

America's Forgotten Victory!

KOREA VETERANS

The Graybeards



Official Publication of
THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION
November - December 2013 Vol. 27, No. 6

Happy Holidays
From the Officers and Staff of the KWSA

The Graybeards

Official Publication of
THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION



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

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

We Honor Founder William T. Norris

Editor
Arthur G. Sharp
152 Sky View Dr.,
Rocky Hill, CT 06067
Ph: 860-202-3088
sharp_arthur_g@sbcbglobal.net

Advertising Manager
Gerald W. Wadley
Finisterre Publishing Inc.
3 Black Skimmer Ct
Beaufort, SC 29907
843-521-1896
finisterre@islc.net

Publisher
Finisterre Publishing Inc.
3 Black Skimmer Ct
Beaufort, SC 29907
843-521-1896
finisterre@islc.net

Membership Office

**Address Changes, Corrections,
& All Membership Questions**
Sheila Fritts
Membership Administrative Assistant
PO Box 407
Charleston, IL 61920-0407
Ph: 217-345-4414
Membership@kwva.org

Webmaster
Jim Doppelhammer
Double Hammer Computer Services
430 W. Lincoln Ave.
Charleston, IL 61920-7471
Ph: 217-512-9474
webmaster@kwva.org

National KWVA Headquarters

President
Larry Kinard
2108 Westchester Dr
Mansfield, TX 76063
Ph: 682-518-1040
Larry.Kinard@yahoo.com

Immediate Past President
James E. Ferris
4311 Lazybrook Circle
Liverpool, NY 13088
Ph: 315-457-1681
JimFerrisKWVA@aol.com

Sr. Advisor to Chairman of Board
William F. Mac Swain
8452 Marys Creek De
Benbrook, TX 76116-7600
Ph: 817-244-0706
BillMacSwain@charter.net

1st Vice President
Roy E. Aldridge
6544 Grand Ridge Dr.
El Paso, TX 79912
Ph: 915-581-4725
Royaldridge@sbcbglobal.net

2nd Vice President
(Vacant)

Secretary
Frank E. Cohee, Jr.
4037 Chelsea Lane
Lakeland, FL 33809-4063
Ph: 863-859-1384
KWVAsec@gmail.com

Asst. Secretary
Jacob L. Feaster, Jr.
22731 N Hwy 329, Micanopy, FL 32667
Cell: 352-262-1845
FAX: 352-466-3493 JFeaster@kwva.org

Treasurer
Tom Gregg
PO Box 619
Tom Bean, TX 75489
Ph: 903-546-6975
Treasurer@kwva.org

Asst. Treasurer
Richard Vaughn
5403 Timber Green Dr.
Arlington, TX 76016
Ph: 817-789-6971, Cell: 817-446-1168
rpv7@sbcbglobal.net

Membership Management
Jacob L. Feaster, Jr., Supervisor
(See Asst. Secretary)

Jim Doppelhammer, Data Base Develop.
(See Webmaster)

Sheila Fritts, Data Base Input
(See Address Changes, etc)

Directors

Term 2011-2014

Lewis M. Ewing
310 Clay Hill Dr., Winchester, VA 22602
Ph: 540-678-1787 LewEwing@gmail.com

Richard E. Brown, Sr.
2307 Gring Dr., West Lawn, PA 19609
Ph: 610-670-2886 Rebpi1@comcast.net

George E. Lawhon
600 E Weddell Dr #91, Sunnyvale, CA 94089
Ph: 408-734-0305
george.e.lawhon@gmail.com

Luther E. Rice, Jr.
414 Water St, Aurora, IN 47001-1242
Ph: 812-926-2790 LERiceJr@yahoo.com

Term 2012-2015

Luther Dappen
510 W Pipestone Ave.,
Flandreau, SD 57028-1619
Ph: 605-997-2847 LHDappen@yahoo.com

J. Tilford Jones
6958 Heatherknoll Dr
Dallas, TX 75248-5534
Ph: 972-233-7263 TilJ@flash.net

Salvatore Scarlato
19 Torlen Ct.
Hauppauge, NY 11788
Ph: 631-724-5459 Salbalboa@verizon.net

John T "Sonny" Edwards
14370 Mill Swamp Rd.
Smithfield, VA 23430-3536
Ph: 757-357-2331
KVetEdwards@yahoo.com

Term 2013-2016

George J. Bruzgis
230 Legion Pl
Haledon, NJ 07508-1420
Ph: 973-956-8672
GBruzgis@aol.com

George S. Covel
850 County Route 61
Shushan, NY 12873-3203
Ph: 518-854-3128
georgecovel@yahoo.com

Tine P. Martin Sr.
8 Jackson Ct.
Brownsburg, IN 46112-1684
Ph: 317-852-2413, Cell: 317-435-4804
TinePMartin@yahoo.com

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

Appointed/Assigned Staff

Judge Advocate
William B. Burns
105 Emann Dr, Camillus
NY 13031-2077
Ph: 315-487-1750, BillBurnsKWVA@aol.com

National Legislative Director
Charlie Price
126 Dirksen Dr
Debarry, FL 32713-3837
Ph: 407-221-6949, CharleyPrice@aol.com

National Legislative Assistant
Roy J. Burkhart
PO Box 204
Willow, AK 99688
Ph: 907-841-9162, RJBurk@mtaonline.net

National Legislative Field Man
Donald R. Duffy
1901 N Mercer St
New Castle, PA 16105-2845
Ph: 724-654-1961, PRGDUF@verizon.net

National Veterans Service Officer (VSO)
Arthur E. Hills
4300 Esta Lee Ave., Killeen, TX 76549
Ph: 254-526-6567, AHills@hot.rr.com

National VAVS Director
J. D. Randolph
1523 Pinebluff Dr., Allen, TX 75002-1870
Ph: 972-359-2936, Randy9683@sbcbglobal.net

POW/MIA Coordinator
(Vacant)

KWVA Liaison to Canadian KVA:
Garry J. Rockburn
518 East Ave., Kirkville, NY 13082-9706
Ph: 315-656-8528, garryjrockburn@gmail.com

KWVA Liaison to Korean War Nat'l Museum
Robert Mitchell
3021 Rosefield Dr.
Houston, TX 77080-2609
Ph: 713-939-8880

KWVA Liaison to Korean-American Assn.
Jongwoo Han
310 Summerhaven Dr N
East Syracuse, NY 13057-3127
Ph: 315-637-9836, Jonghan@syr.edu

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

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

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

KWVA Liaison to Washington, DC
Warren Wiedhahn
13198 Centerpointe Way, Suite 202
Woodbridge, VA 22193-5285
Ph: 703-590-1295, JWiedhahn@aol.com

KWVA Committees

Budget/Finance Committee
J. Tilford Jones, Chairman
(See Directors)

Bylaws Committee
Lewis M. Ewing, Chairman
(See Directors)

Recruitment Committee
John T. "Sonny" Edwards, Chairman
14370 Mill Swamp Rd.
Smithfield, VA 23430-3536
Ph: 757-357-2331, KVetEdwards@yahoo.com

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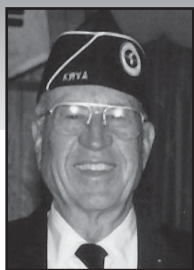
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196 W. Crescent St.
Boyce, VA 22620-9702.

Revisit Committee
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13198 Centerpointe Way, #202
Woodbridge, VA 22193-5285
Ph: 703-590-1295
JWiedhahn@aol.com

Ethics and Grievance Committee
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From the President

Larry Kinard

My greetings to all during this holiday season. It seems to be coming around earlier every year, but at least

we are still here and able to enjoy the festivities surrounding the holiday period. It is a busy time for all, and we must take a little time to really appreciate and understand what the season is all about. I wish you all a wonderful Christmas.

I have just returned from the Veterans Day program in Washington D.C. with a full appreciation for what our nation does each year to recognize all veterans. It was my privilege and honor to represent the KWVA in placing of wreaths at our Memorial on November 10 and at the Tomb of the Unknowns on Veterans Day.

Tom McHugh, our National Ceremonies Chairman, Color Guard Leo Ruffing, and Tim Whitmore, CID 191[VA] were there to do the honors at our Memorial. LTC Moon Ho Kang, from the ROK Embassy, and Warren Wiedhahn, Washington D.C. Liaison, were there with us. It was a beautiful day. A large gathering took part in the ceremony as we heard supportive comments from the ROK Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs and participated in the "Turn to Busan."

To me, the Veterans Day ceremony is well done and always impressive when we gather to hear the President of our country focus the eyes and ears of the nation on those who have served the cause of freedom. It is important and a good thing that we take part in that ceremony.

At the request of the South Korean government, my wife and I made a second trip to Korea, along with several other Korean War veterans, at the end of September. We were invited to be a part of the Commemoration of the 60th Anniversary of the US-ROK Alliance. Two of the veterans in the group, Colonel Victor Viera (Ret.), the battalion commander of the forces who dealt with the DMZ "tree chopping" incident in the 1970s, and Colonel Yeong Tae Pak (Ret.), the first Korean American to finish West Point and attain the rank of Colonel, had three generations who have served in Korea.

One of the real pluses to the job of President of the KWVA is that I often receive newsletters and reports from Chapters all across the country.

It was a very diverse group, but truly symbolic of the strength and growth of this alliance over the past sixty years. In all respects, it was a great trip, which ended with a very impressive military display on October 1 at the Seoul Airbase on South Korea's 65th Armed Forces Day. We were honored to have the opportunity to represent the KWVA during this time. As you might know, they consider this alliance to be all important in their success and security and expect and hope that it will continue long into the future.

One of the real pluses to the job of President of the KWVA is that I often receive newsletters and reports from Chapters all across the country. I enjoy reading these newsletters and have an opportunity to get a good feel for the activities taking place with these chapters. Of course, I am especially interested in your Tell America programs and glad to see so many of you participating with the schools.

I received an interesting package the other day from Ken Toshiro, with Chapter #1 in Hawaii. The package contained a book titled, "Korean War Veterans in Action," which is the story of KWVA Hawaii Chapter # 1. It is an excellent book, containing pictures and stories of the living and deceased members of their chapter. It has just been published, and is available for purchase from Ken Toshiro. The members of this chapter seem to have a very strong bond and are very proud of their service in the Korean War.

A few more brief items before I close—

I am pleased that the most recent membership report on November 8 showed that you have added a total of 937 new members to our organization this year. Recruiting Chairman Sonny Edwards is working hard to keep this going. I know he is very proud and appreciative of what the chapters have accomplished. It is my hope that we can bring in a few more and make it 1,000 or more that we have added before the end of the year.

I hope you have noticed the information

on the KWVA website or have received the email about the "Korea Reborn" books that are currently being distributed across the country and are to be given free to all Korean veterans. It is a beautiful coffee-table quality book provided to us by an alliance of South Korean public and private sectors, led by the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs and the Federation of Korean Industries. This is the same book that was given to Korean Veterans at the DOD 60th Commemoration Event in Washington DC in July.

Many who received them were so impressed they wrote the publisher to see about getting more. I understand they have printed an additional 240,000 for this distribution. The website information shows the point of contact in each state. Those who want the books should contact the location shown and make arrangements to get the number you need for chapter members.

In most places, it will require someone from the chapter to pick them up, because there is not enough money available to ship to individual locations. It would be great if you can get enough to leave some with the school libraries. *Check the national website.*

I also refer you to an article in this issue about an attempt to reunite Koreans with American Soldiers they knew or served with during the war. The MPVA has asked us to cooperate with them in trying to find the six soldiers mentioned here. Please let editor Art Sharp know if you have information about any of them.

Reminder—the Sept/Oct issue of The Graybeards has the "Call for Elections," which is the call for "a few good men" to stand up and place their name on the ballot for election to an important office to help run this organization. I ask you to please give this your serious consideration. If you don't want to run for an office, then please vote when the time comes.

I hope for you all to have Happy Holidays and a Blessed New Year.

Larry Kinard, President

COVER: Snowmen, white reindeer, iced trees and snowflakes are all included in the Winter Wonderland section of the holiday shop at the Seoul Express Bus Terminal Flower Market. The trip to the shop is approximately an hour and a half from the Osan Air Base front gate. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Kristina Overton)



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Frank Cohee



From the Secretary

Information and letters of interest

I would normally put information from the VA at the last part of my column, but I think that this is a must read, even if you do not read anything else.

Enhanced Information For Veterans Benefits

Military veterans and their families have a new online source of help for getting the benefits they have earned. On the web-site Explore VA, produced by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, you can learn about many kinds of benefits, e.g., health care, education, job service, home loans, housing, life insurance, pensions, disability compensation, and much more.

You can also apply for those benefits through the site and track the status of your claim. And, if you want to reach out for more information or to fellow veterans, you will find social networking tools to help with that, too. Log on to va.gov/explorer.

Korean Ambassador Peace Medal

All Korean War veterans should have received the Korean War Peace medal by now. Here is a report from the Commander of Chapter 317: "Our medal campaign came off great. In the four hours from 1000 hours to 1400, we signed up 95 Korean War veterans for the Korean War Service Medal presented by the Korean government.

P.S. Sometime ago (also known as "I cannot find the e-mail") I was contacted by a Virginia West from the Korean Consulate at Atlanta, GA. She asked me for a list of my members that had not received their medals. I sent her a list, but to date I have not received any medals.

December 1951

Dinnertime

In New York City a trim mother in Dior and a trimmer daughter in Chanel peruse their menus at the Palm Court. "May I suggest the poached salmon?" the gentleman waiter murmurs.

At the Philadelphia Arena fans crowd the concession stand for cheese steak sandwiches. "Two with extra onions" one shouts. He grabs them and hurries to his seat just as the Warriors tip off against Syracuse.

In Houston, large men in Stetsons order large plates of ribs and pitchers of Lone Star. "How y'all doin'?" the waitress (in a large Stetson) smiles.

Near Hwachon, Korea, men in grimy parkas shuffle through the chow line in the cold dusk, mess kits at the ready. Beef and 'grease' again. Dehydrated potatoes. Again. Quickly they spoon up the blend before it freezes to the tin.

"Is that thing still goin' on over there?" the large Houstonian burps through another swig of Lone Star.

CALL FOR BOARD MEETING, MARCH 11, 2014

A BOARD MEETING is called for March 11, 2014 from 0830 and continuing with recesses through the completion of all business properly brought before it. Officers and Directors should plan on arriving on March 10 and departing on March 12. Those with AGENDA/ACTION items proposed for the meeting must insure that they reach Frank Cohee, Association Secretary, not later than February 3, 2014. The final agenda and your packet will be sent to you on or about February 10, 2014.

The meeting will take place at the LaQuinta Inns & Suites, located at DFW Airport, South/Irving, 4105 West Airport Freeway, Irving, TX 75062, Phone 972-252-6546, e-mail: Lq0519dos1@lquinta.com.

Preliminary Agenda

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Invocation
- Administrative Announcements
- Adopt Agenda
- Adopt Rules of Decorum & Debate
- Roll Call and Introductions/Recognition of New Officers/Directors
- Action on Board Absences, if Required
- Introduction of Distinguished Visitors, Major Staff and Others
- Approval of the Minutes for the Board Meeting, July 25, 2013
- Treasurer's Report
- Old Business: Approval for Disposing of the Ballots from the 2013 Election
- New Business
- Reports from Selected Committees
- For the Good of the Order
- Motion to Adjourn
- Benediction
- Salute to the Colors

Frank Cohee, Association Secretary



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REPORTING FOR DUTY

By George E. Lawhon

Prior to the July 2013 Board Meeting in Washington, D.C., KWVA President Larry Kinard asked me if I would assume the duties of Chairman of the Tell America Committee. I told him I would be honored, and that I would try my best to live up to his record of service to the Tell America function, so important to the Korean War Veterans Association and the young folk of America and their families, which and who it serves.

You have to begin somewhere, though, so I contacted the Tell America Committee members to ask them if they wished to continue to serve. They all responded with a Yes.

It is the simple, plain truth that I have never made a Tell America presentation, nor has my Chapter, CID 6. That being said, it is not my style to tell someone what and how to do something that I haven't done myself. I assure you that somewhere during the process of getting the Tell America expansion presented in this article put together, I will make a presentation locally myself, hopefully to a high school.

I have been contacted by a number of KWVA members who have offered to share their Tell America experiences, and some of the presentation tools they used. A big thank you goes out to the folks in Chapter 270 and others. Based on consultation with them, I will prepare procedures in the form of a digital manual, titled Tell America Manual.

On the Home Page of the KWVA website, <http://www.kwva.org> there is a link, Tell America Program, in the left sidebar, under PROGRAMS. It gives excellent information, and added to it will be a link to the new Tell America Manual.

The link to the past issues of The Graybeards is also on the left side of the KWVA Homepage, but down below it, under: ARCHIVES

The Graybeards

Online Archives of Past Issues

There you can individually download the GB files, a considerable amount of source material, in either MS Word or PDF format.

Prior to today, the Department of Defense (DOD) has been a valuable source of material in the form of books, posters, videos and DVDs, but has essentially stopped that since the 60th Anniversary of the cease fire. They are in the process of distributing much of what remains, some of it to the KWVA.

I am in the process of determining who has what and how much is in their possession. Sometime between now and the March Board Meeting in Texas, it is my goal to prepare a draft of the Tell America Manual.

There will soon be an access link on the KWVA home page. After you have entered the Tell America Program link (see above) the link title will be TELL AMERICA 2014. In addition to the Tell America Manual, an entry form will soon be in place where a presentation can be documented by the Chapter that gave it. A report will be designed to give visibility to KWVA Tell America activity.

Today, which is Veterans Day, 2013, I formally accept the

post, and promise due diligence to its duties, obligations and responsibilities.

Respectfully and fraternally to all,

George E. Lawhon, LR18750, Chairman, KWVA Tell America, Director, KWVA, george.e.lawhon@gmail.com, 408-734-0305 (Home) 408-507-9416 (Cell): Both phones have voice mail, so you may call any time. I will answer all calls and emails.

Thanks for Supporting The Graybeards

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| IMO Sgt Thomas Cochran | |



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It is not easy for me to admit that I made a mistake. But, I did, and it affects this issue of *The Graybeards*. I apologize to the chapters and individuals affected by my error.

I messed up the photo captions file that I send to our publisher when we start laying out the magazine. Usually, we process between 150 and 200 photos per edition. I write the captions and send the file and the photos to the publisher, who then matches the captions and the photos. So, here's how I messed up.

I send some of the photos, i.e., prints, pamphlets, etc., to the publisher via UPS. Others go by email, i.e., the jpegs, pdfs, etc., that members submit electronically. What I generally do is extract the email captions from the complete list of captions and create a separate file so I can check off the emailed photos as I forward them to the publisher. Then, I save the two lists as separate files. (Are you following this so far? I got lost a couple paragraphs back.) This time, I saved the email caption list as the entire photo captions list, which erased all the non-email captions.

I must admit that I have been a bit distracted lately. I haven't returned some phone calls as quickly as I should or answered members' letters. In some cases I have not responded at all.

So, you ask, why didn't I have a back-up? Good question. I did. I keep one list on my C drive and a copy on my A drive. (Yes, I still use a floppy disk. I know, I know: that is so 18th century.) But, I saved the email file on both drives. Hence my problem.

Fortunately, I did have a partial list of captions which helped prevent a total disaster. But, the bottom line is still this: we have about ten "captionless" photos that we intended to include in this issue but which we have omitted. (Imagine what your reaction would be if you saw ten photos in *The Graybeards* without captions. I cannot imagine what it would be.) I would try to reconstruct some of the captions, but the photos are in South Carolina and I am in Connecticut, and for the first time in years I will not be relocating to my winter office.

Our publisher is making an effort to create new captions for some of the photos, but only for those that have written notes on the back. That is an undue burden on him, and is not one of his pay grade responsibilities. But, he is doing what he can to alleviate the problem, for which I thank him profusely.

I will create a safeguard/back-up system so this situation does not happen again. That does not do much to help the members whose photos will not appear in this edition due to my negligence and lack of attention to detail. But, I will try to reconstruct what I can and include as many of the missing photos as possible in future editions.

I must admit that I have been a bit distracted lately. I haven't returned some phone calls as quickly as I should or answered members' letters. In some cases I have not responded at all. That is because my wife of 47 years is dealing with an incurable disease (Huntington's), and I have made her my top priority while we grapple with the details associated with making her comfortable, arranging for care, etc. That is not an excuse for my occasional inattention to detail lately. But, there is a connection.

She was my assistant for many years, and a good one. She helped create photo captions, returned phone calls, soothed irate callers, etc. I miss her help (and her)—and based on this screw up, it was badly needed.

Anyway, I promise to pay more attention to the photo captions file in the future, return phone calls and answer letters more promptly, etc. Again, I apologize to our members whose photos remain "captionless," and I will be more careful in the future.

If only I could develop a back-up plan to restore my wife's health.

THE GRAYBEARDS DEADLINES

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

| | |
|----------------|---------|
| Jan-Feb | Jan 15 |
| Mar-Apr | Mar 15 |
| May-June | May 15 |
| July-Aug | July 15 |
| Sept-Oct | Sept 15 |
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Ignorance and Apathy[©]

By Arthur Haarmeyer

*EDITOR'S NOTE: This is a sample chapter from Arthur Haarmeyer's book, *Into the Land of Darkness*, which is advertised on p. 14. Ordering information is included there.*

The danger's passed, the wrong is righted,
The veteran's ignored, the soldier's slighted.

—Author unknown

We were flown from K-9 AFB just east of Pusan, South Korea, to a big, barren, and gray relocation compound, commonly known as Fuchu, near the heart of Tokyo, Japan, the same way we had arrived over seven months earlier. We had been transported to Fuchu in the cold and empty belly of a lumbering C-119 cargo plane, the then famous Fairchild C-119 "Flying Boxcar." We were two veteran B-26 crews from the 95th Bomb Squadron coming back to the world from air-ground combat, each crew comprised of a pilot, a bombardier-navigator, and an air gunner.

We had just completed our fifty-mission tours of duty together and were finally escaping that unwelcoming Korean peninsula in the dying days of July 1953. Each of us was without physical injury, but we had mixed emotions and haunting memories of comrades left behind in North Korea who would never leave that brutal land of jagged, deadly, and unforgiving mountain ranges with narrow, deep, and treacherous river valleys.

We were denied the daytime sights and nocturnal pleasures of Tokyo, as on the same day as our unheralded arrival we had been quickly and hurriedly loaded upon a chartered Canadian Pacific Douglas C-54 transport, at nearby Tachikawa AFB, for a long two-stop, over-water flight to Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. I climbed the ramped steps into the cabin of the transport, stuffed my heavy duffel bag into a cramped overhead compartment, and slumped into a comfortable reclining seat, anxiously awaiting the start of the long takeoff roll. As I sat there, through engine run-up, I began to shudder uncontrollably, not really believing that it was all nearly over.

In my head was a veritable kaleidoscope

We had just completed our fifty-mission tours of duty together and were finally escaping that unwelcoming Korean peninsula in the dying days of July 1953. Each of us was without physical injury, but we had mixed emotions and haunting memories of comrades left behind...

of vivid recollections—the multitude of events, many uncomprehended and some incomprehensible, that impacted my young American life as a volunteer aircrew member in a vicious regional Asian war that was then commonly referred to back home as merely a "police action." I remembered from those eventful months of service too many moments of sheer terror, when flak was suddenly arcing upward toward us and I had to make an immediate and agonizing decision as to what I should be shouting into the intercom—for my pilot to either "break left" or "break right"—to escape the deadly and multiple arcs of green or white tracers, the flaming "golf balls," rushing at and by us.

I remembered the hard and empty faces of the disheveled and gaunt Korean refugees who passed before us in seemingly endless lines as they trudged along the sides of an icy road while we rode by in a new, warm, enclosed jeep. I remembered the exquisite and absolute beauty of a summer tropical sky at sunset as we flew back toward the northwest coast of Honshu, the main island of Japan, for aircraft repair and our rest and recuperation. I remembered being totally mesmerized by the soaring multicolored clouds on all sides, gawking at the ever-changing permutations of light, configuration, and color, and forgetting for the moment that I was in the Plexiglas nose of a light bomber as a navigator with substantial crew responsibilities.

I remembered the barren, primitive shelter that I shared with a passing array of B-26 crewmembers whom I thought I knew well but did not really know at all. I remembered the expression on our innocent young Korean house girl's face the last time I saw her, both of us knowing that we would never see each other again. These were among many fast and fleeting recol-

lections of K-9 Air Force Base and its people that I had on that air-cooled C-54 transport.

I remember particularly the overwhelming sense of relief from anxiety, tension, and terror as the wheels left the dark runway along Tokyo Bay and I stared out at the receding nightlights of Tokyo. I also left the Far East with a feeling of regret and the nagging conviction that we had not finished the mission we had inherited upon our arrival, and an uneasy feeling of guilt for having failed to volunteer for an extended tour of duty. But I also knew that I simply could not psychologically handle twenty-five more flights into those dark and dangerous North Korean skies.

After brief refueling stops in the Aleutian Islands and at a major air base near Anchorage, Alaska, we landed at Vancouver International Airport, tired, hungry, and dirty. We arrived with our heavy duffel bags jammed with Air Force clothing, a few Asian souvenirs of questionable value, and little else. There was no one to meet or assist us upon our arrival in Vancouver, and we soon learned there were no arrangements for us to reach the city of Seattle, where, we had been informed just prior to take-off, we would receive full base pay and combat pay for our months of military service in Korea. So we shared the cost of a limousine and together we rode the approximately ninety miles to Seattle in comparative comfort, but in silence, total fatigue, and with some substantial measure of loneliness and disappointment.

In Seattle we were rudely informed that our military pay records had not yet been received and that we would not be paid until their arrival. So we went our separate ways. My pilot, Captain Robert Crow, and I took adjacent rooms in a major downtown Seattle hotel where we reasonably expected

to be quartered for just a day or two. At this point I felt financially comfortable as I had hoarded well over three hundred dollars that I had won in a series of chess games in Korea, playing against mostly USAF air and ground crewmen whose self-confidence and competitive spirit far exceeded their recently acquired chess skills.

By happenstance, I discovered that a dark and intimate bar in this hotel was the hangout for reporters who worked for the Post-Intelligencer, one of Seattle's major daily newspapers. And it was my good luck and good fortune to meet there a petite and veritably sparkling brunette who was referred to by her older male colleagues as a "cub reporter." I was twenty-five years old, single, and reasonably presentable in my newly pressed blue gabardine dress uniform, well adorned, I thought, with a number of brightly colored fabric bars representing the awards and decorations I had earned in Korea.

In view of our mutual attraction and by way of many fine restaurants and alluring wharf-side cocktail lounges along Puget Sound, my three hundred dollars almost totally disappeared within four days. Unfortunately, my USAF pay records had not yet arrived to enable me to replenish my dwindling cash reserves. At the same time the weekend arrived, and to my joy and discomfort, this adventurous young lady suggested that we junket to a ski lodge on the slopes of nearby Mount Rainier.

She further suggested that I wear casual civilian attire for the occasion. Having no other option, I informed her that I was temporarily broke, that I had nothing but military apparel in my possession, and that consequently, my purchase of civilian clothing or my financing of a weekend trip to a ski lodge was not within the range of possibility. She quickly and rudely stated that military dress uniforms (and combat awards and decorations) made but slight impact upon the war-weary citizens of Seattle. World War II had just eight years prior left major and lasting impressions upon the local populace, in contrast to the recent events and happenings of the comparatively limited and seemingly unremarkable Korean War, despite the grim reality that close to thirty-four thousand mostly young American lives were brutally and abruptly terminated in Korea over three years of intense warfare.

She then described something that had happened at her newspaper just a few months before. It seems that every day this newspaper printed a summary of the "battle actions" that had occurred the previous day in Korea. Such reports generally summarized the significant military happenings, such as enemy planes shot down, coastal supply ships sunk, front line positions overrun, and combat casualties. According to her account, one day her paper inadvertently ran, word for word, the very same story of death and destruction that it had run the previous day. Remarkably, not a single newspaper reader contacted the newspaper to report this negligent duplication. The city editor was so intrigued by this lack of readership reaction that he decided to run it a third consecutive day. Only then, after these two days of total content duplication, did the paper receive three or four observations or complaints from its readers.

This significant absence of awareness or interest on the part of the newspaper's large "big city" readership in the combat actions of the Korean War reminded my young and cynical companion of that long-forgotten but still somewhat amusing question: "What is the difference between ignorance and apathy?" Answer: "I don't know and I don't care!"

So then and there I became brutally aware that what I had experienced in Korea, what I had personally accomplished, and what I had thought was vital, meaningful, and important was considered rather insignificant back here in the States. Few people seemed to know or care that we

were enabling the South Korean people (horribly enslaved and brutalized by the Japanese from 1910 until the end of World War II in 1945) and their new and struggling democratic government to survive and ultimately prosper, by our dominant role in holding back the hordes of relentlessly attacking and brutal invaders from communist North Korea and China.

Then and there I further and finally acknowledged to myself the depressing and disillusioning reality that what I had thought was morally responsible and patriotic was not so considered by an overwhelming majority of Americans. This conclusion was confirmed several days later upon my arrival home in Chicago, where it seems that no one really knew or cared about a distant war on a small peninsula in eastern Asia unless they had a close family member whose life was threatened directly by being so involved.

Simply stated, to them the war in Korea was little more than an annoyance: a distraction from normal life and business as usual. So I deliberately suppressed the compulsive need to talk about my experiences, my beliefs, and my feelings about what I still believed was a very necessary war. And I substantially succeeded over the next five decades in the attempt to bury and suppress the types of memories that really never leave a survivor of intense and sustained combat action, no matter how hard and long the efforts to forget.

*Reach Arthur Haarmeyer at
arthurhaarmeyer@gmail.com*

Should The U.S. Deny Foreign Medals?

South Korean President Honors 7th Air Force

Lt. Gen. Jan-Marc Jouas, 7th Air Force commander, accepted South Korea's Presidential Unit Citation from South Korean President Park Geun-hye during a ceremony at Seoul Air Base. At the Oct. 1 ceremony, Park recognized 7th AF for long-standing achievement in operational readiness and force employment, states a 7th AF release from Oct. 3. Park also honored South Korean military units at the event.

Jouas, who as 7th AF commander oversees Air Force units on the Korean Peninsula, said he accepted the citation on behalf of all the members of the 7th Air Force. "They, along with all the members of our combined and joint airpower team, made this recognition possible," he said. The South Korean citation is outside of normal Defense Department decoration channels due to its rarity, so 7th AF is working with the Air Force Personnel Center to determine the criteria for proper wear of the award, according to the release.

This is the first time since 2011 that a U.S. unit has received the South Korean citation. The Army's 2nd Infantry Division was the previous US recipient. (Osan report by TSgt. Thomas J. Doscher) *(See a related question on p. 52)*

Help Us Find These People

I'm Junho Jung, Assistant Deputy Director, Veterans Policy and International Affairs, Department of the ROK Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MPVA). The MPVA has conducted a campaign to reunite Korean soldiers or civilians and the UN Korean War veterans who have special episodes during the war. The MPVA has received episodes from Korean people for the campaign and has got requests to locate some veterans.

I'm attaching one episode related to the UK veterans and six episodes related to the U.S. veterans. Please help us locate them.

If the KWVA holds a campaign to locate them, it will be a great help. It would be appreciated if we will be informed any clues that help locate them.

Best Regards,

Junho JUNG, Assistant Deputy Director
Veterans Policy and International Affairs
Ministry of Patriots & Veterans Affairs
Republic of Korea

UK Veterans

Persons we want to locate

■ UK Royal Military Police Officers, 79th Military Police Company, 29th Infantry Brigade

- Major Evans, Company commander (thought to be 40 years old at the time)
- Captain Williams (thought to be 37 years old at the time)
- First Lieutenant Espinol (thought to be 40 years old at the time)
- Staff Sergeant Hamilton (thought to be 28 years old at the time)
- Burndy (thought to be 21 years old at the time)
- Captain, Doctor at field hospital (thought to be 28 years old at the time and his name is unknown)

Client

■ Noh Changho, Lee Taegwan (16 years old at the time). Served as a civilian in the UK Army during the Korean War

Details

After the Incheon Landing Operation in September, 1950, a large number of the UN forces were stationed around Suwon airfield. While the 29th Infantry Brigade and the 79th Military Police Company were stationed at Suwon High School, Noh, 16, and Lee, 16, accompanied the army.

With China entering the Korean War in early November, 1950, the UN Forces were forced to retreat. The UK forces and Military Police defended Osan, Pyeongtaek, and Sunghwan from the Chinese army during the January-Fourth Retreat. Teams consisting of two UK military police officers and one civilian attached to the military supported retreat and evacuation of the residents.

The UK forces took over operation areas from the U.S. Forces in March, 1951. The 29th Infantry Brigade and the 79th Military

Police Company came over to Gwangju/Gyeonggi Province, Icheon, Suwon, Anyang, Yeongdeungpo, Seoul, Dongducheon, and Paju, supporting the Battle of Imjin River (Noh and Lee were 17 years old at the time.)

U.S. Veterans

Person we want to locate

■ Bill Schiz Cake (then-lieutenant colonel), Commander of 6.9 Transportation Battalion (stationed in Sangok-dong, Boopyeong-gu, Incheon)

Client

■ Name : Lee Myeong Hwa (born in 1955)

Details

Bill is a Korean War veteran. Lee's parents presented Bill's daughter with Hanbok, Korean traditional costume in 1967.

Bill financially supported Lee for her studying at a middle school in Incheon. (She was a third-year student in a middle school.)

After returning to the U.S., Bill consistently supported Lee for her studying. Bill had sent scholarship to Lee through Korea Exchange Bank in Seoul.

Person we want to locate

■ Captain Ted H. Tyner (Company Commander), 5th Company, 4th Battalion, 59th Ordnance Corps (Deokjeong-ri, Dongducheon)

Client

■ Yoon Chang Gyu (Sergeant Major at the time). He joined the KATUSA as a Private in August 15, 1950 and was specially promoted to Sgt 1st Class in the same year.

Details

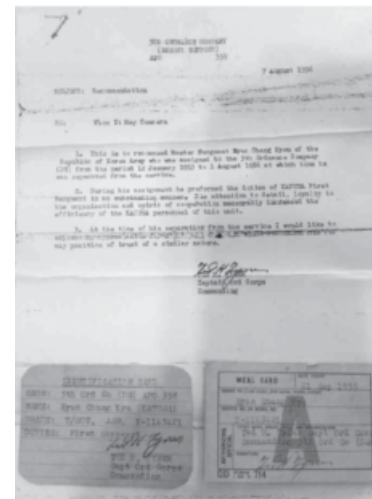
Mr. Yoon served in the Ordnance Corps, U.S. 8th Army, from 1950 to 1956. He wants to locate Company Commander Ted H. Tyner, with whom he served from 1954 to 1956.

Although the U.S. forces and KATUSA should be treated in the same way, there

Card that was used during his service and the letter of recommendation from Company Commander



Bill Schiz Cake taking a photo of Lee in 1967.



was discrimination. But Commander Tyner treated both equally. Yoon and Tyner became close friends. Tyner often helped Yoon when he had a problem.

Commander Tyner told him that he came from California, and he had a 5-year-old son. Also, Tyner entered the World War II.

Captain Ted Tyner with the Company Commander and Master Gunnery Sergeant



Persons we want to locate

■ Two U.S. soldiers who took care of Yoo while moving to battlefields in winter. The two US soldiers took charge of driving a military truck then.

Client

■ Yoo Gun Yeol, DoB: Oct 18, 1944

Details

Met two U.S. soldiers between Milyang and Cheongdo around the end of November or early December, 1950 for the first time. Spent around six or seven months together with the two soldiers.

The two soldiers called Yoo “Children.”

It is supposed that the two soldiers’ unit was stationed around Daegu.

Went to the public bath together and the two soldiers tossed Yoo like a volleyball in a bathtub.

The two soldiers took me to the Catholic convent in Namsandong, Daegu by three-quarter and parted from them.

The Catholic convent is still located there. It housed war orphans at that time.



The convent in Daegu to which the US soldiers took Yoo

Person we want to locate

■ Don W. Guinane, 32 Adelaid St., Norwich N.Y. 13815 U.S.A.

Don’s Unit and Rank: U.S. 7th ID, Infantryman (Meteorological Observer)/ Sergeant First Class when he went back to the U.S. in April, 1953

Client

■ Ahn Sang Cheol, DoB: Dec. 23, 1938

Details

Don spent one night in Ahn’s house in Gapyeong with a Filipino soldier on the way back from Japan. Don went on vacation to Japan during the Korean War. (Ahn’s address then was 503, Eupnae-ri, Gapyeong-eup, Gapyeong-gun, Gyeonggi Province, ROK)

Ahn lived with his mother (then-55 years old).

Next morning, Don went to a middle school near Ahn’s home to ask for Ahn’s entering to school, paying three-year-tuition for Ahn. At that time, Ahn couldn’t afford the money to go to school. Even after back to the U.S., Don sent Christmas cards and school supplies to Ahn.

They were in touch till the early of the 1990s but since then, Ahn lost contact with Don.



Don W. Guinane

Person we want to locate

■ Robert G. Downer. Robert lived in Ohio, U.S., in 1953.

Client

■ Kim Jin Gu

Details

Kim served in the ROK 11th Guard Battalion (870th Unit) as interpretation officer.

Robert G. Downer served as an advisor in the ROK 11th Guard Battalion, as well as in Mt. Jiri-area red guerilla suppression unit. Then, he served as a lieutenant general in KMAG, being promoted to First Lieutenant after six or seven months.

Kim lived in Gwangyang, South Jeolla Province, with three other three persons, including Robert.

Visit the Korean War Veterans Association
Website: www.KWVA.org



This photo was taken at a beach in Yeosu on August 10, 1953. Clockwise from the top (L-R) Kim Jin Gu, Master Sergeant Millow (Aide), Robert G. Downer, LtCol Lee Chang Beom (CO).

Person we want to locate

Kenneth's address after returning to the US (as of 1953), 7th INF REGT. APO 468 c/o PM. San Francisco, CA

Client

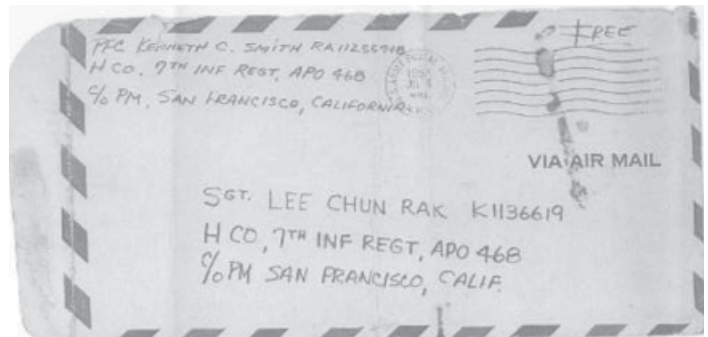
- Lee Chun Rak

Details

Kenneth comes from Massachusetts. When he entered the Korean War, he was a sophomore of Dean College.

While Lee was assigned to machine gun platoon, H Company, 2nd battalion, 7th regiment, 3rd division of the U.S. Army, the Chinese communist forces made a surprise attack at Mt. Osung. Lee and Kenneth survived from the attack in a heavy machine gun trench.

Kenneth called Lee 'Taekgichureshi,' which is supposed to be a character in a comic strips of the *Stars and Stripes*.



Letter from Kenneth C. Smith: (address on the envelope: HCO. 7th INF REGT. APO 468 c/o PM. San Francisco, CA). Kenneth sent this letter after finishing the first week of N.C.O. School, and wrote about his daily life

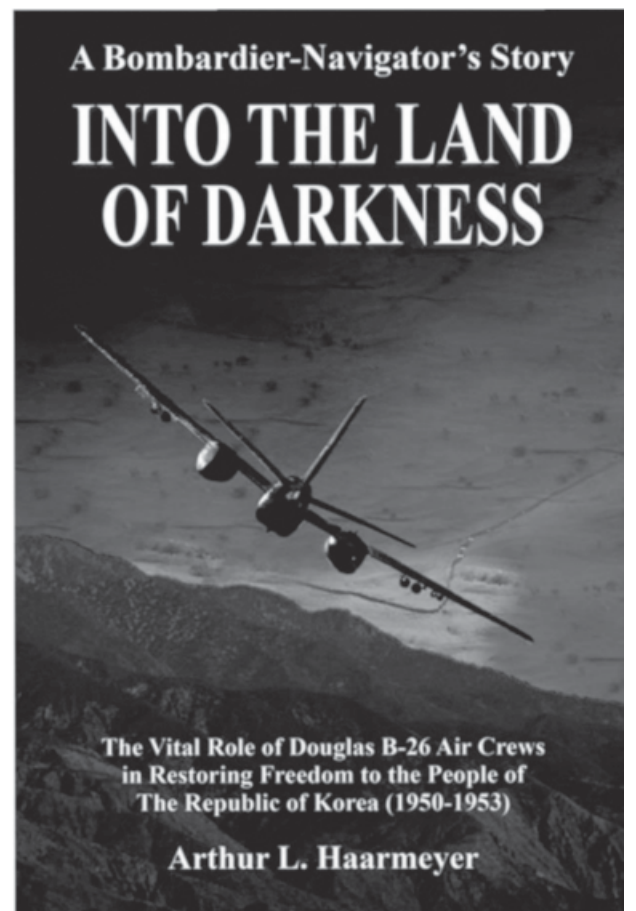
Take an historic sixty-year journey back in time! With this book you will fly fifty combat missions, mostly low-level, low-speed bombing and strafing raids, along with young USAF bombardier-navigator Arthur Haarmeyer, leaning over his Norden bombsight in the nose of a swift and deadly Douglas B-26 light bomber. Your mission--to detect, destroy, damage and delay the seemingly endless streams of men and materiel coursing down the roads and railroad tracks of North Korea from China and Russia through narrow and twisting snow-covered mountain passes.

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For additional information, contact the author at arthurhaarmeyer@gmail.com.

One-third of the author's profits from this book will be donated to the Wounded Warrior's Project, Washington, D.C.



RECRUITING

Champion Chapters

The two chapters that took 1st and 2nd place in our recent recruiting contest, CID 172, Hancock County [OH], and CID 41, Frozen Chosin [MN] respectively, are pictured nearby. Their participation descriptions accompany the photos.

Congratulations to both chapters, and thanks to all the chapters that participated in the contest.

*Tom Stevens, 5310 W 122nd Terrace
Overland Park, KS 66209*

172 - HANCOCK COUNTY [OH]

First Place Winner: 2013 Nat'l Membership Recruiting Contest

We became deeply involved in our community's planning for its annual 4th of July parade. At the urging of member Don VanRenterghem, the community parade committee expanded the annual event into not only a parade but also a commemoration service for the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice.

Mr. VanRenterghem, with the assistance of chapter members Ray Jameson, Gene Margraf and his wife Carolyn, President Ron Dutton, and a special assistant, Mrs. Kim Rice Turley, worked tirelessly to line up all the Korean War veterans in the area to be in the parade. Over 70 Korean War veterans partici-

pated in the parade.

Don and his committee produced a list of Korean War veterans' names. Don then contacted each veteran personally and asked if they might like to be in the parade. He also told them that a KWVA chapter was located in Findlay. He would ask them, "Would you like to come to a meeting, take a look at our organization, and possibly become a member?"

He then provided the person's information to chapter Secretary Harry Biddinger, who followed up on the invitation. He called the prospect and sent him/her a membership application, along with a copy of our monthly newsletter.

Thanks to Don and his committee, 23 new members were recruited from March through August 2013. It is noteworthy that since September 1st we have inducted nine more new members into our chapter. These new members can also be attributed to our participation in the 4th of July parade and the 60th Anniversary Commemoration Service of the Korean War Armistice.

We are so fortunate to have such great leadership in our chapter to accomplish this feat.

*Harry C. Biddinger, 419-957-7837 (cell),
Cbiddinger@woh.rr.com*

41 - FROZEN CHOSIN [MN]

Second Place Winner: 2013 Nat'l Membership Recruiting Contest

Our new members are mostly the result of our Secretary, Paul Steen, and his wife Jane. They contacted all former members who had let their membership lapse, applied a little pressure, and enticed them back. We did get a few new members.

We have a luncheon meeting at noon, which I believe helps members attend meetings. Some of my personal friends who were in the Korean War I cannot get to join. I cannot forget those I lost in battle.

*Bill Hoehn, 56774 177th St.
Good Thunder, MN 56037, 507-278-3053*



Recruiting contest Ch 172 winner officers in back and members at October 17, 2013 meeting Officers include (L-R) Treasurer Cletus Kotten, Secretary Harry C. Biddinger, VP Robert Taylor, Chaplain Cliff Peterson, President Ron Dutton, and Clair Romick, the chapter's 1st President who took office in 1999



Members of Ch 41, runner-up in KWVA recruiting contest

Atta Boy At Atterbury

On July 27, 1953, I was at Camp Atterbury, IN, training troops. I was relieved that the troops I was training would not have to go through what my buddies and I did. I had earned my way there.

I joined I Co., 179th Inf., 45th Div in early 1952 and saw action up until I was hit on July 10th that year. On June 16th, the 179th Inf. Regt., relieved the 180th on "Old Baldy." For the next ten days, the Chinese attempted repeatedly to retake the high ground. Mostly, they tried to get the hill by overwhelming us. Sometimes their infantry would come rushing in while their own artillery shells were still landing. When we raised our heads, there they were.

On June 26th, U.S. leaders decided to assault the enemy position. Barely a thousand feet from the crest of the hill, U.S. troops met stiff resistance, and the battle for Old Baldy escalated to a fever pitch. Darkness did nothing to quell the battle, with GIs turning back three separate Chinese attacks the night of June 27th.

Late on June 28th, Chinese forces estimated at two reinforced battalions attacked again. They broke through our defenses and engaged the GIs in hand-to-hand fighting. This ended with a Chinese withdrawal, with an estimated loss of 700 of their men, compared to eight U.S. dead and 35 wounded.

More enemy attacks in early July were also repulsed. That was not the end of fighting on this treeless hill. Between June 6th and July 5th, the 45th Div sustained 275 KIA across Korea.

In mid-July, elements of the 23rd Inf Regt., 2nd Div. relieved the 179th. At that time, I was in a Swedish army hospital, recovering from right arm and shoulder wounds sustained after being hit by tank fire on July 10th.

Later, in October 1952, I joined S-2, 3rd Bn., 179th Regt. That didn't make my life any easier.

In early September, I was approached by a buddy of mine, a Sergeant in another squad. He had transferred to 3rd Bn as S-2 Sgt. and wanted to know if I wanted to transfer as a scout. After some doing, my company commander transferred me. I was sent

ON JULY 27TH

Continued from the October – November 2013 issue of
The Graybirds: Vol 27, No 5.

to leadership school in Chunghon.

Soon after my return from school, the 45th division moved into positions on Line Minnesota, relieving the 8th ROK Division during the night of September 21-22. Minnesota was highly mountainous and was the site of two critical terrain features, Hills 812 and 859. These two hills were the subjects of extensive disagreement during negotiations

at Panmunjom. Hill 859 was a particular focal point for the Chinese.

When winter 1952 set in, the men were having a difficult time. A growing list of historic engagements took place, e.g., Beth Point, Luke's Castle and Sniper Rock. That month I took R & R in Japan for a week, returning on Christmas Eve—just in time for our biggest battle, which started on Christmas Eve and lasted into the early hours of 25 December, 1952. This is known as "A Christmas Story."

My squad was embedded with Love Co. By daybreak the battle was over. Friendly casualties numbered 7 KIA and 24 WIA. The enemy expended 2,500 rounds of mortar and artillery on K Co. positions during the three attacks, and 500 rounds on L Co. This is representative of many actions during my months in Korea. Finally, after completing 102 consecutive days on this portion of the front, the division passed responsibility for the sector to the newly activated 12th ROK, December 27-31.

January 1953 served only as a breather for the troops, with an unexpected return to the line. Winter training and maneuvers had to be set aside after only 27 days in reserve. By January 31st our relief of the 40th Division had been completed in this sector of Modung Ni Valley. Such places as Punch Bowl, Sandbag Castle, Heartbreak Ridge and No Name Ridge became prominent at that time.



Joseph Wilcox in October 1952



On top of "Old Baldy" in summer 1952

Many gallant fighters had been here before we took up position on Heart Break Ridge. This was thought to be the most rugged and difficult terrain of the entire Eighth Army front. At some points there were approximately 20 yards between enemy units.

At this time my squad manned a well fortified bunker which was used as 3rd Bn. OP. It was from there that many visiting Generals would view the front. At one time the Ohio National Guard General visited and contacted my mother on returning home. Letting her know I was okay and doing fine. During this time we had many small engagements with the enemy.

Finally, In April I learned that I had accumulated enough points to go home. I had 43 of them. I returned home—which involved a twenty-day trip—and received my discharge on 7 August 1953, less than two weeks after the armistice was signed.

Joseph M. Wilcox, Jr., 323 NW Springview Loop, Port Saint Lucie, FL 34986, 772-343-0386 (home), 561-350-3032 (cell), JWilcox2@aol.com

Steak, Potatoes...and Morale

I served with the 1st Bn., 7th Reg. HQ Co., 3rd Div as a driver, lineman, switchboard operator, checkpoint duty guard, phone repair and lineman, and in other capacities. We were located in the Kumwha-Chorwon area in a blocking position in mid-1953 when all hell broke out.

One South Korean unit got overrun. A rifle company from 1st Bn. was sent on line to plug the breakthrough. Shortly thereafter, the cease fire was agreed to. On that day we were told we would be dining on fresh steak, baked potatoes, beverages, and dessert. That sure was a morale booster.

I attained the rank of PFC as soon as I arrived in Korea, and I was recommended for a corporal's stripe while I was there. But, I told the company sergeant that I was going stateside, and I could do without another one.

Anthony J. Dalla Costa, 3714 188th Pl., Lansing, IL 60438

There Was Not A Second Of Celebration

I was based at K-8 Kunsan, Korea at the time of the armistice. My job was to work on B-26 bombers, setting up photo instrumentation (aerial cameras) to record mission results over North Korea. This was with the Third Bomb Wing, composed of the 8th Bomb Squad, 13 Bomb Squad, and the 90 Bomb Squad.

These squadrons were formed and fought in WWI. They later served in WWII in the Pacific area. After Korea they served all over the world, e.g., in the Middle East, including Afghanistan, with many different aircraft, including B1-B and B2 bombers.

On the night of the armistice, I was on the flight line setting up an aircraft for a morning mission. We were informed of the cease fire to go into effect that night. Sometime around 11 p.m. I watched the last aircraft come in for its landing and taxi over to D-arm area. I understand the crew and some other personnel opened a bottle of champagne to mark the moment. The aircraft crew was made up of members from all three squadrons.

Our outfit was given the honor of this last mission of the war, because it was the first over North Korea. We dropped the most bombs and blew up the most locomotives, among many other accomplishments.

Base K-8 at the time of this event was very quiet. The people on the flight line continued to do their jobs; there was not a second of celebration. My own feeling was that no more of our flight crew was getting killed. But the job was not finished: we didn't win and we didn't lose.

I feel that sooner than later we would have to finish the job. I was concerned when I was assigned to go to Korea, but at this time of my life I have personal pride that I served in Korea. I feel that I did the very best job I could do and had the opportunity to associate and work with the finest men I have ever known.

Edmund S. Foley, 20 Grison Rd., Madison, NH 03849

I Was Only 17

I was only seventeen years old when I arrived at Heartbreak Ridge as a member of Co. L, 160th Inf. Regt., 40th Inf. Div. I joined the Army at such an early age out of respect for my brother, who was killed in WWII. We were relieved while there and sent to serve as guards on Koje-do Island. While I was at Koje-do I was reassigned as part of a platoon that was sent to guard the radio tower at Cheja-do.

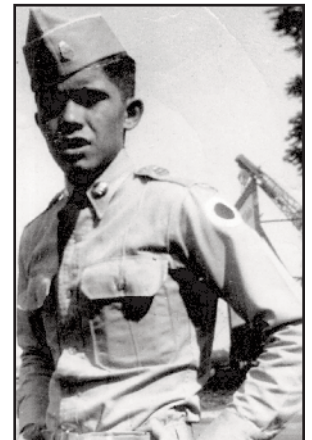
There was some fear that the tower would be sabotaged by communist sympathizers who were on the island to celebrate their May Day holiday. After the threat passed, we returned to our unit on Koje-do, and eventually arrived back at Punchbowl.

The peace negotiations were still going on when we got back to Punchbowl. We didn't believe that anything good was going to happen anytime soon regarding a peace treaty. Who knew!!!

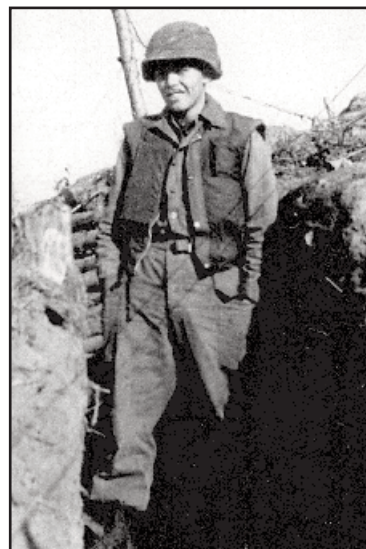
We were at the Punchbowl at 10 p.m. on July 27, 1953 when LtGen Harrison and LtGen Nam Il Jr. signed the armistice agreement. What a pleasant surprise.

Now, many years later, I see that the Korean War accomplished quite a lot. It stopped communism and gave freedom to a country that needed and deserved it.

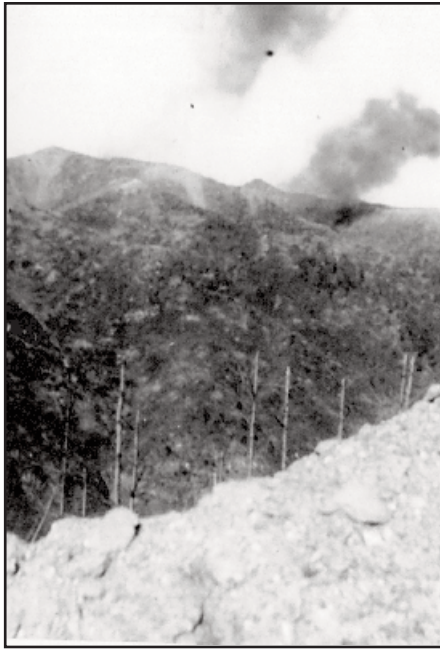
Vincent J. Dominguez, 20885 Yale St. Williston, OH 43468, 419-340-4485



Vincent J. Dominguez just before leaving for Korea



Vincent J. Dominguez in the trench at Heartbreak Ridge on the MLR in 1953



**Bombs drop across
from Heartbreak Ridge
in 1953**

**Somebody's paying a
price as bombs drop
across from Heartbreak
Ridge in 1953**



I Made It

I recall the moment of 10 p.m. July 1953 when the shooting was to stop. By agreement, both sides shot fireworks into the air to signal recognition of the agreement to cease all hostilities. We all waited in anticipation of the moment when we could say, "I made it."

Nervous and expectant, we waited out the last few minutes and then breathed a sigh of relief when the fireworks went up in the air. I recall that our display was much brighter than those fired up by the CCF side. Theirs seemed not as bright, but we breathed a sigh of relief.

A personal sad note for me would come later. During the month of June and early July we moved around quite a bit, backing up other units when heavy action took place. I had the opportunity to go to a shower location (a luxury). While there, I met a Marine with whom I had grown up in Sayreville. We had been altar boys and sang in the church choir together.

It was he that first got me interested in the Marine Corps, and

I reminded him of that constantly. We talked and joked. I said to him, "Look what you got me into" for a while. We agreed that when things settled down (he was part of another battalion) we would search each other out and visit.

After the truce was signed and we moved back to another position I stopped to read the casualty list posted on our company bulletin board one day. I saw his name listed as having been killed in action on the same night (7/24) as I was carrying out wounded. The location where he was killed was in the same vicinity, the Boulder City area.

Many times I have pondered: whether it was the fickleness of fate that had I not been carrying out a wounded comrade when my fighting hole received a direct hit, my name would have been on that same casualty list. I have come to attribute it to the prayers of a loving mother and family to keeping me safe..

I returned home safely in 1954.

*George T. Coyle Sr. 54 Price St.
Sayreville, N.J. 08872, 732-254-6646*

They Could Hear—And See—Us

All hell had broken loose on the MLR combat area. Just before the cease fire, three weeks to be exact, there had been a tremendous fight on "Pork Chop" between the enemy and the U.S. Army's 17th Infantry Regiment, together with the U.S. 1st Marine Division, to the east of my 31st. Regiment. At an artillery duel at that time, more artillery was fired than in all of history.

I remember the many nearby incoming air bursts and in and outgoing artillery rounds whistling overhead in both directions. When the big 240 rounds of the "Long Toms" far to our rear came over, it sounded like a freight train overhead. They could fire from 25 miles away.

I remember brass canisters piled as high as two-story buildings by each 105 howitzer cannon. I had to drive my "deuce and a half" from the company and battalion motor pool in the combat zone up to the MLR in both daylight and total darkness of night on mountainous one-lane dirt roads without any headlights or any lighting at all, sometimes with troops, ammo, and a water trailer. It may have been dark, but we could be heard, if not seen.

Daytime and full-moon nights were the worst, because the truck was visible. If I met one of our tanks coming down the road, guess who had to back up with the trailer? Me, of course, and also, of course, there were no streetlights or guardrails on these mountainous roads. Minefields were in the flat valleys.

On the last day of the war, July 27, 1953, everyone on both sides was firing as much ammunition as they could to keep from having to carry it back off from the front line. All the while, each one of us was hoping not to be the last casualty of the war. The roar of battle was tremendous. After dark that night, flashes from all the weapons firing lit up the whole dark sky. Then, exactly at 10 p.m., as agreed in the peace talks, both sides stopped firing, and the quiet of peace fell onto the battlefield.

The silence seemed so strange. Immediately, I thought to myself, thank God, I survived and will live to go home again. Also, I thanked, President Dwight D. Eisenhower (an ex WWII five-star General) and the American negotiators at Panmunjom for ending the fighting. Also helping was the timely death of the

tyrannical Russian communist dictator Joseph Stalin, who had financially backed, with all manner of military supplies, advisers, pilots, and munitions, the communist military forces of the so-called Peoples Republic of China and communist North Korea. Both of these young governments were patterned after the Russian brand of communism.

The Pacific Stars And Stripes, published and printed by the Troop Education Section of the Far East Command, noted that our 31st. Reg. Motor Pool was the first to transport the front-line troops and their equipment back to the new MLR. I am proud to say we were the first to leave the neutral zone (the old MLR) to start a new one as ordered by the UN. It would become the most powerful MLR in the history of mankind.

The Rockets Make Reds Glare

I had served with the 1st Marine Division, 4.5 Rockets (aka "Charlie" Rockets), attached to the 11th Marine 105s from July 6, 1952 to July 26, 1953. After twelve months and twenty days with Rockets, I extended for three months in order to get back to the states, and take a thirty-day leave to hunt with my aging father. My brother, Harry, was in the Air Force and stationed near San Francisco, so he and Marge met me at the dock. Harry and I took extended leaves, drove to West Virginia, and hunted with our father.



A 4.5 Rocket day time mission in winter of 1952 (Note Hill 229er in background)



HQ 4.5 Rocket Battery in the cold Korean winter of 1952



Marines getting dusted off at Ascom City before going home



Spoonbill Bridge across which 4.5 Rocket unit had to cross when making a speedy exit from a mission



4.5 Rocket unit undergoing inspection—even in combat conditions

My extension took effect on July 26, 1953, so I traded my personal Thompson for a Remington 870 pump, and acquired some brass twelve gauge buck shot for the train trip back to Ascom City, which is where I was the day the cease fire took effect. Shortly after my transfer, all personal weapons had to be turned in as only TE weapons could be carried. The guy I traded with lost the Thompson, but I shipped the 870 home to West Virginia.

Ascom City had some good points, in that it was our demarcation point for going home. There was a nice Chapel there, new clothing was issued, and everyone remembers the dusting down to get rid of any bugs that we may have picked up along the way.



The beat goes on in daily life in combat areas, as 4.5 Rocket Marines learn



A moment of humor in combat as 4.5 Rocket members prepare for their next mission in late spring 1953

We took the dusting like Marines, in some ways remembering that throughout history Marines have really bugged a lot of “bad guys” wherever we are called to serve.

Division had us firing the 4.5 Rockets five times during every 24 hours, so I am sure that they were kept very busy on July 27, 1953, and beyond. Word had it at Ascom City that things were pretty bad, with serious injuries at the Aid Stations.

The line support artillery had some protection from incoming, however, The Rocket Battery set up in relative open areas, with speed of exiting as our protection. By nature, The Rockets put up an atomic-type dust cloud in the day time, and lit up the whole sky at night. With the trucks, six launchers, personnel, safety with unfired rounds, ammo and other support, we made up quite a parade coming in and going out.

Since speed of exiting was paramount, if someone was slow, we got to them later. I lost my billfold in the ROK section one night, with no thought of going back to look for it.

A “Ripple of Rockets” consisted of 144 rounds on their way in approximately twelve seconds. Some missions called for one launcher, but not very often. On one of those occasions, the mission called for one launcher to set up in front of OP 2. As always, speed was very important.

One round failed to exit the launcher. It was thrown in back of

the trunk without a shortening strip attached. As the crew was leaving the area, a Flash and Sound truck was coming up the road, and the vehicles side swiped each other. The Static Electricity set off the propellant in the round, and blew everyone out of the vehicle.

Our corpsman, “Smitty,” received a Silver Star for his actions that night. His boot was blown off his foot. It was still laced up, but split all the way up the back.

The area that we supported included the Turks, Australians, ROK troops, and the 8th Army. In the spring of 1953, the 1st Marine Division placed the 1st, 5th, and 7th Marines in reserve for a well-earned break, but we stayed up to support the Army units. There were no towns north of the Imjum River, so to best locate us we were behind Reno, Vegas, Carson, Ungot, Berlin, the Hook, and hills such as 229, and 181.

One would have thought that with hostilities hopefully winding down in late July, the war zone would be safer. However, “Bed Check Charlie” made the rounds frequently at night. We were not permitted to fire at him, even if we had the chance. The planes would fly under the radar and drop mortar rounds on high value targets. One night, he did hit one of the ammo dumps at Kimpo Air Base. We were always concerned about Bed Check Charlie, as we were located between a supply depot and a truck yard.

I came home on the General R. L. Howze, and we landed in San Francisco on September 22, 1953. One good part of our trip was that we brought home some of the Prisoners of War that had been released. The one POW who still resonates in my mind is the one who broke ranks and ran in the direction he came from, screaming with a loud voice.

Arthur M. Cheek, 1501 85th Ave N, St. Petersburg, FL 33702

Walking In An Unmarked Minefield

On July 27, 1953 I was on my way to Korea with the 40th Inf. Div. as a heavy weapons person. Since I worked for a power company in Cleveland, OH as a lineman, I was assigned to the Signal Corps. I was working as trouble shooter, laying new telephone lines around the DMZ line.

We could see the North Koreans across the line waiting for anything to happen so they could start the war again. Our Marines had their half-tracks mounted on the DMZ line, with their Quad 50 machine guns ready to fire. I would approach the Marines and ask them to give us a warning so we could get out of the crossfire if anything started.

I remember seeing our jeeps carrying our dead Soldiers in body bags from the front—and our platoon walking in a minefield that was not marked as we laid new lines along the DMZ.

After completing sixteen months, including two of the coldest winters in Korea, I began to wonder how our guys endured such a cold and unremembered war while in combat.

Tom Verba, 177 Cappshire Rd., Crossville, TN 38558

You Should Have Seen Us Motoring

July 1953 was not an easy month. The enemy was doing their best to push us back so when the armistice was signed both sides would have to move back. Then, they would have the higher ground and better positions.

We had been eating C-rations for about a month as the end of the war neared. On July 27th, we were informed that there was hot food about a half mile back. Our leaders told us to go there in groups of three or four, which we did.

Around four p.m. we learned that there was more hot food. I went back again, only because we had a number of troops who were about to rotate home, and hot food was no enticement for them. They stayed in their foxholes or under cover all day as rounds were going overhead from both sides. I believe they were just using up all their ammo.

I was the medic for the 2nd Platoon, C Co., 65th Inf., 3rd Div. About dark on July 27th we were assigned to go on patrol into "No Man's Land," as we did many other times. We were out only a short time before we got the call to come back in. Anyone who wanted to see some movement should have seen us motor back to our lines.

By my watch, at 9:55 p.m. everything became completely silent. All night long flares were sent up covering "No Man's Land" to make sure the enemy would not try to attack us.

All went well overnight. The following morning U.N. forces replaced all ROK units on the front line so there would not be any confrontations that would restart the fighting. We were involved in that movement.

It was a great experience being a medic, as we had 38 South Korean Soldiers in our company of about 200 members. All of them, South Korean and American alike, always watched over me—as I did them.

*Carroll Reusch, 44 Walden Ridge Terrace
Fairfield Glade, TN, 931-456-6558*

The Miracle At Matsushima

I was an RO (Radar Observer) with the 339th All-Weather/Night Fighter Squadron. Our main base of operation was at Johnson Air Force Base, just north of Tokyo. In addition, we stood alert at a number of air fields in Japan and Korea. We rotated our crews about every few weeks or so.

On the day the truce was signed, I was in a formation exercise with my pilot and other crew members. We flew in a two-seated F-94B Lockheed Night-Fighter aircraft. As an RO, I was in the back seat directing intercepts with my radar equipment. As the

saying goes, we in the back seat always tell the pilot where to go! In reality, we became a very close knit team.

Now comes the "Miracle at Matsushima." When not standing on alert duty, we routinely flew various training sorties. Just two days after the truce took effect, we took off from our northern

alert base of Misawa, heading south to an auxiliary field at Matsushima to perform what is known as a "touch and go."

We approached the I.P. (Initial Point) and prepared to enter the final approach heading with landing gear in position. About half way through the final approach, we lost power and literally fell out of the sky. My pilot, John Lesman, deserves a lot of credit. He kept us from going nose down, but we did land short of the runway. As a result, the gear sheared off and the plane burst into flames.



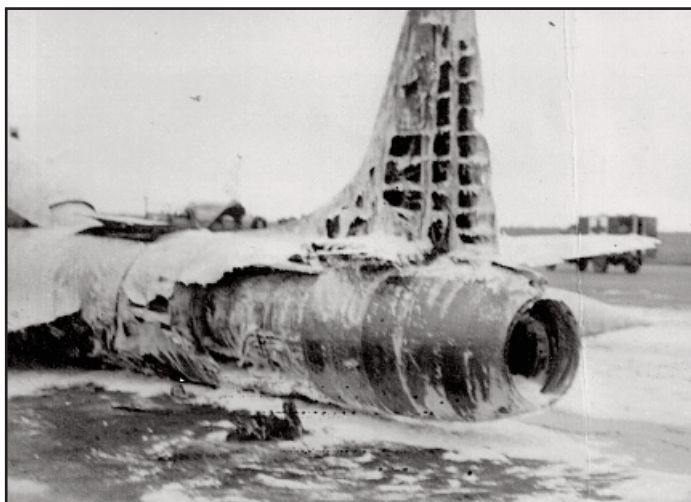
The firemen were ready from Ernest Botti's plane



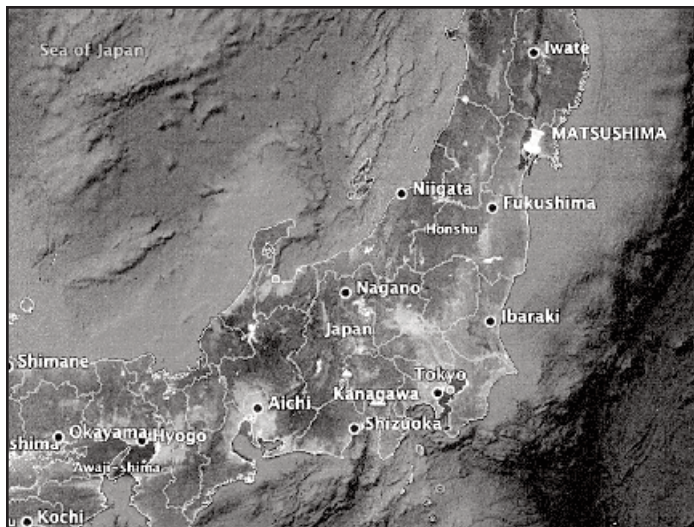
Firemen apply foam to Ernest Botti's plane



RO Ernest Botti in his "office"



Not much left of Ernest Botti's plane



It's a good thing for Botti and Lesman that Matsushima was on the map



A flight of F-94B Lockheed Night Fighters

While we were in our final approach and all was well, the alarm in the fire station shorted out and started to ring. The fire engines were screaming out to the end of the runway even before we crashed! The firemen were applying foam to contain the fire before we skidded to a stop.

Talk about miracles!

*Ernest A. Botti, 44 Beaver Brook Rd.
Waltham, MA 02452, 781/894-9473*

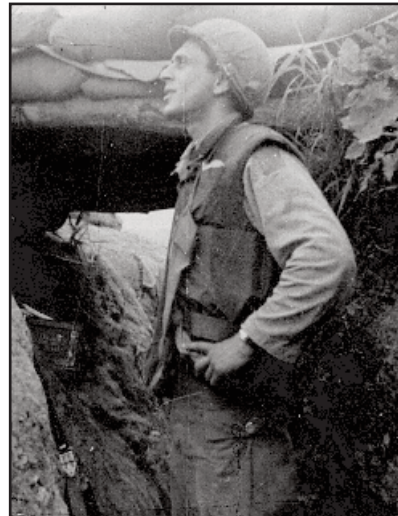
Waiting On Boomerang Hill

I was in the 2d Inf. Div. On July 27th, at 10 p.m., I was on Boomerang Hill. When 10 p.m. arrived and the fighting ended, it was the happiest day of my life. It gave me the opportunity to return home, marry Phyllis, to whom I've been married for 56

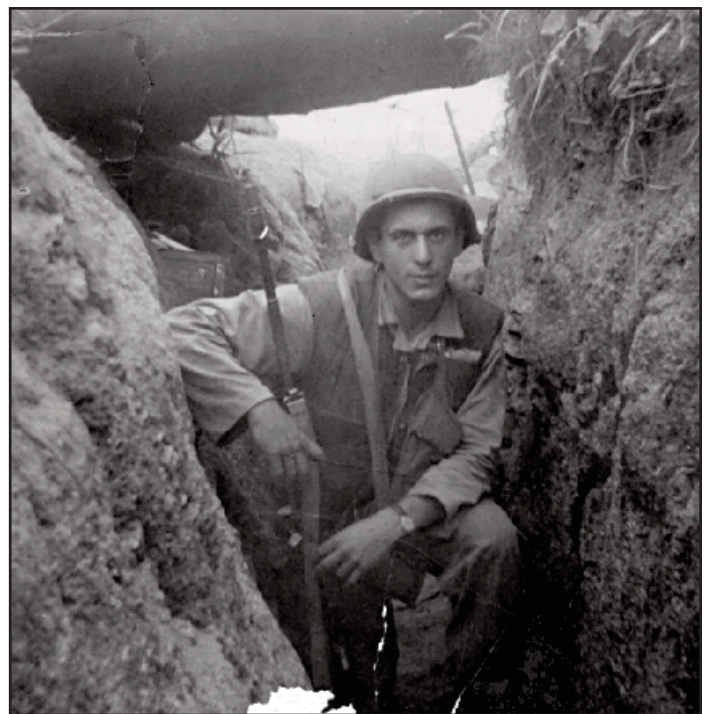
years, raise two sons and a daughter, who collectively have provided me with six grandchildren, and earn my way onto the Long Island Senior Softball Association Hall of Fame.

Who knows? If the fighting had continued, I might not have had the chance to enjoy any of those things.

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



Frank Fontano waiting on Boomerang Hill for the cease fire to take effect



When will the firing stop, Frank Fontano asks?

A Flare And A Prayer

At 9 p.m. on July 27 there was an artillery duel going on in our area. In fact, it had been going on all day, as was a lot of small arms fire. The air was full of sulfur from the gun powder. Then, at 10 p.m. all the firing stopped, and a flare lit up the sky.

I prayed at that moment for the poor guys who did not make it to that day.

Tom O'Halloran, P.O. Box 69, Phelps, WI 54554

Clearing The Leftovers

When the fighting stopped in Korea, the combatants had a lot of materiel left over. That created a problem: how to dispose of it. The process was a lot easier for non-lethal materiel than it was for various forms of ammunition. Lethal or not, it had to be removed in the interest of public safety.

And, there were leftover people as well. Somebody had to stay behind to watch the store(s).

Ammo

The amount of ammunition, land and sea mines, unexploded artillery shells, etc., left behind in Korea posed more than an immediate problem. If the warring sides simply left discarded and unused ammo where it was, it could be a problem for civilians for years to come.

The problem was especially acute on land, where more people, such as farmers, hikers, and children at play, were likely to come in contact with mines, armed artillery shells and unexploded bombs. Consequently, UN forces made an attempt to dispose of at least some of it and alleviate the threat to civilians, or at least post signs warning people of its presence.

Some of the left-behind ammo was buried. Some of it was transported away from the combat zone. But, some of it was left behind. As Lt. Bill Miller suggested, "I guess it was stockpiled for future use if the truce should fall apart." The left-overs included land and water mines.



1st Lt. Allen Affolter, USMC, stands by sign warning of mines

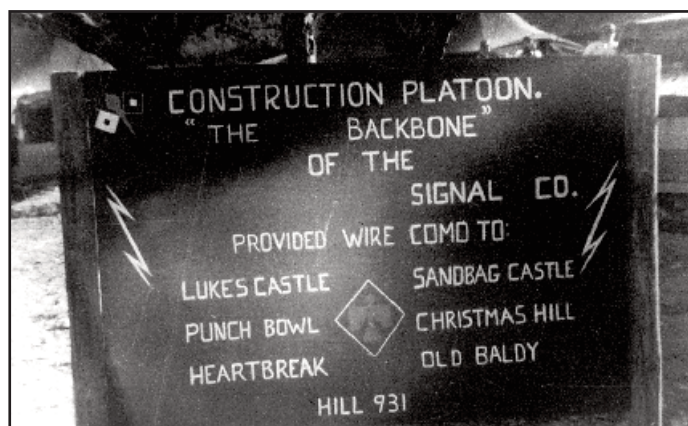


1st Lt. Allen Affolter, USMC, notes another kind of danger in former combat zone

According to Cliff Booth, USN Seabees (Amphibious Construction Bn.-One), UDT (Underwater Demolition Team) units cleared some of the mines. Some veterans surmised there was not much of a need in their sectors. "We were not aware of any special effort to locate and remove land mines that still were in place July 27, 1953," Miller said. "We had a few in our sector, but not that many."

Commo

Donald W. Chamberlain was a field wireman in Communications with the 45th Inf. Div., Signal Co. His unit provided communications to some of the most dangerous locations in Korea: Luke's Castle, Sandbag Castle, Punchbowl, Christmas Hill, Heartbreak Ridge, Old Baldy, and Hill 931. Not surprisingly, they had strung a lot of wire, much of which had to be retrieved after the treaty was signed.



The areas served by Communications, Signal Co., 45th Inf. Div.

Chamberlain remembers that at daylight on the morning after the ceasefire he went into the DMZ between North and South Korea, which is known today as "No Man's Land." His company removed all the communication wires to the outpost—at least what they could find. Some of it had been placed underground, according to a story in the August 8, 1953 edition of the 40th Division's newspaper, The Fireball.

Infantrymen Wiremen Should Be Detection Specialists

The job title of a wireman ought to be changed for propriety's sake, according to Pvt. Fred A. Tapscott, Decatur, Ill., whose opinion was based on the manner in which wiremen of Company A, 224th Infantry Regiment attacked a communications problem recently.

"All wiremen," he declared, "should be called 'detection specialists'."

Tapscott advocated the change after several lines went out in

the company area. "A single break is easy to trace," commented Tapscott, "but it takes a wire crew a long time to mend many breaks. Each man must be a detective."

Improvements are continually being made by the wiremen to lighten their task. Test boxes have been installed at strategic points to make it easier to locate a source of trouble. Eventually, all cables will be placed underground to lessen the danger of damage.

"But until then," said Tapscott, all wiremen are detection specialists."

"The temperature was about 95°, and we had very little water," he recalled. "The North Koreans pulled back, and so did the UN troops." But, he explained, that did not reduce the danger level.

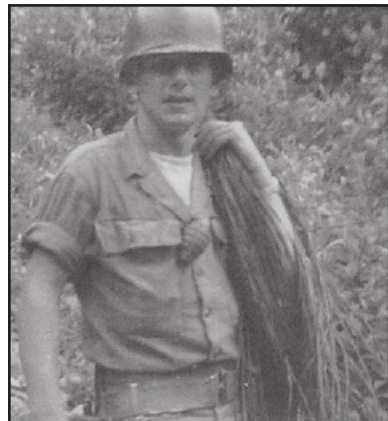
"Artillery rounds had splintered most of trees. It was just like a bad storm had gone through," he observed. "We were told not to burn anything that would cause an explosion. When there were explosions, the people in command got very upset, because they did not want the war to start up again."

The North Koreans faced a similar problem. "We could hear explosions from the North Korean side," Chamberlain noted. "It was a very long day that I will always remember." He was not alone in that respect. A small incident on the night of July 27th demonstrated that.

The night before, a small pile of rubbish had caught fire in the "No Man's Land" zone between the opposing combatants after the treaty was signed. (They were only thirty yards apart.) The flames burned an unexploded white phosphorous grenade, which exploded with a pop and a flash of white flame.

Soldiers on both sides ducked reflexively. But, they caught themselves quickly in embarrassment and grinned at each other. It would be a long time before they would lose their finely honed instinctive reactions geared to self-preservation. And, it would be a long time before all the stray unexploded ammo ceased to be a problem.

Dominick Marino was assigned a task similar to Chamberlain's. Marino, who was assigned to Co. "A," 4th Signal Bn., 4th Platoon, 4th Squad, 10th Corps, in the Punchbowl area northeast of the 38th Parallel, was one of eight men picking up field wire that lay on the ground in front of the unit's bunkers the day after the truce went into effect.



As he explained, they weren't simply removing excess wire. "In the event the truce failed and the enemy advanced, they would not be able to use our field wire for communication," Marino said.

Cpl Dom Marino gathering field wire



Eight field wiremen on commo detail the day after the truce went into effect

Personnel

The Ones We Left Behind

In December 1954 the 151st Combat Engineer Battalion left Korea to be reassigned back to the United States. I was assigned along with Wick Barnett, who was from Jackson, KY, to guard the empty compound. I had just turned nineteen years old!

We were both assigned lowboy drivers at that time. (A lowboy is a flat five-ton truck and flatbed trailer for hauling equipment such as bulldozers, etc.)

We had rations brought to us once a day. There was one tent to sleep in. The first night there—in fact, my first night in Korea—I slept with my legs in North Korea and my body on the 38th Parallel.



Dick Liebner's first home in Korea



"Just keep truckin'" is all Dick Liebner can do after everybody else left Korea

Continued on page 58



THE POW MIA EXPRESS

An illuminated, real working HO-scale electric train collection dedicated to those who haven't made it home yet



☆☆☆☆
A portion of the proceeds from each sale will be donated to help the families of POWs and those missing in action



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Fine collectible. Not intended for children under 14. ©2012 Hawthorne Village. 14-00835-001-B175

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60TH ANNIVERSARY ROUNDUP

There were activities and newspaper articles galore to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Korean War cease fire. They ranged from a speech from President Obama in Washington DC to general articles in newspapers. Some of the articles featured KWVA members. And, there were criticisms from some people regarding a lack of coverage by the media.

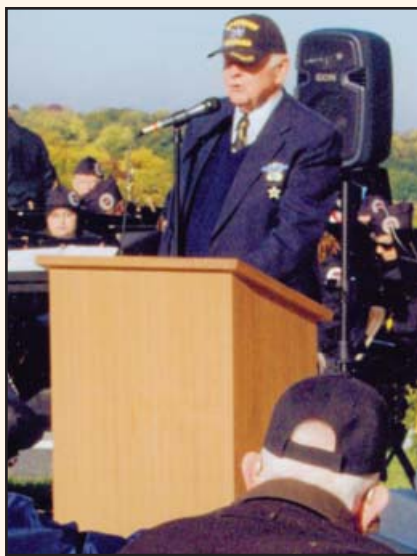
We include below some of the speeches, articles, criticisms for lack of coverage, etc. Please note that this is only a sampling, since we do not have space to cover them all.



43 - KANSAS CITY MISSOURI #2 [MO]

The Mid-Continent Public Library system (31 libraries) had its 18th annual veterans salute. This year it commemorated the 60th anniversary of the Korean Armistice.

The opening ceremony began with music by the American Legion Band, led by Conductor Heather Pickett. The opening guest speaker was U.S. Army Colonel (Ret) Hersch Chapman. Special guests from Ft. Leavenworth [KS] included Korean liaison Officer LTC Kim Kwangsoo and his wife Kyosook Ku, plus Korean Army students from the command General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth.



Guest speaker U.S. Army Col (Ret) Hersh Chapman opens ceremony at 18th Annual Veterans Salute.

CID 43 members were at the front entrance. Our P.R. man, Tom Walch, was there to greet them all (an estimated 1,400) as they entered the front door of the library in Smithville, MO. This year they had 34 exhibitions special features and



LTC Kim Kwangsoo and wife Kyosook Ku (center) pose with Korean entertainers in full traditional costumes



Bob Jones enjoys a photo with Alexa Vanady, left, and Selena Vanady

displays. Significantly, this year, for the first time, the National Tell America Program had its own exhibit, which history teachers liked. Some of them asked about our program and took photos of some of our displays—also for the first time.

This year the Korean dance team performed three times. This included Fan Dance, Drum Dance and Sword Dance in their full traditional costumes. It was a great veterans salute by the Mid-Continent library. For—and from—all our veterans I say “Thank You.”

Robert R. Jones, 13975 E. 35th St., Apt 428, Independence, MO 64055, 816-836-0969 (Home), 816-809-0123 (Cell), bob-jones73rdtkbn@yahoo.com



Selena Vanady converses with Ch 43 member Tom Walch



Alexa Vanady performs Korean Sword Dance for attendees



Four of the Mid-Continent Library ladies who work hard each year to make sure the Veterans Salute is a success pose with Bob Jones. From left: Tammy Pannott, Shani Ellison, Bob Jones, Amy Fisher, and Christen Stein

92 – RICHARD D. HUTCHISON [DE]

Korean War vets honor those lost on 60th anniversary

Five members paid tribute to Soldiers killed in battle during the 1950-1953 war. The men, all veterans of the Korean War, visited Barratt's Chapel Cemetery, Frederica, on July 27, the 60th anniversary of the armistice that ended active fighting in 1953.

Photos and story courtesy of News Reporter Jeff Brown, *The Dover [DE] Post* (MSgt, USAF, Ret., Kunsan AB 1984-1985)

Joseph J. Liston, 56 Wallace Ln., Camden Wyoming DE 19934, 302-698-5193, Joseph.Liston@comcast.net

Commander Joe Liston of Ch 92 plays "Taps"



Sam Booth, William Ralph, Dr. Daniel Coons, and Jim Schafer of Ch 92 salute at the grave of Pfc. Paul Hitch, a medic who was killed while trying to help wounded soldiers. Commander Liston plays "Taps" in the foreground. New American flags were placed at all of the graves.

138 - AKRON REGIONAL [OH]

The City of Cuyahoga Falls, OH dedicated its Memorial Day Parade to Korean War veterans on the 60th anniversary of the signing of the truce. Chapter 138 published the event locally; 124 Korean War veterans and family members participated.

The Ohio National Guard furnished eight cargo trucks and brought steps with handrails to help members board the vehicles. To further honor the veterans, the city had a commemorative coin minted and presented to each veteran.



A facsimile of the Commemorative Coin presented by the City of Cuyahoga Falls, OH to veterans

1st VP Member and former President Bill Niebuhr gave a presentation at the Memorial Service about the hardships encountered by the men sent to Korea, e.g., their lack of supplies and the rough weather conditions they encountered.

The daughter of William Lees, killed in Korea on April 23, 1951, requested to ride with us in the parade to honor her father. She received an enthusiastic welcome from the onlookers.

Carl L. Canon, 4512 Conestoga Tr. Copley, OH 44321, 330-666-9644



The start of the Cuyahoga Falls Memorial Day Parade, with Ch 138 banner in the vanguard, followed by the Garfield High School Navy ROTC, a Humvee with guest speaker U.S. Senator Rob Portman (R-OH), and eight cargo trucks carrying veterans and their families



Ch 138's Color Guard in the Cuyahoga Falls Memorial Day Parade, Donald George, Mike Yetter, Robert Jones and Frank Thomas (L-R)



(ABOVE) Edward Rose (L) and Richard Hudak's granddaughter, Victoria (R), carry Ch 138's banner in the Cuyahoga Falls parade

(LEFT) The daughter of William R. Lees, KIA in Korea on 23 April 1951, remembers her father at Cuyahoga Falls event

183 – NEBRASKA #1 [NE]

We held an event to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the cease fire. Congressman Lee Terry (R-NE) was a guest speaker.
*Bill Wirges, 15010 Holmes St.
Omaha, NE 68137, 402-894-0559*



President William Christensen of Ch 183 addresses crowd at cease fire commemoration

Congressman Lee Terry speaks to assemblage at Ch 183's cease fire event



Past President of Ch 183 Sam Wall (5th from right) tells Korean War story to Omaha, NE Kiwanis Club group

209 - LAREDO 1950 [TX]

On July 26, 2013 Chapter # 209 of the Korean War Association held a ceremony to commemorate the Korean Armistice in Korea. During this ceremony several plaques were awarded for service, loyalty, and support of the chapter. These awards are replicas of a Garand M-I Rifle and a .45 U.S. Government pistol.

Pete Trevino, Jr., 3219 E. Lyon St., Laredo, TX 78043, 596-723-6978 (Photos by Pete Trevino)



Rey Reyna, Hector Garza, Nick Nanez, John McKeown, FE Trevino, Hector Castaneda, Sal Sciaraffa, Arnoldo Gutierrez, J. J. Trevino, Neto A Sanchez, Eddie Sanchez, Dave Leyendecker, and Rafael Ramos of Ch 209 display plaques and replicas



Members of Ch 209 after placing the roses on the monument



Dave Leyendecker of Ch 209 receives his award at cease fire commemoration; Rafael Ramos (L) holds rifle, as Pete Trevino (C) looks on



Sal Sciaraffa, Dave Leyendecker, and Pete Trevino (holding his award) at Ch 209 event



John McKeown, J.J. Trevino, and Ernesto Sanchez participate in Ch 209 recognition ceremony

258 – NORTHERN RHODE ISLAND [RI]

South Korea honored Rhode Island's Korean War veterans at a ceremony in Chepachet, RI on September 11, 2013. The veterans included more than 45 members of our chapter.

U.S. Navy Commander John O'Brien, a member of the Department of Defense's 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Committee, presented certificates to the veterans. Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel signed the certificates.

Concomitantly, the Republic of Korea presented special service medals to the veterans.

Norman J. Paiva Sr., 42 Morgan Ave., North Providence, RI 02911, 401-231-9176 or 401-573-8338 (cell)



Ch 258 members display their special service medals



Cmdr John O'Brien presents special service medal to Ch 258 member Eugene Pezzullo

Commander Richard St. Louis of Ch 258 stands beside O'K Chin, a representative of the Korean Association of Rhode Island at recent ceremony



Rat Tellier of Ch 258 receives his special services medal from Cmdr John O'Brien

Special Service Medal is presented by Cmdr John O'Brien to Ch 258 member Robert Forget



296 – CAYUGA COUNTY [NY]

You missed an exceptional event if you did not go to the dinner to honor the 60th Anniversary of the signing of the Korean War Armistice; Cayuga County Chapter 296, 9th Anniversary and United States Armed Forces Day.



Korean Association Ladies and general attendees at 60th Anniversary Dinner, Auburn, NY



Cmdr John O'Brien presents a plaque to Ch 258 Commander Richard St. Louis



Korean Association members with Col. Clark and LTC Shelling



LTC Dennis Sheiling and Col. David Clark



Col. David Clark presented 'Certificates of Appreciation' to Ch 296 members



60th Anniversary cake at the dinner

The Sunset Restaurant put on a great dinner. They provided “munchies” for the social hour, and then a super family style dinner was served. Col. David Clark and LTC Dennis Shelling from DoD honored each member of our chapter and other Korean War veterans who attended the dinner by handing out “Certificates of Appreciation” signed by the new Secretary of Defense, Chuck Hagel. The certificate thanked KWWs for their service.

Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Casper, Mrs. Tavener, Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Socci did an excellent job in organizing the dinner party. Of course, they always do. Thanking all who attended the “Dinner”....

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

324 – WASHINGTON MISSOURI [MO]

Over 300 people attended a cease fire commemoration ceremony at Krog Park in Washington, MO on July 27th. An impressive list of veterans, political leaders and representatives from South Korea joined chapter members at the ceremony, which was conducted adjacent to the Korean War Memorial in the park.

Veterans received South Korean Medallions presented by Han Ko, who was introduced by chapter Commander David Anderson, the Master of Ceremonies. Congressman Blaine Luetkemeyer delivered the keynote address.

Missouri Governor Jay Nixon (R), Terry Sullentrup, of VFW, and Lloyd Hardin (L) of Ch 324 salute at Washington, MO Memorial



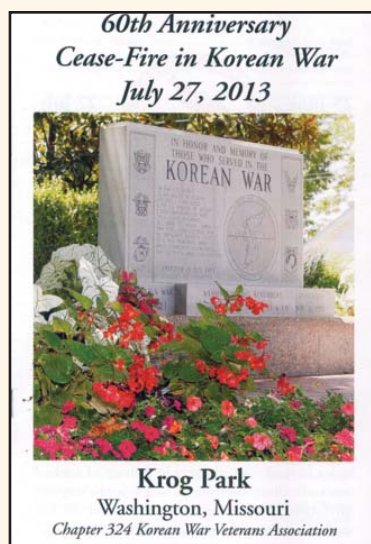
Missouri Governor Jay Nixon, who arrived at the event early to meet with veterans and personally thank them for their service, summed up the reasons for the gathering in his remarks.

“Some six decades ago, thousands of young Missourians were returning to their homes, in farming hamlets, small towns and big cities across this very diverse state — including towns like Washington, Pacific, Gerald, Union, Sullivan, St. Clair and New Haven,” Gov. Jay Nixon remarked. “Through their service so many miles away, they forged an extraordinary, enduring bond. Now, well over half a century later, some of the members of that exceptional band of brothers are with us — their bond still unbroken. They are the reason we gather today.”

Following his speech, Nixon placed a wreath, which was donated by the state, at the Korean War Memorial.

The Washington Missourian covered the ceremony in detail in its Wednesday, July 31, 2013 edition. Access it at http://www.emissourian.com/local_news/washington/article_2ab69df9-7ec3-557b-a00f-5eda9d2f07a9.html

David Anderson, 4056 Brookview Dr., Washington, MO 63090, 636-239-7013, anders14da@charter.net



The cover of the Ch 324 cease fire commemoration program

1 – GULF COAST [AL]

We sponsored a 60th cease fire commemoration on July 27th at our memorial site, the USS Alabama Battleship Park. We had a wonderful dinner the night before and a great day overall.

Walter G. Ballard, 3775 Hardeman Rd., Semmes, AL 36575



Ms. Janice Britton (L), WWII and Korean War Army nurse, and Ms. Ashlee Cotae lay a wreath at Alabama Memorial (Ms. Cotae served in the U.S. Army. Her husband also a U.S. Army member, was killed in Iraq.)



Mrs. Cindy Ballard sings national anthem at Alabama commemoration



Sandy Stimpson, newly elected mayor of Mobile, AL, James McEachin, Retired Navy Commander Pete Riehm (L-R) at 60th cease fire anniversary



Korean and KWVA veterans assemble at Alabama cease fire ceremony



Walter Ballard (L) and Harry Sims (R) present picture of Korean War Memorial at Battleship USS Alabama Park to James McEachin

Have a Mini-Reunion? Dedication a Memorial? Attending a Banquet

Send your photos and a short write-up to *The Graybeards* editor for publication!

Mail to Art Sharp, Editor, Korean War Veterans Association, 152 Sky View Drive., Rocky Hill, CT 06067

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 doz. @ \$12 plus \$6.35 S/H.
- ☐ Minimum order is 20 doz. @ \$60 plus \$12.35 S/H.
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- ☐ Order for 400 doz. or more qualify for a special discount

Write or call: Earl House, 1870 Yakona Rd.,
Baltimore, MD 21234
Phone 410-661-8950.
Make Checks payable to:
KWVA Maryland Chapter 33

Strange Place For A Korean War Memorial



The Korean War comes alive aboard USS Little Rock

There is a Korean War memorabilia display aboard the *USS Little Rock*, Buffalo NT Naval Park. The *USS Little Rock* is a WW-II vintage guided missile launching cruiser currently on display at the Buffalo Naval Park.

Below deck is a large memorabilia room filled with pictures and artifacts of the Korean War. All services are represented among the memorabilia and there is a Korea village and dress display.

The *Buffalo [NY] News* of August 24, 2013 carried a lengthy front page article about the park. (See <http://www.buffalonews.com/city-region/downtown-waterfront/crews-help-keep-things-ship-shape-20130823>) The article is worth reading.

Norman R. Lipkus
19 Manser Dr.
Amherst, NY 14226



A Korean War diorama in Buffalo, NY



Part of the Korean War exhibit aboard USS Little Rock



A Korean War-era cultural display at Buffalo, NY museum

Chapter & Department News

13 BILL CARR [DE]

On 21 September 2013 the Department of Delaware celebrated the 60th Anniversary of the cease fire with a picnic for all veterans of Korean Service. Invited were members of the armed forces that served in Korea from 1945 to the current date.

We were this year's sponsor of the annual event. We sent out invitations through every news outlet, including print, television, and radio, in Delaware. We hoped to develop interest in our organization and recruit new members through this event.

The picnic was held in the pavilion on the campus of American Legion, Walter L. Fox Post # 2 in Dover, Delaware. Post #2 also catered the picnic, serving hamburgers, hot dogs, Italian sausage, potato salad, macaroni salad, cole slaw, baked beans and the usual condiments. The turnout was moderate, but the event was a huge success.

Members of all three Delaware KWVA chapters, along with non-member veterans and their wives, enjoyed the good food, conversation and memories of past service. Past State Commander Charles Garrod presented medallions commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the cease fire to members attending the picnic.



David Miller, John Bragger, Tom Woods, Charles Garrod, Charles Gangeruso, John Weidenhof, Joe Liston, Walter Koopman and Jim Wolfe (L-R) at Ch 13's cease fire commemoration

We had a busy year participating in parades and patriotic celebrations and providing scholarships to outstanding cadets at our two local high school JROTC Units. We provided gift cards to Wounded Warriors at Ft. Knox, KY, contributed to the Fisher House Foundation, the Home of the Brave Women's homeless shelter, Peoples Place, and several warriors in distress, and contributed to the purchase of I pads for Wounded Warriors at Walter Reed through the Walter Reed Society.

John Weidenhof, Weidenhof4@aol.com

19 GEN RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

Several members and wives joined Mr. Kyung Cha and his fellow South East Korean Veterans group at a recent Jones Bridge Park outing marking the 61st anniversary of the group.



Perry Sweepy, Jim Conway, "Sobie" Sobieski, and Bill Stubba, a few of the Ch 19 members who attended the South East Korean Veterans outing

Eighteen members and wives visited the Fort Benning National Infantry Museum in Columbus, GA. They had an interesting and informative time.

Jim Conway, conatlanta@comcast.net



Ch 19 members at entrance to Fort Benning museum

Edwin Johnson, veteran of Korea and Vietnam Wars and Ch 19 member, points to a familiar location in Vietnam



Jim Conway of Ch 19 relives his time as Supply Sergeant during his military time



John and Jane pose in front of an exhibit of a familiar scene

41 FROZEN CHOSIN [MN]

Members Duane Dubke and Jim Schultz returned recently from a return visit to Korea. At our October 2nd meeting they presented information and pictures which were quite interesting.

Paul Steen, sargepj@mvtvwireless.com



Members of Ch 41 at meeting (L-R) Don Stemper, Commander Bill Hoehn, Duane Dubke, Jim Schultz, and Paul Steen

55 NASSAU COUNTY #1 [NY]

Eagle Scout Refurbishes Korean War Vehicle

Gabriel M. Ferreri, of Bellmore NY, became an Eagle Scout recently. For his project he refurbished a Korean War-era M42 Duster Anti-Aircraft vehicle located in Eisenhower Park in East Meadow (Nassau County), NY. He accomplished his goal with the help of brother Scouts and family members.

We sponsored the project, which involved stripping rust from and repainting the tank, which had not been painted in several years. The fenced enclosure surrounding the tank was scraped of rust and repainted as well.

From time to time Chapter Commander Howard Plattner checked in to see how the project was progressing.

Robert P. O'Brien, 408 Fifth Ave., Cedarhurst, NY 11516



ABOVE: The refurbished tank after Gabriel Ferreri's hard work

INSET: The "before" look of Gabriel Ferreri's tank



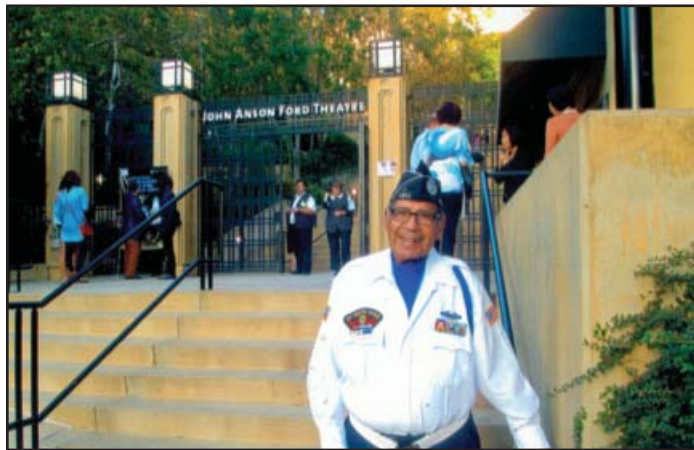
Gabriel Ferreri (L) and Ch 55 Commander Howard Plattner in front of tank

56 VENTURA COUNTY [CA]

Several members and their guests attended an annual Korean War mini-reunion in Laughlin, NV in October.

Some of us also went to a Korean Concert at the John Anson Ford Theater. It was a beautiful thing to see.

David Lopez, 3850 W. 180 Pl., Torrance, CA 90504



David Lopez in front of the John Anson Ford Theater



Korean drummers perform at John Anson Ford Theater performance attended by Ch 56 members



Delegates from Ch 56 and guests at mini-reunion in Laughlin, NV (L-R) John and Ann Campos, Fred and Cecelia Baca, Henry and Alice Guevara



Contingent from Ch 56 at Laughlin reunion (L-R) Rudy Garcia, David Lopez, Ted Baca, Henry Guevara, John Campos, Martin Vasquez



Members of Ch 56 mingle at Laughlin, NV get-together; Alice and Jesus Rodriguez (center) greet another attendee

72 OREGON TRAIL [OR]

Chuck Ponder and I represented the chapter at the Keizer, OR Rotary luncheon on October 10. We spoke briefly about our part in the Korean War. There were about 45 folks who asked good questions after each of our presentations.



Chuck Ponder (L) and Bob Wickman of Ch 72 speak at the Keizer, OR Rotary luncheon

There has been a great deal of interest as the 60th anniversary of the cease fire is commemorated. This coincides with the continuing "Tell America" Program, which I hope will continue.

The Rotarian who took the picture is Brian Lea.

*Bob Wickman, 720 Memlo Dr. N
Keizer, OR 97303, 503-390-2940
Rcwickman@aol.com*

107 JAMES P. DICKEL [MD]

CID 107 Members Attend Carlisle, PA Party

Several members attended the U.S. Army's 238th birthday celebration at the Army Heritage Education Center in Carlisle, Pa., which was held June 14. Among them (with their hometowns in parentheses) were Arthur Karcher (LaVale), who served with the 3rd Infantry Division; Carl Rebele, (Swanton), 40th Infantry Division; and Jim Dickel (Mount Savage), who was a medic in the 24th Infantry Division. Dickel spent 38 months as a prisoner of war in North Korea.

The event included participation in a cake-cutting ceremony with MajGen Anthony Cuculo. (See the story and photo at <http://www.times-news.com/local/x479814006/Army-party-participants?mobRedir=false>)

James Rice, bf39y8j@yahoo.com

111 CPL RICHARD A. BELL [WI]

Each year in July we have a memorial service at the cemetery where Cpl. Bell is buried. One guest this year was Meg Choi, who is writing a book about her life in North Korea.

*Gerald Jung, 239 Babalee Ln.
West Bend, WI 53095
262-334-5742, loisjung@att.net*



Meg Choi and Gerald Jung of Ch 111 at Cpl. Bell's gravesite



The Cpl. Bell gravesite in West Bend, WI

142 COL WILLIAM E. WEBER [MD]

Republic of Korea Navy Cruise Training Task Group Reception

Invitations were extended to members to attend a reception on October 22nd hosted by the 2013 Republic of Korea Navy Cruise Training Task Group aboard the state-of-the-art destroyer DAE JO YEONG (DDH-977), a ship that can carry out various combat missions. The reception was hosted by Rear Admiral Jang Soo-hong, Task Group Commander. Many United States and Korean Dignitaries were present. The ship was docked at the Baltimore Cruise Terminal.

Chapter members in attendance included Col and Annelie Weber, Bob and Barbara Eader, Tony and Barbara Marra, Bob and Winnie Mount, Tony and Irene Malavenda, Glenn and Rosalie Wienhoff, Dr. Kim and Chang, Wendell Murphy, Jim Miller, Reg Kephart, and Kyu Tae Chang.

There were many toasts by the dignitaries attending. A Korean dinner and entertainment were provided.

In The Street

On September 14, 2013, we participated in the annual "Celebrate Frederick In The Street" event with a table in a prime location on Market Street. We passed out information about our chapter and what we do for veterans. We also distributed information about the Korean War, the Korean War Memorial in Washington, D.C., the Proposed Wall of Remembrance, pins and patches, and other info.



Group from Ch 142 enjoys outing to a Frederick Keys baseball game

We answered many questions. The estimated crowd was 50,000. Those helping at the table were Annelie Weber, Glenn Wienhoff, Bob Eader, Tony Marra, Tony Malavenda, Reggie Kephart, Ken Davis and Chip Chipley.

On September 27, 2013, we were featured in The Frederick News-Post about our participation at In The Street. (See the article at <http://www.fredericknewspost.com>.)



Ch 142 members with the Fallen Comrade display (R-L) Chip Chipley, Tony Marra, Bob Eader, Gene Rinehart, Jim Miller, Bob Mount, Glenn Wienhoff, Tony Malavenda, Wendell Murphy, and Reg Kephart

Citizens Care and Rehabilitation Center

Guests at our March 13, 2013 Member Meeting were Sharon Finnegan of the Citizens Staff and Vincent Parmaesano, Vice Chair of Citizens Board of Trustees. About a year ago our chapter established a fund to benefit veterans residing at Citizens Care and Rehabilitation Center/Montevue Home. This fund provides personal items that are not provided by the institution and that the veteran cannot afford with their personal money.



Members of Ch 142 and guests enjoy a Pizza Party/Social at the Citizens Care and Rehabilitation Center/Montevue Home

To date, items such as barbering and beauty shop care, pizza parties, a foot stool, three winter jackets, and some minor clothing needs have been provided from the fund. Trustee Vincent Parmaesano's remarks explained how the extra attention added to the quality of life for the veterans.

Veterans Fund Update

At our March 13, 2013 Member Meeting, Sharon Finnegan accepted a donation on behalf of the Citizens Care and Rehabilitation Center/Montevue Home. On July 17, 2013, Chapter 142 received the following email from Sharon Finnegan explaining how our donation was benefiting veterans and thanking us for our support.

Good Morning Mr. Mount,

It was very nice to meet you while attending the March meeting during which we gratefully accepted your organization's additional \$1,000.00 donation. I am providing you with the following update on how we are progressing and planning to further provide for our resident Veterans as a result of the MD Korean War Veterans Associations caring generosity. Since my last email the funds made available through your donation, have benefited the veterans residents following ways:

3/22-7/15/13 - 23 haircut/barbershop services have been provided = \$250.00

4/18/13 - Pizza Party/Social = \$87.46 (see attached picture)

4/26/13 - Personal care item requested and purchased = \$8.68

5/8/13 - Frederick Keys Baseball Game Outing/Social = \$50.00 (see attached picture)

Total Expenditures = \$396.14; Balance remaining = \$904.44

Upcoming event/planned expenses to benefit veteran residents - Ice Cream Social, "Sentimental Journey"/Musical Entertainment services specializing in songs from the 1930's, 40's and 50's, Holiday Celebration/Social and veteran wish list, continued purchases of barber-shop services.

Thank you once again for the donation that continues to benefit Veterans that are under our care.

Sharon Finnegan
Citizens Care and Rehabilitation Center
1920 Rosemont Avenue
Frederick, MD 21702



Robert Mount, Ch 142 Secretary/Treasurer (far left), and Wendell Murphy, Chapter Commander (far right) present a \$1,000 donation to the fund to Ms. Finnegan and Mr. Parmaesano

Frederick County Veterans History Project

We provided the Color Guard and presented the Fallen Comrade Ceremony at the Frederick County Veterans History program honoring 15 veterans who had been interviewed this past year. The program director, Beth Davey, did an outstanding job and the program was a great success.

The program was sponsored and supported again this year by Country Meadows of Frederick on Quinn Orchard Rd. and their Director of Marketing, Debra Savageau. Guest speaker was Priscilla Rall, who is dedicated to preserving the history of all veterans. She talked about how the Frederick Chapter of the History Project got started. She gave many examples of interviews that have been conducted over the years.

We presented a check for \$250 as a donation to help the project.

Members and supporters attending were Bob Eader, Bob and Winnie Mount, Glenn and Rosalie Wienhoff, Ken and Lorraine Davis, Reggie Kephart, Jim Miller, Gene Rinehart, Tony Malavenda, Tony Marra, Wendell Murphy, Joe and Joy Shrader, Richard Toms, and Chip and Ruth Chipley.

Linda Crilly, CID142Webmaster@gmail.com/
Glenn Wienhoff, cid142kwva@gmail.com

148 CENTRAL JERSEY [NJ]

Every year on Sept 11 (Patriots Day) Monroe Township, NJ has a Memorial Service for those from Monroe Township killed on 9/11. We have participated for all these 9/11 Memorial Services.

Shop-Rite (a grocery chain) participates in our Rose of Sharon drive every year. We present store reps with a certificate of appreciation to demonstrate our thanks.

We presented a \$2,000.00 check for the General Purpose fund to Voluntary Service Specialist Ms. Christine Krinis at the VA New Jersey Health Care System Lyons Campus.

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



Ch 148's September 11, 2013 Patriots Day Memorial Formation (L-R) Commander Robert D. Bliss; Jr. Vice Cmdr Max Mandis; Sr. Vice Cmdr Herbert Picker (American Flag); Past Cmdr Charlie Koppelman (P.O.W. Flag); Franklin K. Manzar, Korean War Veterans Flag; Seymour Cogan, and Chaplain Harvey Weinberg



Chaplain Harvey Weinberg, Sr. Vice Cmdr. Herbert Picker, Shop-Rite Control Manager Jason Bellish, and Past Commander Charlie Koppelman (L-R) at Ch 148's certificate of appreciation presentation



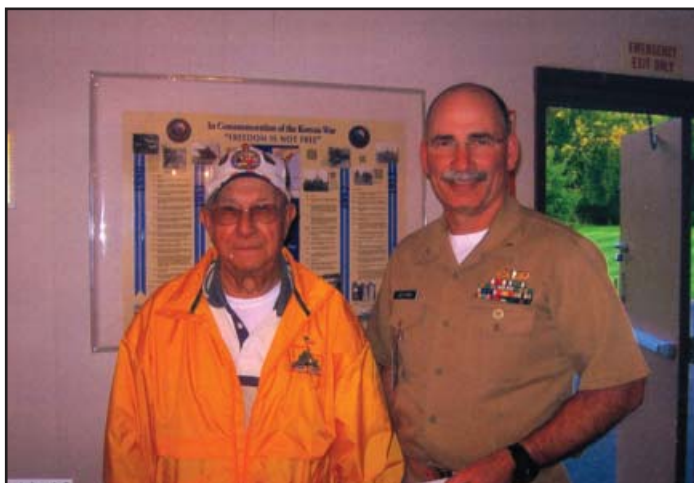
Ch 148 Commander Robert Bliss presents check for \$2,000.00 to Christine Krinism Lyons



Attendees from Ch 148 at check presentation (Back Row, L-R) Past Commander Charles Koppelman, Treasurer Leon Kaczmarek, Sr. Vice Cmdr Herbert Picker, Chaplain Harvey Weinberg, Past Cmdr Arnold Wofson (Front Row, L-R) Jr. Vice Cmdr: Max Mandis, Secretary Seymour Cogan, Andrew Oslinker, Robert D. Bliss, Christine Krinis, Financial Secretary Edward J. Rappleyea Sr.

150 NORTHWEST ILLINOIS [IL]

We are supporting the Freeport High School Navy (FHS) Junior ROTC program. The NJROTC teaches job skills, life skills, leadership, patriotism and citizenship. Classroom instruction is augmented by extracurricular activities of community service, academic, athletic, drill and orienteering competitions, field meets, flights, marksmanship sports training and physical fitness training.



Clyde Fruith, Ch 150 Commander, presents a donation to LtCmdr Barry Boettcher, USNR (ret), the senior naval science director for the Freeport [IL] High School Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps

We donated \$200 to the program recently, which will be used to support the many ROTC programs ongoing at FHS.

Several members traveled on a VETS ROLL trip to the Washington D.C. area in May to visit the national monuments for our veterans. VETS ROLL is a non-profit organization which sponsors these trips to the national capital for WWII- and Korean War-era veterans and Rosie the Riveters who worked in defense industries in our area during this time frame.



Ch 150 Commander Lee Wallis presents a \$1,000 donation to Mark Finnegan of VETS ROLL, as chapter members who participated in the 2013 VETS ROLL trip to DC look on

The trip is a four-day event starting and ending in Beloit, WI. Transportation is by motor coach and all expenses are borne by VETS ROLL. The trip was thoroughly enjoyed by all our members who participated. It included state police escorts through Pennsylvania, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin.

*Frank Searfoss, 2626 Cooper St.
Freeport, IL 61032, 815-232-7597, fcs4@frontier.com*

170 TAEJON [NJ]

Members Attend 18th Annual Memorial Service Honoring Korean War Veterans KIA And Deceased Chapter Members

On Sunday, September 22, 2013, we participated in an 18th annual Memorial Mass service celebrated by Pastor Father Theemas Pankiraj at St. Philip the Apostle Roman Catholic Church in Saddle Brook, NJ. Recently deceased Commander Dr. Richard Onorevole led eighteen veterans and family members to the front pews as the congregation sang "The Battle Hymn of the Republic."



Robert Domanoski who served as Eucharistic Minister at Mass, Louis DeStefano, and Raymond Cihen

Sr. Vice Commander Kenneth Green and Sgt.-at-Arms Frank Uvenio posted the Colors in front of the altar. Three-time Purple Heart recipient George Job and Erwin Burkert presented the Eucharistic gifts; Robert Domanoski served as Eucharistic

Minister. Commander Onorevole served as Lector and presented two readings from Scripture.

National KWVA Director George Bruzgis attended the mass as well.



Ch 170 members at 18th annual Memorial Mass Service to honor Korean War veterans killed in action and Taejon Chapter members deceased



Three time Purple Heart recipient George Job (L) and Commander Dr. Richard Onorevole



Mr. and Mrs. Walter Amos, Mr. and Mrs. William Burns, and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Louis at the buffet



Ch 170 Commander Dr. Richard Onorevole and wife Cathy

At the conclusion of the mass, Father Pankiraj asked the Korean war veterans to stand. He then led the congregation in loud applause that lasted over a minute, which astounded chapter members. It seemed like they would never stop applauding.

Commander Onorevole led the chapter out of the church at the conclusion of the mass as the congregation sang "God Bless America." Once outside, the members and guests mingled with Father Pankiraj for photos.

Finally, everyone went to a brunch buffet at the Riverside Manor Restaurant in Paterson, NJ, where they all had an enjoyable time of fellowship.

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

175 BALDOMERO LOPEZ MOH [FL]

The Korean War Veterans of Tampa, FL dedicated a memorial at the new Veterans Memorial Park on July 27, 2013. The memorial features a granite monolith and plaque etched with names of Florida Soldiers who died in the Korean War.

Construction will be completed in the oncoming year. We are still awaiting statues.

Robert Bitz, 414 South Edgewater Dr., Plant City, FL 33565



Monument dedicated at the new Veterans Memorial Park in Tampa, FL.

181 KANSAS #1 [KS]

We were featured in the October issue of a local paper, The Best Times. The issue focused on the 60th anniversary of the Korean War and the veterans who served in it. Several members were interviewed because of their combat experience in the conflict.

We are active and keeping up our roster numbers—although only one member is under eighty years of age. We still manage to get around thirty members at the monthly business meetings ... a pretty good showing, since many of the comrades are just not physically able to participate any longer. That being said, there is a dinner/dance planned for November, as well as a couple of other Christmas season social gatherings in December.

We have a special program planned for November 11, 2013, when a plaque will be unveiled at the Memorial site in Overland Park honoring Father Emile Kapaun, who was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroism in the Korean

prisoner of war camp where he died. Father (Captain) Kapaun is the third Kansan to be awarded the CMH from the Korean War.

Don Dyer, ddyer15@everestkc.net



A group of Ch 181 members

209 LAREDO 1950 [TX]

Several members received the Ambassador for Peace Medal from the Consulate General of the Republic of South Korea.

Eduardo Sanchez, Jr., 2519 Garfield St., Laredo, TX 78043



Ambassador for Peace Medal recipients of Ch 209

251 SAGINAW/FRANKENMUTH [MI]

We dedicated a granite marker on September 18th at the Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan.

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



A close-up view of marker dedicated at Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly, MI



Ch 251 Historian Royal Culpepper at the dedication.



Members of Ch 251 pose with new granite marker at Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly, MI

259 CENTRAL INDIANA [IN]

We just received a visit from some members of Ch 29, SSGT William E. Windrich #3, of Indiana. Several of them visited a "Youth Patriot Camp" at the American Legion Post in Lebanon, IN on 19 October, where they observed the boys and girls from the local community engaging in study and play as they learned about the history of our country and the need for patriotism and service in the U.S. military. They had the opportunity to meet the Korean War veterans and investigate a variety of military style "replica" weapons.



Ch 29 members Herb Verrill, Richard Garza, Luis Aguilera and Warren Eubanks (L-R) gather with MSgt Mark McCollum (C) at Youth Patriot Camp

On hand to explain the history of World War 2 was retired teacher Allen Andrews, who provided the mini-arsenal of American, German, Japanese and Civil War guns and swords. Allen is a dedicated supporter of veteran organizations and a military historian. He welcomed the KWVA visitors and discussed Korea.

To give the youth a look into the life of a Soldier in the Afghanistan warfare, a Sergeant from the Lebanon National Guard Armory who had served two tours in the Middle East as a Military Policeman spoke. MSG Mark McCollum now serves as Recruiter for the Indiana National Guard, Det 1, Co. B, RR Bn, ING.

The Lebanon Legion has conducted these "Patriot Camps" for the past three years and may be one of the few Posts with a team of members and Auxiliary ladies who donate their time and efforts to help our future patriots understand our form of government and its ideals.

The attendees were given an introduction to "The American Creed," which describes the goals and obligations of our citizens. As stated in the Creed, "I therefore believe it is my duty to my Country to love it; to support its Constitution; obey its laws; to respect its flag and to defend it against all enemies." The complete version of this Creed was published in the Congressional Record of April 3, 1918.

We had an interesting, informative lecture at our September meeting in Indianapolis. It was about the WW2 Pacific campaign, the island battles, and the status of some of those battlefields this year. That was brutal combat and living conditions like we did not have in Korea.



Indiana State Cmdr. Tine Martin, Dr. John Shively, and Ch 259 Cmdr. Jack Beaty at WW2 lecture

Doctor John Shively, of Lafayette, IN, explained the history of the fall of the Philippines to the Japanese and the treatment of POWs from several nations. He is author of several popular books about WW2. He showed photos of the islands where many lives were lost in both armies while fighting on land and sea in challenging climate conditions of storms, heat, and humidity.

KWVA members could compare the battlefield conditions in Korea to the totally different living environment of the jungles on the Pacific islands. Nothing perfect in either place.

Dr. Shively has made many trips back to those battlegrounds and showed pictures of wrecked military equipment still dotting the bays and beaches. He described the Japanese cruelties as well

as their code of conduct that marked surrender a disgrace, which caused thousands of them to commit suicide.

He has visited and described his experiences at Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima, Okinawa and others. Those are places that many of us may never tour.

John M. Quinn, Saggi32@aol.com

264 MT. DIABLO [CA]

We co-sponsored a Veterans Day Celebration with VFW Post 1525 and the city of Concord, CA. There was an excellent turnout of veterans for the event, which included speakers Dan Helix, Mayor of Concord, and Nathan Johnson, Contra Costa County Veterans Service Officer, who delivered the keynote address. Chapter Commander Dave McDonald was master of ceremonies.

Other participants included the Mt. Diablo High School Jr. ROTC and Haley Williams, a bugler from Bristow Middle School, who played "Taps."

*Stanley J. Grogan, 2585 Moraga Dr.
Pinole, CA 94564*



Taps was played by Haley Williams, Bristow Middle School, pictured with Ch 264 president Dave McDonald at the Veterans day Celebration



Blue Star Moms hard at work at Ch 264 Veterans Day Celebration



LTC Taddie and the Mt. Diablo Junior ROTC cadets who served as the color guard for the opening and closing ceremonies of the program



Bob Hooker (C), Vice President of Ch 264 with son (L) and Paul Connell, Commander VFW Post 1525 (R)

270 SAM JOHNSON [TX]

KWVA 270 Makes Big Splash in 2013 Dallas Veterans Day Parade

It was fitting that our chapter would stand out during the 2013 Dallas Veterans Day Parade. First, the Honorable Congressman Sam Johnson was the keynote speaker. Sam Johnson is the war hero for whom our chapter was named. He is also a KWVA and Chapter 270 life member.

Then, a local Corvette Club offered to furnish twenty Corvette convertibles with drivers to drive our chapter members through the mile long parade route.

We joined 143 entrants in the 2013 Dallas Veterans Day Parade. Approximately 25,000 patriots lined Dallas streets along the mile-long parade route to honor veterans, and to recognize the sacrifices of military families.

Glen Thompson, ghomp32@suddenlink.net

315 SOUTHERN OREGON [OR]

Dean Bosche and Neil McCain were interviewed by the Better Life Broadcasting Group television station. Bosche accompanies McCain to nearly all of the Korean War veteran functions, and has acted as photographer for the group for the last several years.

Dean Bosche, 541-450- 7746, deanbosche@charter.net



Members of Ch 315 at interview by Better Life Broadcasting Network

323 PO2 TAYLOR MORRIS [IA]

We dedicated our new monument at a recent meeting. (See "Monuments on p. 49) It was one of many activities in which our members participated recently.

We conducted a raffle ticket sale and enjoyed a show put on by a Korean family.

Bill D. Hartsock, 5180 Stone Creek Dr., Pleasant Hill, IA 50327, 515-494-6106, BHartsock3478@msn.com



Selling raffle tickets. From left, Ch 323 members Darlene Head; Bill Hartbrook, Consul; Herb Spencer, Treasurer, and Lynn Runge, Secretary

Ch 323 President John Ross (L) and Treasurer Herb Spencer man the ticket booth



Below, Ch 323 president John Ross talks with a Korean family before they put on a show for the members



Ch 323 member Lowell Lein and South Korean entertainers at the gathering in Iowa



Darlene Head (center) and Mrs. John Rossi sign in members as they arrived at meeting.



KOREAN WAR
NATIONAL MUSEUM,
LIBRARY & CULTURAL CENTER

no longer forgotten

The Korean War National Museum, Library and Cultural Center Welcomes New Leadership to National Advisory Council

The Korean War National Museum, Library and Cultural Center is proud to announce that it has appointed two new members to its National Advisory Council. Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell and General Edward C. Meyer, both Korean War Veterans, bring a breadth of experience and knowledge to the Museum Campaign through their remarkable military service, lifetime achievements and continued dedication to their country. The Museum is extremely honored to have these two notables join us in this historic endeavor as their leadership and counsel will prove to be invaluable to the efforts of the Campaign.

Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell



Senator Campbell's military career began in 1951, when he left high school to join the U.S. Air Force. He was stationed in Korea and served as an air policeman during the Korean War. While in the service, Senator Campbell obtained his GED and developed his skills in judo—a sport he gained a keen interest in as a teenager.

In 1954, he was discharged with the rank of Airman Second Class and was awarded the Korean Service Medal and the Air Medal.

Senator Campbell used his G.I. Bill to attend San Jose State University where he earned his Bachelor's degree and was a member of the judo team. Following college, he moved to Tokyo to study at Meiji University and went on to become a three-time U.S. judo champion, winning the gold medal in the Pan-American Games in 1963.

Senator Campbell's impressive political career began in 1982 when he was elected as a state representative of Colorado. He was then elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1986, followed by a successful run for the Senate in 1992. This achievement marked a milestone as Senator Campbell became the first Native American to serve in the U.S. Senate in more than sixty years. During his political career, he acted as a spokesman for all Native Americans and was instrumental in passing landmark legislation including the establishment of the Museum of the American Indian at the Smithsonian Institution.

General Edward C. Meyer



After graduating from the United States Military Academy, General Meyer was commissioned a lieutenant in the Infantry and assigned to Korea in 1952. During the Korean War, he commanded a rifle company in the 40th Infantry Division and later served as battalion intelligence officer, receiving awards that included the

Silver Star for gallantry in action and the Bronze Star with "V" device for heroic achievement.

His distinguished military career included two tours in Vietnam which earned him a second Silver Star for gallantry in action and the Distinguished Flying Cross for heroism. Following Vietnam, General Meyer was assigned to the Brookings Institute as its first military Federal Executive Fellow. He continued his service in a number of leadership positions including Assistant Division Commander of the 82d Airborne Division, Deputy Commandant of the Army War College and Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, United States Army.

In 1975, General Meyer moved to the Pentagon where he continued his leadership and was appointed to Chief of Staff of the Army. His clear institutional vision and ability to articulate the Army's mission needs were critical in modernizing the force, increasing its operational agility, improving the integration of the reserve components into the total force and developing organizations and readiness for joint operations.

*The **National Advisory Council** was established to help further the mission and goals of the Museum. Comprised of distinguished leaders in our nation and abroad, the Council provides leadership and endorsement by advocating the vision, promoting national designation, generating awareness and providing advice and counsel.*

The Where, When, and Why of the Korean War

Tell America

24 – CHARLES PARLIER [IL]

Riddle Elementary School in Mattoon, IL observes Veterans Day each year by hosting visitors. The 800 students make posters and flags and print letters to veterans.

Their visitors are veterans, local military and family members,

and families of deceased veterans. The students with their handiworks and guests parade through the school in a very long line.

George Parks,
geoleeparks@yahoo.com



Veterans and guests mingle at Riddle Elementary School in Mattoon, IL



A message from Riddle Elementary School students to veterans, which is something veterans like to hear



Students and guests crowd hall at Riddle Elementary School

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Generations get together at Riddle Elementary School

Students display their handiwork for veterans at Riddle Elementary School



142 – COL WILLIAM E. WEBER [MD]

We have provided wide exposure for the Tell America Program by placing a large display in venues throughout Frederick County, Maryland. The commemoration panel, which depicts the major phases of the Korean War from 1950 through 1953, has been displayed in the following locations:

- American Legion: Post 282; Woodsboro, MD
- Ballenger Middle School
- Brunswick Library
- Crestwood Middle School
- Emmitsburg Senior Center
- Frederick City Main Library
- Frederick Community College
- Frederick County Board of Education
- Frederick County Senior Center; Taney Ave.
- Hood College; Frederick, MD
- Oakdale High School
- Thomas Johnson Middle School
- Thurmont Library
- Tourism Council of Frederick County Inc. MD
- Urbana Library
- Urbana Middle School
- Urbana Senior Center
- Walkersville Middle School
- West County Free Library; Hagerstown, MD

- West Frederick Middle School
 - Windsor Knolls Middle School
- Members who have coordinated placement and erected the display are Robert Eader, Vernon Kephart, and Anthony Malavenda.
- Linda Crilly,
CID142Webmaster@gmail.com



Ch 142's commemoration panel

270 – SAM JOHNSON [TX]

Our team spoke to 180 JROTC cadets at W.H. Adamson High School on October 17th. Students paid close attention and took notes as each speaker made his presentation. The promise of an exam over the material on the

following day kept everyone alert.

William Hardin Adamson High School, formerly Oak Cliff High School, is a public secondary school located in the Oak Cliff area of Dallas, Texas. The JROTC Department is in a new building just a little more than a year old. The all-new facility brings student pride and increased achievement. The Tell America Team found students and faculty friendly and helpful.

Dick Lethe opened each class by explaining what the purpose was for the veterans being there. Students today know little about the Korean War. Joe Seiling then talked about events leading up to the war. Bill Fox shared his experiences as an infantry platoon leader. He talked about some of the many battles the war is known for.

One student asked why the bat-

tle was known as Pork Chop Hill. Bill quickly had the answer.

Paul Pfrommer talked about his experiences as a navigator in the B-29 in which he flew. His pictures and maps helped the cadets understand more about the aircraft. Dick Bove talked about how leaflets were distributed and showed actual photos of their being dropped from the sky.

Richard Sanchez talked to the cadets about his experiences as a loader on the M4A3Easy8 and how everyone worked together as a team.

As usual, the course evaluations completed by several cadets were very positive. Some of the best evaluations were sent to SGM Turner along with a letter of appreciation.

Glen Thompson,
gthomp32@suddenlink.net

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5 – 21 Apr VN U.S. Military in I, II, III & IV Corps

13 – 25 Apr VN 45th Anniv of Operation Dewey Canyon

19 – 27 Apr Turkey WWI Battle of Gallipoli & Istanbul

★ 16 – 26 May 96th Anniv of American WWI Battlefields

24 May – 2 Jun 70th Anniversary Battle of Bulge & Paris

31 May – 11 Jun 70th Anniv Invasion of Italy-Rome & Anzio

★ 1 – 9 Jun 70th Anniversary of D-Day: Normandy to Paris

7 – 19 Jun VN War in I Corps “Chu Lai to DMZ”

8 – 16 Jun 70th Liberation of Saipan & Tinian

2 – 14 Jul Russia “Eastern Front”

18 – 28 Jul 70th Liberation Guam

2 – 12 Aug Battle for Guadalcanal “Turning the Tide in the Pacific”

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Monuments and Memorials

Korea: the Forgotten War, Remembered

313 – SHENANDOAH [VA]

On July 20th, 2013, we proudly dedicated our Korean War Memorial located in The Jim Barnett Park in Winchester, VA. Mayor Elizabeth Minor read The Proclamation from the City of Winchester supporting the construction of the Memorial. Chapter 313 Past Commander Lewis Ewing, now a National Director of the KWVA, introduced Major General Seo Young Lee, Defense Attaché of the South Korean Embassy in Washington DC.



Major General Lee spoke of the continuing appreciation of the Korean people for sacrifices made by the UN Forces on their behalf. Keynote speaker, former POW and Outpost Harry Survivor David Mills spoke of his experiences in Korea as a teenager, faced with fighting in a forward, minimally supported position that was overrun by the Chinese.



Ch 313's Korean War Memorial

As visitors approach the Memorial there is an information board that explains the history of the Korean War. A brick walkway leads to the Granite Memorial. Many of the bricks are inscribed with the names of veterans, family members, local citizens and area businesses that provided the bulk of funding for the memorial.

On each side of the walkway are two benches with the names of our chapter's two POW veterans. Five pairs of bronze boots

representing the Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard are positioned on either side of the benches.

The Peninsula of Korea is engraved in the center of the granite memorial and on either side are the names of sixty Korean War veterans who were killed in action. These veterans were from the City of Winchester, VA and the counties of Frederick, Shenandoah, Warren and Clarke in Virginia and from the Counties of Berkeley, Morgan, Jefferson, Hampshire and Hardy in West Virginia.

Behind the granite stone is a forty-foot flagpole that carries the American and POW/MIA flags.

Charles Bachman, Commander, 316 Russellcroft Rd., Winchester, VA 22601, chucknjack@comcast.net

RAPID CITY, SD

These two pictures are of a Rapid City, SD Memorial dedicated to Korean War veterans. (I apologize for the sun spots on the photos. I was unaware of them until the photos were developed.)

Doris ("Dory") Hastings, P.O. Box 4005
Yountville, CA 94599

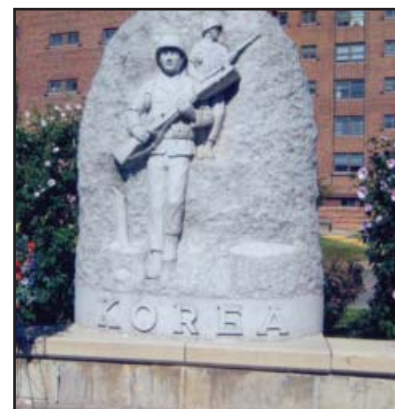


Both sides of the Rapid City, SD memorial

WESTERN NEW YORK

The Korean War Memorial of Western New York is located on the grounds of The Buffalo Naval and Serviceman's Park in Buffalo NY. It is a two-part memorial.

The large granite structure shows two soldiers on



Front view of the Korean War Memorial in Buffalo, NY

patrol in a field with the word KOREA below. The second part is a pedestal monument listing those soldiers killed in action. There is also an imbedded time capsule dated to be opened April 28, 2029.

Norman R. Lipkus, 19 Manser Dr.
Amherst, NY 14226



The pedestal at the Korean War Memorial in Buffalo, NY listing Soldiers KIA

323 – P02 TAYLOR MORRIS [IA]

We dedicated our new monument recently in Van Meter, IA.
Bill D. Hartsock, 5180 Stone Creek Dr., Pleasant Hill,
IA 50327, 515-494-6106, BHartsock3478@msn.com



LEFT: Ch 323s new monument

BELOW: Members of Taylor Morris Ch 323: (left-Right) Bill Hartsock, Ron Langel, and President John Rossi



Sid Morris (L) and Don Moon pose with new monument



Members of Ch 323 display Commemoration Medals. On left is Consulate Bill Hartsock with POW Donald Peterson



Second Vice President Don Gildersleeve (L) and Consulate Sid Morris of Ch 323 stand near new monument in Van Meter, IA

Korean War Veterans' Mini-Reunions

KMAG

On June 29, 2013 my twin brother Daryl and I met near Des Moines, IA with two other Army buddies, Bob Lembke and Mac Morrow. We all served together at KMAG's Headquarters Building in Seoul.

Dale Griffith, 1418 N 76th St.
Omaha, NE 68114
402-393-4904, dalegranthens@aol.com

Bob Lembke, Daryl Griffith, Dale Griffith, and Mac Morrow (L-R) at KMAG get-together



865th AAA AW Bn.

The 865th AAA AW Bn. held its reunion at Branson, MO in May. We had a pretty good turnout.

George Kaprelian
W6900 Shadybrook Cir.
Fond du Lac, WI 5493

The veterans of the 865th
AAA AW Bn. at their Branson,
MO reunion



The wives of 865th AAA AW Bn. at the
Branson, MO reunion

91st Military Police Bn.

The Mighty 91st Military Police Bn. enjoyed its annual reunion, which was held this year in Wisconsin, July 23 - 27, 2013. We began with two days in Madison, where twenty of us toured the State Capitol, a military museum, state museum, two breweries, and a massive art museum designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. We sat in on an evening musical in the park—which was attended by 20,000 people.

We took a large boat ride, including dinner, for about three hours to see the famous Wisconsin Dells, which was beautiful. The next day we enjoyed Military Duck rides on a large lake and continued downstream for another three hours. Would it be a surprise to know that during WWII 590,000 ducks were built in Pontiac, Michigan by a 100% women workforce?

We stayed at the Ho-chunk Casino the last two nights, which included our massive annual dinner. Don Hart was elected to be Reunion Chairman for 2014.

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



Joe Vetere (NY), Lois Simon (MI), Jenny Martin (OH) enjoy activities at 91st MP reunion



Bob and Lois Simon share a moment at 91st MP Bn reunion



Some of the attendees at the 91st Military Police Bn. gathering (Front, L-R) Dick Suchodolski (MI), Lois and Bob Simon, (MI). 2nd Row (L-R) Mary Carpenter, (MI), Fran Gay (MI), Jack Walker (IA). (Row 3, L-R) Caroline Hart (MI), Jenney Martin (OH), Milt Negrin (NY), Nancy Bouldin, (OH). (Back, L-R) Don Hart (MI), Don Martin (OH), Manual Sanchez (MI), Jack Walker (IA), Jim Bouldin (Ohio)



Arlen Blumer (ND), Manual Sanchez (MI), and Chairman Norm Murray (WI) of 91st MP Bn.



At the Korean War Memorial/Map of Korea, (L-R) Wally Bracich and George Hyslop of the 1st FOB point to the Pork Chop hill area where they served

1st Field Artillery Observation Bn. Assn.

We celebrated our 33rd annual reunion and commemorated the 60th anniversary of the Korean War truce. The membership comprises forward observers who were trained as flash, sound, radar, and survey specialists. They served as the eyes and ears for the artillery.

Members of the 1st FOB who are veterans of WWII and the Korean War met in Indianapolis, Indiana, October 10-13, to renew friendships and camaraderie at the Crowne Plaza Indianapolis Airport Hotel. The vets and their spouses and guests toured the Indianapolis area, visiting sites such as the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in

Monument Circle, downtown Indy, and the Indiana War Memorial Plaza Historic District.

The War Memorial Plaza contains monuments to the Vietnam, Korean, and WWII veterans. We also visited the USS Indianapolis Memorial. Indianapolis was the heavy cruiser that delivered the atomic bomb to Tinian Island in August 1945. On its return, it was sunk by a Japanese submarine. Of the 1,197 men who went into the shark infested waters, only 318 survived. Engraved on the face of the monument are the names of the ship's company and one passenger who made up the final crew.

Continued ➤

Korean War Veterans' Mini-Reunions

1st Field Artillery Observation Bn. Assn. (Continued)

We also visited the Veterans Memorial, American Legion Mall, Indiana War memorial and the Congressional Medal of Honor Memorial. While in this location we were able to also tour the Scottish Rite Temple, which was an impressive experience.

On the lighter side we toured the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, visited the museum, and took a bus ride around the track while pretending to be Mario Andretti I. What a great experience!

At our business meeting, membership elected the following officers for the 2013/2014 term; President Earl Breese, V. President John Barnes, Secretary Ralph Mueller, Treasurer John Palla, Chaplain Titus Ward, and Newsletter Editor Warren Rehfeldt.

We look forward to next year's reunion in Des Moines, IA., October 2014.

Walter J. Bracich
8811 Northcote Ave.
Munster, IN 46321, 219-972-2354



RIGHT: Memorial Service for the eleven members of the 1st FOB who passed away this year (L-R) 1st FOB members V. Pres. John Barnes, Pres. Earl Breese, Chaplain Titus Ward, and Wally Bracich, who conducted a very moving and solemn remembrance service



1st FOB members assembled at the Korean War Memorial (L-R) James Murray, Earl Breese, George Hintzsche, Darrel Wehling, Dallas Collings, Roger Meier, Larrie Goetz, John Palla, George Hyslop, Wally Bracich, James Fiddler, John Barnes, William Breene, Titus Ward. Absent from photo were Glenn Fox and Vern Hueske.

U.S. Policy On Foreign Medals Is Wrong

In the past, U.S. Air Force units (314th Air Division, cited as awarded by MG Edwards and Haeffner Division Commanders in their official biographies and shown in their photos), U.S Forces Korea, which includes all Air Force units in Korea and the 7th Air Force, were not allowed to wear the ROK PUC. In some cases, the award was canceled or references to it deleted.

While the Army's 7th ID was allowed to accept and wear the award, numerous awards to the 2nd ID were termed honorary by the Department of the Army and personnel were not allowed to wear them. The 7th ID award included time during the 1950-53 period, which made it an exception.

All units that served during 1950-53 were awarded the ROK PUC and personnel were allowed to wear it. U.S. Naval Forces

Korea was awarded the ROK PUC, as was U.S. Marine Corps Forces Korea. Both were allowed to wear it.

Denying the wear of a foreign unit award after official acceptance by the U.S. never was right nor is the denial of previous award wear reasonable in my opinion. If you recall, the U.S. refused to accept the ROK War Service Medal for 40 years. It continues to reject acceptance of the ROK Defense Service Medal awarded in the 1966 era of increased hostilities—despite the retroactive award by the U.S. of our Korea Defense Service medal.

John Gavel, LtCol, USAF, PDRL,
THEGAVEL@aol.com, previously assigned to 314th
Air Division 1979-1981

84TH/62ND ENGINEERS CONSTRUCTION BN.

We held our 24th annual reunion September 9-13, 2013 at Gettysburg, PA. Jerome and Isabel Shank hosted the reunion. Their daughter Karen Hazel and her husband Donald assisted.

Andrew C. Barilla, 1220 Vermont Rd.
Bel Air, MD 21014



Members of the 84th/62nd ECB at
Gettysburg, PA reunion



Guests, members, and wives at the
84th/62nd ECB 24th annual reunion

PHOTO SECTION, 25TH DIV., SIGNAL CORPS ("Tropic Lightning")

Held its 14th mini-reunion in Milwaukee, WI, Sept. 4-7, 2013. The veterans were joined by their wives, friends, and others. Rollie Berens, Bob Eifert, Dick Wawrzyniak, and Dianne Teske hosted this wonderful event.

Doug Cairns attended this reunion for the first time, with his wife Mary Catherine. We had not seen him for sixty years. His presence generated some great memories.

Activities included a dinner cruise on Lake Michigan, a city bus tour, visits to a mini-brewery and a basilica, and a lot of rest time.

Because of our ages and health restraints, this may have been our last get-together—but maybe not.

Rollie Berens
18400 Brookfield Lake Dr.
Brookfield, WI 53045



Members of the Photo Section, 25th Div., Signal Corps at their mini-reunion in Milwaukee, WI

Dial 'T' For Thanks

These photos were taken during the Korean War by DK2 John S. Dial, who served as a disbursing clerk in the US Navy from 1950-54 aboard the aircraft carrier *USS Valley Forge* (CV/CVA/ CVS 45). He served aboard *Valley Forge* on its Korean deployments in 1951-52 and 1952-53 and later in 1954 when this carrier was transferred to anti-submarine duty in the Atlantic fleet after the conclusion of the war.

John S. Dial died in 1990. His color slides, taken with a Nikon camera, were recently converted to digital files by his son John R. (Bob) Dial. Bob is puzzled by some of the photos and would like some explanations from readers (see captions). If anyone can provide answers to the questions he poses in the nearby photo captions, contact him at 6 Willowbrook Road, Glenville, NY 12302 or by email at JDIAL@nycap.rr.com



Music from USS Valley Forge's band



Bob Dial on USS Valley Forge fantail



A view from USS Valley Forge's hangar deck



A Corsair on USS Valley Forge's flight deck



Bob Dial and his Navy buddies in the Far East



“Beach boys” surfing – must be Hawaii?



I’m not sure why these Sailors and Marine are gathered around this woman (It almost seems like a “gather-around-the-chaplain” moment.)



Could this be steaming through the Panama Canal? Some other photos in the batch suggest the Panama Canal to me. What are all those civilian vehicles doing on the flight deck?



A child in... Hong Kong? Japan?



John S. Dial with his camera bag, How apropos!



John S. Dial on the Valley Forge flight deck



John S. Dial's buddy, a Sailor named Madden

Another shot of Sailor Madden? Is he still around?



New Jersey Medal Of Honor Recipient Honored



Bronze bust of Henry Svelha at New Jersey State Korean War Monument (far right)

A sculpture honoring Belleville, NJ Medal of Honor recipient Henry Svelha was unveiled in a ceremony at the New Jersey State Korean War Monument in Atlantic City on July 12, 2013.

Svelha was one of five Korean War Medal of Honor recipients from New Jersey.

Eugene Corcoran

408 Joseph Ave.

Linwood, NJ 08221, Mercyrnnj@aol.com



Family of Henry Svelha at sculpture unveiling

Henry Svelha's MOH Citation

The President of the United States in the name of The Congress takes pleasure in presenting the Medal of Honor to

SVELHA, HENRY.

Rank and organization: Private First Class, U.S. Army, Company F, 2d Battalion, 32d Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. Place and date: Near Pyongony, Korea, 12 June 1952. Entered service at: Essex, N.J.. Born: 1932, Newark, N.J.

For extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy of the United Nations while serving with Company F, 2d Battalion, 32d Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. Private First Class Svelha distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action against enemy aggressor forces at Pyongony, Korea, on 12 June 1952. That afternoon, while Private First Class Svelha and his platoon were patrolling a strategic hill to determine enemy strength and positions, they were subjected to intense enemy automatic weapons and small arms fire at the top of the hill. Coming under heavy fire, the platoon's attack began to falter. Realizing the success of mission and the safety of the remaining troops were in peril, Private First Class Svelha leapt to his feet and charged the enemy positions, firing his weapon and throwing grenades as he advanced. In the face of this courage and determination, the platoon rallied to attack with renewed vigor. Private First Class Svelha, utterly disregarding his own safety, destroyed enemy positions and inflicted heavy casualties, when suddenly, fragments from a mortar round exploding nearby seriously wounded him in the face. Despite his wounds, Private First Class Svelha refused medical treatment and continued to lead the attack. When an enemy grenade landed among a group of his comrades, Private First Class Svelha, without hesitation and undoubtedly aware of extreme danger, threw himself upon the grenade. During this action, Private First Class Svelha was mortally wounded. Private First Class Svelha's extraordinary heroism and selflessness at the cost of his own life, above and beyond the call of duty, are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

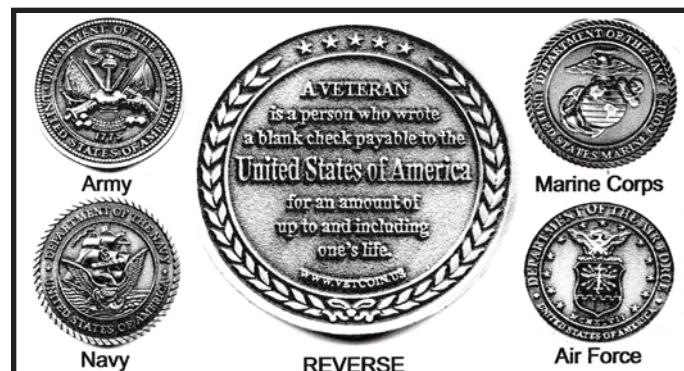
Incheon Landing Commemorated in Seoul

■ Remarks of Colonel Warren Wiedhahn, USMC (Ret), 15 September 2013, Seoul, Korea

Distinguished officials of the Republic of Korea, United Nations Forces, U.S. Forces, fellow veterans, families and friends. It is a great honor for me to address you on this important Incheon Landing Anniversary.

It was still dark the morning of 15 September 1950 when the Navy ship's PA system loudly clanged and we sprang from our bunks. I doubt if any of us had slept that night, in anticipation of the day. We grabbed our rifles and went top side to our boat stations where "The Gunny" issued us our grenades and rifle ammunition. We were now ready to risk "life and limb" and climb down those rope nets, with a heavy pack on our back and a rifle slung across our chests, into the landing craft bobbing like corks in the water below. Dawn was just breaking when we saw the dim Incheon Harbor that we were about to assault.

We had been fighting the North Koreans for over a month in the August heat and humidity of the Busan Perimeter, most notably, the two battles of the Nakdong River. The enemy was determined to capture Busan to finish their mission to unify the Korean Peninsula under the communist DPRK. The United Nations Forces, under the command of General Douglass MacArthur, were just as determined that they would not succeed!



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As we saw the absolute ruins of Incheon and Seoul in September 1950, it would have been impossible for us to have imagined these modern, vibrant cities, over 60 years later.

History tells us that the Incheon Landing was one of the most daring, but successful, amphibious assaults in the history of warfare. The United Nations Command, ably assisted by the ROK Armed Forces, completely surprised the North Koreans and within weeks the majority of their Army either surrendered or were killed.

History also tells us that the Incheon landing site was controversial. General MacArthur was a strong believer of the amphibious assault, from his experiences in World War II, and had specifically asked for the Navy and Marine Corps to plan the landing. They, in turn, were very concerned about the narrow dredged channel, with only thirty feet of water leaving little room to maneuver large ships, as well as the 32-foot tide, mud flats and lack of rehearsal time.

They tried to convince General MacArthur that the risks were too great and that an alternate landing site should be selected. General MacArthur, after listening to their objections, rose from his chair, thanked them for the briefing and said, "Gentlemen, we will land at Incheon!" (This was told to me personally by then Colonel Alpha Bowser, USMC, the G-3 of the 1st Marine Division, who was in the room.)

As we saw the absolute ruins of Incheon and Seoul in September 1950, it would have been impossible for us to have imagined these modern, vibrant cities, over 60 years later. A country with a strong economic system, soaring sky scrapers, free trade in the world, with your people happy and living in peace and prosperity.

I must confess that most of us teenagers had never even heard of Korea on 25 June 1950. But over these years, we have not only gotten to know you, we take great pride in calling you close friends and world partners. We veterans puff out our chests with pride when we see your thriving cities, your modern transportation system, your high tech companies and the world's finest auto and ship building capabilities. We take greater pride in knowing that we helped make it happen! The alliance between the Republic of Korea and the United States of America is now one of the strongest in the history of the world!

I'm very pleased to announce that the U.S. Korean War Memorial Foundation is building a beautiful new monument in the "The Presidio," overlooking the San Francisco, California harbor, where most of us sailed to, or returned, from Korea. A monument not to war, but to peace. A monument for future generations that will reflect the bravery and sacrifices of the thousands who went to war to save a country that they didn't know, and for people that they had never met!

Thank all of those who have made this commemoration possible. May God bless each and every one of you. And may God bless our great nations!

LEFTOVERS from page 24

Wick and I were there for one week until we were assigned to another outfit. I was assigned to A Co. 11th Engineer Battalion for the remainder of my tour, which was sixteen months. Wick Barnett was assigned to another outfit and I never saw him again.

*Dick Liebner, 5871 Sand Dr.
West Bend, WI 53095, dklieb1@charter.net*



What a way to spend your first day in Korea, as Dick Liebner did



A lowboy at the 151st Engineer Bn.'s empty compound in 1954

Lessons Learned

Everyone learned something from the Korean War. Politicians learned that war really did not solve anything, but it could stem the advance of communism. After all, the Korean War still has not ended, but communism did not gain a permanent foothold across the globe.

Military leaders on both sides learned new tactics and strategies and more about the differences between eastern and western ways of war. (Actually, the politicians and military



GIs line up to board a Globe Master aircraft en route to R&R in Japan



Drivers and friends Robert H. Jones (L) and Leroy Jones in front of Quonset hut that served as their home at Taegu

leaders did not learn anything new. The lessons were simply reinforcements of what they already knew.)

Individual Soldiers learned something about the importance of choices and the value of diversification. The latter lesson came courtesy of President Harry S. Truman, who ordered the integration of the U.S. armed forces in 1948.

Robert H. Jones learned that Kyoto was a better R&R choice than Tokyo. "We had an R&R choice between Tokyo and Kyoto," he observed. "Ignorant me chose Tokyo."

Why was that so bad? "Kyoto was almost untouched during WWII and was the ancient capital of Japan," he explained. "Kyoto was, and still is, the cultural center of Japan. Sixty years ago in Tokyo you could buy a huge bottle of Asahi or Sapporo beer for only fifty cents. The currency rate back then was 350 yen to \$1. For money back then, in 1953 Korea, military script was issued for us in place of dollars and could only be used to buy military rations in order to avoid black market activity."

Tokyo, Kyoto, tomato, potato? It did not make a difference. In either case, Jones and other GIs got a welcome break from the rigors of life in Korea—and learned some valuable cultural lessons in the process.

The Days—And Years—After

No one knew what to expect in the days after the treaty was signed. The troops decided for the most part to wait and see what would happen. In some cases their curiosity got the best of them, and that applied to both sides. A few troops—again on both sides—mingled with each other to satisfy their curiosity. Others stood near the guns, unable to believe that the long-hoped-for treaty was in fact real.

Mainly, troops wondered, “What will happen to me now?” Just because the fighting was over, that didn’t mean the military would put them on buses and send them home immediately. After all, many of them had time to go on their enlistments, which had to be completed somewhere.

And, deep down in their hearts, some of them knew the military needed to keep some troops in Korea in case the treaty fell apart. So, July 28th was as harrowing a day as was the day before—the day the peace treaty was signed.

It Was Like The War Never Happened

Here is part of a letter to my then sweetheart (now wife), dated July 28, 1953, 10 a.m., written somewhere south of the Main Line of Resistance (MLR). This was written 12 hours after the apparent success of the cease-fire.

July 28, 1953, 10:00

Hi Honey,

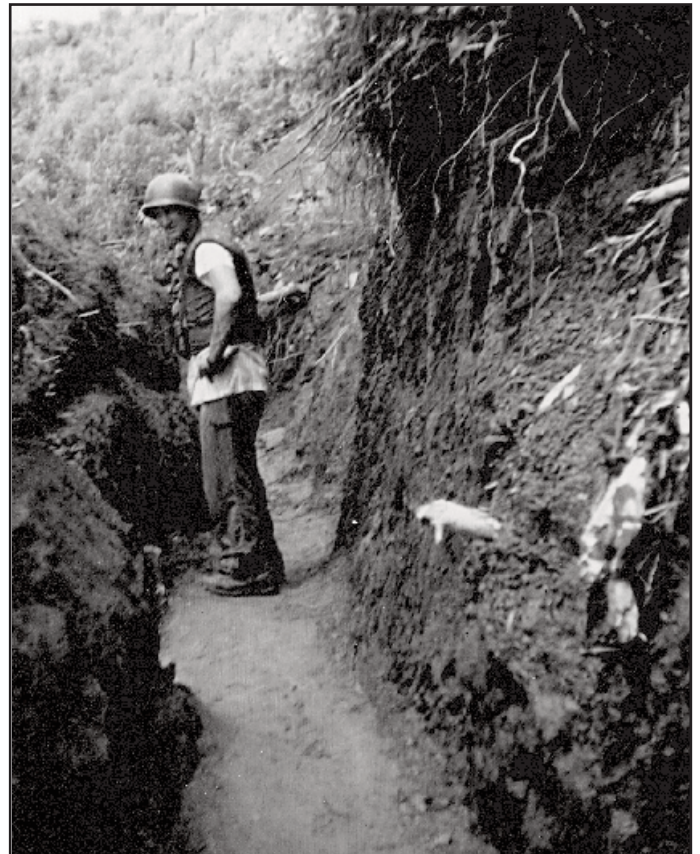
I was dead set on writing you this morning after I read your letter but time was at a premium, for this place at least. I was calling medics, getting all of their extra litters, their flak jackets, etc. The infantry was busy carrying ammunition off the hill, tearing down bunkers and fraternizing with the Chinese. That last was the biggest thing.



Looking over Kevin Kelly's shoulders into former enemy territory at Imjin Valley just prior to the cease fire

When we got up at 6:00 a.m., and after breakfast, we went over to take picture of Baldy. Much to our surprise the Chinese had set up banners and flags on a hill in between one of ours and Baldy. On Baldy they had one flag and a few men standing around. They had some musical instruments and were making with some poor music, while five or six GIs sat on the top of some close bunkers on another hill and serenaded back with some first-class western music.

U.S. Soldiers greet their former Chinese enemies on July 28, 1953



Kevin Kelly inspecting the trenches before the cease fire was put into effect



Later in the day the Chinese had grape wine, cigarettes and flags that they passed out to the GIs who dared wander over to the hill. It was too much work for me but I had a man take some close-up pictures for me. I hope they come out. While all of this was going on our right, the Reds were swimming in the river out in front of us. A few women were in the group. It was quite a day. The living now is just like camping. No danger, just existing for existence sake.

Happily ever after,

Kevin

*Kevin M. Kelly, 2 Glen St.
New Hartford, NY 13413
315-794-7725, kkelly@usawood.com*

We Were Still On Patrol

If my memory serves me correctly, I was with C Co., 14th Reg., 25th Inf. Div. on the MLR in the area of Carson, Vegas, and Elko when the armistice was signed. We were on patrol that night—and for many nights thereafter.

On our post-truce patrols, we heard a stray shot every now and then. Hopefully, those shots were fired into the air. And, we spent some time yelling back and forth at North Korean patrols and troops in their outposts. Overall, it was quiet in the area after July 27th, but it was decidedly eerie.

*Donzil R. Hall, 1416 Kiser Lake Rd.
Saint Paris, OH 43072*



Somewhere on the MLR in the Chorwon area in 1953 (Photo courtesy of Donzil R. Hall)

A North Korean outpost on the MLR in 1952
(Photo courtesy of Donzil R. Hall)



Air strike near MLR, Kumwha or Chorwon, Area 2, 1952 (Photo courtesy of Donzil R. Hall)



Sgt Ronald Bissett (Rochester, NY), SFC Donzil R. Hall (Spencer, WV), and SFC Robert Frazier (Berthoud, CO) in the Kumwha area in late 1952 or early 1953 (Photo courtesy of Donzil R. Hall)



A Quad 50 at Whitehorse in 1953 (Photo courtesy of Donzil R. Hall)

Troops waiting for transportation to Pusan—and “home sweet home” in late 1953 (Photo courtesy of Donzil R. Hall)



Turks attached to 14th Division in Korea, 1953-52 (Photo courtesy of Donzil R. Hall)



SFC Donzil R. Hall, SFC Robert Frazier, PFC Roy Lewis (WV) near Nevada outposts in 1953 (Photo courtesy of Donzil R. Hall)



SFC Robert Frazier (L) and SFC Donzil Hall in the Kumwha area in early 1953 (Photo courtesy of Donzil R. Hall)



A view near Chorwon area in 1953 (Photo courtesy of Donzil R. Hall)

To be continued...



Recon Missions

Laurence E. Shelorke

My daughter told me about her husband's uncle, who died on September 7, 1950 in Korea. He was PFC Laurence E. Shelorke, CO 18 Cav. (Inf), 1 CAV Div. (Inf). If anyone knew him, or knew of him, please send your information and pictures if available to Joanne Shelorke, 732 Pease Lane, West Islip, NY 11795, 631-587-8464

195 Ordnance Co. Party-goers

The nearby photo was taken at a Christmas party in Ascom City in December 1952. If any of the people in the photo recognize themselves or others, or anyone else recognizes any of the individuals, please contact me.

Bernard A. Baratta,
85 Malone Ave.
Staten Island, NY 10306-4109



35th FBS or 8th FBG Challenge Coin

I ran across your name and organization while looking for a challenge coin from that period in which my father, James (Jim) Firebaugh, served. He served in the Air Force and was stationed at K-13 Air Base, Suwon, Korea, where he was assigned to the 8th Fighter Bomber Group, 8th Wing, 35th Fighter Bomber Squadron. He said they were known as the Black Panthers. While there he flew the F-86E and F-86F.

I have over this past year been collecting challenge coins that reflect all his military career, including his ranks, planes flown, the AFB's he was stationed at, and other important aspects of his life. I have been trying to find one associated with the 35th FBS or the 8th FBG, albeit unsuccessfully. I did find an old challenge coin of the '36th'. At the time I thought dad was of the 36th so I thought I had struck gold! Unfortunately, I later found out he was with the 35th.

Do you by any chance offer any coin of this type or know of any person or company that does sell these? If not, do you all offer any coin that would serve and represent this time of his life?

Martain Firebaugh Stanley
mfsvillagegirl@charter.net

LEFT: Bernard Baratta in Korea

BELOW: Christmas party-goers in December 1952 at Ascom City



'I've Got Your Six'

That's what the combat ground troops say these days, meaning it as "I've got your back."

One of the founding members of our chapter (CID 40, Minnesota #1), Vernon Marquart, passed away on August 1, 2013, at age 81. Vernon served his country in the U.S. Army's 23rd Regiment, 2nd Division.

While eulogies were being said, our group was seated in a vestibule adjacent to the viewing area. At this time our President, Ed Valle, motioned for us to stand and file two by two into the viewing area to do our show salute in respect to the deceased.

Two of our members seated in front of me, Jim Dwyer, who is legally blind, and Mel Olson. Dwyer was having difficulty coming to his feet. Olson, seated next to him, asked if he could assist, even though with his Parkinson's he has his own issues. Jim said, the proud veteran he is, said "No thanks. I'm not that blind." So they both tottered off.

I looked around the room and saw Lew Weber using his walker and Jerry Nalipinski limping from the hip surgery he had undergone just a couple days earlier. Bud Van Hatton was also just recovering from hip surgery.

Mel Behnen, Tom Lyons, Dan Childs, Ken Swanson, Dan Montgomery, and John Rutford were using their "sticks."

By golly what a bunch these Korean War vets are! They all had varied backgrounds and military service, but it was always "all for one and one for all."

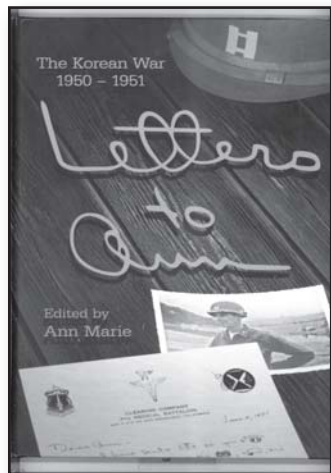
One day, each in their time, they will come face to face with God, and He will say, "I made you in my image and I'm proud of you. I've got your six."

Blair Rumble, 969 Lombard
St. Paul, MN 55105

Book Review

Ann Marie, Ed., *Letters to Ann: The Korean War, 1950-51*. Ann Marie, Denver, CO 80246, 2013. 176 pp. ISBN 978-0-9893788-0-2.

By Rego Barnett



Captain John F. Hughes had a problem in Korea. “How do I write to my four-year-old girl Ann Isabel and explain to her why I am here, what I am doing, etc?” Hughes, a medical doctor attached to the Clearing Company, 7th Medical Battalion, had a simple solution: print messages and draw lots of pictures. His novel approach (not in the literary sense, for everything he wrote was fact, not fiction) is what makes this book highly entertaining and well worth reading

for people of all ages.

Ann Marie (not the Ann to whom the letters were written) juxtaposes copies of the letters and excerpts from published reports such as The History of the U.S. Army Medical service Corps, books, command reports et al to give the reader an accurate picture of where Hughes was and what was going on in Korea when he was there. The drawings are clever. The dialogue is simple. The results are amazing.

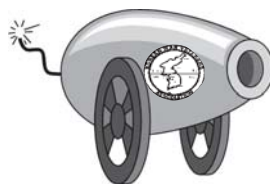
There is no better way to illustrate Hughes’ approach than to mention several excerpts from the book. Some of them display Hughes’ sense of humor. Some taught Ann Isabel about the culture of Korea. And some depicted what Dr. Hughes did in Korea. Whatever the purpose, Hughes gets his points across concisely and clearly, and the clever drawings complement his text in an innovative fashion.

The odd thing about this book is that even though it was written for a four-year-old girl it is valuable to readers of all ages. It is more than a collection of letters and drawings; it’s a primer for students of the Korean War. Everyone can learn a lot about the war from this book. Hughes may have concocted his approach for a specific person, but it is definitely suitable for all ages.

As Hughes did for his daughter, *Letters to Ann: The Korean War, 1950-51* should draw a lot of interest. Simply put, it is a picture book worth reading.

To order the book, go to amazon.com.books or barnesandnoble.com. You can reach the editor, Ann Marie, at ann-marie83@mac.com or (303) 399-1261.

Visit the Korean War Veterans
Association Website:
www.KWVA.org



Misfires

Occasionally, we make mistakes in *The Graybeards*. We try to be as accurate as possible, and we apologize for any errors that slip through. We do not have the funds for a fact checker, so we miss a fact or two now and then. Here are a couple clarifications. Incidentally, we rely on readers to inform us of any “misfires” that need correcting. We will print corrections in the next available edition.

Wrong Email Address

Thanks for the nice layout on the steel strike. I got 10 feed backs on it—all telephone calls. I wondered why there were no e-mails. Simple answer: wrong e-mail address. My correct email address is agbi-gal49@aol.com

Al Gonzales, Commander, CID 216 M*A*S*H 4099 [NJ]

Right Chapter Name, Wrong Number

I express my gratitude for your efforts in getting articles and pictures of our Arden A Rowley Chapter [AZ] in *The Graybeards*. The articles identify us as Ch 222. We are Ch 122!

Lew Bradley, lew.bradley@gmail.com

Off Track On This One

The Sept/Oct 2013, issue, p. 41, needs a correction pertaining to the Central Kentucky chapter report about James Marshall.

According to the article, Mr. Marshall was assigned to the 724 PROB RWYBN, where he spent two to three weeks up north replacing new track for diesel engines before moving to Pusan.

Actually, he was assigned to the 724th TROB S&D, aka 724th Transportation Railway Operating Battalion (Steam & Diesel), or later as 724th Transportation Battalion (Railway Operating), where he spent two to three weeks up north replacing bad track with new track for the diesel locomotives before moving to Pusan.

The 724th, a reserve unit sponsored by the Pennsylvania Railroad, was activated 19 August 1950. This was one of the first reserve units activated for service in the Korean War.

William L. (“Bill”) Seigford, billseigford@aol.com

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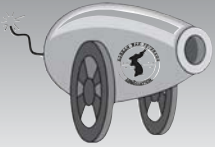
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Don't forget, PDF copies of ALL back issues of *The Graybeards* are available on the KWVA Website, www.kwva.org



Feedback/Return Fire

This section of The Graybeards is designed to provide feedback—and generate more feedback. It gives readers the opportunity to respond to printed stories, letters, points of view, etc., without having to write long-winded replies. Feel free to respond to whatever you see in the magazine. As long as it's tasteful and non-political, we will be happy to include it. If you want to submit ideas, criticisms, etc. that you prefer not to see in print—with your name attached to it—then we will honor that. Make sure to let us know, though.

Mail your "Return Fire" to the "Feedback Editor" at 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067; 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.

A Daughter's Reflection On Her Dad's Service

I have just returned from a Korea Revisit tour with my father, Phillip Joseph DiMenno, and family (brother, sister, and daughter) after the 60th Anniversary of the Armistice signing. I have been pestering my father to write something about his trip since he has so much going on in his head after returning to a country to whose democracy and prosperity he contributed. I thought I should write something from another perspective.

My father served in the U.S. Army. He served in Korea from July 1953 through November 1954 with Fox Company, 34th infantry, 24th Division, after training for combat in Mt. Fuji, Japan.

Since approximately 2003 he said he wanted to go back, but on a business trip with me. He started to prepare for the journey by going through photos. He found maps of the tungsten mine he guarded and familiarized himself with Outpost Harry, the Iron Triangle, Chorwon Valley, and the Han River. He went to the library and checked out books. Nothing prepared him for what he experienced.

When the plane landed in Seoul and we had our bags in hand departing customs, we were greeted by a welcoming committee with flashes from the cameras, photos posed and candid. The volunteers would not let my father lift any baggage.

The next day was July 27, 2013. We went to the War Cemetery and participated in the very dignified ceremonies honoring the living and perished soldiers. My father was interviewed by CNN while at the cemetery and then taken back to the hotel, but not before he was treated to bimimbap, a Korean dish, meaning mixed rice, different than the famous Korean barbecue. He had it Gangnam style because we ate in Gangnam, right on U Street.

Wait a minute! Seoul was leveled the last time he was here. There was one bridge to cross the river, and that was precarious. Sixty years later Seoul is a metropolis with very sophisticated people, business, shops, and commerce.

Dad traveled to the DMZ on a bus filled with other veterans, all of whom were paired with Korean students in college. The day made him think hard, with memories flowing back to 1953 and his feelings of being in a country of which he had never even heard. He rode with a student, David, who was asking him all kinds of questions out of interest and gratitude for my father's service.

Another day included a train ride to the DMZ for a peace concert. There, my father was thanked by a four-star general in the



Philip J. DiMenno and his 2 daughters, son, and granddaughter in Seoul

Korean Army and visited by many Korean military members during our dinner in the anteroom. My dad was greeted everywhere he went with open arms and genuine gratitude from all the Korean people he met. I have never seen anything like it. I began to think that this is not real. It was over the top. I could not believe it.

We went to China after Korea as a side trip. It was while we were in Hangzhou on our last few days of the trip that made me believe. We were sitting in a restaurant eating lunch when men at a table next to us became interested in something my brother was wearing. After our guide told the gentlemen the reason we were in Asia, they all stood and clapped for my father. Then, two more tables full of men and women stood up, clapped, came over to shake my father's hand, have photos with him, give him drinks—and even gifts from the gift shop.

What none of us realized beforehand was that these three tables were occupied by Korean tourists. Out of deep gratitude they honored my father in China for his service to their country. Now I believe.

We have been home now almost two weeks and I see my father in deep thought. Was this a good thing to take a trip like this, or was it a serious time in his life that was unburied? I asked him, "Dad, are you glad you went back to Korea?"

He looked at me and said, "Oh, yeah."

I asked him, "Why?"

He answered, "Because I now know that I helped a country

become free. I saw it with my own eyes.”

My father served his country when he was only a teenager out of high school. He has no bitterness that these years were so-called “taken from him.” He, like the Korean people he met on this revisit tour, has a sense of gratitude and comfort knowing that it was not in vain.

The Korean government and several companies fund these revisit programs for veterans. There is no other country in this world that has given back to the men that gave their lives in many instances and have kept this part of history alive by continually teaching the younger generations about the sacrifices these soldiers made.

I have never served in the military, but I can only think that going back to a place where battles were fought for freedom 60 years later must be a dream that only a soldier can truly appreciate. I am grateful for all of the soldiers that have and do serve their country.

With gratitude and sincerity,

*Renee DiMenno Zepezauer, 17516 San Jose Street
Granada Hills, CA 91344, tzepezauer@earthlink.net*

A Letter We Missed

I was just re-reading in the May-June, 2012 issue Robert L. Drew’s article on the initial peace talks in Korea. I did a double take at his assertion that the initial location of the peace talks was at Sinanju (north of Pyongyang?). I believe he must have been thinking of Kaesong.

In any event, none of this computes because the initial talks were at Kaesong, the ancient capital of Korea just north of the battle line in 1951. All of the references agree on this, not to neglect to mention the testimony to me of my very good friend, ROK General Paik Sun Yup, who was the first ROKA representative in the UN delegation.

Kaesong was found to be insecure in the manner described, without mention of communist tanks and artillery. Our side insisted that the talks be moved to Panmunjom (PMJ), about 10 kilometers due east.

Also, Drew’s assertion that the talks site was bombed by our side with a B-36 is patently wrong. There was a mistaken bombing of the PMJ site by a USAF jet (Ridgeway, “The Korean War,” Page 202) which we admitted.

Andrew Antippas, afotis31@netzero.net

Wait And You Shall Read Something Relevant

After many years of getting The Graybeards I finally found in the July/August 2013 edition some names of veterans to whom I could relate directly. On page 6 there was an article on finding the remains of Sgt Bernard Fisher, of Wilkes-Barre, PA.

Bernie and I went to St. Mary’s High School together, along with his brother Jimmy. I knew both of them well. Bernie, incidentally, was an excellent trumpet player.

The second item was the reference on p. 12 to Chaplain Robert Feeney. Father Feeney was assigned to St. Therese’s Parish in the late 1940s. I served mass with him for many years as an altar boy.

He left the city for the service in 1951 after teaching theology at King’s College in Wilkes-Barre for a few years.

Don Thomann, 617 Southwarke Rd., Bel Air, MD 21014-5221

Thank You, Hyman’s Seafood

Recently my wife and I were visiting Charleston, South Carolina and had dinner at a seafood restaurant named Hyman’s Seafood. On each of the tables, there is a small container with business size type cards advertising the restaurant.

I turned the card over and there is a series of sentences titled “It is the Soldier” I thought it would be appropriate to publish it in The Graybeards.

*Herbert Mitnick, 15 Mist Flower Road Berlin, MD 21811
410-208-1542, bud.mitnick1@gmail.com or
buddy10281@hotmail.com*

EDITOR’S NOTE: I agree with Mr. Mitnick that it would be nice to reprint the poem in The Graybeards. But, it is copyright protected by the author, Charles M. Province. We cannot reprint it without his permission. We do, however, commend Hyman’s Seafood where, incidentally, I have eaten several times, for highlighting the role of the Soldier in our society.

Besides, no doubt most people have seen the poem somewhere. Here are the first two stanzas:

It is the Soldier, not the minister
Who has given us freedom of religion.

It is the Soldier, not the reporter
Who has given us freedom of the press.

They Were Both Right

EDITOR’S NOTE: Dennis J. Ottley sent this letter to Richard Condon, who initially broached the subject of the 29th vs. 21st Regiments in his letter in the Sept/Oct 2013 edition. Mr. Condon’s response follows:

In response to letter captioned “The 25th Division Had Four Regiments” by Richard W. Condon, in “Feedback/Return Fire,” Sept/Oct 2013, p. 68, I guess you could say that both Mr. Condon and Tom Moore, who wrote the article “Who was Iron Mike Michaelis?” are both right. (The Michaelis article appeared in the July-Aug 2013 edition, p. 61.)

The 14th Infantry Regiment entered Korea in October 1951 and was attached to the 25th Infantry Division. I was assigned to that regiment at that time. We replaced the 24th Infantry Regiment, which was an all-black unit. President Truman was discontinuing all-black units at the time and was replacing them with desegregated units. This was the end of the 24th; they were no longer a unit. After that there were just the three regiments in the 25th Division

I was assigned to the 2nd platoon of the Tank Company of the 14th when it first got to Korea. The 14th replaced the 24th so after that there was no longer a 24th Infantry Regiment in the 25th Infantry Division. So, I guess they were both right, because both regiments were with the 25th, but not at the same time.

I was in the 14th from October 1, 1951 until May 24, 1952 as a gunner and tank commander with Tank Company, 14th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division.

*Dennis J. Ottley, 150 Fox Point Loop Rd.
Evanston, WY 82930, uintarealty@live.com*

Thanks from Richard Condon:

Hi Dennis

Your letter cleared up a lot of unanswered questions as the memory grows fainter every year. Thanks. I guess some of the confusion is the distinction between the 24th Division and the 24th Infantry Regiment. It looks as if you left Korea some 7 plus months before I got there in January '53.

Things were reasonably stable at that time. The 14th had just located at the Iron Triangle when I arrived, and from there we went to the western front to relieve the Marines. After the truce, I was just about a mile from Panmunjom when signed, the rest of the time was at Camp North Star that we took over from the Turks. Had to stay another 4 ½ months due to the Army cutting everyone back to 2 points per month. Thanks again.

Richard W. Condon

More About the 29th/21st

Re the Oct/Nov issue, Feedback/Return Fire article "Was it the 29th or the 21st?", p. 68. The writer stated, "It was not the 29th, as stated in the article. That omission is a slap in the face to the men of the 21st Infantry, and it needs to be corrected."

The 29th Infantry Regiment, consisting of only the first and third battalions, did in fact land on Korean shores on July 24th, 1950. Three days later, on July 27th, 1950, both battalions were annihilated in separate engagements; the third battalion at Hadong (See VFW Magazine June/July 2000, Hell at Hadong) and the first battalion at Anui (see VFW Magazine June/July 2010, Anui: Tragic Ambush.) The date of July 27th, 1950 was obviously erroneous, reflecting the date of engagement with the enemy, rather than the date of arrival.

Most publications omit reference to the 29th Infantry Regiment simply because of its short existence in Korea. Survivors of the first battalion were assimilated into the 3rd Battalion of the 35th Infantry Regiment and the 3rd Battalion of the 29th integrated with the 27th Wolfhound Infantry Regiment, both components of the 25th Tropic Lightning Infantry Division.

The first battalion of the 21st Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, was the first U.S. ground unit committed to Korea, being airlifted and designated as Task Force Smith, while the remainder of the regiment, in addition to the 24th Infantry Division, was dispatched by ship. Task Force Smith was the first unit of the U.S. Army to engage the enemy on July 5th, 1950.

I hope this information clarifies a long standing misunderstanding as to what order of units were initially deployed to Korea.

Paul G. Petredis, 403 3rd Lane, Fox Island, WA 98333

Where to Get a Hat

Stanley Machlin asked in the Sept/Oct edition ("Feedback," p. 70) where he could get a hat like the one MOH recipient Rodolfo Hernandez was wearing in the cover photo of the July/Aug 2013 edition. You might advise Mr. Machlin that he can get hat info through the Military Issue website, www.militaryissue.com/product_info.php?ID=11657. The phone number is 1-800 9891945.

Lee Parks, Decatur IL, geoleeparks@yahoo.com

Beeir Vs. Becir and "Iron Mike"

EDITOR'S NOTE: There was an entry in "From the Secretary" column, p. 6, in the Sept/Oct 2013 edition in which a Turkish military affairs specialist was looking for info about a Silver Star awarded to Capt. Becir Gunay.

Captain Gunay, Turkish Command, was awarded the Silver Star for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in connection with military operations against the enemy, while serving with the 6th Co., 241st Inf. Regt., Turkish Command, in support of operations in Korea.

I note that in the Military Times - Hall of Valor, they have Captain Gunay's first name on his Silver Star as, BEEIR, instead of BECIR, which could be one problem in trying to find the document of his star. This synopsis in the Hall may help the U.S. Embassy in Ankara. It gives Captain Gunay's company and regiment.

I do know the 241st Inf. Regt. was the first Turkish Brigade into Korea, (Oct.-1950 — Sept.-1951). We informed them to check the DD-214. I doubt the Turkish Command knows what a DD-214 is. The folks in Turkey could get their best info from Turkish General Staff.

Incidentally, the battles involving the Turkish armed forces in the Korean War, 1950 – 1953, are included in Istanbul: History Division, Turkish General Staff, 1975.

By the way, the Turks were attached to the U.S. 25th. Infantry Division, and they were in the Kunuri battles. Their General was Tshsin Yazici, to whom the U.S. awarded the Legion Of Merit Medal.

Also, in the Sept/Oct 2013 edition, in "Feedback/Return Fire," pg.70, Mr. Condon questions the article, "Who was Iron Mike Michaelis", from the July-Aug. 2013, Vol.27, No.4 pg.61 Graybeards, about the 14th. Infantry Regiment and the 25th. Infantry Division. Here is a clarification.

On 21 July 1950 the 14th Inf. Regt. ("Golden Dragons") sent its 3rd Bn. to Korea, where it was assigned to the 1st Cav. Div. and re-designated as the 3rd Bn., 5th. Cav. Regt. On 1 August 1951, the 14th Inf. Regt. was sent to Korea to replace the 24th Inf. Regt. in the 25th Inf. Div., which was being inactivated as part of the integration of the U.S. Army.

The Golden Dragons then fought in places like The Punchbowl and Porkchop Hill. Three of its soldiers were awarded the Medal of Honor. Mike Michaelis had gone to NATO, about three months before the 14th joined the 25th Div. in Korea.

Tom Moore, tm103ps@yahoo.com

Was it a Mechanized Howitzer or an M-7 Tank?

The Graybeards 60th Edition III, Sept/Oct 2013, p. 41, shows what I believe is a mechanized self-propelled Howitzer, not an M-7 tank. (James Marshall appears in two pictures.)

Erwin E. Pollack, eeepcardinal@bellsouth.net

"Wolfhounds" at Hill 180

Having recently been engaged in finding veterans names of Task Force Smith (the first battle for Korea, July 5, 1950), I was struck by the back cover of your July-Aug edition. It shows soldiers placing a wreath at Osan Air Base, Korea.

Task Force Smith took place at Osan. I had not been aware that the 27th Inf Regt “Wolfhounds” had fought there Feb. 7, 1951, in the Battle of “Hill 180.” I would be grateful to have more information about that engagement, and the exact location of “Hill 180.”

Is the battle chronicled in any books or can any of your members furnish details or information pinpointing that location? I find it very interesting that the place was the scene of another important battle (although I am aware that there are other such incidents of successive battles).

*Rus Penland, 6010 Ebonwood
Corpus Christi, TX 78412
Deltas-1@sbcglobal.net*

A Greatful Winner With A Plan



Carl W. Schick (L) and Robert O. Baumgartner in Korea

first helicopter squadron in Korea. I was first Mech/Crew chief on #10 with SSGT. Robert O. Baumgartner (deceased)—a great Marine and a great friend.

After the cease fire on 27 July, 1953, our squadron participated in Little Switch and Big Switch.

The Korean War marked the end of an era for the M-1 Rifle. As a former Marine, I carry a reminder of The Marine Rifleman's Creed (see below). This Creed identifies that all Marines' all ranks, and all MOSs are basically a Marine infantryman.

Marine Rifleman's Creed

This is my rifle. There are many like it, but this one is mine. It is my life. I must master it as I must master my life. Without me my rifle is useless. Without my rifle, I am useless. I must fire my rifle true. I must shoot straighter than the enemy who is trying to kill me. I must shoot him before he shoots me. I will. My rifle and I know that what counts in war is not the rounds we fire, the noise of our burst, or the smoke we make. We know that it is the hits that

I am the guy who won the 60th Anniversary Memorial Rifle. I intend to enjoy this rifle for a few months, and then donate it to The United States Marine Corps Museum in Quantico, VA, in memory of the Korean veterans who served in this conflict.

I was stationed in Korea in 1953, attached to Marine Helicopter Squadron 161, the



Carl W. Schick displays the M-1 won he won in the KWVA raffle

count. We will hit.

My rifle is human, even as I am human, because it is my life. Thus, I will learn it as a brother. I will learn its weaknesses, its strengths, its parts, its accessories, its sights and its barrel I will keep my rifle clean and ready, even as I am clean and ready. We will become part of each other.

Before God I swear this creed. My rifle and I are the defenders of my country. We are the masters of our enemy. We are the saviors of my life.

So be it, until victory is America's and there is no enemy.

This has been a great experience winning this rifle. I assure you that it will find a good home.

Carl W. Schick, 3723 Crossbow Ct., Ellicott City, MD 21042

Layers Was Not on That Last Truck

As I was reading the letters in the Feedback section of the Sept/Oct *Graybeards*, I was sort of drawn to the one by Stanley Grogan about Captain Gene Layers. Grogan wrote that Layers came out on the last day. (See “Hogan Was No Hero To The North Koreans,” p. 70). I came out on that last truck and do not remember that name. Of course, I was so glad to talk to anyone that I still can't shut up and most coming back that day were on the way home already.

My sister kept a list of the daily releases and I still refer to them when things do not add up. I cannot find that name anywhere on the list and the last day for sure.

I know I am getting old and cranky and don't see so well, so I may be wrong. Maybe you can straighten me out on this—or ask some questions.

Gene Evers, Forest Grove, OR, ejeve@frontier.com

Anyone Sail From San Diego with The 29th Draft?

Re the May/June 2013 edition, “Replacement Was A Scary Word,” p. 30:

I wish to add more information to the official orders received by Marines Richard R. Dombrowski, Paul E. Holcomb, and Claud W. Nipp to report to Camp Pendleton, CA and somewhere “beyond the seas” starting January 1, 1953.

I received the same orders at Camp Lejeune, NC in mid-November 1952 to report to Camp Pendleton, 2400 hours, January 1, 1953. After three weeks at Camp Pendleton, the group of Marines that started advanced training together formed the 29th draft that sailed from San Diego, CA on or about January 23, 1953. The troop ship, the General Nelson M. Walker, arrived in Kobe, Japan on February 5, 1953, and traveled on to Inchon, Korea, where it arrived a few days later.

Immediately after arriving at Inchon, we traveled by train to Panmunjom for orientation. A few days after that my orders directed me for several months to the 1st Marine Base at Ascom City, attached to the 1st Shore Party Battalion. Subsequently, I was transferred to Headquarters Battalion and rotated back to the states in March 1954.

I am interested in hearing from anybody who was on the voyage of the 29th draft that sailed from San Diego on or about January 23, 1953.

Frank DeSeta, 228 N. Railroad Ave., Staten Island, NY 10304

Above And Beyond The Call of Duty

The photo at right shows Maj Lincoln Perkins in front of the 67th TRW Officer's Mess and Club, Kimpo AB, Korea. At the time he was in charge of the railway right of way and rolling stock and was visiting me when I was the Wing Armament Officer.

Lincoln was my uncle and the best man at my wedding. This was his third call to active duty. He also served in WWI and WWII, where he was wounded in the Battle of the Bulge.



Maj Lincoln Perkins

Korea marked my second call to active duty. The first was for WWII in Air Force, AMC. I was again called to active duty with the NY Air National Guard and served in France when the Berlin Wall went up in 1962-'63.

In the end we both served three times and finished our careers as LtCols.

*Stephen V. Gilligan, 4857 Pembridge Circle
Syracuse, NY 13215*

Wrong Casualty Figures

Don Hart's article on page 19 of the Sept/Oct 2013 edition, "Korea: The War We Won," has the usual incorrect figures on our dead and wounded in the Korean War. (More often than not the numbers are published as 54,000 killed and 6,176 MIA.)

Okay, the wounded number will fly. How about if you publish the correct numbers in each issue of The Graybeards? They will not take up much space.

Since the war ended, or better still, since our KWVA was formed, all kinds of numbers have made their way into our magazine. Here are the correct figures from the DOD.

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Total Servicemen World Wide | 5,720,000 |
| KIA Dead (including MIAs) | 33,739 |
| Nonbattle dead | 2,835 |
| Other dead NOT in Korea for the three years | 17,672 |
| Wounded | 105,284 |
| Living Korean War Veterans As Of 1 January 2013 | 2,275,000 |

You should include how many served in the war, which is nearly 1-1/2 million!

How many memorials in the USA, including the one in Washington D.C., have the incorrect numbers of MIA, KIA, etc..?

Flag Etiquette

We are also very bad on flags. Look at the photo in the upper right column on p. 64. The correct order is Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard. When a Color Guard goes to Parade Rest, the Rifles are slanted but the flags are ALWAYS straight up and down, which apparently a lot of our members do not know. We should have a drill manual, like the American Legion and VFW do.

Here is a good topic of conversation for you. The VFW National HQ proclaims that the MIA flag outranks all flags except

the USA flag. And the American Legion proclaims the MIA/POW flag is just an organizational flag.

The MIA/POW families have for the past fifteen years maintained that their flag is outranked by only the U.S. flag. They pushed this program and got many people to believe it.

I have been a Flag Officer for over 40 years. The Legion is correct; the VFW is wrong.

What is the KWVA position on this flag controversy?

William Hothan, P.O. Box 1058, New Hyde Park, NY 11040

Speaking Of Flags...

On p. 64 of the Sept/Oct 2013 edition there appear two pictures that have me wondering. The Chapter 297 (Plateau) Honor Guard is lined up for the 4th of July Parade in Crossville, TN. The lower picture shows them marching. I looked for an American flag, but didn't see any.

There are five flags in the upper picture, but only four in the lower. I found that unusual.

*Donald W. Killmeyer, 2850 Middletown Rd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15204, 412-922-2743*

Yellow Fever...In reference to the article entitled "Yellow Fever, Yellow Jaundice, Hepatitis?" in the July/Aug 2013 edition, p. 67:

While stationed at the USNH Yokosuka, Japan, I was assigned to the Infectious Disease Ward for nearly seven months as a staff nurse. It is safe to say that we cared for more than 125 hepatitis patients on a daily basis. NOTE: Hepatitis A is caused by a virus and spread by poor hygiene, infected drinking water, or contact with another person infected with the disease.

The average stay for a patient was 6 to 8 weeks before they were returned to duty. The patient load consisted of Marines and FMF personnel (Corpsmen) in the four stages of recovery. Most of these were sent to the hospital directly from the "war zone" in Korea or fleet units.

I am happy to report that through excellent care of the doctors, Corpsmen and nursing staff, we never lost a patient. I am sure that the Army medical facilities had a great many more cases due to their numbers on scene.

A quick check on the internet revealed many sources for commentary on the subject.

*Joan M. Arcand (nee Tyrrell) LT, Navy Nurse Corps, 5674 Bay
Pines Lakes Blvd., Saint Petersburg, FL 33708*

Twins

On page 35 of the Sept/Oct edition there was a question about how many twins were in the service during the Korean War. I was a member of the 2750th Medical Group, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, OH from January 1951 – December 1954.

We were honored to have a set of twins in our group, Hank and Frank Miglin, from South Amboy, NJ. Both of them were a bit wild and very athletic.

*Carl Moore, Jr., 3009 Kingsley Dr.
Decatur, IL 62526, 217-428-8115*

Trains On The Dock

The Sept/Oct 2013 edition brought back memories. I am refer-

ring to page 41, Ch 219. I, too, was assigned to the railroad and arrived in Korea Aug. 3, 1950 and went immediately to Kyong Ju, South Korea, on the east coast rail line. I suspect that James Marshal and I crossed paths. I was in the company, the 724th, in Pusan several times and rotated home in late 1951.

There is a typo however, PROB should read TROB. "Transportation Railway Operating Battalion." We never used RWYBN.

I worked in several railroad stations, such as Kyong Ju, Iha and Wagewon, and made conductor runs for a short while. For a short time I worked in Pusan on the docks unloading ice from Japan and filling refrigerator cars.

It would be wonderful to hear from people who I worked with in the Pusan Perimeter in August and September 1950, e.g., enlisted men named Beasley, Holden and Angel, to mention a few.

We also had several outstanding officers. Major Jordan and Co!. Martinez to mention two.

Francis M. Carpenter, P. O. Box 316, Rescue, CA 96772, 530-677-2524, 8300ret@gmail.com

More From Schuck

In the Sept/Oct edition there was a story from John Schuck, "Use Of Radar To Detect Mortars In The Korean War," pp. 68-69. He revealed that he was stationed in the Yanggu Valley, on K-52, an emergency air strip with an Aid station, just several miles from the MLR. There, he and his buddies got to witness some spectacular crashes and near misses. The nearby photos depict some of the mishaps.

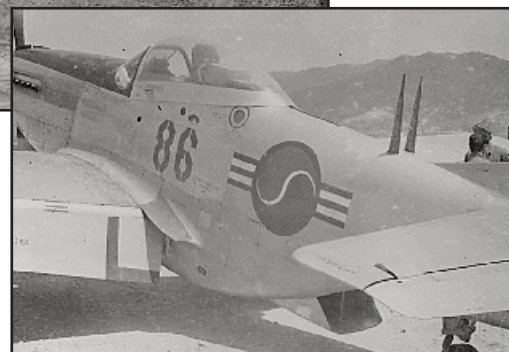
As Schuck reported, the runway peaked about 2/3rds of the way down the 4,000-foot air strip, causing some "over runs." In one instance, a ROK plane experienced one of those "over runs." The rest of the ROK fleet landed to pick up their buddy, and our Korean workers rushed out to see some of their guys.

Fortunately, he concluded, in the year he was there nobody lost their lives in the "air events."

Reach John Schuck at 1471 Gantt St., The Villages, FL 32162, 352-750-5576, colcajohn@gmail.com



"Coming to the rescue"



"Fly the airplane as far into the crash as possible."



Now Hear This:

All comments concerning, or material for publication, in *The Graybeards* should be sent to Art Sharp, Editor, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or emailed to:

sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net

Reunion Calendar: 2014

Mail your info to Reunion Editor, *The Graybeards*, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or email it to sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net. Include Unit, Date(s), Place, and Contact's name, address, phone #, email address. Entries are posted "first come, first served." *The Graybeards* is not responsible for the accuracy of the information published.

APRIL

73rd Tank Bn., 22-26 Apr., Las Vegas, NV. Bob Jones, 816-836-0969, bobjones73rdtkbn@yahoo.com

L Co., 21st Inf. Rgmt., 24th Inf. Div., April 30-May 4, Savannah, GA. George Vlasic, 279 Ravensside Dr. NW, Calabash, NC 28467, 910-287-5618, geonanvlasic@atmc.net

MAY

B-58 Hustler Assn. USAF, 1-4 May, Ft. Worth, TX, Fossil Creek Radisson Hotel. Richard Bolcer, 817-249-5019, rich92437@sbcglobal.net

USS Ault (DD 698), 1-5 May, San Antonio, TX. Tony Fuentes, 210-495-9554 or Gatherings Plus, <http://www.reunionpro.com/>

67th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing (All units), 12-16 May, New Orleans, LA. Marion Edwards, 126 Willow Ave. Greenfield Twp, PA 18407, 570-222-4307, jeeme@nep.net

SEPTEMBER

USS Ingersoll (DD 652), 5-8 Sept., Houston, TX. Dennis Harris, 6581 CR108, Iola, TX 77861, oldsailor62@gmail.com or www.uss-ingersoll-vets.com



Welcome Aboard!

New Members of the Korean War Veterans Association

ARIZONA

R045324 JOHN T. 'DOC' LEVI
R045416 JOHN M. MCCORMICK

ARKANSAS

R045323 BEN C. KITTLER
P045434 JAMES F. MATLOCK
R045313 WALTER R. MCKENZIE

CALIFORNIA

R045348 RAYMOND W. GUENTHER
LR45331 KENNETH K. HURST
R045338 ERNEST T. MEDINA
R045375 AMBLER H. PEARSON
LR45409 FRANK V. SAUER
R045337 JOSE S. VINDIOLA
LR45406 WILLIAM L. WILSON

COLORADO

R045408 JOHN E. SCHNEIDER

CONNECTICUT

R045342 JOSEPH F. CEFARATTI
R045394 LOWELL T. HENDRIX
R045393 GEORGE R. LUBUS
R045350 ANTHONY TORSIELLO

DELAWARE

R045439 CHARLES J. KOLODJESKI
R045402 DONALD E. NEWLIN

FLORIDA

R045344 C BROWN ALLEN
R045369 ROBERT N. BUCKLEY
R045426 CHARLES M. COLLINS
R045415 JESSE L. CUNNINGHAM
R045349 CHARLES W. DAVIS
R045429 VINCENT R. DIGIROLAMO
R045430 ANTHONY DIMARINO
R045320 ARTHUR B. DOW
R045433 ROBERT L. ELLIOTT
R045432 EUGENE FARRELL
R045385 ROBERT M. FOX
R045436 RICHARD A. HARDESTY
R045345 PYOUNG O. HUR
R045428 HAROLD D. JAYNES
R045425 CLYDE R. MCKINNON
LR45321 LARRY G. MILLS
R045376 GENARO J. PISANO
A045431 LINDA M. PURYEA
R045424 DONALD N. RODELY
R045420 RICHARD SCHMIDT
LR45373 HAROLD K. SEYMOUR
R045457 EDWARD J. SINDELAR
R045427 ROBERT E. TUCKER
LR45359 CHARLES V. VIENNA
LR45332 BARTON D. WEISMAN
A045305 KAREN W. WHITEHURST
R045449 PAUL M. WILLIAMS

GEORGIA

R045443 KING D. 'DAVID' CONKLE
R045397 JOHN M. DAVIS
R045351 EDWARD C. HACKNEY
LR45451 THOMAS E. JONES
R045377 JAMES R. PHILLIPS

HAWAII

R045343 ROBERT L. HANUSA
A045386 MELVIN T. YAMAKI JR.

IDAHO

R045353 FRANCIS M. TUCKER

ILLINOIS

LR45371 VICTOR P. JACCINO
R045442 JOE B. PIERCE
R045352 DONALD R. ROCKHILL
R045317 DAVID J. STAPLETON

INDIANA

R045333 B SCOTT CRAWFORD
R045412 CHERRY S. PHILLIPS
R045311 RICHARD L. SCHOCKE

IOWA

R045370 EUGENE R. STEENSEN
LR45304 HAROLD L. VAN VOORHIS

KANSAS

LR45419 ROBERT R. BRUCE
R045453 WILLIAM J. LAUGHLIN
R045452 WILLIAM J. LUBESKI

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LR45307 LEONARD T. KERNEN
R045310 DONALD N. KING
R045315 JOSEPH B. WARREN
R045378 JOSEPH G. WERNER

MARYLAND

R045362 THEODORE E. CARLSON
R045454 THOMAS G. CHRIST
R045417 FREDERICK W. CONRAD JR.

MASSACHUSETTS

R045366 JUAN F. ANGEL
R045328 JOHN A. GALLO
R045413 THOMAS L. VAGES
R045387 TONY VIERA

MICHIGAN

R045316 LOUIS A. BARRETTA
R045389 WILLIAM K. BECKER
LR45335 WILBURN FANNIN

MINNESOTA

R045455 LAUREN F. JOHNSTON
LR45308 BASIL R. KVALE
R045374 ROBERT R. MOREAU
R045456 ROBERT L. SINGELSTAD

MISSOURI

R045309 DALE H. JUNGHANS
R045322 WILLIAM H. NESBIT
R045392 CLARENCE A. SEHRT

NEVADA

R045418 RAYMOND A. KOHLER
R045398 DON F. MCCARTY
R045336 LOWELL D. ROMINE
R045405 FRANCIS H. WOOD

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R045441 LANDON W. PARROTTE

NEW JERSEY

R045396 JOSEPH M. PARISO

NEW MEXICO

R045440 GEORGE V. WILSON

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R045364 JAMES L. CRANE
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R045379 JOSEPH M. DIJUNE
R045410 JOSEPH F. KARPINSKI SR.
R045367 ROLAND E. LEE

R045447 STEPHEN A. NINESLING
A045445 NAK K. SHIM
R045446 GUGLIELMO G. TIRABASSO

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R045330 WAYNE N. SMITH

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LR45372 MONA L. HENNINGS
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R045358 WILLIAM J. OTY
LR45401 RICHARD L. PAINTER
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R045303 ARCHIE E. SHAFFER
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R045384 RAYMOND E. TREFT

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R045407 KENNETH L. METCALF
LR45411 ROBERT L. MOORE
LR45341 HORACE L. WHETSTONE

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R045327 MARVIN B. MAJOR
R045390 ANTHONY F. MAZZA
R045306 JAMES F. ROBBINS
R045361 FRANK M. SYLVESTER

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R045414 WILLIAM R. TIERNAY

SOUTH DAKOTA

LR45380 RICHARD P. MCBRAYER

TENNESSEE

R045458 MARIO GAMBACCINI
R045437 JAMES F. KUKOWSKI
R045360 JONATHAN M. PENNEY

TEXAS

LR45363 HENRY T. ALEX
R045404 CARROL L. BANTA
R045319 JAMES L. CLINE
R045318 WESLEY R. CONNALLY
R045435 REYES D. JAIME
R045448 DAVID J. MEINHART
R045312 HENRY G. ORTIZ
R045395 RICHARD L. RASKA
R045329 THOMAS H. SCANNICCHIO
R045438 JAMES A. SOMMER
LR45334 JOHN A. SZILVASY

VIRGINIA

LR45388 CORNELIUS A. ARVIN
R045346 DAN S. GRIMES
A045403 PATRICIA W. MAUGANS
R045314 HARRY B. PINGLEY
A045382 PRISCILLA A. STAPLES
R045381 JOHN E. STAPLES JR.

WASHINGTON

R045355 JOSEPH BAILEY
A045365 DIXIE L. HOTALING
R045354 ARNIM A. 'ARNIE' KLUG
R045356 JOSEPH P. KORICK
R045399 JOHN W. ROOT
R045357 LOUIS SCHNELL

WEST VIRGINIA

R045340 ORVILLE N. DYE

WISCONSIN

R045339 LOUIS KARPINSKI

Book Reviews In The Graybeards

We handle book reviews in house. Authors submit copies to us for review and possible inclusion in The Graybeards. So, if you would like to send us a copy of your book for review we will be happy to consider it. Send a copy to Arthur G. Sharp, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067. There is no guarantee that a review will be published, however.

Book reviews do not have a high priority on our publishing schedule, unfortunately. We do include them when space allows. Nonfiction books take top priority over novels, although we have reviewed both categories in the past.

There is another way to publicize your book in *The Graybeards*. You can purchase advertisements. Rates are available from our Advertising Manager, Jerry Wadley, at finisterre@iscl.net or 843-521-1896. Several authors have done that, apparently with success.

Official Membership Application Form

The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407 (Telephone: 217-345-4414)

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE Assigned Membership Number: _____

KWVA Regular Annual Dues = \$25.00 ♦ Associate Membership = \$16.00

MOH, Ex-POW, Gold Star Parent or Spouse & Honorary - \$0.00

Regular Life Membership: (May be paid in lump sum or 6 equal payments by check over a 12 month period.)

Ages up to and through 35 years of age:\$600

Ages 36 through 50 years of age:\$450

Ages 51 through 65 years of age:\$300

Ages 66 years of age and older:\$150

Please Check One: ☐ **New Member** ☐ **Renewal Member (# _____)**

Please Check One ☐ **Medal of Honor** ☐ **Regular Member** ☐ **Regular Life Member** ☐ **Associate Member**
☐ **Ex-POW** ☐ **Honorary** ☐ **Gold Star Parent** ☐ **Gold Star Spouse**

(Please Print)

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle/Maiden Name _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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

Dates of service:

Division _____ ☐ **Army**

WithIN Korea were: *(See criteria below)*

Regiment _____ ☐ **Air Force**

From _____ To _____

Battalion _____ ☐ **Navy**

WithOUT Korea were: *(See criteria below)*

Company _____ ☐ **Marines**

From _____ To _____

Other _____ ☐ **Coast Guard**

"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.

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

B. Associate Members.

- Must not be eligible for Regular membership.
- Any person with a legitimate interest in the affairs of this Association and who wishes to support its aims, and not being eligible for Regular Membership; and who agrees to accept the terms and conditions set forth in the KWVA Charter and its Bylaws and Standard Procedure Manual, shall be eligible for Associate Membership in the Association. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

C. Gold Star Parents. Any person 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.

D. Gold Star Spouses. 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.

E. Honorary Members. Any person of good character may be elected as Honorary Member by vote by the Board of Directors. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

F. 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.

WEB SITE: www.kwva.org

Adopted 10/26/2009, R5 Approved 7/26/2013

Members in the NEWS



Lew Bradley... of Ch 122, Arden A. Rowley [AZ], recently received the “Kiwanian of the Year” award from his Kiwanis Club of Chandler, AZ at its September 27th annual installation dinner for incoming officers. Rather than the usual plaque or certificate, he received a wooden model of a DC-3 (C-47) aircraft with a nameplate attached. Why? As the presentation script explains:

It will be fitting to compare him with a special aircraft which he learned to love during his career in industry, one of the most famous airplanes in history.

The DC-3 was all of the below, which also describes our recipient:

- A) born in the mid 1930s in the USA.
- B) hard working
- C) reliable
- D) active in their service for many good causes.
- E) retired from the Marine Corps as was the C-117 in 1982. (Our guy has not retired from the Marines yet, however.)
- F) the DC-3 was the workhorse in WWII, serving at the “hump” in Burma, the jungles of New Guinea, and the Berlin airlift, to name just a few.

Our recipient also is a workhorse for Kiwanis, as well as for many other great causes.

The comparison between Lew Bradley and the DC-3 fits.

Reach Bradley at 1690 W Saragosa St., Chandler, AZ 85224, 480-732-1687, KiwanisLew@cox.net

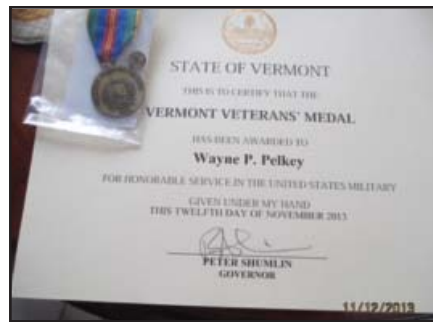
Robert (“Bob”) Mount... of CID 142, William E. Weber [MD] was the featured speaker at Oakdale High School on November 12th for “Take a Vet to School Day.” Mount was an 18-year-old Army corporal when he went to Korea. *Contact Mount at 6518 Fish Hatchery Rd., Thurmont, MD 21788, 301-898-7952, MRmount252@comcast.net*

Wayne Pelkey... was among several veterans who received medals from the Korean Consulate in Boston as a token of that nation’s appreciation for their role in the Korea War. The medals were bestowed at a special ceremony held on the floor of the



Wayne Pelkey “dressed for inspection” prior to traveling through the cold and snow to Montpelier, Vermont to receive his award

Vermont House of Representatives. In addition to the medals presented by the Korean Consulate, the Vermont Department of Veterans Affairs arranged for Governor Peter Shumlin to present certificates and medals to other Vermont vets who served in other war times. There were 15 Korean War vets who were seated in the front row with their spouses and family behind them.



Wayne Pelkey's certificate

A young Korean girl in traditional Korean dress who “sang as clear as a canary” at the Vermont medal presentation ceremony



Two members from the Korean Consulate preparing the awards for the Vermont presentation

The veterans assembled at the Vermont House of Representatives disperse



Harold Sullivan... was featured in the August 25, 2013 Waterbury [CT] Sunday Republican (p. 1A). Reporter Quannah Leonard recounted Sullivan’s recent revisit to Korea with his son Keith to attend the Korean War Armistice Commemoration. As Leonard wrote, “The royal treatment by the South Korean government and its people touched both father and son. Tears coated Keith’s eyes when he recalled...an emotional moment during Mass at a Catholic church on July 28.

“As Sullivan described it, After the ceremony, the priest told the hundred or so parishioners about Sullivan’s presence. ‘Everybody stands up and...gives him an ovation,’ said Keith, choked up with tears. “Very nice.”

Reach Harold F. Sullivan at 133 Munson Rd. Middlebury, CT 06762, 203-758-9962.



Last Call

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

ALABAMA

E. HARVEY BRYAN JR.
FORD E. MORRIS
BENJAMIN F. SMITH

ARIZONA

DOUGLAS P. DORNER
DANIEL G. KALIFUT
GENE L. LUDTKE
JERRY T. O'BRIEN

ARKANSAS

WILLIAM ALLISON
ULYSSES G. BAUGH

CALIFORNIA

ROY M. ANGELO
FRANK DYSON ARNOLD
WILLIAM R. BANDUCCI
GEORGE N. BATZIANIS
EDWARD R. BELTRAN
ROBERT M. BERMUDEZ
JAMES BOGHOSIAN
CURTIS BOLTON
LEONARD B. CARAVEO
RAYMOND L. CARLSON
PHILIP V. CARNEY
JOHN T. CAVE
JOHN E. CHORBAJIAN
PAUL S. CONTRERAS
JOHN R. DAVIS
THOMAS F. DUPIN SR.
SAVERIO VIRGIL FANELLI
DAVID E. FREDERICK
HARVEY GINN
GEORGE G. GONZALEZ JR.
ERNEST M. HUERTA
STANLEY J. JOSINSKI
GEORGE J. LATHER
NEIL H. LOCKLEY
R. KURT MENNING
JOHN F. MESEURE
WILLIAM R. MICHAELS
NICHOLAS P. MOQUITE
WILLIAM L. PAINTER
SAMUEL J. RYAN
ANDREW D. SILVA
RALPH E. SMITH
MYRON L. TOBENKIN
ROBERT O. WARD
ROBERT WASSERMAN
ALBERT K. WATTS
DANIEL WELCH
DONNIE S. YEE
PATRICK YOUNG

COLORADO

DAVID FELICE

CONNECTICUT

DAVID J. AMATRUDA
CONNECTICUT
THOMAS F. CASSIDY
CONNECTICUT
JAMES F. DUNN
CONNECTICUT
NICHOLAS KIAKO

DELAWARE

CHARLES D. BIRCH
BRENDA CHRISLIP
GEORGE W. DIGUARDI

JAMES S. EPPS
ORVILLE D. MORROW
WAYNE I. NEWMAN
ROBERT D. NYE
LAWRENCE Z. PASSWATERS
ERNEST SEXTON JR.
ROBERT E. VOLL
EDWARD F. WEAVER SR.
GORDON B. ZDANA

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

JAMES E. BRADFORD

FLORIDA

DONALD R. ABBERTON
WINFIELD A. ALLABAND
CARLI ARMANDO
GORDON L. BENNETT
ROBERT E. BLAIR
JAMES E. DALY
DENNIS M. 'MIKE' DIXON
PAUL J. ERIKSEN
GRENVILLE H. GALLOWAY
ARTHUR J. GREBE
RALPH A. HAWKINS
MARY F. KENT
ROBERT J. MACCINI
ALFRED D. PARKE
CORNELIUS C. 'NEIL' QUILLIGAN
HENRY RANDALL
DELBERT E. REITZEL JR.
JAMES R. SCHULTZ
T. JAMES SNYDER
FRANK J. TEDESCO
HARVEY E. VILLANDRY

GEORGIA

FRANKLIN E. HIGGINS

HAWAII

DAVID E. HIGA
THOMAS KELEKOLIO

IDAHO

BURTON P. HUISH

ILLINOIS

JAMES W. BURTON
EDWARD E. COOL
CHARLES C. JENKINS
HOMER N. O'FIELD
CHARLES PHILLIP PICKEL
JAMES R. PRICE
FRANKLIN REAGAN

INDIANA

CHARLES E. BLOCK
LYLE E. BROUGHTON
CHESTER C. BURTON
NORMAN M. DURSKE
GEORGE H. EVOY
ROBERT A. FEIKEMA
BILLY R. GUNNELL
KENNETH E. HUBER
JACK E. KENNEDY
WILLIAM D. MCCARTNEY
DONALD J. PALLA
HAROLD J. RUF
LORAN K. RUTLEDGE
LYNN C. WEBER

IOWA

SONG K. KANG

KENTUCKY

FRANK DUDAS
HERVEY J. HILEN
JAMES R. WILLIAMS

MAINE

DAVID O. GILES
BASIL G. GUSHEE
GARY W. KENNISTON
ROY G. MACPHERSON
SIDNEY M. ORNE
JACK O. PAULEY
WILLIAM C. ROBERTSON
KENDRICK B. SAWYER
HERBERT J. STAPLES JR.

JOHN R. YOUNG

ROBERT J. DONOVAN
GENE DRONEBURG
ROBERT J. GOURLEY
MJOE S. HILLIARD
ROBERT E. HORTIE SR.
GEORGE W. MITCHELL

MASSACHUSETTS

JOSEPH BIANCULLI
CHET BLOCK
THOMAS M. BRENNICK
ROBERT W. CANNON
RAYMOND E. COBBETT
AGOSTO N. DELGADO
THOMAS F. DOUGHERTY
EUGENE W. DOWNING
CHARLES H. EVERETT
RONALD B. FIELDS SR.
GORDON H. FRANCHERE
JAMES M. GAYNOR
CHESTER GLIDDEN
FRANCIS D. KELLEY
JOHN DAVID KUSEK
RICHARD J. LATCH
JOHN C. MACDONALD
RAYMOND J. MCCOY JR.
JOHN J. MCGEE
ERNEST E. MESSINA
JOHN E. MORRISON
RALPH R. NEAULT
RONALD B. PALKEY
DAVIS J. PASQUARIELLO
RICHARD F. PIERCE
JOHN A. POLITANO
ROBERT T. PYDYCH
DONALD L. REECE
HENRY H. ROBICHAUD
CHARLES JOSEPH ROSS
FRANK E. RUDEK
ADELARD ST ONGE
WILLIAM R. SULLIVAN
EDWARD J. TUCKER
JOHN S. VARNER JR.

MICHIGAN

THOMAS F. KEARNEY
JERRY D. LIMBAUGH
DAVID A. ROAT
MGERALD L. TOSSEY

MINNESOTA

ELIZABETH ANN FISCHER

MISSOURI

AMERICO F. AMATO

HOMER W. BRIGGEMAN
DON A. BURCHARD
STANFORD R. CONRAD
RICHARD R. CORAN
DONALD F. GARDNER
ALAN K. GIBSON
WILLIAM C. GUTJAHR
JOE HARRINGTON
EVERETTE M. KING
SUNG SOO LEE
ROGER J. LUECKENHOFF
GENE E. MAY
DONALD A. MCDONALD
RONALD S. MILLER
RICHARD N. MULCAHY
MELVIN L. PIERCE
EDDIE L. ROBERTSON
STANLEY G. SPADONI
CLIFFORD H. WELLS
FRANK E. WILES
JAMES N. WOODRUFF

NEBRASKA

JOSEPH C. H. BALES
CLARENCE D. BEAVER
JOHN D. CHRISTIANSEN
JAMES W. GARDNER
ROBERT D. GEORGE SR.
WILLIAM F. HEAVEY
THOMAS E. KOBJEROWSKI
VICTOR E. TETEN
MAX L. WEST

NEVADA

DANIEL F. ATWELL

NEW HAMPSHIRE

FELIX PRZYWARA

NEW JERSEY

PHILIP J. BACCARELLA
BETTYE 'MILLER' BADGETT
PETER A. BERENATO SR.
GABRIEL CASSELLA
JOHN J. CONNORS
WILLIAM A. DRUBACK
ROBERT E. ELDER
PAUL FIOCCO
REGINA E. GATTO
WILLIAM J. GIORDANO
ROBERT E. HERMANN
LEONARD HORNSTEIN
JOHN KLAPOUCHY
JOHN KOWALAK
CHARLES T. LANNER
PETER J. MAURO
CURTIS A. NELSON
RAYMOND NICHOLSON
JAMES E. OLSEN
RICHARD E. ONOREVOLE
LAWRENCE E. ORSON
RALPH 'LUCKY' PASQUA
HENRY B. ROSENBERG
MICHAEL F. SHEEHAN
FRANK SOLAN
GEORGE STAGAKIS
ROBERT F. VETTER

NEW MEXICO

DAVID F. CARGO
STEVEN A. MORRIS

NEW YORK

ROBERT C. ADAMS
JAMES J. APPLEGATE
JAMES E. ARNOLD
GEORGE BERKOWITZ
VERNON BONOMI
ANTHONY J. CALISE
JOSEPH W. CURTIN
FREDERICK J. ITALIANO
FRANK J. KERSHIS
GERALD KUHR
DONALD LEITGEB
GEORGE PADULA
DONALD TOLCHIN
GEORGE TOTH
CARLYLES WELCH
JOHN W. WELSH
BENJAMIN WERTHEIM

NORTH CAROLINA

ARTHUR R. BRUMMETT
NORTH CAROLINA
JAMES A. MCKAY
NORTH CAROLINA
JAY M. MOSER
NORTH CAROLINA
HENRY A. ODER JR.

NORTH DAKOTA

GLEN E. BYE
NORTH DAKOTA
DUANE S. HANSON
NORTH DAKOTA
ROBERT A. WALLER

OHIO

WILLIAM D. BIBBEE
PAUL BISHOP
JOHN T. CAMPANA
SHERWOOD C. GODDARD
GAY C. GRABLE
RICHARD L. HETZEL
CARL M. HILL
RON KINGSMILL
HOMER P. LEETH
STANLEY A. MCCANN
CHARLES F. MCGEE
CONNIE M. MCGEE
MINTER D. MILLER
RONALD J. NEITZELT
ROGER D. TUCKER JR.

OKLAHOMA

BILLY J. BUTLER
BUFORD E. FARNSWORTH
ROBERT L. JAMISON
MAURICE MUSKRAT

OREGON

BILL ARBUS
EDLAND A. CLEMENT
THEODORE E. DOW
JOHN B. HILLOCK
BYRON D. KIMLER
RONALD LEWMAN
ARTHUR D. MATHEWS
HAROLD L. REED

PENNSYLVANIA

JOHN J. BLEWITT
WARREN A. BRITTON
GEORGE C. CRERAND

WESLEY HANSON IM
GERALD E. RINEHIMER
CHARLES 'ED' STEWART
ROBERT D. THOMPSON
MATTHEW L. WERNER JR.

SOUTH CAROLINA

ARTHUR E. CASELLI
JOHNNIE HOBSON JACOBS
GERRY J. KUNZ
VERNON E. POLLARD
THOMAS I. WALKER

TENNESSEE

ROBERT L. CAMPBELL
PHILIP CAPIZZI
JOE G. DORRIS
JIMMY A. DUNCAN
ANGELO FORMOSA JR.
MARVIN R. HAND
GEORGE H. HENSON
CLYDE K. HIGHFILL JR.
CHARLES P. HUSBAND
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LONAS W. LOGGANS
WILLIE D. MANNING
KENNETH B. MARCOM
CHARLES E. OVERSTREET
HERBERT H. PEPPERS
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DEAN SIMMONS
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JOE C. STOREY
JAMES K. TRIGG
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JOHN W. WHITE
TOM J. WILHITE
ISAAC YOHAI

TEXAS

WILLIE M. ALVAREZ
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MARGARET J. ATOR
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A. L. BLACKMON
W. E. B. BLACKMON
JACK L. CALLAHAN
JAMES E. CARVER JR.
BOBBY L. CHILTON
DOMINGO ECHAVARRIA
CLARK E. FINKS
ALBERT R. FISHER
DONALD R. FOISIE
JOE O. GARZIA
WALT J. GEISLER
JAMES C. GRAHAM SR.
BOBBY C. GRAY
LEROY HANKS
D. W. HANUS
RICHARD LEE HARRIS
RALPH L. HICKS
DANIEL T. HUNTER
EVERETT D. HUNTER SR.
PAUL E. JOHNSON
JOHN W. KALEY
CHARLES W. LAIRD
L.D. LINSON
ROBERT D. 'BOB' MAGUIRK
CHARLES F. MCCARTHY
CARMEN G. MCCLELLAN
RONALD W. MCCracken
CHARLES V. MCGUIRE

THOMAS H. OWENS
RUBIN J. PEEPLES
TRAVIS D. REAVES
HERBERT E. RIHN
TRAVIS E. RILEY
LELAND R. SIKKELEE
STORY J. SLOANE JR.
EUGENE E. SMITH
CURTIS W. STONE JR.
CHARLIE W. STOVALL
DEWEY D. WILLIAMS
NAT W. YOUNG

VIRGINIA

CLINTON CAPEHART
RICHARD B. DAWSON

ELMER D. PENDLETON
SHERMAN W. PRATT
EVERETT A. ROBERTS
LEONARD E. SCITES
ROBERT L. SMITHSON
FRANK J. TROST

WASHINGTON

CLIFFORD E. COOPER
HUGO B. WEINER

WEST VIRGINIA

DONALD J. BARTHOLOMEW
DONALD L. BIRCHFIELD
FREDERICK A. CROSS
JOHN W. DEAKIN

JAMES E. HEATON
FRED N. HICKS
BLAINE M. MACKEY
CARL MOZINGO
CHARLES E. NEITZELT

WISCONSIN

THOMAS W. CHILDRESS
ODIN B. PEDERSON JR.
DALE PETERSON

WYOMING

IVAN C. ASAY
MIKE E. FISHE
BRUCE A. POPPY

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**

WAR VETERANS

Cash in on Assisted Living and In-Home Care Benefits

Tens of thousands of veterans who served during World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War need help paying for long-term care. Veterans over 65, who received an honorable discharge, (or their surviving spouses), qualify for valuable monthly benefits from the Veteran's Administration (VA) of as much as \$2,054 per month.

Gilbert Fleming, a VA Accredited Attorney, has written a step-by-step guide that explains these VA regulations. He shares true stories of clients who, with his help, were able to obtain high quality living arrangements.

For only \$10.00, you can download a copy of his E-book entitled: *How the VA Helps Veterans Pay for Their Assisted Living*. You can download this book at: vaassistedlivinghelp.com.

Also, check out his book, *How to Keep Your Sister-in-Law Out of Your Mother's Purse* at Ripoffmom.com.

FLEMING LAW OFFICES

www.gilbertfleming.com

(559) 433-0342

Revisit After Action Report

My wife Cathy and I returned 9/17/13 from a week in South Korea at the invitation of the Republic of Korea (ROK). Along with 87 other invitees, we were treated to a fabulous visit!

We flew Hawaiian Airlines non-stop from Honolulu, HI (9 hours). We had to upgrade tickets to first/business class because of spinal injuries I incurred while aboard *USS Missouri* (BB 63) in the Korean War in 1950/51.

The trip was organized and handled by milcon.com, headed by retired USMC Colonel Warren Wiedhahn and his son Jamie.

The ROK paid part of our airfare, all of the hotel bill (including meals at its fabulous restaurant), and all tours and lunches/dinners taken away from the hotel. Most rooms had two queen size beds and a beautiful view of the city. The bathroom was simply awesome, including a heated toilet seat (really).

Day 1

The Korean War veterans came from all over the country. We were welcomed warmly as we approached the baggage area in Seoul by a sign that read “Milcon Visitors.” We were provided with copies of the week’s itinerary and I.D. cards, etc. After all the veterans scheduled for arrival during our arrival time block arrived, we boarded buses for the one-hour trip to the city of Seoul, where we registered at the Lotte, a prestigious hotel in the heart of the shopping mecca. It is a 32-story, luxurious hotel (about \$280 per night).

Day 2

After breakfast, we traveled to Daegu, had lunch, and attended a Victory Ceremony for the Nakdong River Battle. At lunch, I was seated next to Brigadier General Choi Hwa-Sik of the ROK Army. We were able to speak to each other with very little difficulty.

The battle at the Nakdong River was vicious. Many soldiers died preventing the North Korean Army from crossing the river successfully. There was a reenactment of that battle.

The area from the river to the viewing



The guests at the Korean Revisit

stands was suddenly engulfed by smoke, and we saw small boats carrying enemy troops approaching our side of the river. There were numerous explosions and lots of gunfire. Soon, the landing area was strewn with bodies. The defenders held their ground and the day was won. Pretty realistic, too!

Then, we had dinner at a local restaurant and back to the hotel.

Day 3

After breakfast, we traveled to the Korean National Cemetery, witnessed the “Ash” Ceremony,” and then went on to the War Memorial. The cemetery was immaculately groomed (grass and bushes). There were seemingly endless rows of grave markers, perfectly aligned with each other!

Day 4

After breakfast, we traveled to Incheon for the Victory Ceremony and a pretty realistic reenactment of General MacArthur’s successful Incheon Landing Operation.

Upon our arrival, the veterans were separated from family members and escorted to a tent (out from under the sunshine) to await a “grand entrance.” We were escorted back to the viewing stands by Korean children. Two veterans walked into the area holding the hands of one of these

wonderful kids. Family members clicked away with cameras to catch this emotional show of friendship. I must admit to wiping away a tear myself!

There were several ROK naval vessels in the harbor, including many small boats and landing craft. ROK troops dropped into the harbor by parachute. We watched as small boats picked up the troops and salvaged the parachutes. Two “choppers” flew by carrying on a rope a ROK SEAL Team and four Green Berets hanging from the “string” (a descending rope). That sure reminded me of MACV/SOG recon teams being extracted from the Laotian jungle on a “string!”

After lunch, I was greeted by U.S. Navy Captain Philip W. Yu, our Naval Attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Seoul. We were introduced to the Admiral’s Chief-of-Staff. I had earlier (by mail) presented Captain Yu with one of my Challenge Coins and an autographed color photo of the *USS Missouri* in action off Chongjin, North Korea on 19 October 1950. He confessed that he had already hung that photo on the wall in his office at the Embassy. We then



Brooks Outland (L) presents Superintendent of the Korea National Cemetery with one of his Challenge Coins and explains that a likeness of the “Mighty Mo” was on one side of the coin

visited the Memorial Hall for the Incheon Landing Operation, then went back to the hotel for dinner.

Day 5

After breakfast we traveled to Camp Bonifas, at the DMZ. A Korean college student accompanied each of the Korean War veterans. Our student was Tae Jin EOM, of the Kyung Hee University. He was studying New Politics and Future Governance. He was a joy to chat with. Most of the students spoke fluent English.

We received a briefing by JSA and then moved to Op Dora, where discussions of the armistice were held. Cathy and I stood on the side of the table, which was considered North Korean Territory; the other side was “owned” by the South Koreans.

There were two rather small buildings used for those discussions. (We learned later in the day that a 42-year-old defector was shot dead by the North Korean soldiers manning their side of the DMZ). We then visited the U.S. Monument for a Wreath Laying Ceremony. One of our USMC veterans participated. Then, we had lunch, featuring solid Korean atmosphere and chow.

At the end of the tour, we returned to the hotel to prepare for the “Thank-You Banquet” to be held in the Crystal Room. This turned out to be one of the best banquets/dinners I ever attended.

Since I was a guest speaker, Cathy and I were seated at the head table. The sponsor of the milcon visits was Korean Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs, the Honorable Park Sung Choon. I was seated just two chairs to the Minister’s left, with Major General Walter M. Golden Jr., Eighth United States Army Deputy Commanding General, between the Minister and me. I felt quite honored, to say the least!

Across the table were two high-ranking retired military officers. One of them was the President of the Korean Veterans Association (KVA), a retired four-star ROK General.

General Golden graciously engaged me in conversation, during which we chatted about his career and mine. He was retiring later this year, but wasn’t sure of what he was going to do after 37 years in service.

Minister Park’s remarks were filled

with praise for his invited guests. He made it quite clear that South Koreans firmly believed that we, along with several other countries, prevented them from losing their country and their freedom!

Speeches following the Minister’s talk were intentionally short in duration. Mine lasted fewer than ten minutes. In my remarks I described the battleship Missouri’s trip from Norfolk to the East Sea off Korea’s shoreline. I also gave them a brief history of my naval career. I intentionally used three Korean phrases (in their language) to show my desire to communicate with the Korean people. Immediately after using those phrases, there was loud applause and nods of approval.

The only other pause for applause was when I related how the battleship provided covering fire while the Marines and Soldiers moved out of the Frozen Chosen Reservoir to march to the Eastern Coast for evacuation by naval ships.

As I returned to my seat, I received a polite bow and a handshake by the Minister. When I was again seated, I received another bow from the President of the KVA. I stood up and returned that act of respect! Wow, did I ever feel honored!

I was called again to the stage as the U.S. Representative, along with a gentleman who was the U.K. Representative. We stood on either side of the President of the KVA, who bestowed upon us our Korea Ambassador for Peace Award which was hung around our necks. We also received a beautiful certificate! I was covered with goose bumps.

The other 86 veterans received their awards at their tables from other Korean dignitaries.

For the third time, I was called to the stage to pose for a photograph with those who were a part of the Incheon Invasion. As my ship provided the covering fire for that fighting withdrawal, I was considered eligible to stand with those who fought with “boots on the ground!” What an honor!

The following morning brought news of the media coverage of some of the events of the week. Someone came running up to me with a copy of the Korea newspaper (largest newspaper in the country) that had a photograph of some of the veterans in the stands at the Incheon reenactment; I was shown in the middle of that photo. Too awesome!

It is my hope that the word be spread to all Korean War veterans that there is such a wonderful tour available. (Go to milcon.com and click on Korean Re-Visits).

It was quite a feeling of “letdown” as we prepared for our departure from Korea. Our group was treated to a “shopping tour” and lunch at yet another local restaurant on the way to the airport. All in all, it was easily the best organized trip I had ever taken part in! Congratulations to Warren and Jamie Wiedhahn for an absolutely great revisit to that war we left some 63 years ago.

*Brooks Outland,
brooksoutland@yahoo.com*



87 Korean Revisit participants gather with assorted personnel

APPLICATION FOR KOREA REVISIT TOURS

(UPDATE 03/07/13)

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

Branch of Service _____ Unit _____

Period of Service in the Korean Theater (month/year) from _____ thru _____

Veterans / Family Member Signature _____ Date _____

Complete and mail this form along with the \$450.00 deposit / service-fee per person (check, money order or Credit Card) to Military Historical Tours. Payment in full is required for applications submitted within sixty days of tour departure.

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Korea Revisit related material please send to:

**KWVA Revisit Korea Program
C/O MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS
13198 CENTERPOINTE WAY STE #202
WOODBIDGE, VA 22193-5285**

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

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

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). Widows and family members of deceased veterans or those unable to travel are also eligible for the Revisit as Veteran Representatives.

Benefits & Schedule

Free hotel accommodations for the veteran their companion or veteran representatives, meals for 5 nights and 6 days in Seoul for 2 people. If you want to bring more people you may at your expense. Accommodations are based on (2) persons per room, if you want your own hotel room you may at your own expense. All of the above items need to be requested in writing.

Tours of Seoul and its vicinity, banquet hosted by the MPVA and KVA with presentation of the "Ambassador for Peace" medal, tours of the DMZ, Pan-Mun-Jom, War Memorial Museum, National Cemetery.

Typical Korea Revisit Itinerary:

Day 1: Fly to Korea
Day 2: Arrival day Incheon Airport, Korea check into Seoul Hotel.
Day 3: Wreath Laying at United Nations Monuments.
Day 4: Korean War Commemoration Ceremonies.
Day 5: Panmunjom, DMZ Thank You Banquet in the evening.
Day 6: War Memorial Museum tour, Korean culture show.
Day 7: Departure

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 whatever nature during the Revisit tours.
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 and 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 group administered by MHT.
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.

Pace's Points

By Tom Moore

Secretary of the Army Frank Pace's (Apr. 1950 - Jan. 1953) main challenges during the Korean War centered on U.S. manpower problems, caused by remobilization, inequities in the selective service system, and the need to keep forces in reserve, in case of a crisis outside of the Korean War. In 1951, Mr. Pace instituted the point-based troop rotation system that allowed U.S. Army troops to rotate from Korea, back to the United States.

The system tried to take into account the nature of individual service when determining eligibility for rotation from Korea to the United States. According to this system, a soldier earned 4 points for every month he served in close combat, 2 points per month for rear-echelon duty in Korea, and 1 point for duty elsewhere in the Far East. Later, an additional category, divisional reserve status, was established at a rate of three points per month.

The Army initially stated that enlisted men needed to earn 43 points to be eligible for rotation back to the states, while officers required 55 points. In June 1952, the Army reduced the requirements

to 36 points for enlisted men and 37 points for officers. Earning the required number of points did not guarantee instant rotation (we all know the military). It only meant that the soldier in question was eligible to go home.

CPT. John F. Fitzpatrick, an infantry officer and WWII veteran, was checking out at the 7th Division Rotation Center, when an astounded clerk who was checking him out noted that the captain's card listed 99 points. The captain actually had more points than that. The IBM machine was preset for only two digits. CPT. Fitzpatrick, age 29, was heading home with what was believed the highest total of rotation points -129- ever amassed by a U.S. soldier in Korea.

The point system helped the soldiers' spirits. It gave him a definite goal in an otherwise indefinite, seemingly goalless, war. The system also boosted the spirits of family back home. It rotated approximately 20,000 to 30,000 soldiers back home a month. The point system put a strain on the Army's personnel and training systems, and many in the military believed it caused a loss in combat proficiency, by reducing combat experience. In our free nation, there was a point system. In the communist armies, victory or death, were the only ways home.

**Korean War Veterans Association
Membership Administrative Assistant
P.O. Box 407
Charleston, IL 61920-0407**

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Wayne Pelkey, 2nd from left, receives the Korea Ambassador of Peace Medal on the floor of the Vermont Capitol during a November 12, 2013 ceremony. Pelkey, a veteran of the 45th Infantry "Thunderbirds" and co-author of Christmas in July, said, "It is indeed an honor for me. Never thought it would occur while I was 60 years ago in the cold and muddy trenches of Korea at 21 years old!"