

America's Forgotten Victory!

KOREA VETERANS

The Graybeards



Official Publication of
THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION
May - June 2019 Vol. 33, No. 3



America's Forgotten Victory!

The Graybeards

Official Publication of
THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

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



The *Graybeards* is the official publication of the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA). It is published six times a year for members and private distribution. Subscriptions available for \$30.00/year (see address below).

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, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573-7141.

MAILING ADDRESS OF THE KWVA: P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407. **WEBSITE:** <http://www.kwva.us>

We Honor Founder William T. Norris

Editor

Arthur G. Sharp
2473 New Haven Circle
Sun City Center, FL 33573-7141
Ph: 813-614-1326
sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net

Publisher

Finisterre Publishing Inc.
3 Black Skimmer Ct
Beaufort, SC 29907
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.us

Webmaster

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

National Headquarters

President

Paul H. Cunningham
Paul H. Cunningham
2001 Harrisburg Pike, PH 108
Lancaster, PA 17601
Ph: 717-606-5610
pcunningham1841@verizon.net

Executive Director

James R. Fisher
15537 Barrington Place
Montclair, VA 22025
Ph: 703-740-7596
jfisher1121@verizon.net

Immediate Past President

Tom Stevens
5301 W. 122nd Terrace
Overland Park, KS 66209
Ph: 913-696-0447, 913-449-7990 (C)
StevensT@swbell.net

1st Vice President

Jeffrey J. Brodeur
7472 Moorgate Point Way
Naples, FL 34113-5102
Ph: 617-997-3148
KVAMANE@aol.com

2nd Vice President

Albert McCarthy
15 Farnum St.
Worcester, MA 01602
Ph: 508-277-7300 (C); 508-829-4236 (H)
mccarthy.albert@live.com

Secretary

Alves J. Key, Jr.
5506 Emerald Park Blvd
Arlington, TX 76017-4522
Ph: 817-472-7743
alveskey@sbcglobal.net

Membership Manager & Assistant Secretary

Jacob L. Feaster, Jr.
22731 N Hwy 329,
Micanopy, FL 32667
Cell: 352-262-1845
JFeasterJ@gmail.com

Treasurer

Joseph L. Harman LR36534
430 W Lincoln Ave
Charleston IL 61920-3021
Ph: 541-752-5588
treasurer@kwva.us

Assistant Treasurer

Kyle Roberts,
kyle.g.roberts@irs.gov
443-853-5124 (C) 202746-4232

Directors

Term 2017-2020

Eddie L. Bell Sr.
1105 Craig St
Copperas Cove, TX 76522-3206
Ph: 254-661-4673
eddiebell858@yahoo.com

Wilfred E. 'Bill' Lack
319 Sulphur Springs Rd
Asheville, NC 28806-2518
Ph: 828-253-5709
bill.lack@charter.net

Thomas M. McHugh
217 Seymour Rd
Hackettstown, NJ 07840-1001
Ph: 908-852-1964
tmmchugh@msn.com

L. T. Whitmore
5625 Canterbury Ln
Suffolk, VA 23435-1605
Ph: 757-483-9784
twhit35@gmail.com

Term 2018-2021

Edward L. Brooks
19091 Meadow Dr.
Smithfield, VA 23430
Ph: 757-25-0121
dovecote.eb@gmail.com

Narce Caliva
102 Killaney Ct
Winchester, VA 22602-6796
Ph: 540-545-8403 (C) Cell: 540-760-3130
ncaliva29@gmail.com

Bruce R. 'Rocky' Harder
1047 Portugal Dr
Stafford, VA 22554-2025
Ph: 540-659-0252
harderbr@aol.com

Warren H. Wiedhahn

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

Term 2019-2022

James P. Argires

207 E Orange St
Lancaster, PA 17602-2914
Ph: 717-394-1943
jpargire@gmail.com

Thomas E. Cacy

18207 Newcliff
San Antonio, TX 78259-3623
Ph: 210-287-9200
PastorTomCacy@sbcglobal.net

John R. McWaters

2075 Callaway Dr
The Villages, FL 32162-4388
Ph: 352-445-9316
genjon@thevillages.net

Appointed/Assigned Staff

Judge Advocate

Sonny Edwards
14370 Mill Swamp Rd
Smithfield, VA 23430-3536
Ph: 757-813-0254, KVetEdwards@yahoo.com

National Legislative Director

Bill Lack (See Directors)

National Legislative Assistant

Roy J. Burkhardt
PO Box 204
Willow, AK 99688
Ph: 907-841-9162,
RoyBurkhardt702@gmail.com

National Veterans Service Officer (VSO)

Richard "Rocky" Hernandez Sr.
114 Daffodil Dr.
Killeen, TX 76542-1819
Ph: 254-702-1009, rhernandez7@hotmail.com

National VAVS Director

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

POW/MIA Coordinator

Bruce "Rocky" Harder
1047 Portugal Dr.
Stafford, VA 22554-2025
Ph: 540-659-0252, harderbr@aol.com

KWVA Liaison to Canadian KVA

Warren Wiedhahn (See 1st Vice President)

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

National Chaplain

John W. 'Jack' Keep
3416 Mountain Rd
Front Royal, VA 22630-8720
Ph: 540-631-9213
jkeepsr@centurylink.net

National Assistant Chaplain

Paul K. Kim
254 Concord Ave.
Cambridge MA 02138-1337
617 877-1930
asianbaptists.org

KWVA Committees

Budget/Finance Committee

Bruce Harder (See Directors)
Joe Harman (See Treasurer)

Bylaws Committee

Narce Caliva (see Directors)

Membership/Recruiting Committee

Jeffrey J. Brodeur, (See 1st VP)
Eddie L. Bell Sr. (See Directors)

Sonny Edwards

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

Election Committee

Tim Whitmore
Tine Martin

Resolutions Committee

Luther W. Dappen (See Directors)
Sherri Steward
Tine Martin

Fund Raising Committee

Tom McHugh (See Directors)
Albert McCarthy (See 2nd VP)

Tell America Committee

Eddie L. Bell Sr. (See Directors)

Tell America Materials Coordinator

A. J. Key, Chairman (See Secretary)

Revisit Committee

Warren H. Wiedhahn (See Directors)
13198 Centerpointe Way Ste 202
Woodbridge, VA 22193-5285
Ph: 703-590-1295
JWiedhahn@aol.com

Ethics and Grievance Committee

Stephen Szekely, Chairman

National Ceremonies Committee

David Clark (See Directors)

Awards Committee

Ed Brooks (See Directors)

Scholarships

Ronald C. Carpenter
635 Glover drive
Lancaster, PA 17601-4419

Korea Defense Veterans Memorial Committee

Thomas M. McHugh, Chairman (See Directors)
217 Seymour Rd
Hackettstown, NJ 07840
Ph: 908-852-1964
tmmchugh@msn.com

See detailed list of committees at
WWW.KWVA.US



From the President

Paul Cunningham

I congratulate and welcome the three new members of our Board of Directors: John R. McWaters (MG-USA, Ret.); James P. Argires, MD; and Tom Cacy. (MSgt. USAF, Ret.). Although their terms will begin in June, their swearing in will take place during our Board of Directors meeting in July. Our appreciation goes to Bernard Smith and Doug Voss for rounding out the field of five excellent candidates.

In our previous issue of *The Graybeards*, I drew attention to the trend of declining membership and concomitant loss of revenue. This was prompted in large measure by an inquiry from our auditors as to what measures were being taken to curtail some expenditures. In my second attempt to involve you, our members, in the governance of our association, I circulated a survey to all chapters whereby I sought to plumb your thinking on several cost-cutting measures.

Although responses were received from only 19 chapters, the results are quite clear. The four questions and the responses are as follows:

- (1). Would you favor the Board moving to only one meeting a year? Yes, 18; No, 1.
- (2). Should the number of directors be reduced from 9 to 7? Yes, 18; No, 1.
- (3). Would you favor eliminating the position of 2nd Vice President? Yes, 17; No, 2.
- (4). Would you favor amending the by-laws to remove the prerogative on naming the past president as an advisor to the Board and President? Yes, 13; No, 6.

Fundraising Committee chairman Tom McHugh reports excellent response to the 2019 campaign. As of this writing, receipts stand at \$53,000, with several months to go to reach the stated goal of \$70,000.

The survey was left open-ended so as to solicit suggestions as to where additional cuts could be made. Chief among these was the suggestion to reduce the number of issues of *The Graybeards* to four per year instead of six per year.

The results of the survey have been reviewed by the Finance Committee. Based on their analysis and the survey results, I will be formulating several recommendations for consideration at our meetings in July.

I thank the 19 chapters that responded to the survey. I know it may take some getting used to, but I hope that, in the future, more chapters will avail themselves of the opportunity to provide input to your officers and directors. We should not be operating in a vacuum.

Please note the advertisement on page 35 concerning the Rose of Sharon Project. As of mid-April, this project has been taken over by KWVA from Chapter 33, in Maryland, which wished to divest itself of responsibility for the project. In the hope that more chapters will avail themselves of this project as their principal fund-raiser, the cost per dozen of Roses of Sharon has been reduced by 25 cents per dozen.

As those chapters that have been participating will attest, the Rose of Sharon project can be one of the most lucrative and least time-consuming methods of raising much needed funds to support your chap-

ter's activities. Sheila Fritts is already busy filling orders.

Fundraising Committee chairman Tom McHugh reports excellent response to the 2019 campaign. As of this writing, receipts stand at \$53,000, with several months to go to reach the stated goal of \$70,000. If you haven't already done so, get your raffle tickets in, or make a contribution to the fundraiser. Thank you, Tom, for all your hard work.

I hope many of you are giving thought to attending your KWVA annual membership meeting in Washington D.C., July 24-28, 2019. Executive Director Jim Fisher has put together an excellent program. First, he has secured rooms at the Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel at the group rate of \$119.00 per night, plus tax.

The hotel is situated ideally in Arlington, VA. It provides shuttle service to Reagan Airport as well as to the Washington, D.C. Metro Line. The Metro can connect you to any place of interest in the D.C. area.

As the opener of our program on the evening of July 24th, we will be honored guests at a twilight tattoo at Ft. Myer. Our culminating activity will be the ceremony at our Korean War Memorial marking the 66th anniversary of the armistice that ended hostilities. If you have not yet participated in any of these events, and if your health permits, the time to do it is now.

Looking forward to seeing you in D.C.
With warm regards,

Paul

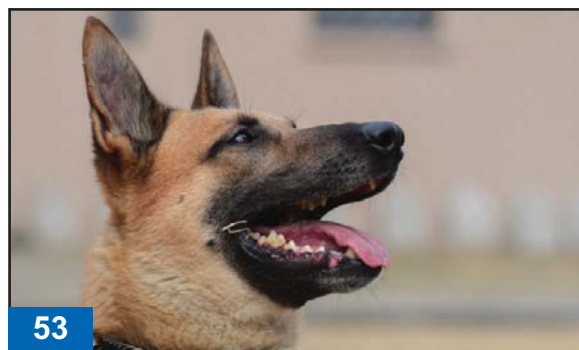
THE GRAYBEARDS DEADLINES

Articles to be published in the *The Graybeards* must be received by 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
Nov-Dec	Nov 15

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

COVER: U.S. Airmen from 51st Fighter Wing public affairs stand under the ship Cheonan at the ROK Navy 2nd Fleet Command in Pyeongtaek-si, Gyeonggi-do Province on Feb. 26, 2016. The ship was attacked by a North Korean submarine at 9:22 p.m. on March 26, 2010, killing 46 ROK Sailors. It is one of many recent attacks on South Korea from North Korea patrols. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Kristin High/Released)



CONTENTS

Business

From the President	3
From the Secretary	7
Thanks for Supporting The Graybeards and the KWVA	10
2019 Fundraiser	25
Application for Korea Revisit & PCFY Tours	66
Official Membership Application Form	69

Features & Articles

Where were you on July 27th?	18
The morning after July 27, 1953	18
And we weren't even at the Reservoir yet	63
My memory of Korea's ammo shortage	64
Operation Kiddy Car	74

Departments

Reunion Calendar 2019	6
The Editor's Desk	9
Q & A	10
Book Review	11
Members in the News	12
Korean War MIAs Recently Identified	14
Recon Missions	16
Humor in Korea	21
Tell America	28
Chapter & Department News	32
Feedback/Return Fire	58
Last Call	65
Welcome Aboard	68

News & Notes

New KWVA Directors	6
Why Be an Associate Member of the KWVA?	6
Graybeards to Change Format	7
Destroyer Named in Honor of Korean War Veteran	8
Five extra months in Korea isn't that funny	15
DPAA Budget	15
Careful What You Cut	21
Be careful what you write	22
Another treasure trove found	23
Two presidents meet	24
'Mighty Mo' gets stamp of approval	24
The National Museum of the U.S. Army Nears Completion	27
Ch. 321 goes all out to raise funds for Wall of Remembrance	30
Mumps and antique washboards	54
KWVA Online Store	56
Tunnels	57
KWVA Annual Membership Meeting: Flyer/Agenda	72
Korea, Never Ending War	78
An unholy Easter	79

★ TO HONOR YOUR MILITARY SERVICE TO COUNTRY ★



THE KOREAN WAR VETERAN "NIGHT PATROL"™ TACTICAL BLACK WATCH

PERSONALIZED WITH YOUR INITIALS, CAREER RANK & YEARS OF SERVICE

We proudly present our Night Patrol™ Military Tactical Watch which we are customizing to honor Your Service to Country as a proud Veteran. Our special watch has features not found in other watches. It is being issued directly to all Veterans and their Families, and will not be sold in stores.



THE DIAL:

- SOLID BRASS DIAL WITH A DRAMATIC COMBINATION OF GLEAMING GOLD AND BLACK ENAMEL
- KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL & RIBBON IN OFFICIAL COLORS, OR A CHOICE OF ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE AND COAST GUARD EMBLEMS
- 24 HOUR MILITARY TIME TRACK



THE WORKS:

- FINE QUARTZ MOVEMENT - ACCURATE WITHIN SECONDS PER MONTH
- DATE WINDOW AT 6 O'CLOCK POSITION (Korean Service dial only)
- LIGHT-ACTIVATED LUMINOUS HANDS



KOREAN SERVICE

YOU HAVE EARNED THE RIGHT TO WEAR
YOUR SPECIAL SERVICE WATCH



THE CASE AND BAND:

- 45MM GUN METAL BLACK-PLATED ALLOY WITH PEBBLED BEZEL & STAINLESS STEEL CASE BACK
- RUGGED PU RUBBER BAND FOR COMFORT AND DURABILITY
- WATER RESISTANT TO 3ATM (100 FT)
- SCRATCH-RESISTANT, OPTICALLY CLEAR, HARD MINERAL CRYSTAL



PERSONALIZATION:

- ASSEMBLED AND CUSTOMIZED IN AMERICA BY SELCO OF OKLAHOMA
- CASE BACK ENGRAVED WITH YOUR INITIALS, RANK AND YEARS OF SERVICE.
- FREE TIN GIFT BOX WITH "PROUD TO BE A VETERAN" EMBLEM

TJS
CAPTAIN
1950 - 1953



THE COST AND GUARANTEE:

- THANK YOU PRICED AT \$79.95*
- 100% SATISFACTION GUARANTEED OR RETURN WITHIN 30 DAYS FOR REFUND OR REPLACEMENT



ARMY



NAVY



AIR FORCE



COAST GUARD

CALL TOLL-FREE
TO ORDER: 1-800-255-3048 OR **VISIT US ONLINE**
WWW.VETCOM.COM

FREE FLAG PIN
WITH EACH ORDER!



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

☐ **YES.** I wish to order a U.S. Military "Night Patrol" Tactical Black Watch, personalized with my initials, rank and years of service.

DIAL CHOICE: ☐ **KOREAN SERVICE**

☐ Army ☐ Navy ☐ Air Force ☐ Coast Guard

ENGRAVING: INITIALS (3): _____

(Print clearly)

RANK: _____

YEARS SERVED: _____ to _____

I WISH TO PAY AS FOLLOWS:

- ☐ Enclosed is my check or money order for \$79.95* per watch payable to "Veterans Commemoratives" as payment in full, OR
- ☐ Charge my credit card \$79.95* per watch as payment in full.

* Plus \$14.95 per watch for engraving, s&h. PA res. add 6% (\$5.70) sales tax.

CREDIT CARD: ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ AMEX ☐ DISCOVER

CC#: _____ Exp. ____/____

CSC # _____ Signature: _____

SHIPPING ADDRESS (We CANNOT ship to P.O. Boxes.) Allow 2-3 weeks for delivery.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone # (_____) _____

Email: _____

(In case we have any questions with your order.)



FREE TIN GIFT BOX
WITH "PROUD TO BE A
VETERAN" EMBLEM!

By federal law, licensing fees paid to the U.S. Army for the use of its trademarks provide support for the Army® Trademark Licensing Program, and net licensing revenue is devoted to U.S. Army Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs. U.S. Army name, trademark and logos are protected under federal law and used under license by Veterans Commemoratives.

©2019 ICM

WNPWAT-GRB-0619

VISIT VETERANS COMMEMORATIVES™ ONLINE AT **WWW.VETCOM.COM**

NEW KWVA DIRECTORS ELECTED FOR 2019-2022 TERM

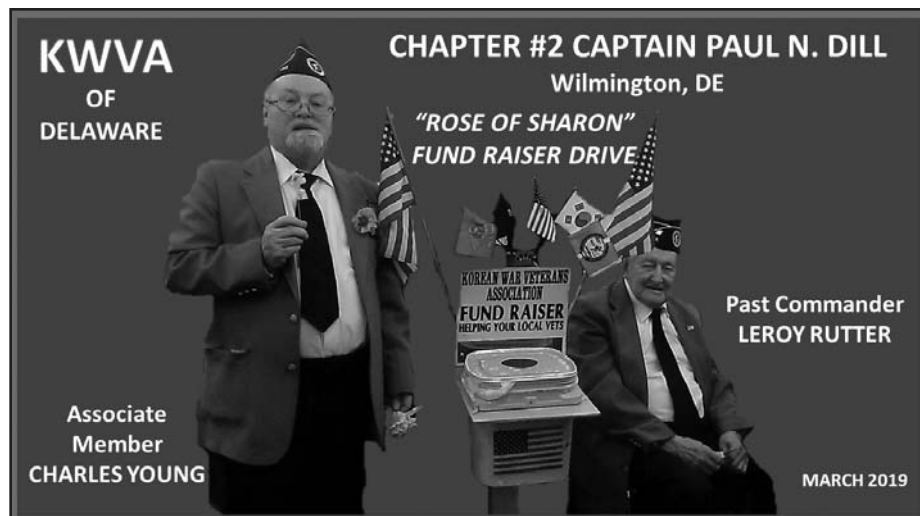
Members have elected the following candidates as KWVA Directors for the 2019-2022 term:

- James P. Argires, MD
- Tom Cacy (MSgt. USAF, Ret.)
- John R. McWaters (MG-USA, Ret.)

We welcome these three members to the KWVA Board of Directors. And we thank those members who exercised their prerogatives to cast ballots for the available positions.

Finally, we thank candidates Bernard Smith and Doug Voss for stepping forward to round out the field of excellent candidates. Rest assured that as long as qualified people continue to serve as candidates for office and members participate in the electoral process we will have a strong KWVA.

We look forward to working with Directors Argires, Cacy, and McWaters.



Why Be an Associate Member of the KWVA?

I created the nearby photo using a photo taken at our fundraiser this past March. I thought maybe it would fit well in the feedback area of the magazine with the text below (or part of it).

I joined the KWVA as an Associate Member two years ago in order to assist Chapter 12, Captain Paul N. Dill #2, Newark, DE, in helping our local veterans and to honor my father's Korean War service. I enjoy helping out whether I'm assisting with Sergeant of Arms duties in meetings or receiving donations at our Rose of Sharon drives.

As an eight-year Army veteran myself, and an active life member of both DAV and the VFW Auxiliary, I proudly stand up for all our veterans.

Charles D. Young, 1002 Sandburg Pl., Newark, DE 19702, 302-365-9390 (Home), 302-981-0576 (Cell), Youngwoodcreech@cmcast.net

Reunion Calendar: 2019

Mail your info to Reunion Editor, The Graybeards, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573-7141 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. NOTE: Submissions may be edited for space considerations.

NOTE: Many people are submitting reunion notices barely a few days or weeks before the actual gatherings. Please allow at least four months—six or more is better—if you want your reunion notices printed in enough time to give potential attendees adequate notice to make plans, and in more than one issue.

JULY

USS Hornet CVS-12 & Apollo 50. All ship's officers, air groups, crew, Marines and families welcomed. July 18-22, Oakland, CA, Oakland Marriott City Central Hotel. Sandy Burket, PO Box 108, Roaring Spring, PA 16673, 814-224-5063, cell (814) 312-4976, hornetcva@aol.com; <https://usshornetassn.com/>

KWVA Annual Convention/Membership Mtg., July 24-28, Arlington, VA, Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel, 900 Orme St. To register call Sheila Fritts, Membership Office 217-345-4414 or email membership@kwva.us. Forms and hotel information online at kwva.us.

AUGUST

1st Marine Division Assn., Aug. 5-11, Louisville, KY, Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport Hotel. Details to be announced.

Korea Defense Cold War Veterans, Aug. 8-11, Pigeon Forge, TN, Spirit of the Smokey's Lodge. 925-308-4337 (PST), qm@7ida.us (This reunion is open to all Korea veterans, any branch, any unit. KWVA chapter 314 will be hosting.)

SEPTEMBER

25th Inf. Div., Assn., Sept. 8-14, Virginia Beach, VA. Sarah Krause, PO Box 7, Flourtown, PA 19031. Fax: 215-366-5707; TropicLtn@aol.com; www.25thida.org

84th and 62nd Engineer Combat Battalion, Sept. 9-12, Branson, MO. Andrew C. Barilla, 1220 Vermont Rd., Bel Air, MD 21014410-838-8358, andypatb@aol.com.

1st Battalion 3rd Marines (All Eras), Sept. 17-22, Branson, MO. Don Bumgarner, 562-897-2437, dbumc13usmc@verizon.net.

Third Marine Div. (All Eras), Sept. 17-22, Branson, MO. Roger Bacon, 215-822-9094, rogerbacon45@yahoo.com.

U.S. Armed Forces Nuclear Energy Assn., Sept. 15-20, Deadwood, SD, First Gold Resort & Travelodge. Jerry Schloredt, 307-274-1448 or Dolly Schloredt, 307-283-2384.

304th Signal Bn. (U.S. Army, Korea) Sept. 24-26, Harrisburg, PA, Best Western Premier Hotel & Conference Cntr. Ralph Burton, 210 High Point Rd., Cochranville, PA 19330, 610-593-6310, 484-319-2183, ralphburton@frontier.com.

OCTOBER

MCB1/MCB9/MC10 (All SeaBees welcome), Oct. 3-6, Virginia Beach, VA. Walter Johnson, 757-570-5864, wallyjohnsom1711@gmail.com, <http://mcb1-mcb9.org/>

Outpost International, Society of the 3rd Infantry Division, Oct. 16-19, Korean War Historical Seminar, Holiday Inn, Springfield, VA. Monika or Tim Stoy, timoni15@yahoo.com (See details nearby)

USS Nicholas (DD-449/DDE-449 (1942-1970)/USS Nicholas FFG-47 (different ship 1984-2014), Oct. 23-26, Charleston SC. Bill Linn, PO Box 993, Toledo, WA 98591, (928) 246-7927 or (928) 446-1580, Bill.Margie@yahoo.com

DECEMBER

The Chosin Few, Dec. 4-8, Marriott Mission Valley, San Diego, CA. For details and registration information, contact Chosin Few Headquarters, 3 Black Skimmer Ct., Beaufort, SC 29907. Ph: 843-379-1011; email: TheChosinFewInc@aol.com. Check website at ChosinFew.org for registering online.



From the Secretary

Alves J. "AJ" Key



KWVA Imperatives

As we all know, successful organizations have imperatives that must be accomplished to meet organizational purpose and objectives. At times some are more urgent than others, but collectively all are needed for long-term existence. These imperatives include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Articles of incorporation and charter with clearly stated purpose and structure, including officers, principals, and required directives.
2. Bylaws and Standard Operating Procedures that govern the organization and provide transparent and coherent direction and standards of accountability to officers, employees, and members.
3. Funding to meet operating expenses required to meet organizational purpose and objectives.
4. Recruitment of eligible members for which the organization exists to serve.

The first two are well established and subject to discussion from time to time among members, and at times are detrimental to items three and four, particularly when group eligibility is expanded. Funding and member recruitment require a commitment of time and effort from all members and officers. They also require a commitment to see beyond one's personal sacrifice to the war effort, and recognize the service of others who came after them to secure and maintain the results of their service.

The KWVA and similar veteran groups should not exist or be perceived as "last man standing" (LMS) organizations. The achievement of those who served in Korea from both before and after the armistice were and continue to be central to the victory

made real in today's Republic of Korea (ROK). Please consider the following as you and your home chapters examine the efforts you make to raise funds and recruit members.

- Is my chapter actively recruiting Defense Era veterans (those who served after January 31, 1955 to present)? If not, why not?
- Have I kept current on the history of Defense Era veterans in Korea after the armistice (hostile events, casualties, exposure to Agent Orange, etc.)? If not, why not?
- Does my chapter provide KWVA business cards to members for recruiting that contain how to join contact information, regular meeting location, dates, and times, and explicitly welcome Defense Era veterans? If not, why not?
- Am I personally willing to actively participate in recruiting Defense Era veterans? If not, why not?

Things to do:

- Wear your Korea hat everywhere you go. Consider one of the new logo hats sold by our Membership office.
- If you see a veteran with a branch of service cap and/or a Vietnam or similar campaign hat, take time to talk with them about their service. They may well have served a thirteen-month tour in Korea also.
- Give them a card and invite them to a meeting. Let them know their service matters to you, the KWVA, the ROK, and the USA.

The bottom line is that every member has to be a recruiter and teacher of the KWVA legacy.

Graybeards to change format

How about "Way Back?"

Some of you may have read President Cunningham's comments about possibly reducing the number of issues per year from six to four (see p. 3). As an alternative our editorial staff has suggested that we simply adopt a new format and style and keep the number at six. What do you think of the proposed format presented at right? Which, if either, do you prefer?

Whoa! Relax! These old copies were sent to us by Richard



J. Clark, who asked facetiously "Can you tell I'm a hoarder?"

He suggests that the cover with the eagle on it may have been the first issue in the "slick" magazine format. Does anyone remember? At any rate, he said, "This was the old newsprint style."

Reach Mr. Clark at 2755 S

600 E, Greenfield, IN

46140, 317-462-9616. He served

with USA 1 CAVD 99 FA BN HQ.

Destroyer Named in Honor of Korean War Veteran

From Secretary of the Navy Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Secretary of the Navy Richard V. Spencer named a future Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer, DDG 131, in honor of Korean War veteran, and Navy Cross Recipient, Aviation Machinist's Mate 3rd Class George M. Neal. Neal, a native of Springfield, Ohio, served with Helicopter Utility Squadron ONE (HU-1), a Navy Helicopter rescue unit embarked from Australian light cruiser HMAS Sydney during the Korean War.

"At significant risk to his personal safety, Petty Officer Neal distinguished himself by volunteering to go into harm's way into North Korea to rescue a fellow service member," said Spencer. "He was a hero, and I am proud his legacy will live on in the future *USS George M. Neal* (DDG 131)."

Please turn to **NEAL** on page 19



An artist rendering of the future Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS George M. Neal (DDG 131). (U.S. Navy photo illustration)

America's Oldest U.S. Veteran Owned & Operated Battlefield Tour Company



MILITARY™
HISTORICAL TOURS, INC



13198 Centerpointe Way, Ste 202
Woodbridge, VA 22193-5285
703-590-1295 * www.miltours.com
* mhtours@miltours.com



2019/20 BATTLEFIELD TOURS

- 1 – 10 Aug WWII Battle of Guadalcanal plus Tarawa Pre-Tour
- 4 – 12 Aug WWII Operation Torch Invasion of Morocco & French Foreign Legion
- 11 – 20 Aug 75th Anniversary Invasion of Southern France "Operation Dragoon"
- 28 Aug – 9 Sep VN War 50th Anniversary I-Corps 1969 "Chu Lai To the DMZ"
- 10 – 22 Sep 1969 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War I-Corps
- 17 Sep – 1 Oct Ireland "50 Shades of Green" Dublin – Derry – Belfast – WWII U.S. Sites
- 12 – 19 Sep 75th Anniversary of Peleliu
- Highlight: 3 – 13 Oct Imperial China "Three Jewels" Beijing – Xian – Shanghai
- 2 – 13 Nov WWI Armistice Day France U.S. Battlefields & Paris Parade
- 3 – 9 Dec 78th Anniv of Pearl Harbor
- 4 – 11 Jan '20 Panama "Operation Just Cause"
- 8 – 20 Feb VN Tet Offensive Battle of Hue City – I Corps



And now for a few words from guest editor Hy Pocrisy[©]

NOTE: Our editor has graciously yielded his comment space to the well-known Mr. Hy Pocrisy who, although never elected or appointed to any high political, religious, or societal office, rules the world.

"Why is it against the law for people to lie to Congress but it's okay for Congress to lie to the people? Isn't that a bit hypocritical?"

A gentleman phoned me the other day. I checked to see who was calling. The caller was identified on the screen as "Restricted." I don't answer calls from "Restricted." For all I know they may be coming from some far-off planet with an area code of 999+ where someone is running a scam and hoping I will return the call and be socked with exorbitant phone bills as a result. If there is not a legitimate name and number on the screen I let the caller go to voice mail.

The caller was persistent. He phoned several more times. I was just as persistent. I ignored all the calls. Eventually he contacted me from another phone and demanded to know why I did not answer his calls. I explained that I did not need to talk to anyone whose calls were so important that they were restricted to one party.

"I use restricted to protect myself from unwanted conversations," he said tersely.

"Ah, I see," I responded. "You protect yourself but you expect the person you're calling not to do the same. Isn't that a bit hypocritical?"

Think about it. Do we live in a world ruled by hypocrisy? Politicians certainly do. They reverse roles and reach higher and higher levels of hypocrisy as the different parties switch power. And they expect us to respect and honor them?

Recall the recent ruckus in Virginia when state officials were accused of applying black make-up to their faces years ago. There were calls aplenty from politically correct advocates for them to

Who complained in Korea when Russian-born Asa Yoelson showed up to entertain the troops? Not only was he born in one of the countries that we considered an enemy, but he had performed in black face at minstrel shows.

resign. Apparently applying black paint to one's face is politically offensive. Wait! Turn now to p. 62 and then come back. Go ahead, I'll wait.

Did anyone complain when those soldiers applied black paint to their faces? Was that a politically incorrect act? Was it a violation of the Geneva Convention rules? Did the Chinese or North Korean commanders file an unfair war practices complaint with the UN? Heck, they didn't adhere to the Geneva Convention rules anyway. Wouldn't it have been a bit hypocritical if they had lodged a complaint?

Hey, I recall that as young athletes we applied a black substance under our eyes for dual purposes: to repel the glare from the sun and make us look like fierce warriors. (Somehow that second objective never helped me on a football field.) That practice is still in vogue. "Warriors" from all ethnic backgrounds apply black paint before games. Yet, there are few complaints from people about the practice. Why is it considered politically insensitive to apply black paint to one's face in some circumstances and not in others? Is it possible that there is hypocrisy at work?

Who complained in Korea when Russian-born Asa Yoelson showed up to entertain the troops? Not only was he born in one of the countries that we considered an enemy, but he had performed in black face at minstrel shows. (You can see one of his shows at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nhavaXOynO8>.)

Did anyone suggest when he arrived in Korea that he be sent home because of his penchant for black face or his Russian background? Don't think so. That would have been hypocritical. Oh, yeah: the

troops in Korea knew him as Al Jolson. And shouldn't that "you tube" performance be pulled from the airways?

Examples of blatant hypocrisy exist all around us, especially among—but not restricted to—politicians. Sanctuary city mayors vow to uphold the rule of law that governs American society and then break it by not enforcing immigration laws; a U.S. Senator from Connecticut lies about serving in Vietnam then accuses members of the "other" party of being less than honest every time their lips move—or don't move; university administrators insist that free speech is an inherent right for all Americans, then ban certain speakers from their campuses...the list goes on. We will never escape the hypocrisy that rules our lives. The best we can do is work around it.

I can only wonder if professional 21st-century politically correct complainers would condemn those Soldiers in the aforementioned photo for their use of camo paint and mount a campaign to ban it. That would be a step over the line. Yet, in today's society I would not be surprised if some people didn't allege that the use of camo paint gives one side an advantage over the other, so the practice must be discontinued. I'm sure the unidentified Soldiers in the photo would have disagreed. What do you think?

Send your comments to Hy Pocrisy. He rules the world. But even he might not want to criticize the use of camo paint in all cases, especially in those involving warfighters whose primary mission is to protect the right of free speech for professional hypocrites. To do so would be hypocritical—and we have quite enough of that in our current society.

In this issue we introduce a new feature. Our contributors frequently submit innocuous items of interest that some readers might want to know more about, newspapers printed stories that were terse and short of facts, etc. We will sprinkle questions deserving answers throughout the magazine.

The statements are not right, wrong, controversial...The people submitting them are simply offering statements of fact, but they pique the editorial staff's curiosity and create a desire for more information. Who better to fill in the blanks than our readers? So, we invite you to send in your thoughts about them for inclusion in upcoming issues.

Send any comments you might have to Arthur G. Sharp, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573.

Here is our first question based on this innocuous statement:

1. "In Korea, mascots were normally found in rear echelon units."

Question: Was that true? What types of pets? Did frontline units have pets too? What types of pets did the units have? Tell us your stories. Length doesn't matter.

2. "The reason was simple: there was an ammunition shortage! The effect was that men manning the MLR were rationed to three M-1 clips of .30 caliber ammunition per rifle per day. When it came to the artillery, the 105s and 155s were rationed to six rounds per gun per day."

Question: How did the ammo shortage affect you, your unit, or forces in general in 1952? Did it have any impact on the outcome of specific battles or the war in general?

Thanks for Supporting *The Graybeards* and the KWVA

Members are invited to help underwrite the publication costs of *The Graybeards*. All contributions in any amount are welcome. Mail your donations to KWVA Treasurer, 430 W. Lincoln Ave., Charleston, IL 61920 or Treasurer@KWVA.US. All contributions will be acknowledged, unless the donor specifically requests to remain anonymous. And, if you have an "In memory of" (IMO) request, include that as well. We thank you for your generous support.

CONTRIBUTOR	LOCATION	CONTRIBUTOR	LOCATION
GRAYBEARDS DONATIONS			
Samuel B. Fielder Jr.	MD	Nak K. Shim Skaneateles	NY
Timothy M. Forbes	NY	Robert J. Son	CA
Victor J. Haas	PA	KWVA Chapter 328 Los Angeles	CA
Edward F. Karas	MA	Louis H. Zackman	FL
Tine P. Martin Sr.	IN	NMS (1) -	From Insup Han
CID 269 Central Indiana		NMS (1) -	IMO Henry Beckett
Russell A. Merrill	MI	NMS (1) -	IMO Gerold Raymond Bowers
Cecil L. 'Skip' Rice	CA	NMS (1) -	IMO William Dawson
William Wright	OR	NMS (1) -	IMO Carl L. Devree
George W. Zimmerman	MN	NMS (11) -	IMO George Rodger Deziel
CID 41 Mankato MN		NMA (1) -	IMO James F. Doran, Jr.
NMS		NMS (3) -	IMO Darrell Driver
IMO John Sinnicki		NMS (1) -	IMO John R. Jarvis
		NMS (5) -	IMO Robert H. Jenson
KWVA DONATIONS		NMS (1) -	IMO Edward J. "Bud" Kern
Walter N. Beene	TX	NMS (1) -	IMO George Liset
KWVA Chapter 215 Texas		NMS (1) -	IMO James Nekich
Louise Brunelle	TX	NMS (2) -	IMO Monte James Newman
Walter E. Davis	OH	NMS (1) -	IMO Ret Col. Don R. "Rob" Patton
Anthony J. Innamorato	NJ	NMS (2) -	IMO Stanley H. Pordy
Edward F. Karas	MA	NMS (1) -	IMO Morris Arnold Rand Phil. PA
Patty B. Ko	NV	NMS (1) -	IMO Reuben Ruiz USA Pvt
Ike C. Mallard	AL	NMS (4) -	IMO Mstr Chief Ambrosio Sanchez
Tine P. Martin Sr.	IN	NMS (3) -	IMO James Allen Wedberg
KWVA CID 259 Central IN		NMS (3) -	IMO Bert G. Williams
Gerald Mendenhall	VA	NMS (1) -	IMO Edward "Bud" Kern, Rick B,
Victor T. Muraoka	CA		Kelli R, Gina B, Renee L, and Rebecca B
Gus A. Owen	TX		Unknown
Robert E. Shelton	TN	NMS (10) -	
KWVA Chapter 289 Mountain Empire			

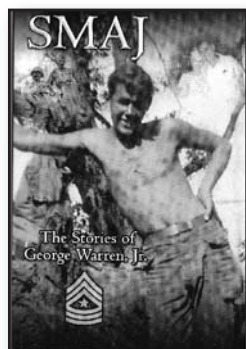
LEGEND: IMO = In Memory Of; NMS = Non Member Sales

BOOK REVIEW

By Rego S. Barnett

We frequently receive books for review. We cannot review every book that arrives for a variety of reasons. But we can on occasion provide information about them to give members an idea of what their comrades are writing. Here a couple that have crossed our desk recently.

Their inclusion in this magazine is not an endorsement. The front and back pages depicted are not substitutes for reviews. Readers can pursue them if they so wish.



SMAJ, The Stories of George Warren, Jr. provides snapshots into worlds most people will never visit. From the shenanigans of his earthy early life with his mother and part-Cherokee Indian father ("cheekbones so high you could hardly see his eyes") to miraculous interventions throughout his military career, George's stories are loaded with historical information about military and family life during wartime. The nickname "SMAJ" was actually a term of endearment given to George when he was a sergeant major (SGM) in the Army.

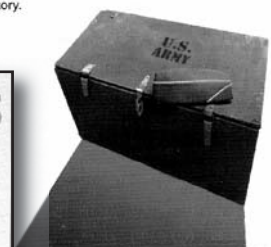
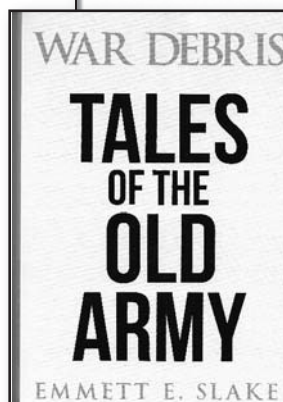
Once returned from overseas, George's stories focus on love of family and the adventures George, his wife, Pat, and their children encountered as restaurateurs and world travelers.

While each tale is filled with hilarious Southern colloquialisms, ups, downs, victories and struggles, there is one belief that runs through every one of George's stories: God watches over his children.

Here is a bit of additional information: George Warren, a KWVA Life Member and the author of SMAJ, can be reached at P. O. Box 1073, Clayton, GA 30525, 770-630-3802, gpwarren@att.net

WAR DEBRIS TALES OF THE OLD ARMY

WAR DEBRIS – TALES OF THE OLD ARMY is an authentic collection of 21 short stories that reveal an uncommon perspective regarding military service. Candidly presented in graphic and uncompromising terms the work introduces an indelicate fictional approach to army life, vividly chronicled without pretense or sentimentality, during a previous era. The literary creations offer a blunt portrayal of rarely explored facets of military duty and its attending affairs. The author, Emmett E. Slake, a thirty-year veteran of the United States Army contains his fascinating fictional meanderings to the period of the early 1950s to the late 1970s in a diverse panorama of exotic global settings extending from home bases to overseas stations in Europe and Asia. Augmenting the spectacle, an array of sharply drawn characters emerge, adroitly framed in compelling situations that illuminate as well as entertain. The sordid aspects of conduct that often arise are starkly revealed without overt salaciousness. The mosaic of soldiers, civilians, and other assorted foreign personages preside and endure through a variety of intriguing and often tragic events in conditions hostile and benign. This mélange of melodrama advances from harsh outposts in hazardous environs, manned by the subordinate levels of command, to the mundane social landscape of the privileged upper echelons of rank. All, are present and accounted for. To those who stood in the ranks and shared the joys, perils and heartbreaks, the stories will serve as a faded remembrance of their own narrow place in history.



Likewise, Emmett E. Slake. He served three tours in Korea, including a combat tour early on. His book comprises a collection of short stories, six of which directly involve service during the Korean War. Contact him at 2212 Marquee Ln., Fuquay Varina, NC 27526,

919-521-7717, rogue1930@gmail.com.

As of May 17, 2019 neither book was listed on *amazon.com*.

2019 Revisit Korea Tour quotas increased

We have received an increase in quotas for the 2019 Revisit Korea Tours. The current dates are 22-28 June; 22-28 July; 20-26 October and 8-14 November. The October and November tours are also going to Busan, the second largest city in South Korea, on the world famous "Bullet Train!"

For info call Jamie Wiedhahn at 703-590-295 or email at: jwiedhahn@miltours.com

Reminder: We have been notified that 2019 and 2020 are the last years of the ROK funded

Revisit Korea program, ongoing since 1975.

Don't forget you can shop online at the PX

All honorably discharged veterans can shop online through the Army & Air Force Exchange Service. Shoppers can save significant amounts of money doing so, since there is no state sales tax and shipping on purchases over \$49 is free.

The Exchange's commitment to veterans includes veteran shoppers—in 2017, the Department of Defense concurred with extending a lifelong online military Exchange shopping benefit to all honorably discharged veterans. Veterans can visit ShopMyExchange.com/vets to learn more.

All you need is a DD-214 to get registered and get shopping.

Members in the

Lew Bradley...

of Ch. 122, Arden A. Rowley [AZ], visited Hartford Silvia Encinas Elementary School in Chandler, AZ for its annual Volunteer Appreciation Day. He is involved as a sponsoring Kiwanis Club advisor to Kiwanis Kids Club. Hartford is the second elementary school that Bradley has been successful in chartering a K- Kids Club.



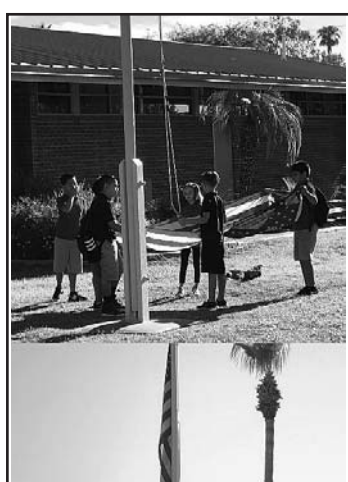
Lew Bradley with Hartford School Principal Heather Anguiano



Lew Bradley and Carol Fontaine, President of the Kiwanis Chandler Young Professionals



**LEFT: Flag brigade at Silvia Encinas Elementary School in Chandler, AZ
RIGHT: Fifth graders at Hartford Silvia Encinas Elementary School fold flag carefully**



Incidentally, the school's fifth-grade students display a bit of patriotism. Mr. Morales Ruan's fifth graders help the school by taking care of the United States flag every day.

Henry Buhlinger...

a member of Ch. 199's Honor Guard, (Manasota, Bradenton FL), had the honor of throwing out the first pitch of a Pittsburgh Pirates spring training game for his 90th birthday. The chapter's Honor Guard performed at fifteen preseason games in 2019.

Don Courtney, donaldcourtney1@verizon.net



Henry Buhlinger of Ch. 199 throws out first pitch at Pittsburgh Pirates game

Paul Garland...

was featured in an article in the Buffalo [NY] News titled "Korean War vet was wounded shielding family from shrapnel." As Garland told the story to reporter Lou Michel:



"It happened about 10 a.m. on May 29, 1952 when Garland, a member of the Fifth Regimental Combat Team, was riding in a Jeep up to the front lines in an area of the Korean peninsula known as the "Punchbowl."

"Enemy artillery shells started falling dangerously close to the Jeep.

"There was shrapnel falling all over the place," Garland said. "One of the shells landed off to the right and turned trees into stubs."

He saw a Korean mother walking alongside the road with her two children. He pushed them into a ditch and covered them with his body. He sustained a shrapnel wound to his right leg in the incident.

After receiving medical treatment he was promised a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star, neither of which he received because the paperwork was lost. His memory of the incident was not, however, and he still wonders what happened to the mother and her two children.

As the article concluded, "I'm sure the Lord will one day tell me when I ask him."

Charles Patterson...

was pictured in an article in the November 12, 2018 Rome [GA] News-Tribune, "Veterans Day extra special for some this year," by Doug Walker. His photo was taken as he placed a wreath at the Tomb of the Known Soldier during a Veterans Day ceremony. Yes, you read that right. The Tomb of the Known Soldier. (See the story below.)

One of the veterans who was featured in the story was Buck

Crosby, who served in the U.S. Army after the Korean War. His brother Lloyd was captured near the DMZ during the war. He was hoping that his brother's remains would be among those returned to the U.S. in last year's exchange.

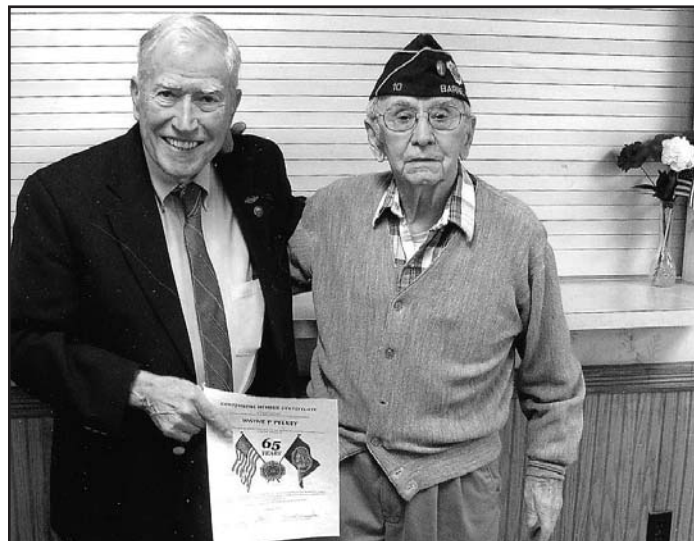


Charles Patterson places wreath at Tomb of Known Soldier

Wayne Pelkey...

received an award for membership longevity at an American Legion dinner. He has been a member for 65 consecutive years. He and fellow member Andy Chouinard are both 87+ years old.

Andy was drafted two months before Wayne and was stationed for two years at Ft. Jay in the center of New York City at an anti-aircraft battalion using M-16 quad fifties like troops had for ground support in the Korean War. Two of their area friends, John Pellon and Richard Jensen, luckily spent their two years in New York City as well.



Wayne Pelkey (L) and Andy Chouinard after receiving awards

"It amazes me why our Pentagon stationed anti-aircraft in New York City," Pelkey said. "The only likely enemy would have been the Germans, and they had no bombers capable of crossing the Atlantic and their deadly U-boat submarines did not fly!"

"My draft call was for a combat infantry member and I was sent to Korea serving in the hell of trench warfare," he continued. "We could have used more of those New York City AA units that

were a proven ground support for the trench infantry."

Pelkey rode with Andy Chouinard in his Pontiac convertible for a few years in the two Barre, VT veterans parades, Memorial Day and Veterans Day, until Chouinard's illness forced him to sell his big, cherished convertible. After that Pelkey rode in another car with a WW2 vet.

"Andy was a top notch mechanic at a local Buick agency until he took a position at Spaulding High School as instructor of auto mechanics," Pelkey recalled. "He held that position for many years until his retirement."

"Despite war being hell," Pelkey concluded, "my thoughts leaving the American Legion post were that I felt appreciative that with the grace of God I still had a viable body and mind and was able to enjoy a Happy Easter!"

Leroy Rogers...

received a Quilt of Valor on December 6, 2018. He was accompanied by Veteran Service Officer Nathan Weinbaum and his "chauffeur" and friend, Brenda Sellers.



Brenda Sellers (L), Leroy Rogers (C), and Nathan Weinbaum display Quilt of Valor

The Tomb of the Known Soldier...

is a grave site in Myrtle Hill Cemetery in Rome, Georgia, United States, dedicated to a soldier killed in World War I, Private Charles W. Graves.

Charles Graves enlisted in the United States Army on August 16, 1917; he was eighteen years old at the time. He was eventually shipped to Neuilly, France, a place he knew nothing about. On October 5, 1918 (fourteen months after his Army service began), Graves was killed by German artillery shrapnel on the Hindenburg Line. Soon after, he received full military honors and a military burial in France.

Charles' mother received the telegram from the War Department that her son was killed in the war. After waiting four long years, she finally claimed her son's body when it arrived on a troopship called the Cambria on March 29, 1922. The U.S. government had the idea of creating the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and of a "Known Soldier" in Arlington National Cemetery to honor World War I soldiers.

Graves was chosen for "America's Known Soldier" by a blindfolded sailor who picked Graves' name from an American

soldier remains list, but his mother objected to his burial at Arlington. The War Department wanted to give his body, in its flag-draped coffin, a parade on Fifth Avenue in New York with generals, admirals, and politicians before his mother buried Graves in the cemetery near Antioch Church on April 6, 1922.

Graves, a fallen soldier, failed to remain in the cemetery for a long period of time; many local citizens decided that he should be buried in a place of honor. As a result, on September 22, 1923, his body was exhumed from Antioch Cemetery and relocated to Myrtle Hill Cemetery as America's Known Soldier after his

mother's death and his brother's agreement. Graves was buried a third and final time.

On November 11, 1923, Armistice Day, Charles and the other 33 young men from Floyd County who died in World War I were honored with three Maxim guns and 34 magnolia trees. Today, Graves' final resting place is known as the Tomb of the Known Soldier. To many, the memorial site is a place of remembrance, a place that is meant to pay respect to all of the known fallen soldiers of every war. (Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tomb_of_the_Known_Soldier)

Holiday Stories

Holiday and continuing series stories wanted for 2019

We are soliciting holiday stories for the 2019 November/December issue and for our other ongoing series—and we are off to a good start. Let's start building our holiday inventory now for the November-December 2019 holiday issue.

Please send your stories, photos, and art work describing anything memorable, special, or routine that occurred in Korea, Japan, stateside, en route or returning...anywhere you might have been...involving you, your unit, your friends...on the major year-end holidays, e.g., Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah, New Year's Day, Boxing Day... The material can relate to war time or peacetime. Hopefully we will get enough stories, photos, and art work to fill the issue.

Hey, it's never too early to get a start on our holiday issue. Send your stories and photos to Arthur G. Sharp, The Graybeards Holiday Editor, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573. Or, submit them electronically to sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net.

Remember that we are also looking for stories in our continuing "Where was I on July 27th?" and "Humor in Korea" series. You can use the same addresses as above.

Please support our advertisers

Hopefully, our readers will buy their products so we can retain our current advertisers, attract new advertisers, and use the revenues to underwrite the costs of producing *The Graybeards*.

Editor's office hours

Editor Sharp's office hours, such as they are, are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST, Monday-Friday. He is not an employee of the KWVA, so his hours vary.

Korean War MIAs Recently Identified

Here is the up-to-date list of the remains of Korean War MIAs/KIAs identified by the DPAA as of May 15, 2019. All MIAs listed are members of the U.S. Army.

Pfc. Sterling Geary, Jr., Co. B, 1st Bn., 35th Inf. Rgmt., 25th Inf. Div. 11/27/1950 NK

SFC Elden C. Justus, HQ Battery, 57th Field Artillery Bn., 7th Inf. Div. 12/6/1950 NK

Cpl. Charles S. Lawler, Co. M, 3rd Bn., 8th Cav. Rgmt., 1st Cav. Div., 11/2/1950 NK

Pfc. Herschel M. Riggs, HQ Co., 19th Inf. Rgmt., 24th Inf. Div. 7/16/1950 SK

NOTE: We have obtained several photos of previously identified MIAs. They were all included in the March/April 2019 issue. (Source: <https://www.dpaa.mil/>)



Captain Rufus J. Hyman



M/Sgt. Charlie Mares



Cpl. Benjamin W. Scott



Cpl. James Rix



Cpl. Carlos (Buddy) Ferguson

LEGEND:

NK = North Korea
SK = South Korea
SFC = Sgt. 1st Class

Five extra months in Korea Isn't that funny?

By Bob Hooker

This story of sadness, grief...as well as humor is about Robert M. Hooker-Corporal U.S. Army Company B, 15th INF Regiment 3rd INF/3rd ID.

On June 11, 1953 we were ordered onto Outpost Harry in the Iron Triangle. I was the first one on the hill with my squad. I placed them in different positions and followed my platoon sergeant into the bunker. The CO was in the company bunker.

During the night we were heavily assaulted. As we fought I was wounded. There was only one survivor in my squad, PFC Don Dingee. He was also wounded. In the morning, we were processed through the different medical systems of the army and eventually evacuated to Fukuoka, Japan. We were admitted to the hospital at Camp Hakata-Air Force base.

After undergoing surgeries and physical therapy, I recovered and was ordered stateside for reassignment. I reported to Sasebo, Japan to board ship. There were two ships in the port. One was headed stateside, the other headed for Korea. The war was still on. Neither ship's manifest had me listed, so I got on the final ship leaving for Pooson, Japan.

When I arrived at the replacement depot, they didn't know what to do with me. My name was not on any orders. Knowing 'roughly' where my company and regiment were, I boarded a military train headed north. After two days of searching, I finally found the rear

company. I went in to report; they were quite surprised to see me.

Upon receiving directions as to where my platoon and company were, I hitched a ride as far as we could go. I was dropped off and walked the rest of the way to the front line. When I reported to our platoon leader, he stated, "I have no orders for you. We didn't think you were alive! But, since we can always use a 'live' body..."

My next four days were spent crawling around amid heavy incoming artillery, from which I emerged unharmed. The war finally ended.

We were put in a reserve position at a semi-permanent base in the rear for R&R. They didn't know what to do with me. My army record was stateside and they were waiting for it to be returned to Korea. They had to make me a temporary record so they could pay me the famous 'FLYING TWENTY.'

By the time all those things rolled around, I was in Korea an additional five months. The 1st of December 1953 my records finally arrived in Korea. I credited my points to rotate back to the United States. This time I was escorted to the right ship. Therein the humor lies.

So much wasted time, when I could have been stateside with my family and friends.

NOTE: Sadly, Bob Hooker assumed his final duty post shortly after we received this excerpt from his autobiography.

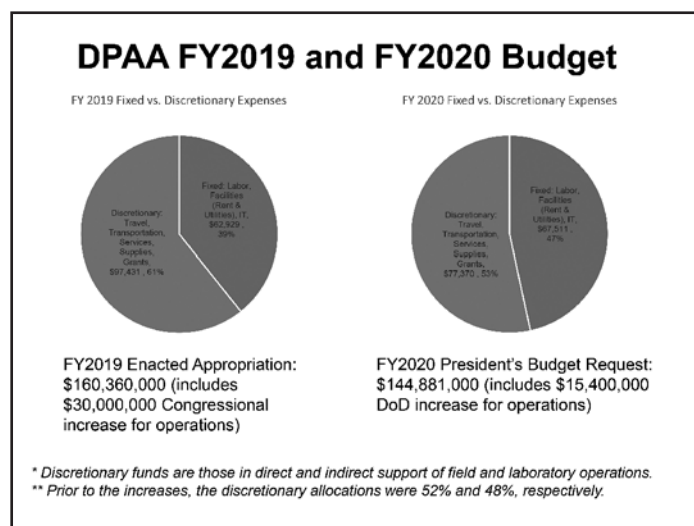
DPAA Budget

Attached is a copy of DPAA's budget for FY2020, with a comparison to their FY2019 budget. Director McKeague sent this for distribution to the KWVA for informational purposes. The briefing consists of two slides.

You will note that the FY2020 budget shows an overall decrease from the FY2019 budget. However, the FY2019 budget included a \$30M congressional increase for operations which was not part of the President's budget submission. The FY2020 President's DPAA budget of \$144,881,000 includes a \$15.4M DoD increase for operations.

The second slide compares the FY2019 and FY2020 DPAA budget categories. DPAA is providing this for information purposes and is not asking us to take action at this time. The federal budget process is not finished yet and it is still possible that Congress could add additional funding to DPAA's FY2020 budget as they did last year in the DPAA FY2019 Budget.

Bruce R. (Rocky) Harder, KWVA National Director & POW/MIA Coordinator, 540-659-0252, harderbr@aol.com



DPAA FY2019 and FY2020 Budget

	2019 Budget	2020 Budget
Labor	46,016	45,750
Facilities & Utilities	8,818	9,019
IT and Communications	8,095	12,742
Services	21,474	16,440
Travel	17,000	16,000
Transportation	14,000	15,000
Supplies & Equipment	35,457	24,930
Grants & Contributions	9,500	5,000
Total (\$K)	\$ 160,360	\$ 144,881

Source: DPAA FY2020 President's Budget (March 2019)

https://comptroller.defense.gov/Portals/45/Documents/defbudget/fy2020/budget_justification/pdfs/02_Procurement/08_0300_DPAA_PB2020.pdf



Recon Missions

Japanese men in the Korean War

Where is Shigeji Hiratsuka buried?

During the early days of the Korean War at least 70 Japanese men were asked to go to Korea with American military units by officers and men of those units. These Japanese men were working in the kitchens and laundries for these units. There was an unexplained bonding between them and the Americans. Each payday the Americans would give some of their pay to pay these Japanese men.

When the higher command found out that these men had been taken to Korea the order went out and those who could be found were rounded up and taken back to Japan by ship. They were given good jobs and some money and were told to keep quiet about what had happened.

One was captured with members of an Artillery Battalion of the 24th Infantry Division. He survived, became an American citizen via act of Congress, was awarded a Medal of Freedom with Palm, joined our Army, served a tour in Vietnam, retired, and became a civil service employee. He later went to Glory at his home in Japan. He was Kiyohito (Mike) Tsutsui.

Another young Japanese man, Shigeji Hiratsuka, went to Korea on 15 July 1950. He was working for E Troop, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. On September 4th he was killed in action in South Korea. I have since learned that he was killed at Suwon, South Korea.

General MacArthur's Adjutant, A BG Bush, wrote a letter to Shigeji's family in Japan, stating the above facts also saying that several American Army men made a positive identification because they knew him in Japan. I have a copy of that letter. The family has put a Combat Infantry Badge at the top of that letter indicating to the writer that perhaps some of the Americans who knew their son had returned to Japan to see Shigeji's family. This is where the trail gets cold.

Where was Shigeji's body buried? Where is he now? There was a paper trail established back then. Was he buried in South Korea and later disinterred and taken to Japan and later taken to Hawaii? At this point no one seems to know. His next of kin in Japan would like to know and they deserve an answer.

My information comes from declassified documents, including interviews with most of these Japanese men and American officers and men who asked them to accompany their units to Korea in early July 1950. I would appreciate any information regarding Shigeji Hiratsuka in Korea.

Shorty Estabrook, B Company, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, POW in Korea from 15 July 1950 to August 29, 1953. Founder of the Tiger Survivors, raymares-ta@gmail.com

John Macray Baker

My name is Dan Michener. I am a police officer in St Paul, MN. I am researching my great uncle, John Macray Baker. He survived the *USS Arizona* attack (Marines). He served in the Pacific Theater at Guadalcanal Canal, Peleliu, New Britain, and New Caledonia. He then served in Korea.

When he retired from the Marines in 1957 as a Captain, he had a Silver Star, Bronze Star, and five purple hearts. Three of his Purple Hearts were in WWII, with his Bronze Star. Purple Heart #4 was on 10/10/1951 at Heart Break Ridge.

On 10/28/1951, he was in Korea with the 1st Battalion/5th Marines as a 1st Lt. According to newspaper articles, family history, and records I've acquired, he led one of the first helicopter operations/attacks in history. They left on this day via helicopter to a spot about 10 miles south/east of Wontong-Ni. (I have the military grid coordinates).

They attacked a guerrilla stronghold on 10/29/1951, the day after their departure from base. My great uncle threw himself in front of a grenade to protect his team. This is where he was awarded the Silver Star and his fifth Purple Heart.

This operation was between two documented Korean War helicopter missions: Hoseburner and Hoseburner 2. I have the military grid coordinates and a reference to Hill 739, which I can't find in the Korean War Project database.

I have his service records and records kept by the Korean War Project, along with newspaper clippings. According to some of the records I've seen, there were two other Marines injured in the attack.

1. Do you know how I can get actual unit lists that would tell me the names of the soldiers he served with?
2. Do you know how I can get a list of people who were awarded Purple Hearts in Korea? Maybe sorted by date.
3. Does anyone have memories of or served with my great uncle?
4. Does anyone have family/was there for this operation?

My great uncle killed himself in 1974. He suffered from extreme PTSD at a time when it wasn't recognized, let alone treated. My research is more than family history. I want to put something out there about his life and the tragedy of his death.

If I can contribute something to the discussion about how our soldiers are treated and what they see in combat, then my mission will be a success.

Thank you for your time.

Dan Michener, 1266 Taylor Avenue West, St Paul, MN 55104, 612-217-3862, danmichenerwho@hotmail.com

John Breslin

I am sending this for my father, James H. Savage.... I hope we

can help him find the information he seeks.

Looking for John Breslin, from Delaware, at the time in the same unit, 8th Army, 19th Engineer Group, Seoul Korea 1953-1956....or any info about him. I was with him when he got injured during a band run in spring of 1956. I left for home a few weeks later and never knew what became of him, whether he recovered or not. He was still receiving medical treatment at 121st evacuation hospital in Seoul, Korea when I departed.

I was from Maine and still live in Maine. If anyone has any information please contact us through email.

Thanks,

Lois Savage Gelina, blinnhill@aol.com

Looking for maps and info about the “Counter Guerilla Warfare” school

Does anyone have a map of locations of all U.S. Army/Air Force Camps in Korea in the 1960s that could be emailed to me? I spent thirteen months at Camp Kaiser Korea with the 7th ID in 1964-65 and know others who were at various camps around Korea and would like to see where we were in relation to each other.

And, does anyone have information or articles regarding the “Counter Guerilla Warfare” school near Camp Casey Korea?

Dave Ramsey, 600 Atlantic St., Roseville, CA 95678, 916-783-7267, InsureMe@RamseyInsurance.net

Did the KWVA or a chapter ever sell caskets?

A member asked recently if the KWVA or any of its chapters ever sold caskets. Does anyone recall that? If anyone does, please contact the editor at sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net or 813-614-1326.

20th and 21st Century Allen County [IN] Residents and Indiana State Residents Veterans Honor Rolls

The Allen County Genealogy Society of Indiana is collecting names of personnel who served in the United States military service from January 1, 1900 through December 31, 1999 [20th Century] and from January 1, 2000 through the future [21st Century].

Any person who was born in or lived in Allen County while serving in the active military, i.e., Army, Army National Guard, Army Reserve, Air Force, Air Force National Guard, Air Force Reserve, Marine Corps, Marine Reserve, Navy, Navy Reserve, Coast Guard, or Merchant Marine, qualifies.

The Allen County Genealogy Society of Indiana is recording the veteran's information on a secure database to preserve the Allen County and Indiana Military commitment for those who served, were wounded, or gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country in time of war, peace, insurrections, and conflicts during both these centuries.

The veteran's information will be on file for current and future genealogy research. If you had a loved one serve during this period, consider having his or her name added to these Honor Rolls. Check the following Allen County Genealogy Society of Indiana websites to see if someone you know is listed on these Honor Rolls.

- The 20th Century website is <http://www.acgsi.org/20thvet/>

- The 21st Century website is <http://www.veteranshonorroll.org>

The Indianapolis Genealogy Society of Indiana also has a Veterans Honor Roll for Indiana residents who have served or are serving their country. It is <http://www.Indgensoc.org/member-sonly/military/index.php>

Contact John D. Hannigan, 5523 Sable Ct., Ft. Wayne, IN 46835, naginnahj@yahoo.com, U.S. Army SSGT 1953-1964, KWVA, Ch. 30, Indiana #1

A Hand for Hand?

I have a Korean War veteran I am currently helping. His name is Frank Hand. He served with the 6th Medium Tank Battalion, 24th Infantry Division. He was part of Task Force Crombez in February 1951.

We are looking for any other veterans who may have served during the same time as that task force or possibly the same unit. Many were either killed or taken POW. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Billy S. Wells, Choctaw/Sumter County Veterans Service Officer, Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs, 205-459-2111, Fax: 205-459-2116, billy.wells@va.alabama.gov, website: www.va.alabama.gov, Facebook: ttps://www.facebook.com/alsdva

Task Force Crombez

While the 23d Regimental Combat Team, surrounded by Chinese Communists at Chipyeong-ni, braced itself for the second night of the siege, a regiment of the 1st Cavalry Division set out on a sort of rescue mission: to drive through enemy lines, join the encircled unit and give it all possible assistance. Specifically, it was to open the road for supply vehicles and ambulances.

On 14 February 1951, the 5th Cavalry Regiment was in corps reserve when the commanding general of U.S. IX Corps (Maj.Gen. Bryant E. Moore) alerted it for possible action. It was midafternoon when he first telephoned the regimental commander (Col. Marcel G. Crombez) warning him to make plans for an attack along the road running from Yoju to Koksuri and then northeast into Chipyeong-ni a road distance of fifteen miles.

Another force, attacking along the better and more direct road to Chipyeong-ni, had been unable to make fast enough progress because of heavily entrenched enemy forces along its route.

Immediately relaying the warning order to subordinate units, Colonel Crombez organized a task force.

In addition to the three organic infantry battalions of the 5th Cavalry, he included a medical company, a company of combat engineers, two battalions of field artillery of which one was equipped with self-propelled howitzers, two platoons of medium tanks, and an attached company of medium tanks. The last named Company D, 6th Tank Battalion was not a part of the 1st Cavalry Division, but happened to be located closer than any other available tank company. General Moore attached Company D to the 5th Cavalry and ordered it to get under way within thirty minutes to join that unit.

(Source: https://history.army.mil/books/korea/30-2/30-2_9.HTM, p. 127).

within 72 hours after the armistice was effective, "all military forces, supplies, and equipment must be removed from the DMZ." This also applied to the destruction of all fortifications within the DMZ.

It became evident quickly that it would be impossible to complete the entire job of dismantling and salvaging MLR fortifications within a three-day period. With the maze of post-truce orders, there were sometimes breakdowns in communications to the "pick and shovel" level troops. In some areas bunkers were filled in with earth and later had to be excavated in order to salvage materials. The communists were having the same problems, so it was agreed to extend the original 72 hours to an additional 45-day period, or until 13 September 1953.

All salvage materials removed from the DMZ were placed in dumps, where they would be readily available for use in building the new battle positions. The troops worked around the clock. Dismantling bunkers was a huge problem of the salvage program. More than 500 bunkers were reclaimed from MLR materials and installed in the new positions.

As Korean War "bunker dwellers" know well, most of the bunkers were built of 12x12 timbers buried deep in the ground and fastened together with 10- to 16-inch spikes. Infantry organic tools and equipment were inadequate to dismember bunkers so constructed. Crowbars, picks, shovels, pinch-bars, and sledge-hammers were all in short supply. Engineer equipment and other tools were not stockpiled in sufficient quantity to buttress a demolition program of such magnitude.

In places where the terrain permitted operation of bulldozers their use drastically shortened time uncovering bunkers. Where these bunkers had been emplaced on reverse slope positions of steep hills, however, the timbers had to be removed by hand. The latter was generally the prevailing situation. Basic equipment usually consisted of the troops and their ingenuity. It took time to get any dozer tanks working. They could only be used after having their guns removed, as required by the armistice agreement.

Over 90 percent of the materials salvaged were usable in the new fortifications. What were some of the supplies salvaged by the troops?

- over 12 tons of T/E (Table of Equipment) material

- over 2,000 miles of signal-wire, barbed-wire, concertina 3 and 6-foot pickets and sand-bags

- timbers (from 3x8 to 12x12) that amounted to over 150,000 linear feet and a total tonnage over 2,000 short tons

After 13 September 1953 the work priority reverted from destruction of MLR positions to construction of new perimeter defense sites, battalion blocking positions, coordinated fire plans, counter-attack orders, and evacuation routes. They had to be prepared at all times for any act of enemy aggression.

Another huge problem was the removal of ammunition to supply dumps, a laborious task. Other salvageable items found were M-1 rifles, helmets, armored vests, and quantities of blood-serum. Friendly ammunition was difficult to salvage, because COP (Combat Outpost) stockpiles struck by enemy mortar fire contained both damaged and live, usable ammunition mixed together. The troops unearthed unexploded mortar and artillery rounds, often when filling in old trenches, knocking down bunkers, or recovering wire. Anti-personnel mines were also everywhere.

We think of scenes from movies of our troops coming home from war, with bands playing and cheering crowds greeting them—but not so much with the Korean War. Where were the crowds and bands when the troops arrived back home? American citizens did not hear, read, or envision much about our DMZ war-troops immediately after the Armistice. Those troops were performing tedious manual labor, recovering salvage, etc., rather than preparing for a grand welcome at home.

The heavy-duty drudgery was monotonous, unglamorous work. It was done in tropical weather, with 103 degree plus temperatures, high humidity and torrential rains that turned everything into a muddy quagmire. For them, the signing of the cease-fire meant pure misery, not a triumphant homecoming. Today, our military would not give that post-armistice job to its stockade or brig prisoners. At least they weren't being shot at any more.

Reach regular contributor Tom Moore at tm103ps@yahoo.com.

NEAL from page 8

Neal was awarded the Navy Cross for his actions on July 3, 1951, when, while serving with Helicopter Utility Squadron ONE, he and pilot Lt. j.g. John Koelsch attempted to rescue Marine Corps Captain James Wilkins. Wilkins crashed near Yondong in North Korea after his Corsair took antiaircraft fire.

Keolsch and Neal located Wilkins and under increased enemy fire lowered the rescue sling. However, the helicopter was soon disabled and crashed. For nine days, Neal assisted Keolsch and Wilkins in evading enemy forces before being captured and held as a Prisoner of War. Keolsch died during captivity but Wilkins and Neal were released and returned to the United States with more than 320 fellow POWs in 1952.

Arleigh Burke-class destroyers conduct a variety of operations from peacetime presence and crisis response to sea control and power projection. The future *USS George M. Neal* (DDG 131) will be a Flight III destroyer capable of fighting air, surface and subsurface battles simultaneously, and will contain a combination of offensive and defensive weapon systems designed to support maritime warfare, including integrated air and missile defense and vertical launch capabilities.

The ship will be constructed at Huntington Ingalls in Pascagoula, Mississippi. The ship will be 509 feet long, have a beam length of 59 feet and be capable of operating at speeds in excess of 30 knots.

For more information, visit www.navy.mil, www.facebook.com/secnav76, or www.twitter.com/secnav76.

Now Hear This:

All comments concerning, or contributions for publication in The Graybeards should be sent to:

**Art Sharp, Editor
2473 New Haven Circle
Sun City Center, FL 33573-7141**

**or emailed to:
sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net**

My primo Apple Jack

On July 27 1953 I was stationed on the island of Ganghwado with the 1st Tank Battalion, 1st Marine Division. We had a platoon of 5 tanks, which we used primarily as artillery support for about 2,000 Korean guerillas. Most of them were North Koreans who migrated south to the island to escape Communism. There were also about 100 Army personnel there who acted as liaison for the Koreans.

The island is located at the mouth of the Imjin River. Our compound consisted of three squad tents and a small Quonset hut we used as a mess hall. I was the cook and I had 4 Koreans working for me: one adult named Quan and 3 young men. (I wouldn't try to tell their ages, although they all looked to be about 8-10 years old.)

Quan was very smart and spoke five languages fluently. He would occasionally be called upon to interpret at I Corps meetings. All four were very reliable and hard workers.

Some time prior to 27 July I found two tea cans in the storeroom. They were just under one gallon in size. I thought I might just have a use for them. I had dried apples, raisins, and yeast. (You can guess where this is going).

I made enough Apple Jack to fill both cans, which I buried in back of the mess hall. The necks of the cans were just above ground, with holes in them, so the "product" could breathe.

Right after 27 July we were informed that we would be leaving the island and returning to Headquarters Battalion up near Panmunjom. On moving day we packed all the supplies and put them in a "6 by" parked next to the mess hall. During the time we were packing I ran across the two buried cans, which were foaming out of the air holes. I had completely forgotten about them. I quickly dug them up and put them in the cab of the truck.

Our first stop after saying "good bye" to our compound was at the Imjin River's edge. We had to transport the trucks and personnel across the river via M Boat (LCM). Our M boat had two operators. While we were waiting to cross we broke out one of the tea cans to drink a "good bye" toast with them. This was the first time we sampled the Apple Jack. I must say it was primo.

Transporting all the trucks (I don't remember how many there were) and personnel took a long time, so we were able to put the Apple Jack to the full test. Our next stop was a brief one. It seems we were speeding and got pulled



over by two MPs. The speed limit, as I remember it, was

Jerry Williams's location

35 mph. I never saw a paved road anywhere in Korea, so 35 mph was a stretch.

After we had a brief, but happy, conversation with the MPs they offered to escort us into Seoul. The rest of the trip from Seoul to Battalion Headquarters was uneventful, but we were some very tired puppies when we arrived.

I must point out one thing. We were never drunk per se. The Apple Jack would be comparable to drinking wine. It just gave us a warm and happy feeling! Some people might think drinking any alcohol at the time was not a good way to celebrate the July 27th cease fire. Let's be realistic. That's what Marines do!

Jerry Williams, 9891 Sunday Place, Windsor, CA 95492, 707-483-0714

Were the Chinese involved in the Korean War earlier than thought?

This item appeared in the Sept. 7, 1950 *Milwaukee Journal*, Milwaukee, WI, p. 3: "Nationalist China's T. F. Tsiang charged that two Chinese Communist divisions are now fighting on the side of North Korea.

"He identified the divisions as the 164th and 166th Chinese Red divisions from Manchuria and said they were fighting as the 5th and the 6th North Korea divisions."

Any truth to that?.....Editor

Careful What You Cut!

The KWVA recently published the results of a four-question survey emailed to all departments and chapters regarding budgeted expense cuts. (See the President's comments on p. 3.) In total, nineteen chapters responded yes or no to each question with a simple checkmark. A few respondents submitted one or two additional comments.

Chapter #299, however, concerned about cutting too much and too deeply, added a response and rationale for each of the four questions which, in our opinion, need to be considered very carefully before any cuts are made.

As it turns out, our responses were notable in that they were directly opposite those of virtually every other chapter. We believe, however, the other respondents may have answered the way they did as a result of an earlier email from President Cunningham. In that email he projected the need to take immediate, strong, and decisive action to cut expenses, despite the fact the organization has over \$800,000 in its treasury.

Chapter #299 believes that, if adopted, the specific cuts put forward in the survey would diminish the morale, comradery, and vitality of the organization and start the KWVA down a slippery slope toward extinction.

Chapter #299 believes that none of the “cost cutting measures” will benefit the KWVA organization or membership.

In support of our position we submitted the following to President Cunningham in the hope that the KWVA will vote wisely on any cuts that may be approved.

Survey Questions 1-4

Chapter #299 believes that none of the “cost cutting measures” will benefit the KWVA organization or membership.

1. The current Board meetings, held twice a year, allow Board members to know each other personally and fraternally and promote mutual understanding, cooperation, and solidarity. A reduction to one Board meeting per year would estrange members from one another and invite isolation, suspicion, and division.

2. Reducing the number of directors from 9-7 would result in a reduction of active contributors to the organization and diminish the pool of candidates for committees and leadership positions.

3. Elimination of the 2nd Vice-President position would reduce the circle of discussion and collaboration among

decision makers, lend itself to myopic decisions, and increase the potential for autocratic administration.

4. Amending the By-laws to eliminate the prerogative of naming the outgoing President as Advisor to the Board is not sound, as history and perspective would be lost to the incoming President and Board members, without which history will undoubtedly repeat itself.

Chapter #299 has already submitted ideas for revenue generation to President Cunningham that we feel would meet any projected shortfall and negate the need for the proposed cuts suggested in the survey.

We believe the focus of the KWVA should be on new sources of revenue, while closely scrutinizing excesses and non-essential expenses across the organization.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of Chapter #299,

*Albert McCarthy, Adjutant, KWVA
Chapter #299, KWVA National 2nd Vice President*

Humor in Korea

This is one of a continuing series. It can only continue if members contribute their stories. Please send your “Humor in Korea” submissions to Arthur G. Sharp, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City, FL 33573. We can all use a laugh once in a while, just as

An “off-base” remark

Our battalion of the Fifth Marines was in reserve in June 1952, on the Kimpō Peninsula in Korea. Special Services had given us a couple of bats and a softball so we had regular games between the medical staff and the Marines. I was one of the battalion surgeons and had played quite a bit of ball over the years so I was the left fielder.

The other battalion surgeon didn't play

and never went to the games. We even had a coach, Chief Hospitalman Frank Zukowski, who took his job seriously and really wanted to win, to beat those cocky Marines. There was one corpsman who could pitch.

One day I was late for the game and was told what had happened. During the warm-up, the third baseman threw to first base but the ball went wild and hit the pitcher, who was warming up on the side-

lines, in the head. He was knocked unconscious. A couple of the corpsmen ran over and knelt down to evaluate him. The Chief also ran over.

One of the corpsmen looked up at the Chief and said, “Too bad the doc isn't here yet!”

The Chief said, “Why? He can't pitch!”
Priorities, priorities!

*Birney Dibble,
jbirneydibble5@gmail.com*



Be careful what you write

By Rego Barnett©

Letters were a big part of warfighters' lives during the Korean War. It was a way for them to communicate with the folks back home and to receive news of the happenings in the U.S. Sometimes, though, the contents of those letters, especially those written by the warfighter, could come back to bite them in the butt. Consider this letter from Lt. Richard E. Cronan Jr.,—yes, the same person for whom Chapter 17 is named—to his mother.

First, a little background on Lt. Cronan, one of 77 missing Connecticut warfighters from the Korean War.

Ironically, on June 25, 1950, the day the North Koreans launched their attack on their brothers and sisters to the south, Cronan, then a 2nd Lieutenant, received his orders to report to Hamilton Air Force Base, San Francisco, CA for jet fighter flying training. He was a member of the 78th Fighter Interceptor Wing then. It was quite a step up for Cronan, who had served as a radioman in the U.S. Navy before joining the Air Force.

The 24-year-old Cronan enlisted as an aviation cadet in Hartford, CT in early May 1949. He was in august company at the time. He joined along with two other local men, 20-year-old Ferdinand Muchelot, who served previously with the U.S. Merchant Marine, and Kenneth R. Hager. Muchelot enlisted originally as an aviation cadet, but by December of that year he was serving with the U.S. Army at Ft. Devens, MA. He was still in the United States as late as May 26, 1951, the day he was married.

One-time Marine Hager, enlisted in the Army for three years. He was assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division, Far East Command. Hager, who died on September 9, 1993, had a distinguished combat career in both services. During WWII he served with the 1st and 4th USMC Divisions. He earned a Silver Star and five Bronze Stars in the South Pacific for his valor—and he was wounded at Iwo Jima.

Hager was awarded two Presidential Unit Citations and a Purple Heart for his participation in the Korean War. His mother received a telegram in August 1950 informing her that Kenneth, who was 26 years old at the time, had been wounded in action. He returned to the U.S. on June 25, 1951 as part of the Army's rotation plan.

Cronan began his training with a six-month stint at Randolph Field in Texas in 1949. Then he went to Williams Air Base in Phoenix, AZ for another six months of jet fighter training with the "Fighting '50 Class." That's where Cronan was commissioned. He had spent time there as a cadet in 1949, and had enjoyed a Christmas visit to his home in Wethersfield, CT that year.

Eventually Cronan became an F-80 Shooting Star pilot. That was the plane he eventually died in, although he created a bit of



An F-80 "Shooting Star"



A Mikoyan-Gurevich MiG-15bis

On December 10, 1951 he [Lt. Richard Cronan] wrote a letter to his mother in which he told her his Shooting Star F-80 was "inferior and no match for the Russian MIG 15." He added, "But our boys have the fighting spirit. We have inferior aircraft over here and not enough equipment for the pilots."

a political stir first. On December 10, 1951 he wrote a letter to his mother in which he told her his Shooting Star F-80 was "inferior and no match for the Russian MIG 15." He added, "But our boys have the fighting spirit. We have inferior aircraft over here and not enough equipment for the pilots."

Cronan continued, "If the MIGS come down here, the 90s turn into them and put up a real scrap. I'm on pins and needles waiting to get a crack at them. Maybe it will be next week." It was two days later.

On December 12, 1951 Lt. Cronan's plane crashed, exploded, and turned over on a mountainside. The Air Force notified Mrs. Cronan that there was no sign of life or evidence that he had parachuted. Strangely enough his death was not reported in the *San Diego Union* until January 21, 1952, p. 9:

"An army private first class and an air force officer from National City were reported killed in action yesterday by the

Department of Defense. They are army Pfc. Elbert A. Condley... and First Lt. Richard E. Cronan....”

Cronan had been a hero of sorts just a few months earlier while stationed in Japan. On September 5, 1951 78 Japanese children from the Yokohama Christian School for the Blind visited Haneda Air Base in Tokyo to get a “look” at American warplanes. They may not have been able to see the aircraft but they explored it with their other senses. One paragraph describing the account in newspapers said:

“Lt. Richard Cronan of Weathersfield (sic) Conn., an F-80 shooting star pilot, showed the little visitors a real jet. He posed with them for pictures and put his parachute, oxygen mask and helmet on some of the grinning boys” (*Times-Picayune*, Sep 6, 1951, New Orleans, LA, p. 38). That was his day in the sun. It was eclipsed a few months later when his mother made his comments about the F-80 public.

The contents of Richard’s letter concerned Mrs. Cronan. Consequently she made the letter public. She explained, “I want

people to know about those inferior planes. Other of our boys are flying over there.” Naturally, such a revelation did not escape newspaper poobahs’ attention. The story went public.

The *Hartford Courant* headlined its December 20, 1951 story on p. 21 about the letter, “Cronan wrote the F-80 is inferior to Russian MIG jet.” The *Boston Daily Record* echoed the statement on p.20 of its article that same day, “Slain in His ‘Inferior’ Jet.” The *Stamford [CT] Advocate* titled its Dec. 19, 1951 page one story “Red Jets Better, Lost Flyer Wrote.” Such headlines could not have been pleasing to the U.S. military.

There is no telling what Lt. Cronan would have thought if he had known his comments had gone public. By the time they did he had become the first Connecticut fighter pilot killed in “MIG Alley.” But, there was a lesson in the chain of events for Korean War participants—and for their counterparts in ensuing wars and those to come: be careful what you write. You never know what might come back to haunt you. (Photos courtesy of the National Museum of the US Air Force)

Another treasure trove found

We received recently a package of photos and old, brittle copies of the *Tropic Lightning News* that drew smiles from the editorial staff. (Old and brittle also describes the editor.) This is the letter that accompanied the material:

“Attention - Arthur G. Sharp

“After the passing of my husband, I found a box of KWVA photographs and articles left behind by my brother in-law Harley Hotaling. He was one of the “Tropic Lightning News” editors from 1953-1955.

“Being an Army veteran myself, it is important, to me, to keep the stories alive. Some of the soldiers may still remember or have families who will recognize the pictures.

“I realize you are the Holiday Story Director, but I am hoping you will pass these on for future *Graybeards* exposure.

“Sincerely,

“Dixie Lee Hotaling, 2218 NE 90th St., Vancouver WA 98665, 360-910-8434, rebel2@comcast.net”

I blushing admit that I am like a kid with a new toy when such a package arrives. It supports my theory that there are other troves hidden in drawers, behind doors, under floors...I can only hope that when people find them they will send them to the proper repository, such as the KWVA editorial office, so we can share the contents with our members.

Who knows? Some of the people featured might be *Graybeards* readers who recognize themselves or the heroes with whom they served.

It doesn’t matter to which *Graybeards* editor the material is sent. This is a secret we share around the office. The *Graybeards*’ editorial staff consists of one person: Arthur G. Sharp. You may see other titles occasionally, e.g., Holiday Story Editor and Humor Editor, but they are all the same editor. So, no matter who you address tour material to it will get to the right person—as long as you send it to the right place, which is 2473

New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573.

Meanwhile, if you discover new treasures that might help fill our pages, send it to our office. We will be happy to archive and process it—no matter which editor it is assigned to. Henceforth we will reference stories and photos submitted by Dixie Lee Hotaling as “From the Hotaling Collection.”

We begin with a story about a Greek POW that was included in the October 24, 1953 edition of the *Tropic Lightning News*, p.7.

Greek Cook Ex-PW Returns to Battalion To Tell of ‘Tour’

HQ. U.S. 3D DIV, Korea, Oct. 22—A Greek infantryman-cook returned recently to his Greek Battalion from a month-long “guided tour” into enemy-occupied North Korea.

The soldier, Pvt. John Tsourapas, Volos, Greece, was captured while out on an ambush patrol for four days before the signing of the truce agreement.

His “tour,” conducted by his captors, included some “varied” and “interesting” places. He spent two hours in a frontline trench, half a night in a command-post cave, then took a three-day “hike” to a bunker. He was nine days in the bunker with two American and 13 Korean “guests.” There his guides conducted an entertaining, one-sided quiz program. They asked him lots of questions but got no answers.

It was in the bunker that he learned from his fellow “boarders” that the truce had been signed.

The next stop was a camp containing more American “tourists,” reached after a day’s truck ride. After 15 days in the camp he was brought to “Freedom Village,” where his free “tour” came to an end. When released he was met by Lt. Col. George Coumanakos, former Greek Battalion commander.

The next month, ex-tourist Tsourapas spent in the Tokyo Army Hospital recuperating from his rather strenuous “sightseeing.” He returned to his unit in Korea in late September to await rotation to his homeland.

Two presidents meet

Briefing by Senior Secretary to the President for Public Communication Yoon Do Han
Coordinated Read-Out of the ROK-US Summit, 4/11/2019

President Moon Jae-in and First Lady Kim Jung-Sook expressed gratitude to President Donald J. Trump and First Lady Melania Trump for the invitation and warm hospitality during their visit to Washington D.C. on April 10-11.

President Moon and President Trump shared the same view on how to achieve the common goal of complete denuclearization and lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula.

President Moon praised and supported President Trump's resolve to seek a final and peaceful solution to the Korean issue with a bold, visionary leadership.

In particular, President Moon emphasized that President Trump's initiative to engage Chairman Kim Jong Un through

two summits played a critical role in achieving progress thus far, including DPRK's maintaining moratorium on nuclear and missile tests.

President Trump expressed his deep appreciation to President Moon's leading role in creating a favorable environment for the final, fully verified denuclearization by easing military tensions and improving inter-Korean relations.

The two Presidents agreed that the top-down approach will continue to be indispensable in the peace process on the Korean Peninsula. In this regard, President Trump stressed that the door was always open for dialogue with Chairman Kim. President Moon explained his plan to have another inter-Korean summit soon and reiterated his commitment to working closely with President Trump to make the next US-DPRK summit another milestone in the denuclearization talks.

The two Presidents took note of the historic significance of the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Provisional Government of Korea and reconfirmed their commitment to further strengthening ROKUS alliance, the linchpin of peace and security on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia.

President Moon and President Trump discussed the recent devastating wildfires in the ROK's northeastern province and President Trump commended the bravery of Korean first responders, whose heroic efforts saved countless lives.

President Moon expressed his appreciation for the contributions made by the US Forces in Korea in fighting the wildfires, a display of solidarity of the ROK-US alliance.

President Moon invited President Trump to visit the ROK in the near future, and President Trump thanked him for the invitation.

'Mighty Mo' gets stamp of approval

The Postal Service recently announced it's going to issue a stamp for the famous World War II battleship *USS Missouri*:

"The U.S. Postal Service celebrates the *USS Missouri* (BB-63) with a Forever stamp. The famed American battleship is being honored to coincide with the 75th anniversary of her commissioning on June 11, 1944. The battleship was affectionately nicknamed "Mighty Mo," and had one of the most historic roles during World War II. On Sept. 2, 1945, military officials from the Allied powers and imperial Japan convened on her deck and signed the documents confirming Japan's surrender and ending the war.

"The stamp art depicts *Missouri* from a low vantage point almost at sea level, cutting through the water at a moderate speed commensurate with entering or leaving port. Large and imposing in the frame, *Missouri* is shown in the disruptive camouflage she wore from her commissioning until a refit in early 1945. Clouds loom in the background, tinged with gold and rose from the sun's rays.



"Designed by art director Greg Breeding, the stamp features a digital illustration created by Dan Cosgrove.

"The *USS Missouri* stamp is being issued as a Forever stamp and will always be equal in value to the current First-Class Mail 1-ounce price.

"Customers may purchase stamps and other philatelic products through the Postal Store at usps.com/shop, by calling 800-STAMP24 (800-782-6724), by mail through USA Philatelic or at Post Office locations nationwide.

The battleship was affectionately nick-

named "Mighty Mo," and had one of the most historic roles during World War II, Korea, and the Persian Gulf conflict."

On Sept. 2, 1945, military officials from the Allied powers and imperial Japan convened on her deck and signed the documents confirming Japan's surrender and ending the war.

I'm sure your readers would find this interesting since millions of people around the world were impacted by the war

David P. Coleman, Public Relations Representative, U.S. Postal Service, Headquarters, Washington DC, 202-268-3612, david.p.coleman@usps.gov

Editor's office hours

Editor Sharp's office hours, such as they are, are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST, Monday-Friday. He is not an employee of the KWVA, so his hours vary.

2019 FUNDRAISER

KOREAN WAR/KOREA DEFENSE VETERANS ASSOCIATION



FREEDOM IS NOT FREE

SIX PRIZE WINNERS



KWVA COINS - \$5.50 + postage

KWVA COINS - \$5.50 + postage

1ST PRIZE / 2ND PRIZE / 3RD PRIZE / 4TH PRIZE / 5TH PRIZE / 6TH PRIZE

\$1,500 / \$1,000 / \$1,000 / \$1,000 / \$500 / \$500

WE NEED YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT - IF YOU DO NOT WANT THE CASH PRIZE, PUT YOUR CHAPTER NUMBER AND YOUR MEMBER NUMBER. THE CHAPTER MIGHT WIN. ALL DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED— AND THERE ARE ZERO ADMINISTRATION COSTS FOR THE ASSOCIATION.

Our 2019 fundraiser goal is \$70,000. With every member's support, it is a reasonable goal. Unfortunately, our expenses have increased at a time when we are losing members due to health reasons. So, we definitely need your help now more than ever. Happily, the odds of winning are higher in your favor than are those in state lotteries. And, every dollar goes to support our great Graybeards Magazine and ongoing operating costs.

Many members have had free dues or have not had to pay for 15 – 20 years. The \$150 Life dues paid has long been used up just sending The Graybeards. Please consider making a donation to support the fundraiser. If you do not wish to participate, please make a donation instead. Mark the donation "Fundraiser," so it can be earmarked properly.

Please consider purchasing additional tickets, if you can, to help us reach the goal of \$70,000. It cannot happen without membership support. If you do not want the prize donate it to your chapter or department by the chapter name or number, but include your member number. Again, I THANK all the members who have participated in the past. It is greatly appreciated.

If you go to the website KWVA.us you will find many new items available for purchase: shirts, pins, patches, reduced prices on all challenge coins, caps and more. Rose of Sharon bulk sales also help chapters raise money for their expenses.

This is our organization. Please help keep it strong.

Always Remember: "FREEDOM IS NOT FREE"

Thomas McHugh, Director

Chairman, Fund Raiser Committee



2019 FUNDRAISER



1950-1954

"Freedom Is Not Free"



1954-Present



KOREAN WAR / KOREA DEFENSE VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Winners to be drawn on November 1st 2019 at KWVA HQ. Donation \$20 for each ticket. To enter this fundraiser, complete the attached forms. Winners will be announced on www.KWVA.us, in the Graybeards and by phone.

Deadline for receipt of tickets / donations will be October 25th, 2019

Super Cash Prizes!

1st Prize	2nd Prize	3rd Prize	4th Prize	5th Prize	6th Prize
\$1500	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$500	\$500



SIX ALL CASH PRIZES SIX HAPPY MEMBERS
This (ALL CASH DRAWING) will allow the winners to: Enjoy life.
Go on vacation. Buy a rifle. Fix a car. Get an item of your choice.

Most importantly, SUPPORT THE KWVA

For more tickets, copy or go to www.KWVA.US For applications click "HOW TO JOIN" link

KWVA INC. Korea War and Korea Defense Veterans

Thomas Mc Hugh, Director Chairman Fundraiser Committee Contact : tmchugh@msn.com

Make check payable to: KWVA or Pay by Credit Card ☐ Visa ☐ Master Card

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date ____/____ V-Code _____

You need not tear the page out of the Graybeards magazine. You may copy the page and send tickets with your payment to: KWVA Membership Office, P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407

Return this ticket with donation of \$20

Name: _____ Address: _____
City, State, ZIP: _____ Phone: _____
Email: _____ Membership No: _____

Return this ticket with donation of \$20

Name: _____ Address: _____
City, State, ZIP: _____ Phone: _____
Email: _____ Membership No: _____

Return this ticket with donation of \$20

Name: _____ Address: _____
City, State, ZIP: _____ Phone: _____
Email: _____ Membership No: _____

Return this ticket with donation of \$20

Name: _____ Address: _____
City, State, ZIP: _____ Phone: _____
Email: _____ Membership No: _____

Return this ticket with donation of \$20

Name: _____ Address: _____
City, State, ZIP: _____ Phone: _____
Email: _____ Membership No: _____

Return this ticket with donation of \$20

Name: _____ Address: _____
City, State, ZIP: _____ Phone: _____
Email: _____ Membership No: _____

The National Museum of the U. S. Army Nears Completion

By Tim Stoy

The United States Army built America. From achieving our independence to our vast territorial expansion and to the development of the extensive infrastructure network which serves as the nation's vascular system, the Army played a leading role in these areas and more which have made our country great. In a very real way, our country is a museum to the United States Army. Yet it may be difficult to believe but the United States Army does not have its own national museum!

Many readers will say that isn't possible, they have visited an Army museum. You very well may have, at any of our Army bases around the country, such as Fort Benning. These are wonderful museums but they are not the National Army museum. Their mission is to use history to motivate our soldiers. The National Museum of the United States Army being erected in Fairfax County, Virginia, outside of Fort Belvoir, has an entirely different mission: to educate the American public and other visitors about the Army's tremendous contributions to the nation, tell the stories of the nation's soldiers, and inspire Americans to support the Army.

The museum, which will be easily accessible from Interstate 95 or US Route 1 via the Fairfax County Parkway, is appropriately located close to Mount Vernon, the home of George Washington, the Army's first Commanding General! The museum will be easily accessible with no entrance gate.

The museum is expected to open in June 2020. It will exhibit artifacts from the Army's extensive collection of historic items from the entire breadth of the nation's history. Children will have experiential learning opportunities, veterans a wonderful facility for reunions and meetings, and the public a fantastic resource for learning about its Army and the great men and women who served in it. Additionally the Military District of Washington will use the parade ground for ceremonies open to the American public throughout the year.



In front of the U.S. Army Campaign Wall with Director LTG Roger Schultz and BG Creighton Abrams Executive Director

A wonderful feature in the museum and on the foundation's website is the Registry of the American Soldier. An Army veteran can fill out their registry entry on line, which can later be accessed on line by interested persons and by visitors at one of the kiosks in the museum's lobby. Tens of millions of Americans have served in the Army, and every one of them deserves to have their story told.

The museum's opening will be the culmination of many years of hard work. Congress initially authorized construction of a museum way back in 1814. The Army Historical Foundation was established in 1983 for the express purpose of raising the necessary funds for the museum's construction. Even with the opening of the

museum in 2020 the Foundation will continue its crucial fundraising role as it will be running the museum store, café, and the theater.

The museum will be run by the Army as the owner of all the artifacts. Each exhibit has been developed with oversight by the Army's Center of Military History to most effectively tell the Army's story.

For more information I recommend that readers visit the Army Historical Foundation's (AHF) website: www.army-history.org. Should you wish to support the museum you can become a member of AHF, buy a brick honoring your or a family member's service, and/or donate. Our great Army deserves a great museum and deserves our support!



From the left, Sergeant Major of the Army, retired, Ken Preston, AHF Membership Chairman, Monika Stoy holding example of AHF Brick, and AHF Executive Director Creighton Abrams

The Where, When, and Why of the Korean War

Tell America

20 – HAWAII #1 [HI]

On April 11, 2019, we made a presentation to about 200 ROTC students in separate groups at Farrington High School in Honolulu. The presenters were James “Ace” Kaleohano, Sam Belen, and Moses Pakaki.

Stan Fujii, Stan_Fujii@hotmail.com



James “Ace” Kaleohano, Sam Belen and Moses Pakaki of Ch. 20, LtCol David A. Carlson, Senior Army Instructor, and assistant instructor 1stSgt Efen H. Aguilar at Honolulu presentation

James “Ace” Kaleohano of Ch. 20 answers questions from students at Farrington High school



24 – CHARLES PARLIER [IL]

President Orval Mechling, Treasurer Wayne Semple, and Secretary Bill Hanes held a Tell America presentation at Hartsburg-Emden High School on 15 March 2019 for 1 class, 1 teacher and 15 students.

On March 26th Orval Mechling, Dave Mayberry, and Gene Howell did a presentation at Warrensburg High School, Warrensburg, IL for 2 classes, 2 teachers, and 46 students.

Orval Mechling, Dave Mayberry, and Bill Hanes presented a program at Maroa Forsyth High School, Maroa, IL, on 7 May 2019 to 1 class, 1 teacher and 72 students.

On April 3, Orval Mechling, Dave Mayberry, and Gene Howell made a presentation at Meridian High School, Macon, IL before 2 teachers, 2 classes and 48 students.

On April 9, Orval Mechling and Gene Howell spoke at Decatur Christian School, Forsyth, IL before 2 teachers, 2 classes and 17 students.

On April 11, William Hanes, Dave Mayberry and Gene Howell made a presentation at Sangamon Valley High School, Niantic, IL before 8 teachers, 5 classes and 138 students.

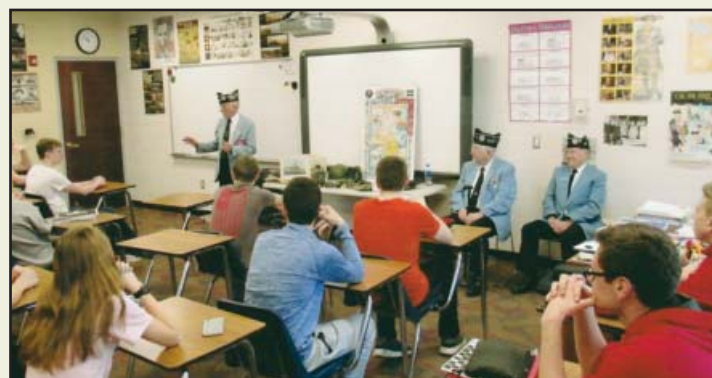
William Hanes, Secretary, williamhanes@att.net



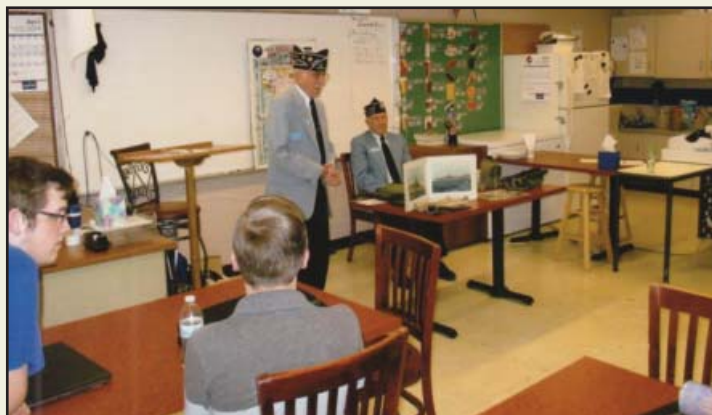
Left, Orval Mechling of Ch. 24 at Hartsburg-Emden High School



Below, Wayne Semple of Ch. 24 speaks at Hartsburg-Emden High School



Orval Mechling, Dave Mayberry, and Gene Howell of Ch. 24 at Warrensburg High School



Orval Mechling and Gene Howell of Ch. 24 at Decatur Christian School

55 – NASSAU #1 [NY]

Buddy Epstein visited Oceanside High School, Oceanside, NY to give students a history lesson about the Korean War and to share his experiences in it and what it is like to be in combat.

Three days later he received 45 letters of thanks from the students.

Robert O'Brien, 408 5th Ave., Cedarhurst, NY 11516



Buddy Epstein of Ch. 55 at Oceanside High School

66 - CPL ALLAN F. KIVLEHAN [NY]

Tony Ferrantino, Pat Scarpato, and Lou Tirone represented the chapter this year. They spoke at approximately 25 schools and to many Boy Scout troops. In addition to the Korean War they stress to the students their responsibility to become good citizens and to follow the guidelines of their parents and teachers and to recognize and appreciate the sacrifices made by our military and veterans.

George E. Parsons, 56 Boyce Ave., Staten Island, NY 10306, 718-667-8052, George.KayParsons@yahoo.com



Tony Ferrantino, Pat Scarpato, and Lou Tirone (L-R), Ch. 66's presenters

297 – PLATEAU [TN]

Members visited Stone Memorial High School in Crossville, TN and presented an extensive program of their involvement in the Korean War to an enthusiastic group of students.

Dick Maslak, kaslam2001@yahoo.com



Cmdr Gene Stone of Ch. 297 introduces the program at Stone Memorial High School

Dale Koestler of Ch. 297 focuses on a map of Korea and what happened, where during his tour and the entire conflict during presentation



Gene Ferris of Ch. 297 (L) supplements Dale Koestler's info of their involvement in the Korean War



Students, faculty, and Ch. 297 members at Stone Memorial High School

Ch. 321 goes all out to raise funds for Wall of Remembrance

The members of Ch. 321, Richard L. Quartier, Vancouver, WA have sponsored a significant fundraising drive under the direction of Edward L. Barnes to raise money for the Korean War Memorial Wall of Remembrance (WOR) to honor the 36,574 U.S. warfighters killed in action during The Korean War.

The components of the program are outlined below. Many, but not all, of them are illustrated in the accompanying collage. The participants enlisted the aid of U.S. congress members, Clark County (in which the chapter is located), unions, private citizens...even one local Catholic school donated its pennies. As a result, the drive netted \$48,603.12 for the WOR fund—a sum that has risen since this article was submitted (see the updated figure below).

“We are hoping to encourage other chapters to adopt some of our steps in addition to their own,” Edward Barnes said. “We know other chapters have built memorials and monuments on behalf of their fallen veterans; we have to. But we would like to see the 36,574 KIAs’ names be remembered in Washington D.C., as are their brethren on the Vietnam Wall. This would be spectacular.”

Here are samples of a few of the people and organizations Ch. 321 approached and the results in some cases:

1. Letter to U.S. Senators Cantwell and Murray of the State of Washington, with signatures of 49 veterans sent on January 20 2016 asking for their support for bill S1982

2. Our donation letter for the wall with 32 signatures of Korean War veterans

3. Pictures of the bronze medallion that was sent to us from the South Korean Consul General for our help in the passing of Bill S1982

4. Pictures of Senator Cantwell with the proclamation that was signed by Barack Obama on October 7, 2016. She also presented the proclamation to the South Korean Society of SW Washington.

5. A list of donations and members’ donations and a facsimile of a check for \$48,603.12

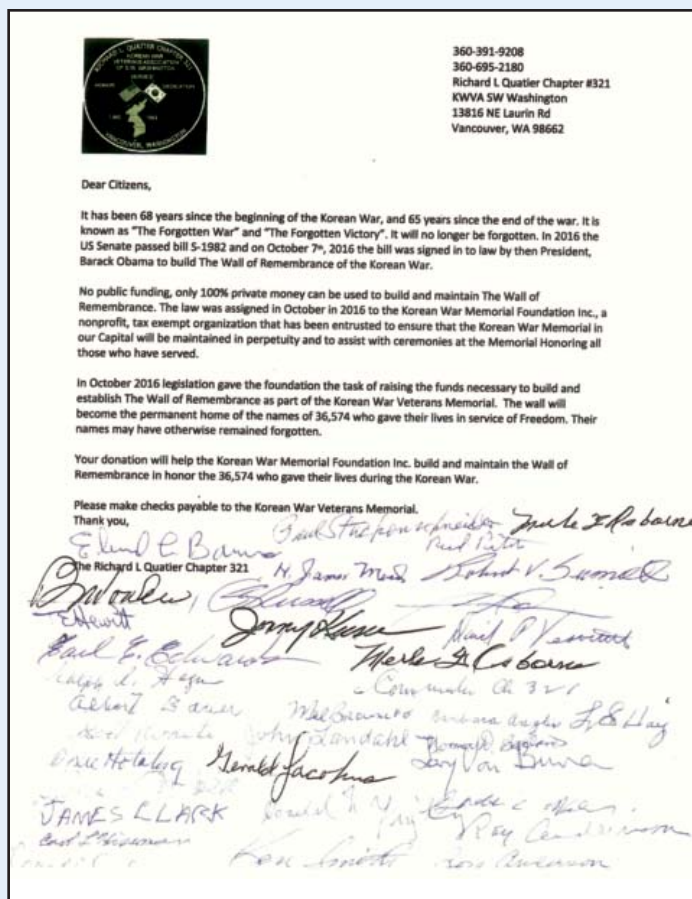
6. Pictures of the St. Joseph’s School Children donating \$1,555.12 for the WOR from their penny drive for one month

7. A proclamation by the Clark County Council in support of the Wall of Remembrance

8. A Columbian News article and a Truman Neighborhood Association meeting for donations

9. A letter asking for support for the Wall of Remembrance sent to the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the National Electrical Contractors Association in Washington D.C.

We were extremely pleased to accept a donation from the students at Saint Joseph’s School in Vancouver, Washington. They raise money each year during Catholic Schools Week in their annual Penny Drive. This year, after reading in the Columbian Newspaper about Ed Barnes and his efforts to raise money for a Wall of Remembrance for the Korean War Memorial in



Solicitation letter to citizens, signed by Ch. 321 members

Washington D.C., the 8th grade students decided to put the proceeds from the Penny Drive towards this worthwhile cause.

The school and its staff and families raised \$1,555.12. Mr. Barnes visited the school on March 8, 2019 to accept the check. He and his veteran colleagues were greeted by the principal, Mrs. LaRose, and the entire student body during an assembly in the gym. That was, to say the least, a heartwarming time for them.

Incidentally, several chapter members went on the honor flight from Washington State to Washington D.C., where they observed many people, including parents, grandparents and children, taking pictures by the Vietnam Wall, pointing to people’s names, and tracing them on paper. “We would like to see the same practice in effect at our Korean War Wall of Remembrance,” said Mr. Barnes.

“We have now sent \$49,245.12 to the committee in D.C.,” he concluded. “With any luck we will send more which, added to other chapters’ donations, will help us realize our fundraising goal.”

If you have any questions, comments, etc., please contact Edward L Barnes at 360-695-2180 or write to him at 4009 NE 50th Ave., Vancouver, WA 98661

EDITOR’S ADDENDUM: As the old saying goes, “every little bit helps.” The editor of The Graybeards donates to the WOR

Of Remembrance

Wall of Remembrance

An open letter to International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; Lonnie Stevenson and David Long, President of The National Electrical Contractors Association.

It has been 68 years since the Korean War started and 65 years since the end of that War. There was 36,574 Americans killed at a rate of 1,000 per month. Since the end of the Korean War, there has been a Korean War Veterans Foundation incorporated. This foundation was started as a nonprofit, tax exempt organization, entrusted with the responsibility to ensure that the Korean War Memorial in our Nationals Capital will be built. It will be called the Wall of Remembrance, similar to the Vietnam Wall; where the names of the 36,574 will be placed who died protecting our country.

Legislation was passed in 2016 and signed by then President, Barack Obama. It can only be funded with 100% private financing.

The purpose of this letter is asking the National Electrical Contractors Association and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers as two prominent national organizations to ask them to notify all the national IBEW local unions and the NECA organizations to help raise the funds that will be necessary to build The Wall of Remembrance as a way to say thank you to the Korean Veterans who died and to the families that lost their loved ones in the defense of freedom. The two organizations can show how joint labor management works and set an example for others do to likewise. It should not be 65 years before this is done.

In December of 2015, I was elected the commander of the Richard L. Quatier Chapter 321 and I drafted a letter to Senators Cantwell and Murray asking for the US Senators to pass Bill S-1982 and in January I took this letter to the Richard L. Quatier chapter meeting to ask for their approval so send this letter to the senators. At the January meeting, Bob Summerall asked if it would be alright if the 47 members in attendance that day to sign the letter as well, and is said Yes. The letter was mailed by special delivery to Senators Cantwell and Murray.

After sending the letter to the two senators' offices, I waited and waited for what seemed like forever. After about 2 months, the Chief of Staff for Senator Cantwell called me. She called me and let me know they had the letter and that the staff was reviewing the letter and would present it to the Senate Committee that handles monuments and memorials. After another month, she called me again and said the committee had reviewed the letter and were going to recommend passing the bill to the full senate for a vote for The Wall of Remembrance.

I didn't hear anything for quite some time and then received a call letting me know that it had passed with a unanimous vote and that in the near future, that President Barack Obama would sign the bill in to law. This happened on October 7th, 2016. After that, a few weeks went by and I received a phone call from the Council General of Korean Embassy in Seattle, WA. They informed me that I would receive a medallion thanking us for our work of getting the senate bill passed and signed by The President. I told them I could not accept the medallion and that it needed to be presented to the Richard L. Quatier Chapter and the 47 individuals that signed the letter.

Clark County, WA Proclamation

Fund 10% of the purchase price of two books he authored when copies are ordered directly from him. That amounts to \$2.00 for each copy of "Atomic Cannons and Nuclear Weapons: A Mystery of the Korean War" and \$1.20 for each copy of "Joey, the Street Fox of Newark." To date sales have generated over \$250.00 for the WOR Fund, a paltry sum compared to what Ch. 321 has raised, but helpful nonetheless.

"Atomic Cannons and Nuclear Weapons: A Mystery of the Korean War" discusses the impact of the M-65 atomic cannon during the Korean War. The cannon was never deployed to Korea, but it had a psychological effect as an inducement to get the communists to the negotiating table.

"Joey, the Street Fox of Newark," is the true tale of a young man growing up practically alone on the streets of Newark, New Jersey at the age of nine. He lived mainly by his wits, and preferred the streets to his home for obvious reasons. Joey was born out of wedlock and relegated to foster homes until his step-grandfather "kidnapped" him. After he returned home his alcoholic father made his life a living hell by sexually, physically, and psychologically abusing him

Right above, Ch. 321 roster; below, List of donators to Ch. 321's WOR fund

Please turn to WALL on page 52

Korean War Veterans Association Chapter #321 Vancouver

Richard L. Quatier of Southwest Washington

RAYMOND B. ANDERSON	USAF	HAROLD R. OLSON	USN
BARBARA A. ANGLIN	USA	MERLE F. OSBORNE	USA
EDWARD L. BARNES ✱	USA	ROBERT (BOB) PEAKE	USN
ALBERT BAUER ✱	USN	MARY LOU PEAKE	NAVY WIFE
ROY H. BILLINGS	USA	RICHARD PITSCH	USA
MELVIN E. BROWNLEE	USAF	CLIFFORD A. PLUARD	USA
ROBERT L. BUE	USA	CLIFFORD C. RICHARD	USN
DONALD P. CABE	USMC	GENE B. RUSSELL	USN
WILLIAM V. COOKSON	USA	LOUIS SCHNELL	USA
NORMAN V. COONS	USA	KENNETH F. SMITH	USMC
FRANK W. CORY	USA	WELBY C. SPAINHOWER	USA
GENE W. (BILL) DAVIDSON	USA	EDWARD L. SPRAGUE JR.	USN
DENNIS L. DUNNE	USA	PAUL F. STUCKENSCHNEIDER	USA
EARL E. EDWARDS ✱	USAF	ROBERT V. SUMRILL ✱	USA
RALPH R. HAGER ✱	USN	WALTER F. THEIL	USA
LYLE E. HAY	USAF	TERRILL L. VAN BUREN	USA
ED T.E. HEWITT ✱	USN	KENNETH L. VILES (POW)	USA
CARL L. HISSMAN	USA	DAVID VESOWATE	USAF
DIXIE L. HOTALING	USA	WALLY J. WAINWRIGHT	USA
GERALD W. JACOBUS	USN	ROBERT A. WHITE ✱	USN
BYUNG J. JI	KOREAN REP	GARETH A. WILSON	USA
JERRY L. KEESEE	USAF	BOBBY D. WORDEN	USN
JOHN M. LANDAHL ✱	USA	MORRIS E. GIESLER ✱	USAF
JAMES H. MEAD ✱	USN	LARRY J. SMITH	USA
JOE OLIN	USAF		

✱ Officer

Korean War Memorial Donations

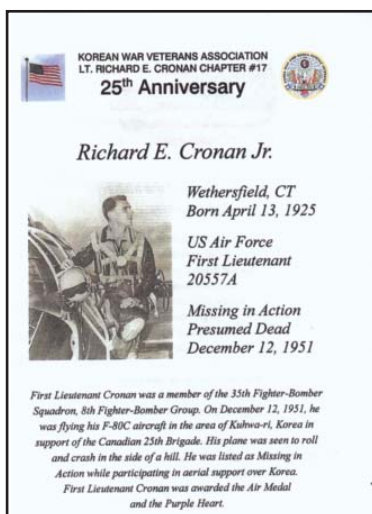
DONUT NOOK, PHILIP AND SUSAN FLETT POMEROY, VANCOUVER, WA
AMERICAN LEGION SMITH RENTALS POST 14
40 ET 8 VETERANS ASSOCIATION
MICHAEL E. KELLY, VANCOUVER, WA
PAUL N. MONTAGUE III, VANCOUVER, WA
KRISTINA M. & JIMMY D. SCHABERG, VANCOUVER, WA
BRADY S. BARNES, VANCOUVER, WA
BRUCE BARNES
BRIAN BARNES
ROBERT M. SCHAEFER P.C.
BEN HOANG INSURANCE AGENCY, VANCOUVER, WA
BUTCHER BOYS, VANCOUVER, WA
SIGNS & MORE, VANCOUVER, WA
JAMES RUBLE, VANCOUVER, WA
HIHB GAS CO. LLC, HANDY ANDY
LABOR ROUNDTABLE OF SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON
LABORERS INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA
LACAMAS INSURANCE SERVICES, AMANDA BOAL-BENNET, CAMAS, WA
ROYCE E. POLLARD AND POLLARD FAMILY TRUST, MARGARET & WILLIAM POLLARD
KOREAN WAR VETERANS OF S.W. WA. CHAPTER 321
COLUMBIA PACIFIC BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION, TRADE COUNCIL, PORTLAND, OR
NORTHWEST OREGON LABOR COUNCIL, PORTLAND, OR
SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL
THE COMMUNITY MILITARY APPRECIATION COMMITTEE (CMAC) VANCOUVER, WA
BARNES-ALLISON LABOR MANAGEMENT COOP COMMITTEE, PORTLAND, OR
IBEW LOCAL NO. 48, PORTLAND, OR
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, WASHINGTON D.C.
ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL (JAMES A. BARBIERI)
OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 701
DISTRICT LODGE W24
IATSE LOCAL 488
BCTGM LOCAL 114
ELEVATOR CONSTRUCTORS LOCAL 23
A.F.G.E. LOCAL 2157
WILLAMETTE LODGE NO. 63
ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL 125
PORTLAND FEDERATION OF SCHOOL PROFESSIONALS LOCAL 111
TEAMSTERS UNION 223
UFCW LOCAL 555
BEAVER LODGE #1432 IAMAW
RONALD A. FIGLAR-BARNES

FEATURED CHAPTER

17 LT RICHARD E. CRONAN [FL]

Chapter 17 celebrates 25th anniversary

We celebrated our 25th anniversary in Delray Beach, FL. The luncheon at Benvenuto's Restaurant in Boynton Beach was attended by more than 80 members and guests. The featured speaker was Donna Katen Bahensky, who is the Administrator of the Veteran's Association Hospital in West Palm Beach, FL, one of the largest in the U.S. The facility has a reputation as one of the finest.



Front page of Ch. 17's anniversary program

The welcome address was

BELOW: Mrs. & Dr. Young Lee, an honorary member of Ch. 17, and Jerry Gerson and Mrs. Gerson (L-R) at anniversary observation



Pam Mitchell (L) and husband Dave Michaels with Ch. 17 anniversary cake

Stan and Jane Gavlick enjoy Ch. 17 festivities



given by Chapter Commander Stanley Gavlick. Mike Trim, news anchor at WPTV Channel 5 (NBC), served as the Master of Ceremonies. Musical entertainment included "The Star Spangled Banner" and a rousing rendition of "God Bless the USA," performed by Atlantic City and Las Vegas performing artists "Michaels & Mitchell." Our good friend and neighbor Joshua Ho sang the Korean national anthem.



Donna Katen Bahensky addresses Ch. 17 audience

Commander Stan Gavlick of Ch. 17 welcomes members and guests to luncheon



Emcee Mike Trim speaks at Ch. 17 event



Joshua Ho sings Korean national anthem at Ch. 17 gathering

Former Commander Herb Dareff, a Bronze Star recipient, recognized new member Cpl. Jerry Gerson, also a Bronze Star recipient. Herb read the biography of Lt. Richard E. Cronan, Jr., MIA 12/12/1951.

Everyone had a wonderful time.

Neil Mitchell, np12181@gmail.com

12 CAPTAIN PAUL N. DILL #2 [DE]

At the Korean War Monument in New Castle, DE some Delaware KWVA members hosted a visit from Hannah Kim on July 20, 2018. Ms. Kim had been touring many states to raise awareness of the funding shortfall which has kept a Wall of Remembrance from being built at the Korean War Memorial in Washington, D.C.



ABOVE: Dave Torrens, Hannah Kim, Nick Schroeder, Ed Johnson, and Frank Davidson (L-R) at Delaware memorial



Four busy members of Chapter #2 Cpt. Paul N. Gill of Wilmington, Delaware
Passing out the Rose of Sharon and receiving donations.



L to R : Leroy R. Rutter, John W. Day, Dave Torrens, Franklin H. Davidson. 3/16/19



Members of Ch. 12 riding (on the right side of trailer) in the May 20, 2018 Armed Forces Day Parade in Newark, DE: Alfred Lawler, Al Barker, David Torrens, Nancy Russel and Charles Young (L-R)

Several times each year we participate in local parades, one of which was the May 20, 2018 Armed Forces Day Parade.

We held a Rose of Sharon fundraiser inside the New Castle, DE Farmer's Market on March 16, 2019.

Charles D. Young, 1002 Sandburg Pl., Newark, DE 19702,
302-365-9390 (Home), 302-981-0576 (Cell),
Youngwoodcreech@cmcast.net

13 BILL CARR CHAPTER 1 [DE]

Happy 90th birthday, Cpl. Hugh K. Breckenridge, a local hero!



Walter R. Koopman, Ch. 13 Programs Chairman and past member of the 25th Infantry Division (L), Hugh Breckenridge (C), and Rosely Robinson, who operates an organization that honors local veterans, A HERO'S WELCOME DELAWARE, at birthday party

In celebration of life for a remarkable 'old soldier' we were able to present Hugh K. Breckenridge with mementos of his past service in Korea in 1950. He was surprised by most of his family,

including his daughter, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, at the Delaware Veterans' Home in Milford DE.

Cpl. Breckenridge saw action with the 25th Infantry Division, 35th Infantry Regiment, Co. D near Taegu when he was wounded by enemy fire and subsequently lost his left eye. He earned the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Purple Heart, the National Defense Medal, the Korean Service Medal, the United Nations Medal, the ROK Presidential Unit Citation, and the Expert Sharpshooter Medal.

Cpl. Breckenridge received honorary coins from the chapter and certificates of honor from the HERO'S WELCOME employees.

It was a great day for all!

Jack McGinley, 302-945-0698, jomcgini@aol.com

19 GEN. RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

Our April meeting, held at the Korean Community Center, was sponsored by POSCO, an international Korean steel corporation. The food was again prepared by Korean Inter-Marriage Women's Association (KIMWA) and was served by several POSCO employees.

Our guest speaker was Ms. Sue Ver Hoef of the Atlanta History Center (AHC). Ms. Ver Hoef explained the AHC program of recording a veteran's military experiences. The CD is then sent to Washington for filing in the National Archives, which maintains CDs for future references. Each veteran is given a copy of the CD and can have additional copies made should he/she want to give them to his/her ancestors.

Ms. Ver Hoef also invited us to tour the AHC. The Center has undergone extensive remodeling, including relocating the Cyclorama from its former location in Grant's Park to the AHC.

Our second event, on Friday, April 12th, was held at the Atlanta Veterans Administration Center in Decatur, GA. The ceremony was jointly sponsored by the Korean Consulate of Atlanta, POSCO America, and the Georgia Department of Veterans Services (GDVS).



Commissioner Mike Roby of the GA Dept. of Veterans affairs presents Certificate of Honor to Tony Clark of Ch. 19, with Kevin Kim, President of POSCO on right



Consul-General Mr. Young-Jun Kim presents Ambassador for Peace Medal to Tony Clark (L) of Ch. 19

Each Korean veteran was given the Korean War Veterans Certificate of Honor awarded by the State of Georgia and presented by Mr. Mike Roby, Commissioner of the GDVS and signed by Governor Brian Kemp. The Ambassador for Peace Medal was presented by Mr. Young-jun Kim of the Korean consulate.

Mr. Kevin Kim, President of POSCO America, presented a Korean Veteran's Honor Plate. This beautiful plaque was designed by POSCO and made using its steel and lithographing processes. It is designed so it can be attached and displayed at the entrance of our homes.



Sue Ver Hoef explains the AHC Veterans recording program to Ch. 19 gathering



President Norman Board of Ch. 19 in front of AHC PowerPoint display explaining recording program



Employees of POSCO serve food prepared by the ladies of KIMWA at Ch. 10 meeting

Afterwards refreshments were served by the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), American Legion Auxiliary, and the VFW Auxiliary.

Both events were well attended. Our June meeting was at the Petite Violette.

Urban G. Rump, Secretary/Treasurer, 234 Orchards Cir., Woodstock, GA 30188, 678-402-1251, ugrcr@comcast.net

27 SANGAMON COUNTY [IL]

Hannah Kim visited us at the Springfield, IL Korean War Memorial in June 2018. There was a large crowd in attendance, including several people from the Korean community. VFW Post 755, Springfield, IL, provided the flag bearers.

Rex Berry, 2601 Montvale Dr. APT 310, Springfield, IL 62704, 217-971-4420, r.berry1212@comcast.net

Have a Mini-Reunion?

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

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 5 doz. @ \$15 plus \$7.90 S/H.
- ☐ Minimum order is 20 doz. @ \$55 plus \$14.35 S/H.
- ☐ Orders for 21 to 100 doz. @ \$2.75/doz. plus \$19.95 S/H
- ☐ Order for 400 doz. or more @ \$2.25/doz. plus Shipping

Write or call: Sheila Fritts, PO Box 407
Charleston, IL 61920-0407
Phone: 217-345-4414
Email: membership@kwva.us
Make Checks payable to: KWVA



Sam Montalbano, Wendell Koke, Hannah Kim, Illinois State Commander Frank Searfoss, Ivan Maras, Ch. 27 Commander Rex Berry, Dick Zanetello, and Ken Crotchett (L-R) at Springfield, IL Korean War Memorial



Most of the crowd at the Springfield, IL memorial ceremony



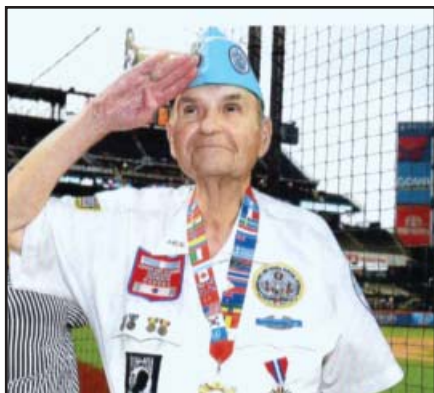
Hannah Kim addresses crowd in Springfield, IL as Ivan Maras (L) and Rex Berry of Ch. 27 pay respects

55 NASSAU #1 [NY]

Member honored by NY Mets as "Veteran of the Game"

Bernie Hoffman was honored last year at a New York Mets game versus the L.A. Dodgers for being a Korean War veteran. He met former Dodgers' manager Tom LaSorda at the game played at Citi Field in Flushing, New York.

Robert O'Brien, 408 5th Ave., Cedarhurst, NY 11516



Bernie Hoffman of Ch. 55 salutes at Mets game



Tom LaSorda (R) and Bernie Hoffman of Ch. 55 at Citi Field

56 VENTURA COUNTY [CA]

We were invited to a March 26th luncheon at the Korea Tower. It was hosted by the Korean Army Veterans Association of Southern California (KAVA).

David Lopez, 3850 W 180th Pl., Torrance, CA 90504, 310-323-8481, LopezPitts9@aol.com



Col. Pete Seitz addresses gathering at Ch. 56 luncheon

Commander David Lopez of Ch. 56 addresses KAVA gathering



South Korean Korean War veterans at KAVA luncheon



Martin Vasquez, Dennis ?, and Manuel Adame (R-L) behind David Lopez (Seated) at Korea Tower

60 ADIRONDACK [NY]

On March 30, 2019, the New York State Military Museum, located in Saratoga Springs, New York, held a special celebration to mark the opening of its newest exhibit that examines the Korean and Vietnam Wars. Chapter members were prominent among the attendees. Paul O'Keefe represented our organization in the ribbon cutting to open the exhibit.

Several years in the making, the new exhibit will help to ensure that Korean War veterans are not forgotten. Over the years, our members have long indicated to, and lobbied with, the military museum that recognition of the Korean War was a significant missing element of the New York State's military forces and veterans. Thus the opening new exhibit has a special meaning to us.

Floral arrangements at KAVA luncheon attended by Ch. 56 members



The museum is located at 61 Lake Avenue in Saratoga Springs, New York (about 30 miles north of Albany), and certainly worth a visit if your travels bring you to upstate New York.

Carol Waldron, cwald36709@aol.com



Bill Dake (L), local business owner, a sponsor of the Saratoga display and Paul O'Keefe, Ch. 60 member at New York State Military Museum



Joe Schneider, Paul Nolan, Bob Garland, Commander Roger Calkins, Charlie Walters and Paul O'Keefe (L-R) of Ch. 60 at museum celebration

105 CENTRAL NEW YORK [NY]

We thanked one of our members, Eric Thresh, of DeWitt, NY. Eric owns a large wood working factory in our area. His firm creates furniture and decorative woodwork for churches, libraries, universities, plush offices, and hotels.

Eric, who was born in Canada, came to the United States as a young man to improve his skills and fortunes. He arrived in Syracuse, NY at the time the local War Memorial Building was under construction. He was hired by a contractor who was furnishing the wood products for the building.

Eric was pleased to be working on this large project—until the day he received a letter from our government. He brought the letter to work and asked his boss about it. His boss told him that he was being drafted.

The boss took the letter to the draft board to explain that he needed this young man for the job at hand. He was deferred until the building was complete. Then he was drafted. Eric swapped his tools for an M1 rifle and was off to Korea.

After his discharge Eric returned to Syracuse, where he started his own shop. As they say, the rest is history.

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



Members of Ch. 105 at Eric Thresh's office: Jim (Spike) Low, Gordon Storings, Bill Trousdale, Eric Thresh, Norm Champagne, Keith Fannon, Fran Ezzo, Bill Burns, Larry Robinson, and Sal Buonocore (L-R)



The award given to Eric Thresh of Ch. 105

106 TREASURE ISLAND [FL]

On March 7, 2019 we presented the JROTC award to C/Major Ryan Giebler of the FL-937 Cadet Wing, Stuart, FL.

U.S. Congressman Richard Mast, a paraplegic veteran, had breakfast with seven of our members recently.

*Louis DeBlasio, 352 NW Shoreview Dr.,
Port St. Lucie, FL 34986, 772-344-8628, LouDi@bellsouth.net*



FL-937 Cadet Wing welcomes Ch. 106



Jack Eisenlohr of Ch. 106 with Ryan Giebler



Congressman Richard Mast with members of Ch. 106

111 CPL. RICHARD A. BELL [WI]

We conducted a “Brat Fry” in West Bend to raise funds for the Honor Flight and Flag Day organizations.

*James A. Maersch, 1829 Park Ave.,
West Bend, WI 53090, 262-338-0991*



Cal Held, Nick Habersetzer, Cmdr. Norb Carter, Dick Klumb, and Jerry Wanty of Ch. 111 take photo break at “Brat Fry”

122 ARDEN A. ROWLEY [AZ]

Several members visited a local VA hospital in October 2018, where a professional photographer from South Korea took their picture.

Members of our Honor Guard participated in the 25th Vietnam Remembrance Day event held in Phoenix, AZ on April 28th. The nearby photo was taken by local Vietnamese American. Louie Winkelman, pictured, is our latest Honor Guard member. He took the initiative to get uniform items from a past Honor Guard member.

*James E. Bockman, 4035 E. Calypso Ave.,
Mesa, AZ 85206, 480-510-0770, JBoc187@msn.com*



Jim Bockman, Wayne Stewart, Louis Winkelman, Eddie Wisemon, Lew Bradley, and Don Taylor (L-R) of Ch. 122



Louie Winkelman (L) and Lew Bradley of Ch. 122's Honor Guard await parade in Phoenix, AZ with young Vietnamese-American ladies

131 NORTHWEST OHIO [OH]

We held our Christmas party in December 2018. We had a good turnout, comprising 25 members and wives.

*William Lyzan, 2429 Norma Pl.,
Northwood, OH 43619, 419-666-5607*



Attendees at Ch. 131's 2018 Christmas party

141 CAPE COD & THE ISLANDS [MA]

Stanley Cobane served as the keynote speaker at the 2018 Chatham, Massachusetts Veterans Day ceremony. Stanley served with the USMC in the Korean War and was wounded at Hill 296.

He noted that “Veterans love their country. Veterans put their personal lives on hold while they serve. Veterans understand the system of command and follow orders. They come home to be great citizens.”

The ceremony in general was as heartwarming and patriotic as any in small-town America, and his presentation was well received.

Reach Stanley Cobane at 81 Joshua Jethro Rd., Chatham, MA 02633, 508-945-8811, otter1930@yahoo.com.

Larry Cole, coleslawone@yahoo.com

142 COL. WILLIAM E. WEBER [MD]

Maryland Governor Larry Hogan and First Lady Yumi Hogan hosted a Korean-American Recognition Day on January 7, 2019 at the Governor’s Reception Room, 2nd floor of the historic Maryland State House.

Richard Cody and Robert Flores represented Chapter 142 at the reception and were presented a citation by First Lady Yumi Hogan.

Linda Crilly, Ch. Webmaster, CID142Webmaster@gmail.com, or Glenn Wienhoff, cid142kwva@gmail.com



Governor of Maryland Staff Member Richard Cody, Maryland’s First Lady Yumi Hogan, Robert Flores, and BGen Pyo, Se Woo, ROK Army, Defense Attaché, Embassy of the Republic of Korea at Ch. 142 event

159 SUNSHINE STATE [FL]

Ambassador for Peace Medal Presentations

On March 25, 2019, during a vacation trip to Florida, Canadian Senator Yonah Martin, Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Senate of Canada, presented eight Ambassador for Peace Medals. Senator Martin, who was accompanied by her

husband, Doug Martin, presided at the ceremony at the request of HooJung Jones Kennedy, past advisor of the Republic of Korea President and the Korea Veterans Association of Canada Unit 26, Project and Fundraising Director.



Cake cutting at Ch. 159’s ceremony

HooJung’s husband, Major (Rtd) Don Kennedy, acted as Master of Ceremonies, in partnership with the Royal Canadian Legion Post 144, Pinellas County, Florida, celebrating their 77 years of operation in Clearwater, FL, and the most generous hospitality of American Legion Post 7, which is celebrating its 100th year of operation, having been opened in 1919, the same year as the founding of the American Legion.

Four of the eight medals presented were for James Bell, John Smith, Ralph Merritt, and Henry Edsel Ford, all KIA. Others were for Ben St. Clair and Anthony Bazarewsky, wounded veterans, and two Canadian veterans, Frank Steers and Norman Boudreau.



Ambassador for Peace Medals on display at Ch. 159 ceremony

Charles “Frank” Anderson, the latest recruited member of CID 159, and already a holder of his medal, accompanied by his wife Bobbie, younger sister of a KIA Korean War soldier, accepted the presentation of the four medals for those KIA. Those four, together with Frank and one other high school student of Brocton, Illinois (population 400), had all joined the U.S. Army

at the same time, and four were killed in Korea. Frank and Bobbie Anderson are in this year's September "Korea Revisit" Program.



Ch. 159 Ambassador for Peace Medal ceremony underway with Commander Peter Palmer (C) presiding



HooJung Jones Kennedy, Yonah Martin, Bobbie and Frank Anderson, and Judy Michaud (L-R) stand together in front of the Royal Canadian Legion Post 144 logo at Ch. 159 ceremony



Senator Martin's newsletter

The luncheon for the 65 attendees and the wonderful cake procured by our treasurer, associate member Judy Michaud, widow of Korean War veteran Lou Michaud, were paid for by HooJung Kennedy. The cake was cut by President Peter Palmer, most ably assisted by Senator Martin and Mrs. Michaud.

We owe much gratitude to both the Canadian Legion and their

Commander, Dann Oliver, and to the wonderful staff of American Legion Post 7, together with their contract kitchen staff, who prepared the meal.

News of the event was included in Senator Martin's monthly newsletter for the benefit of her Canadian audience.

Peter Palmer, Commander, P.O. Box 5298, Largo, FL 33779, 727-584-7143, Palmersp@verizon.net

189 CENTRAL FLORIDA EAST COAST [FL]

At our February 19th meeting we had the honor of hosting MajGen John McWaters, Commander of Ch. 169, as our speaker. There were over 70 people in attendance. He presented a detailed history of Korea, dating back to the occupation by Japan to the present. He was presented with a Silver Korean Memorial Coin and a certificate of appreciation by Commander Joseph Sicinski.

At the same meeting, Rod Phillips, Commander of Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 1048, and Joe Rosa, former Commander of VFW Post 3282 and now 1st Vice President of VFW District 19, were inducted as Lifetime Honorary Members

Gen John McWaters presents Korean history to Ch. 189 audience



BGen Ernie Audino displays Lifetime Honorary Member certificate presented by Ch. 189

of our chapter.

At our March 19th meeting, BrigGen Ernie Audino, U.S. Army (Ret.), was our guest speaker. He spoke about his leading a Brigade of Kurdish fighters in Iraq to conduct Counterinsurgency Operations. General Audino was inducted as

a Lifetime Honorary Member of Chapter 189

We meet at the VFW Post 3282.

Joseph G. Sicinski, 386-492-6551, sicinskij@aol.com



Gen. John McWaters (L) and Cmdr. Joseph Sicinski of Ch. 189



Rod Phillips, John McWaters, Joe Rosa, and Joseph Sicinski (L-R) at Ch. 189's February meeting

209 LAREDO KWVA 1950 [TX]

Korean War veteran/chapter members were recognized recently by American Legion Post 850.

Ricardo Santos, 956-231-3857, csantos@lmtonline.com



Ch. 209 members at recognition ceremony: Luis Bazaldua, Reynaldo Reyna, Andres Dimas and Hector Garza (Seated, L-R); Paulino Lucio, Nicolas Nanez, Salvador Sciaraffa and Ernesto Sanchez; (Back row, L-R) Alberto Cortez, Paulino Lucio, Nicolas Nanez, Daniel Pottin, Salvador Sciaraffa, Ernesto Sanchez, Hector Gutierrez, and Javier Aranda.

251 SAGINAW-FRANKENMUTH [MI]

Our guest speaker for the April 2019 meeting was Cris Redenberg, a police officer since 1996. He started in Bay City, MI and later joined the Saginaw Township Police Dept. His talk was on crime prevention.

He and two other officers cover 27 square miles, each covering 9 square miles. He stated Michigan has lost 4,000 officers since 2000 and the Michigan State Police are filling the gap in municipalities. Saginaw Township has formed a task force and is working to reduce crime. He emphasized the need to stop small things before they escalate.



George Dolan, Cris Redenberg, and John Mason (L-R) at Ch. 251's April 2019 meeting



Rev. Benjamin Smith (L) with members of Ch. 251 at May 2019 meeting

Rev. Benjamin Smith, representing the Midwest Memorial Group, was the speaker at our May 2019 meeting. His presentation was the value in preplanning funeral expenses Rather than waiting until needed, you can choose exactly what you want and how it should be done.

Preplanning relieves stress on the family and makes it difficult for loved ones to emotionally overspend at the time of need. He spoke of the 67 items needed to make the final arrangements for burial, cremation, etc.

Richard Carpenter, 4915 N. River Rd., Freeland, MI 48623

258 NORTHERN RHODE ISLAND [RI]

Ron Levassuer, Service Officer for the American Legion, spoke at our February meeting about the Legion's Boys State/Girls State program. The program gives high school juniors a chance to learn about government, debate, and how to create and introduce bills at the Rhode Island State House. At the end of the program two boys and two girls are chosen to go to Washington D.C. at no cost to the students.

In March some of our members, along with other Korean War veterans, attended the 100th Commemoration of the Independence Movement of March 1st 1919 at the Korean Central Church in Warwick, Rhode Island.

*Margaret Walsh, Secretary/Photographer,
311 Hardig Rd., B205, Warwick, RI 02886*



Commander Richard St Louis, Jr. Vice Robert Jaworski, and Sr. Vice Dick Mende of Ch. 258 (L-R) listen as Ron Levassuer, Service Officer for the American Legion, speaks about the Legion's Boys State / Girls State program at our February meeting



Ch. 258 members at the Korean Central Church



President Monica Lee of the Korean Veterans association addresses audience at Korean Central Church in Rhode Island



Consul General Kim stands at the center of a group of Korean War veterans and guests at the Warwick, RI church

264 MT. DIABLO [CA]

Our chapter is very active in Memorial Day observations. Keeping the idea of freedom fresh in the minds of citizens is the purpose of our nation's celebrations of Memorial Day.



Purple Heart recipient Dave McDonald (L), President of Ch. 264, with Don Craven

A U.S. Marine on his way to an annual Memorial Day ceremony in Concord, CA



Memorial Day, first celebrated on May 30, 1869, and once called Decoration Day, can be highly illustrative of how a free republic, honoring its military dead, can be lost in one generation. Witness the events after WWII: the ill-fated Weimar Republic was formed, guaranteeing constitutional freedoms to all political parties. Nazis and communists thrived.



Members and guests of Ch. 264 at Memorial Day observation



Dave McDonald of Ch. 264 with two "bodyguards" at chapter meeting

The Nazi party placed Adolph Hitler in power in 1932. A republic died. The costliest war in the history of mankind followed. It came to an end in 1945—after more than two million people died worldwide.

Memorial Day should remind each of us of the need to guard the freedom for which veterans of many nations died. That is why we are so intent on participating in Memorial activities.

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

NOTE: Stanley J. Grogan is a veteran of WWII, the Korean and Vietnam Wars, and the Cold War. He retired from military service in 1978.

267 GENERAL JAMES A. VAN FLEET [FL]

We took part in the 50th Anniversary Tribute Day for Vietnam War Veterans on March 30, 2019. Kim Davis, Alachua County Director of Veterans Services, and her assistant, Cheri Korn, ran the event. Commander of the Vietnam Veterans Assoc., Forest

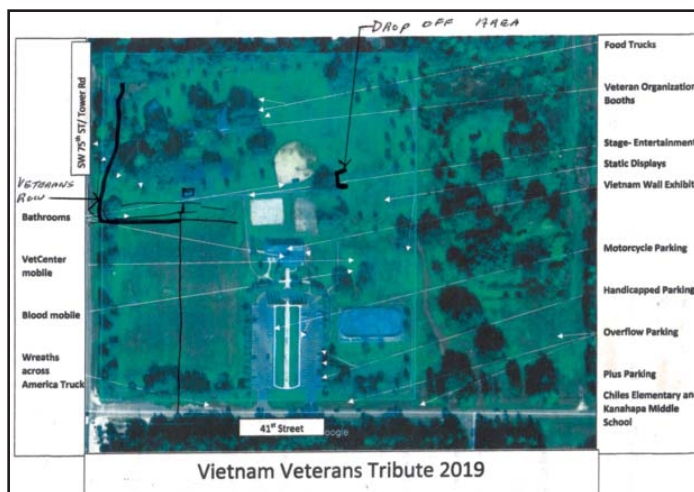
Hope, was the MC. Guest speakers were Congressman Ted Yoho and VA Regional Director Tom Wisniewski.



Volunteers from Ch. 267 at Vietnam Veterans Tribute Day: Terry Fitzpatrick, Eddie Thomas, Emory Gouge, Carl Covey, Norm Tankersley, Betty Ann Means, Don Sherry, and Sarge McQuinn (L-R)



BELOW: Follow the arrows to Ch. 267 Vietnam Veterans Tribute site



There were around 1,000 people in attendance. The event featured a motorcycle ride of over 500 veterans from the VA Hospital to Veterans Memorial Park, a "Veteran's Row" with 25 tents for all local veterans organizations, a formal program, a fly-over of WW II planes, military vehicles, band music, food trucks, and a traveling Vietnam Wall.

The KWVA had a tent with military memorabilia from Lt. Col Richard Stalbaum, USA (Ret). We also assisted Kim Davis in

running the event by helping to set up and tear down Veteran's Row, assisting in parking the 500 motorcycles and vehicles, and manning our booth all day. Volunteers were Norm Tankersley, Terry Fitzpatrick, Carl Covey, Ron Carbaugh, Ken Sassaman, Sarge McQuinn, Eddie Thomas, Bettyann Means, and Don Sherry.

Ken Sassaman was interviewed by the local paper in an article describing the event. Our Vietnam veterans received a long overdue welcome home from a brutal, bloody, and unpopular war fought many years ago on the other side of the world.

Don Sherry, Adjutant, 352-375-8355, dpskwva@yahoo.com

281 ROLLA [MO]

Rolla, MO held its 111th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 16, 2019. We were well represented, with approximately 12 members and spouses riding our float, carrying our banner, or proudly displaying our national colors. Members of both the Pulaski County Korean Association and Missouri S&T Student Veterans Association were also in attendance, bringing our total strength to over 24 personnel.



Members of Ch. 281 at St. Patrick's Day Parade: Ken Hayes, Commander Norman Ragan, and 1st Vice Commander Harrison Meaux (L-R)



2nd Vice Commander Larry Wynn, Treasurer Floyd Ferrell, Les Burris, Ken West and Adjutant Bob May of Ch. 281 at Rolla parade

One of the largest crowds ever was in attendance to view the parade and was very supportive of our members. Several times a

"thank you for your service" was shouted toward our float and at one point the chant, "U.S.A, U.S.A, U.S.A" could be heard resounding above all of the other commotion.

The weather was very cooperative and made for an outstanding event!

Greg Sanden, (573)465-0241, sandeng@fidnet.com



Missouri S&T Student Veterans Association members Eric Richards, Weston Hartzell, Jesse Hassinger, Ben Bridges and Mark Whale (L-R) march in Rolla parade



Pulaski County Korean Association members Melissa, Jenna, Isla, Mihee, Kyung and Kyungmi (L-R) join Ch. 281 members in Rolla, MO



Charles Scott and wife Marlow of Ch. 281 join comrades at Rolla, MO St. Patrick's Day event

297 PLATEAU [TN]

Members attended back-to-back programs, first the “GET INVOLVED PROGRAM,” sponsored by Fairfield Glade Management, and then, at our regular monthly meeting, heard a talk by Don Napier, local magazine publisher!

The “GET INVOLVED PROGRAM” provides the opportunity for Fairfield Glade Agencies to get to know members of the community and solicit their membership in the organization. Mr. Napier, who was born in the Crossville area, publishes the Crossville Life magazine. His talk concerned growing up in the area, where he continues to live.

Dick Malsack, PIO, 931-707-7292, kaslam2001@yahoo.com



Jim Morris and Cmdr Gene Stone of Ch. 297 with State of Tennessee VA Representative Charles McGhee at the “Get Involved” Program in Fairfield Glade



Treasurer Pete Stabb and Cmdr Gene Stone of Ch. 297 with publisher Don Napier at their regular monthly meeting

306 WEST MICHIGAN [MI]

Korean-American Day was celebrated on January 13th at Berrian Springs MI Middle School. There was lots of singing, including Arirang, a fan dance, Korean art, and culture. Korean fare was kimchi, bulgogi, rice, and chicken. Korean War vets were honored too. We may have some new members as a result.

Doug Voss, Sr. Vice Pres., dwv123@aol.com



George Stark, Mike VanDyke, and Doug Voss (L-R) of Ch. 306 at Korean-American Day celebration



A fan dance performed by young women at Korean-American Day event attended by Ch. 306 members

313 SHENANDOAH [VA]

Members attend the Shaman Gumpa performance in D.C.



Ch. 313 members at Shaman Gumpa performance (Front, L-R) Lew Ewing, Narce Caliva, Steve Culbert, Herb Taylor, Bill Scott, and Don Netschke; (Back, L-R) Rob Shirley, Dickie Ewing, Jerry Lunt, Dave Clark, Jack Kronenberger and Jim Fisher

Twelve members attended a Shaman Gumpa program in the nations' capital on March 23rd. Shaman Gumpa is a famous folk dancer from Korea on tour in the United States. One of his goals is to thank and honor Korean War veterans who saved his country. His goal was certainly achieved in Washington, D.C. on March 23, 2019.

We were parties to two different programs. The first was a recognition of Mr. Gumpa's gift of \$100,000 towards the building of the wall at our memorial at the west wall area of the Capitol.



Shaman Gumpa and his group

The second program took place at the National Mall, where an elaborate stage had been erected with a backdrop of ancient Korean leaders and pictures of Korean history. Mr. Gumpa and his entourage presented a dazzling performance, which included many changes of colorful costumes, dances, and songs that told about different times of Korean history and their leaders.

After the performances we were driven to the Sheraton Pentagon Hotel for an excellent meal. We left for Winchester around 6:45 p.m. After delivering a few people to Annandale, VA, we arrived in Winchester at 9 p. m.

This was just another example of the Korean people thanking us for our service to their country. (Photos by Lew Ewing, Vice-Commander.)

David Clark, Commander, declark193@gmail.com

321 RICHARD L. QUARTIER [WA]

Newly installed Commander Ralph Hager and his wife Janet recently transferred to Vancouver from the Tampa, FL area and Ch. 199, Bradenton, FL. Ralph served in the USN Seabees for four years during the Korean war.

He and Janet have one son, one daughter, and two grandchildren.

On August 13, 2017, Korean Independence Day was celebrated in Vancouver, WA. Members attended the dinner and Korean Cultural Program of Dance and Music. One hundred people combined from the two groups attended.

(Rev) Jerry L. Keese, 3413 NW 166th St., Ridgefield, WA 98642, 360-573-1035, saverflag@yahoo.com

NOTE: This may be old news by now. We regret our late inclusion. Sometimes we simply mishandle, misplace, etc. submissions. For this we apologize. Fortunately, Ralph Hager is still the chapter's president.



President Ralph Hager of Ch. 321 with wife Janet



Korean Independence Day banner welcoming members of Ch. 321

328 LOS ANGELES COUNTY

A group of Korean veterans who have immigrated to America and formed an association invited us to their annual Christmas dinner. Among their group were many senior officers of the ROK Army and Navy—including two generals and one admiral.

We continue to hold regular meetings.

Joseph Wong, joewon2@gmail.com



January 2019 meeting of Ch. 328

329 TIBOR RUBIN MOH [NV]



Joseph Wong, Sgt. USMC, Mr. Kim, Korean Marine Corps, who is 94 years old and Mr. Bob Son, U.S. Army Warrant Officer (L-R) at Ch. 328 meeting



Joseph Wong, Mrs. Lee, Ramon Reyes, and Richard Lee, Chosin Purple Heart recipient (L-R) at Ch. 328 gathering



Mr. Bob Son, Richard Lee, Ramon Reyes, and Joseph Wong (L-R) at the Korean Vets Christmas dinner



Group at Los Angeles Christmas dinner attended by Ch. 328 members

New Officers and Directors Start Third Year with Trip to "Welcome to Las Vegas" Sign and Vegas Golden Knights NHL Hockey Practice Facility

Our new officers for 2019-2020 are Commander Charles Johnson; First Vice-Commander Henry Grimes; Second Vice-Commander Lee Mowery; Secretary Henry Sawicki; Treasurer Fidel Diaz; Adjutant Lawrence Kohlheber; and Judge Advocate Timothy Smith

Directors and their appointments include John Diaz, Director of Public Relations; Wi Jo Kang, Korean Ambassador; Chaplain Lawrence Bacon, Honorary Post Officer; Basilio Macalino, Sergeant at Arms; Stanley Croonquist, Editor of The Scuttlebutt; Judith Ariola, President of Ladies Auxiliary; David Heine, Veterans Affairs Service Officer.



Ch. 329's new Board of Directors: (Front, L-R) David Heine, Judith Ariola; (Back, L-R) Commander Charles Johnson, Henry Sawicki, Fidel Diaz, Lawrence Bacon, Lee Mowery, Lawrence Kohlheber, Henry Grimes, Stanley Croonquist, Timothy Smith.



Ch. 329 Board meeting at Atria Seville Senior Home Dining Room: Henry Sawicki, Charles Johnson, Fidel Diaz, Lawrence Kohlheber, and Stanley Croonquist (L-R)

After a successful first two years, we are expanding our presence and involvement. We are an all-volunteer, nonprofit, nationally chartered fraternal organization with members from Clark County, NV, Henderson, NV, Boulder City, NV, North Las Vegas, NV and Las Vegas, NV. We have supporting members from California and Arizona.

The chapter began with 3 members and slowly grew to 10, while holding meetings in members' living rooms and kitchens. By mid-2017 we had 65-70 members with attendance reaching 90 at times. We have a solid 70 members in 2019, along with a thousand followers and supporters on Facebook. Along the way we met at two different breakfast restaurants, a golf course banquet room, and a pie restaurant. Our permanent meeting location today is at the American Legion, Post 8, 733 N. Veterans Memorial Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89101. We meet the last Thursday of each month at 10 a.m., with an optional buffet after the meeting.



Board of Ch. 329 visits "Welcome to Las Vegas" sign on world famous "Strip." Lawrence Bacon (Front); Timothy Smith, Lawrence Kohlieber, Lee Mowery, Charles Johnson, Fidel Diaz, Henry Sawicki (Back, L-R)



"Vegas Born" Mural: Board at Vegas Golden Knights' practice hockey rink: Lawrence Bacon (Front); Timothy Smith, Fidel Diaz, Lawrence Kohlieber, Lee Mowery, Henry Sawicki, Charles Johnson (Back, L-R)

We are proud of our many accomplishments, including the strong partnership that has evolved with the Southern Nevada and Las Vegas Korean community and the Las Vegas Korean Veterans Association. Commander Johnson said he is most proud of the dedication of the first Korean War Veterans Memorial at the Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery.

"I made a promise to myself when this cemetery was built that the 9,125 Korean War veterans and 37 Nevada Military Service

members resting at the cemetery would be publicly recognized for their individual service and would be welcomed home from the Korean War," he recalls. The Memorial features a 7,220 lb. monument, resting benches, brickwork and walkway.

We will hold a joint ceremony with the Korean community at the memorial this June 25th in observance of the 69th anniversary of the beginning of the Korean War.

As part of its new goal of increasing its public presence and involvement, the Board of Directors held its first board meeting in the dining room at Atria Seville Senior Home as guests of Larry Bacon, newly appointed Honorary Post Officer. Members discussed how to sustain the organization in the future. The average age of most chapter members range from mid-80s to 90s. It was agreed that the chapter would establish a lifetime membership and continue with its outreach to Korea defense and DMZ veterans, who tend to be younger.

Recently the board held a team building day. Commander Johnson, working with his Director of Public Relations, set a day where the board could spend time together without decision making and paperwork, just enjoying time together and meeting members of the public. The day began with a stop at the "Welcome to Las Vegas" sign located on the Las Vegas Strip. The sign, an international icon, is on the National Registry of Historic Places.

When we arrived early morning on a weekday, there were already several hundred tourists waiting to take pictures in front of the landmark sign. As our members moved up to take their picture the crowd applauded. When Commander Johnson wheeled Larry Bacon to the front, the crowd cheered and parted to let his wheelchair pass.



Members of Ch. 329 Board in front of Vegas Golden Knights NHL Hockey Practice Ice Rink: Lawrence Bacon (Front); Timothy Smith, Lee Mowery, Lawrence Kohlieber, Charles Johnson, Fidel Diaz, Henry Sawicki (Back, L to R)

Members of the public had many questions about the Class A uniforms, the organization, and individuals' branch of service. We shook many hands, took a few selfies, and headed to our next stop, the Vegas Golden Knights practice facility and headquarters, City National Arena.

The Vegas Golden Knights are the new NHL hockey team in Las Vegas. The team began as an expansion team last year. In

their first two seasons the team went to the Stanley Cup Finals and the Stanley Cup Playoffs, respectively. The team is owned by William P. "Bill" Foley, a West Point graduate and businessman.

The board took a walking tour of the arena and facility and posed for pictures in front of the "Vegas Born" mural. Two short videos were made, one in which the board proudly bellowed, "We are Vegas Born," and a second where they roared, "We are Vegas Strong." Since our chapter was born in Las Vegas we all wanted to be known as Vegas Born, and it goes without saying that we are Vegas strong.

Again, many people wanted to meet our board and shake their hands. We finished the day with a delicious lunch at Bill Foley's Restaurant, Mackenzie River Pizza Pub & Grill. The restaurant is on the second floor overlooking the Vegas Golden Knights practice ice rink on one side and the kids' ice rink on the other. Someone in the group was overheard saying, "It's good to be Vegas Born."

*John Diaz, Director of Public Relations, 702-372-5099,
JohnDiaz.NV@gmail.com or
Chuck Johnson, Commander, 702-270-6602*

DEPARTMENTS

FLORIDA

On April 20 2019 I was honored to swear in the new KWVA Department of Florida Officers at the Casselberry, Florida Veterans Center. Several positive results came from the DOF Convention.

- A new KWVA banner was introduced to the members with great responses

- Major General John McWaters of Ch.169 (KWVA of Lake County), and KWVA DOF 1st Vice President, has recruited almost 100 Korean Defense Service veterans in the last three months

Random photos of the Dept. of Florida's April 2019 meeting



- Attendees approved a new Korean War Korean Defense Memorial/marker to be erected in the Florida National Cemetery in Sarasota

- The Department voted to do away with chapter dues so members will join KWVA National.



- The new KWVA DOF officers sworn in were Department President Charles Travers, 1st Vice President John McWaters, 2nd Vice President Joe Sicinski, Adjutant Charles Husbands, Treasurer Gardner Harshman, Asst. Treasurer Frank Cochren, and Chaplain Charlie First.

I informed the members that we are approaching 29,000 likes on our National Facebook page and many new members are joining KWVA and buying our products off the KWVA Facebook page. We are way above our membership at this point compared to last year. Sadly, many of members are passing, so we all need to recruit Korean War and Korean Defense Service Veterans.



Jeff Brodeur, KWVA Membership Chairman
Charles Travers, 120 Point View Ln., Longwood, FL 32779,
407-252-7447, gunship442@aol.com

HAWAII

Two Hawaii chapters hosted their annual All State Reunion at Las Vegas, Nevada with a banquet on May 11, 2019. This superbly orchestrated program was attended by 165 veterans, families and guests from Hawaii, California, and Florida. Keynote speaker was Los Angeles Korean Consulate Deputy Consul In-Sang Hwang.

Generous door prizes valued at \$2,000.00 and collected by Tommy Tahara were awarded to the lucky winners.

Stan Fujii, stan_fujii@hotmail.com



2019 All-State Reunion Banquet Program at Las Vegas gathering



Hawaii reunion M.C. Sam Fevella



"Aloha Vibes" Band that played old favorite popular music throughout the Hawaii chapters' program



Hawaii reunion attendees: (Standing, L to R) Walter and Gayle Ozawa, Ken Mitobe, Tommy Tahara, Rochelle Wong; (Sitting, L to R) Mae Tahara, Karen Mitobe, Marilyn Tomita, Edward Wong



Sada Sanico and daughter Donna Chee (Sitting, L-R) and Tommy Tahara (Standing) enjoy Hawaii reunion



Deputy Consul In-Sang Hwang



Joyce Miyamoto, Daryl and Robert Imose, Barbara and Richard Poe, Samuel and Nettie Belen, Fumiko Fujii (L-R) socialize at Hawaii get-together



Attendees at Hawaii gathering enjoy the buffet line



Some of the door prizes at the Hawaii meeting, including five wrist watches



Ed Nakano, Fumiko, and Stan Fujii of Hawaii chapters at their assigned seats in a slot machine tournament

NEW JERSEY

On April 13, 2019 members from two state chapters and one former chapter attended the "11th anniversary of Korean Traditional Dance of Choomnoori (Drum Dancing)" event at the Teaneck High School auditorium. The active chapters and their representatives included Ch. 170, Taejon, Frank Uvenio and Alexander Atheras, and Ch. 216, M*A*S*H*, Homer Vanides. Former chapter 48, Chorwon, was represented by Leonidas Savas.

A large crowd of Koreans from the New York and New Jersey area joined Director of Choomnoori, Eun-hee Ahn, to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Korean



Homer Vanides, JinHyun Park, Alexander Atheras, Vivian Kim, George Rothfritz and Louis Quagliero (L-R) at New Jersey Choomnoori performance



Louis Quagliero, Homer Vanides, Leonidas Savas, Eun-hee Ahn, Alexander Atheras, Vivian Kim, Frank Uvenio, George Rothfritz, and two unidentified Koreans (L-R) at New Jersey event



Special Korean friends between New Jersey members: Mrs. & Mr. Choi and Mrs. and Mr. June and Sam Ra (L-R) at "Airang Fantasy"



The "Airang Fantasy" program attended by New Jersey veterans

Provisional Government.

The program began at 6:30 p.m. as announcer JinHyun Park introduced Act I, "Echo of the drums," followed by fifteen acts composed of young 1st and 2nd generation Korean immigrants. The mission is to share and grow the legacy of Korean culture and display its rich history to all Americans. That's indeed what they did. The fifteen acts of the Traditional Dance of Choomnoori and the magnificent drum routines by sixteen young ladies of junior and youth groups were special to see and hear.

A special moment occurred when JinHyun Park said to the crowd, "We have here as special guests the Korean War veterans." The shouts and applause were so loud from the Korean crowd that veterans had to stand up and wave to the crowd.

The program lasted over two hours. Special thanks go to Vivian Kim, President of the Korean-American Association of Bergen County, New Jersey. She made sure the Korean War veterans were there. *Louis Quagliero, 142 Illinois Ave., Paterson, NJ 07503*

Photos provided by: Louis Quagliero, Ch. 170, Saddle Brook, NJ.

NEW YORK

The Korean War Veterans Association Department of New York held its Spring Convention at Longfellows Hotel and Conference Center in Saratoga Springs, NY, May 8-10, 2019.

After the meeting attendees held a Memorial Service at the Gerald B.H. Solomon National Cemetery at the Korean Veterans Monument to honor our deceased veterans.

Carol Waldron, cwald36709@aol.com



LEFT: Salvatore Scarlato (L), Dept. of New York President and State Chaplain Paul O'Keefe. RIGHT: Robert Garland, incoming Commander of Adirondack Ch. 60 (L), and Paul O'Keefe at Dept. of New York convention



Paul O'Keefe, John Ha, Joe Schneider, Thomas Lewis, Paul Nolan, William Burn, Roger Hill, Donald King, Bob Garland, Charles Walter, Sal Scarlato, and Roger Calkins (L-R) at Dept. of New York gathering

WALL from page 31

Joey became a chronic truant and narrowly avoided being sentenced to the New Jersey juvenile center for boys. Instead, he was given a reprieve and sent to a Catholic boys' school in Kearney, New Jersey—where he was sexually abused. Once he turned eighteen the good folks at the school invited him to leave—and notified the local draft board that he was available for a visit to Vietnam.

Joey grew up to be a chronically lying obsessive-compulsive sociopath practically bereft of emotions and prone to gluttonous behavior. Yet, he overcame most of those conditions and ultimately succeeded as an international management consultant. His is the ultimate American success story, whose story is worth reading.

Facsimile of Ch. 321's donation to WOR fund

To order the books directly from the author send \$22.00 for "Atomic Cannons and Nuclear Weapons: A Mystery of the Korean War" or \$15.00 for "Joey, the Street Fox of Newark." All prices include postage and handling.



Members of Ch. 321 with lists and check as props

MARCH 2019

TRUMAN NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Thursday, March 28, 2019, 6:30-8:00 pm

Truman Neighborhood Association General Meeting at the American Legion Hall, Smith Reynolds Post #14, 4607 NE St. James Road.
(Enter parking lot from St. James Rd. If St. Johns Rd. entrance is closed)

It is that time of year for our Truman Neighborhood Association Council elections. Please join your neighbors at the March 28, 2019 meeting to cast your vote for our Council members.
Your voice and support are vital to our community.

March 28th Meeting Agenda

- Check-in to receive a ballot.
- ***Bring ID with proof of address to show you are Truman resident***
- Treasurer Report
- Introductions of council candidates
- Voting & ballots collected
- Guest Speakers: Ed Barnes re: Korean War Memorial;
- Marilee McCall, Clark County Neighborhood Program Coordinator re: Association County Web Pages
- Update on projects
- Vancouver Schools—Update on Truman Elementary project status
- Election Results
- Social time

2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 23rd: Truman Neighborhood Association General Meeting

June 7th: TNA Bicycle Safety & Fun Fair at Truman Elementary School

July 19-20th: Annual Truman Neighborhood Yard Sale

August: National Night Out Against Crime

September: Our Annual TNA Community BBQ at Truman Elementary School may be cancelled this year due to construction & safety concerns. Will update you in the May newsletter.

October 24th: Truman Neighborhood Association General Meeting

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Candidate Statements 2

Featured Neighbor 3-4

New Truman School 5

Local 6-7

Neighborhood Association newsletters are copied free of charge by Clark County's Neighborhood Outreach Program. The information and views expressed are solely those of the Neighborhood Association and not of Clark County Government.

-Page 1-

Front page of Truman Neighborhood News

Veterans group raises funds for a Korean War Memorial

Wall of Remembrance would display names of thousands in D.C. (By Calley Hair, Columbian staff writer; 12-23-18)

(photo by Nathan Howard/The Columbian)

In 1950s, then-President Barack Obama signed Senate Bill 1982, a bill to authorize private contributions toward the memorial wall. The bill was cosponsored by Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash.

As proposed, the wall would be incorporated into the Korean War Veterans Memorial that currently resides on the National Mall. Current designs indicate the wall would be made of laminated glass and circle half of the memorial's Pool of Remembrance.

The Korean War earned its moniker of "The Forgotten War" in part because of its placement in U.S. history.

The 1950s conflict took place in the shadow of WWII, and was promptly followed by the lengthy and contentious Vietnam War. Sandwiched between two bigger wars, the three-year Korean War faded into the background.

But for the soldiers who fought, the war is far from forgotten. And as the generation defined by the conflict ages, they've spurred an effort to keep the memory of their sacrifice alive.

Commander James Mead said that so far, the chapter has raised \$23,456 since it started its funding push in August. "Butcher Boys gave us \$200," he reported to the room. Labor Roundtable of Southwest Washington gave us \$250. IBEW Local No. 48 gave us a check for \$10,000," he continued, drawing an excited murmur from the crowd. The local chapter received a quiet visit from Sen. Maria Cantwell, D-Wash., earlier this year, though Barnes said they didn't publicize the meet-up to avoid being used for political points in an election season.

"We keep politics out," Barnes shrugged.

He's hoping that the effort will pick up more steam, especially from businesses and corporations. "I don't understand why a lot of these big corporations have not jumped into this thing. It should already be paid for," Barnes said, adding that anyone who knows of a business or an individual who wants to contribute money should reach out to him.

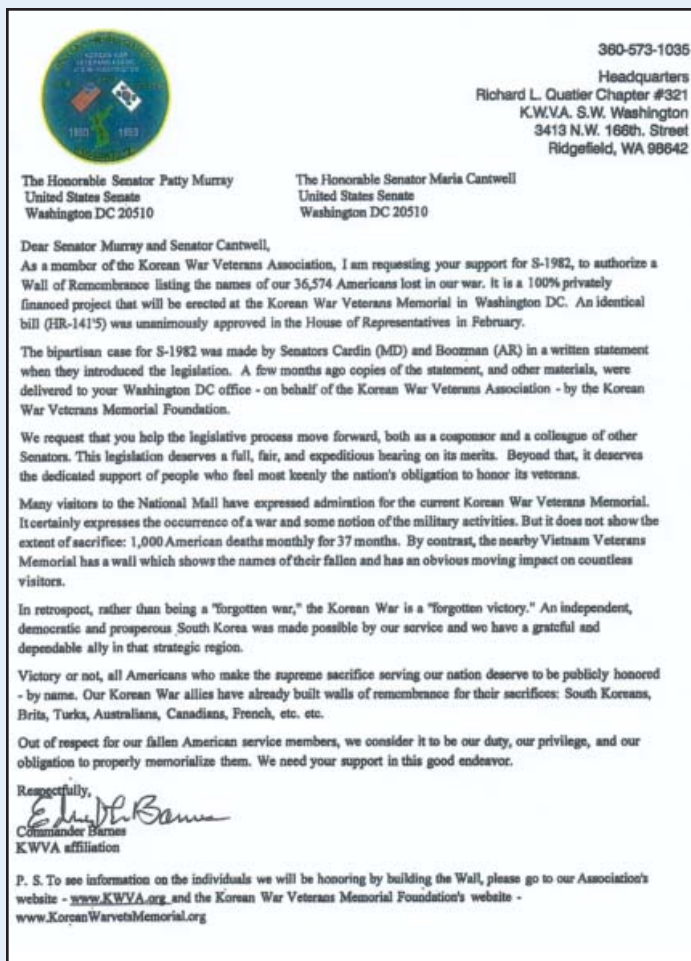
The National Korean War Veterans Association meets at 10 a.m. on the third Wednesday of the month, at 40 at 8 Chateau, 7607 N.E. 26th Ave., Vancouver. Emailed inquiries can be sent to: jabbager@gmail.com.

Nine allies of the U.S. in the Korean War have already erected memorials for those soldiers, Barnes argued in a speech to around three dozen fellow Korean veterans who gathered for their monthly chapter meeting on Dec. 19.

"Every country of those nine countries all have monuments to their soldiers that were killed in Korea, and they all have their names on it. Here we've got a United States of America where we have 36,574 Americans who got killed in Korea, and there's still no Wall of Remembrance like the Vietnam Wall in Washington, D.C. It's really a shame that we can't do better in the United States."

-Page 3-

Page in Truman Neighborhood News devoted to Ch. 321's effort



Letter sent to U.S. Senators Cantwell and Murray of Washington State seeking support



Clark County, WA Proclamation

K9 Vets Day



K9 Vets Day: Diego, a military working dog assigned to the 51st Security Forces Squadron, sits patiently awaiting his handler's next command at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, March 12, 2019. On March 13, military working dogs are celebrated for National K9 Veterans Day. Additionally, the U.S. Army established the War Dog Program, or K-9 Corps, on this day in 1942. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Ramon A. Adelan)

They all deserve closure

The U.S. and North Korea may remain bitter enemies, always one click of a button away from a nuclear conflict, but there is one thing they share: grieving families that still yearn for closure as they hope to learn about the fate of their missing soldiers from the Korean War, as do their counterparts from the other countries that participated.

Wars are nasty events. Mothers and fathers send their sons and daughters off to fight them and pray for their safe returns. Sadly, many do not survive, but they are accounted for. Some are not. Their places and times of death or disappearance remain unknown, and they are listed ultimately as missing in action (MIA). Their survivors wait and hope that their respective governments can determine the MIAs' fates and repatriate their remains.

What we often forget is that families on both sides of the war experience similar feelings. They all died for a cause, right or wrong. They all deserve closure.

Mumps and antique washboards

By Wendell Round

The photos on page 55 depict a 24" x 9" Korean washboard. It was salvaged from the wreckage of the Hong Lee family home in Seoul, following the communist north's invasion in June, 1950. In this tribute to the Hong Lee family and to the people of South Korea, I have covered this artifact with the colors of the Republic of South Korea—symbolic of their courage, plain old hard work, and resiliency in the face of great odds.

The bronze plaque reads as follows:

A TRIBUTE

This vintage Korean washboard dates to about 1910, the year Japan invaded and began 35 years of subjugation. In this tribute to the Lee family (Hong Roe and Hong Jae and their seven children), and to all the Korean people, I have draped this artifact in the red, white, blue and black colors of the Republic of Korea. Even in the face of additional communist invasion, their citizens did not lose heart; have shown fortitude, bravery, and an unwavering work ethic, resulting today in the great "skyscrapered" city of Seoul, and one of the world's foremost economies.



Wendell Round, in his Army days

In 2005 I met Eui S. Lee, age 68, in San Diego. She had emigrated from Seoul in 2002. The youngest of five Lee daughters, her tales of living under Japanese rule and escaping Seoul before the north's invasion were compelling. Getting acquainted, I explained to her I had been an Army private in Seoul in June 1953 at the 121st Army Evacuation Hospital. I was recovering from—of all possible wartime injuries—the mumps.

The mumps are a real problem, for a man, 21. I owe my life to 2nd Medical Battalion medics who finally, with continual alcohol rubdowns, subdued my 105 degree temperatures. And, it wasn't my right leg that ballooned and was placed in a sling for the train ride to the 121st Evacuation Hospital.

There was never such pain, but nothing like the pain I witnessed at the railhead. There was a breakthrough (I think June 12th), and my rail car was filling with the wounded, some severely. And there I was with a mask over my face. At the hospital, I noticed a row of seven iron lungs, helping seven soldiers breathe- hemorrhagic fever.

I was lucky to get the mumps instead.

Eui, age 17 at that time (I call her



Different views of the Seoul railroad station in November 1952

The mumps are a real problem, for a man, 21. I owe my life to 2nd Medical Battalion medics who finally, with continual alcohol rubdowns, subdued my 105 degree temperatures.

Edie), and her family were in the process of rebuilding their war-ravaged home, not far from the hospital. (As the nearby photos of the Seoul Railroad Station taken in November 1952 show, not all of the city was destroyed.) She and I became fast friends and constant companions. In her apartment, I noticed this old washboard. Having been used by generations of Lees, she couldn't bear to leave it in Seoul. She understood (with a big hug) and was pleased with my plans for it.

In 2013, at the invitation of the Republic of Korea, Edie and I attended the 60th anniversary of the Korean Armistice (July 27, 1953) in Seoul—a three day celebration that opened my eyes in wonder. The city that was destroyed decades earlier was now comparable to New York or Chicago. We were impressed by the entire tour, the first class amenities, and care afforded us.

Edie's knowledge of this remarkable metropolis made my experience very rewarding. Following the award ceremony, when the Ambassador of Peace medal

was draped around my neck, we walked several streets and shops nearby. Quite unabashedly, I still wore the medal on my jacket. I'll never forget how some elder citizens literally bowed before me, thanking me for my service so many decades earlier. We were literally surrounded at times, with Edie answering questions in her native language.

Edie was my very competent guide on subsequent days. High tech subways and skyscrapers—this is what can happen, I thought, when an energized and dedicated people combine with a democratic government.

We wandered around the Seoul National Cemetery, in the heart of the city. Acres of the fallen and revered. The sheer magnitude and hushed quiet brought on powerful emotions. The United States monument, in Busan, is located within the United Nations Memorial Cemetery. It is dedicated to the 33,739 U. S. battle deaths—lost in defense of freedom—for the people of South Korea (1950-1953). Is it not right? Who can place a price on freedom's value? Inestimable.

This tribute is part of my legacy. As the years pass, and long after the last Korean War veteran is laid to rest, I trust it will be a reminder of one man's humble service to his country.

Author's bio:

* Wendell P. Round (wendelround@yahoo.com) R044234, Age 86

* Hometown, Greenville, Rhode Island

* Entered Army service from San Diego, November 1952

* Basic training, Fort Ord, California Heavy weapons, 38th Infantry Regiment

* Embarked Camp Stoneman April 1953 (General Walker)

* Disembarked May 1953, Pusan

* Assignment Adjutant General Corps, Headquarters, 2nd (Indian Head) Division (Sgt)



TOP: The decorated washboard belonging to the Lee family

Washboard with Wendell Round's photo superimposed

Korean War Veterans Association Inc

KWVA Online Store kwva.us

ALL ITEMS AVAILABLE ONLINE OR BY PHONE AT 217-345-4414

NEW SHIRTS AND HATS AVAILABLE NOW!

Shirts 100 % polyester Freedom Is Not Free



Shirts M-XL \$30 XXL \$35

Hats \$15 ea plus S & H

GENERAL USE



ALTERNATE LOGO

GENERAL USE



1990'S LOGO

LADIES



New Larger



Freedom

Pins \$5 ea plus S & H of \$7.90 any order



60th Annv Hats
\$10 ea + S & H

Patches \$5 ea plus S & H

Comes in Patch
& Decal



Korea War &
Defense Decals
\$5 or 3/\$10



Self adhesive
window Klings
(go Inside)
\$3 ea or 2/\$5

\$5 ea or 3/\$10



Front

Back

60th Annv Coins
\$5.00 ea Plus S & H

Not shown actual size



Tunnels

There was an article in the April 10, 2019 issue of the magazine *The National Interest* headlined “FACT: North Korea’s Most Lethal Weapon Isn’t Nuclear Weapons: It’s underground tunnels,” by Sebastien Roblin.

Here are a couple excerpts:

“Hopefully, the infiltration tunnels will remain merely another footnote in the conflict between the two Koreas that will never be used in an actual conflict. Nonetheless, they remain a testament to the great lengths North Korea has undertaken to undermine the defenses of its southern neighbor, and the sense of paranoia and uncertainty that can inspire in civilian and military leaders alike....

“Later inspections revealed the so-called First Tunnel of Aggression had been lavished with concrete-slab walls, electrical lighting, weapon-storage areas and sleeping accommodations. There was even a railway with carts installed. The tunnel was over two miles long, a third of which was on the South Korean side of the border, and had space enough for two thousand soldiers to traverse it per hour....

“North Korea initially denied any responsibility for the tunnel, which violates the armistice it signed in 1953, then claimed it was dug for coal mining, a fact belied by the granite foundations. Today the Third Tunnel has become a popular tourist attraction....

“Nonetheless, the specter of subterranean infiltrators has inspired some South Korean civilians to privately fund their own tunnel searches, to the annoyance of the military. For example, a BBC article from 2012 tells the story of a pastor who lost much of his congregation due to his obsession with tunnel hunting, while a 2014 CNN story relates how retired South Korean general Hahn Sung-chu grew convinced there was tunneling activity

under an apartment building in Seoul....”

Tunnels are nothing new in warfighting in the Far East. The Japanese used them in WWII, the Vietnamese used them in the Vietnam War, and the enemy used them in Korea. (See the nearby clip from the *Milwaukee Journal*, Nov. 13, 1952 Milwaukee, WI, p. 1.)

Did any of our readers encounter enemy soldiers using tunnels in their operations in Korea? Where? Who used them? For what purposes? Please let us know. We’ll dig through your answers as quickly as possible.

We cannot reprint the article referenced earlier in its entirety due to the obvious copyright restrictions, but anyone who is interested can access it at <https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/fact-north-koreas-most-lethal-weapon-isnt-nuclear-weapons-51942>.

Thanks to Tim and Monika Stoy for bringing the story to our attention.

Reds Retake Ridge Again

Sniper Crest Is Lost to Foe Emerging From Tunnels, Caves

Seoul, Korea - (AP) — More than 1,000 Chinese Communists surged out of underground bunkers Thursday night and in a reckless charge through bursting shells and streams of bullets, recaptured the crest of Sniper ridge for the 14th time.

The Chinese charged up from the Yoke, their maze of underground caves and tunnels, and ripped into South Korean positions with deadly fire from hundreds of “burp guns”—light, hand carried sub-machine guns.

The first wave of two companies—about 350 Reds—was followed by hundreds more who trotted up Pinpoint hill, the crest of Sniper, and closed in bloody hand to hand fighting with South Korean defenders.

The Graybeards Submission Guidelines

Ongoing Series

Remember that we have ongoing series for which we are always looking for submissions. Among them are:

- Where I was on July 27, 1953
- Humor in Korea
- How I joined the KWVA

We will continue the series as long as we receive your stories. Please send your submissions to Arthur G. Sharp, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573.

Editor’s Office Hours

Bear in mind that the editor is not a full-time employee of the KWVA. He maintains approximate office hours. They are 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. eastern standard time, Monday through Friday.

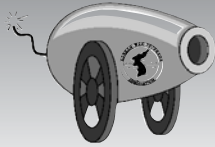
Photo Captions

Whenever possible, please identify the subjects in photos you submit. We realize that is not always possible, especially in group photos. But, when you can, identify them, use designations such as (R-L), (L-R), (Standing, L-R), (Seated, L-R), etc.

And, please write subjects’ names as legibly as possible. We can usually figure out who the KWVA members are, but we cannot guess at non-members’ identities.

Photo Limits

From time to time we have to limit the number of photos we include with Chapter or Tell America news. We receive a lot of submissions in both categories, and we have a limited number of pages. So, in the interest of fairness, we try to spread the coverage.



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 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573-7141; E-mail it to: sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net, or phone it in to (813) 614-1326. Whatever the medium you choose, we welcome your input.

Looking for Chosin Reservoir veterans

I'm one of your members and proud of it! I'm also the National President of the rejuvenated Chosin Few. We will be holding our annual reunion in San Diego, 4-8 December.

On Thursday, 5 December, we're visiting Camp Pendleton for the day. If there are any Chosin Few members in the area we would love to have them join us.

(Col) Warren Wiedhahn, USMC (Ret), National President, The Chosin Few, Annandale, VA, JWiedhahn@aol.com

Welcome to the KWVA

March 26, 2019

Dear Ms. Fritts,

Wow, impressive!! Fantastic. I just received my welcome packet from the KWVA and I am impressed with the high quality of the Graybeards Magazine. Excellent job. I look forward to enjoying its contents.

Thanks also for the informative cover letter and spiffy decals. Quite a complete package! I am honored and delighted to be a part of this great group of folks.

In appreciation,
Warren P. Wiedhahn

Standing at attention

By 1953, the gathering of pertinent intelligence for battalion nightly patrols was paramount for lowering casualties. That year, patrolling and outpost battles were the last vestiges of the Korean War. Intelligence, in my case, was derived from aerial reconnaissance photos. The analysis of any terrain diggings and gun emplacements were disseminated to the patrol leaders. It was the best collection of intelligence available during the stalemate.

When the battalion was off the line, I had the responsibility of security. One day at Camp Casey, my colonel informed me that there was a security disturbance in an abandoned rice paddy flanking the battalion's rear perimeter. I was ordered to take three sergeants and ¾-ton vehicle and investigate the unknown incursion.

After Colonel La Hatte returned my salute, I couldn't help wondering why he had a subtle, but discernible, smile. His facial expression took on a look of amusement with an unusual sparkling of his eyes.

The drive to the area was a short distance from the battalion's headquarters. The whole area was below the road surface and covered with tall brown rice grass. I headed out into the field with sergeants a few paces to my rear in a single file. Around a low hill we came upon two distinct lines of soldiers. Some were playing their guitars to a melody called "Adois Muchachos Companeros." I noticed that the men were without their weapons. The sergeants gave out with a soft laughter, which I didn't comprehend.

It wasn't long after I heard their laughter that I realized the reason for their frivolity. In a small trampled down area were two Korean teenage girls dressed in western attire. They were flat on their backs on the ground. Standing upright at their heads was another teenage girl with a young male. The soldiers at the head of each line were prepared for action. They were oblivious to my presence. It was an orderly activity.

Instinctively, the sergeants broke up the lines without any reprimands to the thirty odd brothel clients. Two sergeants escorted the girls and male to the vehicle. The soldiers disbursed quietly and returned to Casey. It appeared that we had busted up an impromptu open, come as you are, outdoor 'house of ill repute.'

In the immediate aftermath of the round up, the girls were placed in the Division's stockade to await their removal to the Norwegian MASH for medical examinations. The male entrepre-

neur was taken to a nearby ROK division for his disposition. To this day, I vividly recall the frightened look on the girls faces as they huddled tightly together in a far corner of the stockade. I never knew whatever happened to them.

George Bjotvedt, 7345 E. Cozy Camp Dr., Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

Mistakes? In The Graybeards?

I believe there were some unit identification mistakes in the January-February *Graybeards*. I was a member of the 1st Cav. Div. during the first year of the Korean War. I don't believe there was a 26th Inf. Div. as stated on page 5. Nor was there a 27th Div. as identified on p. 20 with a 7th Div. patch or a 45th Regiment in the 7th Div. as mentioned on p. 25.

Mistakes aside, I still enjoy reading *The Graybeards*.

James Haw, 11065 Colton Dr., Reno, NV 89521

Wait for the war to end

In the March/April 2019, *Graybeards*, p. 59, "The Day Hank Williams Died." you ask, "Did any well-known country-western singers of the time entertain service members during the Korean War?" It seems that most C/W entertainers went to Korea after the war ended. Louis Marshall, aka "Grandpa" Jones, and his wife, Ramona Riggins Jones, both of TV show HEE HAW fame, performed in Korea during the war.

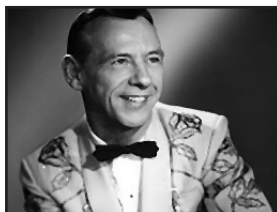
Here are some of the post-war appearances: Mark Wills and Jolie Edwards (May, 2005); Mark Chesnut (2010); Toby Keith and Craig Morgan in April 2018.

Here is a side note on a non-country-western artist. Al Jolson performed 42 shows in just 16 days in Korea, during the first year of the war. He was the first entertainer to volunteer to entertain the troops in Korea, and he paid the travel expense out of his own pocket. Shortly after returning home from Korea, Jolson died of a heart attack on October 23, 1950.

Tom Moore, tm103ps@yahoo.com

Snow and Tubbs in Korea

In the March/April issue of the *Graybeards*, the question in the Feedback section was if any well-known country singers of the time performed in Korea during the war. The short answer is "Yes.



Hank Snow in 1963

I arrived at Kimpo AFB (K-14) the first part of March 1953. Shortly afterwards, either late March or early April, Hank Snow and Ernest Tubbs performed at Kimpo. There was an outdoor theater, which I think was called the "Rice Bowl," at which the entertainers performed. I was assigned to the 67th Tac. Recon. Wing.

DeWayne Hayes, Sturgis, SD,
dhayes@rushmore.com

EDITOR'S NOTE: There was an article in the Knoxville [TN] News-Sentinel, Saturday, Nov. 3, 1990, P. 20, headlined,



Ernest Tubbs around 1964

"If singer Hank Snow were younger, he'd answer call to Mideast." The first paragraph began, "Country music pioneer Hank Snow, who performed for American soldiers in Korea and Vietnam, would be eager to entertain troops in the Persian Gulf if he were younger." Incidentally, Hank Snow was born in Nova Scotia...Country music star Ernest Tubbs helped him get a spot on the Grand Old Opry in 1950 and he's performed on the show ever since."

Re: Yechon and the caste system

It's pretty obvious what happened. (See "Yechon, Charles Bussey, and the Army's strange denial," p. 22, March-April 2018). Whoever was in charge of entering the details of the Yechon fire fight had enough clout and/or collusion from fellow soldiers to squelch the official reports. And it didn't have to be southerners, because there was plenty of racial prejudice up north then as now.

From what we read in *The Greybeards*, in retrospect, there were enough eye-witnesses to say that the heroics of Bussey actually happened, but the official reporting of the action may very well have been the responsibility of one or two bigoted historians.

Re: Caste system

(See "Does the Caste System Among Officers Work?," p. 23, March-April 2018). I was 2½ years an enlisted Sailor in WWII and a commissioned Navy officer for two years in the Korean War. As a gob I expected to be told what to do and knew what happened if I didn't do it. As an officer I expected to be obeyed and my men knew what would happen if they didn't! There was a dichotomy in both scenarios.

As a gob at Camp Lejeune I could play cribbage or go sailing with a superior officer (non-commissioned at that stage of my career) but in the field or hospital it was "Yes, sir!" As a battalion surgeon in the front lines and later as C.O. of Easy Med, a forward Marine/Navy tent hospital, I could play baseball and laugh with them at dirty jokes but they knew that at all other times when I barked, they answered "Woof!" and immediately did what I'd ordered.

Camaraderie, even friendship in both cases, but "buddies?" An emphatic, "No!"

J. Birney Dibble, jbirneydibble5@gmail.com

A cover story

Many thanks for the beautiful cover of 'The Lotte World Mall' located in downtown Seoul. These two skyscrapers are astonishing when one thinks of Seoul being overrun by the invasion 6/28/50, then 2 more times up to 9/27/50, when it was recaptured by U.S. troops after ten days of bitter fighting that left Seoul a mass of rubble.

- Jan. 4, 1951: Seoul falls to CCF for 2nd time in 6 months
- Feb. 24, 1951: U.S. forces recapture Seoul for 2nd time
- May 10, 1951: CCF offensive advance south within 4 miles of Seoul
- Sept. 15, 1952: Inchon landing by 1st Marines and 7th US Army Div.
- Sept. 27, 1951: Seoul recaptured after 10 days of bitter bat-

tle that leveled Seoul—again

I traveled through Seoul just after the cease fire to pick up a convoy of trucks in Inchon. There was little of any standing buildings over two stories high and I wondered what would ever become of South Korea's capitol! And 66 years later look at the "Miracle!"

I wonder how many individuals viewing the photo of the building would notice the familiar—to us, at least—"Big yellow M indicating a McDonald's inside." (See lower left, just below arrow in lower sign in the nearby photo.) That is part of the miracle that shows the Koreans have become "westernized!"

Wayne Pelkey, wppwlkwy@charter.net

Our future is dim

I just finished reading the latest Graybeards and enjoyed your column concerning the Gatlin Bunch! I met Larry some time ago, enjoyed him, enjoy their music, have some of it, and play it quite often. I think those guys are quality people!!!

I believe you are younger than me. Therefore I found your comments on the "UNITER" interesting. Circumstances in our country today are GRIM. I take it that you hang in the older crowd as I do, where the PATRIOTISM continues to be evident! But I believe the couple of generations after us are only "TAKERS," NOT PRODUCERS or VOLUNTEERS. Therefore the odds of our country returning to what we once knew it as are going into the toilet a bit at a time.

I haven't yet lost complete faith, but it is difficult to maintain "WHAT ONCE WAS"!!!

Dick Malsack, kaslam2001@yahoo.com

A letter to George Bjotvedt

I enjoyed your article in *The Graybeards*, "Up and Over North Korea," p. 16, Jan-Feb 2019. As an old Army pilot, I don't see many articles about our Korean equipment - Cessna L-19, Bell H-13 Helicopter and Beaver aircraft!

I took some low level photo missions in the L-19s with our 2nd Inf. Division's cameramen as a regular assignment, and they were pretty hairy. To see men on the ground with rifles and seeing the little red dots as they fired was enough to hope they never shot skeet! Of course, we had a lot of protection - about 1/4" plexiglass! I couldn't weave and dodge much as he was taking pictures!

I forget the name of the busy hill we ordinarily used, but we were based in Chorwon during most of the year I was there, 1952. Seems like eons ago. Oh, and the L-19 was built by Cessna and is metal covered. The previous one was a cub and fabric skin. The pilots all liked the L-19!

Thanks again for the article George! Brings back memories!

Bill Kummer, 4708 W. Annette Circle, Glendale, AZ 85308

"Howze" it going?

You carried an interesting addendum in the March-April 2019 issue of *The Graybeards* to the story of the first Cavalry Division's entry into the Korean War concerning the Navy transport General R.L. Howze or APA-134. This was the first detailed description that I have seen of a ship that carried me and 3,000 other guys to Japan in late March 1953.

We departed Seattle, Washington on an early evening but wondered why all we were given to eat were apples and hard boiled eggs. To reach the Pacific Ocean from Seattle, vessels must transit the 95-mile long Juan de Fuca Strait that forms the border between Washington State and British Columbia. However, the Pacific Ocean can come roaring into that enclosed body of water with giant swells, which made us land lubbers encased below decks feel like we were going to sink.

Aggravating those conditions was the fact that the ship had a 15 degree list to the starboard for the whole trip. We were at sea the first morning and we learned that no one was allowed below decks during the day except for cleaning crews and for chow. The chow line never ended and we ate at stand-up tables bolted to the deck. Needless to say some wit christened the ship "The Lousy Howze!"

Once on deck, I looked over the side and saw the whole ship covered with regurgitated apples and hard-boiled eggs. I won't elaborate on conditions in the "heads."

The voyage lasted 17 days with a swing to the south just north of the Hawaiian Islands to escape the rough North Pacific seas. The temperatures were high below decks during that period, which served to remind us what troops during WWII traversing the Pacific went through. We spent our days trying to find a spot on deck out of the wind while swapping pocket novels.

Evenings were spent attending movies without benefit of chairs while spit shining shoes. Since Joseph Stalin had died a couple of weeks earlier, there was speculation whether the war would still be on by the time we got there. I suppose secretly some didn't want to miss out on the action and the glory, but nobody wanted to get shot!

The sleeping accommodations were tight, with 4 and 5 levels of bunks to accommodate the low ranking troops. (Going home a year later as an E-5, I was disgusted to learn that you had to be E-6 to share a cabin). I was 5'9" and 120 pounds soaking wet, and could hardly turn over in the bunk when a burly colleague occupied the next bunk up. We were not suffering, in any event, since we had all of our Class A clothing and no weapons or combat gear and we were not expecting to leave the ship using cargo nets over the side.

When we reached Yokohama we disembarked and boarded an



antique Japanese train which took us to Camp Drake outside Tokyo for processing. That took a hectic 24 hours during which we signed forms, got shots, turned in all of our class A uniforms, and were issued all of our combat clothing and equipment, including M-1 rifles. We were taken to a short range to fire a few rounds to make sure the weapons functioned.

Andy Antippas at Camp Drake in 1953

The nearby photo of me was taken at the formation at Camp Drake at which we were told individually about our final unit destination. The majority, including yours truly, were destined for combat divisions in Korea, but a number were assigned to the 24th Division, which was in garrison in Northern Japan. Once the processing was completed, those going to Korea were loaded on the antique train for another ship, the five-day voyage to Inchon, and the great adventure!

Over the years I have thought about what constituted the assignment process to the combat divisions, particularly for those of us who bore the (1953) “1495 MOS”—or combat infantryman. The assignment process which may have begun, in those pre-computer days, in the U.S., not Camp Drake, was in many respects a giant crap shoot for the individual trooper. With any luck at all, you could end up in a quiet sector, or worse, be assigned to a unit that was due to be overrun or battered by communist artillery.

The same system was used in Vietnam, once the original staff of the first U.S. divisions served their time, and the “Green Machine” started sending in replacements. What changed after 1965 was that replacements were flown to Vietnam (and home) instead of delivery by ship. If memory serves, the USNS General Howze delivered some of the early American contingents, which would make sense, since the first troops were bringing in organic heavy equipment such as vehicles and artillery.

Always enjoy The Greybeards. It always resuscitates a memory or two.

Andy Antippas, Reston, VA, afotis321@netzero.net

Danish or Swedish?

In reading the current issue of The Greybeards I noticed that someone mentioned the Danish Hospital in Pusan. (See “Freedom is not free,” p. 57). I was not aware that Denmark had a hospital there, but the Swedish did. I know this as I was transferred to the Swedish Hospital in Pusan from a MASH unit near Chunchon.

I only stayed there a brief time until I was transferred to the US Army Hospital in Osaka, Japan until I was sent back to my unit. The Swedish maintained both a Land and Ship Hospital as they were a neutral country. They maintained an excellent hospital.

Bill Jacque, CWO, U.S. Army (Ret.), williamjacque@yahoo.com

A fine issue, and applause to those who made it so

I read with considerable interest Gary Johnson’s report on “Nile Marsh’s Breakout Journey” in the Jan-Feb issue of The Graybeards. Having served for 14 years as newsletter editor of the Army Chapter of The Chosin Few, I am quite familiar with that horrific saga of consummate courage and suffering under the most unimaginable conditions in Nov-Dec 1950.

But drawing from Marsh’s notes, Johnson brought new insights of a personal nature to the story while retracing the historic breakout effort through thousands of encircling Chinese. It brought the story back to life and freshened it for new readers, as well as those familiar with the Chosin episode. I commend Gary for his respectful presentation and attention to detail.

I felt a twinge, however, in seeing the reference to Sgt. Calvin (actually it was James) DeLong, K/31/7. Jim was an indomitable soldier, a three-year thorn in the ass of his Chinese captors, and a

faithful and thoughtful member of The Chosin Few’s Army Chapter. We lost Jim on February 5 this year to a long illness. He and his charming wife Audrey, everyone’s favorite, were a welcoming pint-size couple with major league hearts at every reunion for many years. I was pleased to know them as friends.

All in all, this was a fine issue. I chuckled at the photo of a bundled-up-to-his-chin President Ike on his Feb ‘51 post-election visit to Korea; reading George’s Bjotvedt gripping Korean War version of “bring me the head of John the Baptist” (I don’t mean to make light of the reaction to a heart-stopping battlefield order); the accounts of a MiG-15 pilot’s defection, as well as a “MiG swipe” mission to bring back pieces of a crashed jet; an aerial front-line inspection by a first-time flier; the commissioning of the USS Hudner, which recounted the Thomas Hudner-Jesse Brown story of heroism and brotherly sacrifice; and Jack Cato’s tale of how Korea changed his life.

Good stuff, fine reading, and there was more. Many thanks to all concerned. (I sometimes wish, however, there were more details about the respective authors. Not a criticism, just a thought.)

Byron Sims, MedCo, 17/7, 1952-’53, 4616sims@comcast.net

Include military unit in obituary

I would encourage every military veteran to consider including in their obituary the most significant unit in which they served. The internet is a valuable instrument in searching for former members, and in the event of a death, making contact with their children.

Many of us have failed to maintain contact with former company mates over the years and now, with modern means to access all sorts of information, the possibilities are unlimited.

Searching the internet, I have discovered children of former company mates because the obituary of their Dad contained the military unit in which we both served. It has been a very rewarding experience in that I have been able to share stories about their Dad.

I have already made provisions to include in my obituary that I served with the 3125th Signal Service Company in Europe during WW2 and with Team “C,” 205th Signal Repair Company in Korea.

*Joseph B. Cocke, 602 Downs Loop,
Clemson, SC 29631-2007, jbmcocke@nctv.com*

Unfortunately, no...twice

I was introduced to the local KWVA chapter in the early 2000s. I am the facilitator for the Indiana Genealogy Society Veterans Honor Rolls Project. (See Recon, p. 17). I made a presentation to Chapter 30, Indiana #1, Fort Wayne.

I did not serve during the combat era of the Korean War. I served in 1957-1958 with I CORP, stationed in Uijongbu. After my presentation the chapter commander asked me to become a member. I accepted his invitation and joined as a life member.

The purpose of this letter is to obtain, if possible, a list of Indiana KWVA members who I can add to the Veterans Honor Rolls Project.

In the Jan/Feb 2019 issue I saw that the KWVA has a new logo incorporating the Korean Defense veterans. Is it possible to have

a section of the magazine for Defense Veterans stories concerning their experiences in Korea?


John D. Hannigan, 5523 Sable Ct., Ft. Wayne, IN 46835, nagin-nahj@yahoo.com, U.S. Army SSGT 1953-1964

EDITOR'S NOTE: The KWVA does not release members' names. Its database is solely for internal use and can be accessed only by personnel who have the proper passwords. The policy is designed to protect members' privacy, which is getting harder and harder to do in today's society.


As for the dedicated section for Defense Veterans, we do not allocate specific pages in *The Graybeards*. For one reason all Korean War and Korean Defense veterans served for the same purpose: to protect and preserve South Koreans' freedom and continued independence. There is no need to separate them in *The Graybeards*.

Reason #2: we don't get enough stories from Korean Defense veterans to justify a special section. Remember, we only include stories that are submitted to us. Our one-person staff does not go out onto the field to dig them up.

Finally, creating dedicated sections can present layout nightmares. We have only a certain number of color pages, advertising space may impinge on the amount of space available for regular stories, ditto for chapter and business news, which varies from issue to issue...and so forth.



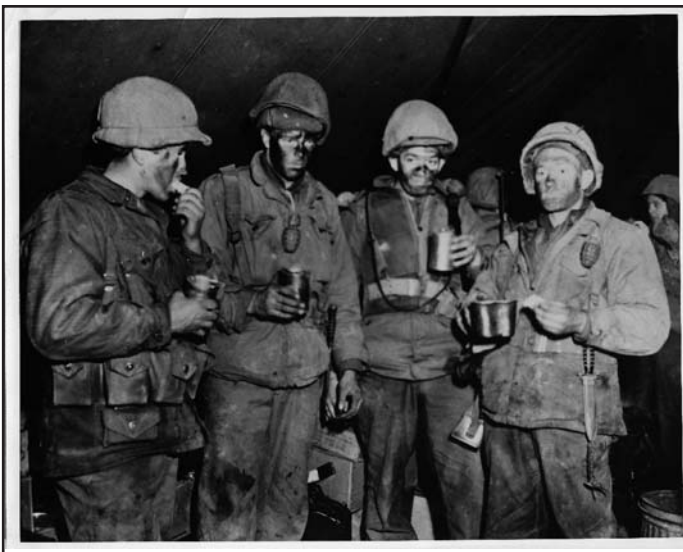
THE CHOSIN FEW
 NOVEMBER - 1950 - DECEMBER
 CHOSIN RESERVOIR - NORTH KOREA



Whatever we were in that frozen long-ago and whatever we are now, we are bound as one for life in an exclusive fraternity of honor. The only way into our ranks is to have paid the dues of duty, sacrifice and valor by being there. The cost of joining, in short, is beyond all earthly wealth.

For an application, contact Headquarters at 843-379-1011 or email TheChosinFewInc@aol.com or visit our website at ChosinFew.org

How would they feel about this face?



Some readers might remember the "Black Face" scandal that erupted in the state of Virginia earlier this year when high-ranking state officials were accused of applying black paint to their faces, which was treated as an overt act of racism. I wonder what the accusers would have said about the nearby photo. (See the Editor's Comments on p. 9.)

NOTE: This photo was included in the Hotaling Collectio.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

A~Vet Emblem Supply

6228 Josephine Road, Norton, VA 24273
 (276)679-2096 Email: Raywellsavet@aol.com
 Website Catalog only: www.avetemblem.org
 Hours: 8 AM - 5 pm EST

Quartermaster for all Korean War Veterans
 Patches, Shirts, Dress Caps, Ball Caps, KWVA Collar
 Brass, Hat Pins, Sew On Shoulder Rank, Epaulets,
 Ribbons, Medals, and Display Cases
 We sew on (free) all patches by request w/shirt purchase
 Same day service on most orders.
 Ship First Class Postage
 We accept Visa / Master Card / Discover

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Disclaimer

Neither *The Graybeards* editor nor the KWVA is responsible for misinformation, discrepancies, or embellishments, intentional or unintentional, that may be contained in communications in any form that appear in *The Graybeards*.

We do not have staff to fact check all material that is sent to us. We depend on the honesty and integrity of those who submit material for publication, and on the expertise of our members and readers to correct misstatements or misinformation, whether intentional or not.

And we weren't even at the Reservoir yet

**Sudong, North Korea, A-1-7, 1st Marine Division
November 2, 1950**

NOTE: The photos accompanying this article are not related to the events depicted. They are included to show some of the conditions troops faced in the Korean War. They are part of a collection of photos contributed for general use by Charles C. Rickett of Lincolnwood, IL.

We were digging in on a hilltop. I thought I heard something down the hill. I called S/Sgt. Vanzile. He listened and said it was just the wind. About ten minutes later I heard some shots about 40 feet away on the backside of the hill. Two guys had fired 4 or 5 rounds at a hut about 2,000 yards across the valley, where some Koreans were waving their arms at us.

They two Marines set up a light 30 and fired into the hut with tracers. I fired a couple of rounds as well. Lt. Bradley came over and chewed us out for shooting at civilians. He got 8 or 10 steps away and the hut blew up. It was full of ammunitions. Lt. Bradley called mortars in and chased the enemy troops up a canyon.

I was back at my position digging in when I heard two grenades a few seconds apart. I heard later that the third squad leader was walking by his squad's position without his rifle and met an enemy soldier. They both threw a grenade; the next thing I heard was our platoon sergeant yelling, "O'Neil and Margeatta. Go see what's down there."

We went 100-150 yards out and found some maps and paper in Chinese. Margeatta picked up a nice walking stick, then dropped it and pulled up his M1. I nudged him and he said he saw something move. I told him that "If you shoot, we may not make it back up the hill."

We grabbed the papers and maps and went back up the hill at a fast pace. Back on top I gave the papers to S/Sgt Vanzile. About 20 minutes later the 'stuff hit the fan.' The first platoon got overrun. Two of them came over the hill and into our line with rounds flying. One of them was hit in the left wrist and had four bullet holes in his parka. We learned later that nine battalions of Chinese had hit us.

We backed down the hill and reset our lines, then went back up. I got the same position back and found my wallet there on the ground. I put it back in my hip pocket. We moved back off the top of the hill again. Margeatta told me my dungarees were ripped. I checked and found the back right side was ripped wide open—where my wallet used to be



Lt. Bradley stuck his carbine with the bayonet attached in the ground and said, "We hold here." We did, and the Chinese didn't hit us again.

Sometime after dark we were on 50% alert. I saw two small lights on the road. They disappeared behind the hills and a few minutes later I heard a big fire fight. The next morning they sent me down to the CP for C-rations and water. I heard that the light I saw was a T34 tank with sand bags on it. A sergeant had challenged it and told them to turn off their lights.

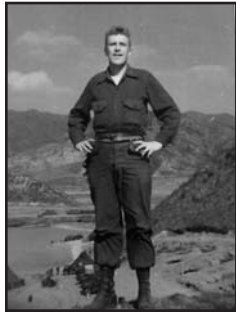
When the driver responded in Chinese, the sergeant dove for cover. They hit it with a 3.5 six times and a 75 recoilless hit it three times. The CP won the fire fight, but most of the rocket squad was wounded. I carried the five-gallon can of water and they sent a sergeant with a case of C-rations back to my unit.

Please turn to **SUDONG** on page 68



My memory of Korea's ammo shortage

By George Bjotvedt



1st Lt. George Bjotvedt
in Korea

In the summer 1952, on a hot and humid afternoon in the hills above the 38th parallel, a small group of soldiers of the 65th Puerto Rican regiment was preparing for another ambush patrol into no-man's land. That July afternoon the patrol members would be led again by scout dog "Stark" and his handler, Corporal Nason. The team had successfully led several patrols without any casualties. "Stark" was a welcome sight for the Puerto Ricans manning the MLR northwest of the village of

Chorwon.

"Stark's" presence always brought out smiling faces among the men of the battalion who rarely expressed any facial expression except maybe that of fear. There was no boisterous greeting when the dog appeared on the back trail leading up to the front line. But the sight of a German Shepherd dog walking on a long cloth leash with his handler in the trench works made the men feel at ease.

"Stark" and Cpl. Nason had demonstrated a remarkable safety record for the patrol members. Their accomplishment had become the talk of the regiment. It was an outstanding record that eliminated the high casualty rate of previous unguided patrols. Unfortunately, the notoriety had caused unauthorized aggregations of men to observe the comings and goings of "Stark." This unofficial gathering by the men was a dangerous act.

The patrol's top secret route down to the ambush position into the Imjin river valley was a well-traveled and tested trail. But the patrol's departure point from the front line had been telegraphed to the men. Their response was predictable. Some had gathered at a flat area along the patrol's trench to catch a glimpse of the four-legged hero.

At 1800 hours, we headed out with our trusted companions in the lead. Ahead and behind a curve in the trench there was a quick and sudden distinctive sound of exploding artillery shells. We hesitated, then we walked slowly forward with our heads down. I couldn't comprehend why the Chinese were shelling so far in the rear of the front and during daylight. Such fire was reserved by the Chinese for night assaults on our outposts.

A powerful scene became apparent when the patrol came abruptly onto the flat area where the troops had congregated. There were six dead soldiers. One survivor was sitting upright softly weeping and cradling a dead comrade in his lap. The cradled individual's head wound was clearly visible. Aside from the explosive gun powder odor, the scene was gruesome to observe the sprawled and mangled corpses. The patrol filed by the bodies quickly.

I thought that the patrol should be aborted. The men were shaken from the sight of their dead comrades. A runner was sent



Camouflage road net to obscure vehicles



A 4.2 mortar round on the way

back to the company commander with the request. The request was denied. That night everybody treaded lightly and with solemnity to the ambush area.

This incident was a minor occurrence in the protracted stalemate phase of the Korean War. Could it have been prevented? In wars, snafus do occur and usually without an explanation. Why were these men killed? Simply, they were a target of opportunity for the quick and effective Chinese artillery guns. Even with

a worthwhile target, the Chinese rarely fired their artillery during daylight hours. If they did, there would be a swift and powerful retaliatory fire. In this case, there was none. Why?

The reason was simple: there was an ammunition shortage! The effect was that men manning the MLR were rationed to three M-1 clips of .30 caliber ammunition per rifle per day. When it came to the artillery, the 105s and 155s were rationed to six rounds per gun per day. Therefore, the batteries of artillery decided to conserve their ammunition for night firing. The result of the conservation caused a temporary suspension of daylight firing.

What happened during that period? Let's just say that the Chinese got wind of the 8th Army's order to ration ammunition. They merely took advantage of the cessation. Though the ammunition shortage didn't last long, the regiment did experience that small and insignificant number of KIAs. A bit sinister and maybe an inappropriate remark. But then, there is no positive side to combat, but maybe one should be a bit more vigilant and less of a target.

George Bjotvedt, 7345 E Cozy Camp Dr., Prescott Valley, AZ 86314



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

PHILIP L. BOLTE
JETTIE A. BOYD
CLYDE H. ROBERTS

ARIZONA

FRANK W. PYLE
CARL H. SPEER
JEROME J. TICHY

ARKANSAS

AGNES W. CRAMLET
JOSEPH E. KOLB
WALTER L. LUNDGREN

CALIFORNIA

PIERRE F. DUMAS
LOUIS P. HORYZA
TED M. KAMADA
CARLTON E. KITCHEN
THOMAS J. MARTIN
MONTE J. NEWMAN
DANTE W. ORIENTE
ELMER A. PETERSEN
ROBERT E. WILLIAMS
THOMI Y. YAMAMOTO

COLORADO

DONALD H. STROBEL

CONNECTICUT

EDWARD A. CARNELLI SR.
FRANK CELOTTO

FLORIDA

ROBERT B. AUCKER
WALTER C. AURES
JOHN M. AZEVEDO
HAROLD M. BABCOCK
HERSCHEL W. BAGBY
STANLEY E. BANTER
FLORENCE BALAN
OWEN C. BALCOM
RALPH W. 'BILL' BARDELL
JOSEPH P. BEDNARZ
ROCCO BELLANTONI
LLOYD H. BERTSCH
CHARLES G. BEYER
THOMAS G. BLONDEL
KENNETH J. BLOSS
CHARLES H. BLUMAN
ROBERT W. BOEGLIN
MAX H. BRANYON JR.
WALTER M. BURKETT SR.
ANDY J. BYERS
WALLACE P. CAHILL
BOYD R. CAMPBELL

EDWARD M. CAMPBELL
BENJAMIN CAPUA
JIMMY A. CORBET
JAMES B. CURRY
CLARENCE DADSWELL
CHARLES W. DAVIS
EDWARD M. EPPS
JAMES J. GILLO
RICHARD A. GILLING
GEORGE W. JUNO SR.
FRANCIS F. LANE
GEORGE P. LIACOPOULOS
MICHAEL K. MCCADDEN
ALBERT P. MONAHAN
THOMAS H. MOORE
WILLIAM T. MOORE JR.
ARTHUR J. POWELL
GARY SINGER
JAMES H. STEWART
FLOREDA D. VARICK
HAROLD R. VISSER
JOSEPH S. WALKER
WILLIAM W. YOUNG
PAUL J. ZIKA

GEORGIA

RAYMOND B. BURCHETT
FRED F. COOK JR.
MARVIN R. GANDY JR.
JERRY A. LANDERS

HAWAII

SANG KUK CHO
MINORU IGARASHI
CLARENCE M. OKAMURA
MARSHALL W. RITCHEY

IDAHO

BASIL R. KVALE

ILLINOIS

THOMAS B. EWERS
JOSEPH E. GARBARSKI
WILLIAM H. HEISHMAN
ROBERT A. HENDERSON
SHELDON W. LARSON
RICHARD E. MEYER
MARVIN E. PURDY

INDIANA

DONALD E. BATES
RICHARD W. TRUEX JR.

IOWA

CELESTINO GEORGE
EARL 'GENE' GRAY
JERRY M. HILL

RICHARD E. RANDALL
GLENN L. WILLE

KANSAS

JOEL D. FITZGERALD
REX E. GARY

LOUISIANA

WALTER N. 'NICK' LAWLESS

MAINE

PAUL R. CURTIS

MARYLAND

LLOYD A. BRUBAKER
ROBERT E. VANLANINGHAM
JAMES A. WEDBERG

MASSACHUSETTS

HAROLD L. BAKER JR.
WILLIAM E. BAPTISTE
EDMOND L. FERRITER
ROBERT R. MARSHALL
CARLTON G. MCMORROW
NELSON J. SOUVE
ANTHONY 'TONY' VIERA

MICHIGAN

JOSEPH CICC
ROY E. CLARK
CARL L. DEVREE
CHARLES R. GEY
ROBERT C. JOHNSON
BERNIE NAGEL
HAROLD J. STUTZKY

MINNESOTA

GERALD E. HERRON
MARK S. JONES
MSCOTT DAVID MCLEAN

MISSOURI

DALE BOUSE
ROBERT J. CUMMISKEY
JOHN R. JARVIS
NEWELL V. LUETHJE
DONALD C. MORIN
KENNETH R. MUELLER
DONALD G. ROUSH
RICHARD F. TISELL
RAYMOND T. WILBORN

NEBRASKA

DONALD T. CONWAY
JAMES F. CROWLEY
DOUG DAMUTH
ROY J. LONG

NEVADA

RALPH O. CHRISTIE
ARCHIE L. ROBINSON

NEW HAMPSHIRE

ALBERT J. BROCHU JR.
THEODORE R. EATON
JOHN L. PELLERIN

NEW JERSEY

THOMAS S. BRERETON
DAVID A. CROWELL
ALFRED LOEB
JOSEPH M. PARISO
RONALD A. REASON
NICHOLAS J. TROISI
ROBERT VANAS

NEW YORK

CARL ANTONUCCI
MARIO A. BUCCI
RAFFAELE DISPIGNA
BERNARD E. DYKES
NICHOLAS A. FORGEONE
ALFRED URUIOLI

NORTH CAROLINA

EVERETT G. ANDREWS
MAX E. CRIBELAR

NORTH DAKOTA

WILLIAM D. SALZSIEDER
ARNOLD K. SCOTT

OHIO

LEWIS J. BERTKE
ROBERT M. CARPENTER
SHIRLEY M. DAVIS
RONALD D. DUTTON
WILLIAM C. INGRAM JR.
JAMES R. KOCHHEISER
DAVID B. LAWRENCE
FRED LICK JR.
ROLLAND H. PEACOCK
ROBERT E. PEDERSEN
IVOR C. PETERS JR.
GEORGE A. REHM
RAYMOND J. STOPAR

OKLAHOMA

EDGAR J. BRADSHAW

PENNSYLVANIA

STEPHEN G. ABEL
RUSSELL D. ABERNATHY
JOHN EDWARD ATKINSON
HARVEY L. BALDWIN
JOSEPH G. BARBER
RUSSELL BARLOW
THOMAS M. BARR
DALE A. BELTZNER SR.
MICHAEL BILLIG

AL BOSSLER

WILLIAM L. BOWKER
JOHN H. BREGON
NORMAN C. BRENNEMAN
LESTER E. THEOPHEL
KYRILL V. KOROLENKO

SOUTH CAROLINA

CHARLES E. FREEMAN
RICHARD C. HAITSCH
WALTER J. VILKAS

SOUTH DAKOTA

EARL G. BOXA

TENNESSEE

CURTIS S. ALLIN JR.
LAWRENCE BAILEY
JIMMY C. BALL
JAMES P. BARNETT
WILLIAM F. BATEMAN
PAUL MARTIN BORREN
ALBERT J. COOTS
GEORGE A. 'DON' ELLWOOD
MURIEL L. HARRIS
JACOB J. HUFFAKER
JACK MCWILLIAMS
ROBERT SHIPLEY
TED L. WAMPLER

TEXAS

KENNETH E. BORCHERS
JAMES H. CAWYER
JACK D. COOPER
D'WAYNE D. DEZIEL
WILLIE DOMINGUEZ
MELVIN M. MITCHELL
EVELYN PERKINS

VIRGINIA

ROBERT G. JENKS
VHARRY E. JONES
EDWIN F. PELOSKY
DALE L. THOMPSON SR.
LAWRENCE G. WARD
KENNETH E. WATTS

WASHINGTON

NORMAN D. BALLARD

WEST VIRGINIA

JULIUS E. JONES
WILLIAM SKINNER
NORMAN R. WHITE

WISCONSIN

GEORGE M. SHANNON

ALBERTA

JEAN PIERRE VAN ECK

APPLICATION FOR KOREA REVISIT & PCFY TOURS

(UPDATE 01/05/16)

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 nonrefundable \$50.00 deposit per person (check, money order or Credit Card) to Military Historical Tours. Payment of the remaining \$400 service fee is required for participants once a tour departure date is selected and submitted. The remaining \$400 service fee will be nonrefundable but a continuation into the following year is allowed if an emergency precludes the participants from attending the revisit that they have selected and been scheduled for.

Credit Card Authorization

I authorize **Military Historical Tours** by my signature above to charge my Visa, Discover, Master Card or Amex a **\$50.00 Deposit Per Person**,

The nonrefundable amount of **\$50.00 Per Person Credit Card #** _____

Expiration Date: _____ **please include the 3-Digit code on back of card** _____

Name as it appears on the Credit Card _____

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
Website: 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." Korea Defense Veterans (1945 – Jun 24, 1950 and Oct 16, 1954 – present) are eligible to go when Korean War Veterans are not available.

Expanded Eligibility

1. For the 65th anniversaries (2015-19) there will be more quotas available. In addition, those who have been on a Revisit prior to 2011 can apply to return again. (Call MHT for more details)
2. Widows and family members of deceased veterans or those unable to travel are also eligible for the Revisit as Veteran Representatives.
3. Korea Defense Veterans who served in Korea during these periods (1945 – Jun 24, 1950 and Oct 16, 1954 – present) are eligible to return on a space available basis TBD by the MPVA and the ROK criteria.

Benefits & Schedule

1. 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.
2. Accommodations are based on (2) persons per room, if you want a single hotel room you may at your own expense. All of the above items need to be requested in writing.
3. Tours of Seoul and its vicinity, banquet hosted by the MPVA and KVA with presentation of the "Ambassador for Peace" medal, tours of the DMZ, Pan-Mun-Jom, War Memorial Museum, and National Cemetery.

Typical Korea Revisit Itinerary

Day 1: Fly to Korea.

Day 2: Arrival day Incheon Airport, ROK check into Seoul Hotel.

Day 3 - Tribute Ceremony at the "Korean National Cemetery", visit to the Korean War Memorial.

Day 4 - Visit Panmunjom, DMZ, Joint Security Area, Camp Bonifas & wreath laying.

Day 5 - Ceremony for Korean War Veterans & Display/Show.

Day 6 - Visit tour of "Korean Folk Village" and shopping opportunity. Banquet hosted by MPVA and KVA.

Day 7 - Depart Korea or begin post-tour extensions.

Sundry Tour Requirements

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. Medical and Evacuation 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. Roundtrip transportation costs to Korea are not included and will be borne by each person who participates in the program. The participants must purchase roundtrip airfare, the ROK government will subsidize air costs (approximately 50% Veterans and 30% Companions.) The refunded airfare reimbursement will be calculated by the ROK after all the revisits. The reimbursement will be sent in a lump sum to be distributed by MHT for the entire year's groups.
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 nonrefundable service fee of \$450.00 per person is still required for the insurance, tour leaders and administration costs.
8. The initial \$50 per person registration fee that is required for postage, printing, phone charges, file maintenance and personnel staffing to manage the Korea Revisit Programs is not refundable. The remainder of the nonrefundable Service Fee (\$400) will not be charged until the participant has selected his Korea Revisit (KR) dates on the KR Preference Sheet that will be mailed in March-April as part of the KR Handbook.

THE THAYER

There is a hotel located just a stone's throw from the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, New York, on the academy campus. The Thayer Hotel, a Gothic Revival building, is named after Sylvanus Thayer, Class of 1808, the "Father of the Military Academy."

The building, which has a castle-like ambiance, was the temporary home to General of the Army Douglas MacArthur's mother, who stayed there while he attended the academy. At that time the hotel was named The West Point Hotel.





Welcome Aboard!

New Members of the Korean War Veterans Association

ALABAMA

R049059 RICHARD G. HIMMER

ARIZONA

R049067 LOUIS P. FERRARA
LR49041 WADE M. WILLIAMS

CALIFORNIA

LR48991 JAMES W. CARMICKLE
A049061 ROBERT HUNTLY
R049038 RICHARD M. MCCLUNG
A049062 GARY NOWAK
A049063 FRANK RUBIN
A049039 JACK R. SAMANIEGO
R049021 REUBEN W. SMITH III
LR49008 GARRY D. WEHR

FLORIDA

R049004 ROBERT D. ALLAN
R048980 JOSEPH A. ARTHURS
LR48988 CHARLES M. BEALL
R048992 RICHARD A. CHALLIS
R049003 CHARLES C. COFFEE
LR48979 JOSEPH DEFAZIO
R049001 MARTIN P. 'PAT' FEENEY
A049037 INA S. FRITSCH
R049010 THOMAS F. KIRK
R049034 NICK MADURO
R049000 RALPH S. MASSA
R048986 MICHAEL D. O'CONNOR
R049006 JACK B. QUICK
R048974 LAWRENCE B. RINEHART
R048999 GERALD D. SALTNESS
R049002 JAMES T. SMILEY
R049032 ROBERT L. STEFANELLI
R049007 MICHAEL T. TABONE

R049005 EDWARD J. THOMAS
R048998 HOWARD M. TUDETHOUT
R049070 JOSEPH J. WALSH
R048984 WAYNE M. WOODIN

GEORGIA

R049022 STUART W. FORMAN
R049045 LAWRENCE M. NASH

HAWAII

LR49050 WARREN L. WATTS

IOWA

R049051 RUSSELL D. DENT

MARYLAND

R049048 KARL R. HENDRICKSON
A049053 JEFFRY L. WILSON

MASSACHUSETTS

R049058 JAMES J. KILROY
A049011 WILLIAM H. MOORE
A049074 CARIN L. PAULETTE
A049075 JAMES R. PAULETTE

MICHIGAN

LR49023 DAVID A. POTTER
R049029 JACK THOMASIAN

MINNESOTA

R049066 WILLIAM L. OLSON

MISSISSIPPI

R048997 AUSTIN W. CRAIG

MISSOURI

R049049 ROBERT F. COOMBS
R048981 JASON A. STANFIELD

NEBRASKA

A049026 ANGELA M. GORDON
R049052 EVAN F. HOLLY

R048977 STEPHEN B. TYLER

NEVADA

R049060 JACOB R. QUIMPO

NEW JERSEY

A049044 DWAYNE C. BOTNICK
R049073 LUCAS R. EMERSON
R048983 THOMAS ERVIN JR.
R048982 NORMAN R. SEIDER
R048976 MATTHEW A. SINDONI

NEW YORK

R049028 VINCENT S. DISTEFANO
R049064 SAMUEL R. FOLTS

NORTH CAROLINA

R049043 CHARLES W. HOLDEN
A049036 NANCY J. WEIGLE
R049057 CLAYTON D. BERTSCH

OHIO

R049071 DAVID A. CALLAHAN
R049009 FRED A. HARRIS
R049035 LONNY M. WHITAKER

OKLAHOMA

R049040 DONALD H. KELLY
R048993 DAVID A. LANGSTON
R049065 JOHN F. ZAVATSKY

OREGON

LR49027 DAVID APPERSON
R049069 RAMON C. GUIMARY

PENNSYLVANIA

R049056 RICHARD S. GILBERT
A049046 WENDY S. LOOKER
A049024 KI SU NICHOLS
LR48987 PAUL E. STAUFFER

R049030 DONALD A. STOLLENWERK
LR48989 RICHARD H. WHERLEY

TENNESSEE

R048978 MICHAEL G. COLICCHIO

TEXAS

A049013 SEUNG WON BAE
A049017 DAISY M. CABALLERO
A049019 CHARLIE Y. CHOI
A049020 EUGENE A. GRAY
R049015 JIN S. HAM
LR48985 JOHN S. KIM
R049014 IN S LEE
R049016 WON HO YANG
A049018 DELL L. YOUNG

UTAH

R049068 DEAN R. ANDERSON

VIRGINIA

R049054 WILLIAM V. BERNATOVICH
R049033 CLARENCE J. HYLTON JR.
R048990 IRVIN E. MCGARRELL
R048975 CHARLES J. SAVARY SR.
LR48995 CATHY J. SCHWETKE
LR48994 WILLIAM L. SCHWETKE
R049025 MARVIN S. SWAIN

WASHINGTON

LR49031 PAUL A. HUEBSCHMAN
R049072 EUGENE A. TURNER

WEST VIRGINIA

R049047 SAMUEL E. HIGGENS

WISCONSIN

R049042 NORBERT M. KLEIN
R048996 RICHARD A. SCHACHT

SUDONG from page 63

The next morning we came off the hill and started to move out. An explosion blew me off my feet. I was hit with shrapnel in my right leg. I couldn't put any weight on it. The corpsman wanted to give me shot, but I told him "No Way."

I was put on a field stretcher at the battalion CP. They took my BAR and belt and gave me an M1. The previous group of wounded got ambushed and had a fire fight. I was on the top stretcher rack with one wounded Marine beneath me and two others seated by us. We reached division hospital the next day. The hospital was housed in a former school house. Ten or 12 of us slept on field stretchers in a room.

I found a head where someone had scratched "General's Head" on the plywood door. The second time I went to use it the

door opened and out stepped Maj. General Smith. It actually was the general's head. When I found our head it was a 2 x 4 to put your fanny on and big pictures of Stalin and Mao indicated the urinal.

After twelve days the doctor told me to go back to my unit. I asked where they were and he replied 60 miles up that road. Hitching rides and walking it took me two days to get to A-1-7. I was very popular for a while.

The hospital had a geedunk stand and if I stood in line each day I could get 1 Hershey bar and 1 pack of chewing tobacco. I had saved up 17 of each to share. We were headed up to the Chosin Reservoir.

*Lester O'Neil, 48485 Big Horn Dr.,
La Quinta, CA 92253, 760-777-1481*

Official Membership Application Form

The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.
PO 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:	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Member (<input type="checkbox"/> KATUSA?)	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Life Member (<input type="checkbox"/> KATUSA?)	<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Member <input type="checkbox"/> Gold Star Spouse/Parent	<input type="checkbox"/> Medal Of Honor <input type="checkbox"/> Honorary
-------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------

(Please Print)

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Apartment or Unit #(if any) _____ Phone _____ - _____ - _____ Year of Birth _____

Email _____

Chapter Number/Name (if applicable) # _____

-All applicants for Regular Membership please provide the following information-

Unit(s) to which Assigned

Division _____

Regiment _____

Battalion _____

Company _____

Other _____

Service Branch Dates of service:

☐ Army

☐ Air Force

☐ Navy

☐ Marines

☐ Coast Guard

WithIN Korea were: (See criteria below)

From: _____ To: _____

Without Korea were: (See criteria below)

From: _____ To: _____

How did you hear about the KWVA? ☐ KWVA member, ☐ Internet, ☐ Google, ☐ KWVA Website, ☐ Facebook, ☐ Email, ☐ Magazine, ☐ Newspaper, ☐ YouTube, ☐ Twitter, ☐ Other: _____

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the above information provided by me 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: _____

Make checks payable to: KWVA - Mail to: KWVA Membership Office - PO Box 407 - Charleston, IL 61920-0407.

(Or you may pay by Credit Card)

Credit Card # _____ ☐ VISA ☐ MASTER CARD ☐ Discover ☐ AMEX

Expiration Date ____/____/____ V-Code _____ Signature _____

CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR KWVA MEMBERSHIP

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

Check Only One Category

- ☐ **KATUSA:** I served in the Korean War as a member of the Korean Augmentation to the United States Army Forces. I have since relocated to the United States and became a United States Citizen on: Month ____ Day ____ Year _____. (Verification will be required)
- ☐ **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 during the Korean 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 NATIONAL 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 ____

Check HERE If GIFT Membership

- ☐ **GIFT Membership:** I certify, under penalty of law, that to the best of my knowledge, ALL of the information I have provided about the Applicant is true and correct. I have included the required payment with this application.

Signature: _____ Month ____ Day ____ Year ____

Relationship to Applicant: _____

CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Section 1. Qualifications of Members. Membership in this Association shall consist of Regular, Associate and Honorary Members. No person shall be excluded from membership because of race, color, creed, sex, national or ethnic origin, or physical or mental disability, as long as the individual meets the criteria of service requirements as stipulated below. Only Regular Members as defined in A. below have a vote in National or Department matters.

A. Regular Members.

1. **Service in the United States Armed Forces.** Any person who has seen honorable service in any of the Armed Forces of the United States, defined as Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard, is eligible for membership if:
a. Said service was within Korea including territorial waters and airspace at any time, September 3, 1945 to Present, or
b. Said service was outside of Korea, June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955.
2. **Medal of Honor.** Any KWVA Member, who is a Medal of Honor recipient, is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.
3. **Prisoner of War.** Any person held as a prisoner of war by the North Koreans, Chinese, or Russian forces during and after the period of hostilities from June 25, 1950 forward is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.
4. **Gold Star Parents.** Any parent whose son/daughter was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.
5. **Gold Star Spouses.** Any person whose spouse was killed in action, missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

B. Associate Members.

1. Must not be eligible for Regular membership.
2. Any person with a legitimate interest in the affairs of this Association and who wishes to support its aims, and not being eligible for Regular Membership; and who agrees to accept the terms and conditions set forth in the KWVA Charter and its Bylaws and Standard 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. 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.

D. Ineligible. Any person who has been separated from the service of the Armed Forces of the United States under conditions other than honorable shall be ineligible for membership in this Association.

WEB SITE: www.kwva.org

Adopted 10/26/2009, R4 Approved 10/27/2012

Sign up now for the 2019 Korean War Veterans Annual Meeting
Washington, DC



Korean War Veterans Association Annual Meeting

Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel

Arlington, VA 22204

Agenda

Wednesday, July 24, 2019

- 9:00AM – 9:00PM Registration: Hotel Foyer
- 6:00PM – 8:30PM Twilight Tattoo ~ U.S. Army ~ Fort Myer, VA
- 8:00PM – 10:00PM Hospitality Room Open

Thursday, July 25, 2019

- 8:00AM - 5:00PM Registration/Information Desk Open
- 8:00AM – 12:00PM KWVA Board Meeting
- 1:00PM – 5:00PM Hospitality Room Open
- 6:30PM – 8:00pm Welcome Reception - Hotel

Friday, July 26, 2019

- 9:00AM - 5:00PM Registration/Information Desk Open
- 9:00AM – 12:00PM KWVA Annual Membership Meeting
- 1:00PM – 5:00PM Hospitality Room Open
- 5:30PM - 9:00PM U.S. Marines: 8th and I (Eye) Sunset Parade

Saturday, July 27, 2019

- 9:00AM - 4:00PM Information Desk Open
- 10:00AM – 11:00AM Armistice Commemoration-Korean War Memorial
- 11:30PM - 3:00PM “Reading the Names” – MOH Citations - KWVM
- 12:30 – 5:00PM Hospitality Room Open ~ Free Time
- 6:00 – 7:00PM KWVA Reception ~ Lobby of Ballroom
- 7:00 – 10:00PM KWVA Banquet ~ Hotel Ballroom

Sunday, July 28, 2019

- 8:00AM – 9:00AM Memorial Service/Buffer Brunch - Hotel



Korean War Veterans Association Annual Meeting

July 24 – 28, 2019

Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel

900 South Orme Street

Arlington, VA 22204

Here is your reservation link:

[Book your group rate for KWVA Board Meeting & Annual Meeting 2019](#)

Or you may call 703-271-6603 (Hanna), Monday through Friday before 3:30PM or Derron Magee, 703-271-6636, Monday through Friday before 6:30PM.

Ask for the Group Rate: KOREAN WAR VETERAN – JULY 2019
Last day to book is July 10th, 2019 (If rooms are still available)



- Complimentary shuttle to Reagan National Airport, Pentagon City Metro, and Fashion Centre Mall
- Hotel near the Pentagon, National Air Force Memorial and Arlington National Cemetery
- Room Rate is \$119.00 a night plus tax
- Annual Korean War Veterans Membership Meeting and Banquet
- Korean Armistice Day Ceremony at the National Korean War Veterans Memorial
- United States Army Twilight Tattoo and United States Marine Corps Evening Parade

Make your reservations Now!!!

Operation Kiddy Car

By Rego Barnett

There was an article in *Stars & Stripes*, July 6, 2017, pp. 13-14, written by Kim Gamel, that resurrected the story of Col Russell L. Blaisdell, who orchestrated “Operation Kiddy Car” in Korea in December 1950. (Thanks to Stanley Grogan for submitting a copy of the article.) That date may sound familiar.

Yeah, there was a major evacuation in progress at Hungnam as allied forces tried desperately to rescue UN troops streaming in from the battle against the Chinese who had just entered the war. Was it possible to carry out two major evacuations at once? Col. Blaisdell thought it was—and made sure it happened. His efforts were not without hitches or controversy.

Let’s set the scene. Enemy troops are closing in on Seoul, where almost 6,000 orphans, according to some estimates, are ensconced. Americans are worried about them. What will the North Koreans do with—or to—the children?

Based on the North Koreans’ treatment of South Korean civilians up to that point the odds were good that they would not welcome the kids with lollipops and balloons. Enter Lt. Col. Blaisdell, a staff chaplain with the 5th Air Force.

He and other airmen were trying desperately to arrange for the kids’ safety. Most of the kids were living on the streets with little or no access to food. Disease was rife among them. He wrote in a 1951 letter that “About 4,000 of them [were] legitimate orphans. Something should be done. But the normal agencies for welfare were not yet in position to take care of the situation.” Blaisdell decided that he would.

As Gamel described it, “Many were placed in an orphanage, but that soon became overcrowded, so a separate center was established with the help of donations and South Korean officials to provide food, clothing, shelter, and medical treatment.” That alleviated the dire situation for some, but not all, of the kids.

Blaisdell, his assistant, SSGT Merle (Mike) Strang, and a group of South Korean social workers took to the streets to gather children and do what they could to feed and house them. In the process they saved many orphans from sure death. But a significant problem still existed. How were the Americans going to evacuate the children if the enemy captured Seoul? Blaisdell had a plan for that, but it had a few snags, one of which was getting U.S. military officials to help.

Blaisdell’s plan was to transport the children to Incheon, the same place allied troops had landed successfully in September 1950 to get behind the North Korean troops and stem their assault south. There they would board ships and sail to safety. That plan fell through when the LSTs failed to show up. So he went to Plan B.

The Lt. Col. went back to Seoul and persuaded Col. T. C. Rogers, a director of operations there, and one of the last U.S. officers in the city, to authorize a fleet of sixteen C-54 transport planes to carry out an airlift. Plan B was a great idea, but it too had snags. One of the major problems was how to transport the children to Kimpō, where the planes would land. Once again the snag did not deter Blaisdell. He pulled rank and commandeered a company of U.S. Marine Corps trucks that transported the 964 children to the airfield.

Not everything happened ideally. Hey, it was a military operation, and there was a war going on that involved evacuating thousands of U.S. troops from Hamhung, North Korea (which may have accounted for the missing LSTs). But it went well nonetheless, all things considered. The trucks were two hours late arriving at the airfield, but the pilots waited.

Associated Press War Correspondent Hal Boyle told the story of what happened:

964 Big-Eyed Orphans Airlifted to Island Haven

“By Hal Boyle, Associated Press War Correspondent |

“SEOUL, Dec. 20.—Nearly a thousand big-eyed little Korean street orphans were air-lifted to an island sanctuary off South Korea today in “Operation Kiddie Car.”

“Fifteen twin-engine American transport planes landed at nearby Kimpō Air Base to fly the war waifs out of the combat zone.

“Truck after truck rolled up loaded with children and backed up to the open plane doors. There were 964 children in

all, ranging in age from six months to 11 years. Most had been saved from gutter death by kind-hearted American troops who found them wandering or lying abandoned on the streets of Seoul.

“The soldiers had taken them to a child welfare center established by Lt. Col. R. L. Blaisdell of Hayfield, Minn., chaplain of the 5th Air Force.

“Scores of small pilgrims of distress were covered with sores and their bodies were still shrunken from starvation. Some gestured at their mouths to show their hunger and mumbled “chop chop.”

“The planes carried a 15-day supply of rations, but the children couldn’t be fed until they were aloft.

“A hundred and two of them are ill—and 24 just got out of the hospital,” said Chaplain Blaisdell. “They have 50 diseases among them—everything from scabies to whooping cough and tuberculosis.”

“Eighty Korean women attendants accompanied the children and each plane carried a trained American evacuation nurse. Lt. Grace Chicken of Buffalo, Mo., volunteered to make the flight on her day off.

"Capt. Mary Wilfong, Selma, Ala., who has evacuated many wounded troops, watched as one sick child was lifted into the plane.

"Pitiful—they're so pitiful," she said. "It's even worse than seeing our own wounded men."

"An emaciated small boy called down hopefully to Lt. Jane Murphy of Milton, Pa.:

"Hello, hello. You want good house-boy?"

"Lt. Murphy smiled up at him and then turned her face away.

"It makes me want to cry," she said.

"Most of the orphans were too weak to show much interest in their plane ride. Some cried dully, their thin wails all but lost in the noise of backing trucks.

"They were loaded 70 to a plane. (Washington D.C. *Evening Star*, December 20, 1950, p. 1).

Incidentally, the 64-page paper cost 5 cents!

The children were offloaded at Jeju Island, where Lt. Col. Dean Hess met them. Hess was well known for his efforts in training South Korean Air Force pilots—or what was called politely an air force at the time—and for his work with orphans. And who got credit for the operation? Lt. Col. Hess.

There was a movie made in 1957 called "Battle Hymn," starring Rock Hudson as Lt. Col. Hess. The film was based on Hess's autobiography. Blaisdell wasn't even mentioned. That was a disservice to the chaplain, according to Korean War veteran George Drake, who documented Operation Kiddy Car as part of his efforts to honor U.S. service members who helped children during the war. As he pointed out, all Hess did was receive the veterans. He had no involvement in getting them to Jeju Island.

Not only did Blaisdell not receive proper credit for his role in the operation, but he got into a bit of hot water with the Air Force. As it turned out the 8th Army owned the responsibility for Korean civilians. Fortunately, he defended his actions and the matter was dropped. The kids were safe, no harm had been done to anyone involved in the operation, and everyone concerned did what they were supposed to do: fight the war. That's pretty

much what Blaisdell said in a letter to Strang after the book and movie were released.

Strang voiced his dissatisfaction with how Blaisdell was ignored in both. Blaisdell judiciously declined to get involved in a contest for credit. He told Strang in a letter: "In regard to doing anything about it, I have decided in the negative. Although I disagree with you in principle, the goal of our efforts, in regard to the orphans and also in the evacuation of the Koreans by convoy, was the saving of lives, which would otherwise have been lost. That was accomplished."

Indeed it was. That part will always be remembered. And, Blaisdell was too—long after the Korean War ended. He received the Air Force's highest recognition for chaplains, the Four Chaplains Award, in 2003. It was awarded for extraordinary humanitarianism. He died four years later, at age 96.

Perhaps the warmest memory of Lt. Col. Blaisdell (his rank in December 1950) was furnished by Hwang Seon Min, one of the children rescued in Operation Kiddy Car. "The image of Chaplain Blaisdell standing by the lines of the orphans in the bitter cold remains in my memory as fresh as if it were yesterday," Min said at a ceremony to honor the Colonel during his return visit to South Korea, where he was honored by the South Korean government.

Okay, the movie makers did not honor or remember the man most responsible for Operation Kiddy Car, but there were 964 Korean children who did. That was the highest tribute Chaplain Russell L. Blaisdell could receive.



Col. Russell L. Blaisdell

Follow-up

Here is the Blaisdell story from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russell_L._Blaisdell

Education

He graduated from Hayfield High

School, Hayfield, Minnesota in 1927. He earned his BA from Macalester College in 1934 and his Master's of Divinity from McCormick Theological Seminary in 1937.

USAF career

Blaisdell joined the United States Army Air Corps in July 1940 and was stationed at Fort Sheridan, Illinois until October 1940. He later served at Fort George Wright from 1940–42. He served as chaplain and base chaplain at Edmonton Alberta for units building the Alaska Highway from 1942–44. He was chaplain from 1944–46 at Pacific Wing ATC, Hickam Field, Hawaii, from where he visited USAAF units in the Pacific Theater of Operations.

Following World War II, in 1946 he was stationed at Scott Air Force Base and then at HQ Eighth Air Force, Carswell Air Force Base until 1950. With the outbreak of the Korean War he was assigned to HQ Fifth Air Force, Korea from July 1950 to May 1951.

Following the Inchon Landing and the recapture of Seoul in September 1950, then Lieutenant Colonel Blaisdell and another chaplain, Colonel Wallace I. Wolverton, began attending to war orphans in the Seoul area. Initially the orphans were placed in a Seoul orphanage, but as their numbers continued to increase, the two, together with Blaisdell's chaplain's assistant, Staff Sergeant Merle "Mike" Y. Strang, and Korean social workers, established the Orphans Processing Center, eventually providing food and shelter for over 1,000 orphans. After Wolverton left South Korea, Blaisdell continued to manage the center.

Operation Kiddy Car

In December 1950, as the Chinese People's Volunteer Army and North Korean forces threatened Seoul with their Second Phase Campaign, UN forces, including the Fifth Air Force, began to evacuate the city and move further south. On 19 December, Lieutenant Colonel Blaisdell and Staff Sergeant Strang drove the orphans to Inchon harbor for evacuation by Navy LST to Jeju Island, but the vessels

failed to arrive.

Blaisdell then approached Colonel T.C. Rogers, the 5th Air Force Director of Operations, who arranged for transport aircraft to evacuate the orphans from Kimpo Air Base the following morning. Blaisdell commandeered a company of Marine Corps trucks to transport the children and their Korean caregivers to Kimpo. Despite arriving at Kimpo more than two hours late, the orphans were evacuated to safety on Jeju Island aboard 16 C-54 Skymaster aircraft.

An orphanage was established on Jeju and run by Whang On-soon until the end of the Korean War, when it was relocated back to Seoul.

The events surrounding the airlift became widely known outside Korea only when Dean Hess published his autobiography, *Battle Hymn*, in 1956, which later served as the basis for the 1957 film of the same name, where Hess was played by Rock Hudson. Staff Sergeant Strang later wrote and asked Blaisdell's advice on whether he should "blow the whistle" on Hess's limited role in the evacuation.

Blaisdell responded, "The goal of our efforts, in regard to the orphans ... was the saving of lives, which would otherwise have been lost. That was accomplished. In a sense, Mike, well-doing has its own reward, which is not measured in dollars, prestige, or goodwill..."

In 2004, Dr. George F. Drake took issue with Dean Hess's portrayal of the Kiddy Car Airlift, claiming that Hess took more credit than he deserved. Drake gave Blaisdell and Strang the credit for the evacuation, with Hess's role being reduced to providing accommodation on Jeju itself.

According to this criticism, Blaisdell was reportedly originally credited with the evacuation by the media until *Battle Hymn* was published. Drake termed Hess's claims as "fraudulent," but acknowledged that the proceeds from *Battle Hymn* and royalties from the movie were donated to aid Korean orphans.

Post-Korean War

Following the Korean War, Lieutenant Colonel Blaisdell served as chaplain at: HQ Japan Air Self Defense Force, Nagoya, Japan, from 1951–53; HQ Flying Training Wing, Waco, Texas from 1953–57, where

he was promoted to colonel; and the Seventeenth Air Force, Wheelus Air Base, Libya from 1957–60. He then served as Command Chaplain at Tactical Air Command, Langley Air Force Base, from 1960–62 and HQ, Military Airlift Command, and Scott Air Force Base from 1962–64. Colonel Blaisdell retired from the USAF on 30 June 1964.

Later life

He served as representative of the New York State Department of Social Services from 1966 to 1977. He retired to Fayetteville, New York, wintering in Las Vegas, Nevada, where he died on May 1, 2007. He is buried at the Veterans

Cemetery, Boulder City, Nevada.

Awards and honors

Blaisdell returned to South Korea in 2001, where he was greeted by Rhee Hee-hoh, the First Lady of South Korea, awarded an honorary Doctorate of Social Welfare by Kyung Hee University, and referred to in the Korean media as the "Schindler" of Korea. He was also reunited with Whang On-soon, then aged 102, whose family continues to operate the Seoul Orphanage.

SSGT Mike Strang died in 1998 without ever receiving any official recognition for his role in saving the orphans, but he was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star in 2003.

Forgotten Battles and Units of the Forgotten War

Korean War historical seminar hosted by Outpost International, Society of the 3d Infantry Division and the Army Historical Foundation



What: A Historical Seminar to remember lesser known or understand Battles and aspects of the Korean War

Who: Korean War veterans, their families, friends, and fans of Korean War history

Where: Holiday Inn Springfield, 6401 Brandon Ave, Springfield, Virginia and the Memorial Amphitheater, Arlington National Cemetery

When: 16-19 October 2019

16 October – registration 1500-1900
17 October – Seminars 0830-1730
18 October – Seminars 0830-1730
19 October – Commemorative Ceremony
Arlington National Cemetery and Tomb of the Unknowns 0800-1200
Banquet 1700-2000

Registration fee - \$30 (free for KW veterans) Banquet \$40

Hotel Info: Holiday Inn Springfield, VA
6401 Brandon Avenue, Springfield, VA 22150

Room rate \$119 per night incl. breakfast

Event name: Korean War Historical Seminar

Reservations PH # 703 644-5555/Cut-off: 28 Sept 2019

Points of Contact: C. Monika Stoy and Timothy R. Stoy

Email: timmoni15@yahoo.com, Phone: 703 912 4218





65TH ANNIVERSARIES KOREAN WAR REVISIT KOREA TOURS REGISTER FOR 2019 REVISITS OR PEACE CAMP FOR YOUTH (PCFY)



CONTACT MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS FOR DETAILS
FAMILY MEMBERS OF KOREA VETERANS ARE ELIGIBLE



We hope to get all the Veterans back before the program ends. Bill Goss (1st Cav), Vern Terlouw (2nd ID) & Earl Ellinger (2nd ID) return to ROK.

**THE ROK GOVERNMENT'S MINISTRY OF PATRIOT & VETERAN
AFFAIRS WILL PAY FOR ALL MEALS AND 5-STAR HOTEL ROOM!
REGISTRATION NOW-ONLY \$50 TO GET ON THE '19 LIST!**

703-590-1295* WWW.KWVA.ORG OR WWW.MILTOURS.COM

Korea, Never Ending War

By Therese Park

On April 29th, PBS broadcast “Korea, The Never Ending War” nationwide. The description read: “For most Americans, the Korean Conflict is The Forgotten War, sandwiched between World War II and Vietnam War. It did not end with a (U.S.) victory as did World War II, nor did it stir passions and divisions like Vietnam; yet it had a profound impact on the United States and the world.”

Now, as a U.S. senior citizen, who lived through the war as a Korean child in Busan, a port city at the southeast end of the Korean peninsula, I remember that horrid Sunday when the news of the communists’ invasion reached us, at our parish church during the 9 o’clock Mass.

“Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,” our pastor said, in a shaky voice, “North Korean communists launched a surprise attack across the 38th Parallel at dawn this morning with Russian tanks and are advancing toward the South, but no other details are available at this moment. Let us pray...Heavenly Father please look over our soldiers fighting to defend our country...”

Mass was cut short that morning, and our family of nine—our parents and seven children from 3 to 15—returned home on foot, a distance of about 4 miles, only to face a group of our neighbors demanding to hear the news from our Zenith radio. Back in those days, there was no other family in our neighborhood who owned a radio except us.

“Come in, come in!” our father invited them.

At age nine I didn’t fathom the meaning of war, yet I understood the gravity of the situation as I watched adults gathered around our radio in the front room of our traditional Korean home; they were sighing, shaking heads or touching their eyes while the radio announcer spit out words. “...95,000 men, with Russian tanks and Russian air support... Without weapons, our soldiers are dying fast...”

A woman openly cried and talked, saying that her son was a student at Seoul University and she might never see him again. Before the radio announcer finished, our neighbors vanished, one-by-one.

Nearly seven decades later, as an

American senior citizen, watching the footage of the evil war here in the Midwest where I lived over 52 years, I was compelled to tell the American viewers that the producer(s) left out some important facts about the war.

Why didn’t anyone mention the secret meeting between Kim Il-sung (Kim Jong-un’s grandfather) and Joseph Stalin on the evening of March 5th, 1949, during which Kim Il-sung’s plan to “rescue” his “Southern Brothers” from the “barbaric” Americans was approved by Stalin with enthusiasm? According to the digital archives at Wilson Center in Washington, D.C., all the details of the Korean war were mapped out that evening: what Russia could gain from helping North Korea to take over the South; what sort of resistance could meet them by American soldiers stationed there; how much military aid Kim would need from Russia to achieve Kim’s goal to reunify the two Koreas, and how to pay back the loan and in what fashion; if Russian airplanes are necessary for this operation, how many would be enough...

Yes, Russians experts may be sent to Korea and Korean specialists may be received in the USSR, for practical training, including in production technology.

I agree with the producer; that No Gun-Ri incident, in which American security patrolmen along the 38th Parallel massacred 200-300 North Korean refugee hiding under a bridge, could have been avoided, only if the Americans had supernatural vision to identify the enemy snipers disguised as refugees and kill them. Destroying an estimated 200-300 refugees hiding under a bridge was horrifying, yet from a Korean’s viewpoint, it was necessary when the snipers each carried body bombs (or satchel bombs) and threw at American servicemen, without a notice.

Compared to what South Korea’s president Syngman Rhee had done to his people, 200-300 lives lost in the wake of the war by the defenders of peace wasn’t that grave. Did Syngman Rhee innocently believe that the invasion was another “border attack” on the 38th Parallel as he had told his citizens through the radio on June 25th 1950? Border attacks had been occurring since the invisible wall 38th parallel was established between the two Koreas in August 1945, shortly after

Russians entered North Korea on August 8th, with an excuse of disarming any Japanese soldiers remaining in the country, knowing that the second U.S. atomic bombs had struck Nagasaki.

According to Stanley Weintraub, the author of “MacArthur’s War,” in the early morning of June 25, 1950, the telephone at MacArthur’s bedside at Tai-chi Hotel (above the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo) buzzed loudly, awakening him. When the general picked up the phone, his aide’s voice rang in his ear informing him that the North Korean communists had struck across the 38th parallel at four in the morning and that the South Korean President Rhee wished to speak to him.

The next thing the general heard was the old president’s angry voice, saying, “Had your country been a bit more concerned about us, we’d not have come to this! We’ve warned you many times! Now you must save Korea!”

MacArthur had no authority to save Korea, according to Weintraub, but he promised Rhee he would immediately send ten fighter planes and airlift howitzers and bazookas to halt the Communist tanks. Rhee immediately ordered his forsaken people through KBS (Korean Broadcasting System) Radio not to panic, not to be agitated, and not to abandon their homes because Americans were on their way with fighter planes, howitzers, and rocket launchers.

But on the third day, June 28, when the Russian tanks rumbled loudly on the streets of Seoul, Rhee escaped the capital in an unmarked vehicle, with 12 members of his Cabinet, ordering the military demolition squad to blow up the Han River Bridge when they crossed it.

American war correspondent Frank Gidney witnessed the explosion. He and two other correspondents had been forced to retreat from Seoul in a jeep as it became apparent the North Koreans would occupy the city. When they reached the Han River, the traffic was heavy on the road with refugees running south to the big steel Han River Bridge.

“There were no signs of a military rout,” he wrote. “Guided by MPs, automobiles kept strictly in line. The only disorder was thousands of poor refugees on foot, women toting

bundles on their heads, and men carrying household goods in wooden frames fastened to their backs.

"We reached the Han River Bridge around 2:15 a.m. The pace of our jeep slowed and then stopped. Without warning, the sky was lighted by a huge sheet of sickly orange flame... Our jeep was picked up and smashed back fifteen feet by the blast. All of the soldiers in the truck ahead of us had been killed.

Bodies of dead and dying were strewn over the bridge, civilians as well as soldiers...two spans of the bridge had dropped to the river 30 feet below. With the cries of the wounded and the dying (in) the background, hundreds of refugees were running pell-mell off the bridge and disappearing into the night beyond."

According to the South Korean government record, more than one thousand men and women and children perished in the fast moving stream. Where was President Syngman Rhee at that moment? On the road to safety in Busan, in an unmarked car, with his cabinet members. Once there, he and his American wife hid in the port city of Chin-hae, the U.S. naval base in Korea at the time.

Rhee was never impeached for betraying or leaving his countrymen in danger by telling them to remain in their homes when the communists were advancing, nor did he apologize for his selfish behavior of fleeing to safety, letting the whole nation suffer in a dire quagmire—and his atrocities against his people didn't end there.

It was a time only Communists and potential communists existed in South Korea. Hatred against communists consumed him. Any man who vowed to destroy communists gained Rhee's trust, and he condemned anyone accused as possible communists, true or false. One of those who gained Rhee's trust was a military officer named Kim Chang-Ryong, who swore to destroy any communist in the country once and for all.

He persecuted thousands of his fellow military officers by accusing them as possible communists. He rose to be the director to CIC (Korea's CIA) but after three years, he was assassinated by a gunman waiting for him in a car on the road Kim routinely traveled.

In 1960, Rhee was forced to step down from his presidential seat when students

nationwide demonstrated against the corrupt government, during which over 200 students were shot to death by policemen. South Koreans still commemorate April, 19th each year and comfort the brave souls departed while shouting peace and justice, remembering the event as The April Student Revolution.

Over all, "The Never Ending War" is a masterpiece that followed the footage of the Korean War veterans' sacrifices in Korea during the three-year long war in the early 1950s, which also showed how much progress South Korea has made during the past seven decades, from the poorest of poor nations in the world to one of the strongest economies today.

The comparison between North Korea and South Korea today is like light and dark-

ness—North Koreans acting like puppets handled by the puppeteer—crying and dancing on demand, but the South Koreans acting and speaking as their spirit moved them. God knows South Koreans have been fighting all the wars the Americans are fighting—in Vietnam, in Iraq, the Gulf War, in Afghanistan—yet they demanded a U.S. apology about No Gun-ri Massacre.

Personally, I'm not overly anxious about seeing the two Koreas reunited. Not that I won't live long enough to see the map of Korea without the 38th Parallel, but Kim Dynasty was built upon deception, dogmatism, and fanaticism by a former guerilla fighter during Japan's control of Korea in the earlier century.

*Reach Therese Park at
tspark63@yahoo.com*

An unholy Easter

In an incident near the DMZ and Panmunjom on Easter Sunday, April 14 1968, two American and two South Korean UNC soldiers were killed and two Americans wounded in an ambush while on patrol at the DMZ. Rear Adm. John V. Smith, senior negotiator for the United Nations Command (UNC), denounced Communist North Korea for "war provocation of the most serious magnitude."

Despite considerable evidence found at the scene, North Korean Maj. Gen. Chung Kook Pak insisted at the session that "we had nothing to do with the incident." That was the same year the USS Pueblo was captured and an attempt was made on the life of the ROK President Park Chung-Hee by a 31-man assassination team. The number of ambushes by North Koreans also increased dramatically in 1968.

The ¾ ton M-37 truck pictured nearby was used in the Korean War, then on the DMZ and Defense of Korea, as well as in Vietnam. (The picture appeared originally in Stars and Stripes.) The vehicle was riddled with at least 60 bullet holes fired from both sides of the road about a half mile from the JSA (Joint Security Area). The soldiers were from the UNC.



The M-37 riddled on Easter Sunday, April 14, 1968

They had a white flag on the truck, as can be seen in the picture, which is supposed to be on any vehicle in the DMZ. Later, placards were added to vehicles that read DMZ Police. The soldiers had MP armbands, which anyone going into the DMZ has to wear. As part of enforcing the terms of the Armistice of July 27 1953, DMZ police were identified as such by the armbands.

North Koreans were supposed to wear armbands too, but they didn't always adhere to the stipulations of the terms of the Armistice agreement.

Doug Voss, dwv123@aol.com (Doug Voss is a member of the Korea Defense Veterans Memorial Committee and the Missions and Vision Committee.)



Korean War Veterans Association, P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920

NON-PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
Jacksonville, FL
PERMIT NO. 3

Address Service Requested



The Korean War Veterans Memorial lies in the shadow of the Lincoln Memorial, near the Vietnam War Veterans Memorial on the west end of the Mall. It consists of 19 larger-than-life U.S. ground troopers equipped for battle moving toward an American flag. Etched into the granite are photographs of hundreds of faces taken from military archives. The Korean War Veterans Memorial honors those Americans who answered the call, those who worked and fought under the trying of circumstances, and those who gave their lives for the cause of freedom. Etched at the head of the monument is: Our Nation honors her sons and daughters, who answered the call to defend a country they never knew and a people they never met. U.S. Navy photo by Chief Warrant Officer Seth Rossman.