

America's Forgotten Victory!

# KOREA VETERANS

## The Graybeards



Official Publication of  
**THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION**

July - August 2019 Vol. 33, No. 4



America's Forgotten Victory!

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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).

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See detailed list of committees at [WWW.KWVA.US](http://WWW.KWVA.US)





# From the President

Paul Cunningham

More than just a little time these last few weeks has been spent in preparation for our Annual Membership meeting in Arlington in July. Acting on responses to a survey sent to all chapters back in March seeking your response to several cost cutting measures, I have prepared several recommendations for Board action and, subsequently, ratification by members. Among these are having only one face-to-face Board meeting each year, elimination of the position of 2nd Vice President by attrition, eliminating the option for appointing the immediate Past President as Advisor to the Board and President, and reducing the number of issues of *The Graybeards* each year from six to four while retaining the same number of pages in each issue.

All these measures can contribute to reducing the deficit we encounter each year as a result of declining enrollment. The impetus for seeking to reduce expenditures was at the recommendation of our auditing firm in observing the trend in declining membership and concomitant loss to revenue over the last seven years.

Despite the clear direction you gave us by your survey responses (see my message in the May-June issue), a few Board Members are reluctant to accept the reality that these measures are necessary to position KWVA for the long haul and want to ignore your mandate, suggesting rather that we draw freely from our reserves. At present, the number of new members recruited each year is only about one-third of the number of members lost each year. You do the math.

By going to one face-to-face Board meeting each year, detractors believe it will elim-

I have prepared several recommendations for Board action...Among these are...reducing the number of issues of *The Graybeards* each year from six to four while retaining the same number of pages in each issue.

inate dialogue and reduce camaraderie. (Survey responses from several chapters state KWVA must be "run like a business.") I agree. In place of that one Board meeting, I will be recommending that, in a bow to modern technology, we put in place an interactive software program entitled Board Effect.

This program is specifically designed for use by small (which we are) non-profit corporations. I have arranged for a company representative to make a presentation at our Board meeting in July. Depending on the frequency of sessions scheduled, Board members will have an increased level of participation in association governance, rather than less. Several members are already acquainted with this program and all believe it has merit.

Another challenge facing our board is finding a replacement for our esteemed Executive Director, Jim Fisher. During Jim's tenure of six years, he displayed an uncommon loyalty and dedication toward the furtherance of KWVA and its mission statements. Under Jim's guidance, KWVA's image and relationships with the VA, the Military District of Washington, and the National Park Service, among others, have vastly improved.

Most significant is the cordial relationship forged with the ROK Embassy and the Military Attaché. As a result, KWVA has received generous financial support for many of our activities. I believe both Larry

Kinard and Tom Stevens, under whom Jim served, share these sentiments. He will be sorely missed.

I do not feel KWVA can function for long without the services of an Executive Director. A search has been initiated to recruit a man or woman with credentials similar to those Jim possesses to assume this role with KWVA. Hopefully, candidates can be identified in time for Board consideration at its meeting in July.

Special recognition goes to the Scholarship Committee, comprising Ron Carpenter, Matt Gegg and Lou Santangelo, of chapter #327, for the expeditious processing of applications. No fewer than 57 students, direct descendants of Korean War veterans, vied for ten scholarships. Lew Ewing, who so capably handled these responsibilities for many years, rendered valuable assistance to Ron's Committee during transition.

As of this writing, our Annual Fund Raiser Raffle proceeds stand at \$65,378. The goal set by Chairman Tom McHugh is \$70,000. With ten weeks remaining in the drive, we are on a pace not only to meet, but exceed, that mark. If you have not yet purchased your raffle tickets, there is still time to do so. Tickets may be purchased on-line or by using the tickets printed in *The Graybeards*. Thanks for your hard work, Tom.

I remind you, as I did in my initial message, KWVA is your organization. Twice now, in my first year as president, I have sought input from chapters on critical issues via surveys. I view it my duty as President to seek your thoughts and ideas as to directions KWVA should be taking. However, don't wait for a survey to express your thoughts. Feel free to write me or any board member with ideas for strengthening our KWVA.

Regards to all,

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

**COVER: Honor Guard**

Members of the United Nations Command Honor Guard move dignified transfer cases from one C-17 Globemaster III to another during a repatriation ceremony at Osan Air Base, South Korea, Aug. 1, 2018. The UNC repatriated 55 cases of remains from North Korea. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Kelsey Tucker



11

1945 - 1970



27



31



54

# CONTENTS

## Business

From the President .....	3
Executive Director Fisher Resigns .....	6
Thanks for Supporting The Graybeards and the KWVA .....	6
From the Secretary .....	7
Call for Elections .....	10
2019 Fundraiser .....	25
Official Membership Application Form .....	69
Application for Korea Revisit & PCFY Tours .....	74

## Features & Articles

Where were you on July 27th? .....	19
Reflecting on July 27th, 1953 .....	20
Adventures of a B-26 Flight Mechanic at K-9 in the Korean War ....	21
A Privateer Memory .....	22

## Departments

Reunion Calendar 2019 .....	7
The Editor's Desk .....	9
Recon Missions .....	11
Humor in Korea .....	19
Tell America .....	27
Chapter & Department News .....	32
Feedback/Return Fire .....	58
Last Call .....	64
Welcome Aboard .....	79

## News & Notes

KWVA represented at Victims of Communism ceremony .....	8
History of USS Princeton (CV-37), nee Valley Forge .....	11
MIA Report.....	12
MIAs ID'd .....	13
Teen's Mission of Thanks to Korean War Veterans .....	14
ACTA South Korea .....	16
Two Nuns From Belgium who died in Korea .....	18
Dead drunk .....	20
Drums and gongs and bugles galore .....	23
Congratulations to the 2019 American Veterans Korea Foundation Scholarship Awardees.....	28
A sad prayer at the Korean War Veterans Memorial .....	31
Memorial Day 2019 .....	50
The Stoys Visit Two Korean War Medal of Honor Recipients and attend one Funeral.....	54
Where were China's Eighth Route Army and Fourth Field Army? ....	56
KWVA Online Store .....	57
57 Years is a Long Time to Wait: The SGT Ron Gornick Story ..	62
The 96th Field Artillery Bn. in the Korean War .....	66
My mountain .....	68
Kunu/Massacre Valley.....	72
One veteran's view of efforts by the Korean War Legacy Foundation to remember the 'Forgotten War' .....	77
Minnesota Vet Featured in Exhibit .....	78
Home on the Howze .....	79





## 65TH ANNIVERSARIES KOREAN WAR REVISIT KOREA TOURS REGISTER FOR 2020 REVISITS OR PEACE CAMP FOR YOUTH (PCFY)



CONTACT MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS FOR DETAILS  
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## Executive Director Fisher Resigns

**JAMES R. FISHER**  
15537 Barrington Place  
Montclair, Virginia 22025

President Paul Cunningham  
Korean War Veterans Association  
430 West Lincoln Boulevard  
Charleston, IL 61920-0407

Subject: Letter of Resignation as Executive Director, Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

Dear President Cunningham:


It is with great sadness that I have to submit my resignation as the Executive Director of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. effective August 1, 2019.

It has been a rewarding experience of working with great American Patriots such as you, Tom Stevens and Larry Kinard. I hope that I have made a contribution to advance and improve the mission and day to day operations of the organization.

Due to other constraints beyond my control, I have to conclude my role as Executive Director.

I wish you the very best in your term as President. You have done a marvelous job of improving the KWVA.

Respectfully submitted,

  
James R. Fisher  
Executive Director  
Korean War Veterans Association

Cc: Secretary A.J. Key

## Holiday and continuing series stories wanted for 2019

### Is it too early to say "Bah, humbug?"

We are soliciting holiday stories for the 2019 November/December issue of *The Graybeards* and for our standard ongoing series—but our incoming holiday submissions have slowed to a trickle. Let's continue to build our holiday inventory now.



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 year-end holidays, e.g., Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukah, 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@sbcbglobal.net](mailto:sharp_arthur_g@sbcbglobal.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.

## 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](mailto: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.

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NMS (1) .....	IMO James A. Wedberg
NMS (6)	
NMS Monthly (8)	
NMS KWVA TracFone (1)	

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





# From the Secretary



**Alves J. "AJ" Key**

## Attention: KWVA Department/Chapter Presidents and Staff Officers

As past President of my home chapter and KWVA Secretary responding to member inquiries, I have spent more than a few hours viewing the KWVA Federal Charter, By-laws and SPM (Standard Procedure Manual). These documents are the foundation of KWVA legitimacy as a Veterans Service Organization.

Department/Chapter presidents and officers should regularly review the SPM to ensure that required chapter activities and reports are completed. KWVA Assistant Secretary Jake Feaster spends many hours each week reviewing KWVA membership records to identify and notify chapters that are out of compliance. Department/Chapter leaders must take a proactive role in maintaining accurate and current membership records and reports.

The noted excerpt from SPM provides clear and concise directives governing chapters from formation to closure.

## Standard Procedure Manual Of The Korean War Veterans Association, Incorporated

SPM-005, REV. 008b Revised October 18, 2018 [https://kwva.us/?page=gen\\_spm](https://kwva.us/?page=gen_spm): Paragraphs 3.4 for Chapters and 3.5 for Departments

- Petitioning for a Charter
- Incorporation
- Obtaining an EIN Number
- Tax Exemption
- Reports
- Election Report

- Association Membership Dues Collected
- Petitioning for a Website
- Transfer of Chapter Membership
- Dissolution
- Conduct monthly audits of department/chapter records for currency.

## Reports to Membership Services in a timely manner include:

- Removal of those members delinquent on dues in a reasonable time frame
- Updating member contact information to ensure they receive The Graybeards.
- Submission of report of member death with copy of obituary
- Submission of copies of bylaws when updated
- Submission of Officer Election reports after every election.
- Submission of changes to not for profit status
- Submission of copies of official name change documents.

KWVA officers and members, regardless of organization level, have a fiduciary obligation to act in the best interest of KWVA mission and purposes when performing their duties and when allocating monies and materials for those purposes.

## Concluding thoughts:

If you are a KWVA/Department/Chapter officer credentialed to use the Officer Log-in on the KWVA website, use it regularly. It will allow you to view your Department/Chapter information and assess what needs correction. If you need assistance, contact Webmaster Jim Doppelhammer for help in accessing the information you are authorized to see.

## 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](mailto: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.

### 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](mailto:TropicLtn@aol.com); [www.25thida.org](http://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](mailto:andypatb@aol.com)

**1st Battalion 3rd Marines (ALL Eras)**, Sept. 17-22, Branson, MO. Don Bumgarner, 562-897-2437, [dbumc13usmc@verizon.net](mailto:dbumc13usmc@verizon.net)

**Third Marine Div.** (All Eras), Sept. 17-22, Branson, MO. Roger Bacon, 215-822-9094, [rogerbacon45@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:ralphburton@frontier.com)

### OCTOBER

**MCB1/MCB9/MC10** (All SeaBees welcome), Oct. 3-6, Virginia Beach, VA. Walter Johnson, 757-570-5864, [wallyjohnsom1711@gmail.com](mailto: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, [timmoni15@yahoo.com](mailto:timmoni15@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](mailto: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](mailto:TheChosinFewInc@aol.com).

# KWVA represented at Victims of Communism ceremony

National President Paul Cunningham and Executive Director Jim Fisher represented the KWVA at the annual remembrance ceremony in Washington, D.C. to remember the “Victims of Communism” at their National Memorial. The ceremony was conducted on Friday, June 14, 2019.



Right, Jim Fisher, Ashlee Davis, Administrative Manager of the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation, and Paul Cunningham (L-R) at Washington D.C. wreath laying ceremony

Left, The KWVA wreath presented at the “Victims of Communism” event



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16 – 25 May '20 France WWI Battle-  
fields, Verdun, Belleau Wood & Paris

27 May – 9 Jun '20 76th Anniversary of  
D-Day & Battle of the Bulge & Paris

1 – 9 Jun '20 76th Anniversary of  
D-Day: Normandy to Paris

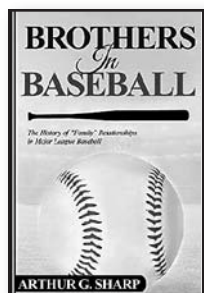
TBD Jul '20 Russia WWII





## Oh, Brothers<sup>®</sup>

*"I will donate \$2.00 from each purchase of 'Brothers in Baseball' to the Korean War Memorial Wall of Remembrance Fund, as I did for 'Atomic Cannons' and 'Nuclear Weapons: A Mystery of the Korean War,' which raised \$250.00."*



This completes my 15th year as editor of *The Graybeards*. That's 90 issues. Not bad for someone who was asked originally to fill in for one issue—and almost got fired before he finished it. My goal is to complete 100 issues. That's a way off.

Over the fifteen years I have been associated with the KWVA I have come to think of our members as "brothers." That's a strange word when you think about it. Perhaps it's even a bit overused.

Once upon a time "brother" identified a male sibling. Gradually it was expanded to identify males who associated in a common cause, a fraternity, e.g., "brothers in arms," "union brothers," or "brothers from another mother." In most cases it is generally used in a positive context. (Same with sisters.)

I had three brothers. Two have moved on to another realm. (There were five girls scattered among us, four of whom have joined the aforementioned two brothers.) The four Sharp boys were as different as could be. I, the oldest boy, was the best looking, the most intelligent, the most charming, the most athletic...I could go on. Terry, the next boy in line, was a bit withdrawn and the most rebellious of us four. Then came Brian. He was born with Down syndrome. But he functioned well and, aided by his eight siblings, lived as normal a life as was possible without ever leaving home. Duane, the last born sibling and my one surviving brother, was the center of attention simply because he was the youngest of us all.

Three of us served in the military, as

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did one sister, a nurse, who was a U.S. Air Force 1st Lieutenant. Terry and Duane both served tours in Vietnam with the U.S. Army and lived to tell about them. I am proud of my brothers (and sisters) and of our family's contributions to the defense of the country we all loved—and continue to love. We may not like it right now, but we still love it.

One day as I was musing about brothers I toyed with the idea of writing a book about brothers in the military. (A good example of candidates appears on p. 34 about Chapter 51.) I had a lot of information available since I had stories galore about brothers serving in the Korean War and other major conflicts. Then I had an epiphany.

Baseball was my avocation in my pre-Marine Corps life. Terry, Duane and I used to play on local baseball teams together. I was doing a lot of research on brothers in major league baseball at the time of my epiphany. Why not honor Terry, Duane, and Brian (in spirit) with a book about brothers in baseball? So was born my book titled cleverly "Brothers in Baseball." (After it was published I had another epiphany: I should have named it "Brothers and other Brothers in Baseball." Epiphanies sometimes come too little, too late.)

I compiled lists of all the almost 800 sets of actual brothers who had played major league baseball dating back to the American Civil War. Then, thinking about the expanded definition of brothers, I widened my lists. I included fathers and sons, uncles and nephews, in-laws, cousins, mother and son...then I added players who became umpires, players who participated in two (or more) professional sports or who became involved in other activities such as acting. The lists were impressive, but they were just lists.

During my research I discovered that the "brothers" were involved in a larger proportion of bizarre events in major league baseball history than would be expected based on their small population compared to the nearly 18,000 individuals who had played overall. So I compiled hundreds of anecdotes to demonstrate that thesis. And "Brothers in Baseball: The History of 'Family' Relationships in Major League Baseball" was born. It is one of my goals to do the same eventually for "brothers" in the military, which I will expand to include sisters, mothers, fathers, uncles, pets, etc.

If you have stories of brothers with whom you served, perhaps even your own "brothers," or stories of "brothers" in the military of which you are aware, send them in. They do not have to be combat related. Once I receive them I will get started on my next non-best seller, "Brothers On (and off) the Battlefield." (All the books I have written over the years have gone immediately after publication to the New York Times Non-Best Seller List.)

Incidentally, if anyone wants a signed copy of the anecdote-filled history of nepotism in major league baseball, "Brothers in Baseball," send \$23.00 to Arthur G. Sharp, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573. That covers the cost of the book and postage. The book will make a fine Christmas gift. I will donate \$2.00 from each purchase to the Korean War Memorial Wall of Remembrance Fund, as I did for "Atomic Cannons and Nuclear Weapons: A Mystery of the Korean War," which raised \$250.00.

"Brothers in Baseball" is also available at [amazonbooks.com](http://amazonbooks.com), [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com), and through book stores. But they cannot sign them.

# CALL FOR ELECTIONS

The membership is hereby notified that elections will be held in the spring of 2020 for the following National Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. (KWVA) positions:

President, First Vice President, and Second Vice President, to serve from June 25, 2020 - June 25, 2022; and three Directors to serve from June 25, 2020-June 2023.

Any regular member in good standing of the KWVA seeking to run for the aforementioned offices shall make their intentions known to the Chairman of the Elections Committee, Tim Whitmore, in writing, using the format below. The Election Committee Chairman must receive all applications and documents not later than December 16, 2019.

## REQUIREMENTS:

### Applicants must:

A. Present proof of service by submitting a signed Official KWVA Membership Application Form (found on the KWVA website or in The Graybeards magazine) showing eligible service years.

B. Submit a copy of his/her Form DD214 for verification by the Election Committee. The copy of the form DD214 may be redacted selectively by blackout/whiteout to remove information not related to the information required by the KWVA.

If you need a copy of your Form DD214, go to the National Archives website at <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>

C. Submit a current photograph, suitable for publication in The Graybeards, in which the candidate is clearly the focus of the picture.

D. Submit a letter, signed and dated, limited to approximately one (1) page, including the following:

Your intent to run for an office and the office sought.

- A summary of your qualifications for this office, stating any experience that will be of benefit to the Association.

- A statement that you will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and that you understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for your removal from office.

- A statement that your dues are current through the complete term of the office you are seeking.

**Note:** Payment of delinquent dues shall not be retroactive for purposes of establishing eligibility to run for office within the Association.

- A statement releasing all submitted documents/material for verification by the Election Committee.

- Your current mailing address, telephone number, and KWVA membership number and email address if available.

- Alternate email address and alternate phone number, if available.

## SUBMISSION DATE:

Send the above items by "USPS Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested," or "USPS Express Mail, Return Receipt Requested," to the Election Committee Chairman, to arrive no later than December

16, 2019.

**Note:** Scanned documents sent via email are not an acceptable alternative and will be automatically deleted.

## MAILING ADDRESS:

Address application packages to L.T. Whitmore, Elections Committee Chairman, 5625 Canterbury Lane, Suffolk, VA 23435-1605.

For sample letters, refer to previous issues of The Graybeards, e.g., Jan/Feb 2016, 2015. If you do not have access to hard copies, go to [www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org), scroll down the left side, and click on The Graybeards, Online archives of Past Issues.

Address any questions you may have to the Election Committee Chairman at: (757) 483- 9784 and/or email at: TWhit35@gmail.com

## The six-step KWVA election process follows:

1. The Elections Committee certifies the candidates who are qualified to stand for office.
2. The declarations and pictures of certified candidates are then sent to the editor of The Graybeards for publication in the January-February 2020 edition. The ballots are also published in that edition.
3. Members cast their ballots by May 11, 2020 and mail them to the KWVA-approved CPA printed on the front of the ballot.
4. The CPA verifies the eligibility of members to vote in the election, counts their ballots, and reports the results via certified tally sheets to the Election Committee.
5. The results reported by the CPA are verified by the Election Committee.
6. Copies of the completed and verified tally sheets are sent by certified mail to each of the Board Members and to each of the candidates for office, regardless of whether they were elected or not.

## Please support our advertisers

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## 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.**





## Recon Missions

### Carl Eugene Baker, Sr.

I am reaching out to your organization to see if you have any information on my father, Carl Eugene Baker Sr. of Annville or Palmyra, Pennsylvania. He passed away September 24, 1995. At the time my stepmother said that something was sent from the Chosin Few, to which he also belonged, to put on his grave, but that Fort Indiantown Gap made her remove it.

I am hoping you could shed some light on his service in the Korean War. In many conversations with other family members I was told he was part of the Chosin battle, but I have no way of finding his name on any register.

He was born March 28, 1929 and was in the U.S. Army. His grave shows him as a Sergeant in Korea.

Thank you for your time.

Teresa (Baker) Lenk, 522 Fishing Creek Rd.,  
Lewisberry, PA 17339, 717-979-1995,  
[tlenk4729@comcast.net](mailto:tlenk4729@comcast.net)

*NOTE: Carl Eugene Baker Sr. served with the U.S. Army, 7th Infantry Division, 32nd Infantry Regiment. That unit was involved in the Chosin Reservoir battle.*

### Infrared lanterns on airfields?

I am looking for information on an airfield infrared lantern, which I believe was used in Korea. The vets I talked to told me they had heard of this lantern but had no information on it. I was hoping you might be able to help me on this.

I am in the process of restoring one of these lanterns. Any help about the lanterns would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Bob Garrett, 913-707-6284, [bobwgarrett@gmail.com](mailto:bobwgarrett@gmail.com)

### Sign on Garden State parkway?

I don't know anything about the sign pictured nearby or where the parkway named exists, but I saw it in local newspaper. Perhaps our members can let us know where the sign stands in northern New Jersey. (I live in southern New Jersey.)

The Garden State Parkway is a major roadway running north and south in New Jersey.

George Cook, [cookgeor@aol.com](mailto:cookgeor@aol.com)



The sign for the Korean War Vets parkway

## History of USS Princeton (CV-37), nee Valley Forge



USS Princeton (CV-37) at sea

"EVERY MAN IS A TIGER"

*USS Princeton* has a unique history. It started life as the USS Valley Forge. However, with the loss of CVL-23 USS Princeton in November 1944, the ship received her new name. The ship was commissioned on Nov. 18, 1945. After making its first deployment to the Atlantic, in June 1946, she transferred to the

Pacific Fleet. There she joined the 7th Fleet, becoming the flag ship (TF-77). During her Pacific time, she cruised off of Japan and China.

In February 1947, she went back to the US and served out of San Diego until she was decommissioned in June of 1949. Princeton came back into service in August 1950. In December of that year, she went west to support the Korean War efforts. In total, she made three trips to the combat zone. During this time, she supported thousands of missions.

With the close of the Korean War, the ship returned to west coast duty. In January 1954, the ship was reclassified to CVS-37 for anti-submarine support status. In that role, she served in the Pacific and Indian Ocean for the next four years. In March 1959, she came out of a conversion to become an amphibious assault carrier with hull designation LPH-5.

In October 1964, the ship once again entered combat operations. For the next four years, she served several voyages to support Vietnam forces. In April 1969, she acted as recovery ship for Apollo 10. In January of 1970, the ship was formally decommissioned.

# MIA Report

By Bruce Harder

Attached is a copy of my POW/MIA Update report to the AKWVA. The statistics quoted are based on DPAA's most recent Korean War Factsheet and DPAA's Quarterly report from the Family/VSO meeting in May. I realize that the statistics change frequently. I used June 25, 2019, as the cut-off date for my report.

## DPAA Families/VSO/MSO Quarterly Call and Update Notes, May 9, 2019, 2 p.m.

### 'Fulfilling Our Nation's Promise'

**Summary:** Keeping the families of our missing as well as veterans informed is a primary objective of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency's (DPAA) mission. This update is intended to provide an overview of efforts during the previous quarter to account for our missing.

### Director's Update (Kelly McKeague) on Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)

Based on the agreements between President Trump and Chairman Kim at the Singapore Summit last year, we immediately began discussions with the Korean People's Army (KPA) for resuming joint recovery operations. Those discussions have not yet resulted in an agreement, and with the necessary logistical timelines and DPRK weather cycles, it is now too late for us to prepare for and conduct field activities before the end of the current fiscal year (FY).

Though KPA has not communicated with us since before the Hanoi Summit, we remain open to productive discussions with them at some point, including on conducting joint recoveries in FY20.

### Budget and Implications

The submission of the FY20 President's Budget to Congress occurred in early March. Our budget request is \$146.4M, which includes a one-year \$16.9M increase for operations that will be reserved for any work in DPRK. The biggest challenge for the upcoming FY will be navigating the potentially numerous or lengthy continuing resolution (CR) periods. Under any CR, our budget will be initially limited to \$130M and will likely have a significant impact on operations in the first and second quarters.

### VSO Engagements of Note

With the shared desire to increase the pace and scope of operations worldwide, DPAA very much recognizes and appreciates the special role the veterans service organizations play in championing this noble mission and the opportunities they provide us to educate their constituencies. I had the privilege to address this year's American Legion Commanders' Call and the Korean War Veterans Association Board meeting. In both cases, the strong interest and steadfast commitment of the respective members were evident.

### Outreach and Communications Public Portal/FAMWEB

We continue to make steady progress on adding new features and updates to include:

We have continued to develop loss profiles and will be finished

with the Korean War profiles this summer. We have worked with our University partners to continue developing operational/battle feature articles — this gives a higher tier of content/context for our losses from each war.

We have added 325 new photographs to the case profile dataset. These photos are coming in via family members and are greatly enhancing the portal. We are working to continue the improved collaboration and data sharing across the Accounting Community.

### Arlington National Cemetery Funerals

From January through April, there were seven military burials of service members who were accounted for. DPAA staff always take advantage of proximity to Arlington National Cemetery and attend these services. It is a powerful reminder of the dedication our team has to our missing and their families in providing them the answers they have long sought.

### DMZ Demining and Remains Recovery

Our information is based off open source news reports: It is our understanding the South Koreans resumed demining operations on April 1st and are making initial preparations for remains recovery. Just as they did last fall, they are finding remains as part of their demining. To date, we are not aware any U.S. remains have been recovered from the Arrowhead region. North Korea has not yet participated in either effort per the Inter-Korea Military Agreement.

### US – Russia Joint Commission (USRJC) Update

Technical talks for Korea and the Cold War will take place in November, the normal time for the annual USRJC Plenum

### Disinterment Operations

The National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific 'Punchbowl' (Hawaii) completed Phase One of the Korean War Identification Project (KWIP) with exhumations of 43 Unknowns Jan through Mar (plus a single WWII Unknown). This brings our total exhumations from the Punchbowl to 84 since October 2018 and concludes Phase One of the KWIP. Approval for Phase Two is in final staffing and we are planning 16 Punchbowl exhumations per month beginning on 10 June.

#### Statistics (As of May 9, 2019):

##### FY 2019 Identifications

Total = 71 (identifications of unaccounted-for personnel)

WWII = 51; Korean War = 17; Vietnam War = 3

### Questions and Answers

**Question:** Disabled American Veterans:

Is there any guarantee that DPAA will be getting \$130 million next year?

Answer: The budget request is for \$146.4M, however, if Congress does not pass a Defense Appropriations bill and we are under a continuing resolution (CR), we will initially only receive \$130M and will likely have a significant impact on operations in the first and second quarters of the fiscal year.



**Question:** Korean War Veterans Association:

I want to make sure I understand your statement on the suspension of communicating with North Korean on resumption of remains recovery operations; can you elaborate, please.

**Answer:** As you know, based on the agreements between President Trump and Chairman Kim at the Singapore Summit last year, we immediately began discussions with the KPA for resuming joint recovery operations. Those discussions have not yet resulted in an agreement, and with the necessary logistical timelines and DPRK weather cycles, it is now too late for us to prepare for and conduct field activities before the end of the current fiscal year (FY).

Though KPA has not communicated with us since before the Hanoi Summit, we remain open to productive discussions at some point with them, including on conducting joint recoveries.

**Question:** Korean War Veterans Association:

Regarding the field operation in South Korea that you mentioned, are those investigating US or Republic of Korea (ROK) losses?

**Answer:** Our recent investigation team was searching for U.S. losses. The ROK demining efforts in the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), however, are looking for ROK casualties from the Korean War.

**Question:** Korean War Veterans Association:

Regarding operations in China, are they WWII or Korean War losses?

**Answer:** The field operations are WWII losses. We have asked the PLA Archives for information on several Korean War losses.

**Question:** Coalition of Families:

Regarding Joint Recovery operations, does that leave the possibility of Oct. FY 2020 operations?

**Answer:** No, due to the weather window closing soon after and the logistical timelines necessary, there is no realistic opportunity to begin operations until the spring of 2020 at the earliest.

**Question:** Coalition of Families:

Are there any investigative teams in South Korea?

**Answer:** No, our team has recently concluded its mission and returned. They were investigating losses in Pusan, Seoul, and the DMZ.

**Question:** Coalition of Families:

Any information on live sighting reports in Korea?

**Answer:** We have received no live sighting reports relating to Korean War POW/MIAs for several years. We have no credible information that any POWs were held against their will after the exchange of prisoners in 1953.

**Question:** Coalition of Families:

Regarding the cases we have asked the Chinese for archival information on, they are Korean War air losses, correct?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question:** Coalition of Families:

Is the archival agreement with the PLA (People's Liberation Army) or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)?

**Answer:** It is with the PLA; however, we pass our research requests

through the MFA as a conduit to the PLA.

**Question:** Coalition of Families:

Who controls the POW camp records?

**Answer:** The PLA. We have made requests for those records but to date have not been successful in gaining any new information.

**Question:** Korean War Advocate:

Any information on the K-208?

**Answer:** The work is ongoing. We have identified one K-208 soldier so far this fiscal year.

**Question:** Korean War Advocate:

In the past the negotiations ran through the MFA. What is the process now?

**Answer:** Last summer, we were communicating through the MFA United Nations Mission in New York. In early fall, the North Koreans asked us to run all further communications to the Korean People's Army (KPA) via the UN Command to Panmunjom.

*Bruce Harder, KWVA National Director and POW/MIA Coordinator, 540-659-0252, harderbr@aol.com Not Forgotten: A*

## MIAs ID'd

Here is the up-to-date list of the remains of Korean War MIAs/KIAs identified by the DPAA as of July 11, 2019. With the exception of Pfc. Grady Crawford, all personnel listed are members of the U.S. Army.

**Cpl. Donald E. Angle**, Co. C, 1st Bn., 5th Cav. Rgmt., 1st Cav. Div. 7/25/1950, SK

**Cpl. Robert L. Bray**, Co. C, 1st Bn., 34th Inf. Rgmt., 24th Inf. Div. 7/20/1950, SK

**Master Sgt. James G. Cates**, Co. I, 3rd Bn., 31st Inf. Rgmt., 7th Inf. Div. 12/3/1950, NK

**Pfc. Grady J. Crawford**, USMC Reserve, Btry. M, 4th Bn., 11th Regt., 1st Mar. Div. 12/1/1950, NK

**Sgt. Vernon R. Judd**, Co. D, 89th Medium Tank Bn., 25th Inf. Div., 11/28/1950, NK

**Cpl. Earl H. Markle**, Co. M, 3rd Bn., 8th Cav. Rgmt., 1st Cav. Div. 11/2/1950, NK

**Pvt. Edward M. Morrison**, 1st Pltn., Co. B, 1st Bn., 34th Inf. Rgmt., 24th Inf. Div. 7/6/1950, SK

**Cpl. William S. Smith**, Co. E, 2nd Bn., 9th Inf. Rgmt., 2nd Inf. Div. 9/1/1950, SK

**Pfc. David C. Wilkes**, Co. D, 1st Bn., 32nd Inf. Rgmt., 31st RCT, 7th Inf. Div. 12/2/1950, NK

**Pfc. Roger L. Woods**, Co. I, 3rd Bn., 34th Inf. Rgmt., 24th Inf. Div. 7/29/1950, SK

For more information go to <https://www.dpaa.mil/Our-Missing/Recently-Accounted-For/>.

### LEGEND:

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

# Teen's Mission of Thanks to Korean War Veterans

By Rosslyn Elliott

## Reaching Out to Make Contact Through the Library's Archives

Today's world holds two Koreas: one, a free, democratic society, the other, a tyrannical dictatorship known for human suffering worse than any Orwellian dystopia. For many Americans, it may be easy to forget that a major reason South Korea exists in freedom today is because of the sacrifices of many of our citizens who fought in the Korean War. But for one Arkansas teenager, the veterans of the war will never be forgotten.

Victoria Hwang's parents emigrated to the United States as graduate students in the 1990s, long after the Korean War ended. But Victoria can't forget that the reason her parents could pursue their dreams, keep their cultural heritage, and even emigrate to the U.S.A. was because they grew up in a democratic South Korean society, with freedom bought at a steep price by those who went to war.

Victoria decided to let Arkansas veterans who fought in the Korean War know in a very personal way that she remembers them and is full of gratitude for what they did for her family and for South Korea. Her mission of thanks began with her first exposure to the significance of the war.

## Inspired by Family History

"I first learned about the Korean War from my dad when I was in middle school," Victoria said. "He told me how the war meant a lot to him because it allowed his culture to be preserved."

In high school, Victoria learned more about the Korean War in history classes, as she studied the cause of the war and its global context. Then, she found new inspiration to do more for the veterans.

"Just recently, my dad started to work for the Army Corps of Engineers, because he wanted to give back to the country that allowed him to strive for the American dream when he first came here as an immigrant himself," Victoria said. "I thought that was very inspirational—I wanted to also do the same, give back to this country, and thank those who were able to give me my identity and my family's history."



Victoria Hwang displays photo of George Gatliff and letter

## Finding History Online through the CALS Digital Collections

While researching, Victoria found the special online collection about the Korean War curated by the CALS Butler Center for Arkansas Studies. In 2008, the archivists at the Butler Center started a special effort to gather materials from veterans of the war in order to preserve their memories, letters, and photographs before time erased them. That online archive now contains a database listing a number of Korean War veterans from Arkansas. As Victoria browsed through the online collection, she realized this could be her chance to make contact.

"I thought this database could be a great tool to reach out to some of the veterans and thank them, before it's too late, for everything they've done," she said. Victoria contacted archivist Brian Robertson through the website. Robertson arranged to mail her letter of gratitude to selected veterans on her behalf.

In her letter, Victoria included photos from her recent trip to South Korea. She

labeled them to show the significance of what the Arkansas veterans had helped preserve and build: a 21st century democracy's skyscrapers, beach resorts, shopping centers and lovely historical buildings. Most poignant of all was her photo of a number of political banners showing candidates for election in a free society.

## A Response to Remember

But the project didn't end with Victoria's letter and photos. Instead, some of the veterans wrote her back gracious letters thanking her in turn for the impulse behind her letters. Some of them described their war experiences in moving terms.

One of her veteran correspondents was George Gatliff. Victoria had previously seen some of his materials and his story in the online archive, and his letter brought new insight. "It was very neat to actually hear about his story from his own perspective," she said.

Like many veterans, George Gatliff was humble in his letter to Victoria about his own efforts, and also referred to the enormous sacrifice made by the Korean people





Artillery crew at work in Korean War



Political posters in South Korea

during the war as they lost their homes and livelihoods. He reminded her in eloquent words of the importance of what she was doing. “Please continue researching and recording your country’s history and culture before it is lost forever,” he wrote. “Every time you visit Korea make sure you have a recording device, and a note pad and pen. Talk to the oldest people you can find . . . hopefully, family stories have been passed down through the generations.”

Other veterans wrote her back with sobering details about their experiences: frostbite, illness, being held as prisoners of war. All were touched by her desire to remember them and thank them.

## Knowledge, the Root of Freedom

Victoria said that her experience with the project and her study of the two Koreas has left an indelible impression on her. She has a new respect for knowledge when she thinks about the free flow of information in South Korea, compared to the suffocating propaganda of North Korea’s dictator.

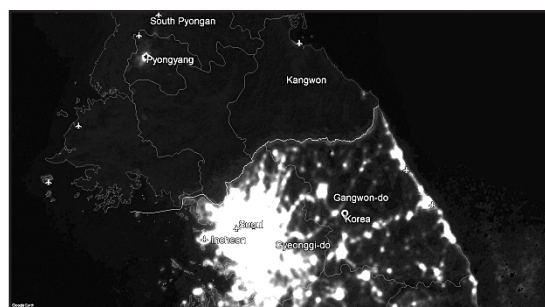


George Gatliff “at home” in Korea

“Kim Jong Un is restricting [the North Koreans’] access to information and limiting them in what their world has to offer. He’s really trying to keep that under control before people start to get ideas and make their own choices. I think it’s a true image of how powerful knowledge is, because that’s what he’s trying to restrict in his country.”

Veteran George Gatliff commented in a telephone interview on his appreciation for Victoria’s project, noting the contrast between her attitude toward the war and its significance, and the current widespread lack of understanding or knowledge of the war or of North Korea’s cruel dictatorship.

He pointed out that the suffering of North Korea is visible even in images. “If you look at Google Earth and check out the night view of Korea, you’ll see that everything south of the DMZ is lit up, but in North Korea, it’s all dark except for a couple of places. It’s something you can show kids: the good guys are here, in the light, and the bad guys are in the dark. You can see the DMZ as a very distinct line between them.”



## Holding History in Her Hands

Victoria’s new attachment to knowledge and history was palpable during her recent visit to the CALS Roberts Library Research Room, which holds the actual paper copies of letters many of the veterans wrote home during the war.

She cradled one of the letters in her hands. “Seeing these letters in person is amazing. Before, I’ve always seen them under glass. And it’s so much better to reach out and make contact with these people in person. It means so much more than just learning about them out of a school curriculum.”

Victoria Hwang now knows the full meaning of her history: her family’s past is always with her, part of her selfhood, as a living web of human stories that connects her to others in ways she has richly explored. Her point of connection was the library’s archive, through which she could make contact with those living people in her area who had also been woven into the story of the Korean War. Her mission of thanks not only speaks volumes about this teenager’s insight and her character, but also shows how libraries and archives become meeting places across generations, where people find themselves in a greater story and learn empathy and respect for others. And as Victoria now joins all the others who learn from history to cherish human freedom and oppose tyranny, she becomes one more point of light on George Gatliff’s Google Earth map.

*(Photos of George Gatliff from the George W. Gatliff Korean War Collection of the CALS Butler Center for Arkansas Studies.)*

**NOTE:** This article is reprinted with permission of the author. It originally appeared at the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, the Central Arkansas Library Service. Here is a link:

<https://butlercenterarkansas.wordpress.com/2019/07/03/not-forgotten-a-teens-mission-of-thanks-to-korean-war-veterans/>

**Darkness and light: the contrast between North and South Korea**

# ACTA South Korea

There was a combat school at Camp Sitman, Korea in the late 1960s called Advanced Combat Training Academy (ACTA). It was commanded at one time by Medal of Honor recipient U.S. Army Major Roger Donlon. Not everyone went through it, but graduates from ACTA passed on what they learned to men in their respective units.

At first only graduates of ACTA were awarded the coveted Imjin Scout Badge, but the qualifications for the Imjin Scout Badge were amended to include anyone who was on missions, either in the DMZ, or along the Barrier Fence. I qualified for the Imjin Scout Badge by working along the Barrier fence, hardening fox holes, doing stakeouts at night to look, and listening for any infiltrators or exfiltrators near the Barrier Fence.

Major Donlon was assigned to the ACTA at Camp Sitman, South Korea during most of 1967 until early 1968. Camp Sitman was located about 7 clicks, or 4 ½ miles, northeast of Freedom Bridge, which spanned the Imjin River. Both he and SFC William Sitman, for whom the camp is named, are recipients of the Medal of Honor.



Picture of the Imjin Scout certificate awarded to Douglas Voss

experienced Special Forces soldiers who were also assigned to the DMZ area to teach 2nd Inf. Div. soldiers about infiltration and exfiltration into South Korea. Kim IL Sung had a training unit called Unit 124 which did nothing but train infiltrators how to cross the DMZ and infiltrate into South Korea. The reason for that was to start an insurgency in South Korea, teach South Koreans about Communism, and unite the two Koreas under the Communist North Korean flag.

The NKPA troops believed themselves as liberators of South Korea using infiltration and guerilla tactics, instead of starting the Korean War back up to unify the 2 Koreas. It took upwards of 2 years to train an NKPA soldier how to infiltrate across the DMZ, live off the land, talk in South Korea dialect, sabotage, assassinate, ambush patrols, and vehicles, and destroy property.

ACTA was a 3-week course in which soldiers in the 2nd Infantry Division were taught North Korean infiltration tactics,



1st Lt. Paul Wolstenholme (L) and Maj. Roger Donlon examining a Russian PPS-41 automatic weapon at the Advanced Combat Training Academy ACTA at Camp Sitman, South Korea, in summer of 1967. (Permission to use picture in Graybeards Magazine for one time use from: Peter MacQueen / ©1968, 2019 Stars and Stripes, All Rights Reserved.)

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**Another grenade came into the machine gun crew's position. SFC Sitman immediately threw himself on the grenade, absorbing the full force of the grenade.**

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In the Korean War, SFC Sitman was leader of a machine gun section in Co. M, 23rd RCT, in the 2nd Inf. Div. at the Battle of Chipyeong-ni, also called the Gettysburg of the Korean War. An enemy grenade knocked out a machine gun that was keeping Chinese soldiers at bay in SFC Sitman's sector. Company I quickly gave a machine gun to SFC Sitman's crew, who continued to fire on CCF troops.

Another grenade came into the machine gun crew's position. SFC Sitman immediately threw himself on the grenade, absorbing the full force of the grenade. He was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously. The ACTA Camp was named in his honor.

Major Donlon was in Special Forces in Vietnam before he was assigned to Camp Sitman, Korea as the commandant of Advanced Combat Training Academy (ACTA) to train Korean DMZ troops about infiltration and exfiltration tactics, which was his specialty in Vietnam. Major Donlon was a Captain in charge of a Special Forces base, 15 miles from Laos.

On July 6 1964 a Viet Cong force of 2 battalions attacked the Special Forces base. Although wounded five different times, he dragged wounded men out of harm's way. And, at the camp's gate he took out a number of Vietcong. He led his men calmly and confidently all through the night. This was the Battle of Nam Dong. He received the first Medal of Honor of the Vietnam War on December 5 1964. Now what does this have to do with the Korean DMZ?

Major Donlon honed his skills in Vietnam along with other



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**Major Donlon had 5 Korean vipers in an aquarium, covered of course. He would tell anyone who came into his office this is how North Korean infiltrators are. They are snakes in the grass and they are lethal.**

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both NKPA and U.S. Army ambush tactics, learn effective patrols, how to navigate the Korean terrain, get the feel of North Korean AK-47s and PPS41s by firing them, see equipment used by infiltrators, and learn quick kill techniques to increase chances of survival if ambushed by NKPA infiltrators. At the end of the soldiers' instruction phase at Camp Sitman, they went on an actual patrol in the DMZ with experienced instructors, to get a feel of the DMZ. The ACTA Academy was the only U.S. Army academy in a combat zone, that being along the Korean DMZ. The other combat academy was RECONDO School in Vietnam.

The mission on the south side of the DMZ was defensive. North Korea violated terms of the Armistice at least 2,000 times using infiltration into South Korea. The U.S. Army defended the south side of the DMZ 24-7. It was not interested in violating North Korean territory, but defended South Korea from NKPA insurgents and infiltrators. Firefights increased in numbers as NKPA troops increased infiltrations across the MDL Military Demarcation Line.

Major Donlon had 5 Korean vipers in an aquarium, covered of course. He would tell anyone who came into his office this is how North Korean infiltrators are. They are snakes in the grass and they are lethal. To paraphrase Major Donlon, he said "This school gives our men more confidence, the ability to shoot instinctively, and they can operate in any conditions to repel North Korean Infiltrators."

There was an Imjin Scout certificate awarded, and the Imjin Scout badge was worn on the right pocket of fatigues to show the soldier graduated from ACTA. It was unique to the 2nd Div. Not every soldier stationed on the DMZ went through ACTA, but NCOs who graduated ACTA came back to their units with a wealth of knowledge, and more confidence in running patrols and ambushes.

In 1968, any 2nd Inf. Div. soldier who was on a minimum of 20 missions in the DMZ, or along the Barrier Fence marking the south boundary of the DMZ, was awarded the Imjin Scout Badge. I did double the number the missions on the DMZ. Kim IL Sung again was foiled in his dream to unite the 2 Koreas under his leadership. South Koreans liked and appreciated Americans for saving their country from becoming Communist in the Korean War. They also liked American GIs on the DMZ and in country.

U.S. Army soldiers were getting better at stopping infiltration and waging guerilla warfare. It was getting costly for North Korea to lose so many highly skilled North Korean infiltrators, so much so that infiltrations dropped off exponentially by Dec. 1969.

The DMZ conflict started July 1966, and ended Dec. 31 1969. There still were infiltrations through the DMZ, but not in the numbers seen during the DMZ Conflict. North Korea resorted more to submarines and boats off shore that would drop off infiltrators onto rubber rafts which were paddled to shore. It also made more attempts at using scuba divers to go up rivers or swim to shore,

then go inland to convince South Koreans to embrace Communism. Those tactics failed as well.

#### MOH CITATION



SFC William S. Sitman

#### SITMAN, WILLIAM S.

**Rank and organization:** Sergeant First Class, U.S. Army, Company M, 23d Infantry Regiment, 2d Infantry Division.

**Place and date:** Near Chipyeong-ni, Korea, 14 February 1951.

**Entered service at:** Bellwood, Pa.

**G.O. No.:** 20, 1 February 1952.

**Citation:** Sfc. Sitman distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action against an armed

enemy of the United Nations. Sfc. Sitman, a machine gun section leader of Company M, was attached to Company I, under attack by a numerically superior hostile force. During the encounter when an enemy grenade knocked out his machine gun, a squad from Company I, immediately emplaced a light machine gun and Sfc. Sitman and his men remained to provide security for the crew. In the ensuing action, the enemy lobbed a grenade into the position and Sfc. Sitman, fully aware of the odds against him, selflessly threw himself on it, absorbing the full force of the explosion with his body. Although mortally wounded in this fearless display of valor, his intrepid act saved 5 men from death or serious injury, and enabled them to continue inflicting withering fire on the ruthless foe throughout the attack. Sfc. Sitman's noble self-sacrifice and consummate devotion to duty reflect lasting glory on himself and uphold the honored traditions of the military service.

#### MOH CITATION



Captain Roger C. Donlon

#### DONLON, ROGER HUGH C.

**Rank:** Captain **Organization:** U.S. Army

**Company:** Detachment A-726 **Division:** 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne)

**Born:** 30 January 1934, Saugerties, N.Y.

**Departed:** No

**Entered Service At:** Fort Chaffee, Ark. **G.O. Number:** 41

**Date of Issue:** 12/05/1964 **Accredited To:**

**Place / Date:** Near Nam Dong, Republic of Vietnam, 6 July 1964

**Citation:** For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while defending a U.S. military installation against a fierce attack by hostile forces. Capt. Donlon was serving as the commanding officer of the U.S. Army Special Forces Detachment A-726 at Camp Nam Dong when a reinforced Viet Cong battalion suddenly launched a full-scale, predawn attack on the camp.

During the violent battle that ensued, lasting 5 hours and resulting in heavy casualties on both sides, Capt. Donlon directed the defense operations in the midst of an enemy barrage of mortar shells, falling grenades, and extremely heavy gunfire. Upon the initial onslaught, he swiftly marshaled his forces and ordered the removal of the needed ammunition from a blazing building. He then dashed through a hail of small arms and exploding hand grenades to abort a breach of the main gate. En route to this position he detected an enemy demolition team of 3 in the proximity of the main gate and quickly annihilated them. Although exposed to the intense grenade attack, he then succeeded in reaching a 60mm mortar position despite sustaining a severe stomach wound as he was within 5 yards of the gun pit. When he discovered that most of the men in this gunpit were also wounded, he completely disregarded his own injury, directed their withdrawal to a location 30 meters away, and again risked his life by remaining behind and covering the movement with the utmost effectiveness. Noticing that his team sergeant was unable to evacuate the gun pit he crawled toward him and, while dragging the fallen soldier out of the gunpit, an enemy mortar exploded and inflicted a wound in Capt. Donlon's left shoulder. Although suffering from multiple wounds, he carried the abandoned 60mm mortar weapon to a new location 30 meters away where he found 3 wounded defenders. After administering first aid and encouragement to these men, he left the weapon with them, headed toward another position, and retrieved a 57mm recoil-

less rifle. Then with great courage and coolness under fire, he returned to the abandoned gun pit, evacuated ammunition for the 2 weapons, and while crawling and dragging the urgently needed ammunition, received a third wound on his leg by an enemy hand grenade. Despite his critical physical condition, he again crawled 175 meters to an 81mm mortar position and directed firing operations which protected the seriously threatened east sector of the camp. He then moved to an eastern 60mm mortar position and upon determining that the vicious enemy assault had weakened, crawled back to the gun pit with the 60mm mortar, set it up for defensive operations, and turned it over to 2 defenders with minor wounds. Without hesitation, he left this sheltered position, and moved from position to position around the beleaguered perimeter while hurling hand grenades at the enemy and inspiring his men to superhuman effort. As he bravely continued to move around the perimeter, a mortar shell exploded, wounding him in the face and body. As the long awaited daylight brought defeat to the enemy forces and their retreat back to the jungle leaving behind 54 of their dead, many weapons, and grenades, Capt. Donlon immediately reorganized his defenses and administered first aid to the wounded. His dynamic leadership, fortitude, and valiant efforts inspired not only the American personnel but the friendly Vietnamese defenders as well and resulted in the successful defense of the camp. Capt. Donlon's extraordinary heroism, at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty are in the highest traditions of the U.S. Army and reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of his country.

## Two Nuns From Belgium who died in Korea

Mother Mechtilde De Vriese, born in 1888, died at age 62 in North Korea on 18 November 1950. She was born Godelieve Devriese, at Ypres, Belgium. She became a nun with the Carmelites when the Germans invaded in 1914.

At one point she was assigned to Turkey. When an insurgency broke out, she and others barely escaped with their lives on a French Navy boat. She was then posted to Korea and endured the long Japanese occupation of that country.

She was arrested on 15 July 1950. She was "Promoted to Glory" at Hanjang-ne, North Korea. Her remains are still there on that hillside. It is hard to imagine how hard this ordeal was on this 62-year-old lady of the church. But, consider this: She was blind, as well!

This dear and wonderful lady of the church endured a veritable martyrdom without complaint.

Mother Therese Bastin was born Irene Bastin in 1901 in Belgium. She was only 14 when the Germans invaded in 1914. For the next four years she was an active member of "La Dame Blanche," a secret underground group. Several of her friends were executed by the Germans. In 1918 she was arrested, but released due to lack of evidence and ill health. (She had tuberculosis.)

She went to Korea as a Carmelite nun in 1938. Her health had been failing for many years, and it declined steadily after she was arrested. In prison, she made socks for other people.

Mother Bastin knew that her death was fast approaching. She was "Promoted to Glory" on November 30, 1950 at Hanjang-ni North Korea, where she remains to this day.

*Shorty Estabrook, Tiger Survivor*

### 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



# Where were you on July 27th?

This is part of a continuing series—or it will be as long as members keep sending their stories about where they were that historic day. Please send your stories and/or photos to us at Arthur G. Sharp, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573.

## The fire dies out

About the only thing shot after 10 p.m. on July 27, 1953 was the nearby photo. It was taken at HQ & HQ Battery, I Corps Artillery, coded "Projectile. We three were assigned to the Fire Support Coordination Center (FSCC) in the Chorwan Valley at the time.

Our work had come to an end in a blaze of artillery fire at midnight, July 27th. Frank Marshall, John Zecca, and I were hanging out in front of our work station enjoying a fine morning with nothing to do—for once.

*Roger V. Hearin, 1220 S. Michigan Ave., Saginaw, MI 48602*

**Frank Marshall, John Zecca, and Roger Hearin (L-R) on July 28, 1953**



## VETERANS DAY

By Tailhook Jack©

THE OPPORTUNITY  
TO REMEMBER, CELEBRATE  
VETERANS WHO FREELY  
SERVED THEIR  
FELLOW CITIZENS  
ESPECIALLY THOSE THAT  
DIDN'T MAKE IT HOME  
NEVER LEAVE ANYONE  
BEHIND, CARRY THEM  
IN YOUR HEARTS AND MINDS  
ON THIS VETERANS DAY  
AS LONG AS YOU REMEMBER  
THEM, THEY WILL NEVER DIE

# 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 the troops in Korea did.



## A transgender rooster?

In Korea, mascots were normally found in rear echelon units. In our case, the Heavy Mortar Company of the 65th Puerto Rican regiment had two critters: a black puppy and Mr. Rojos, a small looking Rhode Island Red. Both animals were pets of Master Sergeant Ortiz, who found the puppy abandoned at Camp Casey. The origin of Mr. Rojos was unknown.

Mr. Rojos was an elegant looking rooster with an enormous large bright red comb. There was no mistaking his masculinity. His wattles accentuated his appearance. His problem? He was always in search of hens, which were not to be

found in the confines of the company.

Sgt. Ortiz and Mr. Rojos had bonded. They were inseparable. Their togetherness provided amusement for both officers and men of the company.

However, there was intense hostility towards Mr. Rojos by the company's cook. The bird would raid the mess tent's burlap bags of stored rice. Because Puerto Ricans' staple food was rice, the Army granted the regiment a special ration of Japanese rice. The rice, with its short and stubby grain, appealed to Mr. Rojos. The cook and Sgt. Ortiz were literally at each other's throats over the bird's antics. Justice would prevail.

On a December night, Mr. Rojos was somehow trapped in the mess storage tent. The next day, when the bird managed to get out, his bright red comb had suffered frostbite. In time, the tips of appendages of the comb became black and dropped off. It was obvious Mr. Rojos was a dejected rooster losing most of his masculine attraction. The mortar personnel got a big laugh at the bird's appearance. Sgt. Ortiz was upset and accused the cook of deliberately trapping his bird in the tent.

The bird actually looked confused. In today's term, the possibility exists that Mr. Rojos had experienced a transgender transformation.

*George Bjotvedt, viking8588@gmail.com*

# Reflecting on July 27, 1953

It always interesting to look back at what historical figures said following significant historical events and how hindsight proves their wisdom. Naturally hindsight is not a predictor of the future. With that in mind let's take a look at an article that appeared in the Sacramento [CA] Bee on Monday, July 27, 1953, p. 14 and evaluate it based on what we know now.

Were the luminaries quoted prescient? Did they get anything right? What, if anything, has changed regarding their prognostications since July 27, 1953? Raise your hands if you have any comments.

## Dulles Declares War Is Lesson For Future Aggressor

WASHINGTON - AP - Secretary of State John Foster Dulles said the Korean armistice means all free nations are safe because of the "awful punishment" inflicted by the United Nations forces in repelling Communist aggression.

For the first time in history an international organization has stood against an aggressor and has martialled force to meet force," Dulles said. "The aggressor, at first victorious, has been repulsed. The armistice leaves him in control of less territory than when his aggression began and that territory is largely laid waste.

"The North Korean Army is virtually extinct; the Chinese and Korean Communist armies have sustained about 2,000,000 casualties and of the 10,000,000 people of North Korea, one out of every three has died from the war ravages and the inhuman neglect which their rulers have imposed."

### Satellite Aggression

"The tragic result will surely be pondered by other potential nominees for aggression by satellite.

"All free nations, large and small, because the ideal of collective security has been implemented and because awful punish-

ment has been visited upon the transgressors." (Sic)

Dulles in a statement last night following President Eisenhower's broadcast about the armistice, said also the armistice means a triumph for the principle of political asylum. He referred to the Communists' abandonment of their demands that all prisoners be returned forcibly even if they resisted going back to Communist rule.

"The consequences of this decision run far beyond Korea," Dulles said. "The Communist rulers now know that if they wage another war of aggression, those who unwillingly served in their Red armies can escape to freedom, confident they will never be handed back. Thus the Red armies become less dependable as instruments of aggression and the chance of aggression is correspondingly reduced.

### Shall Not Relax

Dulles advised at the outset the armistice is by no means the equivalent of assured peace. He said, "We shall not relax our vigilance nor shall we reduce our strength in Korea until future events show that this is prudent."

The United States is no less determined than before, the secretary declared, to achieve the unification of a divided Korea. He said since World War II it has been the firm conviction of this country that unification must come about through political means rather than force.

### Troops Will Stay

Secretary of Defense Charles Wilson said "It will be a long time before we can with safety withdraw our troops from Korea as a result of the truce signing".

Wilson made this comment in a statement after saying the defense department "Is studying the results of this truce."

Wilson's statement did not mention a specific time but he has estimated it might be six months before some troops could be withdrawn.

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## Dead drunk

I was told that I had made a hilarious spectacle of myself, which at the time I didn't think was at all funny. Now, all these many decades later, I have to agree. I had made a hilarious spectacle of myself.

I'd been in Korea for 14 months, six months as a battalion surgeon with the Fifth Marines and 8 months as the C.O. of a forward Navy/Marine hospital, Easy Medical Company. I should have gone home after 12 months, but I was told that all the arriving Navy doctors were trained surgeons and were sent to Army MASHes "because their need for surgeons was greater than the Navy's. T.S.!"

The same thing happened the next month, my 15th.

"For sure, next month," Cdr. Ayres told me!

So I was sitting in the officer's mess on the second floor of a half-ruined farmer's house, feeling very sorry for myself. Dr.

Frank Spencer sat down beside me, handed me a mug of sparkling Burgundy. and said, "C'mon, Dib, cheer up and have a drink."

"You know I don't drink, Frank."

"I won't tell either your wife or your God!"

So I had a drink. Hmmm! Not bad. And a second one. Drank like it was soda pop. And then as many more as it took for me to pass out. When I woke hours later I was on my cot downstairs in my command post.

Laughing uncontrollably, three or four corpsmen had carried their dead-drunk commanding officer down to his command post where he would have been totally ineffectual if the Chinese had chosen that time to mount an offensive in our sector!

*J. Birney Dibble, M.D., W 4290 Jene Rd., Eau Claire, WI, 54701, 715-832-0709, jbirneydibble5@gmail.com*





# A Privateer Memory

By Fernando Del Rio

On June 25, 1950 the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPKR) invaded the Republic of Korea (ROK). It was immediately evident that South Korea could not defend itself without foreign military assistance. On June 30 President Harry S. Truman ordered U.S. Army, Navy and Air Force units into military action defending South Korea. Other friendly nations quickly followed the U.S. by offering military assistance.

At the time I was eighteen years old, working at the Hughes Aircraft Company in Culver City, California. I was saving my earnings so I could later attend UC Berkley. On weekends I was a Navy Reserve Airman training to qualify as an aviation machinist mate at the Los Alamitos Navy (NAS) Air Station in Orange County.

On August 1, when I arrived home from work, my mother handed me a letter from the Eleventh Naval District, San Diego. The text of the letter ordered me to relinquish my civilian commitments and report for active duty at Los Alamitos Naval Air Station on September 1. At 8 a.m. on the appointed day I reported for duty with about 400 other enlisted men and officers.

We were assigned to U.S. Navy Patrol Squadron VP772, based in Seattle, Washington. We remained at NAS Los Alamitos for three days. We were issued new Navy gear and equipment. We attended classes informing us about our new assignment. On September 4 the squadron's airmen and officers were airlifted to Naval Air Station (NAS) Seattle, Washington.

On the second day after our arrival all hands mustered on the air station's tarmac. We boarded and inspected the squadron's eleven Consolidated Vultee (four engine) PB4Y2 (Privateer) airplanes to become familiar with them. The PB4Y2s previously had been flown to NAS Seattle from Litchfield Park, Arizona. They had been in mothball storage since the end of World War II.

For the next four months the squadron trained six days a week for a classified assignment. It was evident we were training for Korean War duty. On January 2, 1951 the squadron's enlisted personnel and fifteen officers boarded a U.S. Military Transport ship in Seattle. Also aboard the ship were 2,800 Army National Guard troops bound for what they were told was an unknown destination.

My squadron's pilots and 33 petty officers remained in Seattle. A week later they flew the eleven PB4Y2s to Japan, crossing the Pacific with refueling stops in Hawaii, Midway, and Guam before landing in Japan.

Meanwhile VP772's shipmates and National Guard troops on the military transport ship were sailing across the Pacific under crowded conditions. We arrived at Yokohama after seventeen days at sea. Our arrival was four days overdue because, after leaving Seattle, we ran into the worst north Pacific storm in fifty years. You can imagine how many troops were sick, including me.

We arrived at Yokohama and were transported to Atsugi Naval Air Station, located inland, not far from Mount Fuji. Our squadron almost immediately began flying anti-submarine patrols over Korea's east and west coasts, the Tsushima Straits, Sea of Japan, and Yellow Sea. I volunteered for flight duty and was assigned to be the twin 50-cal-



U.S. Navy PB4Y-2 from VP-23 in flight

The squadron's other flight crews identified their Privateers with catchy and fancy names. We named our PB4Y2 simply: "Airplane Number Eleven."

iber machine gunner on the port turret of VP772's number eleven Privateer.

The squadron's other flight crews identified their Privateers with catchy and fancy names. We named our PB4Y2 simply: "Airplane Number Eleven." While in Japan I received a turret gunner's certification from the U.S. Air Force Training Command.

VP772's flight crew eleven was assigned reconnaissance and anti-submarine duty over Korea's west coast peninsula, flying north to the Yalu River and then returning patrolling sections of the Yellow Sea. Our mission was to track suspected North Korean submarines, surface ships, and merchant vessels bound for North Korean ports.

North Korea's navy had no submarines and few ships. The Chinese were conducting patrols in the Yellow Sea aboard former Soviet submarines. A few submarines we identified were from the Soviet Union. During our Yellow Sea missions we recorded six unidentified submarines. Unfortunately, we lost track of them. We took photos of foreign vessels and friendly ships.

Some photographs we took identified Panamanian registered merchant ships bound for North Korean and Chinese ports loaded with war materials. We could do nothing except identify them. Panama was a neutral country and we were bound by international law to respect their neutrality. Later we learned that various Panamanian ships had American crews aboard. It made us livid but we could do nothing.

Each patrol flight lasted eleven hours, flying at a speed of 250 knots at altitudes of 500-1,000 feet. During the flights I spent six hours housed in the aircraft's port gun turret equipped with twin fifty caliber machine guns. I had two assignments. One was to scan the ocean surface and report submarines and ships in sight. The other was to fire my twin fifty caliber guns at enemy aircraft if attacked. On one



mission we encountered enemy aircraft at a distance. Fortunately, a U.S. Air Force F-86 squadron was in the vicinity. It scattered the enemy aircraft.

During my assignments in Korea I logged thirty missions over the war zone. Sixteen were classified anti-submarine surveillance; the others were support missions. During this time I was reclassified Airman First Class and our squadron received several Navy air combat commendations. After seven months in the Far East VP772 was relieved of duty and reassigned back to Naval Air Station (NAS), Seattle.

In Seattle I was transferred to Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, near the Canadian border. I was assigned to an aviation repair squadron because I was a certified aviation radial engine machinist mate, which was in high demand. My duty was repairing aircraft engines. I sorely missed flight duty, especially aboard a PB4Y2 Privateer.

During the remainder of my Navy duty I encountered squadron VP 772 once. In order to return to Japan I volunteered for sea duty aboard the *USS Princeton*, an aircraft carrier being repaired to join a Far East task force. (See story on page 11.)

There is an old sailor's axiom stating that in the Navy the worst land duty is better than the best sea duty. Airmen in my unit thought I was crazy to volunteer for sea duty. The *USS Princeton* (CV-37) was docked in San Francisco. Once aboard ship I was assigned to the aircraft deck fueling division. My job was not exciting. In fact, it was considered to be among the worst duty on the aircraft carrier.

Previously my former squadron (VP772) had been reassigned to Barbers Point Navy Air Station in Hawaii. On our way to Korea Princeton sailed to Pearl Harbor where, for three weeks, the ship's

squadrons flew daily training missions honing their skills for Korean air war duty.

On Princeton, before leaving Pearl Harbor, I received a three-day liberty pass to visit Honolulu. During that time I went to nearby Barbers Point Naval Air Station to meet my old VP772 squadron air mates. While at the air base I walked on the tarmac and located the squadron's Privateer Number Eleven. I climbed aboard and crawled into the port side gun turret.

Like a child I fantasized I was on a wartime flight mission. I remained huddled in the turret for fifteen minutes. It was nostalgic and I felt exalted reminiscing about those eleven-hour flying missions over Korea and the Yellow Sea in VP772's airplane number eleven. It was the last time I was aboard a Privateer.

*Fernando Del Rio, AP03, USNR, 5 Alcante Cir., Rancho Mirage, CA 92270, 323-683-7398, websalsa@pacbell.net*

**NOTE:** The Consolidated PB4Y-2 Privateer, a World War II- and Korean War-era patrol bomber of the United States Navy, is derived from the Consolidated B-24 Liberator. The Navy had been using B-24s with only minor modifications as the PB4Y-1 Liberator, and along with maritime patrol Liberators used by RAF Coastal Command this type of patrol plane was proven successful.

A fully navalized design was desired, and Consolidated developed a dedicated long-range patrol bomber in 1943, designated PB4Y-2 Privateer. In 1951, the type was redesignated P4Y-2 Privateer. A further designation change occurred in September 1962, when the remaining Navy Privateers (all having previously been converted to drone configuration as P4Y-2K) were redesignated QP-4B.

(Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Consolidated\\_PB4Y-2\\_Privateer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Consolidated_PB4Y-2_Privateer))

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## Drums and gongs and bugles galore

By Tom Moore

In the Korean War UN troops wondered what was up with the Chinese drums, bugles, etc. when they attacked. It is an oriental thing that goes way back to Sun Tzu's "The Art of War." The UN had radios, but The Book of Military Management says:

"In battle, the human voice is not strong enough to be heard, which is why we use gongs and drums; our eyesight is not acute enough, which is why we use banners and flags. — Gongs and drums, and banners and flags make the army hear with the same ear and see with the same eye. Thus unified in understanding, the brave cannot advance alone nor the cowardly retreat. In night warfare, make more use of signal fires and drums, and in daytime rely on banners and flags, thus adapting to the eyes and ears of your troops."

Why did the Orientals attack us when our thoughts were of sleep? Why did they always attempt to surround us? Sun Tzu says in The Art of War:

"Here are some of the basic principles of war:

- never attack uphill, nor defend downhill
- do not be lured into attack by feigned flight, and do not attack an enemy who is rested and full of fight
- do not swallow the bait put out for you, and do not get in the way of an army that is homeward bound

• when you surround an enemy, always leave them a way out, so that you may slay the foe on the retreat path

- do not press a cornered foe too hard

This is the art of waging war.

Sun Tzu says there are five pitfalls that may ensnare a general:

- reckless disregard for death will indeed result in death
- too much regard for life will result in capture
- a quick temper can be provoked into rash action
- a misplaced sense of honor brings only shame
- over solicitude (care or concern) for the men just causes needless trouble and anxiety

These five are the common failings of generals and are disastrous in their effect on the successful conduct of war. When an army is defeated and its general slain, look no farther than these five for the cause.

Sun Tzu says, "If you treat your soldiers like your children, you can lead them into the deepest darkest places; if you see them as your beloved sons, they will stand by you to the death. If, however, you are too soft and do not establish firm leadership, too kindly and do not enforce your orders, if you are lax in your organization and cannot keep control, then your troops will be as useless to you as spoilt children."

# 2019 FUNDRAISER REMINDER

**My Personal “Thank You”** to all who have supported the fundraiser again this year. The response has been excellent to date. We are on track to reach the goal of \$70,000. There are still more funds needed.

If you are like most of us, we put things aside and think **“I’ll Do It Later.”** But **“Now Is Later.”** We need each member to buy some \$20 tickets or make a donation. Mark the donation “Fundraiser.”

If you have not actually had to pay dues for years, please make some type of

donation. You may buy tickets and put your chapter name or number. Be sure to put your member number. Only members can win.

Upon requests I have enlarged the lines for email and member number. Future fundraisers will correct the Korean War Ribbon Colors.

We together have made a difference in the past. Together we can continue our support in one of the greatest veterans organization that has ever existed. We have proven that we will not be forgotten.

NOTE: The responses for the Korea Defense Veterans Memorial letter that was included with the mailing has been fantastic. Several states are already working on memorials. Jeff Brodeur has had an improved memorial design made. Pictures, sample letters, and support are available. My thanks to all the Defense Veterans getting involved now.

**Please Make A Donation - Now!**

*Thomas McHugh, Director*

*Chairman, 2019 Fund Raiser Committee*

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## HOFFMAN from page 21

Each air crew member had specific duties. Mine were to assist the pilot, who was the aircraft commander, maintain IFF (identification Friend or Foe-for radar), and learn all mechanical and emergency systems of the B-26, implement them as needed, and understand everything about engines, fuel systems, armament systems, and aircraft systems.

There was an awful lot to know and do when flying an aircraft. The pilots were very happy to have the flight mechanics aboard. In case of an emergency I could fly the aircraft on auto pilot, etc. When oil pressure went to zero (while they were shooting at us) we knew what to do. We were trained in school how to handle and advise the pilot in most situations! This was a new and experimental process.

In late January 1953, 5th Air Force sent a letter requesting information about how these new flight mechanics were working out. This sent waves through the Squadron and immediately those of us with 43131 W job classifications were called in and our training discussed. They immediately started us on test flights and combat ready flights. Soon we were put to work on combat missions.

There were 29 flight mechanics in the 34th Bomb Squadron. Two flight mechanics were assigned to one aircraft (one to go on each mission with the plane). We were not assigned to specific air crews. The normal aircrews went on different aircraft. But the B-26 had different places for switches, valves, etc. on different aircraft. For night missions it was decided that flight mechanics would stay with their aircraft as they were familiar with the locations.

In my experience the pilots were delighted to have our help and considered us a blessing from God. Several of my personal combat flights under fire included schooling put to good use. In one case, when the right engine started misfiring, I immediately took action—and I could see the pilot relax.

In that situation the carburetor heat flap was shot or jarred loose, which restricted air flow to the carburetor. I engaged the turbo supercharger (as I was taught) while we were under anti-aircraft fire. The pilot gained control and all ended well.

Sometimes my aircraft was really “shot up” with holes and quite a bit of damage. On one mission we received over 90+ holes from flak damage and bullets. The enemy apparently didn’t like us bombing and strafing them.

We had three types of normal combat missions. (All our missions were to support our troops.) Our main mission was called a “Road Wreck.” We patrolled an assigned area in North Korea for around four hours, bombing and strafing to inhibit any enemy attempt to move supplies/troops to the front, which was done at night. (Most of our missions were at night.)

There was a “Tadpole” mission, which was under radar control and we normally dropped bombs very near our troops under radar control (voice direction).

The third type was called a “Rail Wreck,” the object of which was to stop enemy supply trains. That was a very difficult thing to do.

We usually carried ten 500-lb. demolition bombs, 900 gallons of 100/130 fuel, and about 2,500 rounds of 50 caliber bullets for the ten machine guns.

The K-9 squadrons had North Korea divided into three sections. The 37th Bomb Squadron had the eastern section, the 34th Bomb Squadron had the mid-section, and the 95th Bomb Squadron had the western section. Any aircraft could be diverted from its normal mission in case it was needed.

“Into the Land of Darkness” describes this period, according to a 95th Bomb Squadron Navigator/Bombardier). The Graybeards, July/August 2018, “37th Bombardment Squadron Night Intruder,” p. 72, details some of the activities I have referenced.

On July 27, 1953 I left for the ZI (zone of interior) and went FIGMO (Forget It, Got My Orders). I was re-assigned to Kelly AFB, San Antonio, Texas. I advanced to the rank of SSgt and was certified Test Engineer on B-26, B-25, C-45, C-46, and C-47 type aircraft. I was discharged on 7 August 1956. *Harold A. Hoffman, 796 S 3430 E, New Harmony, UT 84757, 714-791-2792, HarHoffman@yahoo.com*



# 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

**1<sup>ST</sup> PRIZE / 2<sup>ND</sup> PRIZE / 3<sup>RD</sup> PRIZE / 4<sup>TH</sup> PRIZE / 5<sup>TH</sup> PRIZE / 6<sup>TH</sup> 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.

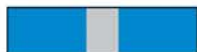
Always Remember: "FREEDOM IS NOT FREE"

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](http://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
<b>\$1500</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$500</b>



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](http://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](mailto: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: \_\_\_\_\_

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Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Membership No: \_\_\_\_\_



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

# Tell America

## 60 - ADIRONDACK [NY]

We concluded our 2018-2019 school year Tell America activities with a presentation to 120+ junior and senior students at Saratoga Springs High School in Saratoga Springs, New York on June 4th. Tell America Chairman Bruce Blackie, who introduced the program objectives and the participants to the students, was followed by chapter commander Roger Calkins, who gave a brief recap of the three-year Korean War as a background for the personal experiences of the individual presenters.

Navy veteran Gene Slavin shared his experiences on the destroyer John R. Pierce DD753 as it conducted "train-busting" operations on the east coast of Korea. Paul O'Keefe discussed his 24th Division combat situations from the perspective of a young draftee who never before had fired even a BB gun.

As an early arrival on the peninsula with the 1st Cavalry Division, Ed Bushey described the advance to north of Pyongyang where his unit was overwhelmed by the Chinese Communist forces. Ed was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for Valor for his actions near Taegu in September, 1950.

Air Force ground crewman Bill Reid talked of patching up B-26 Marauder bombers as they returned from troop support missions. Paratrooper Bob Garland of the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team described the varied combat roles of his unit including the put down of the communist POW uprising on Koje-do. All our presenters did an excellent job of putting a personal face on a significant historical event.

The Q&A session following the presentations was an opportunity to continue the personal dialogue with the students. We are always impressed with the variety and depth of their questions for us. Their courtesy, respect, and enthusiasm inspire us all.

Carol Waldron, cwald36709@aol.com



Ch. 60 Tell America team: (Front) Former Commander Roger Calkins, Treasurer Gene Slavin, Ed Bushey, and NY State Chaplain Paul O'Keefe; (Back) Commander Bob Garland, Tell America Chairman Bruce Blackie, Bill Reid

## 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](mailto:membership@kwva.us)  
Make Checks payable to: **KWVA**



## 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](mailto:sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net)**

# Congratulations to the 2019 American Veterans of

This year marks the sixth year that the AVKF has provided scholarships for outstanding and deserving descendants of American Korean War Veterans.

The announcement of the ten scholarship recipients in 2019 was made personally by the AVKF chairman and founder, the Honorable Kim Jung Hoon. He reminded the attendees at the annual KWVA banquet in Washington D.C. that over fifty students have benefited from these scholarships. Recently, when a former scholarship winner visited him in South Korea, he disclosed his desire to contact previous winners and possibly meet with them.

The 2019 Scholarship Evaluation Committee consisted of KWVA members Chairman Ron Carpenter, Matt Gregg, and Lou Santangelo.

The response in applications once again was outstanding both in number and quality.

On behalf of all awardees, past and present, we say "Thank You, Mr. Kim" for the long-term sustained commitment you and the AVKF Board have made to the Scholarship Program and other veterans programs in the United States and the Republic of Korea.

## 2019 AVKF Scholarship Recipients

### Heather Nicole Barnes



**School:** Robert Morris University

**Year:** Freshman

**Major:** Nuclear Medicine Tech.

**Hometown:** Hagerstown, MD

Heather graduated from Smithsburg High School in 2019. She was a high honors graduate and a member of the National Honors Society. She played three varsity sports in high school: lacrosse, tennis, and basketball, and was named all-county twice for basketball and once for tennis.

In her senior year, her basketball team went to the Maryland State Finals Championship game.

She will be attending Robert Morris University in the fall to earn a bachelor's degree in Nuclear Medicine Technology.

### Allison Ann Biddinger



**School:** Purdue Univ.

**Year:** Sophomore

**Major:** Biological Engineering

**Hometown:** Bartlesville, OK

Allison Biddinger is a sophomore at Purdue University, where she is studying biological engineering with a concentration in cellular and bio-molecular engineering. She is also a member of the Purdue Honors College and has been recognized on the Dean's List for her academic

achievements.

Allison has been a competitive swimmer for over ten years and is a member of the Purdue Swim Club. She is involved in the Purdue Student Engineering Foundation, participates in engineering outreach events for high schoolers, and is a member of the Purdue Women in Engineering Program. Allison also serves as a Team Leader for Purdue's freshman orientation program.

This summer, Allison is conducting novel research on traumatic brain injuries at the University of Georgia. She enjoys playing the violin and teaching swim lessons in her free time.

### Christopher Angeles Cruz, Jr.



**School:** Duke University

**Year:** Junior

**Major:** Psychology/Theater

**Hometown:** Virginia Beach, VA

Christopher will be entering his junior year at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina, where he is double majoring in Psychology and Theater Studies and also earning a certificate in Documentary Studies. His ultimate goal is to use his studies in Psychology and passion for the performing arts to assist veterans and their family members.

Growing up as a Navy brat, Christopher lived in many different locations, including two years in Busan, South Korea, one of his favorite cities. He now considers Virginia Beach home.

He is active in the performing arts at Duke University, where he has acted, directed, and produced for multiple theater productions. He is also a member of the Duke University Improv Team and Hoof 'N' Horn, the oldest student run theater organization in the south.

Christopher is also a fundraiser and advocate for the Scott Carter Foundation, an organization dedicated to pediatric cancer research. Christopher is the grandson of John Martin Harmon, a Korean War veteran.

All Chapter and/or Department news for publication in *The Graybeards* should be mailed to Art Sharp, Editor, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573 or emailed to: [Sharp\\_arthur\\_g@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net)



# Korea Foundation Scholarship Awardees

## Daniel J. Donohue



**School:** Auburn Univ.

**Year:** Freshman

**Major:** Professional Flight

**Hometown:** Jupiter, FL

Daniel attended the Engineering Academy at Jupiter Community High School in Jupiter, FL where he graduated with honors in the top 17% of his class in May 2019 with an Advanced International Certificate of Education Hometown: AICE Diploma from Cambridge University.

He earned the Billy Mitchell Award through his involvement with the Civil Air Patrol and attained the rank of Eagle Scout in Boy Scout Troop 180 in West Palm Beach, FL. He is a member of the National Honor Society, FIRST Robotics M.A.R.S. Team 1523 and the Jupiter Sharks rugby team.

During high school, he performed nearly 400 hours of community service in activities recognizing veterans, Eagle Scout community projects, and STEM outreach events.

Daniel will attend the Auburn University Honors College this fall, where he will study Professional Flight and Business. He plans to pursue a career in the aviation industry. Daniel is the great-grandson of Korean War veteran Col. John C. Hadley, Sr. Hometown: USAF.

## Griffin Thomas Gonzales



**School:** Salisbury Univ.

**Year:** Freshman

**Major:** Business/Finance

**Hometown:** Highland Mills, NY

Griffin Gonzales, of Highland Mills, NY, attended Don Bosco Prep High School in Ramsey, NJ and graduated in June 2019. While there, he was a two-year varsity player on the baseball team and was selected as an All Division catcher and the recipient of the prestigious Doug Davis

Scholarship Award, presented to the player who best exemplifies the qualities of leadership and dedication. At Don Bosco, he was inducted into the National Honor Society and the Chinese National Honor Society and was a member of the First Honor Roll.

Griffin comes from a family of Marines and is immensely proud of his grandfather, Albert Gonzales, who served with the USMC in Korea in 1950, his uncles William and Joseph, who served in the USMC, and of his cousin Joey, who is presently serving in the USMC.

Griffin was recruited to play baseball at Salisbury University and will be studying Finance at the Perdue School of Business. He enjoys volunteering and tutoring fellow students and will be serving as a catching instructor at the Don Bosco Prep baseball camp this summer.

He aspires to be the creator of his own business and has a strong entrepreneurial spirit.

Griffin looks forward to visiting Korea in the future. His cousin Hannah is presently attending Yonsei University in Seoul, South Korea.

His father Albert, a retired NYPD officer, his mother, Trish, a Microbiologist at Memorial Sloan Kettering Memorial Cancer Center in NYC, and Griffin wish to express their sincere thanks to the AVKF for selecting him for this award.

## Joseph Robert Johnson



**School:** Stanford Med.

**Year:** Advanced

**Major:** Medicine

**Hometown:** Atascadero, CA

Joe is a first-year medical student at Stanford University School of Medicine. He obtained a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from Brown University in 2018, graduating with a 4.0 GPA. At graduation, he received the Maria L. Caleel Memorial Award

for Academic Excellence, which recognizes the Brown University student with the strongest qualities of scholarship, research, academic performance, and contributions to the undergraduate community.

Inspired by his grandfather, who passed away from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis Hometown: ALS, he combined his passions for the physical and life sciences by working in a biochemistry lab that focused on better elucidating the components of the autophagy pathway, a central longevity mechanism implicated in numerous neurodegenerative and age-related diseases.

He has published numerous scientific articles in both basic science and clinical disciplines. He has served as a teaching assistant for genetics and advanced chemistry courses, while also taking time to serve as an in-class tutor at an underserved high school and medical volunteer at multiple free clinics in Providence, RI.

As he continues his medical training at Stanford, Joe aims to impact medicine by using research to better understand our world while simultaneously identifying novel ways to eliminate systemic barriers to accessing quality health care in impoverished communities. Joe is the grandson of Korean War veteran Joseph Charbonneau.

## Jared Nathaniel Jones



**School:** Auburn Univ.  
**Year:** Sophomore  
**Major:** Electrical Engineering  
**Hometown:** Gurley, AL

Jared will be a sophomore at Auburn University this fall, majoring in Electrical Engineering. He is a member of the Honors College, Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, and Baptist Campus Ministries.

Jared has enjoyed volunteering with Engineers Without Borders, where he is working with other Auburn students to design an irrigation system for a village in Bolivia. He actively participates in intramural sports and enjoys cheering for the Auburn Tigers at football and basketball games.

After graduating, Jared wants to make the world a better place by using his college education to help improve the lives of others.

## Laura Anne Kruth



**School:** Messiah College  
**Year:** Freshman  
**Major:** Spanish Teaching  
**Hometown:** York, PA

Laura Kruth is a 2019 graduate of Christian School of York, where she graduated as valedictorian with a 4.0 GPA. During her years in high school, she was chaplain and secretary in the National Honor Society and worship leader and co-president of the Student Senate. She also

competed at the District level in Track where she earned three medals, and varsity basketball, where she was a team captain her senior year. Additionally, she qualified for the District band on the trumpet four years.

In the fall, Laura will be attending Messiah College with a major in Spanish with a teaching certification. She will also pursue a minor in TESOL Hometown: Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages.

Laura enjoys running track and will continue to do so at Messiah College. She is also interested in basketball, playing piano and guitar and singing. In her free time she enjoys creating artwork.

Laura's interest in teaching Spanish came about through taking four high school Spanish classes and being a teacher's apprentice in a level one Spanish class, interacting with various international students at her school, and traveling to El Salvador for a mission trip. Laura is the granddaughter of Korean War veteran Richard E. Grau.

## Katrina Rosa Nunez



**School:** Syracuse Univ.  
**Year:** Freshman  
**Major:** Biology  
**Hometown:** Chapel Hill, NC

Katrina Nuñez is a recent graduate of Chapel Hill High School in N.C., where she was inducted into the National Honor Society and the National Technical Honor Society, as well as being recognized as a scholar athlete for both swimming and soccer and as an AP Scholar for her

high scores on advanced placement exams. She also received special recognition for volunteering over 100 hours of community service while attending high school.

When she is not working as a lifeguard or hostess, she spends time with friends and enjoys the outdoors. After spending three weeks hiking and canoeing in the Adirondacks of N.Y. last summer, she has decided to hike a portion of the Pacific Crest Trail in Oregon this summer.

She is excited to attend Syracuse University in the fall, where she will major in Biology and pursue her dream career of being a pediatric surgeon.

## Abigail Anne Willis



**School:** Corban Univ.  
**Year:** Sophomore  
**Major:** Elementary Education  
**Hometown:** Sutherlin, OR

Abigail Willis graduated from high school in June 2018 as one of the valedictorians of her class. During her high school years, she participated in student government and the worship team. She also played on her school's varsity girls' basketball team for two years, and served as

co-captain of the team both years.

During this past academic year, she volunteered in a program where she watched children of varying ethnicities while their parents took a language class. Abigail recently returned from a two-week mission trip in South Korea, where she taught students at three churches.

She is currently working at a local blueberry farm, as she did the past two summers, to earn money for college. Abigail has just completed her first year of college at Corban University, where she was on the Dean's List for both semesters. This fall she will begin her second year there to continue pursuing a degree in Elementary Education. Upon graduation from this school, she hopes to become a teacher.



# A sad prayer at the Korean War Veterans Memorial



**Blair Rumble and one of his Minnesota Korean War veteran buddies he met on the Honor Flight plane. (The photo was taken at the WWII Women's Memorial.)**

*By Blair Rumble*

One of my Minnesota Korean War veterans and friends, Bob Nehotte, signed up for an Honor Flight years ago. Flights from various points in Minnesota came and went. In the spring of 2018, at the annual Veterans Day observation, I spoke with Jerry Kyser on the state capitol steps in Minneapolis about Bob and not hearing about our place in line for an Honor Flight. He said, "I will look into it."

Bob had been one of my loyal hospital volunteers at the Minneapolis VA and was in declining health. I spoke with him once a week after he became quite ill. I told him about my talk with Jerry Kyser. He said, "I'll be dead when they get around to me."

**Bob Dole**



**Ray Brandes, without the cap, at the Tomb of the Unknowns**

Sadly, he died shortly after we got a notice to go on a flight. I had told him to hang on, but he couldn't make it. I said a prayer for him at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C. during my April 27, 2019 flight, which included a couple surprises.

I met old friends with whom I had lost contact over the years, including Ray Brandes, who was also one of my loyal VA Hospital volunteers. I had not seen him for a couple years because his health, too, had suffered a hit. We met at an Honor Flight meeting a couple weeks before leaving for Washington D.C.

Incidentally, former U.S. Senator Bob Dole of Kansas still greets veterans at the entrance to the WWII Memorial, one of the stops on the Honor Flight tour, when able.

It appears like one of the other benefits of an Honor Flight is reconnecting with old friends.

*Blair C. Rumble, 969 Lombard Ave., Saint Paul, MN 55105 (All nearby photos by Blair Rumble)*

*NOTE: Blair Rumble and Bob Nehotte are/were members of CID 40 – MINNESOTA #1 [MN]*





# Chapter & Department News

**ERRATA:** We have labeled Ch. 106 erroneously as Treasure Island for the past couple issues. The chapter's actual name is Treasure Coast. Either way it's a treasure in KWVA membership. The editorial staff apologizes for the error.

## 13 BILL CARR CHAPTER 1 [DE]

### Scholarship Awards

Recently, we presented \$1,000 Scholarship Awards to two Sussex Technical High School JROTC students. Overall this year the chapter presented six \$1,000 Awards to deserving JROTC students from two other local high schools. The money is utilized for the future education of the students.

The cadets were chosen based on their leadership, educational, and technical skills. Two years ago, the chapter set aside \$30,000 for JROTC Scholarships, which is in accord with our five-year goal of assisting local Sussex County students pursue higher education. All of this is in accord with our motto "WE CONTINUE TO SERVE."



Cadets Rebecca Lenhart and Becky Trader receive their awards at Ch. 13's Awards Ceremony at the Cheer Center in Georgetown, DE Also pictured are Maj. Ben Jester, JROTC Director, Jack McGinley, President of Ch. 13, and Edward Johnson, Commissioner from the State of Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs (CVA) and chapter member.

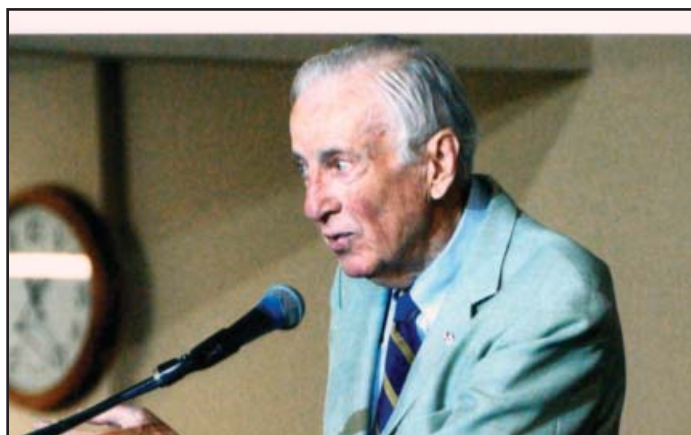
Please contact Jack McGinley at 302-945-0698 if you would like to know more about our chapter and the veterans and student charitable causes we serve.

## 19 GEN. RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

June was very busy for us, beginning with our bimonthly luncheon meeting at the Petite Violette Restaurant. Our guest speaker was Pete Messa, a noted military historian, speaker, and author of the book "Veterans." Pete has interviewed hundreds of veterans of all campaigns, beginning with WWII through the Gulf and Afghanistan Wars.



Pete Messa speaks to Ch. 19 audience



Mr. Juho Chong of the American Panel Corporation Mr. Ramy, and Mr. Ramy's associate (L-R) at Ch. 19's June 18 "photo shoot"

His publication is a compilation of veterans' experiences from early life through their service years and their return to civilian life. He told us of several of the more outstanding interviews he has had with veterans who had experienced humor and sorrow during their time in the service and return to civilian life.

On 18 June we were treated to lunch by the American Panel Corporation, a Korean firm whose U.S. offices are in the Atlanta metro area. In addition the firm sponsored Mr. Ramy, a noted Korean photographer, who had us sit—with our wives—for pictures.

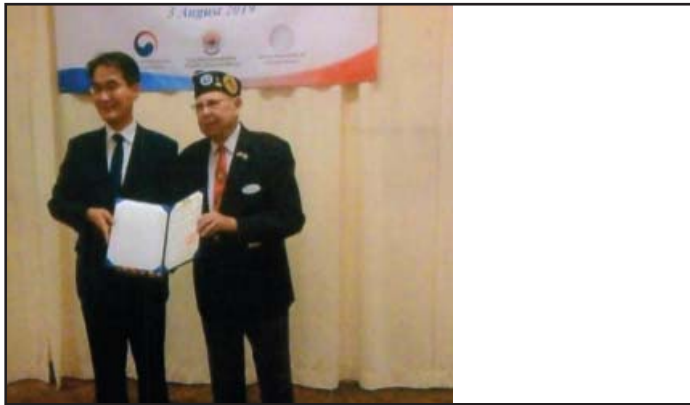
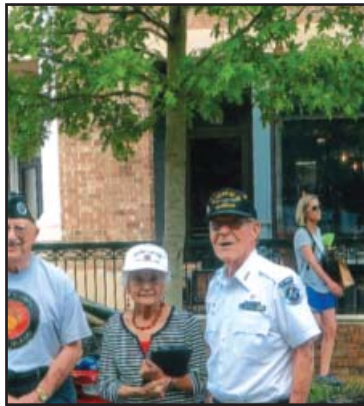
The American Panel Corporation was represented by Mr. Juho Chong, who is going soon to Korea for a business meeting. At that time he will return with the portraits to be presented at our August meeting.

The third event took place on 22 June at the First Presbyterian Church. It was sponsored by the Korean Veterans Association Southeast Region. The dinner, which commemorated the start of the Korean War, was prepared by the veterans' wives.

Our fourth event took place on 25 June at the Korean Community Center. It was hosted by Dr. David and Mrs. Jane Chu, Terry and Yong McClanahan, and the Korean Inter-Married Women's Association (KIMWA) of Georgia. There were several



President Norman Board of Ch. 19 in uniform for “photo shoot”



Consul General Kim Yung-Jim speaks to Ch. 19 members at June 22nd dinner



Mrs. Yong McClanahan addresses group at June 25th program

noted speakers. Entertainment was provided by Mrs. Hye Kyong Shin and the Korean Traditional Drum group. It was a wonderful event. We thanked the Chus, the McClanahans, and the KIMWA for commemorating the 69th anniversary of the start of the Korean War via such an eventful program.

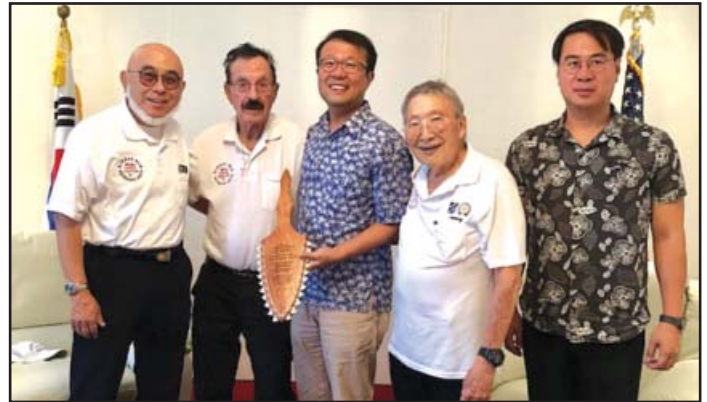
Yes, June was indeed a busy month, but one we enjoyed and will always remember, thanks to our wonderful sponsors.

Urban G. Rump, Secretary/Treasurer, 234 Orchards Cir., Woodstock, GA 30188, 678-402-1251, [ugrcr@comcast.net](mailto:ugrcr@comcast.net)

## 20 HAWAII #1 [HI]

Members recently visited Deputy Consul General Ji Joon Kim at the Korean Consulate of Honolulu and presented him with our “Lei O Mano” shark’s teeth plaque, a symbol of peace through strength, on learning he was being promoted to Deputy Minister to France, which is a notch below the Korean Ambassador to France. Deputy Consul Kim has been very supportive of KWVA and we wish him fair winds and following seas in his new assignment.

Stan Fujii, [stan\\_fujii@hotmail.com](mailto:stan_fujii@hotmail.com)



Above, Walter Ozawa, Herbert Scheiner, Deputy Consul Kim, Tommy Tahara and consul staff member Son Yong Sang (L-R) during Ch. 20 visit

RIGHT: Ch. 20’s special “Lei O Mano” plaque



## 41 FROZEN CHOSIN [MN]

We held our annual meeting for 2019-2020 Yr., on June 12, 2019. We elected officers: Vice President George Zimmerman; Treasurer Art Sorgatz; Secretary Paul Steen, newly elected President James Mason; Chaplain Associated Member Christine Williams, and retiring President William Hoehn.

We had two special guests at the meeting: Yu Yong and her son. They live in Mankato, Minnesota. Her husband works for the railroad. Initially she went to college in Mankato. She also was active with our chapter many times, riding our float, appearing at our memorial, and sharing her thoughts.

Paul Steen, [sargepj41@gmail.com](mailto:sargepj41@gmail.com)



Officers of Ch. 41: VP George Zimmerman; Treasurer Art Sorgatz; Secretary Paul Steen; newly elected President James Mason; Chaplain Associated Member Christine Williams, and retiring President William Hoehn (L-R)



Yu Yong and her son at Ch. 41 gathering

BELOW: Member Pell Johnson; Vice President George Zimmerman; Treasurer Art Sorgatz; Secretary Paul Steen; retiring President William Hoehn; new President James Mason and Member Jerry Olinger (L-R) at Ch. 41 meeting



## 51 RICHLAND COUNTY [OH]

Twins Douglas K. and Dale B. Walker, former medics with the 7th Inf. Div., were featured in a recently resurfaced newspaper article. "Colerain Twins Attended Retreat Services in Korea," published around Easter 1967. In part it reads:

"According to the public information office of the United States Army and to a personal letter from Pfc's...Walker...many servicemen attended a five-day religious retreat at the Eighth Army Religious Retreat Center in Seoul Korea during the latter part of March.



Douglas K. Walker (L) and Dale B. Walker at Ft. Sam Houston, San Antonio, TX before leaving for Korea

Left, Spec 4 Dale Walker (L) and Spec 4 Robert Schlarb, of Newcomerstown, OH at Camp Casey, Korea in 1967



"The young men, both graduated in 1965, are medical aidmen in Headquarters Company, Second Battalion, 31st Infantry at Camp Casey, Korea. Both entered the Army in June 1966 and both arrived overseas in November...

"The Walkers said that they went to Seoul Union Church for communion services and watched a dramatic religious play along with American families of all faiths.

"The Colerain soldiers reported that they had a good time and that they would probably be able to attend another religious retreat before leaving Korea."

Reach Dale Walker at 2430 Whitney Ave.,  
Ontario, OH 44906, 567-560-5941

## 99 TALL CORN [IA]

Kirk Dighton entertained us at our April meeting at the American Legion in Springville Iowa. He played some county music from the 1950s (Korean War era) and some of his own music.

Everyone had a great time.  
*James Koenighain, 319-364-3135, jkskoenighain@q.com*



Kirk Dighton entertains Ch. 99





Ch. 99 attendees enjoy the music of Kirk Dighton

## 100 NORTHERN VIRGINIA [VA]

Col (Ret) Donald Howell, representing Chapter 100 and the KWVA National Program, presented the KWVA Medal of Leadership Award and Certificate to the Junior ROTC Battalion at Lake Braddock High School, Burke, Virginia, on 24 May 2019. The recipient, Cadet Qasim Ahmad, is a dedicated leader who has served in various leadership roles in the JROTC "Bruin" Battalion, leading the unit of 109 cadets as Company Commander, Operations Command Sergeant Major, and most recently as the Battalion Color Guard Commander.



Cadet Ahmad and Ret. Colonel Howell with the JROTC Leadership.

Lake Braddock is one of the premier JROTC Programs in the nation, having recently reached the finals of the JLAB Leadership Challenge in national competition. The JROTC Leaders, U.S. Army Captain Edward Guardo and Detachment Sergeant, U.S. Army Sergeant First Class Sherman Wiles, have worked tirelessly to recruit and build the JROTC program to high standards of academic and leadership excellence.

Thank you, National KWVA, for your continued support of the Leadership Award program!

Donald Howell, 571-486-6806, [dehinva@gmail.com](mailto:dehinva@gmail.com)

## 106 TREASURE COAST [FL]

Members enjoyed breakfast with U.S. Congressman Brian Mast at Grandpa's Restaurant on April 29, 2019.

We gave awards to three Centennial High School ROTC students on May 13, 2013: Petty Officer Mark Barcarse and Lts. Dominyck Jacob and Angelina Burbank.

Command Harold Trieber addressed the membership on the importance of attending local Memorial Day ceremonies. He also expressed his concerns about the membership's lack of participation in attending the Celebration of Life Services for our departed brothers.

Louis DeBlasio, 352 NW Shoreview Dr., Port St.

Lucie, FL 34986, 772-344-8628, [LouDi@bellsouth.net](mailto:LouDi@bellsouth.net)



Members of Ch. 106 having breakfast with Congressman Brian Mast



Commander Harold Trieber of Ch. 106 addresses members



Lt. Angelina Burbank (C) accepts award from Charles LoMonico and Lou DeBlasio of Ch. 106



2d Lt. Dominyck Jacob (C) displays ROTC award presented by Charles LoMonico and Louis DeBlasio of Ch. 106



Charles LoMonico and Lou DeBlasio of Ch. 106 present ROTC award to Petty Officer Mark Barcarse

## 111 CPL. RICHARD A. BELL [WI]

We have welcomed two new members, Norb Klein and Dick Schact.

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



Commander Norb Carter of Ch. 111 welcomes new members Norb Klein and Dick Schact

## 121 GREATER CINCINNATI [OH]

My dad, Bill Doud, asked me to share with *The Graybeards* this story featured on WCPO-TV in Cincinnati. It was headlined “Korean War veterans gather to remember ‘The Forgotten War’ close to 69th anniversary of its start: Will peace ever come to the Korean Peninsula?”

Here is the link: [https://www.wcpo.com/news/our-community/homefront/korean-war-veterans-gather-to-remember-the-forgotten-war-close-to-69th-anniversary-of-its-start?fbclid=IwAR2zDmWCTF86lwpvhPXCmsqlvgHHzPr-81qsp81krNygLNME8W0lc\\_155SA](https://www.wcpo.com/news/our-community/homefront/korean-war-veterans-gather-to-remember-the-forgotten-war-close-to-69th-anniversary-of-its-start?fbclid=IwAR2zDmWCTF86lwpvhPXCmsqlvgHHzPr-81qsp81krNygLNME8W0lc_155SA)

Thank you.

Diane Doud O’Connell

## 137 MAHONING VALLEY [OH]

On May 18, 2019, chapter representatives and their guests visited the Youngstown Air Reserve Base Community Council’s 68th Annual Armed Forces Day recognition dinner held at the Youngstown Air Reserve Station. It is held each year to give thanks to all members of the military, past and present.

We were represented by Robert Bakalik, Commander, auxiliary member Adele Antonelli, Loretta Ekoniak and her husband, 1st Vice Commander Mike Ekoniak, auxiliary member Wanda Thompson, and 2nd Vice Commander Ray Ornelas.





Besides serving a wonderful dinner to everyone, awards are presented to an honoree from the Ohio Army National Guard, the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Navy Reserve, the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, the Reserve Officer's Association, the USO of Northern Ohio, the U.S. Air Force Reserve, and the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Reserve.

Loretta Ekoniak, [loretta.ekoniak@gmail.com](mailto:loretta.ekoniak@gmail.com)

## 142 COL. WILLIAM E. WEBER [MD]

Members and wives attended the Frederick Veterans History Project (FVHP) luncheon at Country Meadows on June 1, 2019. Over the years the chapter has supported, through donations and participation, the FVHP, a subsidiary of the Library of Congress Veterans History Project, which endeavors to collect veterans' memoirs through audio, video, or written recordings.



Sue Murphy, Barbara Eader, Winnie Mount, Bob Mount, Bob Eader and Wendell Murphy of Ch. 142 at FVHP luncheon. Also attending were Cdr Becker and Sandra and Glenn Wienhoff and Rosalie.

Priscilla Rall, who has been the Director of the FVHP, reported she is stepping down and that a veteran who resides in Homewood will be the new chair. Priscilla will continue interviewing veterans and will be active in the organization.

Linda Crilly, Ch. Webmaster,  
[CID142Webmaster@gmail.com](mailto:CID142Webmaster@gmail.com), or Glenn Wienhoff,  
[cid142kwva@gmail.com](mailto:cid142kwva@gmail.com)

## 155 SOUTHWEST FLORIDA [FL]

### Korean War Veterans Present \$1,000 for Annual Scholarship

Members of Chapter 155 presented Florida SouthWestern State College Foundation a \$1,000 check to additionally fund their endowed scholarship for veterans.

"We strongly believe in the importance of educational opportunities for veterans so they can pursue careers that in turn benefit our community," said Bob Kent, president for KWVA Chapter 155. "We created the endowment to help our fellow veterans. It will be on record long after we're all gone."

The local KWVA is a group of exceptional people who have served our country with honor and distinction. Their intention is to help veteran students realize their career dreams.

"We greatly appreciate their generosity and how this will positively impact students," said Susie DeSantis, Executive Director, FSW Foundation.

The Florida SouthWestern State College Foundation currently has professionally managed endowments and other funds approaching \$45 million that allow it to support the work of the



FSW Foundation Chief Development Officer Joe Kramp, Ch. 155 President Robert Kent, FSW Foundation Senior Director of Development Heather Chester, Ch. 155 Executive Board Member Nicholas Napolitano, and Ch. 155 Secretary Joseph DeLuca (L-R)

college. The Foundation provides nearly \$2M annually in student scholarships and investments in programs, technology and facilities to benefit the over 22,000 students the college serves each year.

To underwrite and expand the mission of the college the FSW Foundation continues to attract contributions from individuals, organizations, businesses and private foundations. As a non-profit, 501 (c) 3 tax-exempt organization with 50 years of successful operating experience, the FSW Foundation offers the opportunity to establish endowed funds which ensure the impact of a donor's contribution lives on in perpetuity. More information is available online at [FSW.edu/foundation](http://FSW.edu/foundation); email: [foundation@fsw.edu](mailto:foundation@fsw.edu) and by calling (239) 489-9201.



Nick Napolitano, Joe DeLuca, Jeff Brodeur, George Colin, and Brian Gehlong of Ch. 155 display presentation to Cape Coral museum. (Note MOH recipient Hector Cafferata, USMC, watching the proceedings between Brodeur and Colin.)

KWVA National 1st Vice President Jeff Brodeur reports that he and members Joe Deluca, George Colin, Nick Napolitano, and Brian (Taz) Gehlong presented a piece of the National Korean War Memorial to the SouthWest Florida Military Museum and Library in Cape Coral, Florida, where Korean War MOH recipient



USMC Hector Cafferata's Congressional Medal of Honor is located. KWVA Chapter # 155 meets at the museum monthly.

Bob Kent, 239-945-3018, 239-940-3128 (cell),  
[rkent9000@aol.com](mailto:rkent9000@aol.com)

## 169 KWVA OF LAKE COUNTY [FL]

We held our annual spring picnic on April 19, 2019 at Lake Griffin State Park. We were delighted to have 125 members in attendance.

John McWaters, 2075 Callaway Dr., The Villages, FL 32162, 352-445-9316, [genjon@thevillages.net](mailto:genjon@thevillages.net)



President John McWaters of Ch. 169 kicks off picnic festivities by introducing musical entertainment



Great shot of Ch. 169 crowd at annual picnic



A group of "wonderful" Ch. 169 members enjoying picnic



Jack Corscadden receives his KDSM Medal along with 13 others

## 170 TAEJON [NJ]

120th Annual 4th of July celebration held at Ridgefield Park, New Jersey

Ten members participated in the 125th 4th of July Parade at Ridgefield Park, NJ to observe the 293rd birthday of the United States. The community's celebration is considered to be the longest continuous July 4th event in New Jersey—if not the nation.

The small, quiet village was founded in June 1892. In 1894, when Grover Cleveland was U.S. president, a citizens committee was formed in the village. That was the year the first Independence Day celebration was held in Ridgefield Park.



Elder Kyu Ho Park, Walter Amos, William Burns, and Commander George Bruzgis of Ch. 170 (L-R) wait for Ridgefield Park, NJ parade to step off



Louis Quagliero, Alexander Atheras, and William Burns of Ch. 170 (L-R) at Ridgefield Park, NJ parade





Alexander Atheras (L) and very good friend of Ch. 170, Elder Kyu Ho Park, at Arcola Korean United Methodist Church, at Ridgefield Park, NJ parade



Erwin Burkhart (L) and Walter Amos of Ch. 170 at 4th of July parade



Frank Uvenio (L) and Kenneth Florio in Ridgefield Park, NJ on Independence Day

At 11:25 a.m. all the participating bands played the national anthem. Five minutes later the Gooney Bird Detachment of the U.S. Marine Corps League fired the signal cannon and started the three-mile parade.

Commander Bruzgis and chapter members rode in three cars since, at our ages, marching three miles might create a problem. We range in age from 87-90 years old. Age aside the crowd still honors us and responds with cheers and applause when they see the marked cars of "Korean War Veterans."

The parade lasted over two hours. Time did not matter. The weather was beautiful, making it a great day to honor our country. Everyone was treated with hot dogs, beer, and soda. Moreover

they enjoyed the fellowship with people at the event. As usual it was a great day to be Americans and patriots. God bless our country and the Korean War veterans.

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

## 172 HANCOCK COUNTY [OH]

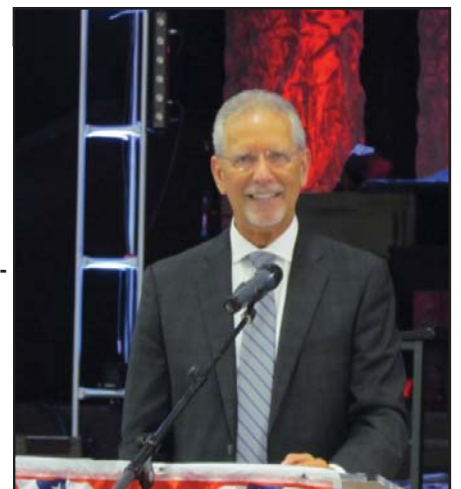
At our May meeting we were happy to have Marine Sergeant Andrew Springer and Gunnery Sergeant Cole Hoyt speak to our members. They shared their stories about their time in South Korea as well as fighting in the War on Terror. They enjoyed spending a little extra time after the meeting with chapter member and Marine Gene Margraf.

Sgt. Andrew Springer (L) and Gunnery Sergeant Cole Hoyt speak to Ch. 172 members.



Gene Margraf of Ch. 172 (C) with Sgt. Andrew Springer (Rear-L) and Gunnery Sergeant Cole Hoyt

Speaker Bruce Boguski addresses Ch. 172 audience



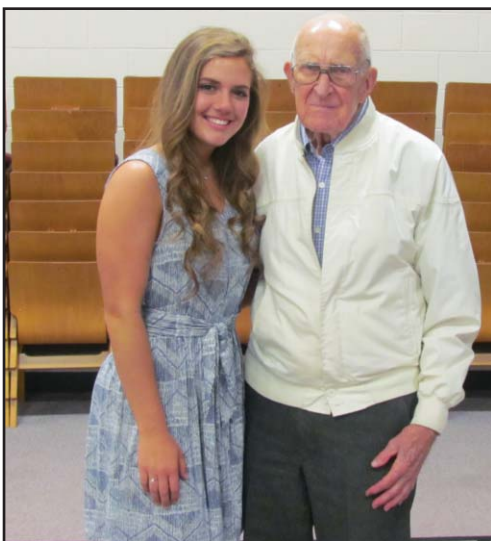


We held our annual Spring Banquet on June 20th with 92 members and guests in attendance. The Honorable Christina Muryn, Mayor of the City of Findlay, presented the chapter with a proclamation proclaiming Hancock County Korean War Veterans Day in Findlay, Ohio. The speaker for the banquet was Bruce Boguski, a nationally known motivational and inspirational speaker, whose humor and message of "Doing the Impossible" entertained the audience.



**Ron Monday, City Council President; Bob Zellers; Ken Wynkoop; Mayor Christina Muryn; Don Kramp; and Jim Salisbury (L-R) at Ch. 172 banquet**

**Jenna Pepple (L) and Ralph Anderson at Ch. 172 meeting**



**Ryan Lupton and Charles Giles (R) at Ch. 172 gathering**



**Eli Palmer, Mark Metzger, and Luke Metzger (L-R) celebrate Ch. 172 scholarships**

Rose of Sharon scholarships were awarded to Jenna Pepple, granddaughter of Ralph Anderson; Ryan Lupton, grandson of Charles Giles; and Luke Metzger and Eli Palmer, grandsons of Mark Metzger.

Larry Monday, Secretary, 419-387-7532,  
[mondayL9@aol.com](mailto:mondayL9@aol.com)

## 181 KANSAS #1 [KS]

The Kansas City Metro chapters were invited to a gala lunch on June 25th, the 69th anniversary of the start of the Korean War. The lunch was sponsored by the Kansas City Korean Association in appreciation of our armed forces' service and sacrifice on their behalf.



**Members of Kansas City chapters at June 25th lunch**

We once again participated in the annual Shawnee, KS parade last month and were well received by a large crowd of spectators. The unit was awarded the parade trophy for the most patriotic entry. The Military Vehicle Preservation Society in the city provided transportation for the event in the form of a deuce-and-a-half. It gets a little more difficult to get up into the bed of the truck with every passing year, but we still have a few that can make it.

We notice a big shift in public attitude towards veterans in the past few years and we find that patriotism most gratifying. Can't quite believe the year is halfway gone already but the chapter has



good leadership and active membership and we have a busy schedule of events for the balance of the year.

Don Dyer, [ddyer15@everestkc.com](mailto:ddyer15@everestkc.com)

## 202 ORANGE COUNTY [NY]

### Speech on the Commemoration of the 69th Anniversary of the Korean War

Good afternoon. We are here to honor those veterans who fought for freedom, peace and democracy. Freedom is not free; it is secured only by the sacrifice and services of these brave men and women.

Thirty years ago, I was the first Korean American to have initiated this party to honor Korean War veterans who fought for freedom, peace and democracy for Korean people, at Stonyford C.C., Montgomery, New York. And I am proud to share as part of KWVA and the Korean American Foundation's efforts that we have successfully delivered a cumulative total of \$210,000 to orphaned and handicapped children in Korea.

Even though I lost a few brothers and uncles during the war, I never forget what Korean War veterans did to defend Korea from communism. Thanks to your noble sacrifice, we Koreans today enjoy freedom, economic prosperity and happiness in life. However, we now face an imminent nuclear attack from the North, on earth and underground tunnel, a guerilla war, unless the President of the United States takes pre-emptive action before the whole continent of South Korea is communized by Kim of North Korea in a few days.

General Hahn is here in America to convey to the policy makers in Washington D.C. and is here today to tell you all veterans of the seriousness of the Underground Tunnel war that has been well prepared by Kim Jong-un. Thank you again for your selfless service.

When this organization started, it was filled with almost 200 veterans; 30 years later, our monthly meeting includes fewer than 25. General MacArthur stated in his famous speech at Congress that "old soldiers never die, but just fade away." Two weeks ago one of our regular members, Bob Jones, passed away, leaving the memory of his light and strength.

I take this moment to pay respects to our fallen brother, whose family we have the privilege of having with us here today. On behalf of KWVA:

*"In Loving Memory of Robert Jones:"*

*To our beloved comrade Bob Jones, a Korean War veteran, we remember how much you touched us with your warm and honest heart. We conclude every regular meeting with our prayer: "Let us be ever mindful of our departed comrades and their families and may the souls of our departed comrades rest in eternal peace. Amen."*

We are here to offer our thanks for the dedication you made for freedom, peace, and democracy for Korean people. The torch of freedom that you held aloft over the soil of the Korean peninsula 69 years ago through your noble sacrifice planted the flower of democracy in Korea. That flower that was fertilized by your blood has blossomed today as a giant global power. We Korean-

Americans and those Korean War comrades are proud of your sacrifice during and after the Korean War.

This afternoon we all have come together in community to give thanks for all who were awake in spirit and in life and were willing to be merciful and share in our thoughts, in our actions... in our prayers, even in our hearts. As we honor and respect those who served... on all fronts.... And continue to serve, God bless you all. Thank you.

Dr. Hubert Hojae Lee, President, Korean American Foundation, USA; 1st VP of Ch. 202, Commissioner of Human Rights, Orange County, Member of President Trump Advisory Board, [drhl@frontier.com](mailto:drhl@frontier.com)

## 215 GEN. WALTON H. WALKER [TX]

Our Honor Guard served as column guards for the five service branches in the Memorial Day celebration at the Grand Prairie, Texas Veterans Memorial. The program included Ringing of the Bell for the 58 KIA residents of Grand Prairie.

Dave Moore, [dmoorekwva215@outlook.com](mailto:dmoorekwva215@outlook.com)



Jim Lucas, Larry Kinard, Jim Sharp, Dave Moore, Jack Doshier with his granddaughter Sylvia in front, and Ron Lange of Ch. 215 (L-R)



The Grand Prairie, TX Veterans Memorial

### Have a Mini-Reunion?

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

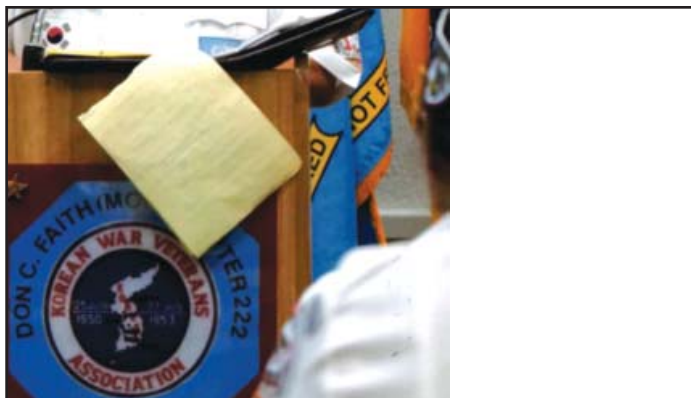
## 222 DON C. FAITH (MOH) [TX]

We performed a variety of activities, including a Rose of Sharon event at the Main PX at Fort Hood and participation in a Memorial Day ceremony.

Homer M. Garza, 500 Saunooke St., Harker Heights, TX 76548, 254-554-4026, Cell: 254-220-7892, [GHomerM@gmail.com](mailto:GHomerM@gmail.com)



Members of Ch. 222 at the Main PX in Fort Hood for their Rose of Sharon event



Homer Garza and Maureen Jouett, State and Chapter Secretary



Homer Garza (R) of Ch. 222 and Past Mayor of the city of Harker Heights, TX



Eddie Bell, Roy Lytle, and Charles Crow Flies High (R-L) to present the wreath on Memorial Day.

## 251 SAGINAW-FRANKENMUTH [MI]

We conducted a successful Rose of Sharon drive on Memorial Day.

Every year we give scholarships to grandchildren and great-grandchildren of members. Each scholarship, worth \$1,000.00, is to be used to further education in Michigan colleges and universities. There were a total of six awarded this year.



Dick Redifer (L) and Richard Rosa of Ch. 251 accepting donations at Sam's Club in Saginaw, MI



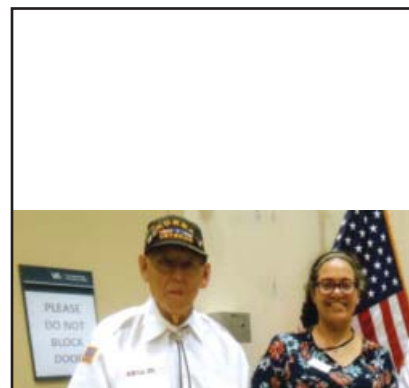
Jack Leaman (L) and Eugene Feinauer of Ch. 251 on Rose of Sharon shift at Pat's Food Center in Freeland, MI



Our 2019 recipients were Alexis Jolly, Hanna Wenzel, Brenna VanHarren, Zack Bluemer, Faith Stevens, and Nickolas Krueger. (Faith Stevens and sponsor Dale Schoch and Nickolas Krueger and sponsor Ronald Lubis were absent when the nearby photo was taken.)



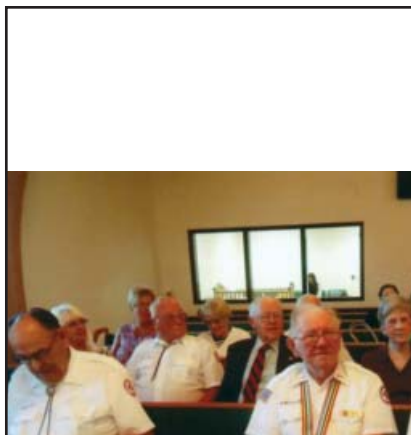
Scholarship recipients and sponsors from Ch. 251: Marshall Reed and granddaughter Alexis Jolly, Rolland Wenzel and granddaughter Hanna Wenzel, Pete VanHarren and granddaughter Brenna VanHarren, Walter Tessin and grandson Zack Bluemer, Commander Rick Anderson and Scholarship Chairman Dick Redifer (L-R)



Ch. 251 members Harold Hare (L) and John Doyle taking contributions at Bay Rd. Walmart in Saginaw, MI



Katherine, Jeff Terrian, Commander Rick Anderson of Ch. 251 (L-R), and "Bull" in foreground



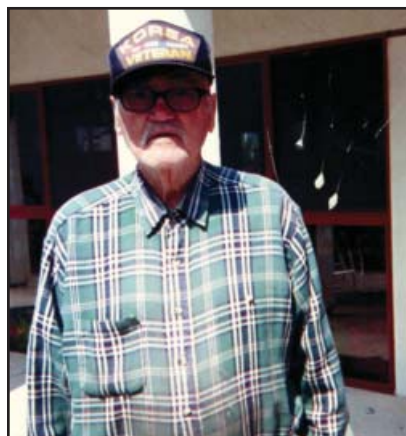
Art Schwann (L) and William Theisen of Ch. 251 greet the public at Bay Rd. Walmart in Saginaw, MI during Rose of Sharon drive

Our guest speakers for the June 2019 meeting were Iraq veterans Jeff Terrian and fiancé Katherine and their wonderful service dog, "Bull." They spoke of suffering with PTSD and their experience with Bull, which was furnished to them at no cost by Guardian Angels Medical Service Dogs, Inc. This is an excellent organization that we support financially—and wholeheartedly.

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

## 264 MT. DIABLO [CA]

John McGee, who served aboard USS Pickaway (APA-222) in Korean waters from 1953-55, discussed his experience with us. Pickaway was one of only a few Navy transports in the Korean area.



John McGee, who discussed his service aboard USS Pickaway with Ch. 264 members

Tony Ly's tribute to the U.S., which was an item of interest to Ch. 264 members





A close-up of Tony Ly's truck

Tony Ly's unique truck from the front

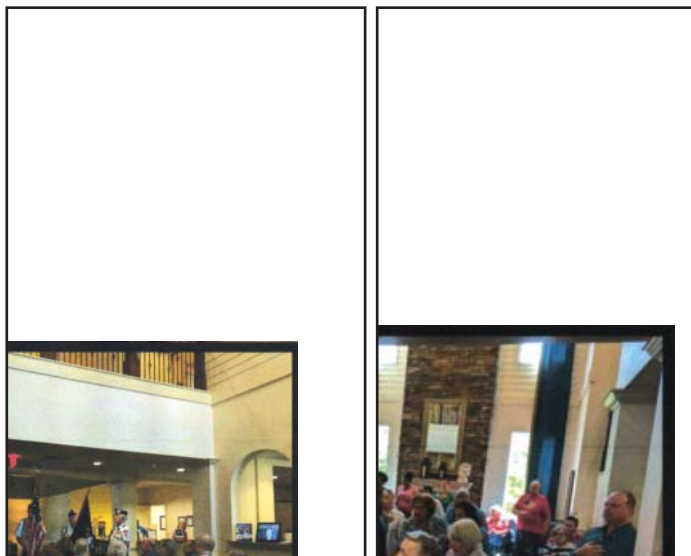


Tony Ly, of Hercules, CA, decorated a truck to celebrate the U.S. Members marveled at this unique creation praising the existence of our country. It took several thousand man-hours to complete the project.

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

## 267 GENERAL JAMES A. VAN FLEET [FL]

We attended a "Night of Celebration for Korean War Veterans" on June 15th at the Korean Baptist Church of Gainesville. Our friends have been holding this event for 15 years now to thank the U.S. GIs for our efforts to restore the freedom of the Republic of



South Korea. They put on a delicious buffet of Korean and American food, plus a reception and capped it off with an entertainment show. Their congregation has produced world class musicians and performers.

We had 49 members and guests in attendance, with about the same number of Koreans.

This year we brought four very special guests from Santa Fe College who



LEFT TO RIGHT: CMDR. WALTER VISISKI, DR. JACKSON SASSER, LAYNE SASSER



Getting together at Ch. 267 Appreciation Night

came to thank the KWVA for funding three GI Veterans Bridge Scholarships: Dr. Jackson N. Sasser, PHO, President of Santa Fe College, his wife Layne, Lieutenant General John M. Le Mayne, U.S. Army Retired, Director of the scholarships, and his assistant, Mr. John Gebhardt.

Dr. Sasser was the keynote speaker. He and General Le Mayne also praised the Koreans for their loyalty in remembering the American GIs all these years and the outstanding job they have done in rebuilding South Korea to the 11th highest ranked nation in the world's economies. And, South Koreans are a shining example of smart immigration done right, as they are hard-working, well-educated, productive citizens contributing to our nation's growth.

Ken Sassaman was our Master of Ceremonies again this year. He did an excellent job. Commander Norm Tankersley welcomed everyone to the evening. All the veterans introduced themselves and told what they did during and after the war. Pastor Min Sohn and Assistant Pastor Hee-Sung Bae were our hosts again and did a fine job of running the event.

After dinner they put on another talented program of musical and other entertainment. Everyone has a good time at this very special event when we come together with our Korean friends.

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



## 297 PLATEAU [TN]

This year we found four outstanding graduates in the Cumberland/Private School Systems and gave each one a \$1,000.00 Scholarship Grant to further their education. They are Dennis Beaty, SMHS, who will study Computer Science at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; Isabelle Hedgecough, Christian Academy of the Cumberlands, who will study Veterinary Health Science at Lincoln Memorial University; Mason Hall and John Hitch Jr, CCHS, who will both study Aerospace at Middle Tennessee State University.

We continue to subscribe to diversity at our meetings. At a recent meeting, John Becker, evening news anchor from Channel 10 in Knoxville, spoke to the group explaining the many military stories he has done in his almost twenty years with the station.

Dick Malsack, PIO, 931-707-7292,  
[kaslam2001@yahoo.com](mailto:kaslam2001@yahoo.com)



Scholarship recipients from Ch. 297: Dennis Beaty, Isabelle Hedgecough, Mason Hall, and John Hitch Jr. with Committee Members Jim Morris and Dick Malsack in back (L-R)



Ch. 297 officers listening intently to anchorman John Becker's info include Treasurer Pete Stabb, Cmdr. Gene Stone, and Secretary Ron Likens.

## 301 FOOTHILLS [SC]

### Korean War Memorial gets special attention

Whenever a young person shows a personal interest in the Korean War we do everything we can to encourage them. When 11-year-old Miss Ashley Bush was shown the box of memorabilia

with medals and ribbons of her late grandfather, Olin Bush, a Korean War veteran, she naturally had a lot of questions about the Korean War and the awards.



Receiving the engraved brick at Ch. 301's Memorial and Walkway are Mrs. Theresa Bush, Olin Bush Jr., Mrs. Odella Bush, and Miss Ashley Bush (L-R)

Placing the brick at the Greenville, SC Memorial and Walkway are Miss Ashley Bush and Ch. 301 Memorial Chairman Lew Perry

Below, Lew Perry, President, Cynthia Perry, associate member, Secretary/ Treasurer, Ulish Givance, 2nd Vice president (L-R). Not pictured, due to illness, Jerry Lunsford, 1st VP.



She turned to a close family friend, Tommy Easler, Vietnam veteran, for a definition of the awards. She learned that they included the Purple Heart Medal and ribbon, United Nations service ribbon, U.S. Korean Service ribbon, and the ROK South Korean service ribbon.

Tommy also discovered that neither Ashley nor her family knew anything about the Korean War Veterans Memorial and Honors Walkway in Greenville SC, less than ten miles from their



home. He knew that would be the perfect place for a lasting and permanent tribute to her grandfather.

Tommy had previously purchased a brick in honor of his brother, Jack Easler, Korean War veteran USN, so he asked Memorial Chairman Lew Perry about purchasing another engraved brick and how we could make it a special event.

On May 4, 2019 the Bush family was invited to visit the Memorial for the first time. And, as a complete surprise, an engraved brick naming PFC Olin M. Bush, USA 618 Medical Clearing, 1950-1953, was presented to his widow, Mrs. Odella Bush, her son Olin Bush Jr., and his wife Theresa and granddaughter, Miss Ashley Bush. Ashley was then given the honor of placing the brick in the Honors Walkway.

The Korean War Veterans Memorial and Honors Walkway is the project of the KWVA Foothills Chapter #301 of SC. The Memorial was dedicated June 3, 2013 in Conestee Park, 840 W. Butler Rd. Greenville SC. Space for additional engraved bricks is available; contact Lew Perry at 864- 363-6558 or [lewperry@aol.com](mailto:lewperry@aol.com).

### **Foothills Chapter #301 holds election**

We held our regular monthly meeting on June 13, 2019 at the Golden Corral. The June meeting is always the annual meeting for election of officers. Those elected for the coming year include Lewis I. (Lew) Perry, President; Jerry Lunsford, 1st Vice President; Ulish Givance, 2nd Vice President; Cynthia Perry, associate member, Secretary/Treasurer. New officers assumed their roles following their installation by Past President Francis Thompson.

Committee chairman and other appointments will be made by the new president and announced at the next meeting, August 8, 2019. (We held a Family Picnic on July 20, 2019 at Conestee Park in place of a regular meeting in July.) Outgoing President Conrad Nowak retired, thanking the members for their support and cooperation during the past two years.

We are encouraging the younger veterans to join us to help sustain our membership since it is no secret the average age of the Korean War veteran is 85. Associate membership includes any person with an interest in supporting the activities of the KWVA and the local chapter, but who does not qualify for regular membership.

The Foothills Chapter 301 meets on the second Thursday each month, except July, at the Golden Corral, 3240 N Pleasantburg Drive, Greenville, SC.

Lewis R. Vaughn, 623 Ashley Commons Ct., Greer, SC 29651, 864-848-0368, [lvaughn1146@gmail.com](mailto:lvaughn1146@gmail.com)

## **313 SHENANDOAH [VA]**

### **Apple Blossom Fireman's Parade**

On a rainy Friday evening, May 3rd, we participated in the Apple Blossom Fireman's Parade. We were honored to have with us South Korea's Military Attaché BGen Pyo and his wife Cathy as guests of the chapter and the festival. Throughout the parade BGen Pyo kept thanking the citizens of Winchester for their hospitality. He seemed to really enjoy the event.



**Members of Ch. 313 ready to march in Winchester, VA parade**



**Military vehicles traverse Winchester, VA parade route**



**Gen. Pyo (standing) guards Ch. 313 troops in their vehicle**



**Ch. 313 members with BGen Pyo at Apple Blossom Parade**

Twenty-one members rode the parade route on vehicles arranged by Gary Fletcher: John Kronenberger; Steve Culbert; Paul Bombardier; Jack Keep; Lew Ewing; Paul Campbell; Gary Fletcher; Charles Savary, Sr; Marshall DeHaven; Narce Caliva;



John Shenk; Tiney Jackson; Richard Clark; Charles Ewing; Brett Osborn; Raleigh Watson; Jerry Lunt; David Clark. Rob Shirley and Ralph Martin Jr.

I believe that this was the largest number of participants for this event. Many thanks for all who braved the elements. After the parade, BGen Pyo invited members to a dinner at the Wayside Inn, Middletown. As always, he was showing the appreciation for all that we did to help make Korea what it is today.

David Clark, [declark193@gmail.com](mailto:declark193@gmail.com)

## 327 GEN JOHN H MICHAELIS [PA]

We had an outstanding speaker at our June 2019 meeting. David Manuel gave a presentation on “The Navajo Code Talkers of WWII. The Few, the Proud, the Navajo Code Talkers.” The history of the Navajo interaction and this country’s government, from their mistreatment in the 1800s to the creation of a code that was never broken, was explained in a perfect blending of historical fact and human interest stories. The code talkers were instrumental in helping win the war in the Pacific.



Director Charles Zerphey, President Dr. James Argires, and speaker David Manuel (L-R) at Ch. 327 meeting

Charles Zerphey, [chzerphey@gmail.com](mailto:chzerphey@gmail.com)

## 328 LOS ANGELES COUNTY [CA]

We had the honor of a visit by the Chairman Chi-Kap Chong a few months ago when he was en route to Washington D.C. to firm up a big event next year for veterans of the Korean War, which will be held there. Mr. Chi was the founder of the “United Nations



Participants at Hitejinro golf tournament; gentleman second from left, in white, is Mr. Jungho Hwang, president of the company.



Ch. 328 members “bottled up” at Hitejinro Beverage Co. golf tournament



Poster honoring Chairman Chi-Kap Chong, a very respected man who is dedicated to making certain the world doesn't forget the Korean war

Right, close-up of significant chapter depicted on Chairman Chi-Kap Chong poster



Facsimile of check presented to Ch. 328 by Hitejinro

Korean War Allies Assn.," of which the "Korea Korean Veterans Assn." became an offshoot.

Mr. Chi attends all the formal dinners that welcome the KWVA Assn. visits to Korea. He also is a life member of our KWVA.

We were invited to the Los Angeles Korean Consulate's home for a luncheon in June.

Members participated in this year's Hitejinro Golf Tournament. They have been very supportive of our chapter and again have donated a large sum of money so we can continue to spread the word of the Korean War and about the KWVA.

Joseph Wong, 2870 Gainsborough Dr., San Marino, CA 91108, 213-250-3818, [joethe417@yahoo.com](mailto:joethe417@yahoo.com)

## DEPARTMENTS

### HAWAII

Hawaii Chapter 1 and Aloha Chapter were honored with an Appreciation Night on June 22, 2019 at the Waikiki Resort Hotel by the National Unification Advisory Council of the Republic of Korea, Hawaii Chapter. The program included congratulatory speeches by dignitaries, a delicious buffet, entertainment by a singing guitarist, hula dancers, and gifts.

Guests with birthdays in June were honored in a special ceremony in commemoration of the start of the Korean War on June 25, 1950.

[Stan\\_fujii@gmail.com](mailto:Stan_fujii@gmail.com)



Aloha Chapter members enjoy Hawaii Appreciation Night



Hawaii Appreciation Night Program



Ch. 20 President Herb Schreiner addresses hosts in Honolulu



Members and guests of Ch. 20 at one of fifteen tables



Guests stand for display of American flag and national anthem at Hawaii event

Taro Goya and spouse Helen enjoy Hawaii Appreciation Night

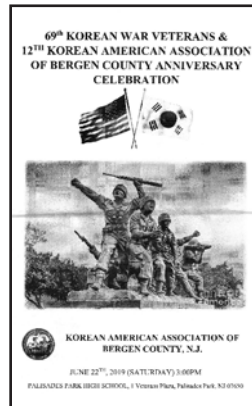


Visit the Korean War Veterans Association Website:  
[www.KWVA.org](http://www.KWVA.org)





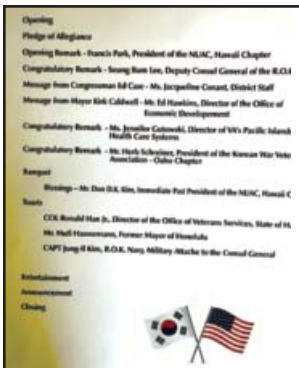
Stanley Hashiro and Sada Sanico in Hawaii



Front page of New Jersey commemoration

Ch. 170 historian Louis Quagliero (L) and Color Guard Captain Alexander Atheras enjoy food at New Jersey commemoration

Guests with June birthdays being honored at Hawaii gathering



Program details and list of dignitaries for Hawaii Appreciation Night



Alexander Atheras, Louis Quagliero, George Bruzzis, Fosco Olivetti, Homer Vanides (L-R) behind Korean performer at NJ June 25 event

## NEW JERSEY

### 69th Korean War Commemorated; Korean War veterans honored

The Korean American Association of Bergen County, New Jersey invited Korean War veterans of three state chapters, 170 (Taejon), 216 (M\*A\*S\*H\* 4099) and former 48 (Chorwan) to honor the start of the Korean War on June 25, 1950. The event took place at Palisades Park High School, Palisades Park, NJ on June 22, 2019.



Attendees at Hawaii celebration

## 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.

Please turn to **CHAPTERS** on page 76



# MEMORIAL DAY 2019

## NATIONAL MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Ron and Trish Twentey of Ch. 312 were kind enough to send us some photos taken at the National Memorial Day Parade. Here are a few of them.



## 20 – HAWAII #1 [HI]

Member Clifford Chillingworth recently moved to the island of Molokai and participated in the Memorial Day Ceremony on May 27, 2019. Clifford was the only veteran from the Korean War at the ceremony. He received a Hawaiian quilt to thank him for his military service with the 5th Marines Regiment. This event was sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and held at the Hoolehua Veterans Cemetery.

Stan Fujii, stan\_fujii@hotmail



Above left, Clifford Chillingworth of Ch. 20. Right, The presentation of a Hawaiian quilt to Clifford Chillingworth of Ch. 20



## 142 – COL. WILLIAM E. WEBER [MD]

On May 25, 2019, Commander Becker, Vice Commander Eader, Executive Committee member Murphy, Executive Committee member Rinehart, Secretary Wienhoff, and Treasurer Mount participated in the Woodsboro, Maryland Memorial Day Parade. Murphy's truck carried the Fallen Comrade Display, Wienhoff's car displayed the flags, and Becker's convertible made for a three-car entry.

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





Fred Becker, Bob Eader, Wendell Murphy, Gene Rinehart, Glenn Wienhoff and Bob Mount (L-R) of Ch. 142 at Woodsboro, MD parade

## 170 – TAEJON [NJ]

Commander and National Director George Bruzgis led the annual Memorial Day ceremony on May 26, 2019. Thirteen Korean War veterans participated in front of the Saddle Brook, NJ, Korean War monument, which was erected in June 2000. The event started at 1 p.m., when Commander Bruzgis welcomed the crowd to honor military men and women who gave their all to their country.



George Bruzgis, host of Ch. 170's ceremony



Louis Quagliero, Ch. 170 historian, stands in front of Saddle Brook, NJ monument



Erwin Burkhart, Fosco Olivetti, Alexander Atheras, and Walter Amos (L-R) hold Ch. 170's banner at NJ festivities



Kyu Ho Park participates with Ch. 170 in NJ ceremony

The township of Saddle Brook provided the Police Color Guard and its fire department provided the bugler for "Taps." Chapter member Erwin Burkhart lowered the flag to half-staff as the national anthem was played. Then Chaplain Robert Domanski said a prayer, which was followed by a moment of silence.

Present at the ceremony were Korean War veterans' faithful friends throughout the years,

Saddle Brook Mayor Robert White, Police Chief Robert Kugler, and Korean Methodist Church of Paramus, NJ, Elder Kyu Ho Park.

Wreaths were placed at the monument by the township, Korean Methodist Church, American Legion #415, VFW #3484, and our chapter. Commander Bruzgis thanked everyone for their patriotism and participation in honoring military members who gave their all.

The long parade started at 2 p.m. After its conclusion refreshments, including hot dogs, beer, and soda, were served at VFW #3484's hall. Louis Quagliero, 142 Illinois Ave., Paterson, NJ 07503

## 172 – HANCOCK COUNTY [OH]

Several members participated in the Findlay, OH Memorial Day Parade. Larry Monday, Secretary, 419-387-7532, mondayL9@aol.com



Ken Wynkoop, Jim Iler, Don VanRenterghem, Bob Perkins, City of Findlay Mayor Christina Muryn, Jim Salisbury, and Bob Zellers (L-R) of Ch. 172 at Findlay, OH parade



Members of Ch. 172 at Findlay, OH parade: Front Seat - Don VanRenterghem; Back Seat (L-R) Bob Perkins and Ken Wynkoop





Jim Iler of Ch. 172 participates in Findlay, OH Memorial Day parade

Lanary Culpepper (R) and Gorman Wolfe of Ch. 251 render salute at Memorial Day ceremony



Ch. 171 members in back seat: Paul McDaniel and Bob Zellers (L-R) at Findlay, OH



Jim Salisbury of Ch. 172 in back seat at Findlay, OH event

## 251 – SAGINAW-FRANKENMUTH [MI]

Members participated in a ceremony in front of the Korean Memorial at the Saginaw County Veterans Memorial Plaza on May 27, 2019.

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



Honor Guard from Ch. 251 in front of the Korean Memorial at the Saginaw County Veterans Memorial Plaza

Gorman Wolfe of Ch. 251 places wreath in Saginaw, MI



James (Ace) Kaleohano, Tommy Tahara, William Kim, and Fred Yoshikawa (L-R) in the Hawaii guest tent

## Hawaii Memorial Day Ceremony Program



American Flags at Hawaii Punchbowl Cemetery



Korean Consul General Chon-Goo Kim, Stan Fujii, Defense Attaché Junil Kim (L-R) at Punchbowl

## DEPARTMENTS

### HAWAII

On May 27, 2019, Hawaii honored deceased and living veterans from each of the military services with an expressive and dignified Memorial Day Ceremony at the Pacific Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl, also called Puowaina in Hawaiian, which means "Hill of Human Sacrifices."

This well-orchestrated event was organized and coordinated by Mayor Kirk Caldwell and his staff and attended by national, state, and city dignitaries. ADM John M. Richardson, USN, Chief of Naval Operations, was the guest speaker and a medley of patriotic songs was played by The Royal Hawaiian Band and sung by the Sounds of Aloha Choir. This heart-warming event ended with the playing of "Taps" and a flyover by F-22s.

Stan Fujii, [Stan\\_fujii@hotmail.com](mailto:Stan_fujii@hotmail.com)





**Military dignitaries and guests under a tent at Hawaii event**

**Kahu Dean Kapuni Harvest walking through the Punchbowl tent reciting a Hawaiian chant**



**Below, sounds of the Aloha Choir at Hawaii ceremony**

**Right, flags of 50 states carried by high school cadets at Hawaii observation**



**The Royal Hawaiian Band at the Punchbowl ceremony**



**Tommy Tahara and Ace Kaleohano accompanying high school cadets carrying KWVA HI Ch. 1 wreath**

**Right, F-22 flyover at Hawaii's Punchbowl.**



The Memorial Day parade and ceremony was celebrated on the traditional Memorial Day of May 30th, as will be the Veterans Day parade and ceremony on the traditional November 11th. The Barre Veterans Council has for past years followed tradition and not deviated for the "Politicians' special four day weekend" that has detracted from the original history meaning date.

Main Street was closed for an hour to allow the parade to proceed from the Municipal Auditorium down the hill, up flag-lined Main Street, with four marching bands, to the Veterans Memorial (Youth Triumphant) at City Park, where a ceremony and 'Laying of Wreath' was conducted.

I had marched in the parade for 64 years up to 3 years ago, when I "hitched a ride" in a marked veterans vehicle; as the one-mile march at 84 became a bit tiring. This year my ride was with Tim Hoyt, a 93-year-old WW2 Navy vet, who had a driver who was a past member of a nuclear missile submarine. That just shows how the veterans have advanced with the technological age.

The parade was an "upper" for me and most vets, as the side-walks were crowded with young school children standing on the curb while waving small "Old Glories."

I look forward to November 11th, "Veterans Day," when, God willing, I can again remember our fallen comrades!

Peace & God Bless,

Wayne Pelkey, [wppelkey@charter.net](mailto:wppelkey@charter.net)



**School bands preparing to march in Barre, VT parade**

**Tim Hoyt in his new Buick in the Barre, VT parade, chauffeured by a past crewman on a missile sub**



**Wayne Pelkey's ride in back seat of Tim Hoyt's car; their wars were five years apart**

**Wayne Pelkey, a Korean War infantryman, and Tim Hoyt, a WWII Navy veteran, both still standing straight**





# The Stoys Visit Two Korean War Medal of Honor R

**E**n route to the funeral of a Korean War ex-prisoner of war Major Arden Rowley (2nd Infantry Division), in Mesa, Arizona, Monika and Tim Stoy and Monika's mother, Mrs. Haesook Choi, accompanied by ex-prisoner of war David W. Mills, former President of the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division and of the Outpost Harry Survivors' Association, stopped to visit 3rd Infantry Division Korean War Medal of Honor recipient and ex-prisoner of war Hiroshi (Hershey) Miyamura, the 3rd Infantry Division's last living Medal of Honor recipient, at his home in Gallup, New Mexico on 20 and 21 June 2019.

The Stoys accompanied Hershey to Korea in 2013 to receive the award of the Korean Medal of Honor, the Medal of Military Merit – Taeguk. They had not seen him since, but had stayed in touch over the years by telephone and letters. David had never met Hershey, despite both having been prisoners of war in Korea. All were deeply gratified Hershey took the time to meet them and to give them a tour of Gallup, the Most Patriotic Small Town in America!

We arrived in Gallup late afternoon on 20 June and stopped at Hershey's home. It was great to see him again. He and David shared stories of their time in captivity in Korea, where they were held in different camps but shared similar experiences.

Hershey will be 94 soon and uses oxygen, so after an hour the group departed to ensure he was not overtaxed. As we were leaving, he invited us to meet him again in the morning to show us Gallup. We were delighted to accept!

We picked up Hershey at 0900 and drove to the Comfort Suites in town to visit a small museum the manager has there honoring Hershey, other Medal of Honor recipients, veterans, and the Navajo Code Talkers, who came from the nearby reservation. It is a very nice museum and Ken Riege, the manager, is very dedicated to our nation's veterans and military history. We enjoyed our visit.

We then drove to the county courthouse and viewed the beautiful veterans' memorial there—with Hershey honored prominently. Driving old US 66 we stopped at the El



**Tim Stoy, Monika Stoy, David Mills, Steven Rowley, and Mrs. Haesook Choi (L-R) at Arden Rowley's funeral**

Rancho Hotel, an old-style hotel with modern conveniences, as it is advertised. It hosted many old-time Hollywood stars, including John Wayne and Ronald Reagan, while they worked on filming nearby. It is a wonderful piece of Americana.

Our next stop was Hiroshi Miyamura High School, home of the Patriots. It is a very nice, modern school, surprisingly big. There is a wonderful statue of Hershey in the entrance foyer and the library has his and his family's story well-documented. Gallup is very proud of Hershey.

Gallup is special in that when the order came to segregate citizens of Japanese ancestry in camps in WWII the city refused to do so! Afterwards we stopped for lunch at a great Mexican restaurant where we were able to speak with Hershey about his deep roots in Gallup and his activities working with young people and veterans' organizations.

It had been a long morning and Hershey

needed to go home to get some well-earned rest. It was wonderful to see him and to experience Gallup for the first time. Despite his breathing problems Hershey is in great shape, which he attributes to having oatmeal for breakfast every morning, supplemented by drinking some Mother's Apple Cider Vinegar every day!

We departed Gallup and continued on to Phoenix, Arizona to attend Arden Rowley's funeral the following day, 22 June. The funeral was held at the Latter-Day Saints church in Mesa. We were met by Arden's son Steven, who gave us the honor of sitting in the front of the church for the funeral. We were able to view Arden's body and pay our respects before the service which began at 1000 and lasted until 1130.

It was the most moving funeral we have attended. All generations of Arden's family participated, either singing, sharing reminiscences, or reading poetry. Arden is survived by 3 sons, 18 grandchildren, and 28



# Recipients and Attend One Funeral



Monika Stoy with MOH recipient Hiroshi (Hershey) Miyamura

Monika Story with a relaxed Ron Rosser, MOH recipient

grandchildren! The colors of the 2nd Engineer Combat Battalion, Arden's unit in the Korean War, were displayed by his casket as the president of the unit association traveled from northern Georgia to be present. Arden was very proud of his service with the 2nd Engineers and regularly traveled to Korea to participate in the active battalion's annual reenactment of the burning of the colors to prevent their capture by Chinese forces on 30 November 1950. Arden was captured and spent 33 months as a prisoner of war. His three sons wore the 2nd Infantry Division Indian Head patch on their jackets in honor of their father.

After the service there was a long vehicle procession to the

Mesa Cemetery, where Arden was laid to rest next to his loving wife, Ruth, who had preceded him in death. He received full military honors with numerous representatives from veterans' organizations present. It was a simple service presided over by one of his grandsons, a priest in the LDS church. We were much honored to be there to recognize this great American.

Arden served 31 years as a teacher in the Mesa Public School System and also served in the National Guard, from which he retired as a Major. He was very active in veterans' affairs. He was a frequent speaker at schools in Arizona, sharing his POW experience and his abiding patriotism and faith. He was an elder in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and served in many functions in his church. He attended the Stoys' first Korean War historical seminar in Northern Virginia in April 2017 and spoke about his experiences as a prisoner of war as well as on the combat actions of his unit.

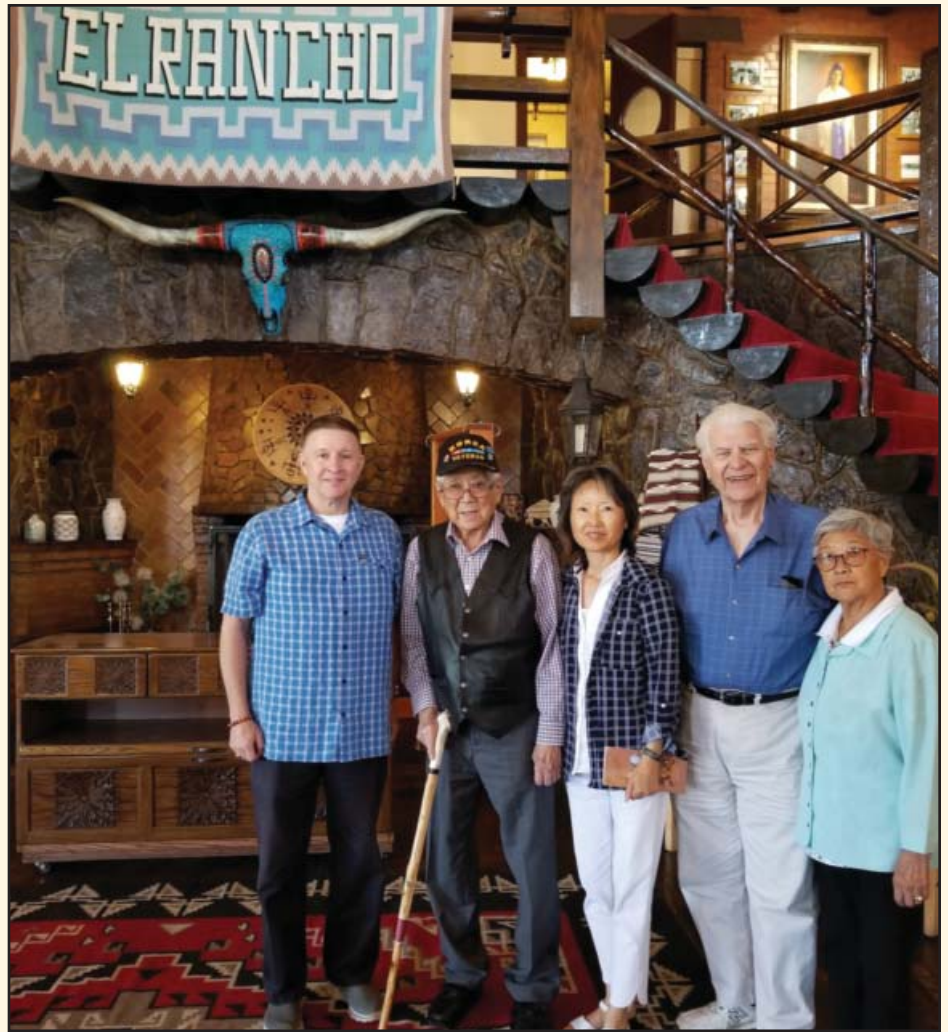


Arden had previously traveled to Korea with the Stoy's on a Korea Revisit trip. He published five books about the Korean War, including the autobiographical "Korea-POW: A Thousand Days With Life On Hold." He was inducted into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame in 2004.

Upon the completion of the service we continued to California to visit relatives and friends before turning east and heading back to Pennsylvania and Virginia. Passing by Columbus, Ohio we visited Korean War Medal of Honor recipient MSG Ron Rosser in Roseville. Ron has also attended the Stoy's Korean War historical seminars.

The Stoy's and David Mills have known Ron Rosser since June 2010, when all of them participated in the Department of Defense's commemorative ceremony at the Pentagon to kick off the KW60 commemorative campaign. Ron was on the same visit to Korea as Hershey Miyamura with the Stoy's to receive the Korean Medal of Military Merit - Taeguk.

Ron will turn 90 this year, and despite several health issues he continues to remain active in veterans' activities, particularly with the Congressional Medal of Honor Society. He lives with a dog and 7 cats in rural Ohio. It was great to catch up with him. He is a unique character and a great American. He hopes to be at the next Korean War historical seminar in Springfield, VA in October 2019.



Tim Stoy, Monika Stoy, Hiroshi (Hershey) Miyamura, David Mills, and Mrs. Haesook Choi (L-R) at the El Rancho Hotel

## What were China's Eighth Route Army and Fourth Field Army?

The first United Front in China in 1924 was a coalition between the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and the Nationalist Party (Kuomintang ---KMT). In return for Soviet military and organizational aid, the KMT agreed to a "bloc within" alliance in which CCP members joined the KMT as individuals while retaining their separate CCP membership. [Talk about communist infiltration!]

A second United Front formed in China on Sept. 22, 1937 when the CCP and the KMT formed against Japan at the outbreak of the Second Sino-Japanese War, as WWII is known in China. The Eighth Route Army was created when the CCP and the KMT incorporated into the

"National Revolutionary Army" to battle the Japanese. The formal name of this integrated Army became National Revolutionary Army of the Republic of China. The Fourth Field Army, i.e., the Ethnic Koreans, acted as a guerrilla force which was integrated into the Eighth Route Army.

In WWII the Eighth Route Army wore KMT uniforms and flew the KMT (Republic of China) flag. It waged mostly guerrilla war. Comprising 600,000 members and commanded by Communist leaders Zhu De and Mao Zedong, it officially became the 18th Group Army. This Army had no ranks. Officers and soldiers were considered equal. The Political

Commissar held the most power. Their main weapon was the submachine gun MP-18, purchased from Germany.

The unit was renamed the People's Liberation Army in 1947. After WWII came the Chinese Civil War between the CCP and the KMT (1945-1949). In 1948 the People's Liberation Army captured Manchuria (Northeast Provinces), next to Russian and North Korean territory, which led to the end of the Civil War. Ethnic Koreans who fought in the Eighth Route Army later joined the Korean People's Army, the Communist Army of North Korea, in the Korean War. (Courtesy of Tom Moore)



# Korean War Veterans Association Inc

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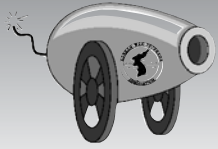
Front



Back



Front



# 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.

## Two ll's will make a right

Good job on my "Mumps" story on p. 54 of the May/June 2019. Unfortunately, my email address on p. 55 is missing an l. My email address is wendellround@yahoo.com, with two l's, not one.

*Wendell Round, 3940 Park Blvd. Apt. 701, San Diego, CA 92103, 619-692-0177, wendellround@yahoo.com*

## The time is ripe

The time is ripe for raising money for the Wall of Remembrance. Everywhere, going up and down the streets, restaurants, malls...we get a "Thank you for your service." All you have to do is wear your hat. I have had meals paid for in restaurants, fast food, haircuts, tolls paid for, and a flat tire changed on the highway at no cost for me.

I went to our Harford County executive, Barry Glassman, and explained about the Wall of Remembrance. I also told him the cost would be \$410 for each name. I explained that there were thirty killed from Harford County, at a total of \$12,300. He informed me that there were funds set aside for things like this.

He put his whole heart into it. Now he is challenging the rest of the counties and Baltimore City to do the same. Start at the county level and then let it work its way through the state. Some of the counties in Maryland already donated.

Go to the top of page 8 of the November/December 2018 Graybeards. There is the picture. Colonel Weber worked for years to get this started. Now let's try and get it finished for him.

*Samuel B. Fielder, Jr., 1121 Rigdon Rd., Jarrettsville, MD 21084, 410-836-6923*

## Thanks for the generosity—and the kind words

Within the last week I've received three magazines from various veterans groups including The Graybeards. Let me say this as emphatically as I can write the words. The Graybeards is by far my favorite because of the information found in it and the minimal bother of advertisements it contains.

Other magazines contain every other page filled with advertisements. Yes, I know the reason for all the ads is to help offset the cost of production and perhaps increase income for the group. The Graybeards and those supporting its production are to be commended for the effort given to keep ads at a minimum and to maximize stories based on veterans' experiences and needs.

Yes, I also know it takes money to produce this wonderful

magazine and to keep it as ad free as possible. Therefore, and I know it will not come close to covering the expenses, to do my part I'm sending a check in the amount of \$500 to support of the production of The Graybeards because I enjoy all the stories it contains. I also encourage my brothers and sisters of our military families to make additional donation to support The Graybeards.

*Glenn Richardson, Hendersonville, NC 28792, ncgrandpa@bellsouth.net*

## Curry and Wharang

In a recent issue of *The Graybeards* a relative asked for help in locating information about the USMC service of 1st Lt. William Frierson. I would be more than willing to contact this person. But there is no means to do so.

Mr. Curry needs to locate the USMC Service Number first. The unit rosters of Lt. Frierson's company are located in NARA at College Park, MD. This should give Mr. Curry a start.

In regards to the Wharang Platoon mentioned, this source of information may help. The Chosin Few veterans organization has a HQ. Their telephone number in Beaufort, S.C. is (843) 379-1011.

This group in South Korea who wants to do research on this platoon may even talk to some of the Marine vets who knew this platoon. I suspect the Chosin Few may have a publication of some type. (It does: it's called the Chosin Few Digest.) Certainly an ad in this publication may help. I would suspect the MPs from the 1st MP Company may be in the Chosin Few.

This may be more helpful.

*John Mallon, john.d.mallon1@gmail.com*

## Why use a password?

In the January/February 2018 issue there was an article titled "Graves are no place for machine guns," p. 64. The writer mentions passwords.

I believe I've read about passwords in other articles in past issues. I was an infantry squad leader in the 1st Cav. Div. during all of 1951. We were never told that we had a password. I don't know why we would have needed one.

Whoever approached in front of our positions would have been shot.

*James Haw, 11065 Colton Dr., Reno, NV 89521*



## It never seems to end

I took a cruise to Alaska in the last week of May 2019 aboard the Royal Caribbean ship *Ovation of the Seas*. On the last night of the cruise the entertainment included a comedian named Mike Pace. There was a WWII veteran in the front row.

The comedian saw the veteran and said, “Let’s give him a hand.” We all stood and clapped. He added, “Let’s clap for the Vietnam vets.” Then he went on to Afghanistan and Iraq—with no mention of the Korean War.

Royal Caribbean likes feedback about its cruises. I emailed it about this entertainer’s failure to mention the Korean War.

*Walter D. Hinrichs, 2195 Martin Dr., Gilbertsville, PA 19525*

## Were the Chinese in Korea earlier than thought?

Per your request in the May-June 2019 *Graybeards*, page 20: In the June 25, 1950, North Korean invasion into South Korea, out of the 135,000 Korean People’s Army (KPA) invasion force, more than 38,000 were the former ethnic Korean soldiers of the Chinese Communist Fourth Field Army. An equal number of former ethnic Korean soldiers of the Fourth Field Army, who did not participate in the invasion, also served in the KPA in other regions of North Korea.

The former units of the Fourth Field Army transferred to North Korean Army divisions with all of their weapons included:

- 5th Division (North Korea): Former 164th Division. The commander, Li Deshan, veteran of Eighth Route Army, and former member of the Communist Party of China, was also the political commissar.

When the division reached North Korea on July 20, 1949, its number totaled 10,821. Weaponry brought with them included 5,279 rifles, 588 handguns, 321 light machine guns, 104 heavy machine guns, 206 submachine guns, 8 anti-tank rifles, 32 grenade launchers, 67 50mm mortars, 87 60 mm mortars, 26 mortars with caliber of 81mm or greater, 12 anti-tank guns, 1 infantry support gun, 3 other artillery pieces, and 734 horses.

- 6th Division (North Korea), formerly the 166th Division. The commander, Fang Hushan, a veteran of the Eighth Route Army, and former member of the Communist Party of China, was also the political commissar.

When the division reached North Korea on July 20, 1949, its number totaled 10,320. Weaponry brought with them included 6,046 rifles, 722 handguns, 281 light machine guns, 91 heavy machine guns, 870 submachine guns, 69 grenade launchers, 31 50mm mortars, 91 60mm mortars, 33 mortars with caliber of 81mm or greater, 10 anti-tank guns, 3 mountain guns, 3 other artillery pieces, and 945 horses.

- 7th Division (North Korea, later renamed as the 12th, Former 156th Division), with additional ethnic Korean soldiers from the 139th, 140th, and 141st. Divisions of the Fourth Field Army. The commander, Cui Ren, a veteran of the Eighth Route Army and former member of the Communist Party of China, was also the political commissar.

When the division reached North Korea on April 18, 1950, its number totaled more than 14,000. The weaponry brought into North Korea was greater than that of the other two divisions,

due to its larger size.

With the exception of the KPA 2nd and 3d Divisions, which mostly consisted of former Soviet-trained North Korean troops, all other KPA divisions had at least a former regiment of the Fourth Field Army, and in addition to the three former Chinese divisions, most of the commanders were former commanders of the Fourth Field Army, such as Commander of the 2nd Division, Ch’oe Hyon, and his Chief of Staff, Xu Bo, Commander of the 3d Division, Lee Yong Ho, and his Chief of Staff, Zhang Pingshan, and Commander of the 4th Division, Lee Kwon Mu.

Though the Chinese government acknowledged these facts, this early Chinese involvement was kept a secret for more than four decades in China, and it was not until the late 1990s when such information was finally allowed to be revealed on large scale. The Chinese government, however, argued that these troops were already transferred to North Korea, and thus should be strictly considered as the internal affairs of Korea. It still asserts the Chinese involvement in the Korean War began when the PVA joined the fight, Oct. 19, 1950.

I see the Milwaukee Journal article was about a report from “Nationalist China’s” T.F. Tsiang, Sept. 9, 1950. This was about the time General MacArthur and Chiang Kai Shek were beating the drums in America to obtain citizen support for pulling Nationalist Chinese Army troops out of Formosa and into the Korean War. I would guess that this is one of their many planted articles in America.

Of course MacArthur wanted the Nationalist Chinese troops and President Truman, our Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the UN did not. There was a huge hullabaloo about this. Truman believed it would pull Communist Red China into the Korean War and simply become the old Communist China/Nationalist China War in another country, which could very easily pull the Soviet Russia in and start WWII. This was one of the many times MacArthur went around Truman, which got him fired.

It seems the Communist Chinese were in the Korean War from the beginning, with ethnic Korean soldiers.

*Tom Moore, tm103ps@yahoo.com*

## An eclectic mix

First of all, kudos for another great issue. Lots of good stories. I especially refer to the article by Therese Park for her take on the PBS broadcast “Korea, the Never Ending War.” One of the issues in the article was the reference to the No Gun-Ri massacre, which took place in July 1950, almost one month following the June 25 invasion.

This tragic event was almost unreported outside of the Korean peninsula until 1999 when three Associated Press (AP) journalists, Sang-Hun Choe, Charles J. Hanley, and Martha Mendoza, brought the story to international attention in a book entitled “The Bridge at No Gun Ri.” I also somewhat agree with Ms. Park about reuniting the two Koreas. What government would prevail for the united Korea? I don’t think this will ever happen.

Also, the story, “An Unholy Easter,” about the shot-up 3¼-ton truck should remind us of the hostile activity that went on after the ceasefire, especially during the 1960s. During that peri-

od, American and ROK soldiers along the DMZ engaged in numerous and unpublicized combat actions. As the years rolled by the DMZ War would increase in intensity.

The Center for Military History reported that between 1967 and 1968, during one month alone (August, 1967), 10 Americans were listed KIA and 36 WIA. This doesn't include unknown ROK casualties. The Department of Army finally recognized the combat actions in Korea by authorizing in December 1968 the award of the coveted Combat Infantry and Combat Medic Badges for selected troops. Requirements for these awards were pretty stringent, however.

And there was the major incident involving a tree-cutting mission by the UN near the infamous "Bridge of No Return" in which two American officers were murdered by the North Koreans. It almost provoked the "breaking" of the armistice.

Finally, a note to A.J. Key: thanks for your "things to do," reference, especially the one about wearing a Korea War Veteran cap. It is an important step towards keeping the memory alive, and also as a recruiter for non-member KVets. Interestingly, it is mostly women who greet you with a "thank for your service," and an occasional Korean vet who is wearing a cap.

*Bill Russell, Secretary, Ch.173, Editor THE MORNING CALM, Former U.S. Army Combat Correspondent, Korea, 1951-53, whitehorse52@yahoo.com*

## A Purple Heart for PTSD?

Physical wounds bleed blood and heal, leaving scars. However, mental wounds never heal! Therefore I suggest that a PTSD disorder as diagnosed by a VA physician should be awarded something similar to the Purple Heart. They should be awarded for mental and physical wounds. (I'm sure the physical wounds also leave a mental disorder.)

I have appealed to my various politicians, but have never heard back from them. When you look at the statistics of veteran suicides (20 per day) I'm sure many of them suffered from PTSD.

What is your take on this problem?

*Tailhook Jack*

## Someone did sell KWVA caskets

We asked in a previous issue whether KWVA caskets had ever been available for sale to members. George Bruzgis called and said that many years ago, perhaps twenty, two members appeared at an annual membership meeting and offered to sell art caskets. As he recalls, it was a one-time thing and the caskets were pretty ornate. But, no KWVA caskets have been available since as far as he recalls.

Member Louis Holmes recalled a company named WhiteLight that sold art caskets. It may be the same company that dispatched representatives to a KWVA convention. He sent us a brochure containing photos and descriptions of several of the company's products. (See the nearby copies of selected pages.) However, our researchers did not uncover any evidence of the company's current status. We suspect that it is no longer in business.

Our crack editorial staff did some research and uncovered a couple articles that discussed the company and art caskets in general.

## Get your laws off my coffin!

"The funeral industry dukes it out with independent casket dealers as Americans redefine the way they deal with death.

"Or, for those for whom "individualizing" death means expression, not austerity or environmentalism, there's Whitelight Casket Co. in Texas. Whitelight has created "Art Caskets" that feature religious and ethnic themes, scenic landscapes, vocational and lifestyle images and symbols of patriotic pride and nationality. Designs include a rosary, breast cancer and AIDS awareness ribbons, an ocean beach, New York, the flag of Ireland, Our Lady of Guadalupe, clouds, the Last Supper and a lighthouse. <https://www.salon.com/2001/01/12/casket/...>

## "Art caskets offer changes of pace," By David Koenig

"The casket was made...by a fledgling company that operates out of the back of a print shop in Dallas [TX]. WhiteLight has sold only a dozen caskets, but owners Patrick Fant and Dennis Sternitzky dream of shaking up the stodgy death industry...The art caskets are part of a move in the industry to satisfy families' desire for more personalized funerals" (Augusta [GA] Chronicle, Mar. 7, 1999, p. 50).

The caption from the nearby photo (the photo is missing) suggests that the company made specialized caskets for service members and individual services.



(The photo appeared in the Fort Worth [TX] Star-Telegram, Dec. 9, 2001, p. 23.) A visit to one website showed that there are caskets for virtually every taste and background. There are caskets for each branch of the military and tongue-in-cheek depositories for fishermen, duck hunters, and deer hunters labeled "fish wrapped," "duck wrapped," and "deer wrapped" respectively. <http://www.funeralshowroom.com/>

And there the matters rests.

## Hy Pocrisy is a hypocrite

I wish you would review the old Al Jolson movies, the "Jolson Story" and "Jolson Sings Again." Plenty of "Black Face", which was very common in show business in the 1920s, 1930s, 1940s, etc. The movies were directed by Henry Levin and Alfred E. Green and starred Larry Parks. Both movies won various cate-



gories at the Academy Awards.

At that time Jolson was considered “America’s Greatest Entertainer.” No mention was ever brought forward as to where he was born. He brightened the lights on Broadway when he performed. Many stars entertained in Korea regardless of where they were born.

I think your article was a disgrace to a great showman.

*Fred Yondorf (Korea, 1952-1954),  
5151 Buffalo Speedway, Apt. 3314, Houston, TX 77005*

**Hy Pocrisy’s response:** I wish you would review the comments about Al Jolson. They were not focused on where Al Jolson was born or what his value was as an entertainer, neither of which mattered in the context of the editorial. They simply pointed out that he performed often in “black face,” which would not be tolerated today due to political correctness.

Chances are he would be prohibited from performing anywhere in our country today regarding of how great a star he was, even though his “black face” performances were historically acceptable during his heyday. And his Russian background would be problematic as well, since a large part of the American population is preoccupied with Russian influence in our internal political affairs. Contemporary correct advocates are continually trying to rewrite history to suit their needs of the moment. “Black face” is apparently acceptable in some situations, but not in others. That is hypocrisy—and that was the point of the article.

#### **Any 7th Inf. Div. 48th FAB members here?**

My closest friend for many years, Al Brownes (Brownie), served in Korea in 1953 and 1954 as a wireman with 7th Inf. Div., 48th Field Artillery Bn. Al took many pictures of the personnel in his unit. Sadly, he passed away. Because of his lack of immediate family I inherited his pictures, including the albums from Korea.

If anyone is familiar with this unit and my friend, please contact me so I can send along these pictures. Please include your name (first and last plus nickname). An email address would help.

*William H. Mutart, 24701 Wood,  
St. Clair Shores, MI 48080, Bill@mutart.com*

#### **There will be Korean War museum after all**



“Ike” wearing an “Ike” jacket

I was pleasantly surprised and grateful reading the article about the Korean War Museum. (See “The Korean War Museum closes its doors—but opens anyway,” p. 24, March/April 2019.) In 2002 our veterans’ group (84th and 62nd Engineer Combat Battalion) held a reunion in Tuscola, IL, which at the time was to be the location of the Korean War Museum.

While in Tuscola we held a meeting in the location of the museum, which was a former

store, I donated an “Ike” jacket, a Garrison cap, and a duffel bag. Over the years I followed the path of the new location of the museum.

In 2008, at a reunion in Rochester, NY I was given an oversized medal by the then director of the museum. The medal was inscribed “Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library.” However, it did not list a location and/or date. Several years later I sent a letter to *The Graybeards* requesting the status of the museum. I never received an answer, so I assumed the museum was never going to happen.



I take comfort in now knowing I was wrong and I thank Bob Mitchell for letting everyone know that there may be a Korean War Museum in the future.

Andrew C. Barilla, 120 Vermont Rd., Bel Air, MD 21014

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**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.**



**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](mailto:ThechosinFewInc@aol.com) or visit our website at [ChosinFew.org](http://ChosinFew.org)**

# 57 Years is a Long Time to Wait: The SGT Ron

## IMO Charles A. Stepan

"The wheels of justice grind slow but exceedingly small."  
Sextus Impericus

"Son, God doesn't balance his books in October." A  
Mormon Elder

Ron Gornick was the best man at my wedding. That was in 1952, after our time in Korea in 1951. Ron was my best friend growing up. In 1951 we were in Camp Rucker (now Fort Rucker) Alabama. We were out in the boonies teaching a class on tactics. Ron was my assistant, and our trainees were a bunch of tough guys from New York and New Jersey.

I decided they needed a break, so I said, "Take ten." One of the Jersey guys pointed across a couple of fields and said, "Hey! Look! Aggressors. Can we capture them?"

The aggressors were American Soldiers wearing foreign uniforms and helmets. They were used in field problems in which they acted as the enemy.

I said, "I don't care what you do. Just be back here in ten minutes."

Well, they did come back in ten minutes and they had about 20 frightened Aggressors with them--with bayonets at their throats. I said, "Good job."

Ron and I took them down to Battalion headquarters. Even though we had little to do with capturing those guys, the major, our Battalion commander, praised us as if we were Sergeant York.

We talked for a few minutes. Just before we left, he said he had a roster to fill of candidates for Officers Training School at Fort Benning, Georgia. Were we interested?

There was a nasty war going on, and we had cushy jobs, plus Class A passes that allowed us to prowl the Panama City [FL] beaches on weekends. We said, "Let us think about it."

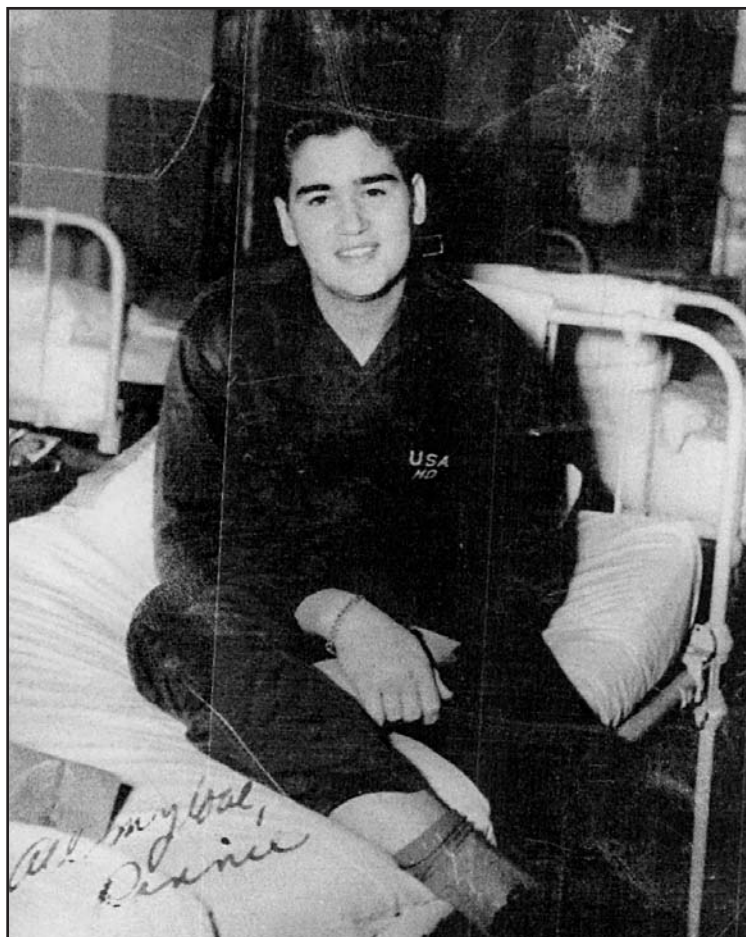
The major said, "'Okay!! Take a weekend pass, come back, and tell me on Monday what you decided."

We went to Birmingham, AL that weekend to watch the Birmingham Barons, a Red Sox farm team, play the Boston Red Sox. We had great seats, right behind the plate. Wow!! Were we amazed at what a pitched baseball could do. Remember, this was before baseball on TV.

Directly behind us were about a dozen brand new 2nd Lieutenants who also were enjoying the game. We asked if they had been training at Ft. Benning where the Officers Training School was. They said, "Yup--and it's easy. You'll love it."

I asked where they were assigned! "Korea...Korea... Korea." That took care of that decision.

The next morning we met the major. I said, "No Thanks" to his offer. He shook our hands and sent us on our way. Ron and I left for the boonies to continue teaching our classes. About noon a jeep came our way. The driver was looking for me and Ron. We identified ourselves and he handed us some papers. We were FECOM (Far East Command) bound.



Ron Gornick in a U.S. Army hospital, Korea, 1951

"Thank you, major!"

We went home on a Delay En Route. We visited and said goodbye to our families and then headed out to California and Camp Stoneman. We got our shots and cosmolined weapons. Then, with no band playing, we took off for Korea in the middle of the night. However, our luck ran out. We were on different ships.

It took me seventeen days to reach Japan, as the ship blew a boiler en route. I learned that Ron was already in the "Land of the Morning Calm." In three days I followed. It took a few weeks for me to adjust to even being there. Ron, on the other hand, got to his line company, where it was determined that he didn't have proper footwear. Ron wore size 13.

While he was waiting for the footwear, a noncom came around looking for someone who could type. Ron and I had taken typing together in high school. Ron said he could type, so for a few days he used his typing ability while awaiting his size 13 boots. Once they arrived, Ron was sent immediately out to the field as an Infantry NCO.

I didn't hear from Ron for a while. Finally, after a few weeks, I received a letter. Ron was back in Taegu with shrapnel wounds over his eye and in the back of the head. He had sustained not only bloody shrapnel wounds, but two bullet



# Gornick Story

holes in his rifle stock.

I thought, "Gee, maybe he's on his way home." Wrong! They patched up the wound and sent him back on the line.

At Camp Rucker, Ron and I had been teaching infantry tactics, so he knew which way was north. He also worked a beer truck as a teenager and he handled himself well. His new C.O. was glad to have him, and Ron soon became his patrol leader. With his C.O.'s respect, and with more patrols under his belt, he was told that on the weekend he would be promoted to 2nd Lt. as the officer situation was critical.

As usual, Thursday came before Sunday, and the line area out of which Gornick worked was getting sniper fire. The sniper fire was so good--good for the Chinese, bad for the Americans--that the C.O. sent Ron out on another squad patrol to locate and dispose of the sniper. Squads varied in size, but this was a big one. It included a medic, a lead scout, a stretcher bearer, and 15 to 17 men.

They went out into "No Man's Land" in the dark. The squad headed for a nearby hilltop where they thought the sniper was working. Sure enough, they came across the enemy bunker. It appeared as though the occupants were asleep. A firefight started with grenade showers from each side. The bunker was destroyed, but not before the enemy radio man relayed back what was happening. As a result, a heavy mortar barrage fell on Ron's patrol. Everybody went down and everybody needed help.

Mortar shell shrapnel got Ron. "I'd been hit in the arms, in the neck, and in the legs," he recalled. "I was all torn apart. There was a wounded medic right next to me. He looked at me and asked, 'Can you help me?' I told him I couldn't help him, but I managed to pick up his helmet and put it on his head."

The barrage finally lifted. It had only been 10 or 15 minutes in duration, but it seemed like 6 months. When Ron looked around, he saw one other Soldier moving, a little kid from New York named Oscar Viskowicz.

As Ron described the situation, "He had a big hole in his middle. It didn't look like he was going to make it. I don't know how in the world I did it, but I grabbed the guy, threw him over my shoulder, and started down the hill. I kept falling and getting up again. I felt real sorry for the poor guy I was carrying. I don't remember much until at the bottom of the hill I was grabbed by a couple of our guys. I didn't have enough blood left to remain conscious."

The next thing Ron remembers is being strapped into the basket of a helicopter. He was air lifted to a crowded Norwegian MASH unit and treated. He faded in and out of consciousness. At one point he heard a doctor standing over him and saying, "I have some bad news for you. We're going to have to amputate your legs."

Ron remembers thinking, "Holy Cripes. How had I carried that guy down the hill? My bones had to be okay."

Ron was taken by ambulance--still with his legs attached. He was flown to an airstrip and then to a hospital in Japan,

where he spent the next three months. His thighs had been laid open so deeply the doctors couldn't put in stitches, so the wounds were left to close by themselves. He was moved to another hospital for rehab, with no more talk of amputation.

While in the hospital, he met a lieutenant from his unit who told him his whole squad had been wiped out. Ron remembers thinking that he was not eager to volunteer to go back if he healed, but that he was prepared to go. A hospital doctor told him his wounds were too severe for him to go back to combat.

In a few weeks he was on a troop ship en route back to the U.S.--and home again. Ron got back into the world, where he even tried his old beer truck job when he was able. He tried for years to find the whereabouts of Oscar Viskowicz, the wounded Soldier he had carried down that torn up hill. He never had any success finding Viskowicz, though.

In the ensuing years Ron owned three businesses. During that time he worked hard for his friend Rudy Perpich, who ran for and became Minnesota's governor. Governor Perpich appointed Ron to the Minnesota Metropolitan Stadium Commission. From 1983 to 1991 Ron held the position of



**Former Governor Tim Pawlenty pins gold bar to Ron Gornick's jacket to mark his promotion to 2nd Lt.**

Chairman of the Commission and was instrumental in bringing the Super Bowl and the Final Four to the Metrodome in Minneapolis. For a youngster who never got to go to college, he had accomplished a lot. However, one cherished item in his life was still missing.

Ron never received his Combat Infantryman's Badge. He received his second Purple Heart. But, through an odd Army snafu, for the short time he had been awaiting his new boots and helping out as a typist in Korea, his MOS had been changed to Clerk on his papers. In the Army's mind Ron was a clerk, not an infantryman in Korea, and nothing would change its belief.

For the next 57 years Ron engaged in a drawn-out battle with the government to get his cherished award. "It just meant so much to me," Ron said. "As far as I know I was probably closer to death than I was to life. You know, you just feel cheated, just like there is something missing."



# 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

JERRY CHAPMAN  
LEE B. WILLIAMS  
JOHN W. WINSTON SR.

## ARIZONA

ROBERT C. ANDRUS  
EUGENE F. ELLINGTON  
ERNEST O. EVANSON  
WALTER A. HISKETT  
ROBERT A. KAISER SR.  
JOHN W. LACHASE JR.  
HAROLD O. LAUBENSTEIN  
EDWARD I. 'ED' MARQUIS  
ARDEN A. ROWLEY

## ARKANSAS

HAROLD ARNALL  
LONNIE G. ASH  
RALPH C. COLLEY  
GEORGE D. PRICE  
JAMES A. SACKETT  
CHARLES R. SIEGISMUND  
DON D. WOOTEN  
ANDREW J. WORTHINGTON  
LEO CARL YATES

## CALIFORNIA

BILL H. BATES  
JOSEPH D. BRYANT  
BOB L. FRIDAY  
JAMES R. FROM  
MIKE T. HIDALGO  
NORMAN E. JONES  
GEORGE I. LINGARD  
WILLIAM J. MCKENDRICK  
PETER PAPPAS  
NORMAN E. ROBERTSON  
RONALD D. SHAMBURG  
JOHN SUZUKI  
DENNIS E. TYLER  
GARY G. VAN DEN BERGH  
DON VEILLEUX

## CONNECTICUT

JOHN J. ALLEGREZZA  
RONALD ANTOUS  
NATHAN BARSKY  
ALLAN A. CARLSON  
DOUGLAS H. CLEMENT  
MICHAEL J. DELISA  
DONALD E. DEMING  
ALEXANDER J. DENINO  
DONALD L. DESSERAU  
CHARLES W. DIETLIN  
THOMAS R. DOLAN  
CHARLES DOUGLAS  
GERALD J. DOWD  
WILLIAM F. FARRELL  
EDWARD A. FIDRYCH

ANTHONY J. FORINO SR.  
ROBERT F. GAIPA  
WILLIAM C. HEARING  
RUSSELL E. HESLIN  
CHARLES L. HILTON  
DONALD A. MORRISSEY  
JOHN NIEWINSKI  
ANTHONY UNGARO

## DELAWARE

HARVEY R. MORRIS

## FLORIDA

KARL M. ALDEN  
RAY H. ALLISON  
MARK M. ALONSO  
FRANCES M. ANTAL  
JOHN L. ANTAL  
KENNETH D. CLOTHIER  
JESSE ROY CUNNINGHAM  
CHARLES J. ELLIS  
ELIZABETH J. FOX  
BERNARD A. JAMESON  
CHARLES W. MCKELLAR  
EARL P. OEHLER  
GENNARO PALUMBO  
STANLEY E. REINHART  
CARL J. SIMON  
JAMES F. SPRINGSTEEN  
GUS K. SPYRIDON

## GEORGIA

REX L. ABERNATHY  
JOHNNY J. BANKS  
WILLARD COBB  
ROBERT F. GEORGE  
THOMAS C. HARRIS JR.  
FRANK P. KENNEDY JR.  
GORDON W. NELSON JR.  
WILLIAM M. SANDERS  
JACK H. SMITH  
JAMES L. SPAIN  
GERALD M. SUMNER  
HARVEY L. WILSON

## HAWAII

GILBERT L. AMARAL  
JAMES A. ENGLE  
HAROLD A. FANNING  
HO JOON KO  
DAL SUP LEE  
ROY H. TOMINAGA  
SOK HYON YI

## ILLINOIS

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**GORNICK from page 63**

Over the years a number of congressmen tried to help Ron get his records straightened out. Finally, the Minnesota Inspector General's Office was able to convince the Army that Gornick was really an infantryman. His record was corrected after an interview with MajGen Mim O'Brien. So it was that at a meeting of the Minnesota Employer Support of the Guard and the Reserve held at the Golden Valley Country Club on May 12, 2008, General Larry Shellito awarded Ron his Combat Infantryman's Badge and promoted him to Staff Sergeant.

However, there was more to come. Later in the evening

Minnesota's Governor, Tim Pawlenty, Commander-in-Chief of the Minnesota National Guard, took the floor and commissioned Ron to the rank of Second Lieutenant that he had been promised those many years ago in Korea.

"I could have gone right through the floor," Ron remarked. "I had written that off a long time ago."

So, as the old saying goes, "Good things come to those who wait." But, 57 years was a long time to wait.

Charles A. Stepan, who served with KMAG, assumed his final duty post on 9/22/2017. We publish this article from our vault in his honor.

# The 96th Field Artillery Bn. in the Korean War

Regarding *The Graybeards* Sept/Oct 2017 issue, pertaining to the article on page 62, "Was the 10th Combat Engineer Bn. Near Chosin?" The list mentions units that participated in the Chosin battles. It does not include the 96th Field Artillery Bn., which was there as an Army unit attached to X Corps. Enclosed is the history of the 96th Field Artillery Bn. in Korea.

The 96th F. A. Bn. was located at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma when the Korean War started. It was an all-black outfit except for most of the officers, who were white. After about nine months in Korea, rotation started. With integration in effect, the replacement ratio was about 3 whites to 1 black.

I was with the 96th F.A. Bn. Battery "B" from Jan. 1953 to Feb. 1954. When I rotated I was Chief of Firing Battery and a Sgt 1st Class

Arnold D. Anderson, 12470 Lizzie Ln., Custer, SD 57730, 605-673-6313

*NOTE: The photos included with this article are not connected directly to the history of the 96th FAB. They come from a collection submitted by Charles C. Rickett of Lincolnwood, IL for general use. We have selected them at random for general use to represent conditions in Korea during the war.*

## HEADQUARTERS-96TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

APO 358

US ARMY

26 August 1953

### HISTORY

The history of the 96th Field Artillery Battalion includes combat in both World Wars and the war in Korea. The unit crest, which members of the battalion are authorized to wear, commemorates an event from each of the World Wars in which parent units of the 96th have participated.

Once again, Fort Sill was the site of the reactivation of the 349th on 20 January 1945. Redesignated the 96th Field Artillery Battalion, a component of the Regular Army, it received its officer cadre from the 2d Field Artillery Battalion at Fort Sam Houston and its enlisted cadre from the 969th Armored Field Artillery Battalion at Fort Sill. The basic weapon was the 155mm howitzer, tractor drawn.

The battalion served as school troops until 3 August 1950, when it entrained for Camp Stoneman, California in preparation for the third overseas movement in its history. On 12 August 1950, the 96th sailed under the Golden Gate aboard the USNS Marine Adder, then arrived at Yokohama, Japan on 28 August 1950; the battalion moved to Camp Whittington, where it spent ten days processing and preparing for an invasion.

The 96th departed from the Kobe Naval Base, Japan, aboard the LST Comstock on 9 September 1950. It was the only U.S. Army combat unit attached to the 1st Marine Division for the Inchon invasion. In spite of heavy seas the 96th successfully landed at Inchon on 16 September 1950. It received its baptism of fire in the subsequent battle for Seoul.

Firing positions were set up outside Seoul in Yongdong-po, and the battalion delivered supporting fire for the assault troops crossing the Han River and the fighting in the streets of Seoul. An enemy



A typical encampment somewhere in Korea

attack on South Mountain brought withering fire from the 96th for over four consecutive hours, culminating finally in the withdrawal of the enemy force and a commendation from the Marine infantry commanders for its brilliant support. Seoul was now in UN hands and the mission of the 96th with the Marines was completed.

For this action with the 1st Marine Division, the 96th received a Presidential Unit Citation (Navy) and a Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation.

On 28 September 1950, the 96th was attached to the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team to help clear out enemy resistance north of Kimpo Airfield. This brief action was completed on 1 October 1950. From 2 October 1950 until 8 October 1950 the battalion remained in a rest camp at Ascom City. At this time the 96th was attached to X Corps Artillery.

From Ascom City the battalion made a four-day grueling march to Pusan and prepared for another embarkation. After a delay caused by mines threatening ships in Pusan Harbor, the battalion shipped for North Korea aboard the USNS Munemori on 30 October 1950. For the first time, the 96th crossed the 38th parallel and landed in Wonsan on 1 November 1950.

Winter was fast approaching, with snow visible on the surrounding mountain peaks. Battery "B" marched to the Yong-po Airfield near Hungnam and was ordered to prepare against a possible ground attack. The rest of the battalion marched to Yong-hung and was ordered to hold the town against enemy attack with no infantry support. At 0300 hours on 7 November 1950 elements of the V North Korean Corps attacked. A battle raged for six hours before the enemy was repulsed. Battalion casualties were comparatively light.

The 96th was then given the mission of establishing communications along the 50 miles from Hamhung to Hagar-ri. With entry of the Chinese Communists into the war, enemy activity greatly increased along the Hamhung-Hagaru-ri corridor. When the Chinese broke through at Hagaru-ri, two officers and 42 enlisted men of the 96th were isolated with the 1st Marine Division and elements of the 7th U.S. Division. On 8 December 1950, the battalion was given the mission of supporting Task Force Mead for opening a corridor to the trapped Marine and 7th Division forces. The 96th lost one NCO inaction during the breakout,





**Looking for mines in the harbor?**

Evacuation from Hungnam began on 12 December 1950 and the battalion fired intense harassing and interdiction missions from the Hungnam Beach in support of withdrawing units. From 15-20 December 1950, the 96th fired over 5000 rounds in support of evacuating troops.

On Christmas Eve the 96th was evacuated from the beach. It was one of the last medium artillery units to leave. From the deck of the *USNS Collins* the men of the 96th watched the destruction of the Hungnam harbor by naval guns and then headed south.

Everyone hoped to see Japan or even San Francisco, but Pusan was the next destination. The unit debarked 27 December 1950 and immediately headed north to assist IX Corps in checking the new Chinese Communist offensive. The battalion moved frequently during the latter part of January and early February, supporting numerous U.S. and ROK forces.

The 96th was attached to IX Corps on 6 February 1951. On 12 February 1951 ROK forces in front of the battalion were forced to retreat before attacking Chinese. The 96th held its position in spite of intense mortar shelling and fired over 100 rounds at point blank range before it was ordered to withdraw. A new position was set up two miles southwest of Wonju and on 14 February 1951, the famous "Wonju Shoot" took place.

Attacking Chinese forces penetrated the infantry and poured down the Sam River Valley. Air observers spotted them and called for the artillery. An artilleryman's dream occurred when the enemy advanced into a cross fire. Continuous firing halted the threat and an estimated 3,200 Chinese were killed by the artillery alone. Wonju had been saved and a major attack stopped cold.

Following the "Wonju Shoot" the enemy forces moved east in the central sector. The 96th also moved east to support the 7th U.S. Division in launching "Operation Killer," a series of limited advances. The operation was a success and the 96th moved constantly after the retreating Chinese.

When the enemy moved west during the middle of March so did the 96th, this time attached to the 2d U.S. Division. Marches during these winter months were extremely hazardous due to snow-covered mountain roads and mines left by the retreating enemy. Many times the battalion was forced to become engineers and build roads in order to continue marches.

During the period May to August 1951 several temporary changes

were effected. Battery "B" converted to 8-inch howitzers, a battery of 155mm guns (SF) from the 937th Armored Field Artillery Battalion was attached, and Battery "B" of the 1st Observation Battalion was attached.

At the end of July the Marines, who had been immediately in front of the battalion, were replaced by the 2d Infantry Division. In August and September missions supporting two ROK divisions in addition were assigned. On 10 September 1951 the 150,000th round was fired.

In November 1951 the 96th moved into positions in the vicinity of Worun-ni, in the Satae-ri Valley, on the eastern front. It remained in this position until early February 1953. During this period, the battalion was in general support of X Corps and reinforced the fires of the 25th, 40th, and 45th Divisions' artillery. The battalion took part in the battles for "Heartbreak Ridge," "Luke's Castle," and "Sandbag Castle."

On 5 February 1953, the 96th displaced to a new position in the Punchbowl to participate in the artillery defense of Hill 812 against major enemy attack. The battalion displayed outstanding skill, energy, and enthusiasm during this move in spite of severe winter weather. The battalion returned to its regular position in the Satae-ri Valley on 11 February 1953, the predicted enemy attack not having materialized.

On 16 March 1953, the 96th displaced to a position in the Mundung-ni Valley, trading positions areas with the 189th Field Artillery Battalion of the 45th Infantry Division. The battalion remained in this position until the latter part of May. During this time some of the heaviest artillery duels of the war were fought in the Mundung-ni sector.

The battalion was relieved from attached X U.S. Corps on 27 May 1953 and attached to I U.S. Corps. Upon departing X Corps the 96th received a letter of appreciation from X Corps stating: "During these twenty-seven months of service with X Corps the battalion has supported with accurate and rapid fire the fighting men of nine divisions. In order that its fire might have the maximum effect, the battalion has occupied positions all across the Corps' front, and at one time the howitzers of the 96th were fired from 'positions which were within fifteen hundred yards of the front lines. The record of service of the battalion with the X Corps is a long and admirable one, and one in which I Corps takes pride."

The battalion completed the 145-mile march to the new sector on 27 May 1953 with no difficulties encountered. Upon arrival the battalion commenced firing in support of the 1st Marine Division, which was on line. The battalion continued its mission of supporting the fires of the 11th Marine Regiment through the months of June and early July.

On 13 July 1953 the 96th was ordered to move immediately to IX Corps in the Kumsong Bulge. A huge enemy build-up had been spotted in the Kumsong area and a drive was expected at any moment. The battalion was assigned the mission of general support of IX Corps, reinforcing the fires of the Capitol ROK Division Artillery. The battalion was placed under operational control of the 955th Field Artillery Battalion and was to receive counterbattery missions from that organization.

The enemy push had started when the 96th reached its position. Because of the terrain and distance between the 955th and the 96th, communications could not be established. As a result, the 96th did not



**A badly damaged building somewhere in Korea. From artillery fire?**

receive any fire missions while in that position. During the night of 13-14 July this battalion was subjected to fairly heavy artillery fire, which disrupted communications to adjacent units and higher headquarters.

At approximately 0300 hours on 14 July, a group of vehicles attempting to join the battalion after being delayed by motor trouble ran into an enemy roadblock. Three vehicles, including a tractor and

a 155mm howitzer, were disabled and lost. Efforts to retrieve this equipment during the night were unsuccessful because of the continuous artillery and small arms fire.

At 0500 hours 14 July members of the Capitol ROK Division began moving to the rear through the battalion area. When the 96th learned that an adjacent artillery unit had been overrun and there was no infantry support, it moved to the rear. During the withdrawal three vehicles were lost due to heavy artillery fire.

The battalion, in its new position, was attached for operational control to the 3rd U.S. Division. On 15-16 July the battalion fired 2,196 rounds for the 3rd Infantry Division artillery. On 17 July the battalion displaced to a new position six miles to the west. From 17-21 July 4,223 rounds were fired from this position.

On 22 July, the enemy drive having been crushed, the 96th was ordered back to its position in the 1st Marine sector, I U.S. Corps. The battalion fired in support of the Marines until the truce was signed on 27 July 1953.

On 24 August 1953 the battalion, less Battery "C," moved to Camp Indianhead, the base camp of I Corps artillery.

During the Korean War the 96th Field Artillery Battalion fired over 380,000 rounds and actively supported every U.S. Division and numerous other UN units.

## My mountain©

*By Tailhook Jack*

I began my ascent with youthful  
Abandoned running, jumping  
Over life's obstacles  
That lie in my way  
I had no need  
At that time,  
To be breathless  
Or fragile  
For I was invincible,  
Or so I thought  
As I climbed higher  
I noticed that age  
Was beginning  
To attack me  
And created  
A rest now and then  
I stopped  
And began to notice  
The depths of my life  
Where the good  
And the bad  
Were ingrained  
In my soul  
I arose  
And with renewed effort  
Began my ascent once again

The climb became harder  
On my body and soul  
And rest seemed  
To come more often  
I stopped at a cold stream  
Of water to drink  
And wash my face  
I noticed this strange person  
In the reflection  
Of looking back  
At me in the water  
He had the beginning  
Of a few wrinkles  
On his face  
And hands  
That had never  
Been there before  
I cringed with the thought  
That this was me  
Then my mind started  
To bring up vivid memories  
Of long ago  
They occupied my mind  
With vigor  
And once again  
I started the climb upwards

A procession of shadows  
Would greet me along the way  
From these shadows  
Would come forth  
As friends, parents,  
Relatives and siblings  
Together we would  
Ascend higher  
And higher  
And hope to reach  
The pinnacle  
Of that shining mountain  
Before another unknown  
Fate would ambush  
The group  
I close this journal  
While looking  
Optimistically  
To the future  
With deep respect  
For the past  
And with a firm  
Faith in the spirit  
Of my memories.



# Official Membership Application Form

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**DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE** Assigned Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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(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](http://www.kwva.org)

Adopted 10/26/2009, R4 Approved 10/27/2012

## Korean War Documentaries available on youtube

There are some worthwhile documentaries available on youtube.com that discuss various actions in the Korean War. If you have a few hours free and want to learn more about the war and its implications, check them out via the links included.

### Our Time in Hell: The Korean War

[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

On 25 June 1950, the North Korean army invaded South Korea, violating a truce struck at the end of World War II, and starting a conflict that would bring the U.S ...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nPW10Q0W2CM>

### An Engrossing Biography of Chesty Puller: An Enduring Icon ...

[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

Lewis Burwell "Chesty" Puller (June 26, 1898 – October 11, 1971) was a United States Marine Corps lieutenant general who

fought guerrillas in Haiti and Nicaragua...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qDDU0ZDYic8>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bVPPC4\\_ZMG4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bVPPC4_ZMG4)

### Greatest Tank Battles - Tank Battles of Korea

[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

In 1950 the world is caught off guard as North Korea launches a massive armored assault into South Korea. This is the story of the American tankers who rush to the ...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qDDU0ZDYic8>

### A Motion Picture History of the Korean War - Restored, 1955

[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

The Korean War is often overlooked and many people have only a foggy idea of what happened there, but we live with its consequences in a drama that continues to this day.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n8FXSoXNydU>

# KUNU/MASSACRE VALLEY

By Tom Moore

**K**unu, in U.S. and South Korean military history, has disaster and retreat written all over it. First we must understand the attitude of senior UN command. It was late November/early December 1950. The Chinese (CCF) had been in country since mid-October. They had struck UN forces, then faded away into the mountains of North Korea. UN forces were still committed to seize the entire Manchurian/North Korean border area.

The CCF troops were probing UN forces. They were large in numbers but possessed only a small quantity of primitive artillery and no tanks or close air support. The UN commander had stated the troops would be home by Christmas. Many of them were in summer uniforms, after all, so they would soon be home.

Then came the Second Chinese Offensive. Kunu was on the Eighth U.S. Army's far right flank. It was vital for the Eighth Army to hold Kunu, a major road hub, near the junction of the Chongchon and Kuryong Rivers. Its loss would give the CCF not only this key river junction, but also access to roads leading west and south, opening the possibility of an encirclement of Eighth Army forces at the Chongchon.

The second CCF offensive hit all up and down the river valley: all hell had broken loose. There were tracers and explosions left and right. The Chinese blew bugles and whistles and shouted American profanity in the dark. The UN wounded cried out for help. Men sprinted in every direction, and yelled; "Get out of here, we're overrun."

Eighth Army Commander General Johnnie Walker was called to Tokyo. He returned to his North Korean CP on 29 November 1950 and issued formal orders for a general withdrawal. The aim was to create a solid enclave around the North Korean capital, Pyongyang. The first step would be to establish a line across the western sector of the peninsula, at Sukhon - Suncheon. The Eighth Army's withdrawal was complicated by the lack of good roads.

The best route was the main highway, Sinanju - Pyongyang, on the Korean west coast. That highway was initially reserved for the Eighth Army and I Corps infrastructure. The 24th Infantry Division, the

Republic of Korea (ROK) 1st Army Division, the 25th Infantry Division, and the 2d Infantry Division (plus attached ROKs and Turks) would withdraw through Kunu due south over a two-lane gravel road from Kunu to Suncheon.

However, later that day, General Walker, believing that the Kunu - Suncheon road would become severely overtaxed, ordered the 25th Infantry Division, which had been transferred to I Corps, to withdraw via Kunu, thence west along the south bank of the Chongchon River to Sinanju, thence south to Pyongyang. The 5th Infantry Regiment of the 24th Infantry Division was to hold at Sinanju until these withdrawals had been completed.

After that the 2d Infantry Division (Indianhead), made up of at that time the 9th, 23d, and 38th regiments, and commanded by General Lawrence "Dutch" Keiser, would withdraw from Kunu and go south on the Suncheon road. Accordingly, the regiments of the 2d Infantry Division deployed on an arc northeast and east of Kunu, with the 9th and 23d regiments on the left, the ROK 3d regiment in the center, and the 38th Regiment and what could be found of the Turks on the right. The division's artillery battalions, the 15th, 37th, 38th, and 503d, plus the attached 17th FAB, with its eight-inch howitzers, would be backing up the infantry from sites a mile or so west of Kunu.

The 2d Infantry Division, which ran the six-mile-or-so gauntlet on the Kunu to Suncheon road with a very narrow valley near its end, probably escaped total annihilation when General Walker ordered General "Hap" Gay's 1st Cav Division, with its 5th, 7th, and 8th Regiments to shore up Eighth Army's right flank. They ran into thousands of ROK soldiers, and a sea of Korean civilian refugees.

The 1st Cav Division had learned from its battle at Unsan earlier in the year that the refugees were led by women and children, and right behind them were men, all dressed in white, of military age, thousands and thousands of them, infiltrating UN lines. That was how the CCF had surrounded some of their units.

The 5th Cav regiment had the 61st FAB with it and requested permission to fire on those CCF in white. Their request was

## Heavier Attack Feared

Kunu, a town east of the river and 46 air miles north of Pyongyang, now is the northern extremity of the front in north-west Korea.

The front line which runs roughly 30 miles from the mouth of the Chongchon to Kunu is gravely menaced.

Wednesday afternoon the Chinese began attacking a South Korean unit east of this battered town. That probably is the prelude to a heavier assault later.

Only one United States unit stands northeast of Kunu. It may be flanked if the Chinese attack succeeds against the South Koreans to the east.

The situation here is what the communiques might call "extremely fluid." But commanders on the front would call the situation "crucial."

Nearly all United States units except those on the extreme left, or western, end of the front have been hard hit, but the retreat is orderly.

From the Oregonian, Thursday, Nov 30, 1950, Portland, OR, p. 2

denied, with a "We cannot fire upon those pitiful refugees," which was just the way the CCF wanted it. It would haunt the 2d Infantry Division later.

On 29 November 1950, just to the right of the 25th Infantry Division, the 2d Infantry Division was waging a desperate fight to hold Kunu and the road south from it to Suncheon. The collapse and bugout of the Turkish Brigade had seriously jeopardized the division, as had the terrible losses in the 9th and 38th Regiments. Only the 23d Regiment and the 15th FAB could be classified at this time as combat capable.

The CCF 113th Division had punched through the Turks' soft defenses on the south-east rim of the "arc" and two of its regiments were dug in astride the Kunu - Suncheon road, over which the 2d Infantry Division was to withdraw. The road was now impeded by many road blocks. A platoon of tanks from the 72d Tank Battalion and a depleted Company (C) from 1/38 were sent. This was insufficient. The road remained blocked.

By night fall on 29 November the combat elements of the 2d Infantry Division holding



## The American 2d Infantry Division had been wrecked. The Turkish Brigade had lost a fifth of its men (about 1,000) and was utterly disorganized.

Kunu were very hard pressed. The 9th and 38th Regiments were down to about 600 men apiece. They were exhausted, numbed by the intense cold, and hungry. The division had to withdraw the next day or suffer the consequences.

General "Dutch" Keiser called a war council to lay out the final withdrawal plan. The 23d Regiment, mated with the 15th FAB, would provide the rear guard, while other division elements evacuated over the Sunchon road. The 23d would hold until all 2d Infantry Division elements and the remaining elements of the 25th Infantry Division had cleared Kunu.

The 9th Regiment, less its 1/9, would spearhead the division attack down the Sunchon road, clearing out the first road-block. 1/9 would remain behind to reinforce the 23d Regiment. 2/9 would attack on the right and 3/9 on the left. The 38th Regiment would mount tanks and trucks, attack through the 9th Regiment, clear any road-blocks beyond the first block, and meet the advancing British coming north. They would not employ artillery and tankers would not fire unless the target was identifiable as enemy. Then would come the division headquarters and artillery, less the 15th FAB with the 23d Regiment.

Unknown to them at this time, two CCF Regiments had dug into positions on the high ground, overlooking the whole stretch of the Sunchon road. They were surrounded by the enemy.

At early morning light, 30 November, when the first U.S. troops left the assembly area, and got out 4,000 yards, they came under CCF machine gun fire. As fighting took place at the first enemy road block, the division supply trains began backing up in a massive traffic jam.

Once the convoy stopped, the CCF ran onto the road and flank attacked. General Keiser had added remnants of the ROK 3d Regiment to the spearhead. Those troops broke and ran on first enemy gun fire. The road was fast becoming clogged with the dead and disabled vehicles. Some of them did get down the road, and after several hours the full six-mile stretch of the gauntlet into the pass was a blistering fight with troops

shooting every yard of the way, stopping at road blocks, and getting jumped. There was no withdrawing.

General Frank W. "Shrimp" Milburn had heard of the blockage on the road, and called General Keiser. "Come out my way and withdraw through I Corps sector at Sinanju." General Keiser was assigned to IX Corps, not I Corps. A change would have to be cleared through IX Corps and up the chain to Eighth Army. Keiser thought he could not spare the time—and declined the invitation.

How deep did the road blocks go? Communications were very poor to none. The British Middlesex Battalion, in accord with IX Corps' orders, was to attack north up the Sunchon road and report on the length of the enemy lines, the depth and number of road blocks, and numbers of CCF troops. The Middlesex Battalion had indeed attacked north that morning. But the British, who were consistently excellent in defense, were very cautious and slow on offense.

Soon after the jump off, the Middlesex Battalion ran into the CCF and bogged down about six miles south of General Keiser's advance position. Because of a failure to establish a direct communications link with the 2d Infantry Division, this vital information, which would have further clarified the intensity of the CCF threat, did not reach General Keiser.

The infantrymen kept asking for contact with the Far East Air Force (FEAF) fighter pilots, who thought the infantry who went to the hillsides were the enemy. The FEAF report for that day was 287 close air support missions over Kunu, dropping bombs, napalm, and rocket and machine gun strafing. FEAF claimed to have killed around 1,000 CCF troops in these attacks. There was a big problem, though: the infantry did not have communications with FEAF.

By the time tanks and artillery got to the pass, the CCF had machine guns and mortars well emplaced and they attacked savagely. The CCF also inundated them with grenades. As a result, those troops who survived the gauntlet had to face the fury of the narrow pass at the end. The six plus miles of the road were a classic gauntlet. The UN troops could not—and would not—turn back.

To leave the road was suicidal. The troops could only go forward—or try to—enduring awesome CCF fire-power. Hundreds and hundreds died on the road and hundreds more were wounded. The vehicles were stacked four and five deep with wounded.

The surviving elements of the 2d Infantry Division continued south through Sunchon by Pyongyang, thence to Munsan, below the Imjin River. The head count there on 1 December 1950 was shocking. In a short time of fighting the division had been wrecked. It had incurred about 33 percent casualties (4,940).

In the last days of November 1950, the division numbered but 19,000 men, 8,662 short of its authorized battle strength. The three infantry regiments, the artillery, and engineer battalions had suffered the most: the 9th (1,267 casualties), the 38th (1,075), the 23d (485), the division artillery (1,461), and the two engineer battalions (561). By 2 December the withdrawal of the Eighth Army from the Chongchon River had been carried out. Three ROK Divisions (6th, 7th, and 8th) had disintegrated.

The American 2d Infantry Division had been wrecked. The Turkish Brigade had lost a fifth of its men (about 1,000) and was utterly disorganized. The Korean War was a little over five months old at that time. There would be a lot more fighting ahead—and many more casualties to come.

Here's the report on the day's activities involving FEAF planes from the Washington D. C. Evening Star, December 18, 1950, Page A-3:

"Far East Air Forces planes smashed at Red bases and communications throughout North Korea. By mid-day today 5th Air Force pilots reported more than 300 Red troops killed or wounded. Fighter planes strafed and fire-bombed 11 towns.

"B-29 Superforts, grounded by snow storms Saturday, hit two major Red communication centers yesterday, Wonsan on the east coast and Chinnampo on the west coast. B-26 light bombers blasted three trains in the Kunu area of northwest Korea yesterday.

"In all of yesterday's operations, the FEAF reported destroying or damaging nearly 500 buildings, 50 railroad cars, 10 locomotives, two bridges, four tanks, 17 gun positions and 70 vehicles."

# 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.

## Death Notice of a Member of KWVA

*The following notice is submitted for publication:*

Name of deceased \_\_\_\_\_

Date of death \_\_\_\_\_ Year of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Member # \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Army ☐ Navy ☐ Marine Corps ☐ Air Force ☐ Coast Guard

Primary Unit of service during Korean War \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to deceased \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: **Membership, P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407**

## Thoreau was not always right

Henry David Thoreau advised readers of *Walden* to run as fast as they can when a government agent arrives at their door and announces that he is "here to help." His view is not true in all circumstances, especially for people who are looking for advice on the latest scams that may affect them. Here is a website that describes many of those scams. <https://www.justice.gov/elderjustice/senior-scam-alert>

## CHAPTERS from page 49

The event began at 3 p.m. as Heeso Son welcomed everyone in honoring the Korean War veterans who were seated in the front row. The audience responded by clapping in appreciation of the veterans who kept South Korea free from communism.

After the national anthems of the two countries were rendered remarks were offered by New Jersey U.S. Senator Robert Menendez and Hyo Sung Park, Consul General of the Republic of

Korea. New Jersey Assemblyman Gordon Johnson commented on the Korean War, followed by words from Palisades Park Mayor Christopher J. Chung. Songs of celebration and remarks by KWVA National Director George Bruzgis ensued.

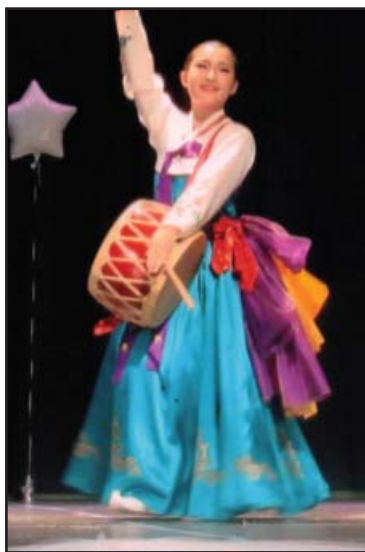
Vivian Kim, President of the Korean American Association of Bergen County, N.J., was introduced and offered her remarks. She thanked the Korean War veterans for all they did for South Korea.



Commander Albert Gonzales of Ch. 216 (L) and George Bruzgis, his Ch. 170 counterpart, together at Palisades Park, NJ, High School



Mayor Christopher J. Chung speaks at New Jersey gathering



Left, Korean entertainer performing Drum Dance of Choomnori for New Jersey audience. Right, Vivian Kim addresses New Jersey audience



Korean War veterans and Koreans at New Jersey celebration



## Membership is Our Strength

It's not the price you pay to belong, It's the price you paid to become eligible to join





# One veteran's view of efforts by the Korean War Legacy Foundation to remember the 'Forgotten War'

By Harold Mapes, 40th Infantry  
Division, 224th Regiment

I have been fortunate enough to watch the programs under the Korean War Legacy Foundation (KWLF) grow over time. This was possible in part because the growth has been so extraordinarily rapid, thanks to the hard work of Dr. Jongwoo Han and his many volunteers.

Prior to my introduction in the year 2012, Dr. Han worked with several veterans in New York to collect interviews of Korean War veterans. He had a vision to capture video and artifacts to preserve the legacy of our efforts. He also wanted to show the gratitude of the Korean people for our sacrifice in a way that was accessible to all.

The digital platform highlights this important agenda and points to the intense growth of South Korea as a technological force. After becoming one of the largest economies in the world, the South Korean people continue to remember the sacrifice of the United States and the United Nations. The KWLF is a strong reminder of this.

Ironically enough, my introduction to Dr. Han's efforts came from a *Greybeards* article. He was calling for grandchildren of Korean War veterans to join for a summit. I responded by writing to Dr. Han, because it seemed that many grandchildren would be older than the requirements for the summit. He answered that the age was not a factor, and so I encouraged my granddaughter, Samantha Fraser, to join.

Samantha attended the youth summit that occurred in conjunction with the annual KWVA meeting. My wife, Phyllis, and I also attended. It was wonderful to see the young people sitting along with us veterans.

From 2012 to now, this organization has grown by leaps and bounds. While the KWLF does not have any official employees, it does have over 50 volunteers and contract workers who manage



Guests at a KWLF meeting

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**After becoming one of the largest economies in the world, the South Korean people continue to remember the sacrifice of the United States and the United Nations. The KWLF is a strong reminder of this.**

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a variety of projects. Managing these explosive projects on behalf of Dr. Han is Mr. Joseph Karb, who keeps the programs running while also teaching at a middle school.

I observed first hand these many projects in effect during a recent conference in Orlando, FL. The two-day workshop created work space for an exceptional group of classroom teachers who have shown a keen desire to teach about the Korean War and its legacy. They recognized that the Korean War has previously been a small part of public school curriculum and they are all focused on changing this.

Working towards this goal are several groups with their own agenda. One group of highly qualified teachers is exclusively writing high-level lesson plans that connect students with primary sources from the Korean War and beyond. They have already published a book of lessons for AP World History teachers through the National Council for Social Studies. Now they turn their sights to other courses.

Another group worked specifically on the veteran interviews to isolate

compelling clips that could be used in the classroom. All of their work is made available free on the website [www.koreanwarlegacy.org](http://www.koreanwarlegacy.org). Anyone can now read interesting chapters about the Korean War and watch clips from real veterans that go hand in hand with the content. I was able to watch the hard work that goes into making this possible.

The Ambassador group designed presentation materials and set a schedule for sending teachers out to the many teacher conferences across the United States in the coming year. This will help spread the word about these great resources so that our legacy can enter as many classrooms as possible. As part of this group, my granddaughter presented on Dr. Han's book, "Power, Place, State and Society." Every project has the same goal: to make our legacy real and understandable to the next generation.

It was amazing to see how hard these teachers work for us. We should be inspired by their passion, and encouraged to reach out to our own descendants and community members. Through the efforts of this organization, teachers in later years will promote your legacy to future generations. You never know who you might inspire to get involved. For me, it started with a *Greybeards* article. I hope that this article brings another veteran and his family into this worthy cause.

If you know of a teacher in your family or community, please consider sharing this organization with them. They have two major websites. The one focused on veteran stories is [www.koreanwarlegacy.org](http://www.koreanwarlegacy.org). The website specific to teacher lesson plans and professional development is [www.worldhistoryryde.org](http://www.worldhistoryryde.org). They are also on Facebook and Twitter.

Many of their opportunities for teachers are all expenses paid. From my point of observation, the KWLF is a win-win for us all.

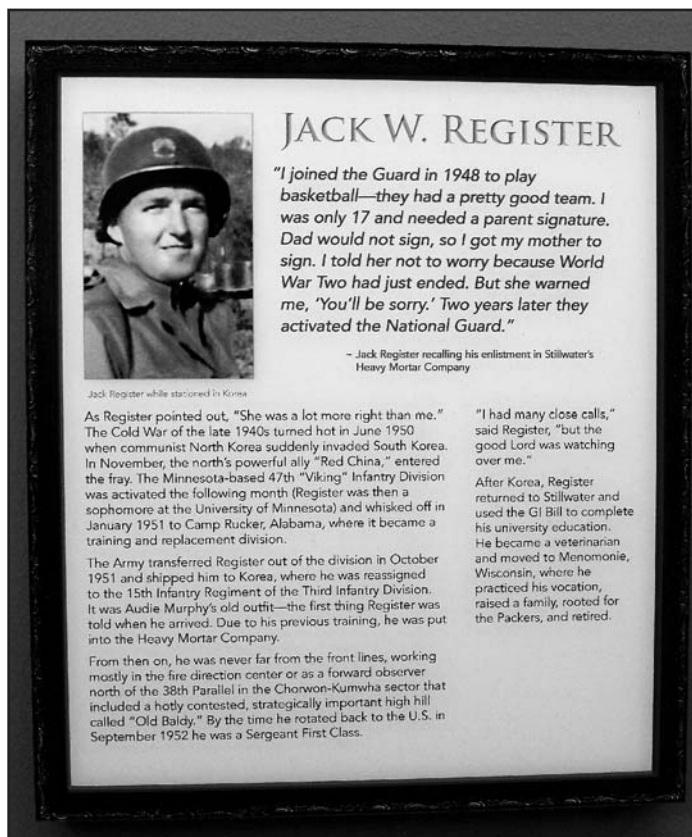
# Minnesota Vet Featured in Exhibit

Jack W. Register, a retired Menomonie veterinarian and Korean War veteran, is one of several veterans now featured in a permanent exhibit at the new National Guard Readiness Center/Armory in Stillwater, Minnesota. The exhibit, which consists of a series of graphic panels, covers the history of the National Guard in Stillwater from its pre-Civil War militia days to the present-day conflicts in the Middle East. Short biographies of local veterans are interspersed with the narrative timeline. Register grew up in Stillwater and signed up with its Heavy Mortar Company while still in high school.

"I joined the Guard in 1948 to play basketball," said Register, recalling his enlistment. "They had a pretty good team. I was only 17 and needed a parent signature. Dad would not sign, so I got my mother to sign. I told her not to worry because World War Two had just ended. But she warned me, 'You'll be sorry.' Two years later they activated the National Guard. As Register pointed out, "She was a lot more right than me."

The Cold War of 1948 turned hot in June 1950 when communist North Korea suddenly invaded South Korea. In November, the north's powerful ally, "Red China," entered the fray. The Minnesota-based 47th "Viking" Infantry Division was activated the following month (Register was then a sophomore at the University of Minnesota) and whisked off to Camp Rucker, Alabama, where it became a training and replacement division.

The Army transferred Register out of the 47th Division in October 1951 and shipped him to Korea, where he was reassigned to the Fifteenth Infantry Regiment of the Third Infantry Division. "That was Audie Murphy's old outfit," recalled Register. "It was the first thing I was told when I arrived." Due to his previous mortar training while in the Guard, he was put into the regiment's Heavy Mortar Company.



A copy of the article featuring Jack Register

From then on, he was never far from the front lines, working mostly in the fire direction center or as a forward observer north of the 38th Parallel in the Chorwon-Kumwha sector that included a hotly contested, strategically important, high hill called "Old Baldy." By the time he rotated back to the U.S. in September 1952 he was a Sergeant First Class. "I had many close calls," said Register, "but the good Lord was watching over me."

After Korea, Register returned to Stillwater and used the GI Bill to complete his university education. He became a veterinarian and moved in 1957 to Menomonie, Wisconsin, where he practiced his vocation, raised a family, rooted for the Packers, and retired.

"We are proud to include the story of men like Jack Register," said Jack Johnson, coordinator for the on-going armory history project. "The Korean War is sometimes referred to as the 'forgotten war' because it didn't end conclusively and was overshadowed by World War Two and Vietnam, but those who fought in it are every bit as deserving of our remembrance and thanks. They served their country, did their duty, and did it well."

The new armory, located at 350 Maryknoll Drive North in Stillwater, is open to the public.

*NOTE: This article is printed here with the permission of the original publisher.*

Jack Register stands by the article about his Korean War service





# Welcome Aboard!

## New Members of the Korean War Veterans Association

### ALABAMA

R049082 HAMPTON R. DOBBS

### ARIZONA

R049132 JIM R. BENNETT  
R049135 BRAD A. BLOXXHAM  
R049106 GEORGE CHASSE  
R049083 ROBERT J. COLOMB  
R049148 LONNIE A. COWELL  
R049151 ROBERT L. DOWNING  
R049085 WARREN T. DRAKE  
R049152 BARBARA N. DURANLEAN  
R049101 LARRY J. DUVAL  
R049098 ROBERT E. GERBERICK  
R049100 HARRY G. GUYTON  
R049150 ARLETA S. HARRISON  
R049134 RAYMOND D. HILL  
R049102 DAVID G. LINDSEY  
R049149 AARON W. MAZE  
R049133 REX L. RUCK  
R049146 CHARLES F. RUSH  
LR49097 BERNARD L. SHAW JR.  
R049084 DENNY SIMPSON  
R049147 CRAIG SMITH  
R049099 ROBERT G. YEAMANS

### ARKANSAS

R049169 WILLIAM D. MORTON

### CALIFORNIA

R049114 HORACE BLEHR  
R049123 CHARLIE CRANE  
R049103 GARTH FOLLEY  
R049164 EARL G. KERSHNER  
R049163 CHUCK LICHTER  
R049160 ROBERT P. MCELROY

### CONNECTICUT

R049109 ALBERT H. COPELAND  
R049079 FRANCIS L. FOX  
LR49118 PHIL Z. FRETWELL  
R049095 KENNETH D. HEADLEY  
R049126 CHRISTOPHER L. HERMANN  
R049096 MARTIN M. KUTNYAK  
R049104 GERALD LEVENTHAL  
R049138 HAROLD A. ROBINSON  
R049127 STANLEY M. STEINBERG  
R049139 WILLIAM L. WOODBURY  
R049140 CHESTER E. YOUNG

### IDAHO

R049086 JOHN T. GAVED

### ILLINOIS

R049112 JAMES A. MARBLE  
R049119 CARL T. NUCCIO

### KENTUCKY

R049077 DAVID K. PIFER

### MARYLAND

R049121 PATRICK J. ATTRIDGE  
LR49172 JOHN T. DILLER III  
R049124 WILLIAM R. GOODE  
H049166 YUMI HOGAN  
LR49115 ALVIN S. JACOBS

### MASSACHUSETTS

LR49111 ANTHONY C. MANBUCCA  
R049154 JOSEPH W. MARCO

### MICHIGAN

R049174 JEFFREY W. JOHNSTON  
R049170 ROBERT L. NAGY  
R049122 CHARLES G. SHAW

### MINNESOTA

R049076 MARVIN L. OSTRUM  
A049129 CHRISTINE M. WILLIAMS

### MISSISSIPPI

R049153 ROLAND G. MALLET

### MISSOURI

R049089 FRED CALDWELL  
R049159 CARL C. MORGAN  
A049080 MARYANN VANDERMEULEN

### NEVADA

R049136 FRANK W. BOWRON  
A049090 JEFFREY J. HUTCHISON  
A049091 TANYA G. HUTCHISON

### NEW JERSEY

R049165 HEE JUNG PARK  
A049168 RITA H. RAGSDALE  
R049167 WES RAGSDALE

### NEW YORK

R049128 FRANK J. CIPRIANO  
R049156 ARTHUR J. DEUTSCH  
R049171 KENNETH R. GOESSL  
LR49175 ALEXANDER KULICHIK  
LR49158 RAYMOND J. NEUFELD  
R049088 HAROLD G. SPETLA

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A049117 DREW J. BLAHA  
R049081 DALLAS T. BROOKS  
R049120 O'BRYAN M. BURNETTE  
R049155 NICHOLAS S. DIYORIO  
R049094 WILLIAM M. JANKOWSKI  
LR49105 HENRY M. MERCER

### OHIO

A049145 STEVE JOHNSON

### OKLAHOMA

LR49157 GAIL D. SOUTH

### OREGON

R049093 NORMAN M. MORGAN  
R049092 DAVID M. PENAFLO

### RHODE ISLAND

R049130 JAMES R. POONS

### SOUTH CAROLINA

R049131 BOBBY W. POPE

### TENNESSEE

R049116 MARVIN LEWIS

### TEXAS

R049141 TRACY HUFF  
LR49137 NORMAN K. JURY  
R049110 EDWIN A. LEAVENWORTH  
R049142 DAVID A. MCINTYRE  
R049113 RAYMOND MORALES  
A049161 GERARDS R. NORIEGA  
A049162 OSCAR E. NORIEGA  
R049173 DR. RICHARD H. REED  
R049143 MELVIN YAZZIE

### VERMONT

R049144 ALBERT FELDAN

### VIRGINIA

R049078 SAMUEL C. WORSLEY JR.

### WASHINGTON

LR49107 HARRY R. JONES  
R049125 STEVE M. WRIGHT

### WYOMING

R049087 JAMES P. MAHAFFEY

### GUAM

R049108 JEFFREY A. MOOTS

## Home on the Howze

My father is a Korea veteran and subscribes to your magazine. In the March-April 2019 issue, there is an article on page 15 about General Robert L. Howze and photos of the Attack Transport APA-134, which was named after him. My father, Gurnia Ogle, returned from Korea aboard *Howze*, a journey he described as "miserable."

The nearby photo shows his arrival in Seattle. My father is in this photo, but he does not remember which one he is and we can't pick him out. He mailed this photo home to his mother in North Alabama. The postmark on the envelope was November 11, 1952, from Seattle Washington. From that, we surmise he arrived in Seattle around the first week of November 1952.

My father is now 89 years old and lives in Muscle Shoals, in Northwest Alabama. He and I returned to Korea on a revisit tour in September of 2014.

*Greg Ogle, 2720-D Governors Dr. SW, Huntsville AL 35805, 256-536-8404, [www.sdiscuba.com](http://www.sdiscuba.com)*



Gurnia Ogle aboard APA-134 *Howze*



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**KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea - U.S. service members stationed around the Korean Peninsula wear traditional Korean clothing while exploring Jeonju traditional village, Republic of Korea, July 9, 2019. More than 50 Soldiers, Marines and Airmen participated in the three-day tour hosted by the Ministry of National Defense. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Mackenzie Mendez)**