

Tell America

24 – CHARLES PARLIER [IL]

On 24 October James Cavanaugh and David Mayberry gave a presentation at Monticello High School, Monticello Illinois for 30 students in 2 classes, 2 teachers and the principal of the school.

William Hanes, williamhanes@att.net

60 – ADIRONDACK [NY]

By Bruce Blackie, Tell America Chairman

It was our honor and privilege to present our Tell America program at two high schools in our upstate New York area this fall.

At Ballston Spa High School we met with a consolidated group of about 100 eleventh and twelfth grade history students who were a courteous, attentive, and interested audience. As is our program routine, Tell America Chairman Bruce Blackie began the presentation with a brief overview of the ambivalent attitude of the American public to the Korean War and Commander Roger Calkins gave a short history of the war itself. Four of our chapter members then described their personal experiences in the war.

- Paul O’Keefe discussed his combat experiences from the perspective of a young boy who had never fired even a BB gun.
- Ed Bushey recounted his 1st Cavalry Division trek from the Pusan Perimeter to the Yalu River. Ed was awarded the Bronze Star Medal, with the “V” for Valor device, for action near Taegu in September, 1950.
- Bill Reid was an Air Force ground crewman who patched up B-26 Marauder bombers to send them back out for support missions.
- Chapter Vice Commander and parachutist Bob Garland recounted his jumps with the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team, and also the action to put down the POW camp revolt on Koje-do Island.

Our student audience at Lake George High School numbered close to 175 enthusiastic eighth, tenth, and eleventh graders of a more general



Ch. 60 Commander Roger Calkins, New York State Chaplain Paul O’Keefe, Ed Bushey, Bruce Blackie, Bill Reid and Bob Garland (L-R) at Ballston Spa High School

student population. Paul O’Keefe was unable to make this presentation, but we were joined by chapter treasurer and navy destroyer veteran Gene Slavin. Gene served on the John R. Pierce (DD-753) and described the shelling of trains along the east coast of Korea and taking severe damage to the ship from shore batteries.

At both schools the discussion with the students during the question and answer session impressed us with the thoughtfulness and insight that was evident. It is indeed an honor and a privilege to interact with America’s future generation. I believe that all of us leave our Tell America high school presentations with a renewed energy and a brighter outlook on America’s future.

Carol Waldron, cwaldron36709@aol.com



Roger Calkins, Gene Slavin, Ed Bushey, Bruce Blackie, Bill Reid and Bob Garland (L-R) at Lake George High School

298 - ALAMO [TX]



We presented a program to students in the East Asian Studies class of the University of Texas San Antonio (UTSA) on October 3, 2018. President Tom Cacy; Jesse Perez, and Jim Creswell were present to answer questions pertinent to their experiences in the war.

Mrs. Young Cacy at UTSA

Mrs. Young Cacy presented a five-minute talk on the love the Korean people have for the Korean War veterans. As this was a class, the presentation was scheduled for 50 minutes, which ended with their lunch period. However, the students were so interested many remained over their lunch and talked with the presenter.

Thomas Cacy, pastorcacy@gmail.com



Pastor Cacy, Jesse Perez and Jim Creswell of Ch. 298 at UTSA



Ch. 298 presenters discuss military equipment with UTSA students



Dr. Gong, professor of East Asian Studies at UTSA

New memorial in Texas

There is a new Korean War Memorial in Texas. The monument, which honors those from McLennan County who died in the war, sits on the bank of the Brazos River that flows through Waco, TX, not far from the Vietnam Memorial there.

The memorial was presented gratis by Phipps Memorial of Waco.

Dwight L. Thomas, 319 Palm Dr., Marlin, TX 76661



The new memorial in Waco, TX

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