. Han at 315-480-9427, jonghan@svyr.edu)
2. Videotape conversations regarding your grandparents’ service in the Korean War while helping them scan photos and upload other artifacts, completing metadata for those artifacts, and sending scanned files to Dr. Han

First Workshop: KWV Legacy Project observing the 60th Anniversary of the Armistice
1. Host: KWVDM Foundation, Inc. and the Tell America Program (TAP) of KWVA
3. Qualification: students from middle-school to post-graduate level with interest in the Korean War and KWVs (KWV descendants are favored)
4. KWVDM Foundation will cover all expenses for 20 selected presenters (transportation, accommodations, and meals) up to $1,000
5. Selection Process:
   1) Send a 2-page proposal (MS Word doc, 800 words max describing in detail how you will contribute in one or more of the following ways:
      ■ Explore the interviews and artifacts on KWVDM, and write a proposal for a related project of your own (essay or research papers on a KWV, the Korean War, modern Korean history, etc.)
      ■ Provide relevant arts and crafts (e.g., computer graphics, designing posters like the Korean Peninsula map in KWVDM)
      ■ Create KWVDM/TAP promotional video clips using KWVDM’s Facebook (www.facebook.com/kwvdm), Twitter (www.twitter.com/kwvdm), or Instagram (KWVDM) pages with at least 20 followers
   2) Major Deadlines
      ■ Proposal due by February 1, 2013 & Selected applicants notified by February 15, 2013
      ■ Submission of works due by July 1; $1,000 award by July 27, 2013 at the workshop venue

6. Workshop Schedules: Ten 20-minute presentations in each morning and afternoon session
1) Registration and Preliminary Meeting: July 24, 2013
2) Workshop I (July 25, Thurs): Keynote Address, Essays & Research papers, Art & Crafts
3) Workshop II (July 26, Fri): Promotion and Generational Conversations
4) Workshop III (July 27, Sat): Armistice Event & Farewell Dinner and Speech
5) Workshop IV (July 28, Sun): Tour of museums in Washington, DC

KWVDM Foundation Inc.
Phone (315) 480-9427 / E-mail: jonghan@svyr.edu
http://www.kwvdm.org/
Honoring the Brave

Alumnus Pays Tribute to Veterans with Flight to D.C. Memorials

Catching Up With Stefan Celuch
By Valerie Rodell

S

 Stefan “Steve” Celuch, B’90, doesn’t just hang his flag each year on Veterans Day. He has a much bigger plan for honoring the men and women who have fought to uphold our country’s honor.

As president of Valor Flight, Inc., the Huntsville, Ala., resident loads up a 737 airliner with Korean War veterans from the Tennessee Valley and flies them to Washington, D.C., to spend the day visiting their memorial and others.

Last year, he flew 114 veterans, plus volunteer guardians, staff and media, to Washington on Nov. 12 for “a day of remembrance and gratitude for their service and fight for freedom.”

The second flight is set for a Saturday in November or sometime next spring, depending on the completion of fundraising, and will include 125-150 veterans. Celuch believes it will be Valor Flight’s last trip because of the dwindling number of Korean War veterans.

“It’s a humbling, tremendous and emotional experience,” says Celuch. “These are old men. They used to be young men defending freedom. On this day, they are once again those young men. You can see it, clear as day.”

Celuch is responsible for public relations and raising the $100,000 needed for each flight. That cost, raised through individual and corporate donations, includes renting the plane and training enough volunteers so that every veteran has a guardian at his or her side for the entire day. The group is also accompanied by a volunteer medical team, including paramedics and at least one doctor and nurse.

The day includes a stop at the Korean War Memorial, lunch at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial, coordinated by U.S. Air Force personnel, visits to Arlington and Iwo Jima memorials via bus, and presentation of certificates of appreciation by the U.S. Department of Defense. Last year, when the group returned to the Huntsville International Airport, they were welcomed home by the U.S. Army Band and a large crowd of well-wishers.

“Some veterans said, ‘We didn’t get this when we came home after Korea.’ This really helps us close that chapter,” Celuch says. “For at least that one day, regardless of what anyone thinks, this group of veterans is not forgotten.”

Some of the seeds for Valor Flight were sown during Celuch’s days at Duquesne, where he was commissioned as an Army infantry officer through the ROTC program in 1989.

The Rochester, N.Y., native says he was drawn to the University’s urban setting. He helped with the football team, joined a social club and “forged really good friendships very quickly,” he says.

After graduation, Celuch served with the Pennsylvania Army National Guard and the U.S. Army Reserves in New York. While with the U.S. Army National Guard, he served on state active duty just after the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, in charge of security at New York’s largest nuclear power plant in Oswego, N.Y., for about 16 months. Today, he does government contract work in aerospace and defense and has been supporting NASA’s Marshall Space Flight Center for the past eight years, currently leading a systemic innovation management project.

“My experiences – education, friendships, brotherhood – at Duquesne University and The George Washington University have forged who I am today and who I will become tomorrow,” says Celuch, who recently earned his master’s degree in strategic public relations at George Washington.

Celuch launched Valor Flight, whose call sign is Valor One—The Flight of The Not Forgotten, in 2010 after working with a similar group that flew nearly 1,300 World War II veterans in 13 flights to Washington. When he heard two Korean War veterans speak about their experiences, he was spurred to begin “the next generation,” he says.

The staff of Valor Flight is all volunteer.

“I don’t even have a business card,” says Celuch. “I wanted every penny we raised to help get these vets to D.C. and back.”

Celuch, who has three daughters with his wife, Amy, has several other projects he’s passionate about. He is a partner of Heartthrob Management, a Los Angeles-based artist management and promotion entertainment firm currently representing two pop/rock artists, Brittany Smith and Justin Stein, and works with Creative Alliance Entertainment on sponsorship and investment partnerships. He is also helping to line up financing for Sound Point Resort, a planned luxury resort on the island of Eleuthera in the Bahamas.

“I line up what appeals to me from a passion perspective,” he says. “I would encourage everybody to give back in any way they can to a passion that is meaningful to them. Don’t just sit back and do nothing.

“I believe it’s our duty to live life with zeal. Simply put: Find and live your passions and also find a way to give back.”

Note: This article appeared originally in the fall 2012 edition of the Duquesne University Magazine, p. 30. It is reprinted here with the magazine’s permission. And thanks go to Louis J. McAfee for bringing the article to our attention.

I was thinking of my friend, Lowell Richard, who was from Chicago. I remember us going up a hill in Korea, whose number I can’t remember. We weren’t there long before fighting began. Sadly, Lowell Richard was killed. He was a blond kid who had just gotten married before he left for Korea in either 1952 or 1953.

I have never been able to locate some of the other Soldiers in my group, especially Kenneth Griggs, Norbert Jorden, Dick Miller, or Doc Wright. (Some of the names may be misspelled.) I would like to hear from them or about them.

Christ Trost, 4846 W. Melrose
Chicago, IL 60641, 312-286-3317

Anyone Deal With Chinese POWs?

I am with the history program of Voice of America, and would like to find a Korean War veteran who dealt with Chinese POWs during the war, as a prison camp guard, interrogator, or intelligence officer. We are producing a 50-minute TV documentary on the voluntary repatriation of the Chinese POWs, and would appreciate if you could lend us some help.

Lin Du, 202-382-5633
xdu@voanews.com

Danish Writer Is Searching for Jutlandia Patients

Søren Flott, a Danish journalist, is working on a book about the Danish hospital ship Jutlandia and is looking for veterans of the Korean War who received treatment on board.

“She sails through the night with all her children, living and dead/gentle like a maiden and brave like an eagle she sails towards the war…”

The words above are translated from a Danish song about Jutlandia, the hospital ship on which soldiers and civilians were treated in Pusan and Inchon from 1951 to 1953.

“One day I heard the song on the radio and I realized that I didn’t know much about the ship and the war in Korea, and I am pretty sure that most Danes only know the story from the song,” says Søren Flott.

He is a freelance journalist who writes books for the largest publishing house in Denmark, Gyldendal. Even though he has never been in the military, and was born in 1977, he has written books about both war and history.

“I’ve written about the first Danish soldiers in Helmand province in Afghanistan, and a female doctor who has been with our soldiers in Croatia, Bosnia, Iraq and Afghanistan,” Søren Flott says. His latest book is about a Dane who was involved in the famous, but ill-fated, July 20th Plot against Hitler in 1944.

“As a journalist I am always looking for the human story that can illustrate the large picture in terms of politics, the economy or world history. The human story makes people read, and then it is possible to educate them as well,” Søren Flott adds.

For the next book he is searching for former patients from Jutlandia who are willing to share their story with him and the readers. He is also going to talk to Danish veterans – there are still 15 alive – and he will be trying to get in touch with Koreans too.

“It’s important that they have a good memory because I am trying to recreate events that took place back then so if they have letters, diaries, pictures and other stuff from those days,” Søren Flott explains.

The book is due out in October 2013, when Jutlandia returned to Denmark for the last time.

Søren Flott can be contacted by e-mail, flott.journalist@gmail.com, or phone, +45 2530 7448.

Who Was Wilfred Burchett?

Does anyone recognize the name Wilfred Burchett? Why was he vilified for his actions during the Korean War? Did any KWVA members have dealings with him during the war? Did he really visit North Korean POW camps and help interrogate UN prisoners? Was he influential in any particular events during the Korean War?

Please send any information, remembrances, etc., you might have to us at GB Editor, 895 Ribaut Road, #13, Beaufort, SC 29902.

Kindly remember to include the #13 part of the address, lest your mail wander off to a “cloud” nowhere near the correct mailbox—or Beaufort, for that matter.
60th Anniversary Memorial Fund-Raiser
Drawing 27 July 2013 at the convention in Washington D.C.
Donation $20 per Ticket.

1st Prize 3 Super Prizes!

2nd Prize
$2,500

3rd Prize
$1,500

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Art Griffith, Chairman, Fund-Raising committee, Artzkwva@yahoo.com

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Membership #: _________________
Honor Flight Veterans Of The Quad Cities

By Bill Teichman

About 30 of the members of CID 168, Quad Cities [IL] were treated to the Honor Flight to Washington DC on May 22, 2012. This was the 19th such flight from the Quad Cities area. It was a wonderful experience for all who participated.

On the evening prior to the flight, Hy Vee Food Stores, a midwest grocery chain, provided dinner to the participants. (Hy Vee is a major contributor for the Honor Flights in the Quad Cities for all Korean War veterans and guardians who accompanied the veterans on the flight.)

After we landed at Dulles Airport, a high pressure fire hose was directed to our aircraft, which is a custom used to celebrate a retiring airline pilot’s last flight. Comfortable buses, equipped with wheel chairs and lifts, transported us between the various memorials.

The first stop was the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum. A tour guide pointed out highlights and answered questions throughout the tour. Next was the WWII Memorial; its vast size was impressive. The Freedom Wall has 4,048 gold stars; each gold star represents 100 Americans who died or went missing in WWII.

We stopped briefly at the Air Force Memorial, with its 270’ high spires. At 4 p.m., the Changing of the Guard takes place at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The precision movements of the guards are almost unreal. Their training requires a lifetime of dedication. There are no words to describe the scene of the Changing of the Guard. It has quite a history.

The next stop was the Korean War Memorial. The life-size combat soldiers looked so very real. To top off the day, nine of my grandchildren (two of them were great grandchildren) surprised me by showing up at the Korean War Memorial, almost 1,000 miles from their home in the Quad Cities.

The return flight was somewhat delayed due to weather conditions. Nevertheless, when we landed at Quad Cities International Airport, hundreds of people were there to meet and greet us at the terminal about 10:30 p.m.

Thank you to all who made this trip possible. Every part of the trip was very well organized, thanks to Bob Morrison, Director of Honor Flight of the Quad Cities, and his crew of people. Chapter 168 members on the May 22nd Honor Flight included David Baker, Robert Berry, Marvin Dahlhauser, Eugene Desaunoy, Robert Fitts, Daniel Foulke, Joseph Gomez, Wesley Greenwood, Arthur Holevoet, Ernest Johnson, Virgil Johnson, James Kelley, Donald Kepple, Jack Lundeen, Arnold Marolf, Glean McCleary, Clyde McKenrick, Norman Neely, Roger Nevins, Loren Peters, Dale Phillips, Alfonse Sandoval, William Schlobohm, Ronald Sears, LaVerne Smith, Paul Snell, Tanilo Soliz, William Teichman, Thomas Tompkins, and Ernest Wedell. There will be more going on future Honor Flights.

Reach Bill Teichman at 4338 5th St., East Moline, IL 61244, 309-796-2084, 309-737-3292 (cell), billsallyj@att.net
There is no limits to what friends can do to make sure their friends are remembered, as Edward Elliott of CID 66, CPL Allan F. Kivlehan [NY] demonstrated recently.

Elliott wanted to make sure that Kivlehan was remembered by the people of Staten Island. He was, after all, the first Staten Islander killed in action in Korea. Elliott, Kivlehan’s boyhood friend, set out to make sure he was.

“It took about two years to get it done,” Elliott reported, “but on July 27, 2012 a small park in New Dorp Beach was renamed from ‘The New Dorp Beach Park’ to ‘The CPL. Allan F. Kivlehan Park’.”

He added that, “In a small way the forgotten war will now be remembered by the senior citizens who sit on the benches and the children who use the playground and the sprinkler system.”

More importantly, Elliott concluded that, “The families of the seven sisters CPL. Kivlehan left behind will forever know that their sacrifice will never be forgotten.”

Kivlehan was a member of HQ Co., 3rd Bn., 34th Inf. Regt., 24th Inf Div. He was riding in a truck convoy which was ambushed one mile south of Taejon, Korea on July 19, 1950. He was captured and then shot four months later, on November 3, 1950, during the death march from Mampo to Chungung.

As Elliott described it in a letter to the Parks Department, “Shortly after arriving in Korea in the first weeks of the war, CPL. Kivlehan was captured by the North Koreans and became part of an infamous death march that started with over 800 prisoners, only 250 of whom survived through captivity.”

He noted that, “During this march CPL. Kivlehan was one of many that were murdered by the North Koreans.” Elliott never forgot that. Now, thanks to his efforts, many people who live on Staten Island will not either.

That’s what friends are for.

These Kids Are Anything But ‘Board’

Here are two pictures I took some sixty years ago in Korea. The kids were on a street in Chuncheon, Korea. I was impressed with the kids having fun with an old board laid across a folded rice mat.

I arrived in Korea in October ‘52 and was assigned to the 45th Division Band. We were in the Division Headquarters and placed in charge of guarding Headquarters. During the day we traveled quite a bit playing gigs. I bought a nice Nikon 35 mm camera with an F 1.4 lens and a focal plane shutter. I was using Kodachrome slide film.

After seven months with the band I was sent to Division Rear for re-assignment. When they learned I could type 60 words a minute they kept me at Division Rear, which was in the center of Chuncheon. I had Sunday afternoons off, so I walked a lot and took pictures of Chuncheon and the surrounding farm areas.

One goal was to take a picture of the fish market, which was about eight blocks from our compound. Each week I would get a little closer to the market. After two months I decided to actually walk through the market.

The first row had fishermen with their daily catch. If they didn’t sell their fish, then the next day they moved to the next row. As you walked through the market, the smell got worse and worse. About half way through a papasan held up an octopus. The six-foot tentacles were so rotten they were falling off. I had to run or throw up. You can’t imagine the stink.

I heard about the tours to Korea, so last year Patti and I gathered info and traveled there. I couldn’t believe the difference that has taken place—all for the good. We were fortunate enough to choose the date that the Inchon landing was relived. It was impressive!

I also learned about The Graybeards and joined the association. Of course, the closest chapter is in St Louis, 140 miles away. I enjoy the magazine.

James Becker, P. O. Box 188, Williamsville, MO 63967
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Contact: Art Griffith, Chairman, Fund Raising Committee, artarmy299@yahoo.com for information
KWVA Fundraiser: Valid until Dec. 31, 2012
We presented a session to students at the school of the Assembly of God Church in Attleboro, MA.

Antero (“Ted”) L. Martins, 54 Ferncrest Dr., Pawtucket, RI 02861, 401-724-4664, KWVAUSAF1955@gmail.com

Rogers of the school’s Social & Behavioral Sciences Department sent chapter Commander “Skip” Hannon the following note of appreciation.

Hey Skip,

Thanks to you and guys for an awesome presentation! The students and those in attendance are much appreciative of y’all making the trip and sharing your experiences! Can’t wait until the next time! See pictures attached to this email!

Michael

Thomas G. ‘Skip’ Hannon, 4721 Mt. Vernon Dr., Bradenton, FL 34210, 941-795-5061, skip-pat-han@hotmail.com

Each year the Shenandoah County Fair hosts a Veterans Day as part of the events. Veterans groups as well as the VA, Red Cross and vendors who cater to veterans’ interests display and participate in the activities. Our Tell America committee and members had a display in the activities tent where we talked with a number of people interested in learning about the Korean War. We also signed up one new member during the day.

Fourteen of our members were part of the honor guard that marched before the speakers stand in a procession that included the color guard, several vintage military vehicles, and a contingent from Rolling Thunder.

The guest speaker was Retired Major General Thomas H. Tait, who said in his remarks, “There’s no question about it: Our veterans have helped make, if not made, this country. I salute you all for having served our cherished country and for defending it. This is something that we can be proud of and wonderful that our citizens are now once again beginning to honor those who have served.”

Jack Keep, 3416 Mountain Rd., Front Royal, VA 22630, 540-631-9213, jkeepsr@centurylink.net
Commander Bud Arenz opened our Tell America program by explaining to the 4th and 5th graders of Bishop Elementary School in Lawton what the Korean War Memorial signified. Presenters talked about the invasion of South Korea by the North Korean army and how our American soldiers came to the aid of South Korea, and discussed the names of the nineteen veterans from Comanche County of Oklahoma who never came back.

1st Sgt. John David gave a “show and tell” on the equipment and clothes our Soldiers had—and did not have. Teacher Kathy Kellie assisted by having a student try on various items of equipment. This was the highlight of the presentation.

1st Sgt. Louis Reeder informed the students what it was like to be one of the first in combat, how cold it was, and how many people lost toes and fingers from frostbite for lack of the correct clothing.

The students placed a wreath in honor of the Korean War veterans and Defense veterans.

Cecil Duwain (“Bud”) Arenz, 2807 NW Lynn Cir., Lawton, OK 73507
19 – GENERAL RAYMOND G. DAVIS (MOH) [GA]

Members were invited recently to the Atlanta Korean Film Festival, which included a food display and stars of the film.

Jim Conway, conatlanta@comcast.net

The food display at the Atlanta film festival

Korean film stars at Atlanta festival

Korean Consul Chang Hyon Sohn with Mrs. Sohn, daughter, and Ch 19 members Jim Conway and Bob McCubbins

Ch 137 “Ambassador for Peace” medal recipients presented by Consulate General Lee, Jin-hyun (standing, center)

veterans and then decorates them with the beautiful Korean “Ambassador for Peace” medal. He brings with him enough food to feed a company of soldiers.

On October 22nd the Consulate General visited us. He is a gracious and appreciative gentleman, and was well received by our chapter. We extend our thanks to the Consulate General and the Korean Veterans Association for their consideration and appreciation.

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

170 – TAEJON [NJ]

We joined chapters from New York State on June 23, 2012 as they were honored by the Korean War Veterans Association From Greater New York. The event took place at the Dae Dong Manor, Flushing, NY.

Our representatives included Commander Dr. Richard Onorevole, Sr. Vice Commander Kenneth Green, N.J State Commander George Bruzgis, Historian Louis Quagliero, and Color Guard Commander Alex Atheras.

Zeno Foley, Commander of Ch 137 (Standing at left), introduces Consulate General Lee, Jin-hyun (standing to the left off the American flag) to the medal recipients

Sal Scarlato addresses audience at Dae Dong Manor

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.
Color Guards comprising U.S. and Korean veterans posted the Colors. The Colors were retired after attendees sang the national anthem.

Dignitaries from New York State and Koreans expressed their thanks to veterans for the sacrifices they made 62 years ago, when the war started.

Ambassador Young-Mok Kim, Counsel General of the Republic of Korea, was the main speaker. Recently elected KWVA National Director Salvatore Scarlato also spoke to the attendees. George Bruzgis was introduced along with other dignitaries.

Special medals were bestowed by Ambassador Kim on every Korean War veteran present, after which everybody enjoyed a Korean-style buffet and open bar.

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

The Korean-American community of Kansas City honored the veterans who defended their country back in the 1950s by giving a concert in their honor at Leawood Methodist Church in Leawood, KS. The local Korean Choir, led by Mr. Scott Ahn, gave a beautiful concert, presented the veterans organization with a check for $1,000.00, and hosted the honorees and their ladies to a dinner following the event.

The veterans were deeply touched by the display of gratitude which still exists after all these years. Who else among our old allies still expresses their gratitude for the blood that was spilled on their behalf?
19 **GENERAL RAYMOND G. DAVIS (MOH) [GA]**

The Department of Defense 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee honored the service of Korean War veterans at Falcon Air Field in Peachtree City, GA. Chapter member Col. Ret. Ben Malcom, USA was the keynote speaker, while MajGen George Harrison, USAF (Ret.) served as the Master of Ceremonies.

Col. David J. Clark, U.S. Army, Director, Foreign Intelligence, Army DCS G-2, presented all Korean War veterans with a certificate of appreciation signed by Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta.

Jim Conway, conatlanta@comcast.net

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54 **THOMAS W. DALEY, JR. [NJ]**

Our visit to Doc Doherty Veterans Museum in Gloucester City, NJ was a great pleasure. It is the most comprehensive veterans museum we have ever visited. Korean War veteran Ed Walens is the guardian who showed us around the large collection of memorabilia from the earliest history of our country to Afghanistan, Iraq, etc.
Our members are conducting fund raising at various supermarkets and stores in the South Jersey area. We have found that the American people have been very generous in our efforts to support not only Korean War and Service veterans, but all veterans who are in need of help. Despite the grim economic times, we will be able to help many veterans, old and young.

It is gratifying to meet and hear the people at our appearances speak of their relatives who served their country and listening to their "Thank you for your service."

“Andy” Jackson, captjack71@comcast.net

**VENTURA COUNTY [CA]**

We sponsored a ceremony on July 28, 2012 to mark the 59th anniversary of the cease fire agreement in Korea. Members demonstrated a burial ceremony to honor their Korean War dead and encouraged attendees to do the same for their fathers, husbands, brothers, sons, and/or friends who served during the war.

All together, 27 wreaths were placed during the ceremony in honor of fallen comrades.

David Lopez, 1121 New St., Santa Paula, CA 93060
We conducted two successful Rose of Sharon events recently, one at the Shop-Rite Supermarket in West Windsor, NJ on August 9th and the other at the Stop N’ Shop Supermarket in Monroe Township on September 14th.

We donated some DVDs to the New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home at Menlo Park, NJ. In turn, we received certificates of appreciation for our generosity.

Charles Koppelman, 6 Yarmouth Dr.
Monroe Township, NJ 08831, 609-655-3111

148 CENTRAL JERSEY [NJ]

Members of Ch 148 conduct Rose of Sharon drive at West Windsor, NJ (L-R) Secretary Robert Bliss, Commander Charles Koppelman. Shop-Rite store manager, Jr. Vice Cmdr. Herbert Picker (presenting certificate of appreciation), Treasurer Arnold Wolfson, Jr., Vice Cmdr. Max Mandis

Walter Murphy, Jr. Vice Cmdr. (L) and Sr. Vice Cmdr. Herbert Picker (R) of Ch 148 accept certificates of appreciation from Carly Lincoln of the New Jersey Memorial Home

Jr. Vice Cmdr Walter Murphy of Ch 148 shows Carly Lincoln some of the DVDs donated to New Jersey veterans

158 WILLIAM R. CHARETTE (MOH) [FL]

Commander Frank Cohee, also the KWVA’s National Secretary, recently addressed the Executive Council for the Department of Florida.

Frank Cohee, kwvasec@gmail.com

Commander Frank Cohee of Ch 158 addresses Department of Florida’s Executive Council
**188 SOUTH LAKE COUNTY [FL]**

David Litz, Commander, and Don Krolak, Secretary, presented a check to Lloyd Thorne, Executive Director, and Helen Shaut, Assistant Executive Director, of the Resource & Recovery for Homeless Veterans Organization.

The organization operates transitional housing for homeless veterans located in Eustis, FL. They also operate a thrift shop in Eustis to support their mission, which is to help the many homeless veterans who live in homeless camps in the Ocala National Forest in Florida and elsewhere in Lake County FL return to society.

Don Krolak, 1148 Mesa Verde Ct.
Clermont, VA, dkrolak@cfl.rr.com

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**199 MANASOTA [FL]**

Members marched in the Palmetto, FL Veterans Day Parade. Commander “Skip” Hannon was the featured speaker at the ceremony.

Thomas G. ‘Skip’ Hannon, 4721 Mt. Vernon Dr., Bradenton, FL 34210, 941-795-5061
skip-pat-han@hotmail.com

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**251 FRANKENMUTH/SAGINAW [MI]**

Our present and past commanders have a great deal of expertise that they share. They gathered together recently to exchange ideas. The group and their number of years in office included Jacob Klemm (2 years), Wally Trinklein (1 year), Hiel Rockwell (2 years), Bob Simon (4 years), and current commander Dallas Mossman, Jr.

**Past Chapter 251 commanders**
Jacob Klemm, Wally Trinklein, Hiel Rockwell, Bob Simon (L-R)


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

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Manatee County Veteran of the Year, Thomas G. “Skip” Hannon, Commander of Ch 199, with wife Patricia in Veterans Day Parade
256 NORVILLE FINNEY [MI]

About 40 members and guests attended our annual picnic. Everyone had a great time. The weather was good, the beer was cold—and we even had a member from Pennsylvania participate!

James E. McCarthy, 2159 Parliament Dr.
Sterling Heights, MI 48310

259 CENTRAL INDIANA [IN]

Luther Rice administered the oath of office to the new officers of the Indiana State KWVA on October 20, 2012. The meeting took place at the Lebanon Memorial Park.

Members enjoyed riding on a trailer, in record warm weather, at the Indianapolis Veterans’ Day Parade. The event was held on 10 November to attract the best attendance and participation.

The crowds that attended the two-hour event, including many veterans, were enthusiastic in offering their thanks to us for our service. Our members waved and talked with spectators as the
parade moved slowly along, partly because over forty units participated.

Many people from the crowds came up to shake hands with the riders.

The American Legion sponsors awarded recognition to the trailer-mounted KWVA members, declaring it an “Outstanding Veterans Float.”

The trailer and decorations were provided by Vietnam Veteran Paul “Ponytail” Cauley, who has been a steady supporter of KWVA efforts.

John M. Quinn, Saggi32@aol.com

Luther Rice administers oath of office to Department of Indiana officers Cmdr Tine Martin, Secretary Bill Ensign, Chaplain Amos Broad, POW/MIA Clarence Vogelgesang, and Sgt.-at Arms Don Hall (L-R)

Chaplain Amos Broad, L. Nicholson, John M. Quinn, Sgt.-at-Arms Don Hall, VCmdr Paul Dickerson, Acting Cmdr Jack Beaty, Treasurer Tom Shepherd, Past Cmdr Don Shieb, and Indiana State Cmdr Tine Martin (L-R) of Ch 259 at Veterans Day Parade

Lester Rice administers oath of office to Department of Indiana officers Cmdr Tine Martin, Secretary Bill Ensign, Chaplain Amos Broad, POW/MIA Clarence Vogelgesang, and Sgt.-at Arms Don Hall (L-R)

Ch 289 members at Bristol TN/VA Veterans Day Parade: Fred Himelwright, Arlen Hensley, Emmett Harrison, Bob Shelton, Bill Reed, Bill Porter, Bill Lewis, Dewey Harless, and Joe Cody (L-R)

Two members of Ch 289, Bob Shelton (L) and Fred Himelwright (in the blue coats), at Kingsport, TN Veterans Memorial Service

Joe Thompson of Knoxville, TN presents information to Ch 297 members concerning the Medal of Honor Convention to be held there in 2014.

297 PLATEAU [TN]

We continue to be very active with planning and social activities.

Richard Malsack, 146 Anglewood Dr.
Crossville, TN 38558

289 MOUNTAIN EMPIRE [TN]

Our members had a busy Veterans Day weekend. One attended a Veterans Day program at a Bristol school on November 9th. Others attended a VA ceremony on the same day. Then, on November 10th, nine members took part in the annual Bristol (TN/VA) Veterans Parade.

On Monday several members attended a ceremony honoring veterans at the Dobbins-Bennett High School in Kingsport. At 11 a.m. the City of Kingsport held its annual ceremony at Memorial Park, at which one of our members gave a short speech.

Many of the restaurants in the area honored veterans with a free meal on Sunday or Monday.

Carol Shelton, cshelton37@i.com
We celebrated our 10th anniversary with a commemoration on August 4, 2012.

Vernon H. Gerdes, 4571 N. Calle Santa Cruz
Prescott Valley, AZ 86314, 928-777-0545

Cake waits for slicing at Ch 311 anniversary gathering

Part of crowd at Ch 311’s anniversary event

Members of Ch 311 reminisce at their anniversary commemoration

WAR IN THE LAND by JIM CAMPBELL
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1126 Somerton Place, Cumming, GA 30040 706-974-6252

November - December 2012

The Graybeards

H. EDWARD REEVES [AZ]

Members of Ch 297 listen to speaker regarding Medal of Honor Convention to be held in Knoxville, TN in 2014

George Googe of Ch 297 and former POW at recent meeting

Former Ch 297 Commander Chan Smith and his wife Norma chow down at annual fall picnic

Carroll Reusch and Ted Hirabayashi enjoy Ch 297’s fall picnic
**The Only Such Veterans’ Community In The U.S.**

“Bob Simon, Commander of KWVA, CID 251 holding an 18 lb., 37 inch-long lake trout caught in 100 ft. of water at Higgins Lake, MI.”

“So what???,” readers might ask. The answer is surprising: Bob’s cottage is located in Camp Curnalia Cottage Owner’s Association. There are 405 cottages located on 1-1/2 miles of lakefront, which is about a ½-mile wide. What makes the community different from others of its ilk? One must be an honorably discharged veteran to build or buy a cottage in this compound.

A cottage can be handed down to a linear child only as a way to protect the property as a veterans’ community. There is no other veterans’ association like it in the rest of the USA!!!

Simon is on the Board of Directors. At least twenty percent of the owners in the community are KWVA members. As veterans die, the cottages must be handed down continually to the blood line of the original veteran.

Some readers of this article may recall this veterans’ community was originally American Legion property. Even back then only a veteran could buy in.

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

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“**I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, One Nation Under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”**

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**“One Nation Under God”**

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(This pin isn’t available in any stores…it is made for special fund raising activities)
A Successful Search For A Korean Vet’s Son!

By Joe Vogel

A search that began almost two years ago came to a happy ending at Chapter 58’s Monroe County Memorial to Korean War veterans recently.

Almost two years ago, Don Hart, a Korean War vet from upper Michigan, visited family members in Rochester, NY. When I read about his visit, I offered to show him our Memorial, which features the names of 165 KIA/MIA veterans who joined the armed forces from Monroe County.

On the reverse of the Memorial, which comprises two huge boulders from the same quarry where the National Monument was quarried, is inscribed the famous battlefield picture of three GIs. One of the GIs is a Medic, making out papers on a KIA. The second is a Sergeant sitting on a rock. The third GI, who is on his knees leaning on the Sergeant, had just been told that a buddy who temporarily filled in for him on the radio had been killed by a mortar shell.

Don Hart took pictures of all sides of the Memorial and sent copies to his buddy, Allan Murray, in Australia. Allan forwarded the pictures to his buddy, Ed Henderson, in Massachusetts. Later, Ed was attending a Memorial Service in Massachusetts. While he was walking through the parking lot, Ed stopped short when he saw a motorcycle with the same picture of the three vets painted on the gas tank.

Ed started a casual search for the owner, which over time spread far and wide. At one point, the bike was featured in the Harley Davidson Group magazine, with a “Whose Bike is This?” headline! Ed did not receive any replies immediately. Finally, one day, when Mark Nozzolilio was leaving work, he saw a picture of his own bike on the bulletin board, which usually featured “For Sale” items!!! After coming back down to earth from that surprise, he contacted Ed Henderson, who gave Mark my email and address near Rochester.

As it turned out, the man featured on the engraving was Mark’s dad, Anthony, who was alive at that time, but not in great shape, and reliving many of his battlefield memories. Mark and his wife Anne spent many nights sitting up with his dad as he replayed the events over in his head. He had been slightly wounded after that encounter, but refused the Purple Heart because he knew it would upset his mother greatly. Anthony passed away before Mark had a chance to bring him to Rochester to see the Memorial.

To complete the story, Mark and Anne came to Rochester to see our Memorial and place a bouquet of flowers in front of his dad’s image and a wreath to honor the 165 names. We shared lunch with Mark...
and Anne, Mrs. Byoung Baek, who is the Korean-American community representative to our chapter and an Associate member, and many chapter members.

I asked Mrs. Baek to present to Mark one of the medals recently given me by Korean officials visiting the area with House of Representatives member Tom Reed from Corning, NY. It was presented to Mark in memory of his dad. Mark assured us that he would place the medal with his dad’s medals and pictures of his service.

Mark and Anne show a respect and love for his mother and dad that is heartwarming.

Thanks are due to Don Hart, Allan Murray, and Ed Henderson for their determination to find the bike’s owner. It proves that almost anything can be accomplished by cooperation!

Reach Joe Vogel at 1432 Leicester Rd., Caledonia, NY 14423, 585-538-6162, joe-birdv@hotmail.com

Byoung Baek (L) presents Mark Nozzolilio with commemorative medal

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**MOH Recipient**

**James L. Stone Sr. Passes On**

Korean War Medal of Honor recipient and KWVA member James L. Stone died in Arlington, TX on November 9, 2012, nearly 61 years to the day that he earned the MOH. (See the citation below.)

Stone was a member of CID 215, GEN Walton H. Wailker, Texas. He was assigned to the 1st Cav. Div., 8th Regt., 2nd Bn., Co. “F,” when he was involved in a battle near Sokkogae, Korea, 21 and 22 November 1951.

**Col. Stone’s MOH Citation**

STONE, JAMES L.

Rank and organization: First Lieutenant, U.S. Army, Company E 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. Place and date: Near Sokkogae, Korea, 21 and 22 November 1951. Entered service at: Houston Tex. Born: 27 December 1922, Pine Bluff, Ark. G.O. No.: 82, 20 October 1953. Citation: 1st Lt. Stone, distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and indomitable courage above and beyond the call of duty in action against the enemy. When his platoon, holding a vital outpost position, was attacked by overwhelming Chinese forces, 1st Lt. Stone stood erect and exposed to the terrific enemy fire calmly directed his men in the defense. A defensive flame-thrower failing to function, he personally moved to its location, further exposing himself, and personally...
As usual, members of various chapters marched in a variety of parades this year. Here are a few:

**66 – CPL. ALLAN F. KIVLEHAN [NY]**

Twenty-six members marched in the Travis, NY, 4th of July Parade. (Travis is a small town on the west shore of Staten Island, New York.) This parade is one of the oldest consecutive Independence Day celebrations in the United States. This year’s celebration marked the 101st anniversary.

George E. Parsons, 56 Boyce Ave.
Staten Island, NY 10306

**105 – CENTRAL NEW YORK [NY]**

Commander Ed Graha rode in the front seat of a 1922 Franklin automobile driven by its owner, George Rink, in the Syracuse, NY Fourth of July Parade.

Syracuse was the home of the Franklin automobile. The cars were manufactured there until the Great Depression caught up with them.

Jim Low, 114 Wembridge Dr.
E. Syracuse, NY 13057, 315-437-0833

**170 – TAEJON [NJ]**

Fifteen members, led by Surgeon Thomas Boyle, marched in the 118th 4th of July Parade held in the village of Ridgefield Park, New Jersey. Five members rode in a classic convertible car. Among them was chapter president Dr. Richard Onorevole, who waved to the crowd as they cheered the Korean War veterans.

George Rothfritz, Erwin Burkert, and Frank Uvenio of Ch 170 at Ridgefield Park parade

Are all these Ch 170 members going to fit in one car—which features new signs placed on both sides of vehicle?
The Graybeards

November - December 2012

After the two-hour long parade ended, members enjoyed refreshments, including hot dogs, beer, and soda. The day gave us the opportunity to show our pride and patriotism as Korean War veterans—and Americans.

Ridgefield Park has celebrated the Independence Day parade without interruption since 1894. It is the longest running consecutively held 4th of July Parade in the nation.

Louis Quaglierio, 142 Illinois Ave.
Paterson, NJ 07503

Several members marched in the City of O’Fallon’s 4th of July Parade. The parade route is approximately three miles long, and both Bob Osborn and Art Minor carried the American and KWVA Chapter flag the distance in 102 degree temperatures, while the rest of us rode in cars.

Edward Frye, Thomas Boyle, and Pasquale Candela (L-R) carry Ch 170’s banner in Ridgefield Park parade

Perry Georgison, William Burns, and Louis DeStefano (L-R, back seat); Commander Richard Onorevole (front, left) and friend who provided car for Ch 170 in 4th of July parade

Ch 170 Color Guard Captain Henry Ferrarini (R) and Alexander Atheras

Chris Christifulli, Don Baur, Art Minor, Bob Osborn, Darold Woodcock, Bob Breig, and Dick Saip of Ch 186 at O’Fallon, parade

We did offer to share their duties, but as in previous years, they were determined to finish the parade. They did, however, consume a pint of water each at the end of the parade.

Salvatore (“Chris”) Christifulli, 923 Annabrook Park Dr., O’Fallon, MO 63366, schristifulli@charter.net

Members marched and/or rode in the annual Concord, CA 4th of July Parade. It started in Hillcrest Park and proceeded through the city’s Dos Santos Square. An estimated crowd of over 5,000 people observed the parade. Many people noted that the crowd was the largest it has been in years.

Sr. Vice Commander of Ch 170 holds flag at Ridgefield Park parade

Continued on page 55
Recognition Accorded to Units by the U.S. Military

Why weren’t more unit awards given to Korean War participants?

By John Gavel

United States unit awards recognize entire organizations for outstanding heroism or achievement performed during periods of war, international tension, national emergencies, or extraordinary situations that involve national interests. They are not intended to recognize individual actions, but to acknowledge the combined efforts of the organization. With the exception of the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, the Secretaries concerned are responsible for the policies and procedures involving their Service unit awards.

Until 1981, Service unit awards could only recognize the accomplishments of joint activities. Due to the very nature of those activities and the varying criteria among the Services, it became necessary to establish a means by which joint activities could be recognized. With the JMUA, the Department of Defense provides a consistent means for recognizing such activities.

The JMUA, awarded in the name of the Secretary of Defense, is intended to recognize joint units and activities for meritorious achievement or service, superior to that which is normally expected. Instead, qualifying achievements must be superior to that which is expected under one of the following conditions and should be operational in nature:

(a) During action in combat with an armed enemy of the United States.
(b) In a declared national emergency situation.
(c) Under extraordinary circumstances that involve national interests.

The JMUA shall not be awarded to any DoD activity that has received any other unit award for the same achievement or period of service. Only those members of the Armed Forces of the United States who were present at the time and directly participated in the service or achievement for 30 days or more, or for the period cited if less than 30 days, shall be authorized to wear the JMUA ribbon.

Members must be permanently assigned or attached by official orders to the joint unit receiving the JMUA. Local commanders may waive, on an individual basis, the 30-day minimum time requirement for individuals, e.g., Reserve personnel on active duty and TDY personnel, who, in the opinion of the commander, contributed directly to the achievement cited, and were assigned on official orders to the awarded unit during the approved time frames.

Service components of a Joint Unit are not included in the award. Headquarters, United States Forces Korea is one such unit in Korea and the JMUA has been awarded for operations in Korea.

The following paragraphs provide a brief description of the various other unit awards authorized for the Armed Forces of the United States:

Presidential Unit Citation

Executive Order 9050 authorized the Navy Presidential Unit Citation. The equivalent award for Army units, known as the Distinguished Unit Citation, was authorized by Executive Order 9057, as superseded by Executive Order 10694. Both awards were subsequently redesignated the “Presidential Unit Citation” and awarded in the name of the President of the United States to units of the Armed Forces of the United States and co-belligerent nations for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy occurring on, or after, October 16, 1941, for U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps units, and on or after December 7, 1941, for U.S. Army units.

The unit must have displayed such gallantry, determination, and esprit de corps in accomplishing its mission under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions to have set it apart and above other units participating in the same campaign. The degree of heroism required is the same as that which would be required for the award of a Distinguished Service Cross to an individual. Army and Air Force Service members, when authorized, shall wear an oak-leaf cluster for each additional award of the President Unit Citation. Navy and Marine Corps Service members shall wear the 3/16-inch bronze and silver star to denote subsequent unit awards.

In addition to oak-leaf clusters and bronze and silver stars, the following devices are authorized specifically for wear on the service ribbon of the Presidential Unit Citation:

■ Gold “N” for the Presidential Unit Citation awarded to the U.S.S. NAUTILUS (SSN 571) for the period July 22, 1958 to August 5, 1958.
■ Bronze Globe for the Presidential Unit Citation awarded to the U.S.S. TRITON (SSR(N) 586) for the period February 16, 1960 to May 10, 1960.

Valorous Unit Award

The Valorous Unit Award (Army) is awarded by the Department of the Army to units of the Armed Forces of the United States for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy of the United States under any of the following conditions:

(a) When engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force.
(b) While serving with friendly forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party for actions occurring on or after August 3, 1963.

The Valorous Unit Award requires a lesser degree of gallantry, determination, and esprit
The Meritorious Unit Commendation (Army) is awarded by the Department of the Army to units for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding services for at least six continuous months during the period of military operations against an armed enemy occurring on or after January 1, 1944. Service in the combat zone is not required; however, it must be directly related to the combat effort. Service members, when authorized, shall wear a bronze oak-leaf cluster for each additional award of the Meritorious Unit Award (Army) they receive.

**Navy Unit Commendation**

The Secretary of the Navy authorized the Navy Unit Commendation, December 18, 1944. The Secretary of the Navy awards it to any unit of the U.S. Navy or U.S. Marine Corps which, subsequent to December 6, 1941, distinguished itself by either of the following:

(a) Outstanding heroism in action against the enemy, but not sufficient to warrant award of the Presidential Unit Citation.

(b) Extremely meritorious service not involving combat, but in support of military operations that was outstanding when compared to other units performing similar service. The Navy Unit Commendation may be awarded to other units of the Armed Forces of the United States and of friendly foreign nations serving with the Armed Forces of the United States provided such units meet the standards established by the Department of the Navy.

To denote second and subsequent awards, Navy and Marine Corps recipients wear bronze stars.

**Air Force Outstanding Unit Award**

The Secretary of the Air Force authorized the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, January 6, 1954. The Secretary of the Air Force awards it to units that have distinguished themselves by exceptionally meritorious service or outstanding achievement that clearly sets the unit above and apart from similar units. The service or achievement may be in the following:

(a) Performance of exceptionally meritorious service of national or international significance.

(b) Accomplishment of a specific outstanding achievement of national or international significance.

(c) Combat operations against an armed enemy of the United States.

(d) Military operations involving conflict with or exposure to hostile actions by an opposing foreign force.

Certain devices, depending on the circumstances, may be worn on the service ribbon:

(a) A bronze oak-leaf cluster for subsequent awards when authorized.

(b) A bronze “V” device when the award of the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award is made to a unit for combat or direct combat support.

**Army Superior Unit Award**

The Secretary of the Army authorized the Army Superior Unit Award, April 8, 1985. The Chief of Staff, U.S. Army, awards it for outstanding meritorious performance of a unit of a uniquely difficult and challenging mission under extraordinary circumstances that involved the national interest during peacetime. The unit must display such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions.

**Meritorious Unit Commendation (Navy)**

The Meritorious Unit Commendation (Navy) was authorized by the Secretary of the Navy, July 17, 1967. It is awarded by the Secretary of the Navy to any unit of the U.S. Navy or U.S. Marine Corps that distinguished itself, by either valorous or meritorious achievement considered outstanding when compared to other units performing similar service, but not sufficient to justify award of the Navy Unit Commendation. Service may be under either combat or noncombat conditions.

Bronze stars are worn by Navy and Marine Corps to denote second and subsequent awards.

**Air Force Organizational Excellence Award**

The Secretary of the Air Force authorized the Air Force Organizational Excellence Award, August 26, 1969. It is intended to recognize the achievements and accomplishments of U.S. Air Force organizations or activities that do not meet the eligibility requirements for the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. Certain devices, depending on the circumstances, may be worn on the Service ribbon:

(a) A bronze oak-leaf cluster for subsequent awards when authorized.

(b) A bronze “V” device when the award of the Air Force Organizational Excellence Award is made to a unit for combat or direct combat support.

**Navy “E” Ribbon**

The Secretary of the Navy authorized the Navy “E” Ribbon. The ribbon denotes permanent duty on and/or with ships or squadrons that won the battle efficiency competitions subsequent
to July 1, 1974. The ribbon bar with one “E” device is worn for the first award. An additional “E” is worn for second and third awards. One wreathed “E” is worn to denote four or more awards.

How To Find Unit Award Recipients

Unit awards are normally announced several years after the close of the period of eligibility and service members are often unaware that they are eligible for them. P134833M lists Joint Unit Awards, but is not the most currently awarded. USA P672-1 lists Army Unit Awards. NAVMC 2922 lists Navy and Marine Corps Unit Awards. All of these are available on the Internet.

Unfortunately, it is more challenging to find what Air Force units received unit awards. www.afhra.af.mil/records/wings andgroups does provide unit honors. Since the AFOUA was established in 1954, I was able to find only one unit that received it for wartime service; the 19th Bomb Wing for 1 December 1952 to 30 April 1953. However, numerous Korea based units have received the AFOUA during the post armistice period on numerous occasions; 51st Fighter Wing, 8th Fighter Wing, 18th Fighter-Bomber Wing and the 314th Air Division.

A final comment: it appears that no Air Force unit received the U.S. Presidential Unit Citation during the Korean War. This reflects the fact that recognition ultimately depends on a submitter and an approver.

Many of the Air Force units in the Korean War were overwhelmed with the dual mission of fighting the war and defending Japan from Russian aggression. At the close of the Second World War, Soviet Russia seized Sakhalin Island and the Northern Territories from Japan. (Sakhalin Island is a large, sparsely populated island in the North Pacific which was the center of a long power struggle between Russia/USSR and Japan over control of its large oil and gas resources.) If requests for awards are not submitted, they do not happen.

Also, there has to be a positive feeling for awards to be approved. And, as is commonly understood, the Korean War was not even considered a war.

John Gavel, 3643 Bluefield Ave., Melbourne, FL 32934, 321-253-9681, TheGavel@aol.com

Members in the News

Thomas (“Skip”) Hannon…of Ch 199 was selected as the Manatee County [FL] Veteran of the Year. His nomination was supported by The Mount Vernon Veterans Club, the Seabees, the American Red Cross and the Manatee Literacy Council, in addition to the chapter.

Art Snyder…was a guest speaker at a November 10, 2011 Rutgers University Veterans Day commemoration. He was a member of a three-graduate panel comprising veterans of three different wars. About 300 people attended the presentation.

Ed Kolodziej, Class of 1948, represented World War II. Ed was a scout who would sneak into German camps at night to assess their strength. Some of his stories are legendary. He was at one point captured by 41 Germans singlehandedly after throwing a hand grenade into a pill box and killing several. Hollywood did a documentary on his exploits.

Col. Jack Jacobs, Class of 1966, represented the Vietnam War. Jacobs, a Medal of Honor recipient, is also a legend. (He also earned 3 Bronze Stars and 2 Silver Stars.) That he survived the war had to be because someone above was looking out for him.

Snyder, a member of the Class of 1950, represented the Korean War. He told the audience that he flew his first tour in B-26s for front line support. His second tour was in B-29s, which he flew for the CIA as a part of Psychological Warfare. As he mentioned, “We were told that was in violation of the Geneva Convention. Our planes were painted black, had no guns, no USAF markings, and flew to strange places at night.”

Snyder added that he is active in the Rutgers Oral History Archives. He said he was honored to be picked as a participant in the Veterans Day program, even though he is “not in the same category as Ed Kolodziej or Jack Jacobs.” Even so, the program was a success. He reported that there were so many questions from the audience that questions had to be cut off.

Contact Art Snyder at 429 Manor Ave., Cranford, NJ 07016, 908-272-5700, applesouse@verizon.net

Maurice Trottier…became Chairman of the Korean War Memorial Commission of Rhode Island at a “Cease Fire” and “Change of Command” ceremony officiated by the state’s governor, Lincoln Chafee. He took over from Col Theodore F. Low.

Col Low was the driving force and leader for the development and construction of the Korean War Monument and Memorial Walkway in Providence, RI, while S/Sgt Trottier initiated and created CID 117, Ocean State #1. Low’s thoughts were that the monument would always remind Rhode Islanders that some 19,000 of their fellow citizens went to war to defend a country they did not know and for the freedom of a people they had never met.

Trottier founded Ch 117 to continue the relationships of a special “Band of Brothers” who had fought in a war and to make sure that their welfare was always protected.

M.R. Dickens, 95 Blackstone Blvd.
Providence, RI 02906

Col. Theodore F. Low (Ret.), Gov. Lincoln Chafee, and S/Sgt. Maurice Trottier (Ret.) in front of the Korean War Monument and Memorial Walkway in Providence, RI

November - December 2012

The Graybeards
Revisit
The View From The Sky Tower

I was lucky enough to get invited to Korea again. I went back in September 2012 for a five-day trip with five Korean War veterans from California, including Jesus Rodríguez, Ray Moreno, Retired General Shin, and Neil Stuart, Jr. There were veterans from several other countries there as well.

Once there, we visited several different places in Seoul. One of the things I encourage people to do when they visit Korea is to go to the Seoul Sky Tower. It’s something not many people will forget.

David Lopez, 3850 180th Place, Torrance CA 90504-3812
Bellmore, NY

A monument unveiled on July 28th, 2012 was dedicated to the Korean War veterans from Bellmore. (Note that the inscription in the nearby photo mentions “The Bellmores.” The community is subdivided into Bellmore and North Bellmore. Also, some residents call the area south of Merrick Road (sometimes known as Sunrise Highway) “South Bellmore.”)

Members of CID 55 (Nassau County #1) contacted New York State Senator Charles J. Fushillo, who secured a state grant to fund the installation of the monument. Town of Hempstead Councilwoman Angie Cullin secured the permits.

Following the dedication, the service members went to American Legion Post 1711 for refreshments and to celebrate the chapter’s 20th anniversary.

Robert P. O’Brien, 408 Fifth Ave.
Cedarhurst, NY 11516, 516-371-1252

Gainesville, GA

The Hall County [GA] Korean veterans dedicated a memorial to the 22 military members from the county who lost their lives during the Korean War. The memorial is located in Rock Creek Veterans Park in Gainesville.

Jim Conway, conatlanta@comcast.net

Raynham, MA

On Veterans Day 2012, members of CID 299, Korea Veterans of America, along with four other veteran service organizations, dedicated a memorial to honor Medal of Honor recipient SFC Jared C. Monti, who was KIA in Afghanistan on June 21, 2006 while serving with the 10th Mountain Division.

Prior to deploying with the 10th Mountain Division, SFC Monti had served two tours on the DMZ Korea with the U.S. Army’s 2nd Infantry Division. SFC Monti is a Korean Defense Service Medal recipient.

KWVA Past National Director Jeff Brodeur was SFC Monti Committee Chairman. Chapter # 299 provided the Honor Guard.
Massachusetts Lt. Gov. Timothy Murray, many local politicians, members of the 10th Mountain Division, all service organizations, Paul Monti and family, and over 700 supporters showed up for the dedication.

The Memorial can be seen at the American Legion Post # 405, Raynham, Massachusetts, in front of SFC Jared C. Monti Hall.

Jeff Brodeur, 48 Square Rigger Ln., Hyannis, MA 02601, 617-997-3148, KVAMANE@aol.com

**San Dimas, CA**

The San Dimas Heroes, a Division of San Dimas Community Foundation, dedicated a monument on May 24, 2012. The project was six years in the making. It was completed due to a total commitment from the city’s citizens and the hard work by committee members.

Stanley N. Wisniewski, 1159 Deveron Ct.
San Dimas, CA 91773

Folks who worked on San Dimas, CA monument project (Top Row, L-R) Michael Cormican, Janellen Graef, Don Story, John Powell (Bottom Row, L-R) Carl Harstine, Stan Wisniewski

Names of San Dimas veterans on the new monument

The Remembrance Fountain at the San Dimas Monument
The Korean War Ex-POW Association held its 2012 national reunion in Omaha, NE in July. Members of Ch 183, Nebraska #1, were invited guests.

Bill Christensen, 23520 Cheyenne Cir., Gretna, NE 68028, 402-332-4841

The 6th Helicopter and 150th Maintenance Companies held their 20th Annual Reunion in September, 2012 in Chicago, IL, the site of their first reunion, which was held in 1993. During the Korean War these two companies worked closely together while assigned to the 4th Transportation Battalion, 8th Army located in Chunchon, Korea, east of Seoul and just south of the 38th Parallel.

The 6th Helicopter Co., which was equipped with 21 Sikorsky H-19 cargo helicopters, flew resupply and medical evacuation missions supporting our front-line troops. The 150th Maintenance Co. provided heavy field maintenance support to the 6th Helicopter Co.

Due to illness and inability to travel, our numbers were down this year. However, those of us who did attend had another great reunion as we toured sites in and around the city, including an evening bus tour of downtown Chicago that gave us the opportunity to view the city at night.

We toured the Billy Graham Museum located on the campus of Wheaton College, where both Billy and Ruth Graham received their undergraduate degrees. We also visited the Graue Mill and Museum in Oak Brook, IL. The mill, which was built in 1852, has been completely restored and is operational today, capable of grinding grain again as it did in the years following its opening.

The 6th Helicopter Co. and the 150th Maintenance Co. hold their reunion in early September each year in various locations throughout the country. They are always looking for men who served in Korea with either of these companies. So, if you served in, or know someone who served in, either of these companies, contact us for information regarding future reunions.

Lewis M. Ewing, 310 Clay Hill Drive
Winchester, VA 22602 540-678-1787, lewewing@gmail.com
The U.S. Army 44th Engineer Battalion (“The Brokenheart”) Association held its annual reunion in Gettysburg, PA. The 44th was one of the longest serving single battalions on the Korean Peninsula from the Inchon landing in September 1950 until its departure in 2004 for Iraq.

The reunion in Gettysburg was honored to have as guest speaker Thomas Moo, State Representative of 152 District of PA. The highlight of the reunion was greeting old friends and a tour of the Gettysburg battle fields, which was not unlike Korea, i.e., “take the high ground” and in the need of Army Engineers.

Our next reunion will be in the Atlanta, GA area in September 2013. We look forward to seeing any alumna of the 44th Engineers. If you are interested, please contact Ken Cox at 314-423-5483 or kdc1@wans.net, Dave Clasby, 314-837-0996 or dnclasby@att.net, or LtCol (ret) Ken Jobe, 757-428-0328 or kei0425@aol.com.

Kenneth D. Cox, 10529 Canter Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63114, 314-346-5818, KDC1@wans.net

Korean War Recon Marines

My wife and I just hosted the 27th reunion of the “Korean War Recon Marines” in Houston, TX. The Korean War Recon Marines were an elite group of men who served as the eyes and ears of the 1st Marine Division in Korea.

We have a reunion each year that is hosted by one of the members. Our get-togethers have taken us all over the continental United States.

Colliers Magazine published an article in October 1952 which referred to us as the “Marines Remarkable Foreign Legion” due to the numerous members who were of foreign descent, with dozens of countries represented.

Jim Sauser, 903 Chetwood Cr., League City, TX 77573
58th Float Bridge Co

The 58th Float Bridge Co. held its 19th Korean reunion at the Haworth Inn in Holland, MI, August 6-9, 2012. The family of Gordon and Marilyn Wassink hosted the gathering.

Everyone enjoyed visiting places within walking distance in our award-winning downtown section. They visited chapels, historic churches, museums, and Main Street shops. A pig roast, blueberry brunch, and tours made the visit to Holland very memorable.

We honored the veterans, living and deceased, and veterans’ widows at our banquet. Sadly, our group is getting smaller. Nevertheless, seven veterans, plus their wives, family members, friends, and widows of deceased members of the 58th attended the reunion.

Gordon and Marilyn Wassink, 15524 Blue Fox Run, West Olive, MI 49460, 616-399-6441

STONE from page 43

repaired the weapon. Throughout a second attack, 1st Lt. Stone; though painfully wounded, personally carried the only remaining light machine gun from place to place in the position in order to bring fire upon the Chinese advancing from 2 directions. Throughout he continued to encourage and direct his depleted platoon in its hopeless defense. Although again wounded, he continued the fight with his carbine, still exposing himself as an example to his men. When this final overwhelming assault swept over the platoon’s position his voice could still be heard faintly urging his men to carry on, until he lost consciousness. Only because of this officer’s driving spirit and heroic action was the platoon emboldened to make its brave but hopeless last ditch stand.


Afterwards we attended a picnic at Hillcrest Park, which includes a play area called Matteo’s Dream for pre-schoolers. We contributed tiles for decorating the railings of the play area.

Matteo’s Dream in Concord, CA

There was a record turnout at the Prescott, AZ Frontier Days 4th of July Parade this year. We were a part of the parade, in conjunction with a local Boy Scout troop.

Vern Gerdes, 4571 N Calle Santa Cruz
Prescott Valley, AZ 86314, 928-777-0545

Bob Hooker, John Bellando, Ron Craven, Dave McDonald of Ch 264 (L-R) at the Korean War Veterans Plaque at Hillcrest Park prior to 4th of July Parade

Members of Ch 311 prepare for Prescott parade

Crowd awaits marchers as parade turns corner in Concord, CA

“Saddle up!” for parade in Prescott

Large crowd watches Ch 311 contingent in Prescott parade

Stan Grogan (L), Ch 264 liaison, Dave McDonald, and John Burgh (R) of Ch 264 before joining the antique cars group for a pass-in-review through Concord, CA
Recently, a new memorial honoring the sacrifices of American service-men and Katusas who were KIA in Korea since 1954 was erected in Yongsan Garrison, Seoul Korea. It is a beautiful memorial.

I know that all who have served in Korea post-1954 are grateful to the Koreans for erecting this outstanding memorial. Unfortunately, no one has put up a similar memorial in the United States to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice since the truce was signed in Korea. It is a shame that these men have been forgotten by our own country.

KWVA President Jim Ferris and I have been conferring since the new Korean Defense Service Memorial was erected. We both want to replicate it or create something similar in Washington DC. In order to accomplish this mission, a new KWVA Korean Defense Memorial Committee has been established by unanimous vote by the board at its July meeting in Washington DC.

As a former KWVA National Director (2005-2011) and recipient of the Korean Defense Service Medal, I was voted in as the committee’s chairman. I am honored and grateful.

Members of the committee include:
- KWVF President Colonel Bill Weber, Korean War veteran
- KWVA 2nd VP Roy Aldridge, Korean War veteran
- KWVA Chapter 299 Commander Al McCarthy, Korean Defense Service veteran
- KWVA Chapter 299 Presidential Aide Al Jenner, Korean Defense Service veteran
- KWVA Director Arthur Griffith, Korean Defense Service veteran
- KWVA Director Tom McHugh, Korean War veteran
- KWVA Director Frank Williams, Korean War veteran
- KWVA Director Jim Fountain, Korean War veteran
- KWVA Asst. Legislative officer, Don Duffy, Korean Defense Service veteran
- KWVA Asst. Legislative officer, Roy Burkhart, Korean Defense Service veteran
- KWVA Chapter 299 Commander Al McCarthy, Korean Defense Service veteran
- KWVA Chapter 299 Presidential Aide Al Jenner, Korean Defense Service veteran

Colonel Weber, President of the Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation, has offered to put those Korea Post 1954 casualties on the Wall of Remembrance, with possibly a replica of the memorial in Seoul on the glass panels of the Wall of Remembrance. He presently has a bill in congress, H.R. 2563, to erect the Wall of Remembrance.

We need to get everyone to call their congressman to co-sponsor this bill. Our plan of attack is to get this bill H.R. 2563 and H.R. 5903 to the floor for a vote. Any future Post War Korea 1954 memorial has been put on the back burner until after H.R. 2563 is signed into law.

We believe the names of those have made the ultimate sacrifice not only during, but after, the Korean War deserve to be on the Wall of Remembrance. Col Weber has taken up that cause. We are working together on this one mission. Let’s get it done.

** Al Jenner is the type of Korea Veteran we would like to recruit to strengthen the KWVA’s ranks. He served in Korea from September 1979 to September 1980 and volunteered to serve in the United Nations Command Support Group-Joint Security Area (UNCSG-JSA), where he was assigned to the 4th Joint Security Force platoon.

The UNCSG-JSA was an all-volunteer unit, whose mission was to support the Military Armistice Commission in the truce village of Panmunjom. The mission of the Joint Security Force platoons was to provide security for United Nation Command personnel, neutral nations personnel, and visitors within the Joint Security Area, observe and report North Korean violations of the 1953 Armistice agreement, and perform nighttime anti-infiltration ambush patrols around the perimeter of the Joint Security Area.

Reach Jeff Brodeur at 48 Square Rigger Ln., Hyannis, MA 02601, 617-997-3148, KVAMANE@aol.com
Welcome Aboard!

New Members of the Korean War Veterans Association

ARIZONA
R044381 MICHAEL B. GOICK
R044386 EDDY L. ’MIKI’ ZEROD

ARKANSAS
LR44335 JESSIE L. CASEY

CALIFORNIA
R044364 WILSON FONG
R044307 CHARLES FORSYTH
R044365 HERBERT H. HOM
R044300 TED W. HUNTER
R044395 KENNETH L. KRENTZ
R044360 CLOIFAS MORALES
R044372 DIANTE W. ORIENTE
R044377 DONALD Q. PATTERSON
R044330 MICHAEL RADDIE

COLORADO
LR44366 JOHN J. KANE JR.

CONNECTICUT
R044392 RONALD C. SCHWARTZ

DELAWARE
A044412 ESTHER M. WOLF

FLORIDA
R044298 PAUL F. SCROGGS

GEORGIA
R044373 WILLIAM J. SEARS

HAWAII
R044353 WILLIAM E. PETERS

INDIANA
R044319 DWIGHT P. BIEBERICH
R044302 JACK DEWITT

IOWA
LR44396 ARTHUR C. LUND

KENTUCKY
R044318 CARL V. GOODIN
R044324 JOSEPH G. GRABER

MAINE
R044337 ROY DEINES
R044383 IAN A. SHAW

MARYLAND
R044382 CHARLES R. GAUSH
A044394 LILLIAN L. WILT

MICHIGAN
R044390 ERNEST J. JONES
R044354 CLARENCE E. LANGSCHWAGER
R044301 GORDON MEEUWSEN

MINNESOTA
LR44408 EUGENE J. BEACH
R044358 WILFRED J. JELINSKI
R044384 ROBERT T. LEMBKE
R044374 LEO J. TONINATO

MISSOURI
R044351 GEORGE E. HYSORE
LR44303 JOHN R. LILIS
R044311 LAWRENCE W. STARK

NEVADA
R044406 BILLY W. HEINZ
R044356 PRIMO G. QUARISA
R044357 LEE A. WALKER

NEW JERSEY
R044387 WALTER F. ALLEN
R044339 KENNETH T. FLORIO
NETH A. MILLS

NEW MEXICO
R044333 ARTHUR L. JOHNSON
R044332 KENNETH R. RIEGE

NEW YORK
R044409 FREDERICK F. CARRIERE
R044304 HAROLD COHEN
R044373 WILLIAM J. SEARS
R044296 UELL J. SMITHERS

OHIO
R044388 CHARLES R. HILLIER
R044370 ROBERT W. MCKENNA
R044312 ROY D. MILLER
R044353 WILLIAM E. PETERS
R044397 KENNETH C. SZEKELY
R044315 HARRY A. TOY

OREGON
R044402 DONALD E. SMITH

PENNSYLVANIA
R044363 ROBERT F. KLOSE
R044361 DAVID G. NICKELS

RHODE ISLAND
R044362 CARL BOMAR
R044352 GENNARO PALUMBO

SOUTH CAROLINA
LR44349 CHARLES F. HOWARD
R044345 PATRICIA U. OWENS
LR44389 DONALD SLUTZKY
R044320 LEWIS R. VAUGHN

SOUTH DAKOTA
R044346 ALBERT C. FINK

TEXAS
R044326 ROLAND M. CHRISTENSEN
R044325 HENRY DELUNA
LR44321 LESTER F. LUDWIG
R044411 LIONEL A. PADRON
R044347 BOB R. PERRY
R044313 MARSHALL J. SILVA

THANKS TO JPAC

Margie H. Griswold, a member of the POW/MIA Family Group whose brother, Cpl. Samuel C. Harris, Engr. Co. C, U.S. Army, was missing in action after a 1950 Korean massacre, sent this letter to past KWVA President Lou Dechert. In it, she shows how much the families of troops MIA appreciate what JPAC does.

Dear Sir:

After 59 to 60 years I was blessed to find another soldier who remembers where he last saw my brother. In finding him, the team found the four other soldiers who were on forward patrol with him. A small burial mound was found and explored somewhere on the Camel’s Back mountain range. According to what they found, it was brutal how the five men suffered and died and what little was left of them.

They ID’d my brother by his teeth, which were all there, including a gold crown from one of his front teeth. The bones were crushed and scattered and of little help to the lab in Hawaii. The U.S. Army gave us a separate burial at Arlington or wherever they chose to have their loved ones interred. They had a co-mingled grave for the unidentified remain at Arlington. God blessed us five families with some sort of closure, but the love and sense of loss will remain with our families forever.

I visited the lab in Hawaii a couple of years ago and met the doctor who ID’d my brother and thanked the people there for all the work they do for all our families. I will always miss my brother and continue to pray for the recovery of our remaining MIA/POW from all of our wars. It’s so heart breaking.

God bless you and all who work for the recovery and the members who keep the search ongoing!!

Margie H. Griswold

The Graybeards November - December 2012
Operation Big Switch

When my father passed away in 1991, he had the nearby photos. I was never sure what I should do with them until I came across your KWVA site and thought you might have some use for them. They were in an envelope he had labeled “Transportation of prisoners of war in Korea during Big Switch Operation.”

I know he was on the USS Matthews (AKA-96) in 1953. His name was Leslie D Kennedy. None of these photos are of my dad, and I do not know who the people and places depicted are (or were).

Do any of your members know?
Karl Kennedy, bear_n_phx@yahoo.com

EDITOR’S NOTE: If anyone can identify the people or the places in these photos, please let me know.
Cutting In

There are certain things that medical personnel don’t expect to be doing during their normal routine. However, “normal routine” does not apply in war. That explains why Sergeant Richard A. Matschner ended up assisting a doctor in performing a tracheotomy to save a Soldier’s life.

Matschner served with the 223rd Infantry Regt., 40th Inf. Div. from May 7 1952 to December 25 1952. He knew what it was like to be wounded. He earned a Purple Heart for a wound sustained at Kumwha-ri on June 14 1952. So, when the opportunity to help save a comrade-in-arm’s life arose, Matschner went above and beyond the call of duty.

According to the report contained in The Commendation Ribbon With Metal Pendant, “Sergeant Matschner, in performance of his duties as Senior Aid Man, displayed at all times outstanding ability in the handling of casualties when advance medical treatment was necessary.”

As the description said, “On one occasion Sergeant Matschner proved his superior technical skill, by providing professional assistance in a successful tracheotomy which resulted in the saving of a life when speed and accuracy were a vital factor.”

No wonder, then, “Sergeant Matschner’s fearless and tireless devotion to his duty served as an inspiration to all with whom he worked and won for him the respect and admiration of his superiors and subordinates alike, thus reflecting great credit upon himself and the United States Army.”

The one lingering question is this: whose life did he help save?

Reach Richard Matschner at 758 Fish Rd., Cochranton, PA 16314, 814-425-2163
AN INCREDIBLE COINCIDENCE

by Birney Dibble

This is the true story of a coincidence so incredible that it’s scarcely to be believed. But it did happen.

It was late February 1951. The First Marine Division was still in the mountains of the east coast, just weeks before the entire division was transferred to the west coast to straddle the neutral corridor leading from Munsan-ni to Panmunjom. I was one of two battalion surgeons with the Third Battalion of the Fifth Marine Regiment. I’d been with the battalion for just a few weeks, and had never seen a mortar crew in action, so I was pleased when Lt Don Peterson of Weapons Company invited me to observe one.

We trooped in single file out of the H&S Company area, two crews carrying 81 millimeter tubes (about three inches) and footplates ahead of us on the path leading to the How Company lines. Two Chinese snipers firing from the same bunker up on Hill 1052 were preventing any movement in our lines, making it impossible to bring ammo, food, or other supplies to the front lines. Peterson had orders to wipe them out.

They set up the mortars about 50 yards apart on a flat frozen rice paddy, about 50 yards from the top of Hill 812, in defilade, of course. On the MLR, or perhaps the OPLR, in How Company an FO (Forward Observer) was shooting an azimuth with his .45 resting in his lap. He radioed the coordinates back to Peterson, who listened carefully and then barked orders to his crew. They fired a round...waited...heard the round hit.

Peterson’s radio squawked and he relayed the message, “Up 300, right 50.” They fired another round...waited...heard the message from the FO...relayed it.

“Zerood in. Fire four.”

In the next six seconds, four mortars dropped one at a time into the tube and exploded out. A voice over the radio squawked, “Got them.”

“Clear out,” Peterson shouted.

The crew quickly began dismantling the mortar barrel from the footplate. Too late!

An enemy mortar round fluttered in. We all dropped in unison and escaped the flying steel—except for Sergeant Todd Fehling, the crew chief. He took a chunk in his belly.

We leaped to our feet; four of us dragged Todd into a thick clump of trees. I examined him quickly and found that the shrapnel had penetrated his abdominal wall, but had hit no major arteries. He already had a “powerful bellyache,” as he called it, indicating that the bowel had been perforated.

I pulled out my Unit One, which I always carried with me, and gave him a quarter of a grain of morphine. With a wry grimace, I pulled off the tape holding a bottle of serum albumin to my hairy calf, started it in a vein in Todd’s forearm, and hung it from a sturdily bush nearby.

While I was working, I heard Peterson order a Marine back to H&S to get a stretcher. We hunkered down and waited. I thought Todd was going to be all right if we could get him out to Easy Med in a hurry.

Suddenly, we heard enemy troops running down a draw to our right, i.e., to the east, shouting orders and blowing whistles.

All we could do was stay quietly right where we were.

The mortar crew lay on their bellies in the snow, M1 rifles pointed in the direction of the whistles and running feet. We couldn’t see them.

The mortar crew lay on their bellies in the snow, M1 rifles pointed in the direction of the whistles and running feet. We couldn’t see them.

Ten years ago I wrote a novel based on my experiences as a battalion surgeon with the First MarDiv in Korea. I entitled it The Taking of Hill 1052. I used many of my own experiences in it to give it verisimilitude. One episode is the one I’ve just related. It was duly published and widely distributed. One of the persons who bought it was Dr. Don Schaller, who had been a boyhood friend of mine in Rochelle, Illinois. I hadn’t seen him since 1943, when I left home to join the Navy as an enlisted man.

He called me. After 10 or 15 minutes of bringing each other up to date, the conversation went something like this:

“Dib, I’m reading your latest book, The Taking of Hill 1052. There’s an incident in it where you’re pinned down with a mortar crew by a Chinese breakthrough. Is that a true story?”

“Sure is.”

“When did it happen?”

“Late February, 1951. Why?”

“I was in the 11th Marines. In late February I was an FO up on the MLR in Able Company of the First Marines. I saw that breakthrough, called theexec back in H&S on my Double-E-8, and told him what had happened. He sent a runner—actually in a jeep—back to his reserve company, trucked one of the platoons up to your lines, and drove the Chinese back where they came from.”

I was stunned. I don’t remember just what I said, but it would have been something like this:

“You mean you, Don Schaller, my old boyhood friend, were responsible for probably saving my life, or at least capture by the Chinese?”

“Looks like it, old buddy!”

I visited Don in Phoenix a couple years ago. Once again we marveled at this incredible coincidence. Or as we say in my household, “Incredible.”

J.Birney Dibble, M. D., W 4290 Jene Road, Eau Claire, WI 5470, (715) 832-0709, dibble@discover-net.net or www.dibblebooks.com
Give Me Tomorrow: The Korean War’s Greatest Untold Story—The Epic Stand Of The Marines Of George Company

By Patrick K. O’Donnell


By Rego Barnett

Anyone who wants to know what it was like to be a U.S. Marine with George Co., 3rd Bn., 1st Regt., First Marine Division in the Korean War can find out vicariously by reading Give Me Tomorrow. In fact, reading it is similar to what the Marines of George Co. experienced in Korea: once the Chinese and North Koreans started attacking them, they picked up whatever weapons were at hand and could not put them down until the battles were over. Likewise, readers will pick up the book and be unable to put it down until they are finished.

O’Donnell tells in exhilarating and excruciating detail the vagaries of G-3-1’s experiences from Seoul to Inchon to the Chosin Reservoir—and beyond. He captures their emotions, their disappointments, their sorrow, and their dedication to country, Corps, and the Korean cause as they slog through mud, snow, ice, and generally unfavorable conditions. He relates their everyday experiences so well that readers may not be sure if they are reading a book or actually fighting alongside the men of G-3-1.

Fortunately, O’Donnell was able to interview many of the Marines who fought with G-3-1 in order to get firsthand accounts of their participation in the Korean War. They did not pull any punches about what happened, good, bad, and in between. They, and he, gave credit where credit was due and placed blame when and where it need to be placed.

One passage from p. 168 demonstrates the ordeal facing G-3-1 at East Hill as they concluded their ferocious struggle to fight their way from the Chosin Reservoir toward Hagaru-ri:

“As the purple dawn streaked across the airfield, hundreds of Chinese emerged from the shadows and stormed George Company’s lines. The previous night, they had silently crept through a gully where there was a low sloping hill and formed up in a ditch about a hundred yards in front of the airfield and George’s lines.

“They came charging toward us at dawn, a daytime attack,” recalled [Bruce] Farr.

First Machine Gun Section was down to one gun instead of two; the firing mechanism seemed to have frozen solid. Frantically, Farr reached for his carbine and attempted to fire. Clack! The firing pin had frozen. Pulling back the bolt of the machine gun, Farr squeezed off one round at a time at the oncoming Chinese. Another Marine, whose hands were crimson with blood from a shrapnel wound, frantically assisted Farr as he attempted to fire his single-shot machine gun.”

Just another day at the office, as readers will discover when they read the entire book.

Incidentally, the title is worth explaining, as O’Donnell did in the book:

“What would you want if you could have any wish?” asked the photojournalist of the haggard, bloodied Marine before him. The Marine gaped at his interviewer. The photographer snapped his picture, which became the iconic Korean War image featured on this book’s jacket. “Give me tomorrow,” he said at last.”

Readers are encouraged not to wait for the tomorrow they have been given: they should pick up a copy of “Give Me Tomorrow” today and learn what it was like to be a member of G-3-1 during the Korean War. It is certainly worth reading.

A novel about a farm boy posted to the Army Counterintelligence Corps in Panama in 1954 and his participation in a secret assignment with Julia, a woman he wants to know better. She disappears from his life after the shooting ends. Interwoven with this mystery are the stories of the civilian soldiers temporarily serving as secret agents in the backwaters of Central America. Almost 45 years later the mystery of why Julia vanished is explained. Available from Amazon and other online book retailers. See frankebabb.blogspot.com
This section of The Graybeards is designed to provide feedback—and generate more feedback. It gives readers the opportunity to respond to printed stories, letters, points of view, etc., without having to write long-winded replies. Feel free to respond to whatever you see in the magazine. As long as it’s tasteful and non-political, we will be happy to include it. If you want to submit ideas, criticisms, etc. that you prefer not to see in print—with your name attached to it—then we will honor that. Make sure to let us know, though.

Mail your “Return Fire” to the “Feedback Editor” at 895 Ribaut Rd. #13, Beaufort, SC 29902; E-mail it to: sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net, or phone it in to (860) 202-3088. Whatever the medium you choose, we welcome your input.

“Time will not dim the glory of their deeds”

When I drove downtown today, I had planned to march up Barre’s new Main Street to the ceremony at the Veterans Memorial in the central city park as I had done for the past 45+ years.

I arrived at the auditorium formation point where the parade was forming and the Honor Guard was in place at the normal head of the line with just one row of veterans behind them. I looked around for my former marching partners from WW2 and Korea, but they were missing. One passed on since last Memorial Day and one is now in a convalescent home. It then sunk into my mind that at age 81 it was time for a change of my routine.

Sixty years ago, on Nov. 11, 1952, I was a 21 year old and rode by this monument in a Vermont Transit bus with five other local draftees on our way for induction into the Army. I wondered then if we would ever see this monument again. All five of us did!

The parade organizer, a Vietnam vet, hollered to me and said, “Wayne, why don’t you ride in the special marked Korean Vets auto?” The weather was cold, with a brisk north wind, so that suggestion sounded pretty good.

There were two marked cars following the Honor Guard and the one row of marching vets. The first car, which had a sign designating World War 2, was driven by an 89-year-old vet. The next car (appropriately a Korean Hyundai) was labeled Korean War. As it turned out, there were two Korean vets besides me.

I enjoyed the ride up Main Street. The crowd lining the sidewalks waved and cheered, and we waved back from open windows. Marching behind us were high school ROTC, four school bands, and the usual display of fire trucks and military vehicles.

As we arrived at the park, our two cars full of vets were provided cushioned chair seats at the memorial’s new granite floor for the ceremony. That was quite a change from all those past years of standing. By next year there will probably still be only two cars, marked Korean War veterans and Vietnam veterans.

Time marches on, and so must we! As I walked into the American Legion later for the luncheon, I looked above the entrance at the granite engraved sign: “Time will not dim the glory of their deeds.”

Veterans Day was another patriotic day that fulfills my remembrances! In fact, holidays in general do that.

While I was putting my colored Christmas lights around my yard this year, my mind wandered back 59 years to July 15, 1953, during the battle at Christmas Hill. As I was standing on the step ladder and looking up at the blue sky, I pictured Clarence Spoonhour, an 18 year old from Pennsylvania who was in his second day as a new replacement in my Fox-80-45 squad.

His childish face was still fair skinned and blonde hair with deep blue eyes. He was one of three who was killed by a mortar while with me on a rescue patrol to Easy Co. at OP Queen, which was being overrun by the Chinese horde. I was blown from the trench and suffered a concussion that would follow me through life.

I am sure that many veterans look back at their battle days with the loss of buddies and picture them just as they were; not growing old as did we survivors who are now in our eighties with deteriorating bodies and minds. It does seem that our flashbacks mostly occur during holiday times when our minds seem to be in neutral and in a searching for peace stage.

Wayne Pelkey, 12 Clover Ln.
Barre, VT 05641, 802-476-7638

Good Question

A question I have never been able to answer is about the signing of the Declaration of the Korean War. If memory serves me correctly, the actual signing was by President Bill Clinton about fifteen (15) years after cessation of fighting.

I would assume the signing was for legal issues, but why the time span? Any thought on this?

R. J. Doro, 459 Hallman St.
Berlin, WI 54923, 920-361-0373

Wrong Info Re Pork Chop Hill

In the May-June 2012 issue, Charles Douglas stated in his remembrance after sixty years that Pork Chop Hill was lost in April 1953. That is not true.

The hill was taken back and we had to go back again in July 1953, at which time I was with George Company of the 17th Regt. After 3 or 4 days we pulled off the hill and left it to the Chinese.

Melvin Morris, 7768 School Street
Sodus, NY, 14551
A Most Beautiful Bridge

I read the aforementioned Charles Douglas’s tale of his Korean experiences in the May-June issue. Although his story is much different than mine (as related in “The Night the Truce Was Signed,” p. 14, July-August 2012), one thing is the same: his feelings on sighting the Golden Gate Bridge.

In September, 1953 I took the nearby photo of the Golden Gate from the window of a DC-4 at the tail end of a 36-hour marathon from Tokyo-Haneda to Travis AFB, CA, with refueling/lunch stops at Wake Island and Honolulu.

I thought that maybe I was the only one who felt that way at the sight of that beautiful structure. Now I realize that is not so. How many GIs had that same feeling as they passed over or under it on the way home? We’ll never know, but it must be legion.

“Wow, I made it!”

Richard Salmi, 239 Montclair Loop, Daphne, AL
36526, 251-626-6314, rickidin@bellsouth.net

LSU, Not LST

There is a reference on p. 76, “Seven Korean Scenes,” July-August 2012, to an LST. In the photo captioned “Troops boarding LST in Inchon Harbor,” the vessel noted is actually an LSU, later known as an LCU. In fact, I think it is the same one I was on in Inchon in 1952. (I was on several different numbered ones in Coronada, Japan, and Inchon.)

Richard Jeffery, 2816 Kingswood Dr.
Panama City, FL 32405

EDITOR’S NOTE: LCTs were built in two models. The MK5 was 112 foot, 32 feet 9 inches in length with a beam 32 feet, a displacement of 286 tons and a crew of 13. The MK5 had a bow ramp only, in contrast to the MK6, which had both a bow and stern ramp and was 119 feet long with a beam of 32 feet and a displacement of 284 tons with a crew of 12.

The LCT was the Navy’s all-purpose general duty vessel. Besides carrying tanks ashore, LCTs were used for many different purposes. Some were converted and equipped with guns, others carried rockets. Still others served as minesweepers.

Twenty-six MK5s were designated LCT(A), armored. Armor was added to these LCTs to allow them to go into the Normandy beachhead with the fire power of two tanks. At the end of WWII, all MK5s were disposed of, while the MK6s were redesignated as Utility Landing Ship (LSU) in 1949 and redesignated Landing Craft Utility LCU, 15 April 1956.

Reforming at Masan

Re: Tom Kittrell’s letter in the July-August, 2012 issue, “The Marines Did Not Fight Alone,” p. 65: Mr. Kittrell stated that the First Provisional Brigade landed in Pusan on August 28th, 1950. I was a member of the Brigade, arriving on USS Henrico, and I recall landing on Aug. 4th or 5th. We did, in fact, defend Pusan and knocked the North Koreans so fast that they were leaving jeeps, 3-wheel motor cycles and other equipment behind. If the 9th RCT was with us, thanks to them.

We pulled back in early September to join The First Marine Division for the Inchon landing. The nearby photo was taken in Masan, South Korea on January 5, 1951, where we were reforming after the Chosin Reservoir Battle. All of us in the photo worked the forward observer positions.

Arthur C. Golden, 505 Lake Villa Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70810, Baton Rouge, LA, ncgolden@cox.net

From Sugumo To Korea To KIA

My cousin, Harold LaVala, U.S. Army, was a guard at Sugamo Prison in Japan. When the Korean War began, Harold was sent to Korea on July 15, 1950 with “E” Co., 1st Bn., 19th Inf. HQ, 24th Div. As of July 31, 1950 he was the second person from Philadelphia, PA who was listed as missing in action. Two years later he was declared killed in action.

His death took place during the battle two miles southwest of Chinzu in the Pyonggo-Nam Gang River area.

I was still in high school at the time. I arrived in Korea in April 1952.

Walter D. Hinrichs, 2195 Martin Dr.
Gilbertsville, PA 19525
No Stripes

_The Graybeards_ included a good article in the July-August issue by Donald Score, titled “Thank You Frances Perkins,” p. 15. I can relate to that.

I was drafted into the army November 7, 1951 and sent to Fort Sheridan, IL. After a week we were taken to Camp Breckenridge, KY for 16 weeks of basic training. We were trained in everything: marching, KP, M-1 rifle, 30 cal carbine, hand grenades, pistols, 30 cal machine guns, 50 cal machine guns, gas warfare, village combat, bayonets, 4.2 mortar, 81mm. mortar, night patrol, compass—you name it, we got it.

Everybody graduated, and we were told what a good job we did. We were VIPs, aka “the depression babies.” For that we were going on a long vacation—to Korea.

I went to Fort Lawton, WA. From there we boarded the ship General Hugh J. Gaffey (T-AP-121) and sailed for Japan. At Camp Drake, Japan we got our assignments. On May 30th, 1952 (my birthday) I got orders for 2nd Chemical Mortar Bn.

At Inchon we took trucks to the front lines. There seemed to be a lot of sergeants and corporals. I was thinking that with a little work I would be one of them someday. Then, in October 1952 someone decided there were too many ranks in the 2nd Chemical Mortar Bn., so promotions were frozen. The structure was supposed to be squad leader (Sgt.); gunner (Sgt.); assistant gunner (Cpl.); 1st ammo bearer (Pfc.); and the rest Privates.

Well, in March 1953, when I went home after 9 months with 36 points, I was a gunner Pfc. The assistant gunner was a Pfc also. We achieved the Pfc rank before the freeze. Believe it or not, the squad leader was a PV-2. His name was Denny O’Dale.

I was offered a Corporal’s stripe if I extended my time for three months. I declined. I said, “Thank you, but I’m going home.” And, I added, “You can have the one I have if you want it.” That was a wise decision, as it turned out.

Three months later, all hell broke loose, and the 2nd Chemical Bn. was overrun by Chinese. The battalion lost its jeeps, trucks and mortars because of the road blocks. Some of the men were wounded. The South Koreans were ahead of us, and they bugged out.

I was in the Chorwon area by Pork Chop, Old Baldy and White Horse. We took White Horse in October 1952. In January 1953 the name 2nd Chemical Mortars was changed to 4611nf Bn. The Chinese accused us of using chemicals on them. We only had white phosphorous and shrapnel.

Did this happen to anyone else like Donald Score and me? We lost all those big bucks by not being promoted. I would like to know.

Tony Eilers, M121A, W McMillan St.
Marshfield, WI 54449, 715-384-2547

Haym Salomon

It was with great pleasure that I read your article about Haym Salomon, a name from the past. (See “The Editor’s Desk,” p. 9, July/Aug 2012.)

When I was in the sixth grade some 69 years ago, my teacher at PS 22 in Yonkers, NY, Mrs. Moore, would read to us about Haym Salomon. She was a wonderful, warm teacher, which is probably why I still remember her name.

The main part of the story, I remember, was that Salomon raised money to help General Washington clothe his troops. I still don’t know if he died a pauper. I guess I will have to buy your book, _Not Your Father’s Founders_.

Thanks for the memories.

William Mayer, 3 Elm Street
Garnerville, NY 10923

EDITOR’S NOTE: I encourage anyone who wants to learn more about Haym Salomon, or any of the 54 other Revolutionary War heroes profiled in _Not Your Father’s Founders_, to acquire a copy of the book. It is available at bookstores or through amazon.com, barnesandnoble.com, and other on-line outlets. I still have a few copies left. If anyone wants a signed copy, send me a check for $13 and I will put one in the mail.

What Ship Was I On?


Squadron VA-65 of CVG-2, tail-code “M,” was aboard the carrier USS _Boxer_ (CV-21) from 24 August 1950 until 11 November 1950. (If John remembers a F6F-5K drone aircraft flown into Korean War combat, controlled by an AD-Q aircraft on 28 August 1950, the photo may have been on this cruise).

VA-65 was then aboard the USS _Valley Forge_ (CV-45) from 6 December 1950 until 28 March 1951. On 28 March 1951, CVG-2 (VA-65) cross-decked with CVG-11 from carrier _Philippine Sea_ (CV-47) at Yokosuka, Japan, and was aboard _Philippine Sea_ from 28 March 1951 until 9 June 1951.

Later, VA-65 was aboard _Boxer_ again from 8 February 1952 until 26 September 1952.

The men in the photo seem to be trying to keep warm. Perhaps the photo was taken aboard _Valley Forge_ in the Korean winter.

Tom Moore, tm103ps@yahoo.com

1. Cross-deck (or cross-decking) is naval jargon which may refer to either informal, ad-hoc sharing of resources between naval vessels (historical usage), or the use of carrier decks (or vessel borne helipads) to host aircraft of foreign allies, aircraft from other ships in the same navy, or as re-fueling platforms for naval aircraft to extend flight operations beyond the range of the aircraft type. 

EDITOR’S NOTE: Readers can access similar material at www.history.navy.mil/branches/cvg-2.htm. This particular file is titled “Korean Combat Action Reports for Carrier Air Group 2.”

Thank You, Doctor

I was a 1st Lt/pilot with the 319 FIS in Korea during the era cited in this article. I was with the 319th from December 1952 to July 1953 and flew 67 combat missions over that period. I clearly recall a flight surgeon with the squadron who took great pains to ensure the health of the flight crews through regular visits to us in our Quonset hut quarters.

Frankly, I do not recall the name of our flight surgeon. However, if it was Bart Kent, the subject of your magazine article, I would appreciate your forwarding this note of gratitude for the service he performed in keeping the flight crews foremost in his efforts in keeping us in good health while with the squadron.
Thanks very much for an article that brought back long forgotten memories.

Also, it may be of interest to you to know that the 319FIS has an organization that holds annual reunions for former members of the 319th from all eras of the 319th operations. Our next reunion is tentatively scheduled for August 2013 in Charleston, WV.

Clarence A. Fry, 102 Dublin Ct., Bel Air, MD 21014, 410-838-6691, cfry3_1@juno.com

Aloha

Many thanks for including my story of the USS Missouri’s first combat deployment to Korea in 1950. (See “Battleship Sailor Remembers War In Korea,” Sept/Oct 2012, pp. 14-15). I was surprised to receive numerous phone calls from readers of the story. Those who called thanked me for my article because it confirmed what they had been telling family and friends over the years! Three of the callers also live here on the island of Oahu, and we plan on getting together over coffee in the near future.

Writing the article and receiving such nice comments from those who were also there during that coldest of cold winters (1950/51) gave me cause to reflect not only on my service in Korea, but in Vietnam as well.

After a 29-year wait, my outfit in Vietnam was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation on 4 April 2001. It took a very long time to declassify sufficient information that would vividly show why MACV/SOG received this award. It also took a lot of letter writing and phone calls and downright persistence to push the effort that culminated in the award. (See John Gavel’s story about awards on page 46.)

There are myriad stories about the heroism displayed by SOG Recon Teams during that war; too many to repeat, I’m afraid.

I forget the year it surfaced, but the print entitled “Reflections” was being made available through some of the veterans’ magazines and it really jerked the strings of emotion in all who gazed upon it. The price was a bit too high for me ($300.00+), so I hesitated for quite some time before purchasing it (on the payment plan).

At that time, disabled veterans who retired after 20 years service and who elected to receive VA disability compensation had to give up, dollar-for-dollar, the amount of the compensation from their retirement pay. It was called “concurrent receipt.” I, like many other disabled veterans, lived kinda from hand to mouth back in those days and an expenditure of $300 was out of the question!

Then, one day, while shopping at a local Publix supermarket, my friendly store’s baker handed me an envelope and said, “You’ve gotta have this!” But, she cautioned me not to read it until I was comfortably seated at home.

After reading the item—and after wiping away the tears running down my cheeks and settling my nerves—I made the decision that I must have the “Reflections” print, under which I would display the words that I am about to share with all the “Greybeards!” At the end, it indicates “Author Unknown.”

Bye the bye, the other article in that same edition which also mentioned the Mighty Mo firing shells night and day just over-
that I am very proud of and I notice that my son is also wearing this medal. I earned mine in the jungles of Vietnam and he had probably earned his in the desert of Iraq.

I can tell that they are preparing to leave and I try to take a mental picture of them together, because I don’t know when I will see them again. I wouldn’t blame them if they were not to return and can only thank them that I was not forgotten. My wife and Momma near the Wall for one final touch and so many years of indecision, fear and sorrow are let go. As they turn to leave I feel my tears that had not flowed for so many years, form as if dew drops on the other side of the Wall.

They slowly move away with only a glance over their shoulder. My son suddenly stops and slowly returns. He stands straight and proud in front of me and snaps a salute. Something makes him move to the Wall and he puts his hand upon the Wall and touches my tears that had formed on the face of the Wall and I can tell that he senses my presence there and the pride and the love that I have for him.

He falls to his knees and the tears flow from his eyes and I try my best to reassure him that it’s all right and the tears do not make him any less of a man. As he moves back wiping the tears from his eyes, he silently mouths, God Bless you, Dad. God Bless YOU, Son. We WILL meet someday but meanwhile, go on your way. There is no hurry. There is no hurry at all.

As I see them walk off in the distance, I yell out to THEM and for EVERYONE here today, as loud as I can, THANKS FOR REMEMBERING and as others on this side of the Wall join in, I notice that the U.S. Flag that so proudly flies in front of us every day, is flapping and standing proudly straight out in the wind today.

For he today, that sheds his blood with me, shall be my brother.  

Author - Unknown

Choggies: The Good And The Bad

Let me tell you a story about Choggies. I served with 24 INFD, 19 INF. My first encounter with them was when they led us into an ambush. Only two of us survived. When we finally got back to safety, one of them was waiting in a foxhole. I crammed him down into the bottom of the hole, but I didn’t kill him. The rest of the Choggies ran off.

They were hustlers in more ways than one. The Choggies would take every cigarette we would give them and sell them on the black market. When fighting started, they would run off at the first shot. They carried dead GIs off hills, but once they were out of sight they would drop the bodies and run like heck.

On the plus side, they did a good job carrying supplies.

Raymond C. Fryer, P.O. Box 283
Owensville, MO 65066, 573-764-3415

“Choggies” Did Their Jobs Well

In the Sept/Oct 2012 edition, p. 31, you raised a question regarding the term “Choggies,” as to whether it referred to real persons, what they did, and what it meant.

First, I want to establish a little bit about my experience in Korea. Please understand I am working from 60-year old recollections. I was in Korea from 1 January 1953 until sometime in late September 1953. I was in C Battery, 424th Field Artillery from 1 January until about early May and then in Headquarters Battery, 424th until rotating home in the late fall of 1953.

As to Choggies: if I recall, the term was used rather loosely to refer to the term of carrying or moving a heavy load, e.g., “I was choggling my complete field pack up a hill.” I think it was also used to describe the Korean fellows who used to carry large, heavy loads along the roadways. Additionally, I think that it could refer to describing the work done by young Korean fellows who worked with us as helpers around the Battery area.

I feel that our individual unit was not exclusive in this: we had about 10 or so young teenagers who were the KP help in our mess hall and who also did laundry for us in the Battery area. They were referred to as “indigenous personnel.”

The oldest of them would probably been about 16-17 years, just under the age where they would, or could, go into the South Korean Army. They worked for a small monthly wage in American terms, but large in Korean terms. For a short while, while in C Battery I worked as Battery Clerk. The boys were paid, if memory serves me correctly, in Korean money.

I helped with the payroll several different months. The head “washy boy” told me that he was paid almost as well as Korean adults who were top money earners in civilian life, such as college professors, etc. They were hard workers and real congenial kids. I liked them.

When they were not working in and around the mess hall, each of them would “adopt” a gun section or motor pool group or other small groups of GIs and single them out to do our laundry. We would pay them a little extra for working for us.

I was in the Command Post when the money would come in to break it down to each individual’s pay. I cannot say I know now, or knew then, what was the source of the money. It could have been from a special Army fund to pay for such things. I just don’t know.

I will say that they were good at what they did and released a lot of us enlisted men from some real drudgery jobs.

Perhaps this information explains a little bit about what a lot of Korean teenage young fellows did for the U.S. Army—and did very well.

Robert L. Horton, 2738 13th Ave., Moline, IL 61265

Houseboy? Choggie? Infiltrators?

We had “choggies” who brought up our 76mm Tank rounds to our two-tank position on the northern crest of Heartbreak Ridge in the summer of 1952. They would stack them in our ammo bunkers and we would load them in our tanks only at night. This was the only one of the five positions that I served in where they were utilized.

We had no problems with them. However, we had a big problem with the “houseboy” at that position. He worked for the Infantry CO. After he took a day off to go see his family, we were attacked the next night. The CO and some of the GIs swore that the body found the next day in an NKA officer’s uniform was his! (He never returned.) Shortly after that incident, the “houseboys” were eliminated. But, it could have been the “choggie” who was giving the enemy our positions.

Two GIs were KIA and 6 WIA while they were loading ammo in one of the two tanks in this position in daylight two days before I took over the position. We only did it in the dark! My Co. Hq., about a mile or so behind the lines, was very accurately shelled with
artillery. The only way they could hit that spot was either getting info from a “houseboy,” a “choggie,” or possibly from infiltrators.

Peter W. Cuthbert, P.O. Box 695
East Moriches, NY 11940

Mighty Mo” Gun Finds Home in Park

There was an article in the October 1, 2012 San Francisco Chronicle that reported one of USS Missouri’s guns will go on display at fortifications in Marin County, just across the Golden Gate Bridge, north of San Francisco. The particular gun was one of nine on the battleship during WWII and the Korean War.

Perhaps some of our members who served aboard “Mighty Mo” will be interested in knowing about this historic event. Here is an excerpt from the article:

One of the largest American naval guns ever built was parked by the side of the road at Fort Cronkhite in the Marin Headlands through the weekend, on its way to be the centerpiece of a display of historic fortifications that protected San Francisco Bay in World War II.

The big gun is here after a two-day trip from a naval weapons station at Hawthorne, Nev. Because of its size and weight, it had to travel by night on special 32-wheel trailers over Donner Summit on Interstate 80 and then up the Waldo Grade at the north end of the Golden Gate and through the narrow tunnel between Sausalito and the Marin Headlands.

Read the article at http://www.sfgate.com/default/article/Big-WWII-era-gun-comes-to-Golden-Gate-3907659.php

Doris Hastings, P. O. Box 4005
Yountville, CA 94599

Korean War Overlooked Again?

Surely, the lack of a meaningful mention—as compared to “Nam”—was a deliberate oversight on yesterday’s PBS “Tribute.” Don’t we deserve more of a thank you than the one expressed on this special?

Maybe it’s my old paranoia kicking in, but I’m a lot dismayed. Is an official protest from you guys on the agenda?

Arnold C. Hansen, bigarnie1@optonline.net

EDITOR’S NOTE: I assume that the special to which Mr. Hansen refers ran on PBS on 11 November 2012, since his email was dated 12 November 2012. I did not see the program so I cannot comment on it. I will encourage our members do so, however, if they see fit.

Do Semantics Bother Anyone Else?

I thoroughly enjoy each issue of The Graybeards magazine. I have a concern, though. The magazine continues to refer to July 27, 1953 as the Armistice. When everyone in Korea was giving word of the cease fire to hostilities, we were told it was a truce. That may be semantics, but I still think of that day as a truce.

In 1999, I, along with three OCS Class 11 grad officers, was honored to place a wreath of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. In fact, the Sergeant who instructed us at the top of the stairs we were to descend also used the term Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Now the news outlets refer to the Tomb of the Unknowns, since other remains have been added to the monument. But I will always say Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Call me a traditionalist, but I’m not changing from the above memories.

Incidentally, I left from my home in Waco, TX in 1952 to start my tour of duty first as fire direction officer with the Ethiopian Battalion. I performed other duties as well, finally coming back to the U.S. for release from active duty.

Dwight L. Thomas, 319 Palm Drive
Marlin, TX 76661, dwightfwk@sbcglobal.net
Last Call

All of us in the Korean War Veterans Association extend our sincere sympathy to the families and friends of those listed below. May they rest in peace.

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
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 ____________
Apt. or Unit # (if Any) __________ 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” listed below, complete the “Certification of Eligibility for KWVA Membership” Form on page 2.]

Applicant Signature: ______________________________________ Date: ____________________________

Note: If this is a GIFT Membership – please sign here to certify, under penalty of law, that to the best of your knowledge, ALL of the information you have provided about the Applicant is true and correct. [Note: If applicable, you must also complete and sign the Eligibility Form on page 2.]

Signature: ______________________________________ Relationship to Applicant: ______________________

Make checks payable to: KWVA – Mail to: Korean War Veterans Association Inc., P. O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407 (Or you may pay by Credit Card)

Credit Card # ____________________________ □ VISA □ MASTER CARD (only)
Expiration Date ____________________________ V-Code ______ Your Signature ____________________________

Adopted 10/27/2012
CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR KWVA MEMBERSHIP

In addition to completing the KWVA Membership Application Form on page 1, persons applying for, and qualifying for, membership under one of the categories listed below, are also required to fill in the appropriate blanks, and sign in the space provided below.

Check Only One Category:

☐ 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 by the North Koreans, Chinese, or Russian forces 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 during the Korean 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. I do not qualify to be a Regular member.

☐ 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.”

Applicant 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 Procedures and 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 of 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.
A Place to Build Your Legacy:
A Story to Leave for Your Grandchildren

The Korean War National Museum, Library and Cultural Center seeks to honor all Veterans of the Korean War in unique and permanent ways. As such, we are thrilled to announce the launch of our Personal Pages feature on our Virtual Museum. We at the Museum believe the greatest legacy that we have to leave to our children and grandchildren are our stories. We also believe that there is no better author for your stories than you.

The Personal Pages feature allows Korean War Veterans from all over the world to create their own personalized page that will live on forever as a part of our Virtual Museum. On their page, Veterans or their family members can upload a photo, define what Country, Service, Unit and Branch that they fought as a part of and be recognized for their medals and awards. The Page also offers the ability to write and post a 250 word auto-biography, biography, message to fellow Veterans, loved ones or reflections on the War.

To get your page started, please email us at info@kwnm.org with subject line: Personal Page, and help us write a story that will be celebrated for generations.
Lights Over Lubbock


I was stationed at Reese Air Force Base in Lubbock from 1950 to 1952, and I remember it well. I do not know the person who wrote the article, but I can supply some information of that time and one strange incident that happened over the base in 1951.

I have enclosed two copies about the Lubbock lights and information about the base itself, which is both useful and interesting.

Let’s start with an excerpt about Reese Air Force Base regarding that period of time.

With the end of World War II, the United States no longer needed so many active military bases, so the War Department closed Lubbock Army Air Field on 31 December 1945. During the post-war years, the base was used as a meeting place for National Guard, Air Reserve, and Naval Reserve units. Barracks were converted to low-rent apartment units for the use of veterans and their families. Most of the veterans were attending nearby Texas Technological College and could not find housing elsewhere. Vegetable gardens sprang up on drill fields where men had marched, and children skated or rode bicycles on the empty runways.

World events preceding the Korean War caused realignment of base missions. Among these changes, Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana, became a part of Strategic Air Command, which meant the 3500th Pilot Training Wing stationed at Barksdale had to find a new home. Lubbock was the site chosen. Among the many promises made by the Lubbock community to have the local base reopened was an agreement to deed the land to the United States government. Reactivation of the base became a reality on 1 August 1949.

A month later, on 1 September, the 3500th Pilot Training Wing (Advanced Multi-Engine) moved from Barksdale to Lubbock. In November Air Training Command renamed the installation Reese Air Force Base, in honor of 1Lt Augustus F. Reese, Jr., of nearby Shallowater, Texas. Lieutenant Reese was killed in action on a bombing raid over Sardinia, Italy, on 14 May 1943.

Aviation cadets composed the first classes to graduate after Reese had reactivated. Those students in Classes 50-A and 50-B came from primary training programs conducted by civilian contractors. They stayed at Reese for six months for advanced multi-engine training in T-6 and B-25 conventional aircraft. Graduation brought the award of silver wings to each graduate and commissions to the cadets.

In 1952 ATC implemented a four-phase pilot training program: pre-flight, primary, basic, and crew. Reese continued to provide advanced multi-engine training; however, it was now called basic multi-engine training. From December 1952 forward, most classes included students from various friendly foreign nations.

The T-33 Shooting Star replaced the B-25 as the basic trainer aircraft, ushering in the jet age at Reese. The T-33, a single-engine jet, was the only training aircraft at Reese from January 1959 until the T-37 Tweet arrived in March 1961. Reese offered only the basic phase of pilot training until the arrival of the T-37. Then Reese assumed full responsibility for training pilots through the preflight, primary, and basic phases. At about this time, Air Training Command began the undergraduate pilot training (UPT) program. The command closed its civilian contract training program and moved all pilot training in-house.

The last class with aviation cadets, Class 62-B, graduated on 14 September 1961. Cadets received commissions as officers, as well as silver wings. Since then, students arriving for pilot training already held their commission as officers.

Now, here is a bit of trivia regarding one strange happening over Lubbock in 1951, as described on the About.com website.

Summary:

The state of Texas has had more than its share of great UFO cases, four of them legendary:

• The Aurora Crash of 1897
• The Levelland Landings of 1957
• Cash-Landrum Incident of 1980
• The fourth is the well-documented “Lubbock Lights” case of 1951. The case began as three Texas Technological College professors, Dr. W. I. Robinson, Dr. A. G. Oberg, and W. L. Ducker were chatting in Robinson’s backyard at 9:10 PM, August 25. Without a warning, the three men saw a number of lights fly across the clear, dark Texas sky.

30 Luminous Beads in Sky:

The lights appeared to be made up of glowing beads, and the grouping, looking at it straight on, was a boomerang shape. A second group would soon make its appearance. The following day, the three professors checked with Air Force personnel, who claimed that there had been no traffic in the air the night before. From the initial sighting until November, Ducker alone saw 12 different groups of these lights.

Three Flights a Night:

Talk of the lights brought a public awareness, and there would soon be reports of what seemed to be a systematic schedule of as many as three sets of lights in one night over Lubbock. Many eyes were trained on the night skies, and within a few days of the initial sightings on August 30, 18-year-old Carl Hart Jr. would take five photographs of the lights with a Kodak 35-mm camera at 9:30 PM, February 25. Texas education officials could find no reasonable explanation for the objects in Hart’s photographs.
More Intense than Venus:

With the objects caught on film it was simple now to count the number of light spots. The number ranged anywhere from 18 to 20. It was determined that the brightness of the objects was greater than that of the planet Venus. There could be one or two groups of the boomerang-shaped lights at any one time. Some photographs seemed to show one larger light separate from the group. It was surmised that this lone object might be a mother ship.

Air Force Examines Photographs:

As one would expect, soon the United States Air Force would become involved in the matter. During the later part of September, they would make a detailed examination of the Hart photographs. The Air Force could neither authenticate nor debunk the photographs. Captain Edward J. Ruppelt was sent to Lubbock to examine the mystery. He would later become the first director of Project Blue Book.

Just a Plover Bird?:

Hoping to get away from any extraterrestrial explanation, several earthly explanations for the lights would be offered. One was that the objects were plover birds, similar in size to a quail, another a flock of ducks, and another of shooting stars, or comet fragments. The most likely cause, the plover bird, was quickly dismissed by game wardens. They explained that the plovers never flew in groups numbering more than three.

Still Discussed Today:

The case of the Lubbock Lights is still being discussed today, with different theories being offered to explain what was seen and photographed over the Texas city in 1951. The photographs taken by Carl Hart Jr. have never been debunked as to their authenticity, but the question remains. What were the strange lights that moved across Lubbock, Texas in 1951?

Source: http://ufos.about.com/od/bestufocasefiles/p/lubbocklights.htm

That was life in Lubbock at Reese Air Force Base in the early 1950s. Was it any stranger in Korea?

Hershall E. Lee, 212 Kentucky Ave., Danville, IL 61832, 217-431-0467, Cell: 217-474-1387

Moonlight, MiGs, and Modern Heroes Over North Korea

By Wayne Morrison

Reading the 60th Korean War Memories in The Graybeards stirred my memories of the Korean War, especially of one event that I and my B-29 Superfortress crew witnessed. This memory has remained vividly with me since it occurred.

I enlisted in the Air Force on 25 June, 1951, ten days after I graduated from high school. I took basic training at Sampson Air Force Base, after which I went to Lowry Air Force Base, Denver, Colorado for training in Remote Control Turrets (RCT). I never realized that RCT was my stepping stone to becoming an Aerial Gunner on a B-29 or B-26.

After completing RCT, I was transferred to Aerial Gunnery School at Lowry AFB. After graduating from Gunnery School, I received orders to report to Randolph Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. There, I was placed on a B-29 Superfortress crew as the Right Gunner/Scanner.

Other crew members included: Aircraft Commander (AC) Lt. Vincent Isgrigg; Pilot Lt. Jack Shadford; Bombardier Lt. Robert Cale; Navigator Lt. Louis Bolton; Flight Engineer Staff Sgt. Richard Ruble; Radio Operator A/2C Gerald Tech; Radar Operator Lt. Bowman; Left Gunner/Scanner A/2C Carl Howland; Central Fire Control Gunner (CFC) A/1C Donald Hauser; Tail Gunner A/1C Earl Gigstad.

I could not have been with better crew members if I had picked them myself. They were truly professionals and great people to be associated with. They were my brothers and my heroes. I shall never forget them.

At Randolph, we had many training missions. They included simulated bombing runs and fighter attacks. It was evident to us that we were being trained for the Korean War—especially when we received orders to report to the 28th Bomb Squadron, 19th Bombardment Group, Kadena AFB, Okinawa, which became our home base. From Kadena we flew all our 25 night combat missions over North Korea. However, we flew individually on combat and training missions with other B-29 crews.

Some of our missions over North Korea were considered “Milk Runs,” which were safer compared to others that involved the presence of a lot more flak, searchlights, and MiG-15 fighters. During several of the latter-type missions we feared for our lives.

Although the B-29 Superfortress was a great aircraft, it did have some problems. Every time we climbed into the B-29 to fly training and or combat missions, we worried on take-off that all four engines would function correctly and that we would not lose one. This was especially true when the aircraft was fully loaded with bombs and ammunition for the guns. The long over-water flights to Korea and return to Okinawa also caused some anxious thoughts, since there were no air bases where we could land to refuel.

I remember one particular mission over North Korea that I will never forget. It occurred on December 30, 1952 over Pyongyang, North Korea. That night, the moon lit the sky so brightly that it was easy for enemy fighters to spot us. The moonlight also made us an easy target for the antiaircraft guns and searchlights from the ground.

We were to be the first aircraft over the target. But, our superchargers were malfunctioning, so we could not climb to the assigned altitude. Consequently, another B-29, flown by Lt. Forster, took our place. We flew underneath and behind Lt. Forster’s B-29.

As we approached the target, the MiG-15s swarmed all over Lt. Forster’s aircraft. The enemy searchlights locked on his aircraft, which was hit by either the MiGs or ground fire. His aircraft erupted in fire.

Lt. Forster realized how badly damaged his aircraft was, and that he had an injured crew member aboard. He broke radio silence and informed our pilot, Lt. Shadford, that he was ordering the uninjured crew members to leave the stricken aircraft, he counted the number of parachutes opening. I believe he counted seven chutes opening. In the meantime, Lt. Forster informed our pilot that, since he had wounded aboard, he and M/Sgt Differ would try to reach the coast, where we Continued on page 79
The presented money will not go to general funds, but will be used for a special meaningful purpose yet to be determined.

Don Dyer, ddyer15@everestkc.net

Every year the Korean Presbyterian Church invites us to their picnic. The church members host this large picnic for Korean veterans and their wives, families that adopted Korean babies, and ex-service members who married Korean ladies.

This year we donated $100.00 to the church. After a great meal was served, the local Korean Ki Won Doo Club put on a fantastic demonstration.

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

Thanks To All Veterans

Happy Veteran’s Day!

Today, I participated in the Phoenix [AZ] Downtown Veteran’s Day parade with members of the former West Valley chapter of the KWVA. The group extended an invitation to the Phoenix Korean community, who joined the veterans for the parade.

Rice, salad, shrimp, steak, peppers, kimchee…a few of the items served at the picnic for Ch 251
It was a wonderful and meaningful day for the Korean community to thank and honor all who served in the Korean War.

I extend the heartfelt gratitude of the Korean people to you, our Korean War veterans and families, on this Veterans Day. Thank you and God bless you!

Susan Kee, 623-332-2199, sk4vets@yahoo.com

“Thanks!” personified at Phoenix parade

Blue skies bless the Phoenix Veterans Day “paraders” from former West Valley chapter

Korean War veterans and Koreans mingle at Phoenix parade

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
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 your departure.

(PCFY) Peace Camp For Youth (Only)

Grandchild: Last Name ____________________________ First ____________________________ DOB ____________

Street Address ____________________________ City ____________________________ State ______ ZIP ____________

Phone # ____________________________ E-Mail ____________________________ 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,

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KWVA Revisit Korea Program

C/O MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS

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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)
2) Widows and family members of deceased veterans or those unable to travel are also eligible for the Revisit as Veteran Representatives.

Benefits & Schedule
Free hotel accommodations for the veteran and their companion or veteran representatives, meals for 5 nights and 6 days in Seoul for 2 people. If you want to bring more people you may at your expense. Accommodations are based on (2) persons per room, if you want your own hotel room you may at your own expense. All of the above items need to be requested in writing. Tours of Seoul and its vicinity, banquet hosted by the MPVA and KVA with presentation of the "Ambassador for Peace" medal, tours of the DMZ, Pan-Mun-Jom, War Memorial Museum, and the National Cemetery.

Peace Camp For Youth (PCFY) Program for Grandchildren of Veterans
Purpose is to express the sincere gratitude of the Korean people and to build a network for future collaboration among Families of Korean War Veterans. Grandchildren must be at least 18 years old.

Benefits & Schedule for (PCFY)
Same as the Veterans tour with an extra day of events and subsidies are per person, with no companions.

Sundry Notes
1. The MPVA Revisit Program privileges are provided for scheduled groups only.
2. Participants are required to have a valid passport that does not expire until 6 months after return to the USA.
3. Neither MPVA Seoul nor MHT Virginia U.S.A is responsible for any loss of or damage to personal or other items; medical expenses, injuries or loss of life due to any accident of nature during the tour.
4. Hospitalization, Evacuation and Trip Cancellation Insurance is required by MPVA for all veterans, companions or veteran representatives. Insurance costs are included in the admin service charge for Korea only.
5. Transportation costs to/from Korea will be borne by each person who participates in the program. The Korean government is now subsidizing airfare for persons traveling with the MHT administered group.
6. Applications will be received/accepted on a “First-come, first-served” basis.
7. Use of frequent flyer miles or other “free” transportation is allowed, but the administrative service fee of $450.00 per person is still required for the insurance and administration.

Ulchi Freedom Tests Readiness on Korean Peninsula

U.S., South Korean, and allied armed forces are in the midst of Ulchi Freedom Guardian 2012 on the Korean peninsula, a combined exercise meant to strengthen readiness to defend against North Korean aggression. The exercise is one of the two peninsula-wide exercises staged each year by the US-South Korean Combined Forces Command, according to a Pentagon release. It [ran] until Aug. 31, allowing senior leaders to work on decision-making, while commanders and staffs execute combined planning and command and control, and oversee military intelligence, logistics, and personnel issues.

Australia, Britain, Canada, Denmark, France, New Zealand, and Norway are also participating in Ulchi Freedom, which kicked off on Aug. 20. Seventh Air Force Commander Lt. Gen. Jan-Marc Jouas said in a statement that Air Force assets on the peninsula have an “opportunity to demonstrate US commitment” to South Korea and “stability in Northeast Asia.”

As the Defense Department shifts its focus to the Asia-Pacific region, Ulchi Freedom exercises will be more important than ever, he said. (AFPS report by Donna Miles)

Thanks to John Gavel for bringing this article to our attention. Reach him at THE-GAVEL@aol.com

Did you know… The CPX used to be called Ulchi Focus Lens. Ulchi was a famous Korean General, Focus Lens was the U.S. name contribution to the combined exercise, now Freedom Guardian, which is better.

Theater Commands are assigned sections of alphabet to use for operational names, so you see names like Desert Storm, Desert Eagle, and in some cases names predating this system like Reforger...return of forces to Germany!

NORTH KOREA from page 74

navy ships were, then try to ditch the aircraft. Unfortunately, his aircraft blew up before making it to the coast.

Some of Lt. Forster’s crew members who bailed out survived and became Prisoners of War. To this day, there may be some MIAs among them.

When the Iron Curtain fell, some Korean War records were released. One of these records concerned Lt. Forster and his crew. It indicated that their aircraft was found by the North Koreans, and that four bodies were found in the wreckage. Seven chutes were seen leaving the aircraft, but not all seven crew members have been accounted for.

Of all the combat missions I flew, the 30 December 1952 mission remains foremost in my mind. My respect for Lt. Forster and Sgt. Differ has never diminished through the years. They are heroes in every respect. If they had bailed out of their burning aircraft, the chances of their survival were good.

I regret that I never attempted to contact Lt. Forster’s family to inform them of his heroism. However, through luck, I was able to speak to Sgt. Differ’s son. I sincerely hope that he understands my respect for Sgt. Differ and his heroic actions.

Since I was an aircrew member who was lucky to make round trips over North Korea and return to Okinawa, I never stepped a foot on Korean soil. So, I was spared witnessing the destruction on South Korea and the horrors of war.

After viewing pictures and watching motion pictures of the ground war, and hearing from various ground troops about what the North Koreans and communists did to the South Koreans, I have a great amount of respect for our ground troops, Army, Marines, Navy and the airmen who flew B-26s, fighter-bombers, fighter pilots, and especially the ground crews who worked around the clock to keep the planes flying.

I am proud to say that I was a participant in the bombing raids that gave the North Koreans a taste of their own medicine.

Wayne A. Morrison, 433 Stuart Street, Ridgewood, New Jersey 07450-1712, 201-652-6317

The Graybeards

November - December 2012
Veteran and Korean woman celebrate Veterans Day at Phoenix parade. (See THANKS – pg. 77)