

America's Forgotten Victory!

KOREA VETERANS

The Graybeards

Official Publication of

THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

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**Election Issue! Election Issue!
Vote! Vote! Vote!
Ballot Inside**

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.



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From the President

Jeffrey J. Brodeur, M.A./C.A.G.S.

Welcome, KWVA Members, into our New Year of 2022

It is a new year, and reflecting back on 2021, I can say we have brought the KWVA to the next level. In my 20 years of being a KWVA Member, Chapter Commander and National Officer, I have never seen the KWVA more visible as an organization. All this can be confirmed by the dramatic activity on our KWVA National Facebook page, KWVA Website and the KWVA National Magazine, the *Graybeards*.

We have not raised KWVA dues in 16 years and have made it easier for members over the age of 80 years to become Life Members by reducing Life Member dues to \$75.00. We need KWVA members to support the KWVA Fundraiser to keep dues down. We produce six quality magazines and we want to keep it that way. KWVA Fundraising Chairman Tom McHugh has brought in over \$500,000 from our fundraiser since he took it over. It is important for all our members to support it.

Since I have been in office, we have had the highest treasury content due to our great Treasurer Joe Harman, our finance committee, and cuts at national headquarters. We have established our own KWVA Scholarship Program, the KWVA Dog Tag Remembrance Program with Wreaths

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Across America, KWVA Tell America Program, donations to the Wall of Remembrance, 2nd ID DC Memorial Refurbishment donation, and Walter Reed Society, donation which gives funds to our Wounded Warriors at Walter Reed Bethesda National Military Medical Center.

It is important we honor our POWs and MIAs. You can see numerous KWVA National Officers representing the KWVA at dozens of these ceremonies on our National Facebook page and our national magazine. Since we are a federally chartered VSO, all these activities are in our federal charter guidelines.

I started our KWVA Facebook page in December of 2017 with 467-page likes. Today, we have over 61,000-page likes. KWVA members and supporters by the thousands are making positive comments and thanking the KWVA for everything we do pertaining to our support of Korean War and Korean Defense Veterans. I can assure you that every day, because of what we are doing on a national and chapter level, we are getting donations, new members and people buying our KWVA products that say

"Freedom is not Free." The public and members are pleased to see that we are carrying on the legacy of the Korean War and its aftermath.

I have never seen the activities of the KWVA so popular with the American people. We have been able to do all these activities and ceremonies in Washington D.C. and still not raise dues or cut the issues of our magazine. I and the Board are working hard for the membership without any of our officers getting a salary. A lot of costs have come out of our own pockets without anyone looking for reimbursement.

This is the best group of officers I have worked with on the board since becoming a member of the KWVA. We are all working hard for the KWVA membership. We have a lot of positive momentum in the KWVA and we want it to keep moving forward. We need the KWVA membership to play its part and support the KWVA National Fundraiser. Everyone is a recruiter.

See you at our National Meeting in San Antonio, Texas in October.

Freedom is not Free; KWVA National President Jeffrey J. Brodeur

Eyes of War

We welcome new member James Lantz with this stirring piece he wrote for the Oct/Nov/Dec 2021 *Chosin Few Digest*.

"As former combat Marines, we have all seen a lot of circumstances, some of which we would rather not remember.

On a cold sub-zero December morning along the icy road going towards Hagaru, near the bottom of Fox Hill, I came across a fallen Marine. As I got closer to him, I noticed his eyes were wide open and it looked like he was staring at the sky. I thought maybe he was still alive, but as I bent down I could see a large chest wound.

As I looked into his eyes it was almost as if he was saying something. To this day, I still remember those staring eyes. God rest his soul.

Some 71 years later, I still see those staring eyes of that young Marine, perhaps the same age as I was at the time just 18 and still remembering the high school senior prom that took place just a short 6 months earlier.

When we were near Taegu, a burial ceremony was taking place in a nearby valley. Taps was being played and it echoed throughout the hills. To this day, every time I hear it being played it brings back many memories of my twelve months in Korea, some good and many not so.

But here we are in a different place and time in our lives, still remembering those frigid days of the Chosin."

James Lantz, FO 8/1/7 -1/3/11, 30501 Via La Cresta, Rancho Palos Verde, CA, 90275

COVER: A desk in the life at Kunsan

Bady, 8th Security Forces Squadron military working dog, sits at a desk at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Jan. 10, 2022. MWDS assist their handlers in law enforcement, including detecting drugs and explosives. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Suzie Plotnikov)



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KWVA Online Store

Now you can Order and Pay Online at kwva.us

You can also order by phone at 2317-345-4414



New! Key fobs \$6.95



Freedom Is Not Free Hats \$16



Dress
Hats \$22



Freedom
Coins \$12



\$52.95



Windbreaker style Jackets

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ALTERNATE LOGO

GENERAL USE



1990'S LOGO

LADIES



Pins \$7.50 ea
plus S&H \$9.20
any order



Patches \$7.50 Ea



Shirts M - X L \$32 XXL \$37
Shirts 100% polyester



Decals \$5 ea
3 /\$10

Shipping additional.



From the Secretary

Harold Trieber



It seems like 2021 came and went like a runaway Bullet Train. We celebrated two of our most treasured holidays, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Thanksgiving was a time for our families and close friends to gather together and celebrate the harvest and other blessings of the past year.

As I look back on the past year, the KWVA as an organization seemed to pick up speed under the leadership of our president and administration, along with the Membership Office. With a multitude of achievements our financial position is the best it's been in many years, thanks to cutting our budget and raising more than \$75,000 in our "Annual Fundraiser."

We had two very productive Board of Directors Meetings, one in Boston and one in Orlando. The 2021 National Membership Meeting was a huge success, as it was also held in Orlando.

Our KWVA Facebook page has more than 60,480 likes. The Facebook page has been, and continues to be, instrumental in our merchandising efforts and recruiting.

A multitude of accomplishments were highlighted in our past editions of *The Graybeards*. KWVA's Partnership with "Wreaths Across America" (WAA) has become one of this administration's greatest success stories. The mission of the WAA to "Remember, Honor, and Teach."

REMEMBER: From the Remembrance Trees dedicated to our lost servicemen and women, to the WAA Museum at their headquarters in Maine, Wreaths Across America connects with the families and friends of fallen servicemen and women to keep their memories alive all year long.

HONOR: Each day of the year is an opportunity to show our respect in the year-round mission to honor those who serve and

Our KWVA Facebook page has more than 60,480 likes. The Facebook page has been, and continues to be, instrumental in our merchandising efforts and recruiting.

sacrifice. Every wreath placed becomes a catalyst for bringing together different generations of Americans in one mission of remembrance and appreciation.

TEACH: The annual convoy from Maine to Arlington National Cemetery and over 2,400 other locations throughout the country stops at many schools along the way, introducing young people to veterans and our mission to honor them. It's just one of the ways we strive to teach children the value of freedom.

The Wreaths Across America Mission Statement is closely intertwined and related to the KWVA Mission Statement, to PERPETUATE our Legacy, REMEMBER our Missing and Fallen, MAINTAIN our Memorials.

It was an honor and privilege on December 18th for Chapter 106 and other chapters throughout the country, along with over 2,000,000 volunteers nationwide, to partake in wreath laying ceremonies in over 2,400 different locations. (See the photos in the Chapters section under Ch. 106)

I hope you all had a Merry Christmas and are having a happy and healthy new year.

Harold Trieber, KWVA National Secretary

Around The Corner

By Charles Hanson Towne

Around the corner I have a friend,
In this great city that has no end,
Yet the days go by and weeks rush on,
And before I know it, a year is gone.
And I never see my old friend's face,
For life is a swift and terrible race,
He knows I like him just as well,
As in the days when I rang his bell.
And he rang mine but we were younger then,
And now we are busy, tired men.
Tired of playing a foolish game,
Tired of trying to make a name.
"Tomorrow" I say! "I will call on Jim
Just to show that I'm thinking of him."

But tomorrow comes and tomorrow goes,
And distance between us grows and grows.
Around the corner, yet miles away,
"Here's a telegram sir," ... "Jim died today."
And that's what we get, and deserve in the end:
Around the corner, a vanished friend.

Source:

https://pennyspoetry.fandom.com/wiki/Around_the_Corner/_/_Charles_Hanson_Towne

This poem, suggested and submitted by James Patterson, is in the public domain. "It should be printed in honor of our members who have answered their "Last Call," he said.

It also suggests that we should not put off visiting or keeping in touch with our friends, who may not be there when we try to contact them.

Did you know KWVA has a Code of Conduct?

I suggest a reprint of the article about the KWVA Code of Conduct. You had previously printed this article in the January/February 2010 and November/December 2014 issues of the Graybeards. Thank you. Member response had been excellent.

Since that time, many, many, new members have been added to the Roster of the KWVA, most not being made aware of the existence of the Code of Conduct of the KWVA. In this day and age of public discord, a reminder of proper conduct is needed.

The Code of Conduct has been in existence since August of 2006 when it was conceived by Past KWVA President Col. Louis T. Dechert. At that time the climate in the KWVA was somewhat turbulent, due to the questionable behavior of some members, whose apparent goal was to disrupt the administration of the KWVA.

The Code of Conduct is one of honor, a moral code, a pledge or promise, of proper attitude and behavior of members. It is meant to create a sense of pride, shared by those in the same group.

By the fall of 2009, Subscribers to the Code of Conduct had numbered 373 nationally. It was felt that it needed some publicity as it was known only by word of mouth. An article appeared in the January/February 2010 Graybeards, along with a copy of the Code. This article has had space on the KWVA home page, just below the section of "Recently Joined New Members," thanks to our Webmaster, should you wish to look into the background of the Code.

The purpose of this follow-up article is to reach the 4396 new members that have joined the KWVA since March 2010, and are not aware of the Code of Conduct. Informational letters have been sent to many chapters, inviting their members to become Subscribers to the Code, but, for whatever reason, response has not been that for which you would hang out the banner.

Thankfully, however, the number of subscribers today is 1,363. My goal is to reach and sign up 10 % of the total KWVA membership.

Nationally, there are only two chapters that have 100% Subscribers to the Code. Lake Erie Chapter #112 of Euclid, Ohio was the first, with Danbury, CT Chapter #11 following just recently. The Chosin Few #41 in Minnesota; Lawton #319 in Oklahoma; Westchester-Putnam County #91 in New York; Quad Cities #168 in Illinois; Maryland #33 in Maryland; Washington #324 in Missouri; Richard L. Quatier #321 in

Washington; and Norville B. Finney #256 in Michigan have submitted large number of subscribers this past year. Thank you, one and all, for your efforts to help me reach my goal.

For those reading this article, I have enclosed a copy of the Code of Conduct for you to read and digest, sign and return to me, so that I may add your name to the list of Subscribers.

Thank you, For the Good of the Order!!

Stephen Szekely LR10744, Custodian, Code of Conduct.

NOTE: The numbers in the above message may not be 100% accurate due to the time lag between the receipt of this request and the time of publication.

KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION CODE OF CONDUCT

- I will uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States.
- I will adhere to the National Bylaws of the KWVA, my Department, and my Chapter.
- I will not engage in any unlawful or unethical conduct, nor attempt to deceive in any manner, my Chapter, my Department or the National KWVA.
- I will fulfill my obligations and will be responsible for my actions to the Chapter, Department, and National Organization of the KWVA.
- I will render service and comfort to bereaved families of fellow Veterans, in time of need, to the best of my ability.
- I will respect the rights of others in regard to politics, sex, race, religion, and ethnic background.
- I will hold an open mind to the thoughts and opinions of others in any discussion or problem.
- I will at all times conduct myself with proper decorum and dignity and, while a member of the KWVA, will commit no act or actions that would dishonor the KWVA, our Flag or our Country.

THE MISSION OF THE KWVA/USA is

- DEFEND our Nation
- CARE for our Veterans
- PERPETUATE our Legacy
- REMEMBER our Missing and Fallen
- MAINTAIN our Memorial
- SUPPORT a free Korea

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Signature _____ Membership Number _____ Date _____

Chapter 267 says “Good Bye and Semper Fi” to MOH recipient



We are sad to report the loss of our highest decorated member, Medal of Honor Recipient, Corporal Duane E. Dewey, a true American hero, who passed away October 11, 2021. His daughter, Arlene Broome, held two funerals at his posts in Michigan before bringing his and his beloved wife Bertha's ashes down to Florida for his final service with his family, his many friends in our area, many Marines, many veterans' friends, and

our chapter members.

Duane received the Medal of Honor for valor as platoon leader and machine gunner for Company E, 2nd. Battalion, 5th. Marines, 1st. Marine Division, in action against Chinese enemy aggressor forces on Hill #3, Panmunjom, Korea, on 16 April 1952. When an enemy grenade landed close to his position while he was receiving medical attention for earlier wounds during a fierce night attack by numerically superior hostile forces, Corporal Dewey, although suffering intense pain, immediately pulled the corpsman to the ground and, shouting a warning to the other marines around him, bravely smothered the deadly missile with his body, absorbing the full force of the explosion to save his comrades from possible injury or death. His indomitable



courage, outstanding initiative, and valiant efforts in behalf of others in the face of almost certain death, reflect the highest credit upon Corporal Dewey and enhance the finest traditions of the United States Naval service.

President Dwight Eisenhower told Duane that “You must have a body of steel” as he hung the Medal of Honor around his neck at the White House.

On November 15, 2021 the family, local veterans, and friends held a Celebration of Life service for Duane and his wife Bertha at the American Legion Post 16 in Gainesville, Florida, with 70 patriots in attendance.

The next day there was a funeral service at the Williams Thomas Funeral Home in Jonesville, Florida. The Marines supplied an Honor Guard and many of our members rendered the funeral salute to Duane. The chaplain was Glen Busby, Retired Submarine Captain, USN. There were hundreds in attendance.

The family then left for Bushnell National Cemetery with a large motorcycle escort of the American Legion Post 16 Riders and the Rolling Thunder group. Our National President, Jeff Brodeur, was in attendance for this service and to help comfort the family. A burial service was held there with another Marine Honor Guard.

The KWVA will miss Duane and Bertha Dewey who were loyal, active members of our chapter since 2002. We wish them God Speed to their final resting place in heaven—and we bid a sad farewell to a real American hero.

LEST WE FORGET.



“We” are the government: act accordingly©

One of the things I have never understood about our society is why we don't take things into our own hands when situations require it. Example? Turn to the Barre, Vermont story on p. 30, then come back here. I'll wait.

Wasn't people taking things into their own hands the whole point of the Korean War? A volatile hostile government, i.e., North Korea, tried to annex South Korea by force. The South Korean people took it upon themselves to reject the attempt. With a little help from the outside they succeeded. Taking it into their own hands worked.

Granted, that explanation is a bit simplified. But the scenario is similar to what happened in Barre. There, some disgruntled citizens decided they didn't want an American flag hanging over a street. They petitioned government to make sure the flag did not block their view, offend their senses...whatever their reason. In effect, they were petitioning themselves, as I will explain a couple paragraphs down. So, a group of veterans and patriotic citizens took matters into their own hands and displayed a flag anyway. Why doesn't that happen more?

We've seen the movie before. Groups of dissenters, generally small in number, object to crosses on mountains, religious symbols and wreaths in military cemeteries, flags in condo developments...and they go running to government officials, home owner association directors, or other people in charge to get their demands for removal met. The dissenters get publicity, they drive a wedge between themselves and other groups, their demands get dragged out in court, and legal decisions hang in limbo for eons. The patriots in Barre did not wait for any of that to happen. They acted.

Those patriots were not necessarily defying government, since they are the government. (Be patient.) They were simply expressing their own displeasure and righted what they considered to be a

What if the South Koreans had just bowed to the North Koreans and said you can rule us with your despotic government? But let us go to court first to see if the judges agree with us.

wrong without letting the matter get tied up needlessly in court. That is a citizen's duty in a free society. Majorities should not be beholden to small groups of dissenters, which seems to be how society works nowadays.

What if the South Koreans had just bowed to the North Koreans and said you can rule us with your despotic government? But let us go to court first to see if the judges agree with us. If they had done that they'd all be one step away from starvation, reading by candlelight—if they could find anything to read other than government propaganda literature or gather enough wax to make a candle and find a match to light it—and “oohing” and “aahing” at their Dear Leader's likeness on every street corner. Avoiding the courts and taking matters into their own hands rendered that moot.

Why do we leave up to government such decisions as to when and where a flag can be flown? Too many people forget what government is—and here's the definition. It can be summed up in one word: us. “We” are government. Somewhere along the line since 1776 Americans have lost sight of that.

Today we speak of the “government” or the “state” in terms of something that is totally separated from the “people.” We have gotten too used to letting the government dictate instead of represent. That's why people such as the dissenters in Barre petitioned the government to ban the flying of an American flag—a flag that the government is supposed to represent. They knew the local government would take their side. The patriots in Barre did too and flew their flag publicly and proudly without seeking government permission. That's what people in a free society should do—but all too often don't.

Why shouldn't patriots be allowed to place wreaths in cemeteries across America to honor the veterans who fought for the right to do so? If a few people object, as they did last year, so be it. Dissenters should be taught that by running to the “government” for injunctions to stop the practice they are running to themselves—the “we.” They can then grant themselves a symbolic injunction to stop the placement of wreaths, crosses, religious symbols, etc. on graves, private homes, and other places, knowing their opponents, the majority, don't care.

But, they must realize that the people who are doing the placing are also members of their own branch of “we,” and can “place away” without interference. That's government at work, also known as taking matters into your own hands when advisable. We should never forget that the government is “us” and “we” are the government, but too many people have.

Are there any more patriotic people than the South Koreans? Look at what they have done—and continue to do—for the people who saved them from a hostile government. They, more than most, know what it's like to live under a government that does not recognize “we” and “us,” because they have one right across their border—one which they narrowly avoided because they took matters into their own hands. That is what all good people should do when they deem it advisable.

May the American flag fly freely over Barre despite dissenters' wishes to the contrary—and the rest of America as well. And, may patriotic citizens everywhere take it into their own hands when necessary to make sure it does. The same goes for South Korea.



ALL MEMBERS

ALL MEMBERS The following seven candidates have been certified to seek the four positions available in the 2022 election: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, and National Director. (Three Directors' positions are available.)

Effective upon the closing date of December 26, 2021 the members of the Election Committee have reviewed all letters, documents, etc. received from each candidate for office. It is our opinion that all of the requirements have been met as listed in the Association's By-Laws, Procedure Manual and as published in *The Graybeards*.

The names have been submitted to the Secretary, the Webmaster,

and the editor of *The Graybeards* for the printing of the ballots. The Committee has submitted the candidates' names in alphabetical order by office. Please pass the word to all members to VOTE. Candidates' resumes and pictures are posted below.

Respectfully submitted,

KWVA Elections Committee: Thomas E. Cacy, Chairman

NOTE: The letters submitted by the candidates have been edited slightly to fit the format of *The Graybeards*. The contents of the letters were not affected by the editing process.

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION

PRESIDENT

- Brodeur, Jeffrey J. LR 35528
- Key, Alves J. (A.J.) LR 41536

1st VICE PRESIDENT

- McCarthy, Albert H. LR 36750

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

- McHugh, Thomas M. LR 07169

NATIONAL DIRECTOR

- Lash, Fred C. LR46658
- McWaters, John R. LR46603
- Pickett, David H. LR49430

PRESIDENT

JEFFREY J. BRODEUR



This letter is to announce my candidacy for KWVA National President to serve from June 25, 2022-June 2024. I am a Life Member (# LR35528) so therefore my dues are paid to present date. If elected, I promise to attend all called meetings and understand that two unexcused absences could result in my removal from office. I am releasing the KWVA application form for verification of

eligible service years. I joined the US Army in 1982 and was Honorably discharged in 1989 as a Corporal. I worked as a Team Leader, Squad Leader and Platoon Sgt as an Indirect Fire Infantryman, Infantryman and Infantry Scout.

After my Initial Infantry and AIT Training at Fort Benning Ga, I was stationed at Schofield Barracks Hawaii with the 25th Infantry Division (Light), 26th Infantry Division Massachusetts National Guard, and 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Garry Owens, Korea. I deployed to Australia, Japan, Korea, the Big Island of Hawaii and worked with soldiers from New Zealand,

Korea, Japan, Australia and the Gurkha's based out of Hong Kong during my Army career. I am a recipient of the Korean Defense Service Medal and member of the VFW, American Legion, AMVETS, AUSA, DAV, 2nd ID Assn and 25th ID Assn.

After the military, I worked as a security officer for Westin and Marriott Hotels in Downtown Boston and Director of Security for Rachels Nightclub at the Marriott Long Wharf, Boston Ma. I spent over a decade on the United States Postal Service Boston. While working at the USPS, I attended UMass-Boston and obtained an Associate's Degree, 2 Bachelor of Arts Degrees, Master of Arts Degree, 2 Certificates of Advanced Graduate Studies, in 2 National Honor Societies, Deans List and was awarded the William Joiner Award for Excellence for Service to our Veterans.

In 1999, I joined the Korea Defense Veterans of America that spearheaded the movement for the Korean Defense Service Medal, became a KDVA National Officer and founded its only chapter which eventually became Korea War Veterans Association Chapter# 299 in 2004. I have been elected KWVA National President (2020-2022), National 1st Vice President (2018-2020), National 2nd Vice President (2016-2018), KWVA National Director for 2 terms (2005-2011). I was National Membership Chairman from 2005-2010, National Ceremonies Chairman 2005- 2008, coordinated the KWVA National

Membership Meetings in Boston in 2011 and Orlando in 2021 and also started the KWVA Color Guard for ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery and the Korean War Veterans Memorial. I also helped get 3 National bills passed into law, Korea Defense Service Medal (2002), KWVA Federal Charter (2008) and Omnibus Caregivers Bill (2010).

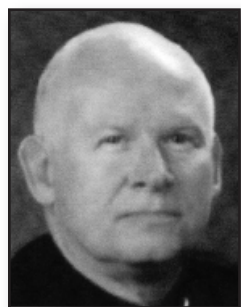
Presently, I am KWVA National President and Social Media Coordinator. The KWVA Facebook Page which I started on 12-4-17 with 427 Likes, now has 61,000 Likes. The page brings the KWVA many new members, many donations and many people who buy KWVA products. I started the new KWVA Dog Tag Remembrance Program with Wreaths Across America, established the first KWVA Treasury of over \$1,000,000 dollars, and honorably represented the KWVA at hundreds of ceremonies and events all over America. Myself and our officers also visited our Wounded Warriors at Bethesda / Walter Reed under my leadership. I was on the Massachusetts Governors and Congressional Military and Veterans Advisory Committees.

Myself and my wife were named Caregivers of the Year by Hope for the Warriors. I am happily married to my wife Maura who served in the US Navy and we have 2 children. My daughter Colleen has 3 children who bring us great joy as grandparents. My son Vincent was wounded in Iraq with the 82nd Airborne Division and has had 48 operations. I have a lot of experience locally and nationally in the KWVA and have been loyal and dedicated to the KWVA for over 20 years. My 3 Uncles and 2 cousins served in the Korean War Era.

I believe I am worthy of reelection and need your Vote to keep the Korean War Legacy and its Aftermath alive.

KWVA National President Jeffrey J. Brodeur M.A./
C.A.G.S. (LR35528), 7472 Moorgate Point Way,
Naples FL 34113 / kvamane@aol.com / 617-997-3148

ALVES J. KEY



I submit this letter announcing my candidacy for the office of President of the Korean War Veterans Association Inc., to serve from June 25, 2022, to June 25, 2024.

I entered active service on August 1, 1965 with training at Lackland, AFB Texas and Lowry, AFB Colorado. My qualifying Defense Veteran military service was with the USAF 6314th MMS Detachment 1, 6175th AB Group at Kunsan AB Korea, from April 1968 to April 1970. My primary duty was maintaining and transporting weapons to alert aircraft. I also served two tours at the 22nd Air Defense Missile Squadron at Langley AFB Virginia (04/1966 to 04/1968) and (04/1970 to 09/1972). After leaving active duty as a SSGT, I served in the United States Air Force Reserve from (02/1973 - 08/1986) at the 301st Tactical Fighter Wing Carswell AFB TX serving as the Wing Safety Office Explosive Safety NCO and later in the 301st CAMS Munitions Section. I retired in August 1986 as a MSGT with seven active and thirteen years of reserve service.

I am a retired Law Enforcement chief officer with service at the agencies noted below:

- Tarrant County Sheriff's Office-Fort Worth, TX (12/2003 to 11/2008) Chief Deputy Personnel/Training
- City of Longview Police PD- Longview, TX (09/1999 to 11/2003) Police Chief
- City of Arlington PD- Arlington, TX (10/ 1977 to 08/1999) Deputy Police Chief (Highest position held)

Education:

- Dallas Baptist University, Dallas, TX
- Master of Arts in Professional Development-Criminal Justice Emphasis (12/2008)
- Bachelor of Career Arts -Applied Business Administration (05/1988)

I have served as a Director of General Walton H. Walker KWVA Chapter 215 located in DFW Texas, and currently serve as chapter president. In past service to KWVA national I coordinated delivery of Tell America materials for approximately three years. My military and professional experience as a law enforcement chief officer and educator required the ability to communicate and collaborate with others to achieve organizational goals. I aspire to be an effective servant leader of the KWVA to achieve the KWVA mission of ensuring a "living legacy" for those who served in the Korean War and won the victory, and those who served after the armistice to maintain that victory.

I believe that the Board of Directors should be accountable to the membership by ensuring that activities and actions focus on the vision and mission objectives of the KWVA. The Board has a fiduciary duty to members, governing authorities, and donors to account for and properly use donated resources.

Meeting the KWVA mission in the coming decades requires the following:

1. Soliciting feedback from members using surveys in Graybeards, posted on the website, and/or email to Chapter commanders
2. Recruiting engaged Defense Era veterans to grow and maintain mission capacity
3. Maintaining positive and collaborative relationships with Congressional and Federal entities
4. Building and maintaining contacts with Korean Embassy, community, and business leadership
5. Supporting the education efforts of the Korean War Legacy Foundation

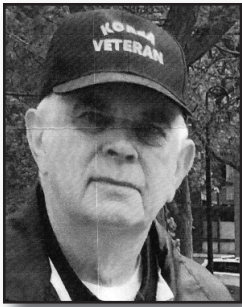
As testament of my commitment to serve, I will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and understand that two (2) unexcused absences are reason for removal from office. I also authorize the Election Committee to use the application form for establishing eligibility for the office. I also certify that my dues as a Life Regular Member will be current through my term of office if elected.

With warm regards,

Alves J. Key, Jr., Immediate Past President of
KWVA Chapter 215 DFW, TX

1st VICE PRESIDENT

ALBERT J. MCCARTHY



My name is Albert McCarthy and I am a candidate for re-election to the office of First Vice President of the Korea War Veterans Association for the years 2021-2024.

I served in the United States Air Force from July, 1968 to November, 1971 and achieved the rank of Captain with an AFSC of Senior Weapons Controller (1744E). My service in Korea was from October, 1970 to

October, 1971 as a member of 5th Air Force, 314th Air Division, Command Advisory Function, attached to the National Security Agency in Osan.

Returning to my home in Massachusetts, I put my leadership training to work as a Human Resources professional, rising to Vice President of a Fortune World Fifty company (NEC). In my various assignments, I received two national awards for creativity and placed second nationally for Human Resources Executive of the Year. During this approximately 38 year period, I helped build one company from a start-up to over a billion dollars in revenue; merged two high tech companies to form a 1.5-billion-dollar company; and expanded another company internationally, while growing revenue from 300 million dollars to over a billion dollars.

In addition to being a Life Member and past National Director, National Second Vice President, and current National First Vice President of the KWVA, I have served the organization as Chairman of the Elections Committee in 2015 and 2016 and am currently co-Chairman of the Fundraising Committee and recently appointed to the Recruiting Chairmanship. I have also served as the Commander of KWVA Chapter #299 for six years, and still serve as Director and Adjutant. Additionally, I serve as Adjutant of DAV Chapter #4 in Massachusetts and am a member of the VFW, American Legion, and Military Officers Association of America.

I have participated in services at Arlington National Cemetery and the Korea War Memorial in Washington, DC on Memorial Day (six times) and Veterans Day (twice) on behalf of the KWVA.

Additionally, I worked closely with National President Brodeur on the creation and installation of the first-in-the-nation Korea Defense Veterans Monument in the Charlestown Navy Yard in Massachusetts.

I respectfully request your consideration and vote, so that I may continue to represent and support all who served in Korea from 1945-1950 while Korea regained her nationhood; those who fought long and hard against extraordinary odds from 1950-1953 to ensure Korea's survival; and all who served over the last six decades to protect and defend Korea and her DMZ from a determined and tyrannical dictatorship in North Korea.

If elected, I will attend all called meetings and understand that two unexcused absences could result in my removal from

office.

All information contained in this letter, the Membership Application Form, my military records, and support documentation, is hereby released to the Election Committee for verification. As a Life Member, my dues are current throughout the duration of my election and membership.

Respectfully submitted.

Albert H. McCarthy, Life Member #367500, 770 Salisbury Street, Unit 203, Worcester, MA 01609, Cell: (508) 277-7300 / Home: (508) 829-4236, Email: mccarthy.albert@live.com

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

THOMAS MCHUGH



I hereby submit my request for re-election to the position of 2nd Vice President. I am a Life Member, my dues are paid through the term. I am aware that two unexcused absences will be cause for removal from office. I release my information to the election committee.

My efforts include:

- National Director 2008-2013 / 2014-2019

- 2nd Vice President 2020-2022
- Ceremonies Committee Chairman 7 years 2007-2014
- Election Chairman 4 times
- Fund Raiser Chairman 8 years 2014-2021
- Chairman Defense Veterans Memorial Committee 2017-2021

I wish to continue serving and to do so I need your vote. Every vote counts. Vote now.

I have enjoyed serving as Fund Raiser Committee Chairman. During my 8 years we have raised in excess of \$500,000, including \$76,000 in 2021. It has been a very successful assignment. My personal "THANK YOU" to every member that supported these worthy Fund Raisers. Please continue to donate. The individuals that received the 2021 prizes, as picked, live in NY - CT - FL - CA.

I served in the ARMY 1951-1954 in SCARWAF / NJARNG 1954-1984 in 104th Engr BN as Bn S2 Intell NCO/ARMY Reserve 1984-1994. Retiring as First Sgt. I retired as Postmaster Belvidere NJ after 33 years. I have been married 64 years. My family is now 6 Children, 10 Grand Children, 8 Great Grand Children.

Working as a team President Jeff Brodeur, 1st VP Albert McCarthy, and 2nd VP Thomas McHugh have not only reduced costs, but increased our finances to an unprecedented level. Please vote to allow us to continue this success. Do not fall for the BS, Eye wash and costly promises. Re-elect those of us that have proven to be successful as workers as well as leaders. With your help, we will continue to do the job.

There are Defense Veteran Memorials in planning and construction stages in several states, using Chapter funds only. States

in progress but not limited to are TX-3, MI-2, FL-3, PA-2, IL. NJ. OH. Question: Do all the Korean War Memorials in your area, have an addition of a Defense Veteran Memorial? Over 1200 individuals have died in Korea since the cease fire date. They should be recognized. We can help you with the planning. National KWVA funds have never been spent. Local Chapters raised have all the funds.

We have proven that the lies that were being sent were just that "LIES", sent by petty individuals that could not get what they wanted. The KWVA is running very efficiently without paid (supposed) leadership. We said it can be done without spending over \$70,000, we then proved it over and over. Now we need your support. Please VOTE. Talk it up at meetings and by phone contact with other members.

VOTE VOTE VOTE

Always Remember, "FREEDOM IS NOT FREE"

Thomas McHugh LR 07169, 2nd Vice President, 908-852-1964; tmmchugh@msn.com

DIRECTORS

FRED C. LASH



To: Elections Committee, Korean War Veterans Association

Subject: Statements of Fred C. Lash

- I intend to run for a Director position with the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA) in the Spring of 2022.

- I strongly feel that I am fully qualified to run for, and fill, this position based on my knowledge of this association

and Veterans Service Organizations as a whole. Due to the location of my home (Springfield, Virginia), I frequently attend (and actively participate in) nearly all the events, ceremonies, and funerals that involve the KWVA and its members. I am also able to assist any visiting officers and directors of the KWVA who may be transiting the Washington, DC region on official business. As the Public Affairs Coordinator, I function as both the public relations manager and communications director, as well as the protocol chief.

Additionally, I work quite a bit with several other military-related associations that are headquartered in the Northern Virginia/Washington area; therefore, I am part of a large network of individuals with similar duties, and routinely share timely and pertinent information, often useful to the KWVA. Knowing first-hand how the Defense Department and Military Services operate, relative to the VSOs, I am in an ideal position to assist KWVA as it navigates through the red tape and government requirements so common in the National Capital Region.

- I will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and I understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be grounds for removal from my office.

- As a Life Member of the KWVA, my dues are fully paid as of the time of the election process.

- I hereby release all submitted documents/material for verification

tion by the Elections Committee.

- Mailing Address: 7020 Maple Tree Lane, Springfield, VA 22152

- Telephone Numbers: Home: 703-644-5132; Cell: 703-304-7665

- KWVA Member Number: LR46658

- E-mail Address: fredanddonnalash@verizon.net

Major Fred Curtis Lash, USMC, Retired November 30, 2021

JOHN MCWATERS R.



Hello, I'm John McWaters, Commander, Chapter 169, The Villages, FL I have held this position for the past 5 years. Our active membership is now 248 members.

My qualifications include service in Korea with the 13th Cmbt Bn 1950-1953, a total of 3 years, 2 months 12 days. I transferred to the Army ROTC program at GA TECH, 1954-58. Commissioned a 2LT of engineers

12/6/58.

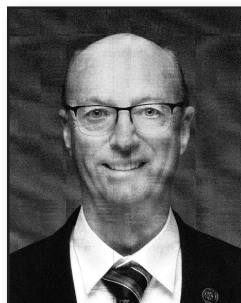
I commanded at every level platoon to division, retiring as a Major General 12/6/1991. During my first term as a National Director I served as chairman of each of these committees, Membership, Scholarship, and Tell America; I desire to be re-elected as a National Director.

If elected I will attend all scheduled BOD meetings and respond to all BWM meetings. I understand that any two unexcused absences could be used for my removal from office.

I hereby release all submitted documents/materials for verification by the election committee. My current mailing address is 2075 Callaway Drive, The Villages, FL 32162; email address genjon@thevillages.net; telephone number 352 445 9316.

John R. McWaters LR 46603

DAVID H. PICKETT



I am submitting this letter announcing my candidacy for the office of Director of the Korean War Veterans Association. I agree to attend all called meetings and will respond to all calls for business without a meeting. I also understand that two unexcused absences could be grounds for removal from office. I am fully available to serve a full term. My dues are current as I am a lifetime member of the KWVA.

I initially joined the Army in 1984 and have served in various roles within the Air Defense Artillery Corps, the Military Police Corps, and most recently as a Logistician / Transportation Specialist.

I was awarded many decorations for my deeds while serving in the Army. Among those awards were the Florida Cross; the

Meritorious Service Award; Army Accommodation and Achievement Medals; the Combat Action Badge and Air Assault Badge. I also distinguished myself above my peers by being chosen for two years straight as the top Logistician at the Battalion level in an Army wide competition. This award was presented to me in Washington D.C. by some of the Army's top Generals.

I served at various duty assignments throughout my career. I was stationed in Bitburg, Germany (85-87), Ft. Campbell, Ky (87-89, 90-92), Pyeongtaek, Korea (89-90). In 1992 I joined the Florida National Guard and where I served until 2005. In 2005 I went back onto active duty as an Active Guard Reserve (AGR) where I served out the remaining years of service in West Palm Beach, FL.

After 9-11 I was heavily involved in Operation Safe Skies. Where we stationed troops in the airports across the country. This was a huge logistical challenge as no one that was currently serving had ever conducted such an operation.

I have served two combat tours in the Middle East. One tour in Saudi Arabi/Iraq for Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm, and one tour in Afghanistan for Operation Enduring

Freedom IV - V. In 2015 I retired from the Florida National Guard for a combined total of 32 years' service. I hold a master's degree in Critical Incident Management from St. Leo University. My undergraduate degree is in Criminal Justice and I also hold a Associates Degree in Liberal Arts. I'm a dedicated family man with five children and four grandchildren.

In 2019 I ran for a local government office and won a seat on the Port St. Lucie City Council. Being an elected official gives me the opportunity to represent my district and have a voice in the direction as the city moves forward. I get great satisfaction in being able to help my constituents, and I will put forth that same energy and effort into the position of Director of the Korean War Veterans Association.

I currently reside at 2473 SW Galiano Rd Port St. Lucie, FL. 3498. My phone number is 772-201-9570 and my email address is avid.pickett9570@gmail.com. My KWVA membership number is R049430. I hereby authorize release of all submitted document for verification to the Election Committee.

David Pickett

Like Father, Like Son

A meeting with Gen. Patton

The spring offensive by the North Koreans in 1953 at the "Iron Triangle" produced a great column of refugees going south. The Eighth South Korean Infantry Division was pushed out of Kumwha Valley and was in retreat to South Korea. The 40th Infantry Division was sent from the Punch Bowl to the Kumwha Valley to plug the hole left by the South Korean Eighth Infantry Division.

As I was going north an officer in charge of 23 tanks was approaching when he asked, "Who's in charge of the 75 and 105 mm recoilless rifles?"

I answered, "I am in charge, sir."

He said, "Sergeant, don't you notice something is wrong with the refugees that are coming? The old men, children, and young ladies are carrying the heavy loads while all the many wagons pulled by water buffaloes only carry hay. There must be something in those wagons."

The captain in charge of the tanks ordered me to have my men put the bayonets on their rifles, poke their bayonets into the hay, and tip the wagons over, taking whatever prisoners were in them. As my men began to do so all the ladies and young children began to cry.

The captain then told me, "Keep on moving, do not block the convoy, and leave some men to patrol that will be escorted to me later that night."



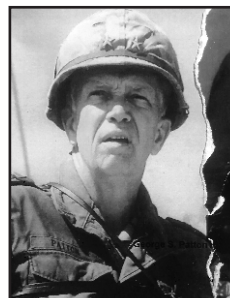
When my men returned to the unit they were excited and happy from capturing many communist prisoners. Later, I inquired who was in charge of the 23 tanks. They answered that it was Captain George Patton IV. George Patton Jr. was a four-star general in the Second World War.

Being able to fight alongside Captain
SFC Ernesto Sanchez

George S. Patton IV, who later became a general, is one of my proudest and most-prized moments of my service in Korea.

(Sergeant First Class) Ernesto Sanchez, 40th Infantry Division, 1307 E Stewart St., Laredo, TX, 78040, (956) 251-3041

Why was George S. Patton IV not numbered George S. Patton III?



George Patton IV

Some readers might wonder why the George S. Patton IV featured in this story was not III, since his father was George S, Patton Jr. Technically, then George S, Patton IV should have been III. Confusing! Here's the explanation:

Patton IV was the fourth in his line to be named George Smith Patton. His great-grandfather, the first George Smith Patton, was a colonel in the Confederate States Army during the American Civil War. He was killed in 1864, at the Battle of Opequon.

Patton's grandfather, born George William Patton in 1856, changed his name to George Smith Patton in 1868, in honor of his father. Patton's father was George Smith Patton Jr., the renowned World War II general most famous for his command of the Third U.S. Army in Northwest Europe in 1944 and 1945.

Though given the name Junior, Patton's father was actually the third George Smith Patton. For this reason, Patton was christened George Smith Patton IV. Following his father's death in 1945, Patton changed his legal name to George Smith Patton, dropping the Roman numerals.

His eldest son, technically the fifth George S. Patton, is also known as George Smith Patton Jr.

(Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Patton_IV)

ANNUAL GRAYBEARDS CONTACT UPDATE

Who To Contact And What To Contact Them For

WHERE TO SEND SUBMISSIONS

The *Graybeards* team does not have a centralized office for its administrative processes. The membership staff, which handles the bulk of the administrative tasks, is located in Charleston, IL. The editor is housed in Sun City Center, FL. The publisher is based in Beaufort, SC. The secretary is located in Port St. Lucie, FL. The president is in Naples, FL. **Nobody other than the editor should be receiving any mail intended for *The Graybeards*.** Therefore, mail sent to the wrong address may not be forwarded to the proper offices immediately—if at all.

The various staff members involved in the publication of *The Graybeards* coordinate their efforts, but some material gets delayed in processing or lost (which is rare, but does happen). Nevertheless, it is imperative that submitters send their material or refer their queries to the proper location, lest they get delayed or lost in the bureaucratic shuffle.

Your cooperation in making sure that you are sending your material to the right person/address is appreciated. (Their addresses and contact information are located on p. 2 of each edition of *The Graybeards* and on the association's website, www.kwva.us.)

Here is a general guideline for submissions.

EDITORIAL OFFICE

The editor is the “gatekeeper” in the publication process—and only in the publication process. Please do not contact him for administrative requests such as address changes, missed copies, extra copies, etc. They do not fall under his purview. His sole responsibility is to prepare and edit *The Graybeards*.

Everything that appears in *The Graybeards*, with the exception of advertising, is funneled through the editor via the KWVA members and non-members, membership office staff, the president, the secretary, the recruiting chairman, and individual members.

All editorial material* sent via “snail mail” should be mailed to:

Arthur G. Sharp
Graybeards Editor
2473 New Haven Circle
Sun City Center, FL 33573-7141

**Editorial material includes, but is not limited to, memoirs, feedback (letters to the editor), chapter and department news, Tell America items, photos, corrections, stories of interest, recruiting items, reunion notices, mini-reunion news, recon requests (searches for information or long-lost comrades, etc.), books for review, accounts of individual achievements...*

Emailed material should be sent to sharp_arthur_g@sbc-global.net. Be sure to include the underscores after sharp and arthur. Also, many senders substitute com for net, which means that the emails get lost in cyberspace. Remember, it's sbcglob-

al.net.

Reaching the editor by phone: the editor's phone number is 813-614-1326.

NOTE: The editorial office is open from Monday through Friday, roughly 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. eastern time—with the emphasis on eastern. It is not open on weekends or at night. And, since the editor's job is not a full-time position, he is not always available immediately.

Caveat: Editing *The Graybeards* is not a full-time job. Therefore, not all mail is opened upon arrival, nor are phone calls returned immediately. Generally, mail is opened and phone calls are sometimes returned via “batch processing,” which means the editor holds submissions aside until he allocates time to process a large batch of them simultaneously. That can be days—or even weeks—after submissions are received. Consequently, he asks that submitters and callers exercise patience when awaiting responses if requested.

Notification Of Receipt: Due to the volume of material received by the editor, he cannot acknowledge each submission individually.

Return Of Submitted Material: Submitters' material is returned only upon request. SASEs (self-addressed, stamped envelopes) will expedite the process somewhat. But, all returns fall under the “batch processing” umbrella.

WHAT THE EDITOR DOESN'T DO

MEMBERSHIP OFFICE

Didn't Get your *Graybeards*? Moved? Membership Questions? Make a Donation?

Contact the KWVA Membership Office, not the editor, for ALL Member Information Requests/Changes. (See the office contact info below.)

- Didn't get your *Graybeards*?
- Make a donation to KWVA, *The Graybeards*, or In Memory Of (strongly encouraged)
- Change of Address
- “Snowbird” fall and spring move dates/address changes
- Phone Number Change/Update
- Email Address Changes/Additions
- Death Notices (including date of death or a copy of or link to an obituary if possible)...Remember, there is a form included in every issue of *The Graybeards* for “Last Call” notices
- New Member Applications
- Dues Renewal Payments by Credit Card
- Complaints about...well, anything

§ Phone: 217-345-4414 (Office Hours 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Central Mon-Fri)

§ Email to: membership@kwva.us

§ “Snail” Mail to: KWVA Membership Office, PO Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407

Please turn to **CONTACT** on page 20

Reflections on Some Facets of the Korean War:

PART II

Continued from the November-December, 2021 issue of the *Graybeards*.

Some Facets of Defending the Republic of Korea

Major U.S. Combat Unit Casualties in Korea

Unit	KIA	WIA
2nd Infantry Division.....	7,094	16,575
1st Marine Division.....	4,004	25,864
7th Infantry Division	3,905	10,858
1st Cavalry Division	3,811	12,086
24th Infantry Division	3,735	7,395
25th Infantry Division	3,048	10,186
3rd Infantry Division	2,160	7,939
Far East Air Force/5th AF *	1,200	368
5th RCT	867	3,188
45th Infantry Division	834	3,170
Naval Forces FE/7th Fleet	458	1,576
187th Airborne RCT *	442	1,658
40th Infantry Division	376	1,457
1st Marine Aircraft Wing.....	258	171

*AF: Air Force; RCT: Regimental Combat Team; FE: Far East

Note: These units account for 96% of Americans killed in Korea by hostile action.

Wounded in action (WIA) include only those actually hospitalized.

Some Statistics of the Korean War: June 25, 1950-July 27, 1953 United States

The war cost the U.S. approximately \$100 billion (\$1 trillion in 2018 value).

During the course of the war the U.S. provided some 50 percent of the total ground forces; the ROK 40 percent; and the remaining 15 UN member nations 10 percent.

UN Member Nations That Dispatched Troops for the Republic of Korea: 16 Nations United States, Great Britain, Canada, Australia, Thailand, Turkey, The Philippines, Ethiopia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Colombia, France, Belgium, Greece, South Africa, and Luxembourg UN Member Nations That Dispatched Medical Units for the Republic of Korea: India, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, and Italy

South Korea

Population: 20 million

An estimated military casualties: Killed in Action: 415,000; Wounded in Action: 429,000; An estimated civilian casualties: Civilians: 900,000; Missing: 300,000; Orphans: 100,000. An estimated 200,000 people were impressed into North Korean forces.

North Korea

Population: Nine million

Government has not made comments on any established set of casualty figures.

More than two million North Koreans fled to the South during the war.

Red China

More than three million Chinese were put into Korea in the name of volunteers.

Casualties: Deng Xiao-ping: 400,000 killed; Official Russian source: one million killed.

Some Facets of Human Costs in

Defending the ROK and Freedom of Her People: Manpower

U.S. FORCES	Served 1950-53	KIA/DOW/MIA	OTHER	WIA
Army	2,834,000	27,709	2,452	77,596
Navy	1,177,000	493	160	1,576
Marines	424,000	4,267	339	3,744
Air Force	1,285,000	1,198	298	368
TOTAL	5,720,000	33,667	3,249	103,284

LEGEND: KIA = Killed in Action DOW = Death of Wounds MIA = Missing in Action

Some Facets of Material Costs in Defending the ROK and Freedom of her people: Air Operations

U.S. and UN Air Forces	Sorties Flown	Aircraft Lost
U.S. Air Force	720,980	1,446
U.S. Navy	167,552	196
U.S. Marine Corps	107,303	368
Allied Air Forces	44,873	152

A Journey to Express Gratitude

Americans in uniform resuscitated the dying Republic of Korea, my country; they kept resuscitating until she could stand. It was like the lyric of the song *Whispering Hope*: "...Wait till the darkness is over; Wait till the tempest is done; Hope for sunshine tomorrow after the shower is gone..."

To the Americans in uniform in the Korean War: how could I express my deeply-rooted appreciation? At the Korean War Veterans Memorial I was speechless as I read a tribute dedicated to the Korean War service members. The text is etched on the dedication stone at the point of the triangle leading to the American flag, the symbol of the land of the free and home of the brave.

It read: OUR NATION HONORS HER SONS AND DAUGHTERS WHO ANSWERED THE CALL TO DEFEND A COUNTRY THEY NEVER KNEW AND A PEOPLE THEY NEVER MET.

I was overwhelmed by what the text stated and what it implied. I also thought that the text of the tribute could describe American Christian missionaries sent to Korea in the early 19th century. Korea was known as the "Hermit Kingdom." The Koreans had not seen them before. Some missionaries, especially

By Byong Moon Kim, Ph.D.
Honorary lifetime member of Korean War Veterans Association-Honorary and lifetime member of The Chosin Few

Saving the Freedom of 20 Million Koreans

those serving in remote areas, had hardships. Many Koreans practiced shamanism.

I was challenged at the memorial: How do I honor them? I owe my life of freedom to them and I benefited from opportunities available only in a free country. What can I do? Where do I begin? What do I need to know? How long? I had to ponder what to do.

My basic question was how and in what way can I, one of the 20 million beneficiaries, honor those people? I felt that I should know about various facets of the war to honor them with meaning.

Increasing knowledge about the war

Since the time young North Korean soldiers taught us little children praise songs of General Kim Il Sung, perhaps, I have been destined to write this commentary. For several decades I have accumulated many stories based on my experiences about the war and I have reflected on the war.

First, I had to wait for many years to internalize some experiences which I was too young to write. What did I think about North Korean soldiers teaching the praise songs to children who were too young to go to elementary school? Much later I came across the words fitting what they tried to do: the indoctrination of innocent brains.

Second, I gained some experiences through what I call a learned experiencing by reading poignant personal accounts and events described in the books, magazines, newspapers, etc. I internalized them; it is a strange way of learning, but still powerful. Even today, I have angst when I read certain sentences or paragraphs in the books such as Martin Russ's *Breakout: The Chosin Reservoir Campaign*, Col. (Ret) Robert Taplett's Memoir *Dark Horse Six*, David McLaren's *Mustangs Over Korea*, and many other sources. In *Breakout*, one wounded Marine's question electrified me.

A Salute to the Corpsman

No Marine that ever served in combat can ever forget the Corpsmen. These brave Navy men are worthy of their salt as Marines. There are many stories about these heroes whom we respectfully call "DOC" and many of them that received the Bronze Star and Silver Star should have received a higher degree of recognition. Such is the case of Hospitalman ROY LEE SMITH, who was attached to D Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines.

During an attack on his company on September 21, 1950, he was wounded in both legs by enemy mortar fire. Observing that five Marines near him had been wounded by the same fire, he immediately began to administer aid to them. Disregarding the pain of his own wounds, he dragged himself along so that he could give first aid to each of the wounded. Only after the five wounded

Marines were treated would he submit to medical attention.

While his wounds were being dressed, another mortar barrage exploded in the immediate area and he was again wounded. Again he began to administer aid till the surrounding wounded Marines until he was wounded a third time and had to be evacuated. For this action he was awarded the SILVER STAR but he most deservedly should have received the NAVY CROSS.

General Alfred M. Gray, [former] Commandant of the Marine Corps, in the summer 1989 issue of the Marine Corps League magazine, had this to say about the Corpsmen:

"Wherever you find the Marine Corps or the Navy, you will find Navy Corpsmen. In times of peace, they provide quality health care to our Marines and their families. In

On Hill 1282, when Staff Sgt. Robert Kennemore, a machine gun section leader, put his foot on a Chinese potato grenade, he saw another one landing beside him, he dropped his knee on it and absorbed the force of both explosions: his three crewmen were saved. He, now legless, was still alive—a miracle. He, in a morphine haze, asked Dr. Robert Wedemeyer, a Navy Lt (jg) about the state of his genitals.

I had never thought that anyone, in a life and death moment, could ask a question like that. I saluted him, in awe of his mental fortitude. Being a married man, I understood the nature of the question. I felt an eternity for doctor's response in the next sentence: "What the hell, you wouldn't worry about half a tank of gas, would you?" Kennemore fathered seven children. I was joyous!

Lt. Col. Taplett commanded the Third Battalion, the Fifth Marine Regiment. On August 6 Marines set up CP in a school yard in Chindong-ni, 25 miles from port Pusan. Kim Il Sung issued a stern order to his forces fighting against Eighth U.S. Army and the ROK forces along the Pusan Perimeter, a chunk of land about 50 by 100 miles: "Take Pusan by August 15th." In particular he ordered the North Korean 6th Division to take Pusan so that on August 15 he would liberate South Korea from "reactionary American influence." Once Chindong-ni was overrun, the fate of the ROK was to be sealed.

Mortar shells greeted Marines. Some fragments hit a Marine under a tree reading a letter from his mother; Robert Harlan lay down on the driver's seat of his GMC truck; a fragment made a big hole on the windshield that could have killed him if he had sat up.

The Marines wondered how North Koreans could pinpoint their shelling from the mountain. A "pregnant lady" was the answer. The lady who asked for water tied down a radio on her body - the radio was her 'baby' to be born. She was handed over to the Korean police.

times of war, Corpsmen are employed in amphibious operations, on the beaches, and on the battlefield with other Marines. In fact, 21 Navy Corpsmen have received the Medal of Honor, 18 of them while serving in the Fleet Marine Force. Wherever medical service is required, the hospital Corpsman is there, willing and prepared to serve our Marines and our country. I salute our Corpsmen for their courage, valor, and willingness to serve above and beyond the call of duty."

To all Navy Corpsmen from all Marines: SEMPER FIDELIS!

This is an excerpt from "Red Blood...Purple Hearts: The Marines in the Korean War," by Joseph a. Saluzzi, p. 179.

NOTE: No doubt the same tribute can be accorded the medics of the other services as well.

Minutes National Membership Meeting - October 27, 2021

§ Meeting was held at the Orlando, FL, Holiday Inn International Airport.

§ Meeting was called to order by KWVA President, Jeffrey Brodeur at 9:00 AM.

§ Presentation of the Colors and Salute to the Flag, and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag were led by Second Vice President, Thomas McHugh.

§ Opening Prayer was said by Chaplain, Paul Kim.

§ The POW/MIA Table of remembrance was said by Assistant Secretary Bobbie Williams.

§ Rules of Decorum and Debate were accepted by the Membership

§ Florida Senator, Marco Rubio welcomed the KWVA Membership to Florida with an inspiring video.

§ Roll Call of KWVA of Officers, Directors, and Staff was conducted by First Vice President Al McCarthy. All Officers, Directors, and Staff were present and accounted for, and a Declaration of a Quorum was achieved with 43 members present.

§ Aves D. Thompson, Chairman of the 2nd ID Memorial Foundation, gave a talk, complemented by a video on the history of the Memorial and the expansion of it, including placing the Names of the fallen Korea Defense Veterans on to the Memorial.

§ Secretary Harold Trieber requested that we waive the reading of the 2020 Minutes, as the 2020 Membership meeting was cancelled due to Covid-19. The request was approved by the membership.

§ *Graybeards* editor Art Sharp discussed his close working relationship with our publisher, Dr. Gerald Wadley of Finisterre Publishing Inc. Art also mentioned that he has enough materials/stories to continue the publication of *The Graybeards* for the immediate future. He is still encouraging members to continue submitting their stories to him.

§ Treasurer's Report; Joe Harman.

- KWVA Assets as of June 30, 2021 were \$1,002,106. This represents our total Assets, which have increased by \$137,731, or 15.9%, since June 30, 2020.

- We did not have any recorded liabilities as of June 30, 2021.

- The Budget for 2022 was voted on, and approved by the membership.

§ Membership Report; Al McCarthy.

- Al presented a comprehensive 22-point program for New Recruitment Initiatives. This program will be distributed to all KWVA Chapter Commanders/Presidents.

- He stressed the point that by incorporating some of the outlined programs the chapters can increase their membership.

§ Fund Raising Report; 2nd Vice President Tom McHugh.

- Overall, the fundraiser was very successful as we raised over \$70,000. Tom felt the goal should be raised to \$80,000 next year.

- He also suggested we raise the suggested minimum donation to \$25 due to postage increases.

- A motion was made at the Board of Directors meeting to increase the suggested minimum donation to \$25, which was approved by the Board.

- The drawing for the winners of this year's fundraiser will be drawn at the membership banquet.

§ National Legislative Report; Director Michele Bretz.

- The following bills were discussed in detail.

- S.1725: to grant a Federal Charter to the "National American Indian, Inc."

- H.R. 234: Korean Valor Act.

- H.R. 45 "Korean American Day"

§ POW/MIA Coordinator; Director Bruce "Rocky" Harder.

- Rocky introduced Kelly McKeague, the Director of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), who gave the membership a complete visual and audio update and progress report on Korean War U.S. service members who remain unaccounted-for.

§ A short Break was taken at 11:15 AM

§ Budget and Finance Committee Report; Director Rocky Harder.

- Rocky discussed all the aspects and responsibilities of the Budget and Finance Committee.

- Looking into the future the KWVA's proposed budget for fiscal year 2023 that ends on June 30, 2023, will be circulated for review by the Treasurer during the month of April 2022.

- The BOD must approve the fiscal year 2023 Budget by May 31, 2022 for submission to the membership at the next Annual Meeting in October 2022.

§ National VAVS Report: Director, Eddie Bell. No Report at this time due to Federal restrictions at VA Facilities caused by the CCP Virus.

§ Tell America & Scholarship Program; Director John McWaters.

- John said that we have awarded 15 winners of Scholarships this year, selected from over 70 applicants.

- He noted that the Budget was increased to \$5,000 to be spent on a creation of a USB Thumb Drive that will incorporate a current slide presentation on the history of the Korean War. These Thumb Drives will be passed on to the chapters to be used in their Tell America Programs.

- Bill McLaughlin from Chapter 169 did a short version of the slide presentation.

- Much discussion followed the presentation on the effectiveness of the program, as the school systems across the country have made it almost impossible for the KWVA to make presentations to the students outside of the JROTC.

- There was also some pushback on the subject matter regarding not to include any history of the war after the signing of the Armistice in 1953.

§ Korean Defense Veteran Memorial Committee; Director Tom McHugh.

- There are no additional memorials being planned since the May 2021 Board Meeting.

- All costs of the Memorials are raised and spent by the individual chapters and or Memorial Sponsors. At no time have national funds been used to support these memorials!

§ Election Committee; Director Tom Cacy,

- Preparations are well underway for the upcoming elections for three Directors, President, 1st Vice President, and 2nd Vice President. Call for Elections and Requirements were sent out to *The Graybeards*.

OLD BUSINESS

§ Legacy Membership: Requirements were discussed and a major

stumbling block is voting privileges. All requirements will be taken up and resolved at our next BOD Meeting in April 2022.

§ Chapter and Association, Matching Subsidy: \$200 not to exceed \$400 per chapter annual meeting stipend was approved for the next Annual Membership Meeting in 2022.

§ Increase Membership Annual Dues: The Board of Directors decided not to raise the annual dues.

NEW BUSINESS

§ The Board of Directors voted to have the 2022 National Membership Meeting held in San Antonio, Texas.

§ Extinguishing of the Flame on the POW/MIA table: Bobbie Williams.

§ Benediction: Chaplain Paul Kim.

§ Final Salute to the Flag: President Jeffrey Brodeur.

§ Motion to Adjourn: 12:30 PM

Harold Trieber, National Secretary

The great Graybeards paper mystery

By D. Rama Derry

Many readers recognized that the Nov/Dec 2021 *Graybeards* was printed on a different type paper than the glossy one we are used to. "Why?" they asked. The answer is simple. We became a victim of the supply chain fiasco plaguing the nation.

When the printer went to Glossypaper R' Us™ to grab the usual paper he discovered there was none. The cupboard was bare. The supply was stuck on camels somewhere in the Sahara Desert with no drivers to get it to the printing plant. There was, however, an abundance of heavier paper that could be used as a substitute. That had to do.

Actually, we caught a break. The heavier paper is more expensive than the glossy. Since it is heavier, postage would be higher. But, our publisher, ever mindful of the KWVA's budgetary concerns, worked out a deal with the printer, who agreed to absorb the extra costs.

The publisher explained what happened, but all the editor cared about was his first sentence:

"The written portion of this issue was very good as usual. However, the paper

we were forced to use was awful. It was 40# text as opposed to normal 40# gloss. Ink spreads out on text paper, as it does on newsprint, and makes images darker. I could hardly tell that the cover was the one I sent to printer. I was very disappointed.

Seems there is a shortage of paper now and prices have gone up 25%. I guess it is somewhere off shore awaiting a chance to get unloaded. Not much I can do about it, although I have asked printer in Florida to stock up, if possible, for next *Graybeards*.

Smaller newsletters (Digest, 11th Cav, 3ID, etc.) I work with are printed in Illinois and they seem to have enough gloss at present. We will see how it works out."

President Brodeur told him not to worry. "I know as soon as the glossy paper is available, you will apply it to the *Graybeards*. You have looked out for the welfare of the KWVA in the past as far as costs go, and I am sure it will continue into the future."

Unfortunately, there was nothing the publisher could do about the quality.

The colors on the heavier paper are much duller than they are on the glossy. And they tend to bleed more on the heavy

paper. So, our cover looked like somebody ran over a rainbow with a barge filled with melted chocolate that matted all the photos. The black & white photos, however, looked better than they do on glossy paper. That was one positive trade-off, then. And, some people liked the dull paper. (By "dull" we don't mean the quality of the contents.)

Director Michele Bretz said, "Personally, I liked the feel of the latest paper for the inside of the magazine and would prefer the normal 40# gloss for the outside." Therefore, she floated the idea of a breakdown on costs for 1. All gloss, 2. All non-gloss and 3. Outside cover with gloss and inside non-gloss? Of course, all that is dependent on the future availability of both types of paper.

So, we can only hope that the current supply chain issues are cleared up soon and the camel trains in the Sahara can get moving again. But, there is word that the camels may go on strike if their supply of cigarettes is disrupted. No camel cigarettes, no humping paper, glossy or otherwise, across the desert, they say.

That supply chain is a tricky thing.

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@sbc-global.net

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. @ \$18 plus \$9.20 S/H.
- ☐ Minimum order is 20 doz. @ \$60 plus \$12.50 S/H.
- ☐ Orders for 21 to 100 doz. @ \$3.00/doz. plus S/H
- ☐ Order for 400 doz. or more @ \$2.75/doz. plus S/H

Write or call:

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



KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION (KWVA) SCHOLARSHIP

2022 KWVA Scholarship Program - MG (Ret) John McWaters – Chairman

Scholarship Program

This Scholarship program consists of multiple \$1,000 non-renewable scholarships. The funds may be used for any term during the next academic school year following receipt of the scholarship. Although the scholarship is not renewable, the applicants may reapply for the scholarship in subsequent years.

Qualifications – The applicant:

- Must be a descendant (child, grandchild, or great-grandchild) of a veteran of Korea who is a Regular Member, currently in good standing, of the Korean War Veterans Association. Descendants of deceased veterans are eligible to apply with proof of veteran's service.
- Must be a citizen of the United States.
- First year student applicants must have a Letter of Acceptance as a full-time student from their university or college.
- Must be pursuing an Associate, Bachelor, or Advanced Degree in any discipline.
- Must have a minimum 3.5 on a 4.0 scale. GPA stated on application must be verifiable from transcript.
- High school and college transcripts must be submitted and must have school names printed on them.
- For high school students entering college, this is a cumulative GPA for grades 9-11 and first semester of 12th grade.
- For students currently at freshman level in college, it is the cumulative GPA for grades 9-12 and first semester of college.
- For college students who are sophomores or higher, it is their college transcript for all semesters completed.
- Must submit a 300-400 word personal essay entitled "Historical Lessons Learned from the Korean War."

Deadlines

All scholarship applications and requested materials **must be submitted via U.S. Postal Service and RECEIVED by June 10, 2022.**

The Scholarship Committee will not acknowledge receipt of applications. For verification that it was received, send it via U.S. Postal Service Certified Mail. Faxes or emails will not be accepted.

All scholarship recipients will be notified on or about July 1, 2022. Only recipients will be notified. Checks will be delivered to the Financial aid Officer of the recipient's college or university to be credited to the student's account. All decisions made by the Scholarship Selection Committee will be final.

Scholarship recipients will be recognized at our next Annual Meeting in October 2022. Detailed information will be provided to scholarship recipients at a later date. Although attendance is not mandatory, scholarship recipients are encouraged to travel with an accompanying adult.

Required Materials

The following items are required to complete the application process. These items must be submitted in a single envelope in the order listed. All items received separately, except transcripts, which may be mailed directly from your school, will not be considered:

- Application – must be on the original form, printed legibly or typed, and signed.
- Note:** You **MUST** use the 2021-22 Application Form, which supersedes all previous application Forms, and add no extra sheets.
- Essay – must be typed (double spaced), consisting of 300-400 words.
- GPA – submit all applicable high school and college transcripts.
- First year student's Letter of Acceptance.
- Proof of service for applicant's deceased Korea veteran ancestor.

Mailing Address:

Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.
Scholarship Selection Committee
P. O. Box 1135
The Villages, FL 32158-1135

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PUBLISHER'S OFFICE

The publisher, Dr. Gerald Wadley, dba Finisterre Publishing Inc., is located at 3 Black Skimmer Ct., Beaufort, SC 29907. His phone # is 843-521-1896. His email address is finisterre@islc.net. No submissions or other material for *The Graybeards* should be sent to Dr. Wadley.

All material printed in *The Graybeards* is sent directly from the editor to the publisher for layout and review. The publisher's sole responsibilities in the process include laying out the magazine and coordinating the printing process.

THE SECRETARY'S OFFICE

The National Secretary, Harold Trieber, can be reached at 573 NW Montevina Dr., Port St. Lucie, FL 34986, 561-568-9347, Haroldski302@aol.com. Harold is our residential expert on proce-

dural matters, bylaws, the standard procedure manual, providing information about medals, etc. Questions on such issues should be sent to him for handling.

ADVERTISING

KWVA does not have an Advertising Manager per se. *The Graybeards'* circulation is deemed to be too small by most potential advertisers for any profitable return on their investment. We do, however, welcome and consider advertisements for publication. Advertising inquiries should be submitted to our National Secretary (See page 2 for his address).

THERE YOU HAVE IT

That concludes our "Where To Send It" guideline. We hope it helps.

2022 Korean War Veterans Association Scholarship Application

Student Information

Applicant's Full Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Home address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Name of Applicant's Korea Veteran Ancestor _____

Applicant's Relationship to Veteran _____ KWVA Member # _____

Note: If applicant's ancestor is deceased, applicant must provide proof of service.

College or University Information

The name of the school the student will be attending or is currently attending on a full-time basis leading to an Associate, Bachelor, or Advanced degree. _____

In the 2022 fall semester I will enroll as a (check one): ☐ Freshman ☐ Sophomore ☐ Junior ☐ Senior Advanced Degree

School _____ Degree Sought _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Financial Aid Officer _____ E-mail _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Current Information

Cumulative GPA (as described on information sheet) _____/4.0 scale

In the space provided in each of the following categories, list your most prominent activities, leadership positions held, and honors/awards received.

Scholarship Activities: _____

In-School Extracurricular Activities: _____

Community Activities: _____

Employment History, including military Experience: _____

By my signature I certify that all information and documents included in my application for this scholarship are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Further, my signature certifies I understand that if the terms of the scholarship are violated, the scholarship will be withdrawn. (Terms: I understand that I must be officially accepted for enrollment in 2022 classes at the school stated.)

Signature: _____ Date: _____



Cpl. Joe Vittori

Another Chapter for Southern Nevada

To be named after MOH recipient Cpl. Joseph Vittori, USMC

By Timothy C. Smith

Even though I grew up in Beverly, MA, during my life before and after following my time in service, I never knew the impact of Cpl. Joseph Vittori until I joined the KWVA in 2013.

Corporal Joseph Vittori (August 1, 1929 – September 16, 1951) was a 22-year-old United States Marine who was killed in action during the Korean War. After serving three years in the Marine Corps he returned home, joined the Marine Corps Reserve and worked various jobs around his home town. His unit was called to active duty to participate in the Korean War and after attending some training they were sent to Korea.

He was killed during the Battle of the Punchbowl while defending against an assault on Hill 749 near Songnea-dong, Korea on the night of September 15–16, 1951. He was fatally wounded while fighting off an enemy breakthrough at a gap in his battalion's lines. He was the 19th Marine to earn the nation's highest decoration for heroism in Korea. For his actions he posthumously received the Medal of Honor.

Another nationally recognized organization, the Italian-American War Veterans Post 56, named a chapter after "Joey," as he was known. This chapter served as a focal point of my community, where families were formed by marriage and babies were born. Later, some of those children joined Junior Reserve Officer Training Programs and helped a community heal as one of our soldiers was killed in 2008 in Afghanistan. After I finished my time

serving as the State of Massachusetts POW/MIA Chairman VFW 2006-2007 and National Veterans Care Committee 2007-2008 (Nat'l VFW) in 2013, I became active with the chapters of KWVA in Massachusetts. I'm deeply indebted to those chapters as I learned more about the KWVA and I learned of other survivors of Joe's unit. They spoke of Joe's commitment and dedication to his comrades.

I moved to Nevada in 2018 and became active in the Tibor Rubin (MOH) Chapter 329 in Las Vegas. There, I learned of Tibor's bravery, which motivated me to

spread the story of both Tim and Joe Vittori.

Recently I made the decision to move on from Chapter 329 and begin the process of organizing and instituting a new chapter in Joe's memory, not only to continue his legacy but to provide more residents of the Southern Nevada area to participate in meetings. There is only one chapter in the area. The chief complaint and barrier to membership is distance between meetings and the fact that there are really five major communities in Southern Nevada; Las Vegas, North Las



Municipal Court Judge the Honorable Chris Lee (R) upon the announcement with Tim Smith, who presented the judge with a citation for his work with the incoming Las Vegas chapter as well as his work with the Veterans Treatment Court in North Las Vegas

Vegas, Summerlin, Henderson, and Boulder City, That clearly shows the need for growth based upon the population that stands at 3.1 million people in the Las Vegas Valley region.

I have attached a copy of Joe's citation, which hangs proudly at Beverly High School today:

"For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as an Automatic Rifleman in Company F, Second Battalion, First Marines, First Marine Division (Reinforced), in actions against enemy aggressor forces in Korea on 15 and 16 September 1951. With a forward platoon suffering heavy casualties and forced to withdraw under a vicious enemy counterattack as his company assaulted strong hostile forces entrenched on Hill 749, Corporal Vittori boldly rushed through the withdrawing troops with two other volunteers from his reserve platoon and plunged directly into the midst of the enemy.

"Overwhelming them in a fierce hand-

to-hand struggle, he enabled his company to consolidate its positions to meet further imminent onslaughts. Quick to respond to an urgent call for a rifleman to defend a heavy machine gun positioned on the extreme point of the northern flank and virtually isolated from the remainder of the unit when the enemy again struck in force during the night, he assumed position under the devastating barrage and, fighting a singlehanded battle, leaped from one flank to the other, covering each foxhole in turn as casualties continued to mount, manning a machine gun when the gunner was struck down and making repeated trips through the heaviest shell-fire to replenish ammunition.

"With the situation becoming extremely critical, reinforcing units to the rear pinned down under the blistering attack and foxholes left practically void by dead and wounded for a distance of 100 yards (91 m), Corporal Vittori continued his valiant stand, refusing to give ground as the enemy penetrated to within feet of his position, simulating strength in the line and denying the foe physical occupation

of the ground.

"Mortally wounded by enemy machine-gun and rifle bullets while persisting in his magnificent defense of the sector where approximately 200 enemy dead were found the following morning, Corporal Vittori, by his fortitude, stout-hearted courage and great personal valor, had kept the point position intact despite the tremendous odds and undoubtedly prevented the entire battalion position from collapsing.

"His extraordinary heroism throughout the furious night-long battle reflects the highest credit upon himself and the United States Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country."

There is a wonderful 2018 series on Netflix titled "Medal of Honor" which has devoted a complete program on Joe based upon the Medal of Honor series. I invite all to view this program.

Sources: Netflix, Salem, MA, Evening News, War History Online, U.S. Marine Corps, and Wikipedia

Tim Smith, tangoe7@aol.com

Is peace between North and South Korea at hand? What about HR 3446?

In the face of a political crisis of the Republic of Korea, for which American soldiers made selfless sacrifice during and after the Korean War, Hubert H Lee, who experienced the tragic war and is gravely concerned with the future of Korea, hereby respectfully requests all Americans who love Korean people and her future, especially Korean War veterans, to join him in protesting against the HR 3446 bill, titled "Peace on the Korean Peninsula Act," sponsored by Representative Brad Sherman (D-CA).

So, what is HR 3446? Here is a synopsis. The full bill is at the end of this report.

.....
Introduced in House (05/20/2021)

Peace on the Korean Peninsula Act

This bill requires the Department of State to report to Congress on various issues relating to North Korea.

Specifically, the State Department must report to Congress a review of the restrictions on travel by U.S. nationals to North Korea, including whether such restrictions should be adjusted to allow travel to North Korea to attend a commemoration of a relative.

The State Department must also report to Congress a clear roadmap for achieving permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula.

Respectfully,

Hubert Hojoe Lee
.....

Sample Letter:

January, 2022

DRAFT for a letter of Protest against HR 3446 Bill by Dr. Hubert Hojoe Lee.

TO: Hon. _____

FM: _____

This letter is to solemnly declare that we Koreans, 55 million at home in South Korea and 8 million living abroad, including 1.2 million Korean Americans living across the U.S., are absolutely protesting against the bill HR 3446, which aims to replace the 1953 Armistice Agreement with a new peace agreement that omits preconditions of denuclearization by North Korea.

Establishment of a permanent peace in the Korean peninsula would require a verified and certified shutdown of Yeonbyun nuclear facilities prior to signing a peace agreement with North Korea. Without any proof of lockdown in nuclear production, any peace agreement itself will pave the way for demanding the withdrawal of the Eighth United States Army from South Korea, thus resulting in the nullification of the existence of the joint US-Korea Defense Command. The withdrawal of U.S. forces will irrepressibly communize South Korea in a matter of time.

Apparently the HR 3446 under the title "Peace on the Korean Peninsula Act" calls for a formal end to the Korean War. Declaring a formal end to the conflict by the U.S. without achieving a final settlement of peace has

Please turn to **HR 3446** on page 50

ANNOUNCING THE 2022 KWVA FUNDRAISER

Caveat: The supply chain crisis strikes again.

DUE TO THE SHORTAGE OF ENVELOPES THE PERSONAL FUNDRAISING MAILING HAS BEEN DELAYED. IT WILL ARRIVE ASAP.

We have been trying every source possible to find envelopes. We need 10,000 # 10 & 10,000 # 9 envelopes. We have been trying to buy them at a decent price. No luck. Some are promised by mid-February.

I thank every member who has supported our past fundraisers. Your participation has been fantastic. Since 2014 we have raised over \$500,000—and we have drawn six (6) lucky members' names each year.

The 2022 goal is \$80,000, which is definitely attainable. Life Members actually only paid the equivalent of six years' dues. Some of us have been members over 30 years. Others hold Honorary or POW statuses. Whatever your membership status is, please consider supporting each fundraiser.

The funds help maintain normal costs and underwrite the six issues of the *Graybeards* magazine. We will not reduce the bi-monthly issues of the greatest veteran's magazine. Please take more than one ticket. There is no better cause than the KWVA.

NOTE: To counteract the increased postage cost, **the suggested donation this year is \$25 per ticket.** Please donate for more than one ticket. Also, consider having your chapter purchase tickets and enter its name and number. It will help the KWVA while perhaps having the chapter picked as a lucky recipient. If you do not want a ticket, make a donation marked "2022 Fund Raiser."

We will continue to reduce costs and work to maintain membership as our older members slow down. Maintaining and increasing our membership is KWVA's biggest problem due to age and health. This year we have proven that we DO NOT need paid (\$70,000) people to get things done. In the past year our costs went down and the number of our

accomplishments went up. Activities were higher than in the last six years.

Reaching our goal can be done. It has been done and will continue to be done. As always, to get things done, ask a busy person. Talkers talk, workers work. Age has eliminated many workers. All members can still help by supporting the fundraiser. Will you???

With your help we will reach the goal. Chapters are starting to get active again. Many Defense Veterans have stepped up and are working hard for the KWVA. We are looking at having Legacy Members. Defense Veterans Memorials are being dedicated and many have been added to the War Memorials (at no cost to the KWVA). Several things are being planned without the expense of big-ticket items.

Every place we have gone we have included visits to veterans hospitals. Everyone we see really appreciates our visits, which makes the KWVA more visible. This, in turn, helps recruiting.

Drawing the names of our six lucky members will be at the Membership Meeting Banquet in October 2022. Together we can attain our goal. I look forward to your participation. Again, THANK YOU!

Thomas McHugh, 2nd Vice President

Chairman, Fundraiser Committee (2014 to Present)

The KWVA Fundraiser Is Not A Scam

Contrary to some people's belief, the KWVA Fundraiser is not a scam! Yet, each year, when I phone the lucky members, a family member thinks the call is a scam. I recommend that you write on your October calendar about the drawing—and recognize that this is not a raffle. It is a member only fundraiser.

Members from all over the country win. Our 2021 lucky members lived in NY, MN, FL (2), CT & CA. Tell your family about your participation. We all are well aware of scams. If you question the notification, call our membership office at 217-345-4414 for verification.

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 lesson in time

During my tour of duty in Korea in 1956 and part of 1957 I was in the 11th Signal Detachment assigned to maintain radar sets belonging to the 68th AA Battalion. Once a year each of the 4 batteries towed their four 90 mm AA guns and their radar sets to a firing range for live fire training. Two of us were required to stand by to address any issue with the radar set.

The 4 guns were set up in a diamond pattern and the radar set up and tied to the computer that aimed the guns. After the radar and guns were back sighted to verify that the guns were all aimed at the same target a malfunction occurred with the radar and we were called to get our test equipment and head to the radar set.

As we walked toward the radar the Range Officer, standing on

an elevated platform, yelled down, "How long to fix the problem, Sergeant?"

My Sergeant yelled back, "About 10 minutes to fix the problem, Sir."

The officer quickly responded, "Very well, sergeant."

Then my sergeant added, "It may take us 2 hours to find the problem though."

The officer looked stunned and I thought he was going to fall off his platform. Luckily, we fixed the problem in about 15 minutes and the live firing proceeded as soon as the airplane arrived towing the target sleeve.

(Sp3) Augustin (Bob) Boutin, Ch. 169, golfabob@aol.com



2022 FUNDRAISER

KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION INC.

KWVA IS FOR ALL KOREAN WAR / KOREAN DEFENSE VETERANS GO TO KWVA.US

WINNERS TO BE DRAWN AT ANNUAL BANQUET IN October 2022. Donation \$25 for each ticket. To enter this fundraiser, complete the attached forms. Winners will be posted on www.KWVA.US winners notified by phone.

THIS IS A MEMBERS ONLY FUNDRAISER. ONLY PAID MEMBERS ARE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE.

Super Cash Prizes!

1st Prize

\$1,500

2nd Prize

\$1,000

3rd Prize

\$1,000

4th Prize

\$1,000

5th Prize

\$500

6th Prize

\$500



SIX ALL CASH PRIZES will allow the winners to:
Enjoy life, Go on vacation, Buy a gift, Fix a car or get
an item of your choice. What does your wife need?

Most importantly, SUPPORT THE KWVA

For more tickets make copies or go to www.KWVA.US

Thomas Mc Hugh, 2nd Vice President Chairman Fundraiser Committee Contact : tmmchugh@msn.com

Albert McCarthy 1st Vice President Co-chairman Fundraiser Committee Contact : mccarthyalbert@live.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 Greybeards 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 \$25

Name: _____

Address: _____

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HOW TO HELP A CHAPTER SURVIVE

Community Engagement is the key to Chapter's survival



Past Ch. 329 Commander Tim Smith and Community Engagement Coordinator Dave Heine visited the Las Vegas Boy Scout Troop during Veterans Day activities

By Timothy C Smith, National Sgt.-at-Arms/former Ch. 329 Commander 329

As I applied the knowledge that I gained while serving as the State Commander of the Massachusetts VFW, I knew that even

though it is challenging and sometimes based upon our aging veterans population, the need to interact with other civic groups and Junior Reserve Officer Training Programs is essential.

We found that in Nevada once we

began working in concert with our very large Korean community everything started to fall into place. We were invited to community events that included parades, Boy Scout Veterans Appreciation programs and asked to address the Las Vegas Lions Club.

What was once a chapter that almost disbanded completely began to have not only the City of Las Vegas supporting our efforts, but three major communities as well: Summerlin, the City of Henderson, and the City of North Las Vegas (Southern Nevada Veterans Administration Hospital and Nellis Air Force Base). We learned a valuable lesson: without becoming invested in the community and our schools, the chances of our chapter's survival were less and less.

So what can you do to avoid that happening to your chapter? Here are some ideas:

- when you visit a school and speak, bring a citation or challenge coin. That small token represents the Chapter/Posts and may attract other veterans to join your efforts.
- meet your local school officials, not only within the school but school council and Board Members. That can drive interest in "Tell America" and lead to new members also.
- reach out to the local Chamber of Commerce and get on the local Speaker Series to address local veterans issues.



Outgoing Ch. 329 Commander Tim Smith and incoming Commander Henry Grimes meeting with Korean church groups and distributing health care items

There could be other opportunities available, but chapters have to be creative in letter writing and participating in local military unit activities.

Finally, it takes the efforts of all members of a chapter to make it survive. Phone calls to the sick and “fallen off the rolls” and members who have moved can make the difference, but most of all it takes dedication, time, and the ability to want to do it.

Hope these tips help. Chapter reps are invited to add them to help us all.

Chapter 329 Communities Director Dave Heine speaking with the Scouts



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

QUILT OF VALOR PRESENTED

Honoring Charles Rayburn Wells

By Anna Wells

In 2016, Korean War veteran Charles Rayburn Wells, 1951, was admitted to the hospital for surgery. God spoke to the heart of a lady from his church and instructed her that she needed to work on a quilt the first week of June, that it was to be made specifically for Ray Wells, and that it was urgent and would bring Ray comfort and joy. She was a bit startled by this as Ray, at that time, was in fairly good health. She went to her bag of scrap fabric and looked through all the odds and ends to make the quilt.

Automatically, she began to think of the Korean War in which Ray had served. Pieces of blue, burgundy, and gold were selected without her knowing what they represented. Later, it was revealed that the blue represented the cold and lonely nights. The burgundy stood for the blood that was shed on the golden, muddy Korean soil. Also pulled were remnants of flag material.

With no other chosen fabrics, she began to work on the quilt. She began it as a crazy quilt because WAR is crazy. Each block was sewn haphazardly to form a rectangle. Soon after that, she had one block that was surrounded by the log cabin pattern. (A log cabin is a patch quilt which is stripped and quilted around one center block, usually a square, which represents a chimney.)

The chimney stood for hearth and home, so the log cabin pattern could only be used on part of each block, because the home was severed and incomplete with one missing from it.

She planned to put a large cross in the center. Trying different fabrics, patterns, and colors did not work, so the cross was taken out. If it was not pleasing to the quilter, then how could it please God? God reassured her there would be a cross, but it was not to be the focus.

She struggled with making the quilt because so many changes were prompted from the Lord as to how it should be made. The word “urgent” kept ringing in her ears. She began to sew frantically. It seemed like for every two stitches that were taken, one would be ripped out. Also the time element,



The quilt presented to Ray Wells

when no other demands were made of her, kept her looking for ways not to disrupt her routine and family responsibilities. Sewing before anyone would arise in the morning or late at night became the norm.

The quilt was nearly finished, when oops, here came the seam ripper again. The quilter had started sewing red squares on the outside of the quilt. Only two survived; one at the top with God’s tears, and one at the bottom with a tiny cross. God’s tears were crying over man’s inhumanity to man, and over the cross, which supported Ray through his horrific ordeal.

At last, the top was finished, but what surprised me was a long ride to Tennessee to get the quilt. The quilt was put on a waiting list. The quilter was three weeks behind. I thought I would have to wait, but to my surprise, I got quilted first. The quilter picked me up and brought me home.

Then the quilter learned that Anna and Ray would be out of town for a little while and everyone would get together when they got back. I kept thinking, “This is URGENT.” I waited—and then it came—the phone call that said Ray needed the quilt. He was in the hospital recovering from surgery.

Ray was somewhat taken aback when he first saw the quilt. It was held up so he could see it from top to bottom. He asked the quil-



Ray Wells displays his quilt

ter if she had counted the stars at the top. He said there were twenty-one stars, which stood for the twenty-one nations that served in Korea. The quilter said, “I was overjoyed when I finally got to cover him. I felt the love, compassion, and gratitude of one who had been through so much and had made a

difference in our country.”

We are truly “Home of the Free because of the Brave.” I sincerely hope that the quilt will continue to be a true comfort and joy to Ray.

Some months after Ray’s surgery for colon cancer, his wife felt the quilt should be

presented to him at his church. All four of his children and their spouses traveled from Georgia and South Carolina to do the honors. The Pastor read the description above and the children sang and covered him with the quilt. It was quite a moving experience, and Ray appreciated it so much.

Today, the quilt has been a blessing and

we thank God and the lady from our church who took the time and effort to obey the Spirit of God, and all of our family and friends for supporting him. Thank God for the quilt. It’s made such a huge difference for Ray.

Anna R. Wells, 6228 Josephine Rd., Norton, VA 24273

If only dog tags could bark!

By Arthur L. Snyder

In the spring of 1950 I was waiting to start Rutgers Law School in the fall. The army had a different idea: draft me. That began an interesting story about how I was able to get a direct commission and get my dog tags back. Or did I?

In May 1950 I was called to active duty in the Air Force as Base Salvage Officer at Maxwell AFB. I was given my dog tags that day. Here it is 71 years later and I can remember getting them as if it was yesterday.

Soon the “Korean Peace Action” started. To prove I am not too smart I decided I could not be a salvage officer; I had to get into combat. The only way to get in combat in the Air Force was to apply for flight school. I did, and was accepted. I paid a steep price for that decision.

I earned my wings and went off to K-9 Korea around September 1952 for combat in B-26s. Our mission was simple: kill anything that moved in North Korea and try not to get killed while doing so.

They were brutal missions. A tour was 50 missions. If you completed them you had to be sent back to the U.S. The Air Force played a nice trick on me. After 38 missions I was transferred to Clark AFB in the Philippines to join a new CIA psychological warfare wing, the 581st Air Resupply and Communication Wing. That was a complete misnomer. I learned to fly B-29s that were painted black. They had no guns, no USAF markings, carried no bombs... Their only “cargo” was leaflets and communication equipment. Nothing suspicious there.

On January 6, 1953 four of our B-29s, including mine, headed up to Yokota, Japan to fly penetration missions in the “Korean Area.” On the way up we tuned in to “Korean Katie,” who knew more about our wing than we did. She said Col. Arnold, our wing commander, would fly the first psychological warfare missions in violation of the Geneva Convention on January 7th and they would shoot him down north of the Yalu River. They did, and we lost a crew of thirteen and wing commander on the first flight. We eventually completed our combat tour to strange places out of Yokota with a loss of two planes.

I remained stationed at Clark. The “police action” ended in the summer of 1953. The French in French Indo-China were losing their war and some of us were sent up to try to help them. In November 1953 I was assigned to fly B-26s out of Da Nang. They were much easier missions than the ones I flew in Korea.

The French collapsed at Dien Bien Phu on May 7, 1954. We were sent back to Clark on the 6th. In addition to the above various combat action the 581st, me included, flew some missions out of Formosa and Thailand. The CIA forbid us for 50 years to discuss what we did and where we went.

Arthur Snyder’s dog tags



In the summer of 1954 I was transferred to Randolph AFB to become an instructor in B-57 Canberras, the replacement for the B-26s. I did that until I was discharged. No matter what I was flying I never took a flight without my dog tags; they were my good luck charm.

About fifty years ago I lost my cherished dog tags somehow. I searched feverishly for them but never located them. Then they turned up in a strange manner. Strange? More like supernatural.

I have been an active member to the Cranford, NJ VFW for about ten years. Last month our commander gave me my original dog tags. He said he found them in his desk drawer. I asked him how often he looks in the drawer. He said, “Daily.”

I asked how they got there. He said he had no idea. He gave them to me and I took some pictures of them as they were lying on my kitchen table. My plan was to put them in a safe place to give to my grandson. From here everything is blank. I have no idea what I did with them—if I did anything. They disappeared again. We have searched the house endlessly. They are not in the house.

Did I imagine that my dog tags were returned? Could it have been a figment of my imagination based on the after-effects of my war experience? I am classified as unemployable with 100% permanent disability with PTSD, combat fatigue. I suffered a concussion and 30% permanent brain damage and incurred frozen fingers and toes. No surprise there. Try flying in Korea at 42 degrees below zero and watching the tracers coming up at you, white if Chinese and green if Russian.

Worse, I still have repercussions from the amoebic dysentery I contracted in Bangkok, Thailand from eating local food there. I ended up in a local hospital there for over a week. But, by far the most serious injury I sustained was a loss of hearing caused by the 14 fifty caliber machine guns we had in the B-26s. The result of the loss of hearing is severe depression and almost total isolation. Yet, with all my combat problems in the same situation I would not hesitate to volunteer again—especially if I could get the same dog tags.

God, I would love to get my dog tags back. Did I actually have them? Supernatural, hallucinations, imagination...no answers! If only dog tags could bark!

Arthur L. Snyder, 429 Manor Ave., Cranford, NJ 07016, 908-581-0995

Members in the NEWS



Donald Lanternier named Veteran of the Month

(Erie County, N.Y.) - Congressman Chris Jacobs (NY-27) designated Donald Lanternier of Lockport as the New York 27th Congressional District Veteran of the Month.

"The Veteran of the Month award honors veterans in our community who not only selflessly served our nation but are also dedicated members of their communities," Jacobs said. "Donald honorably served our nation during the Korean War, but he returned home following his service and has worked tirelessly to improve our Western New York community for over six decades. He embodies the true meaning of dedicated and selfless service, and it is an honor to present him with this recognition."

Donald Lanternier served from 1953 to 1955 during the Korean War and was stationed in Pusan, Seoul, and Uijongbu. He left the armed services with the rank of Private First Class and began a career with Verizon. He later became a Justice of the Peace for Pendleton and served as President of the St. Paul's Church Council, the Pendleton Lions Club, the Wendelville Volunteer Fire Company, and the Niagara County Magistrates Association.

In addition, he is a current member of several local organizations, including the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Korean Veterans Association, Pendleton Veterans Association, and the Fireman's Association of New York.

Reach Donald Lanternier at 5972 Tonawanda Creek Rd., Lockport, NY 14094

Harry Moses wins two gold medals

Harry Lee Moses, a Navy Corpsman who served from 3/2/1954 to 12/19/1957 (with a Med Bn. with the 1st Marine Division at Camp Pendleton, CA during his last year), won two gold medals in 2019 at the National Veterans Creative Arts Fest in Kalamazoo, MI. He produced three videos that are available on youtube: "I am your flag," "The folded flag," and "The Silver Star," which has to do with the Chosin Reservoir.

To view them, go to youtube and type in the name of the video with Harry Moses' name.

You can contact Mr. Moses, at 443 Bermuda Isles Cir., Venice, FL 34292, 941-408-1862, artstock2@comcast.net.

Wayne Pelkey featured on TV report

Wayne Pelkey, a veteran of Christmas Hill and the co-author of a book about it, titled Christmas in July, was interviewed on WCAX-TV, Ch.3 in Burlington, Vermont during the Barre annual Veterans Day parade. He noted that he had attended every one of them since the first parade in 1955.

Pelkey was seated with one other Korean War veteran and two WWII veterans, aged 96 and 94. "Reminds me of the church hymn, 'Be not afraid as I go before you to lead the way;



Creativity in Barre, VT

just follow me," he said. "It's symbolic of all old war vets!"

Incidentally, there are only 19 active KWVA members in Vermont.

As an aside, he had this story to tell: The Barre city council did not approve a request from a patriotic veteran to suspend a large American flag from a cable over Main Street because of a lady (Woke) member and another 'progressive member' who voiced her personal negative opinion of the flag overlooking the view of the citizens they represented in her ward.

The patriotic citizens of the community were outraged over the inaction and a group led by a former mayor and veterans solved the problem by using a mobile 60-ft. hydraulic boom to have a 3-hour tribute in commemoration of the 20 years since 911 of the terrorists destruction of the World Trade Center and loss of over 3,000 lives.

As he noted, "When politics gets rough, the fortitude of veterans and patriotism overpowers negativism with optimism!"

Reach Pelkey at wppelkey@charter.net

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

**Visit the Korean War Veterans Association Website:
WWW.KWVA.US**

The friendship between a trumpeter and the KWVA in Overland Park, Kansas

By *Therese Park*

“Not a veteran myself, I have been among many veterans in my family—my father, my grandfather, my uncles, my aunt...”

Clyde Miller, the bugler who has been playing Taps at the Korean War Veterans Memorial twice a year—on Memorial Day and Veterans Day—for the past 17 years wrote me in an email. He also mentioned the veterans he knew from his church, his work, and in his neighborhood with respect.

“I can think of no greater gift I can offer to all of the veterans than my breath to play Taps,” he continued. “As I play, the sound of each note coming through my trumpet resonates into space for what seems like an eternity. And I imagine the souls of those who we honor and remember, who gave themselves for the freedom of ‘others in foreign lands,’ that travel with the melody into the universe.”

As one who has been a regular at the Korean War Veterans Memorial twice a year here in Overland Park, and also a musician, I feel I’m connected to him, not only through my respect toward all Korean War veterans who granted South Korea freedom 68 years ago, but also through the heart-aching melodies Miller has been playing as the American flag and that of South Korea dance and flap in the breeze.

I’m no veteran either but what I remember of the young American soldiers on the streets of Busan nearly seven decades ago when I was a nine-year-old Korean kid comes alive all over again at the ceremonies. Our parents and teachers had been insistent upon us kids to show our respect to all American soldiers, saying “They came from so far away, leaving behind their families, relatives, neighbors, schools, churches...to save us from the Communists without guarantees to return. Bowing is the least you can do!”

As we bowed to them deeply, some American soldiers responded not only with big smiles but with gifts from America—hard candies wrapped in pretty cellophane papers and tiny Hershey Bars.



Clyde Miller playing Taps

Miller has been a member of an organization called Bugles Across America (<https://www.buglesacrossamerica.org/>) composed of the trumpeters dedicated to providing Taps in person at funerals and patriotic events across the country.

“I am proud to be a small part of this group in providing solemnity in important events,” Miller revealed. But the next paragraph is new to me: “As you may know, the military services no longer have the number of buglers to meet the demands for veterans’ events and have done their best (as well as other veterans organizations) with a ‘digital’ bugle that plays Taps, as a ‘proxy Bugler’ appears to play the bugle (without making a sound).”

Miller has been playing Taps since he was a Boy Scout, and later, during his ROTC days, too, before joining Bugles Across America. In the paragraph below, I glimpse a young bugler’s pride, acknowledgment of his talent, his nostalgia from being away from home, and other Scouts’ reverence toward Taps.

“I enjoyed playing Taps when I was alone at night (at camp), watching the moon and the Milky Way blazed a trail in the sky. At hearing the melody, every Scout would kneel and hold his hand over his heart and reflect upon the day and ask himself, ‘Have I done any good today?’”

It’s easy for me to imagine how Taps provided by Miller might have created a few moments of solemnity for young Scouts trained to revere the music, which always accompanied at any patriotic ceremony they

might have attended.

Besides playing Taps for the Korean War Veterans on Veterans Day, Miller also plays Taps while remembering his father, grandfather, uncles, and aunt, and his fellow Scouts and friends who had been veterans before they passed. He also would go to the cemetery on Metcalf Avenue on Veterans Day, which is not too far from the Korean War Veterans Memorial at 119th and Lowell, walk to the farthest corner of the burial ground, where a grave marker reads “John Doe,” and play Taps to his heart’s content.

“What I love about the Kansas Korean War Vets is that they are a close-knit family, with their wives and families, and the Korean-American community that wholeheartedly and lovingly supports the veterans,” he wrote. “I appreciate their reverence for Taps and their presence. (There is) no greater testimony than the national anthem from two great nations, and the sound of Taps echoing into space that speaks to the heights of humanity.”

Former two-time KWVA President Tom Stevens has much to say about his trumpeter friend, calling him “Bugler Extraordinaire.”

“Clyde Miller has most elegantly shown his dedication to and love for America and those who have defended freedom for our nation’s sake as well as the sake of foreign nations,” Stevens said. “He has always readily accepted the request to perform TAPS during ceremonies at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Overland Park with ‘It would be my honor.’”

“His performance of TAPS is heartwarming and moving. In addition, his gracious personality and his display of sincere appreciation for the veterans make you realize that he is born to perform TAPS. And his very presence adds to the occasion. We veterans here regard Clyde as a member of the family.”

NOTE: Therese Park, a regular contributor to our magazine, is the author of “A Gift of the Emperor,” “When a Rooster Crows at Night,” “The Northern Wind,” & “Returned and Reborn?” Reach her at <http://www.theresepark.com>

13 BILL CARR CHAPTER 1 [DE]

We donated \$8,000 to the CHEER organization that serves many of our local senior citizen veterans. The donation is to fund the construction of a permanent veteran's memorial on the grounds of the CHEER Community Center in Georgetown, DE.



Walter Koopman, Ch. 13 Programs Chairman, Kenneth Bock, CEO of CHEER, Jack McGinley, President of Ch. 13, and Beckett M. Wheatley, COO of CHEER (L-R)

The memorial will be a permanent reminder of our veterans' service to all members and visitors at the Center. Construction is expected to start in the spring of 2022.

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

19 GEN. RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

On 6 November 2021, a deceased co-founder of our chapter, Thaddeus R. Sobieski (Col. Ret.), was inducted into the Georgia Military Veterans Hall of Fame. "Sobie," as he was known, was accepted in recognition of his heroic actions on the night of 30 November 1952. In the early hours that night he led a patrol into enemy territory to scout for enemy strength whereupon his patrol was fired upon by a barrage of small arms, grenade and heavy weapons fire.

During this exchange of fire both sides withdrew to previous positions when Lt. Sobieski noticed a fellow officer in an adjacent patrol had been hit in both legs and was unable to move. With disregard for his own person safety Lt. Sobieski ran across an open field of fire and, although he had been hit by a grenade fragment, he picked up the wounded officer and returned him to a safe position.

For his heroic actions during the early hours that night he was awarded the Silver Star and Purple Heart. Later he was awarded the Bronze Star from the Georgia Military District of Atlanta,

Georgia in recognition of his meritorious service while in Korea.

Sobie, who was also a veteran of WWII, used the GI Bill to earn his undergraduate degree and a ROTC commission. Returning from Korea he continued his studies and obtained his law degree. He remained in the reserves and attained the rank of Colonel.

Our chapter has another member of the GMVHOF. Ben Malcom was previously inducted in recognition of his behind the lines intelligence work and bravery. Ben is the author of an outstanding book, *White Tigers*. ISBN1-657488-016-0.

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

20 HAWAII #1 [HI]

Another distinguished member lost



John Stanley Carroll, Sr. of Ch. 20

We lost John Stanley Carroll, Sr., on September 19, 2021. He came to Hawaii from Kansas on a football scholarship and graduated from the University of Hawaii with a degree in education. He also graduated from St. Mary's University with a law degree and was a practicing attorney. During the Korean War, he joined the Army and served as a tank commander. He then transferred to the Air Force, trained as a fighter pilot, and flew the F-102 Delta Dagger.



Fighter pilot John Stanley Carroll, Sr.

John graduated from the Air Command and Staff College and retired as a colonel with 31 years of military service. He then joined the Hawaii Air National Guard and became a Staff Judge Advocate. After retiring from the military service, he became a pilot for Hawaiian Airlines and entered the political arena where he chaired the Hawaii Republican Party, co-chaired Ronald Reagan's Presidential Campaign Committee, and was elected to the Hawaii House of Representatives and the State Senate.

John was a perennial candidate for various other state and city offices. His illustrious career as a patriot and politician ended when he died from natural causes at age 91.

Stan Fujii, stan_fujii@hotmail

60 ADIRONDACK [NY]

We held a Christmas luncheon on December 16, 2021. It was great to meet as a group again. Incidentally, the photos are courtesy of Super Source Media.

Carol Waldron, cwald36709@aol.com



Members of Ch. 60 at 2021 Christmas luncheon



Attendees at Ch. 60 Christmas gathering

106 TREASURE COAST [FL]

We participated in the Wreaths Across America program this year at Forest Hills Memorial Park. Members also attended the dedication ceremony of the Port St. Lucie Police Department's new vehicle "Honoring All Who Served."

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



Commander Harold Trieber of Ch. 106 (L) and Port St. Lucie Police Department Assistant Chief of Police Richard DeToro at vehicle dedication



The decals on the new Port St. Lucie, FL, "Honoring All Who Served" vehicle



Members of Ch. 106 at Port St. Lucie, FL Police Department vehicle dedication



Vehicle announcing Ch. 106 and KWVA presence at Wreaths Across America event and carrying patriotic teddy bears



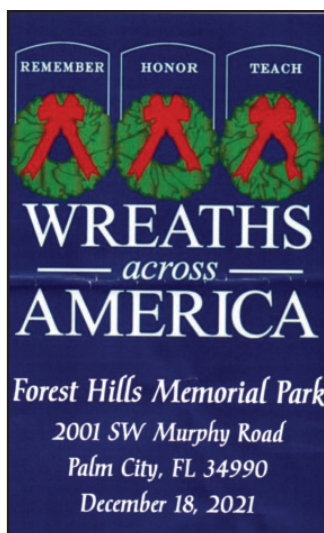
Ch. 106 members at Wreaths Across America activity



Participants at Ch. 106 Wreaths Across America program



The truck at Ch. 106's wreath laying ceremony



The Forest Hills Memorial Park Wreaths Across America program

111 CPL. RICHARD A. BELL [WI]

We participate in the Wreaths Across America program. At our January 2022 meeting we awarded Certificates of Appreciation to Commander Norb Carter for his years of dedication to the National Flag Foundation and Leland Oelke and Merlin Stockhausen for their many years as members of the West Bend



A child watches—and hopefully learns from—Ch. 106's Wreaths Across America ceremony



Commander Norb Carter of Ch. 111 places a wreath at a departed member's gravesite



Leland Oelke of Ch. 111 displays his Certificate of Appreciation



Ch. 111 member Merlin Stockhausen shows his Certificate of Appreciation



Certificate of Appreciation awarded to Norb Carter of Ch. 111

Veterans Honor Guard that provides military honors to deceased veterans.

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

121 GREATER CINCINNATI [OH]

Korean War Veterans honored at Veterans Day Ceremony

To show our appreciation for our Korean War veterans and fallen warriors who served in Korea, we held a dinner ceremony to honor those who served their families. Those members deceased in 2020 and 2021 included Pat DiLonardo, Cecil Dozier, Harry Falck, Bill Jessen, Don Klingers, Ray Korte, Bob McGeorge, Tim Petric, Robert Pfeiffenberger, Tom Vossmeier, Ronald Whitacre, Jim Thompson, Bill Knepp, and Dr. Bae Suk Lee.



American Legion Post 630 helpers at Ch. 121 at dinner: Tom Schneider, Joe Rettig, Paul Collett, Steve Stratemeyer, Dave Buschmann, Bob Barnhorst (Back, L-R); Barb Rettig, Linda Collett, Pat Buschmann and Pat Barnhorst (Front, L-R)

A special tribute was made to Dr. Bae Suk Lee, a very important member of the KWVA. He passed away on June 26, 2021 at

age 91. Dr. Lee was born in North Korea and lived under both Imperialistic Japanese rule and Communistic North Korean rule. He escaped North Korea before the Korean War started in June of 1950.



Ch. 121 members at dinner: Bob Kistler, Jules Freedman, Marvin Morris, Bill Doud, Bill Riekert, Dan Rieskamp, Steve Stratemeyer, David Wright (Back, L-R); Tom Schneider, Jack Brady, Russ Carlson and Joe Rettig (Front Row, L-R)

During the war he served with the Korean Marines and was attached to the U.S. Marines as an interpreter because he spoke English. After the war, Dr. Lee attended medical school and became a doctor in the Korean Air Force. In 1972, he started his medical career all over. He brought his family to the U.S. and started his medical residency in New York City. Dr. Lee spent his medical career in Marietta, OH.

In his retirement, he moved to Evendale, OH to be near his daughter, Unmi, and son-in-law, Jim Albertz, along with their children, David and Claire Albertz. Dr. Lee was super-active in the KWVA. He constantly strived to bring together the Korean-American community and the KWVA. He was so grateful for the American soldiers who served in Korea. Without their support, there would be neither a South Korea nor any freedom there today.

The Veterans Day Dinner and Ceremony was both a solemn and fun event. In addition to great socializing, the ceremony part of the dinner was quite moving. After Chapter President Joe Rettig led the Pledge of Allegiance, all attendees sang our "National Anthem" and "God Bless America." Dr. Lee's grandson, David Albertz, played the Korean Folk Song "Arirang" on his saxophone.

Chapter Chaplain Bill Doud announced the names of the members who passed away in 2020 and 2021. David Albertz then played "Taps" in honor of our fallen warriors.

Tom Schneider and Steve Stratemeyer placed six story boards around the room to give a history of the Korean War. This allowed veterans to show their families where they served during the Korean War. It was a great history lesson.

The background music for the dinner was the top hits from 1948 to 1954. This brought back many memories for the veter-

ans. They could all tell you where they were when they first heard each song. The Veterans Day Dinner and Ceremony could not have been run efficiently if not for the volunteers from American Legion NE Post 630 in Blue Ash, Ohio.

They did everything from room set-up to manning the Registration Table, serving the drinks, appetizers, and individual dinners, collecting for the Split-the-Pot drawing, and offering photography services, to cleaning the room. They included Bob & Pat Barnhorst, Dave & Pat Buschmann, Paul & Linda Collett, Steve Stratemeyer, and Joe & Barb Rettig.

Because many of the Korean War veterans are not highly mobile, and for a safe COVID-19 protocol, Raffel's Catering, located in Evendale, OH delivered individual meals for the dinner and Post 630 volunteers served the meals to each individual. Raffel's also provided special cookies for the veterans.

*Joe Rettig, 9490 Lansford Dr,
Blue Ash, OH 45242, 513-891-7244, jrettig@cinci.rr.com*

133 THE QUIET WARRIORS [IN]

Members attended several Veteran Day celebrations, including participation in the mile-long Veteran Day Parade and Ceremonial in Fort Wayne, IN on the Saturday before the actual holiday. On the holiday we participated at the annual ceremony held on the 11th hour, 11th day of the 11th month that is held at a WWI Doughboy set of statues in Fort Wayne's Memorial Park. At the same time we had a representative at the high school ceremony held in nearby Edgerton, Ohio.



Veterans salute at Doughboy statue in Fort Wayne's Memorial Park

In addition to those activities we represented Korean War veterans at the coming home ceremony held for long time MIA Sgt. Stan DeWitt of Royal Center, Indiana. His remains had been identified and returned for a ceremonies held in Logansport and at the cemetery in Royal Center. He was killed in action serving as a U.S. Army Medic near the Chosin Reservoir area of North Korea.

The Sunday before Thanksgiving the Korean population of Fort Wayne held a Thanksgiving dinner at their church to thank the Korean veterans for serving in Korea during the war in the

early 1950s and later.

We still meet the first Saturday of every month at Fort Wayne's Eagle Lodge near the Waynedale portion of Fort Wayne. The Eagles serve breakfast at 8 a.m. We open our meeting at 9 a.m. All veterans and their relatives and friends are welcome to attend either or both events.

Dick Loney, 260-447-5296, deltdadick2@gmail.com

142 COL. WILLIAM E. WEBER [MD]

On November 7, 2021, members participated in the Brunswick Veterans Day Parade.



Richard Cody (Standing), Chip Chipley, Fred Becker, (Seated in Becker's Car), Bob Mount and Glenn Wienhoff (Photograph courtesy of Katrina Zentz of The Frederick, MD, News-Post)

The Brunswick Parade has been held the Sunday before Veterans Day for the last 89 years. It is one of the oldest celebrations of our nation's veterans in the country and had over 90 entries this year. We had two cars in the parade. Parade organizers estimate this was one of, if not the, largest crowds they've ever had.

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

155 SOUTHWEST FLORIDA [FL]

Korean War Veterans Achieve Scholarship Fund Goal at FSW

We recently presented Florida SouthWestern State College Foundation with a check for \$10,000, fulfilling their endowed scholarship fund goal. The group began supporting FSW students with scholarships in 2007. In 2011 it decided to raise the funds needed to create a legacy for their group and ensure their scholarship would be permanent.

A social media post in August by Chapter President Bob Kent announcing their \$1,000 annual donation to FSW Foundation led



John "Mouse" Kloeker, former member of Ch. 155

to the group's fulfillment of their goal. The daughter of the late John "Mouse" Kloeker, a former member, saw the post and filled the group's goal gap with the donation, made in memory of Kloeker.

"I was so surprised she saw it and contacted me about donating," said Kent. "We are so excited to have this completed and to honor Mouse."

We funded our yearly donations to FSW through various fundraisers and donations by members. The group meets the first Tuesday of the month at Brotherhood of Heroes Resource Center and Museum, 4522 Del Prado Boulevard South, Cape Coral. All Korean War veterans and those who served in Korea are welcome.

"We are so pleased to honor this group for their achievement



Ch. 155's donation to Florida SouthWestern State College

and for their dedication to providing scholarships at FSW. Not only have they served our country but they will continue serving our students for years to come," said Keith Callaghan, FSW Foundation Executive Director.

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About the FSW Foundation, Inc.: The FSW Foundation, Inc. is a 501 (c) 3 charitable organization and a direct support organization for Florida SouthWestern State College. Visit Foundation.FSW.edu to learn more.

Florida SouthWestern State College is Southwest Florida's largest and most affordable institution of higher education. Annually serving nearly 22,000 students globally, FSW offers a variety of nationally-ranked, career-focused academic programs with two- and four-year degrees and professional certifications, several with 100 percent licensure pass and job placements rates. Study and travel abroad opportunities are available for students through FSW's Center for International Education. Students are also active in clubs and programs catered to their interests. Visit www.FSW.edu for more information.

*Bob Kent, 239-945-3018,
239-940-3128 (cell), rkent9000@aol.com*

169 KWVA OF LAKE COUNTY [FL]

We presented a \$500 scholarship check to Lizzie de la Rosa, an Air Force JROTC cadet at Mt. Dora, FL High School. This is

part of our charitable donations program through which we give up to six scholarships to JROTC programs that participate in our Tell America program.



Part of the large crowd at Ch. 169 get-together



Potential members line up to speak to Ch. 169 recruiter

Ch. 169 meeting attendees socialize at recruitment meeting



Roger Ubaudi of Ch. 169 presents scholarship check to Lizzie de la Rosa, an Air Force JROTC cadet at Mt. Dora, FL High School



On October 9, 2021 we conducted our second membership recruiting campaign. It was well attended—and we signed 57 new members. That exceeded our expectations.

Special thanks go to Mark Carey, who organized an online signup. Even then it was a challenge to accommodate the enthusiastic crowd. The hors d'oeuvres were a great hit!

*John McWaters, 2075 Callaway Dr.,
The Villages, FL 32162, 352-445-9316,
genjon@thevillages.net*

189 CENTRAL FLORIDA EAST COAST [FL]

On November 16, 2021 our guest speaker was U.S Army (Ret.) Sgt. 1st Class Danny Fuqua, who served 29 years in the Army. Danny presented a video slide program covering his many deployments during his career, including serving in Iraq and security responsibility with the White House. Danny received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Liberty University and enjoys working with veterans, helping them with financial planning.

On November 20th members were honored by the Korean American Association of East Florida and Korean Consulate General of Atlanta with a dinner in "Appreciation" for fighting for freedom for the South Korean people. The event was highlighted with the Tempa Korean Traditional Korean Dance Team and a music-fest by an all-Korean dance band. The event was hosted by In-Sook Yum Forget, President of the association.



**U.S. Army (Ret.) Sgt. 1st Class
Danny Fuqua, speaker at Ch. 189's
November 2021 meeting**



**Sook-Yum Forget, president of
the Korean-American Association
of East Florida, in traditional
Korean gown**

Korean dancers performed the traditional Small Drum, Men, and Small Fan dances in Korean dress related to each different dance.

Members enjoyed a festive catered Christmas party on December 21 at VFW Post 3282. Sixty people enjoyed the sit-down lunch. Music provided by "Main Event," entertainers, gifts, and prizes highlighted the event. Everyone enjoyed the cel-



Korean dancers at Ch. 189 meeting



Attendees at Ch. 189's Christmas party



Some of the guests at Ch 189's Christmas gathering: Commander Sicinski, Treasurer Bob Hawes, former VFW Commander Jose Rosa, Ormond Strong Commander Debbie Kruck, Korean-American Association President In-Sook Young, City of Daytona Beach Commissioner Tracy Cantu, and VFW Post 3282 Quartermaster John McClellan (L-R)



Large crowd at Ch. 189 meeting

celebration. One of the activities included the presentation of Appreciation Awards to supporters.

Guests included Florida State Senator Tom A. Wright, Volusia County Veterans Council President Joe DiBlasi, and Volusia County Councilman Danny Robbins.

Joseph Sicinski, sicinskij@aol.com

192 CITRUS COUNTY [FL]

Chapter dedicates monument to first responders

We purchased and installed this monument prior to the dedication on National Responders Day, 28 October, 2021. The request for help generated an excess of \$3,000, which will be 100% donated to the relief funds of the First Responders and the Nature Coast Young Marines. The Young Marines' project will be cleaning and caring for the appearance of all the monuments on that area of the Old Historic Courthouse.

DUTY FIRST

A monumental salute for county's everyday heroes

Our community's first responders, law enforcement officers, firefighters and emergency medical technicians (EMTs) willingly and unhesitatingly place duty first as they protect us daily from harm and respond to tragedy.

The indelible images of hundreds of first responders rushing to danger to rescue thousands trapped in the raging infernos of New York City's World Trade Center Twin Towers on Sept. 11, 2001, are an everlasting testimony to the commitment, compassion and courage of first responders as the protectors of our communities.

Although first responders are ordinary Americans who are our next-door neighbors, their selfless commitment to placing duty first, caring compassion for others and unhesitating courage distinguish them as extraordinary members of our communities whose infinitesimal value as community protectors far exceeds their recompense.

In recognition of the infinitesimal value of first responders who courageously safeguard us from harm and intrepidly respond to tragedy at great peril to their lives, the U.S. Congress in 2017 designated Oct. 28 as National First Responders Day to honor all the heroic men and women who are first on the scene when help is needed.

Recognizing the protector brotherhood between first responders and those who defend our country, members of Citrus County's Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA) Chapter 192, to their credit, initiated a project to place a monument honoring Citrus County's first responders alongside the veterans' monuments on the grounds of the Old Courthouse Heritage Museum in Inverness.

Though the crafted monument was recently emplaced on the Old Courthouse Heritage Museum grounds as a well-deserved tribute to our county's first responders, the local KWVA Chapter still needs to raise about \$3,000 more to fulfill its financial obligation for the monument.

As such, there is no better way for county residents, businesses and organizations to honor and thank Citrus County's first responders, as well as celebrate National First Responders Day this Oct. 28, than by sending a modest donation made payable to Chapter 192, Citrus KWVA and annotated "Monument" to JD Seaman, Secretary Ch.192 KWVA, 3005 S. Cygnet Terrace, Inverness, FL 34450-8840.

When it matters most, Citrus County's first responders are the first to protect us or to come to our aid, regardless of the risk. Now, our community is urged to show that our first responders matter by answering Chapter 192's call to make the monument for Citrus County's everyday heroes debt-free.

Description of Ch. 192's monument

Present at the dedication were Commander John Livingston, Vice Commander Hank Butler, Director Robert Crawford, Secretary John Seaman, Treasurer Richard Floyd, and members Charlie Smith and Edward Johnson.

Hank Butler, hankrita32@gmail.com

215 GEN. WALTON H. WALKER [TX]

On December 18, 2021, members and guests attended a Thanksgiving/Christmas holiday luncheon. The theme was to

celebrate the lives of those no longer with us and to honor the widows of deceased members.

A special guest at the meeting was Head of Mission Sung Lae Hong of the Consular Office of the Republic of Korea in Dallas. The consul addressed the members with a message of continuing support and appreciation.



Ch. 215 President Alves (A.J.) Key, Consul Sung Lae Hong, Sheri Steward, James Sharp, and Larry Kinard (L-R) at Thanksgiving/Christmas celebration



Artist's rendering of Arlington, TX, Medal of Honor Museum



Amber Zuckerman speaks to Ch. 215 group

The highlight of the program was an informative presentation by Amber Zuckerman, Director of Community Relations for the National Medal of Honor Museum Foundation, regarding the Medal of Honor Museum planned for construction in Arlington, Texas.

*Dave R. Moore,
Secretary/Treasurer,*

dmoore.kwva215@outlook.com

251 SAGINAW-FRANKENMUTH [MI]

Members observed Veterans Day 2021 at the Saginaw County Veterans Memorial Plaza, Hoyt Park, Saginaw, MI.

This year's Christmas Party was held at Zhender's in Frankenmuth, MI. As usual we had a Zhender's famous chicken

dinner, which everyone enjoyed. Sandy Schwan and Gorman Wolfe, pictured nearby, were recently elected to their offices. Both are doing an excellent job.

Our former Commander/Finance Officer is deceased and we are slowly getting things back to normal, but there are a lot of things yet undone.

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



Saginaw County Veterans Memorial Plaza, site of Ch. 251's Veterans Day 2021 observance



The Korean Memorial Monument with those listed as KIA from the Saginaw, MI area



Gorman Wolfe of Ch. 251 places the Korean Memorial wreath below the flags

Gorman Wolfe and Art Schwan of Ch. 251 salute the flags on Veterans Day 2021



Guests at Ch. 251 Christmas party dinner



Surprise singing group makes appearance at Ch. 251 Christmas party



Sandy Schwan, Ch. 251 Adjutant (L), offers invocation before Christmas party meal as Commander Gorman Wolfe, looks on

258 NORTHERN RHODE ISLAND [RI]

The end of 2021 was quiet for us. Thanksgiving turkeys and the fixings for dinner were provided to The Nickerson House Gateway to Independence, which has been our adopted charity helping our homeless veterans. Dick Mende Sr., chapter Vice, delivered these items to this house to be enjoyed by all residing at the home at this time.

At Christmas time members collected and bought gifts to deliver to the Nickerson House. Charles Compton, Bob Jaworski, and Margaret Walsh helped deliver them. Bob Jaworski and Margaret Walsh also distributed Christmas cards to our Korean veterans at the Bristol Veterans Home to bring some joy from our chapter. We want our veterans at the home to never be forgotten.

May we all have a happy safe New Year as we forge ahead in 2022 and look forward to being able to participate in many more activities with our veterans and the Korean American Association of Rhode Island.

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



The gifts collected by Ch. 258



The Ch. 258 delivery team at Nickerson House

267 GENERAL JAMES A. VAN FLEET [FL]

We installed our new slate of Officers for the years 2022 and 2023 at our December monthly meeting on Wednesday, December 1, 2021. They were installed by Colonel Jake Feaster, Past State Commander and National Officer, in accordance with our Chapter's By Laws.



Installation of Ch. 267 officers: Ron Carbaugh, Carl Covey, Nate Ephriam, Bill Barton, Eddie Thomas, Don Sherry, and Installer Jake Feaster (L-R)

The new Officers are: Ron Carbaugh, Commander; Wayne Woodin, First Vice Commander; Nathan Ephriam; Second Vice Commander; Carl Covey, Chaplain and Service Officer; Garry Giles, Finance Officer; Jake Feaster, Staff Judge Advocate. Appointed Officers are: Eddie Thomas, Quartermaster and Librarian, and Terry Fitzpatrick, Sergeant at Arms. The Directors are: Bill Barton, Norm Tankersley, and Terry Fitzpatrick.

We also enjoyed a Christmas Party at this meeting, with a ham dinner and all the Christmas fixings, and we had some bottles of good cheer raffled off to our members. Alachua County Veterans Services Officer Kim Davis, our guest speaker, brought us up to date on changes and improvements to the Veterans Administration's programs for veterans.



Members of Ch. 267 present donation to Santa Fe College Foundation: Eddie Thomas, Gen. John LeMoyne, Nate Ephriam, Rich Stalbaum, Norm Tankersley, Ron Carbaugh, Todd Martin, Troy Adams (L-R)



Officers of Ch. 267 accept check from Clay Electric Co-op: Ron Carbaugh, Don Sherry, Rich Stalbaum, Norm Tankersley, Todd Martin, Troy Adams, Eddie Thomas, Nate Ephriam, Gen. John LeMoyne (L-R)

We received a \$10,000 Community Assistance Grant from the Clay Electric Cooperative for the purchase of a scholarship at Santa Fe College with the Santa Fe College Foundation, which will award a returning veteran with \$1,000 to help with his expenses in starting a college degree program.

This is the second grant we have received from them. The first, which we received two years ago, was for \$10,000. Now we have \$20,000 which will purchase a scholarship at Santa Fe College in our name for many years to come. We owe this all to our Past Commander Norm Tankersley for his tireless work in pursuing these grants for our chapter. We thank our friends, Todd Martin and Troy Adams of the Clay Electric Cooperative, for

their support. Also present was the Director of the Santa Fe College Foundation, Lieutenant General John M. Le Moyne, U.S. Army, retired.

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

270 SAM JOHNSON [TX]

Christmas Holiday Meeting

December 11, 2021

Members, family, and guests enjoyed a special holiday meeting on Saturday, December 11. To announce the meeting, a message was sent to all members by email. Those without email were called by phone. Everyone was introduced and all enjoyed refreshments provided by the chapter. Several impromptu speeches were made.

Special gifts were provided by the Binnerri Church, a Presbyterian Korean Church in Richardson, Texas. Pastor InGyu Yoo from the church was there and gave an inspiring message. Jaemoon Chung assisted him. In addition to the gifts, a large package of special Korean candy was provided by Nam Mook, wife of chapter member Tae Hui Lee. What a day!



Jackpot: Jim Cline of Ch. 270 enjoys his holiday gifts



Gifts provided for Ch. 270 members

A card came with the gifts. It read "Hope is Born." It continued, "Dear KWVA Chapter 270, our church would like to recognize and appreciate the sacrifice you made for our country during the Korean War. Thank you so much! If it were not for your help, we couldn't have come this far as a country to be able to help other countries in need, as you did for us decades ago.

May God continue to bless you, Korean War Veterans, with all



Members of Ch. 270 at their 2021 Christmas gathering

you do and all your families! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! In Jesus' Love, Binnerri Church."

Joe Seiling, joeseiling.debbie@gmail.com

297 PLATEAU [TN]

Crossville, Tennessee held a Veteran's Day Parade on November 6th, 2021. We couldn't have asked for a more beautiful day! Several Korean War veterans were transported in the parade in a 6x6 World War II Army truck in coordination with the local General Dollar Market Store. The community turnout was outstanding, as was the respect that the veterans received. Following the parade, the veterans were treated to lunch by the Crossville First Baptist Church, funded by donations from the community.

Mrs. Janice Cahill, who assists in making and distributing the Quilts of Valor in the Crossville, TN area, Willard Dale of Ch. 297, displaying his quilt, and his wife Dorothy



On November 10th, Willard Dale was presented with a patriotic Quilt of Valor (QOV) by Janice Cahill at the November monthly meeting of the Plateau Chapter #297. Willard enlisted in the U.S. Marines in 1952 and served in Korea during the Korean War. He continued serving his country and eventually served two tours in Vietnam.

After 21 years of military service, Willard was discharged in 1973 as a Gunnery Sergeant. He is currently our chaplain and is involved with many military and other community organizations. He also is pastor at Cumberland View Baptist Church here in Crossville.

Robin Piacine, Secretary, cell: 717-512-3834, home: 931-456-1332, robinpiacine@aol.com



Local Crossville, TN, Korean war veterans, including Willard Dale (4th from left) and Commander Gene Ferris (5th from left) of Ch. 297

301 FOOTHILLS [SC]

A press conference was held in Greenville, South Carolina on November 1, 2021 to announce the completion of our goal to raise \$200,000 to engrave the names of the 576 South Carolinians engraved in the Korean War Wall of Remembrance in Washington, D. C. We did better than that; we raised more than \$230,000.

We presented checks totaling \$220,000 to General Telitti, chairman of the Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation Board (KWVMFB) and Lt. Col. James Fisher (USA, ret.), Executive Director of the KWVMFB. The remainder will be sent to the KWVMFB by the end of January 2022.



Richard Johnson of Ch. 301 (L) and Woohyung Cho at press conference

As an award for raising the funds, U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC) is facilitating a "Special Honor Flight" for all SC Korean War veterans to attend the dedication of the Wall of Remembrance on July 27, 2022. We extend our appreciation to Senator Graham and to Paul Howell, Senator Graham's Upstate SC coordinator for putting this together for us.

One member to be mentioned is member Richard Johnson, who resides in Aiken, SC. Mr. Johnson is 92 years young, but he took it upon himself to raise funds in Aiken County and surrounding area. He raised more than \$8,000. Mr. Johnson was presented the Korean Peace Medal by Mr. Woohyung Cho, Consul/Police Attaché General of the Republic of Korea, at the press conference.

Many dignitaries attended the conference, including the Lt. Governor of SC, Pamela Evette.

313 SHENANDOAH [VA]

Commander Lew Ewing administered the Oath of Office to incoming 2022 Officers at the December 12 Annual Meeting and dinner with 84 members and guests attending at the beautiful George Washington Hotel in Winchester, VA. New officers are Commander Doug Hall, First Vice Cmdr. Ron Wenger, Second Vice Cmdr. Jerry Beydler, Secretary Narce Caliva, and Treasurer Ray Ewing.



Ch. 313 Commander Lew Ewing administers the Oath of Office to incoming 2022 Officers



Commander Lew Ewing of Ch. 313 presents a Certificate of Honorary Membership to MajGen. Pyo Se Woo, and his wife "Cathy."

Ms. Sung Hee Rho started the program singing the Korea National Anthem followed by Rob Shirley leading the Pledge of Allegiance and the U.S. National Anthem by John Hudson. At the end of the program, Ms. Sung Hee Rho sang the Korea Classic, "Arirang." We were fortunate to have as guests for this event members from the Korean Embassy.

Paul Bombardier, pbombard@kive.com

316 MODESTO [CA]

Members participated in our local Veterans Day Parade.

Dave Garcez, garcez@pacbell.net



321 RICHARD L. QUATIER [WA]

Chapter members proudly donated over \$48,000 to the Korean Veterans Memorial for its Wall of Remembrance. We run these photos from the 2019 presentation to commemorate their achievement.

*Edward L Barnes, 13816 NE Laurin Rd.,
Vancouver, WA 98662, 360-695-2180,
MelLloyd59@yahoo.com*



Ch. 321 members display donation to Korean Veterans Memorial



Members of Ch. 321 gathered at check presentation

329 TIBOR RUBIN MEDAL OF HONOR [NV]

Member honored during LV Marine Corps Ball

When David Heine was “tapped” as the Community Engagement Director no one, including David, knew that after reconstituting, planning, and executing fundraising drives that he, as a former Marine, would be honored during the Las Vegas Marine Corps Ball.

Dave, as an active member of everything Marine and everything KWVA, has gone above and beyond, working telephones and planning events to raise funds for a chapter that for all purposes would have closed due to COVID restrictions and lack of funds to achieve the goals of contributing to JROTC and Scouting projects.

Chapter Commander Tim Smith served as honored escort as David Heine was honored by cutting the cake during the opening service as he was escorted to the stage by the Basic High School Marine Corps JROTC of Las Vegas.

Tim Smith, tangoe7@aol.com



Dave Heine of Ch. 329 (L) and honored by JROTC and Las Vegas Marine Corps 2021 Ball



Commander Tim Smith of Ch. 328, Dave Heine's escort at program honoring the Marine

DEPARTMENTS

HAWAII

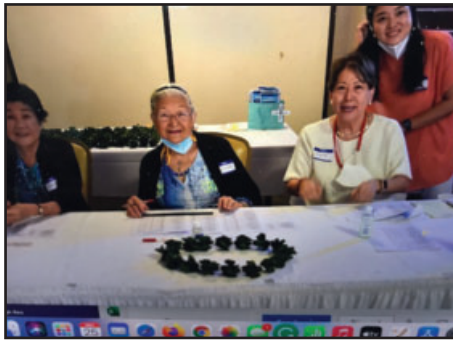
On December 11, 2021, we celebrated the Christmas season with a banquet in the grand ballroom of the Pagoda Hotel in Honolulu that was attended by 170 members and guests. The lessening of Covid-19 restrictions permitted a lively social interaction, and everyone enjoyed themselves with a delicious buffet lunch, festive music by a Hawaiian band, and lucky ticket holders won varied door prizes.

An MIA/POW ceremony was narrated by the Master of Ceremony Walter Ozawa, assisted by ninety-seven-year-old Lucio “Sada Luciano standing next to a symbolic empty table. A “Roll Call of Honor” of recently deceased Ch. 20 members was called. Twenty-eight chapter members’ names were called, each accompanied by the ringing of a bell.

The Distinguished Guest Speaker was Gene Castagnetti, Colonel (UCMC Ret), and the keynote speaker was Hong, Seok-in, Consul General of the ROK in Honolulu. The Consul General also presented the Ambassador for Peace Medal to Maj Gen (USAF Ret) Donald Aten.

This gala event concluded with a standing ovation and tribute to the event organizer, Tommy Tahara. His diligence, commitment, and “can do” spirit made this event an enormous success.

Stan Fujii, stan_fujii@hotmail



Marilyn Tomita, Kiyono Nakamura, Gayle Ozawa, Sue Son enjoy Hawaii Christmas party



Sada Sanico at Hawaii's MIA/POW table



Roy and Nancy Heu, Stan and Fumiko Fujii, Joyce Miyamoto, Sheryl Johnson, Minoru and Patsy Takaesu enjoy Hawaii party



Tommy Tahara, Stan Fujii fraternize at Hawaii gathering



Consul General Hong Seok-In speaks to Hawaii attendees



Sam and Nettie Belen at Hawaii gathering



Guests in Honolulu ballroom



Consul General Hong and Maj Gen (USAF Ret) Donald Aten enjoy party with Hawaiian friends



Henry and Rose Lee in attendance with Hawaiian group



Gene Castagnetti, guest speaker at Hawaii party



Staff of Korean Consulate at Hawaii party



Donna Chee, Sada Sanico, Ken and Taye Tashiro socialize at Hawaii gathering



Membership is Our Strength
It's not the price you pay to belong, It's the price you paid to become eligible to join





Herman and Tita Encarnacion, Shirley Streck, Barbara Uehara, Harold Yamauchi, Lance and Marie Yamauchi enjoy evening in Honolulu



Daniel Morris, Herbert Schreiner and Norma Jean Shackley having a good time at Hawaiian gathering



Yoko Sugel, Walter Ozawa, Stanley Hashiro enjoy camaraderie at Honolulu Christmas soiree



James Kaleohano, Itsuo Tomita, Stanley Hashiro enjoy evening in Honolulu



Tommy, Mariko, and LeAnne Tahara revel at Christmas event in Honolulu



Jason and Julie Jeong

The Lister Bag

By Daniel Wolfe

About fifty yards down the reverse slope of the MLR, alongside a foot-path, stood a prototype of austere military architecture designed for hydrating the troops. It resembled a diagram from my high school plane geometry textbook. It left the onlooker with the impression that a child's swing was going to dangle from it, or something ominous like scaffolding from the Inquisition.

Four seven-foot wooden two-by-fours joined to form a peak. Suspended from that peak was a chain, and dangling from the chain was the infamous Lister bag. The bag resembled an inflated five-foot OD duffel. At the bottom, extending from its sides, were four black plastic spigots. Within the canvas walls of this bag was our elixir of life, our drinking water; our halazoned elixir.

The pathogenic critters that made their homes in the waters of Korea could have filled a textbook on parasitology. To make our water potable, the army engineers added halazone, a member of the chemical

family of halogens—a family whose genealogy should have been diagrammed in my biology textbook along with the dysfunctional Jukes and Kallikaks.

As soon as the water entered my mouth, it coated my tongue, preventing any embryonic taste bud from blossoming to maturity. If the buds did survive, it took two days of non-stimulation to recover from the halazone assault. Exhaling through the nose while imbibing the drink assured the victim that he was swallowing a bottle of iodine.

In order to hide the symptoms of malaria, we were issued a chloroquine tablet every Friday. This caustic visitor was a perfect complement to the Lister bag

water that washed it down. I suspect that some of our casualties could have been attributed to dehydration caused by the refusal to drink the water.

Twice a week, a water truck came to fill the bag. The driver would lift the lid from the bag, insert a hose, press a button, and let the bile flow. I surmised from the Mona Lisa smirk on his face that he had a private supply of real drinking water squirreled away somewhere in his tent.

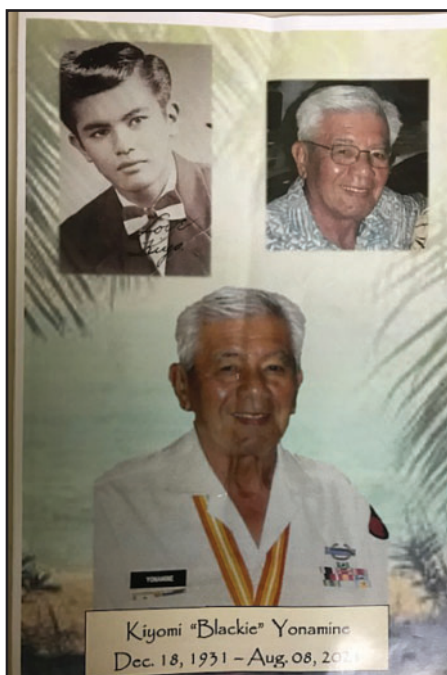
NOTE: The above is an excerpt from Daniel Wolfe's book, Cold Ground's Been My Bed: A Korean War Memoir, pp. 117-118. Sadly, Daniel went to guard the gates of Heaven on 12/13/2020. He served with USA 3rd Div 15th Rgt 3rd Bn Co L.Z

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

Chosin veteran remembered

On November 8, 2021, a memorial service was held for Master Sergeant Kiyomi “Blackie” Yonamine who was a member of Ch. 20, Hawaii. This dignified service was held at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl.

Yonamine enlisted in the Army following his graduation from high school in 1949. After completing basic training, he was assigned to the 32nd Regimental Combat Team of the 7th Infantry Division. He landed at Iwon, North Korea in November 1950 to support the 1st Marine Division near the Chosin reservoir. He was with the first battalion of the 32nd RCT when it joined with the 31st RCT called Task Force McLean under the leadership of LtCol McLean, who was captured in November 1950. The Task Force was then led by LtCol Don Faith and fought on the east side of the Chosin Reservoir.



MSgt Yonamine's photos



US Army Honor Guards at MSgt. Yonamine's ceremony



American flag folding ceremony at National Cemetery at Punchbowl



MSgt Yonamine's photo and urn on a pedestal

On December 2, 1950, sixteen days prior to his 20th birthday, Yonamine was captured by the Chinese Army and sent to the POW camp in Chang Song, North Korea. He was released in August 1953 in Operation Big Switch and returned home to Hawaii. Notwithstanding his ordeal as a POW for nearly three years, Yonamine remained in the army for twenty years and retired as a Master Sergeant. He died on August 8, 2021.



Presentation of the flag to MSgt Yonamine's widow

84th and 62nd Engineer Combat Bns. hold reunion

We held our 31st reunion in Branson, MO November 2-5, 2021. There were seven veterans in attendance: Boz Ahrens, Joseph Butkus, Rudy Krueger, Jerry Peck, Vern Peterson, Jerry Shaver, Vic Swanson, and 14 family members.

11/02 - Our reception room opened at 3 p.m. The hotel provided coffee and treats and later served a buffet of meatballs, wings, veggies, cheeses, and dips. Drinks for the event were generously donated by Rosemary and Tony Saputo, and purchased and set up by Jerry Shaver and Karen & Don Hazel. Rudy Krueger brought the "purest water in America" from Buhl, MN.

11/03 - Due to the COVID pandemic the usual breakfast was not served, "Grab & Go" breakfast boxes were brought to the hospitality room with plenty of hot coffee. We bused over to the Lawrence Welk Theatre for a Daniel O'Donnell performance. Good

mix of Irish songs and songs made famous by different country artists. A chicken and beef dinner was served on the 9th floor overlooking Branson.

11/04 - Grab & Go breakfast and off to the Dalton Theater "All Hands on Deck" show, comprising music from the 40s & 50s in the form of a radio show for troops abroad. I hadn't heard some of the songs in years. Lunch at Psghettis Italian Restaurant, with a huge walk-through meatball outside.

Deceased since our last reunion were:

Sal Amati	62nd	4/12/2020
Vayden Anderson	84th	11/4/2021
Bill Glennon	84th	8/15/2021
Jack Livengood	84th	10/5/2020
H. J. McAdams	84th	9/17/2019
Tom Nolle	84th	4/15/2007
Jerald Nordie	62nd	6/16/2019
James Rea	84th	4/8/2019
Isabel Shaver	84th(H)	11/26/2019

Very good. We shared a 9th floor Pork loin and Chicken Marsala dinner at the hotel.

Karen Hazel (Jerry Shaver's daughter) presented hand-made "Quilts of Valor" to the veterans in attendance! Vern Peterson presented each one with 3 consecutively numbered \$2 bills and polo shirts made by his local VFW, with the Battalion's logos. A cash raffle 'for fun' was divided by 4 randomly selected winners, each receiving \$50. Group and family photos were taken.

It was at the conclusion of this dinner that we learned that our buddy Vayden Anderson had passed away. Our sincerest sympathies go out to his family.

11/05 - Grab & Go breakfast and goodbye time. Nobody was in a hurry to leave. The mood was somewhat bittersweet for we knew it would be the





last time some of us will see each other.

Special thanks go to Joe Butkus and family, Vic Swanson and family, and

Jerry Shaver and family for their constant help in making this reunion special and a success, and for everyone who attended! As Vic Swanson said, "Last one out turn off the lights and

lock the door."

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Bel Air, MD 21014, 410-838-8358,
Andypatb@aol.com

THE WAR IN KOREA

"A peaceful nation being attacked by a fanatical neighbor cannot be tolerated."
(Harry Truman)

I was there during that war, and to this day, seventy years later, in my dreams, I still see those wonderful unsung heroes who in 1950 were babies and at times close to starving. I took the nearby photo in 1951. This day I had made a run to a garbage dump. They did survive, and they managed to preserve their rich heritage. They did it, and they are now the eighth greatest economic power in the world.

As a United States Marine of the First Marine Division, and in the best shape of my life, I consider that this day was the greatest heroic day of my life. I watched in amazement as the lady was going through the garbage. I especially noted that the children did not interfere with the lady. They were waiting in line for their turn.



Down in the dumps in Korea

I was just amazed that young children would have such manners and respect for their elders. Especially hungry children in a war torn country. Notice that the girl is carrying a baby. I still wonder to this day if she was his sole means of support.

I then slowly got out of my truck, reached under the seat, and removed every can of WWII C-rations I had in my pos-

session. As I gave them the signal to approach, with cans of C-rations in my hands, they slowly and cautiously approached my truck. I gave to that boy and girl every can in my possession. I watched them as they ran away.

As the men with the Korean Service Corps emptied the cans of garbage from the bed of my truck, I became sort of emotional. As I sat in that truck, I became very worried and a bit scared. Suppose the Koreans working in the bed of my truck caught a glimpse of a combat-hardened Marine shedding some tears.

Today I am satisfied with my minimal contribution towards the amazing success of South Korea. In the Korean War, the North Korean regime aggressors have only managed to enslave their own.

Ronald Paul Richoux, Sr.,
USMC, number1reshoe@att.net

been North Korea's long cherished wish and will be taken as a green light to unite the divided land in their way with the support of China. The peace agreement will nullify the April, 2018 Panmoonjum conference, June Singapore meeting. Passing HR 3446 would instead make the nostalgic idea of reuniting the 70-year tragically divided country in a democratic way remain just a pipe dream.

The sacrifice of 53,000 precious American lives for freedom and democracy during the Korean War will become lost and a scapegoat of communism. The flower of an economic prosperity that was with risk achieved over 70 years thanks to the support of America will most likely be buried under the carpet of communism. Communist North Korea and the left wing Moon Regime of South Korea will dance with a smile on the face of President Xi of China.

Will those congressmen and Senators who supported the HR 3446 bear the consequences of the historical responsibility for allowing a communist specter to dominate on the Korean peninsula without learning any lessons from the Vietnam War?

Vividly remembering the self-determination principle advocated by President Woodrow Wilson, South Korea will soon have to be prepared to develop nuclear weapons to defend itself and maintain the blood allied relationship with America intact should some of the left wing congressmen advocate HR 3446 and deprive South Korean people of solid security, while unknowingly giving communist North Korea the opportunity to invade again South Korea as a result of this supposed "peace act" to be achieved from HR 3446.

Therefore, we are hereby pleading you to withdraw the HR resolution immediately for the essential security in the Far East Asia. We, free Koreans around the world, will make every effort to continue this petition campaign until this dangerous bill is to be withdrawn.

Thank you for paying keen attention to the above.

Respectfully,

(signature here)

Here is the entire bill. Pay special attention to Section 4.

The views expressed in the letter are those of the writer's. They in no way represent the KWVA's or its Board's stance on the bill.

H. R. 3446

To review current restrictions on travel to North Korea, call for a formal end to the Korean War, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 20, 2021

Mr. Sherman (for himself, Mr. Khanna, Mr. Kim of New Jersey, and Ms. Meng) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To review current restrictions on travel to North Korea, call for a formal end to the Korean War, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United

States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Peace on the Korean Peninsula Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) On July 27, 1953, the commander in chief of the United Nations Command signed an armistice agreement with the supreme commander of the North Korean People's Army and the commander of the Chinese People's Volunteers, aiming to "insure a complete cessation of hostilities and of all acts of armed force in Korea until a final peaceful settlement is achieved".

(2) The armistice agreement neither formally ended the war nor represented a final peaceful settlement.

(3) On April 27, 2018, in Panmunjom, the leaders of South Korea and North Korea declared that "a new era of peace has begun on the Korean peninsula", and committed "to declare the end of war" on the Korean peninsula 65 years after the signing of the armistice agreement.

(4) In its roll out of its policy towards North Korea, the Biden Administration expressed support for the Singapore framework, which identifies peace on the Korean peninsula as an objective of any future negotiations between the United States and North Korea.

(5) The United States should pursue a sustained and credible diplomatic process to achieve an end to the Korean War, and every effort should be made to avoid military confrontation with North Korea.

(6) The persistence of a state of war does not serve the national interest of the United States and its allies.

(7) One major consequence of the continuation of the Korean War is that the United States does not have formal relations with North Korea, which has prevented Korean Americans with relatives in North Korea from seeing their families.

(8) Approximately 100,000 Americans have relatives living in North Korea.

(9) At the Hanoi Summit in February 2019, the United States and North Korea discussed formally ending the Korean War and the exchange of diplomatic liaison offices, however these discussions did not advance due to a stalemate on nuclear and missile issues.

(10) The ongoing nuclear- and ballistic-missile-related activities of North Korea continue to pose a threat to international peace and security.

SEC. 3. HUMANITARIAN CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING VISITING NORTH KOREA.

(a) Sense Of Congress.—It is the sense of Congress that the current restrictions barring United States nationals traveling to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) warrant review by the Secretary of State.

(b) Review.—The Secretary of State shall conduct a full review of the restrictions in place conditioning the travel of United States nationals to the DPRK. Such review shall include consideration of the following:

(1) The Department of State's guidance as to the nature of travel to the DPRK that qualifies as "in the national interest" of the United States, including whether the scope of travel qualifying as such should be adjusted.

(2) The "compelling humanitarian considerations" that qualify a United States national for travel to the DPRK, including whether the scope of trav-

el permissible under such considerations should be adjusted.

(3) Whether, and if so, to what extent and under what conditions, travel to the DPRK for the purposes of attending to or witnessing funerals, burials, or other religious and family commemorations of relatives of United States nationals in the DPRK does or should qualify as “compelling humanitarian considerations” meriting issuance of Special Validation Passports to such nationals.

(c) Report.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report detailing the review conducted under subsection (b). Such report shall include a comprehensive description of the Department of State’s consideration of all matters described in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of such subsection, including, as applicable, any related policy changes and the rationale behind the Department’s decision to make or refrain from making policy changes relating to such matters.

(2) FORM.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

SEC. 4. CALLING FOR A FORMAL END TO THE KOREAN WAR.

(a) Sense Of Congress.—It is the sense of Congress that given the commitment of the leaders of South Korea and North Korea in Panmunjom on April 27, 2018, to actively promote meetings involving the United States “with a view to replacing the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement and establishing a permanent and solid peace regime”, the Secretary of State should pursue serious, urgent diplomatic engagement with North Korea and South Korea in pursuit of a binding peace agreement constituting a formal and final end to the state of war between North

Korea, South Korea, and the United States.

(b) Report.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report that describes a clear roadmap for achieving a permanent peace agreement on the Korean peninsula.

(2) CONTENTS.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) contain an accounting of the steps necessary to enter into negotiations with North Korea and South Korea to conclude a binding peace agreement;

(B) identify the key stakeholders involved in such negotiations; and

(C) describe the challenges concerning the ability of the United States to achieve a binding peace agreement constituting a formal and final end to the state of war between North Korea, South Korea, and the United States.

(3) FORM.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

SEC. 5. ESTABLISHING LIAISON OFFICES.

It is the sense of Congress that given the joint statement signed by the United States and North Korea in Singapore on June 12, 2018, which included an agreement to “establish new U.S.-DPRK relations in accordance with the desire of the peoples of the two countries for peace and prosperity”, the Secretary of State should seek to enter into negotiations with the Democratic People’s Republic of North Korea (DPRK) to establish liaison offices of the DPRK and the United States in the respective capitals of each such country.

Track the progress of the bill at <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3446>. Your comments are invited. They are worth considering since KWVA members fought for peace. Is Rep. Sherman’s bill a serious attempt at securing it?

“We are the 5th Marines”

KOREA-PUSAN PERIMETER: 1950, AUGUST

■ **1st Provisional Marine Brigade with the great and respected Brig/Gen. Edward A. Craig commanding**

■ **Military Police Detachment under command of 1st Lt. Nye G. (Dusty) Rodes, Jr.**

After the brigade repelled and halted the North Koreans’ deepest penetration on the outskirts of Masan, enemy forces were massing along the Naktong River near Taegu. The brigade, having accomplished their mission at Masan, was now ordered to the other side of the Pusan Perimeter with the utmost urgency. Most of the movement of troops and equipment was over dirt roads and rice paddies.

Sgt. William Bosland and I traveled by jeep and he stationed me at what was termed a vital turn-off point in the road. One direction led a few miles to a coastal town. Orders for me were, “Don’t send any convoys in this direction,” pointing to the coastal town. “It’s the wrong way. Send the convoys in this other direction and one mile down this road will be the 5th Marine Command Post, who should be there according to the time schedule.”

Sgt. Bosland drove away and I looked around and sized up the area. A short while later I started to receive sniper fire and what I believe was one mortar round. I took cover and looked in all

directions to see from where this action was coming. Then things quieted down and after what seemed like a couple of hours I heard the sound of vehicles coming in my direction.

Recognizing it was a Marine convoy, I got into the road and flagged down the lead vehicle. To my best recollection, it was Lt.Col. Taplett, who got out of the lead vehicle and confronted me. I told him I was the MP stationed there with orders to send convoys in the correct direction, and that the road he was to take would lead him to the 5th Marine Command Post, one mile down the road.

He asked me how long I’d been at this location. I told him what I thought was a few hours. Then he thanked me for the information and said, “We are the 5th Marines, and we’re just getting here.”

Wow! My chin must have dropped with my mouth wide open, because the Colonel made some remark in reference to it as they drove away and told me to “CARRY ON!”

Well, I guess you know I had a few choice words for Sgt. Bosland when I was relieved.

Frederick Borowiec, (Corporal at that time), 30 Fairview Village Ct., Chicopee, MA 01020, 413-592-6838

EXTRAORDINARY HEROISM

by Donna Lampkin Stephens

NOTE: This article appeared originally in *501 Life*, the magazine of Central Arkansas. It is reprinted here with the kind permission of Sonya J. Keith, the magazine's editor.

Lt. Walter Rhodes [a 2012 inductee into the Arkansas Military Veterans Hall of Fame (AMVHOF) in recognition of his exceptional military achievements] of Benton won the Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star, the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart during his Korean War service, but his second military career more than 50 years later might be dearer to his heart.

For about the last 12 years, Rhodes, 84, has served in various capacities with the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Chapter 431 in Little Rock.

"The thing that we try to do is get the information to all the soldiers and veterans; 90 percent don't know what is available to them," Rhodes said. "We have helped lots of people get what was available to them, and I'm still doing that.

"I've done a lot of speaking over the last three years. I've spoken to nearly all the civic clubs in Benton, high school students, a (University of Phoenix) history class. When I got out (of the Army), nobody talked about the military, but things have changed a whole lot, absolutely for the better. And the government, as far as I'm concerned, is treating veterans much better than they ever have before, and they can't do too much for them, as far as I'm concerned.

"It's my second career, and sometimes I think that's as important as what I did before."

And what he did before is pretty impressive.

Rhodes earned his medals as a member of the 37th Field Artillery Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division.

Inducted into just the second class of the Arkansas Military Veterans' Hall of Fame in 2012, Rhodes was just young enough to miss serving in World War II. He joined the Army on Sept. 16, 1948, only because his buddy with whom he had attempted to join the Navy required a



Walter Rhodes

parental signature because of his youth. To avoid the return trip to Traskwood from Little Rock, the two young adventurers settled on the Army, which didn't have the parental signature requirement.

"I had never thought about the service hardly whatsoever," he said.

Rhodes was born in Pecos, Texas, but his family roots were in Hot Spring and Saline counties. His family moved to Hot Spring County in 1937, when he was 9, and returned to Texas three years later. They came back to Arkansas in 1945, and he graduated from Glen Rose High School in 1947.

A peacetime enlistee, he took basic training at Fort Lewis, Wash. He was returning from a 30-day leave — during which he met his future wife, Sammye Owens — when he learned on June 27, 1950, that the United States would send troops to assist South Korea after the North Korean invasion.

"Two weeks later, I was on board a ship to Korea," he said, adding that the conflict seemed to take everyone by surprise. "I was about 21 and didn't really know what to expect, but the men I was with, most were going to go volunteer anyway."

He left stateside as a private first class; two days before his ship landed, on Aug. 2, he was promoted to corporal. His original assignment was in the fire direction center.

"We did all the plotting and giving directions to the guns to point in the right direction," he said. "Then a few days after we landed, we got a big influx of sergeants, and the consequences were I lost my job because of rank."

He then became a driver for the captain. After Gen. Douglas MacArthur's landing at

Inchon in September, Rhodes and his fellow troops were able to cut off the North Koreans' supply lines.

"This is when we started moving north, and then the Chinese began to get involved," he remembered. "On Thanksgiving Day, we were just fixing to sit down and have a hot meal, which was rare, and we got a radio message to the captain that we were going to be moving forward. When we got ready to leave, I went and got me a turkey leg and away we went."

He recalled the temperature dipping to 20 below on Nov. 20, to 25 below five days later and to as much as 40 below before winter's end.

"The latter part of November is when the Chinese hit us, and in that one day, about Nov. 29, we lost more people from the 2nd Division than any one division had ever lost during any American war," he said. "We were trying to keep the Chinese from overrunning our position and letting the other divisions go through us in order to get relief from the Chinese at the time.

"But the thing of it is, we had to go through a gauntlet of six or seven miles, and this area was more or less lined with machine guns with North Koreans and Chinese, mortars and about all kind of firepower. This is one of the reasons we lost so many people — all the destruction and firepower against us."

Another promotion came after one of the gunners got drunk. Rhodes was promoted to sergeant and became a gunner for one of the howitzers.

"After that we went to Chipyoung-ni, a center for transportation, and were given the chore of holding it at all costs," he said. "That's what it boiled down to. I was working with the 23rd Infantry, and we had about 4,500 people and we were surrounded by five Chinese divisions. A division is about 15,000 people, so you can calculate right quick we were quite outnumbered, but we held out."

Supplies were air dropped in for about a week before "a fabulous conflict" at the Twin Tunnels, following which he became a forward observer working with a South

Korean unit.

His next assignment was to teach a young second lieutenant about field artillery as a forward observer. During the May Massacre on May 16, 1951, he earned his first medal, the Silver Star.

According to materials from the AMVHOF, Rhodes earned the Silver Star while a Sergeant First Class attached to a French Company. "Their position was overrun by an enemy of superior force, which completely surrounded them. Disregarding his personal safety, he jumped up out of his foxhole and began firing upon the onrushing enemy. His fire was so effective that he killed four enemies, and the others dispersed enabling the other members of his Party to escape to safety while Rhodes continued to hold the enemy off."

"I had started firing on the people advancing on our position," Rhodes said. "I had quite a lot of ammunition, but when I ran out I looked around in our foxhole and nobody was there but me. I tried to make my way back to the French line and found our second lieutenant. I was credited with killing at least four of the enemy."

On June 2, he received a rare battle-field commission to second lieutenant and was assigned to the service battery to keep sufficient ammunition supplies.

"Then things were not all that bad until the 13th of September," he said. "While I was with the ammunition train, I was awarded the Bronze Star, and then we were given the job of taking Heartbreak Ridge, and during that period of time, on Sept. 22, I was awarded the Purple Heart and the following day the Distinguished Service Cross."

His Distinguished Service Cross Citation for extraordinary heroism reads in part:

"On 23 September 1951 Lieutenant Rhodes was attached as a Forward Observer to an Infantry Company in the vicinity of Pia-ri (Pee Ah-Ree), Korea. The Company was engaged in an assault against a well-entrenched enemy located near the crest of an almost vertical slope. As the Company struggled up the slope against hostile fire, Lt. Rhodes moved forward to a position which was directly exposed to the enemy in order to direct friendly Artillery fire more effectively.

"Upon realizing that the hand to hand nature of the conflict rendered artillery support impossible, he began carrying ammunition up to the hard pressed infantrymen. After making many such trips up the piteous slope, Lt. Rhodes picked up a rifle and moving to the point of the unit bearing the brunt of the hostile fire he began firing with deadly accuracy at the enemy's emplacements. His actions were entirely voluntary and so inspired the men about him that effectively repulsed a fanatical enemy counter attack."

The Distinguished Service Cross is the second-highest military award that can be given to a member of the U.S. Army. It is awarded for extraordinary heroism that does not meet the criteria for the Congressional Medal of Honor (the United States' highest military honor). According to usmilitary.about.com, the act justifying the Distinguished Service Cross "must have been so notable and have involved risk of life so extraordinary as to set the individual apart from his or her comrades."

The Purple Heart, the United States' oldest military medal, goes to those wounded in combat.

Following his service in Korea, he returned stateside. He and Sammye were married May 23, 1952, and he went to basic officer's school and later served as battery commander of a training center at Fort Sill, Okla. He was eventually promoted to 1st lieutenant and spent a year in Germany as battery executive officer before being discharged in June 1954.

"By that time, we had a daughter who was 6 months old, and it was going to take a year for her to come over (to Germany)," he said. "That made up my mind it was no place for me trying to raise a family."

A month after his discharge, he went to work for Alcoa in Bauxite, where he spent 35 years, five months and six days before retiring.

For years, he spoke little about his service, but a conversation with a friend with whom he had served in Korea started him thinking about reaching out to other veterans. He has served as chaplain and commander of the local Military Order of the Purple Heart, only recently resigning.

"A friend I worked with for 20, 25 years didn't know that I was a recipient of a Purple Heart, and I didn't know he was," Rhodes said. "We just didn't talk about it."

But now he relishes such opportunities, including his induction in the AMVHOF. The first class in 2011 included the 25 winners of the Congressional Medal of Honor (all deceased) and 15 more inductees. Rhodes was inducted among the second 15.

"That's quite an honor," he said. "It makes you think twice about how people have changed their attitude toward the veterans."

Bill Russell, communications contact for the AMVHOF, said next to Vietnam, Korean War veterans probably experienced a sort of letdown by the American public upon their return home.

"Everyone was just engaged in World War II, and I don't think there was that mass coming together of the public for the Korean War," he said. "Some of the veterans, Walter included, endured some unspeakable combat and had a tremendously valorous record, which is all a testament to his valor and the extreme conditions he suffered during that time."

Russell said the AMVHOF is soliciting nominations from the public for the Class of 2013, which will be inducted Nov. 1. For nomination forms and other information, visit amvhof.org.

Rhodes is also a member of the American Legion, Arkansas Veterans Coalition, Disabled American Veterans, Korean War Veterans Association and the National Order of Battlefield Commissions. To schedule a speech by Rhodes, call 501.794.1508.

"For him to be such an advocate these many years later speaks to his dedication to current veterans coming back from Afghanistan and Iraq," Russell said. "Any veteran who has been in a combat zone will always have tremendous love and dedication for the current soldiers at war, especially these days. Some of those kids are going back to Afghanistan six or seven times, and the mental stress is just incredible."

Contact Walter R. Rhodes at 6095 Congo Rd., Benton, AR 72019, 501-794-1508, walterrhodes@att.net

Going Home

By Arthur M. Cheek

I joined the Marine Corps on 7/2/47, the 4th of July weekend. We (recruits) were greeted at Parris Island, introduced to the Marine Corps, and given light duty until the base came alive and reality hit for me. It was a life-changing event that has lasted through every day of my 92-year life history.

My age places me when Marines were stationed on the larger Navy ships. I was on the U.S.S. Providence (CL-82), a light cruiser, for 19 months as a "sea going Marine." 1949 found me at Quantico, Virginia, as the Providence was decommissioned and became the first guided missile cruiser as a CLG6.

Along the way in my career, I became a member of the 22nd replacement draft. The first 4.5 rocket battalion in Korea became my home from 7/6/52-7/26/53. When we were on a fire mission, normally 144, 4.5 rockets were on their target in about 12-15 seconds, so we were exiting our firing positions ASAP. Speed was our only protection. Well, after 12 months and 26 days with the 4.5 rockets, I extended for three months and was sent back to Ascom City to the debarkation Marine Corps unit.

The reason I extended for the three months was to plan a Virginia deer hunt



with my father in November of 1953. Harry, my brother, was a M/SGT in the Air Force. My six years in the Marines had prevented us from making Dad's special deer hunt each year while other men hunted with their sons.

The trip across the states from California in those days were difficult, as we had to drive back to California before leave time ran out. We had a great time just being in camp with Dad, though we

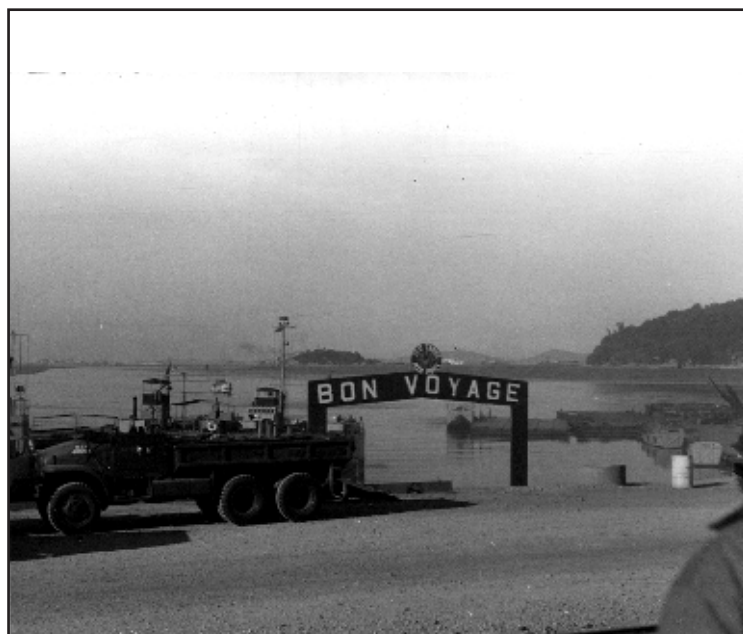
did not get a deer. We regularly hunted with Dad after we both retired and had him in the woods in his early 90s. That was time well spent, as Dad passed at 97 1/2 years of age in 1990.

My point is this: many of you "gray-bearded" Korean War veterans still carry some not so pleasant memories of the war. Hopefully, just remembering Ascom City and preparing for that trip home will bring back to you pleasant memories of how that period of time brought joy and thanksgiving for what was ahead of us.

Someone may actually see themselves in the dusting line or the U.S. Navy ship, General R. L. Howze (AP-134), which may have been your ship home. I remember watching prisoners of war lining up single file and receiving orders not to converse with them. For the life of me, I cannot remember ever being anywhere near them or where they were billeted on the ship.

Just in case you forgot, if you were on Howze, we sailed under the Golden Gate Bridge on 9/22/1953, and home was in sight.

(S/Sgt) Arthur M. Cheek, 150185th Ave N, St. Petersburg, FL 33702, USMC (ret) Korea, 07/06/1952 to 10/1953



The going home sign at Ascom City



Chapel at Ascom City



Ruins at Ascom City in September 1953: Ascom may have been the most bombed city near Seoul



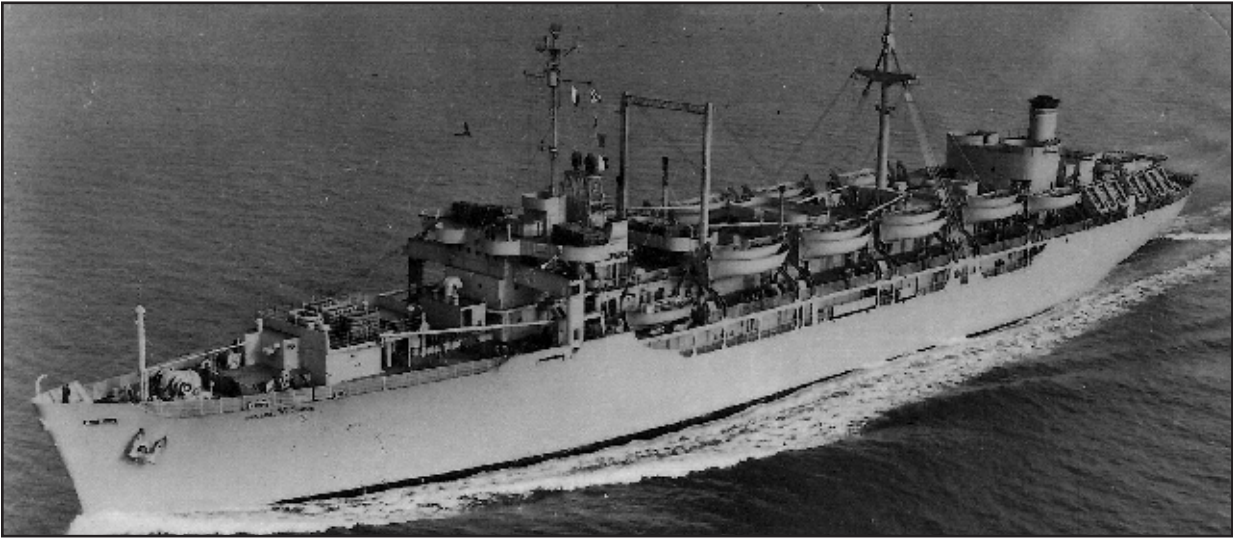
Troops gathering in the "dusting line" at Ascom City in September 1953



A close view of the "dusting line" at Ascom City in September 1953



Harbor activity at Ascom City near loading area



USS Howze, the homebound ship for Art Cheek and thousands more

Clandestine Jeep Maintenance

My father, Albert Harris, was a Captain in the Marine Corps Reserves. He served from 1943 to 1960 and was a decorated veteran of the Korean War.

In late July, 1951, Dad was the commanding officer of Easy (E) Battery, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines and was located just north of the 38th parallel in central Korea. He was near the "Punchbowl," which, in about 30 days, would be the site of one of the war's largest battles.

At the time, Dad had 8 officers and over 150 men reporting to him. There were very few 1st lieutenants holding that position, and he was preparing to go into combat. He had six 105 mm Howitzers that fired a 4.1" diameter, thirty-three-pound shell a maximum distance of seven



1st Lieutenant Albert Harris holding two Russian rifles he picked up the day after the battle for Hill 749. He lost 16 men helping take Hill 749 which was a part of the three-week long Battle of the Punchbowl

In Dad's battery, it seems they had a number of men who happened to be excellent car mechanics as well as soldiers.

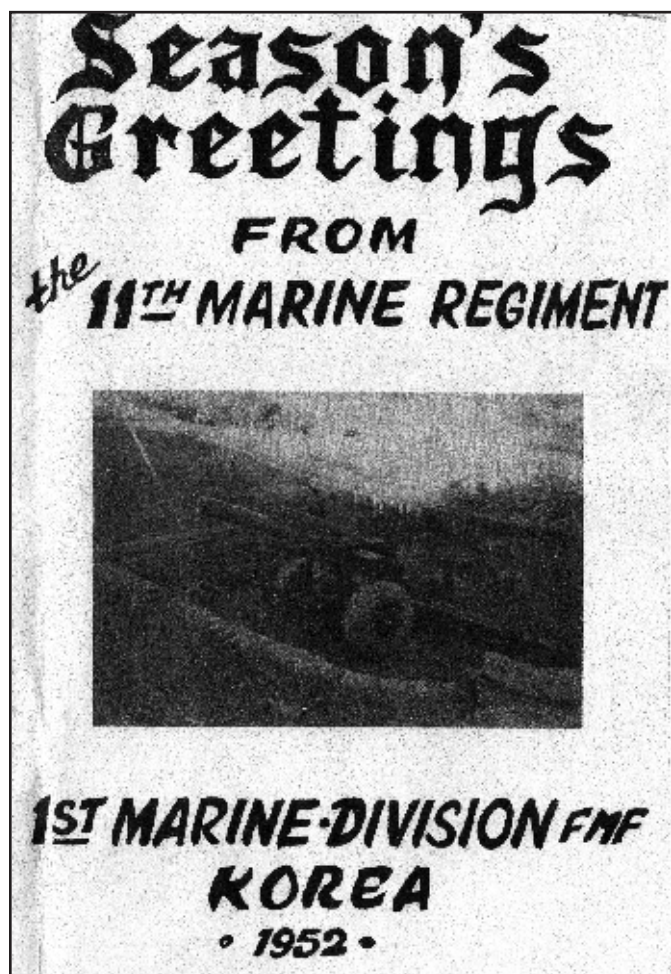
miles. The shell itself had a thirty-three-yard kill radius on impact and was ideal for supporting ground troops. In addition, he had thirteen 6-wheel drive trucks and two Jeeps.

Of the two Jeeps assigned to his battery, one of them was Dad's personal Jeep. With all the different types of equipment that the battalion had, vehicle maintenance was a constant issue. In Dad's battery, it seems they had a number of men who happened to be excellent car mechanics as well as soldiers. Regardless of a

Please turn to JEEP on page 79

Christmas Leftovers

This was the 11th Marines Christmas card in 1953. They just wanted everyone to know they were going to celebrate the holiday even if there was a war going on.



My dear friend:

The 11th Marines in Korea send their best wishes for a happy Christmas season.

I am sure that you are anxious to know what we shall be doing to enjoy the holidays here.

First of all, every man will be lonesome for his loved ones, and wishing he were there to spend the days with you. But we will have a full schedule of Divine Services, a Christmas dinner with all the trimmings, Christmas trees and decorations, music, and all the other customs that Americans associate with this happy day.

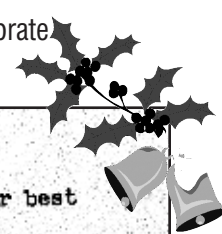
As you see, every effort will be made to make Christmas as home-like as possible, even under these difficult conditions.

I know that you will be thinking of your Marine on Christmas Day especially, and you may be sure that he is thinking of you.

All of us join in extending to you our best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year.

Sincerely yours,

H. N. Shea
Col. H. N. Shea, USMC
Commanding Officer
11th Marine Regiment



Remembering Frank Metersky

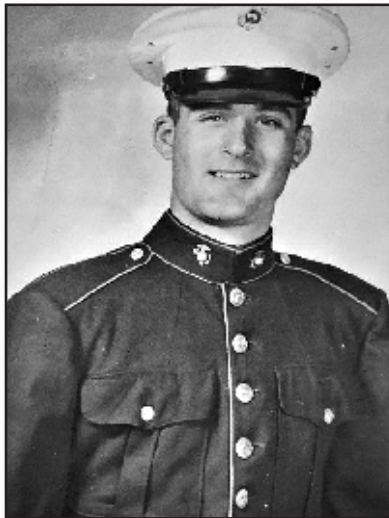
Frank Metersky, the foremost advocate of recovering the remains of U.S. military personnel left behind in North Korea during the Korean War, has joined his comrades in arms. Frank passed away at the age of 88 in Boyington Beach, Florida on December 14, 2021. He is survived by his wife Barbara, sisters Jo Jo and Marlene, and many nieces and nephews.

A successful businessman and Korean War veteran, he devoted thirty years to urging the U.S. government to send teams from the Central Identification Laboratory (CILHI) in Hawaii into North Korea to recover the remains of the 8,000 Missing in Action (MIA) U.S. personnel from the Korean War. Frank patiently and persistently pressed the White House, Pentagon, State Department, Congress and North Korea's United Nations delegation to initiate such an endeavor. He acted solely on his own initiative, paid all his own expenses, and sought nothing for himself.

Frank's motivation was purely personal. He was a Marine rifleman who survived the Battle of the Chosin Reservoir when some 120,000 Chinese People's Liberation Army soldiers stealthily surrounded 30,000 U.N. troops, mostly US Marines, in North Korea's northeast corner just as a blizzard buried the area in deep snow and plunged temperatures below zero.

Amazingly the Marines fought their way to safety but had to leave behind the frozen remains of many deceased comrades in arms. After being withdrawn to the Korean Peninsula's southern tip, he volunteered for a second combat tour and returned to the front line.

Frank insisted that the U.S. government was obligated to locate and to return the MIAs' remains to their families. Success came in 1995 when the United States and North Korea initiated Joint



Frank Metersky, U.S. Marine

Recovery Operations (JRO). Over the next decade 208 sets of remains were recovered and sent to CILHI for identification and return to their families. But in 2005 Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld ended the project.

Frank only intensified his effort to restart the program, but to no avail. Yet the JRO program remains the most successful and longest enduring example of US-North Korea cooperation. Without Frank's efforts it would never have occurred. I am proud to have worked with Frank as the State Department's North Korea Affairs officer who helped negotiate the JRO program's initiation.

Frank was a humble and gentle friend who exemplified the best qualities of what it means to be an American.

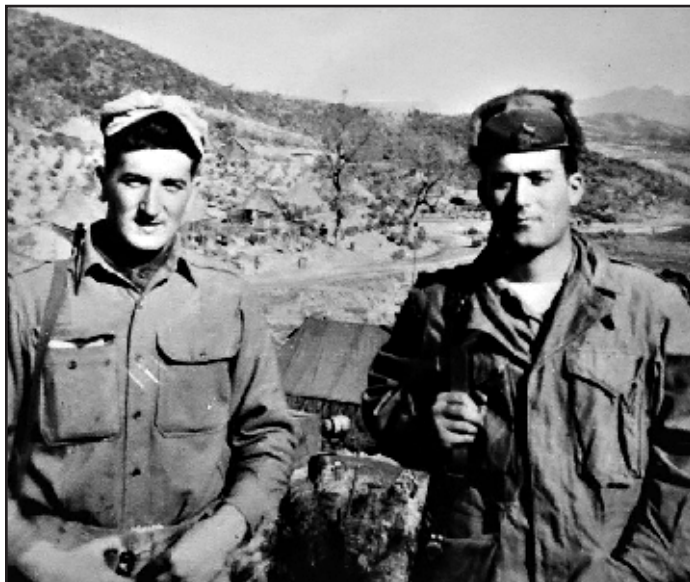
Mrs. Barbara Metersky and C. Kenneth Quinones, Ph.D., Foreign Service Officer, Retired, ckquinones@msn.com

Meanwhile, the North also Thursday criticized a Defense Department decision to halt missions to recover remains of thousands of U.S. soldiers from the Korean War and said it would disband its own search unit.

"In consequence, the U.S. remains buried in Korea can never be recovered but are bound to be reduced to earth with the flow of time," a North Korean army spokesman said, according to KCNA.

Washington said it was halting the missions, which began in 1996, out of concerns for U.S. troops' safety.

Why Donald Rumsfeld stopped the search (Source: Paris, TX, News, June 3, 2005 P. 15)



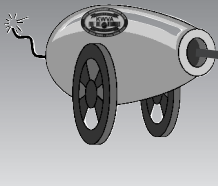
Frank Metersky (left) and his brother both served as Marines in Korea

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.

Sacred Target

[At Inchon] Our map had an area outlined by a big red line. We were not to fire at any target within that area. When I asked why, I was told that it was a brewery and a processing plant for Korean sake. Marines are Marines through and through. (Ron Nairn, How Co., 3rd Bn., 11th Marines)



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.

What is/was America's Longest War?

I thought you would be interested in a letter I wrote to the editor of the Wall Street Journal. It was published in the Journal in August 2021.

America's Longest War Wasn't in Afghanistan

I take issue with the WSJ's characterization that the "Afghanistan War" is America's longest war. First, the US decision to enter into conflict in Afghanistan was a result of the 9/11 attack on the United States. It wasn't just a war in or against Afghanistan, but part of a larger conflict against terrorism.

President George W. Bush described it as a "Global War On Terrorism." GWOT has many tenets, including finding and killing terrorists in Syria, East Africa, Pakistan (Bin Laden), and elsewhere. Many believe this war will last for generations and may include repeated operations into Afghanistan.

Secondly, America's real longest war was the conflict against Native Americans, entitled the American Indian Wars. Most historians characterize this "war" as beginning in 1609 and ending in 1924.

Finally, your readers should never forget the Korean War. It began June 25, 1950 and has never ended. Yes, a cease fire was signed July 27, 1953, but a state of conflict still exists on the Korean Peninsula. As a former Lead Negotiator with the NK Army at the DMZ, there was never a doubt in my mind we were engaged in a protracted war. Ask anyone who has ever been assigned to US Forces Korea or their fellow Servicemen who have as their primary mission to deploy in or near the Korean Peninsula in defense of the Republic of Korea.

Michael M. Dunn, Lt General (Retired),
USAF, mmdunn@yahoo.com

"After Second Korean War (1966-1969)"

I've received fan mail in response to my articles in The Graybeards occasionally, but this time, after my "Second Korean War" was published in the September-October 2021 issue, retired Colonel Warren Wiedhahn, who fought in the Korean War and the Vietnam War during his 33 years in the U.S. Marine Corps, commented on it.

"Dear Mrs. Park: Wonderful and historical article in the recent Graybeards! I am a veteran of 1950, (who fought) in Pusan Perimeter (Aug. 4- Sep. 18), Inchon Landing (Sep. 15th), Liberation of Seoul (Sep. 28), and Chosin Reservoir (Nov. 27-

Dec. 13.) I have always felt that the brave veterans who served in Korea between 1966-1969 did not get adequate recognition (for what they have done.) I hope your article spurs interest in that hazardous period of time in South Korean history."

I had an urge to jump and salute him in a military fashion, but since I have never been trained for such a quick action in my life, I calmly responded to him by sharing a few more tragic incidents that happened on that ill-fated Peninsula after the "Second Korean War" period ended.

Knowing all those who had served in Korea would find these incidents at least "interesting" and feel they deserved to be retold, I share what I wrote to Retired Col. Wiedhahn here again.

On 15 April 1969, a U.S. Navy Lockheed EC-121M Warning Star of Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron One on a reconnaissance mission was shot down by a North Korean MiG-21 aircraft over the Sea of Japan. The plane crashed 90 miles off the North Korean coast and all 31 Americans—30 sailors and 1 Marine—on board were killed. It was, according to the records, the first and largest single loss of a U.S. aircrew during the Cold War era. This plane's primary tasks involved acting as a long-range patrol and a warning device that conducted electronic surveillance.

Nine months before Saigon fell to Ho Chi-min's Communists in April 1975, South Korea's First Lady, Yook Young-sook, was assassinated on August 15, 1974, by a North Korean agent from Japan, named Moon Se-gwang. The day coincided with the 24th anniversary of Korea's liberation from Japan's colonial ruling on August 15, 1945, a few minutes after 10 a.m. at the Korean National Theater in Seoul, while her husband, President Park Chung-hee (1963-1979), stood at the podium delivering his presidential speech before a large audience.

The bullet that was intended for the president missed its target and hit the First Lady, who was sitting behind the president, instead. It then ricocheted across the stage, killing an innocent teenager in the first row in the audience too.

President Park, unaware of what had just happened, and ignoring the commotion created by the secret security agents as they hunted for the assassin, finished his speech, only to discover his wife had been shot. The First Lady died at a hospital that evening at 7 p.m. from brain injuries. A few days later, sitting before the TV screen in my home in Kansas City, I couldn't help but cry as President Park saluted "farewell" to his wife's

coffin as it was carried away by soldiers in their ceremonial uniforms.

Two years later, on August 18, 1976, the most gruesome occurrence, known as the “Ax Murder Incident,” happened at the DMZ, a strip of land heavily guarded by patrolmen in which unknown amounts of mines were buried in the soil. A truck full of North Korean soldiers crossed the northern side of the DMZ. When they arrived at the “Joint Security Area,” where the U.S. and Korean team was removing overgrown branches and leaves from a 100-foot (30 m) poplar tree blocking their view of the north side, they attacked them with axes, killing two American Army officers—Captain Arthur Bonifas (33) and First Lt. Mark Barrett (25.) For this incident, surprisingly enough, North Korea acknowledged killing First Lady Yook Young-sook.

No matter what you call North Koreans’ blunt attacks on the UN troops at the DMZ, long after the Korean War ended on July 27, 1953, even with an armistice the war between North Korea and the peace-seeking Allied forces will not end at any time soon.

Therese Park, tspark63@yahoo.com

I didn’t wet my pants, but...

This is in reference to the article in the Sept/Oct 2021 issue of *The Graybeards* regarding stories from members who provided crucial services outside Korea during the war.

I was in a Navy Air Transport Squadron, VR-21, later VR-23, stationed in Guam. There were a Marine squadron and a couple Navy squadrons in the air wing. Our mission was to fuel and service planes as they came through en route to Japan. We were in direct support and received the Korean Service Medal.

One day the pilot of an incoming Marine plane reported a problem with one of its four engines. After mechanics analyzed the problem they determined that the engine had to be replaced. I was with the pilot in the squadron office where I worked when he was notified the plane was ready to take up for a test flight. I asked him if I could go with him and he said, “Sure. Come on.”

There were two runways on the base. Pilots would rev their aircraft between them as they awaited instructions to take off. When the Marine pilot, who was known as “Hot Rods,” received his instructions to do so, he gave the plane full throttle, turned right, then left, and down the runway we went.

When we got airborne the pilot followed standard procedure, which was to turn off the new engine and then restart it. It made a banging sound and ejected a short ball of fire. I was scared. I was sure the plane had caught fire. I did not know that the pilot was following the required procedure or that the result was not out of the ordinary.

I didn’t wet my pants, but I came close. And I never asked to go on another test hop.

Bill Gaines, 4825 Old Spartanburg Rd., Taylors, SC 29687, 864-244-3077, bgaines2@juno.com

Misinformation? Disinformation? Or just plain missing information?

I was quite perturbed upon reading an article in *The Island*

Packet/*The Beaufort [SC] Gazette* dated Dec 26, 2021 intitled “First of 43,000 names added to Korean War Memorial in DC.” The author of the newspaper article was Michael E. Ruane of the *Washington Post*, but I am unable to find a contact to get in touch with him.

Good story, BUT then came a statement, “It’s nice that whoever is funding this is honoring our guys. And I do appreciate that. But as a family member I really would prefer to get the information on what actually happened to his father.”

Then, this sentence: “Funding for the \$22 million project comes from donations from the people of the United States and South Korea, the Park Service and the memorial foundation,” it said!!!

No mention at all that the funds are also coming from Korean War vets themselves! As a great example, you only have to look to KWVA Chapter 301 in Greenville, SC. After they reached their goal of \$20,000 (approx. \$350.00 per name) to cover the cost of the names of the 55 military personnel from Greenville County who lost their lives in this conflict or were POWs, they continued this fundraising effort throughout South Carolina counties. With the help of other SC veterans, Chapter 301 turned over \$225,186.60 (plus \$2,631.00 sent directly to WOR) to the Memorial Foundation at a news conference on November 1, 2021. At \$350.00 per name, this will place 643 names on the Wall.

I would think National KWVA would be interested in news like that regarding the Wall of Remembrance and want to be included—especially when it was a Korean War veteran, Retired Army Col. Bill Weber, and other vets who fought for the Korean War Memorial from beginning to end, and then fought for a Wall of Remembrance to be added.

I want to let KWVA know what is in some news articles that should be of interest to officers/members. KWVA officials and members ought to find this article interesting. Perhaps KWVA isn’t contacting news media enough so the Korean War veterans and the organization are acknowledged and remembered.

Here is the link to the article:<https://www.washingtonpost.com/dc-md-va/2021/12/23/korean-war-memorial-names-washington-dean-shot-down-granite-tons-crane-43000/>

Charlotte Ayers, 801 Mystic Dr. E., Beaufort, SC 29902, Member Chapter 303, KWVA Past Director, 843-524-8675, cmabftsc@gmail.com

Perhaps a larger South Korea?

I really enjoyed the November-December issue of *The Graybeards*. It was heartening to read about General Ben Davis and the exploits of Lt. Gordon Lippman and the 24th Infantry Regiment. History of this nature needs to be more widely distributed in answer to the “No CRT” mob.

A comment by Rob Lofthouse near the bottom of Column 2 on Page 67, however, prompts me to offer a rebuttal. Lofthouse wrote about the firing of General MacArthur by President Truman, saying it brought on the stalemate in Korea. Then Lofthouse said this: “Once again, political expediency triumphed over military strategy, resulting in greater loss of life and less-than-ideal results.”

The greater loss of life could have been avoided if MacArthur had stopped the northward advance of the UN in early to mid-November, 1950, when he knew the Chinese were infiltrating south. He had been ordered by Truman to stop advancing if Chinese troops were discovered, but Mac, thinking he knew better, kept going north. Mac's malfeasance and insubordination to his commander-in-chief cost thousands of lives and prolonged the war.

Had the advance been halted sooner, South Korea would have been bigger, and some of our troops might have made it home for Christmas.

Keep up the good work, Marine! As a retired technical writer and newsletter editor, I understand what a challenging job you have, and how well you have met that challenge.

Roger Digel-Barrett, K6/Camp Humphreys 1961-62,
Hq Battery 4th Missile Battalion, Nike-Hercules
SAMs, digbar1@yahoo.com

"Meddle" Ages

Congratulations for your well written article on the "meddle Ages." Your thoughts are my thoughts and probably the vast majority of all over the age of 70. You can't legislate morality or individual thought. Thankfully, I won't be here to see the outcome of this "mind control experiment."

Keep up the good work and stay the course!

Paul Freeland (25th ID-51-54),
freelandpauls44@gmail.com

Memories of Gaffney and Guam

I was amazed by the article from Chester Harvey about the USNS Hugh J. Gaffey. (See "More life with Gaffey," Nov/Dec 2021, p. 59)

There were fifteen of us in boot camp who got orders to VR-21 (later VR-23) at NAS Agaña Guam. We traveled by train from Great Lakes, IL to Treasure Island, CA. We boarded Gaffey January 9, 1951. Two friends and I were assigned to a deck detail chipping paint. The first morning the man in charge did not muster, so after lunch and no muster we did not report. We hid out the next morning. Again, no muster. So we hid out the rest of the way to Guam.

I roamed around the ship and found a storage room with a box of big red apples, so I took some for me and a few buddies. Next thing I knew a lot of guys wanted apples, but I would not tell anyone where I got them.

Anyway, we stopped at Pearl Harbor and had a six-hour pass, during which we visited Honolulu. After stops at a couple other islands we arrived at Guam January 25, 1951 and remained there until July 1952.

I have heard that Guam has really grown and lots of Japanese travel there for vacation. Also, there are high-rise hotels. It was pretty barren when I was there. I have said many times that I would like to see Guam today.

Well, so much about Guam and Gaffey, but the memories are nice.

William Gaines, 4825 Old Spartanburg Rd.,
Taylors, SC 29687

What happened to the Korean War Museum?

I noticed when reading the minutes of the past general meeting that there was NO mention of the Korean War Museum. I assume the museum is not to become a reality.

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

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Barilla's note also said that he would like some items he donated returned. That raises some significant questions: 1) What ever happened to the items that were donated to the museum? 2) For that matter, what ever happened to the museum? 3) How would a contributor get donated items returned?

If anyone has any answers to those questions or any information about the museum, please let Mr. Barilla know. And let us know too while you're at it.

Muster or Marilyn Monroe?

I was transferred from MAMS-12 at K-6 to the Marine Corps Air Base at Itami, Japan in November 1953. Marine aircraft came to Itami for heavy maintenance and then returned to their Korean bases. Our maintenance hangar was next door to the domestic airline terminal for Japan Airlines.

In February 1954 a military aircraft pulled up to the domestic terminal while our troops were lined up in front of the hangar for morning muster. We could see stairs being placed at the aircraft entry door and the door opened. Off stepped Joe DiMaggio and Marilyn Monroe, just back from their USO trip in Korea, and they went to the terminal.

Our troops recognized them. One called out "Marilyn" and many ran over to the terminal. There were five or six of us left looking at our Leading Chief and waiting for orders while he was calling out "Come back here you *^\$#@, nobody dismissed you."

The Leading Chief then gave us a stern look and said "What the hell is wrong with you ****birds? You are dismissed to your duty stations but stay away from the terminal."

Lew Bradley, lew.bradley@gmail.com

What did 'the wife' really think?

Canadian Asks To Stay on Korea Father-Son Team

By the Associated Press

SOMEWHERE IN KOREA, Feb. 22.—A veteran Canadian soldier has volunteered to stay in Korea for six more months so he and his son can go home together on rotation.

"I don't know what the wife will think," the father said, "but I believe she will understand. The lad and I have been seeing each other for months now and we'd like to finish it out together."

The father, Pvt. John J. Wheeler, 46, and son, Pvt. John, Jr., 22, both are serving with the 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. They are from West Selkirk, Manitoba. (Washington D.C. Evening Star, Feb. 22, 1952, p. A-5)



PRESS RELEASE

The 22: Korean War International Legacy Maranda Wilkinson - Coordinator
mwilkinson@the22koreanwar.org. Release Date: December 22, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Korean War Veteran Families Engage Online - Fight to Preserve Legacy New York: Over 70 years ago, war broke out on the Korean peninsula. Twenty-two United Nations allies, including the United States, came to South Korea's aid and fought to defend its people, freedom, and democracy. Often referred to as the Forgotten War, the Korean War stands as a testament to the ability of nations to stand alongside one another and fight for a common good. From the ashes of war, South Korea today is the 10th largest economic power in the world and a model of democracy. This significant progress is the legacy of those who fought to defend South Korea and should not be ignored. Now, Korean War veteran families, friends, and educators from around the world are fighting to preserve the legacy of those who served before it's too late.

Designed by the Korean War Legacy Foundation and sponsored by the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs of South Korea, THE 22: Korean War International Legacy (<https://the22koreanwar.org>) is a global community honoring veterans from the 22 countries that took part in the forgotten victory of the Korean War. Created to house veteran profiles, the website showcases submissions from around the world which include hundreds of photos and offer a unique and shared historical account of lived experiences throughout the war.

As we approach the 70th Anniversary of the signing of the Armistice which took place on July 27, 1953, fewer and fewer Korean War veterans remain with us to tell the story. THE 22 offers a means of preserving their personal accounts of sacrifice for future generations. Dr. Jongwoo Han, President of Korean War Legacy Foundation, encourages communities to preserve the memories of local heroes: "Please join people from across the world in honoring those who served in the Korean War, a chance to ensure that their legacy is not forgotten."

The growing collection of profiles offers stories of enlistment, experiences on the front lines, triumphs, losses, and more. Daughter of Joseph Farliano, United States Army, created a profile to honor her father and shared the reasons why he enlisted: "My dad enlisted in the US Army for two reasons; 1) to get three square meals a day and 2) to serve his country as a first generation American."

An international profile submitted from South Africa describes the pilot being shot down and taken POW by the Chinese while one from Colombia details being surrounded by a Chinese counterattack that resulted in only a few escaping capture or death. The winter campaigns are remembered and described in several profiles, including Francis Wentholt's, United States Army: "He spent November and December at the front line in frigid temperatures with only one pair of socks and without insulated boots. His feet turned black from frostbite."

With each passing year, fewer Korean War veterans remain to share their memories of the forgotten war that led to the success story South Korea is today. The fight to preserve their legacy is

South Korea today is the 10th largest economic power in the world and a model of democracy. This significant progress is the legacy of those who fought to defend South Korea and should not be ignored.

ongoing, and THE 22 urges families to share Korean War veteran stories from loved ones in its growing global community by registering and creating a FREE profile on <https://the22koreanwar.org>. May we never forget those who served and fought to defend democracy around the world.

About THE 22: Korean War International Legacy

THE 22: Korean War International Legacy is a global community of Korean War veterans, their family members, scholars, historians, and educators intent on honoring veterans from the 22 countries that took part in the forgotten victory of the Korean War. As heirs of their legacy, our goal is to preserve and share Korean War veteran stories, educate the public about the War, and come together to recognize the importance of the Korean War in our contemporary history as well as the legacy of the Korean War. Join us. Share educational resources about the War, explore the memories of the people who served, and create a free profile to honor a veteran who's close to you.

Sponsor



Henry Litvin

Henry Litvin

Henry Litvin was born on March 20, 1923, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In Philadelphia, Henry completed high school, college, and received his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania. Henry always felt that he was strictly a city boy who found himself in the middle of a war, having never gone farther from home than Florida.

Prior to the outbreak of the Korean War, Henry was recruited to enlist for two years of Naval service in exchange for four years of salary to help him through his unpaid medical internship at Philadelphia General Hospital. With World War II having recently ended, Henry never expected to end up in a far off foreign war

About the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs

The Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs, originally established in August 1961 as the Soldiers' Affairs Agency, promotes national pride by providing adequate compensation to those who have made distinguished service to the nation and honoring their noble sacrifice.

SAMPLE PROFILE

Here is a sample profile from the website:

Please turn to **LEGACY** on page 72

PRAYERS ON THE PERIMETER

By Moses Glidden

KOREA—PUSAN PERIMETER, LATE JULY 1950:

“Well, you worthless son-of-a-bitch, if you think it’s yours, why don’t you just come over here and get it?”

Been watching Dave Rogers clean his 30 cal machine gun. Notice its ground mount three feet behind him, ‘cause last night, behind enemy lines on recon, I lose mine. Nine months Dave’s been proddin’ me ‘cause I’m the youngest and last to join our unit. Him and two weeks of recon in Korea rub me raw.

Walking behind Dave, I pick up his ground mount. When he says, ‘Hey! That’s mine!’ I look him in the eye, cuss him out. Good fight might get this day off right.”

Dave Rogers takes Jesse Perkins’ challenge. The two PFCs are a good match: Jesse Perkins, 6 feet, 180 pounds of fearless gristle vs Dave Rogers, shorter but heavier, and, according to his jeep partner PFC John Hughes, “tougher than a sack of broken bricks.”

After trading head shots, it’s down to the ground, wrestling. Hughes watches them “rolling around in the dirt like a couple of walruses, so I stick my boot between ‘em and holler, ‘Hey you [bums]! Save it for the [enemy]!’ Fine thing, my best friends trying to make each other unfit for duty!”

From the sidelines, the more sanguine PFC David Morningstar watches the fun. Morningstar’s life will be vital to the destiny of this two-jeep quartet, dramatically altering the lives of the two drivers, Jesse and John. Both are going to need plenty of God’s help in their combat and civilian struggles. David Morningstar is a critical catalyst in their spiritual equation.

FORT WHIPPLE VA, PRESCOTT, ARIZONA, TUESDAY 1 JUNE 2021

Seventy-one-years later I head into the VA dentist’s office for some bridgework as this Palooka heads out. Sketch a mustache on that Sgt. Rock comic-book-figure of the 1950s and you get a fair representation of Mr. Jesse Perkins. His narrow-at-the-hip, squared-off broad shoulders and piercing



Early Army photo of Jesse Perkins

blue eyes cause me to mistake him for a man of 60, but the KOREA WAR VET on his hat stops me in my tracks.

I point at the hat: “What years?”

He gives me a gruff “1950 and 1951.”

I like talking to Korea War vets and writing about their experiences. I’m a tanker in the 2nd/72nd Armor at Camp Beard, Korea 1967—1968. I ask, “Would you mind a phone interview?”

He asks, “Want to come out to the house?”

The house is 40 miles away, up a dead-end mountain four-wheel-drive dirt road. Love it! Surrounding his compound are stark Korea-type mountains. No other houses in sight. The industrial-size metal gate and fence would halt the Huns. I push the gate button and a hundred yards away on the elevated porch a bell rings. A patient pause and the gate slowly swings back. A foreboding movie-set!

I drive in. Immediately on my left is a WWII army jeep planted up to its axles in dirt. I pull a u-turn in this corral of large metal sheds so I’m headed out. Now I look into the open doors of a three-car-garage, filled with drill presses and large metal mashing machines.

Mr. Perkins walks out to greet me. Trying to ingratiate myself, I say, “For twenty years I worked as a carpenter.”

Mistake one.

He looks down at me and cuts my carpenter to the bone: “Tell me. Got a piece of metal that’s too short? You can always make it longer. But...cut a 2X4 too short? Gotta throw it away, don’t ya!”

Oh well, I think, the drive out here was nice.

We walk into his mighty-fine house, Jesse takes one end of the long dining room table; I sit on the other. I clumsily set up my relic, a mini-dvd camera, propping the lens up on the lens cap, put my thumb on the record button, and ready myself for the first of three hours of “Pusan Perkins.”

Looking at my rickety apparatus, Jesse cocks his head to the side, and asks, “Don’t you have a cell phone?”

Without an explanation, I state, “My wife and I don’t have cell phones, cable, or internet.”

Over his shoulder Jesse says, “Hey, Linda! This guy ain’t got a cell phone.”

Looks back at me.

“How can you live without a cell phone?”

I don’t know, and I don’t say. His wife passes back and forth behind Jesse and smiles. Jesse splays his elbows on the table, lowers his face to his hands, and asks, “Where do I start?”

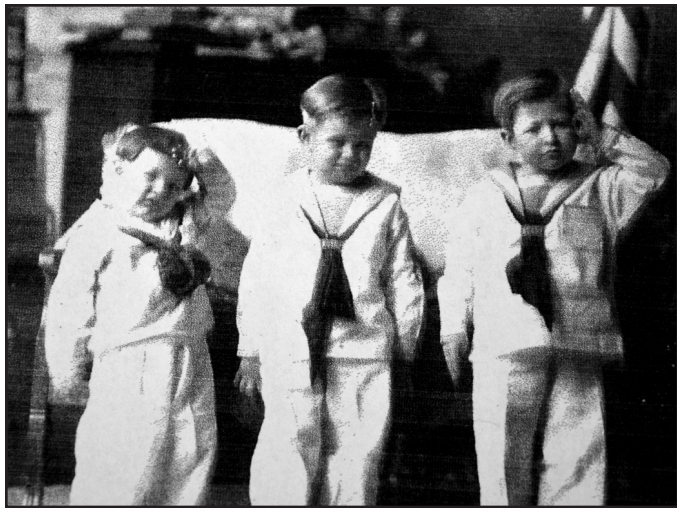
I say, “At the beginning,” and push the red button.

“I enlist in the Army on my seventeenth birthday, January 31st, 1949. Join up with my friend Bill Jones. Two months earlier Bill tried to enlist, but they catch him with lead weights hanging from his belt inside his pants. Makes the local papers. He’s skinny as a clothes line but over six feet tall. He fashions the weights on his mom’s stove in Telleson, Arizona.

“But Bill is determination. Outside the enlistment office, Bill opens his grocery bag and, one at a time, eats a whole bunch of bananas. Then he pulls out a jug, drinks



Jesse Perkins



The Morningstar brothers: Gordon/David/Paul Morningstar

a gallon of water. In we go. Bill steps up on the scales and just makes the minimum weight. He looks over at me and grins, then out the back door to throw it all up.

"Together we do basic, advanced training, then ship out to Japan. Bill goes to the 24th Division, I go to the 25th. Bill gets to Korea two weeks before me, captured at Taejon. Same fight General Dean gets lost, later taken prisoner. Bill's a prisoner for three years. See him back in Arizona after the war, but he never talks about captivity. He's on and off in trouble. Last I hear, Bill Jones re-enlists for Vietnam. Last I hear."

Jesse Perkins' fate with the 25th Division gets a twist from the past. In a Phoenix high school, with no interest in typewriters but the gorgeous teacher, Jesse signs up to get a semester of typing assistance. That unsought-for-proficiency gets Jesse a clerk-typist MOS in Japan. Sent over to Regimental Headquarters to fill the slot, he is instead given a choice dilemma: 1) Serve in Tokyo as one of General MacArthur's Honor Guards—or—2) be a driver for Intel&Recon in peace-time-Japan.

"Are you kidding? I'm eighteen-year-old! Who wants stand-stand, polish-polish, drill-drill when I can have in my hands a steering wheel of a four-wheel-drive jeep with a mounted machine gun and a long antenna whipping around everywhere I go!"

So off he goes for eight weeks of green-beret-type school stuff, and becomes a permanent fixture in Intelligence & Reconnaissance, Regimental Headquarters Co., 35th Infantry Regiment, 25th Division. Pvt. Perkins is now stationed at

the Otsu base next to huge Lake Biwa-ko, where the Japanese trained seaplane crews in WWII.

"In Headquarters Company, there are twenty-nine men in eleven jeeps. Supposed to be at least three men to a jeep, but everything's understaffed in Japan—military way underfunded. Equipment? Worn out WWII stuff. Holes in personnel up and down the line. Instead of three to a jeep, it's two: 1st gunner/driver and 2nd gunner/ammo man."

That fighting foursome's destiny begins with PFC John Hughes, first one to arrive in Japan. John says, "In peacetime Japan, Intel/Recon has a very narrow entry: recruits need a high IQ, must excel at a rigorous training school, and—if you survive that—pass a battery of formidable examinations. There are no mental slouches in our 35th Regimental Recon!"

John laughs, "Course once we get to fighting behind enemy lines in Korea—losing men left and right—Recon's door goes CinemaScope."

John laughs again. "No entrance exam necessary for a suicide job. Volunteer, and you're in!"

JAPAN—AUGUST 1949

PFC John Hughes welcomes fresh-from-the-states Pvt. Dave Rogers and Pvt. David Morningstar. Initially, John Hughes and David Morningstar team up in a jeep, and together rent a small house off base to relax and drink some. Dave Rogers and David Morningstar are fast friends, go halves on an off-base, illegal jeep so they can run around on pass.

MPs catch 'em in short order, bust 'em, and make 'em sell it. But it's peacetime Japan. Nothing is too serious. GIs buy a carton of cigarettes at PX for a buck, take it out the gate to trade for jugs of Japanese beer, get drunk and have money left over. The latest and youngest, Pvt. Jesse Perkins, arrives in late fall and is tagged as "Newbee," "Young-un," or just "Perk," dependin' on the circumstances

and consequences.

Jesse Perkins loves serving in Japan. "A million dollars couldn't get you the tour we get for free on our maneuvers." The 25th Division convoys run hundreds of miles up and down the main island of Honshu, and has war games on Mt. Fujiyama, pitting regiments against each other. One is a steal-the-flag type contest, and another a see-who-can-run-a-jeep-up-the-highest on the iconic volcano.

Jesse notes that, "The Japanese love General MacArthur, bend over backwards for him. And thus for us! We're in uniform on pass, walking down a street in the village, hearing a music shop play traditional Japanese music. That is, until we're three doors away. Suddenly it stops. Then, on comes the 78 'You Are My Sunshine.' When we get to the music store, nothing but big grins in the window as we go by."

John Hughes says, "Japan is a splendid time: on base, on maneuvers, on leave. But, nothing prepares us for the shock of war."

At the base of the iconic volcano, the 25th Division arranges for an individual competition on the rifle range, first prize, a three-day-pass. At a distance of 500 yards, Jesse Perkins hits fourteen straight bulls-eyes and wins the pass, starting on Tuesday the 10th of July 1950 in the city of Osaka. Strolling down the sidewalk on his second day of pass, two MPs halt and order Pvt. Perkins back to base by "the fastest civilian transportation available."

Headquarters Company is "deserted except for a clerk saying, 'Perkins, grab your arms, ammunition, C-rations, and get down to the rail-head where your unit is loading for Korea.'"

At the rail-head jeeps run up the flatcars. Jesse and the drivers are given the job of blocking the tires and wiring down the jeeps. To be combat ready, "we are told to wear goggles at all times and sit in our jeeps the entire trip."

Two-thirds of the way in their non-stop 380 mile ride, Jesse's train passes through Hiroshima—"just fragments of buildings and a few people walking around"—and then through a long tunnel under the ocean

connecting Honshu with the island of Kyushu.

“The tunnel goes on and on and on. It’s like a nightmare. And from one end to the other, salt water drips on our jeeps, our uniforms, our helmets.”

Arriving at the Japanese port of Fukuoka, near Sasebo, some hundred-thirty miles from Pusan, Korea, their jeeps are lifted by Japanese cranes onto a Japanese freighter. “We walk aboard but then are told to get into our jeeps—loaded with water and rations—and sleep in the jeeps on the voyage.

“For nine months I’m with my buddies Dave, and David, and John in Japan—don’t remember anyone mentioning Korea. Maybe in the last two weeks, but even then, we didn’t know what or where it is. All the time in Japan—our maneuvers, our maps, our strategy—is supposedly in preparation for the defense of Japan against a Russian invasion. Afterward we find out our maneuvers of late on Mt. Fuji are preparation for the Korean War.”

PUSAN, KOREA, FRIDAY THE 13th JULY 1950

The 35th unloads and forms up on the Pusan waterfront. A sharp explosion to the right catches Jesse’s attention. Covered with blood, an old man in traditional Korean dress slumps over his wife’s knees.



A grenade drops from an unloading vehicle, and, in wayward curiosity, the Papa-San, picks it up, pulls the pin. Stunned, Jesse watches as the wife sobs over her dead husband. A harbinger of the waves of sorrow coming for all levels of Korean civilians trying to escape the North Korean People’s Army (NKPA) or victims of mistakes by the U. N. Forces.

Jesse and John say the training in Japan is invaluable, but when training hits the fan of war, action becomes extemporaneous: each of their foursome develop new, creative reflexes. In the 35th’s Recon Platoon, 2nd Squad now has John Hughes teamed up with Dave Rogers, while 3rd Squad is Jesse Perkins and David Morningstar. This change might not directly affect the war’s ultimate destiny, but it creates a dramatic difference in each jeep: instead of the feisty Dave Rogers, Perkins now rides with a more-thoughtful, better-mannered David Morningstar.

When David Morningstar is born in 1930, both his mother and father are captains in the Salvation Army at Houghton/Hancock, on Lake Superior in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. In 1937, David’s mother dies of TB, and

Private Morningstar with shovel in Japan maneuvers

1950, spring in Japan: On jeep, Dave Rogers (L) and David Morningstar

all four of the Morningstar children ship over to grandma’s farm in Canada. David is now a farm boy.

His younger sister Ruth—now 87 and living in Florida—tells me over the phone that David is very athletic and that, “I ride everywhere on my bike to see him play baseball! I’m the youngest, with three older brothers. We form the gospel troupe, The Morningstar Quartet. We make the rounds of small churches in the farm country outside of London, in the province of Ontario, singing to the Glory of God.”

Ruth says, “David is so smart, he graduates from high school at sixteen, moves back to Michigan, down near Detroit, joining the Army at seventeen. When he gets to Korea, he just writes ‘not to worry’ because he’s nowhere near the front.”

The Morningstars never know David’s war service in Korea is playing out behind enemy lines in “Hell’s ballroom,” with Jesse Perkins, John Hughes, and Dave Rogers by his side. As a youngster on the farm during WWII, David and his brothers play war as much as anything, and though not the oldest, David is “the tallest and the strongest, and makes sure his brothers know it.”

His younger brother Gordon joins the Navy, serving on the aircraft carrier Valley Forge off Korea’s east coast simultaneously with David’s service in the Pusan Perimeter. Fighter planes from Gordon’s carrier support our boys fighting in the Pusan Perimeter—without air support, the North Koreans would surely swallow up all the boys on the ground.

In the other jeep are edgy John Hughes and wild Dave Rogers, both exulting in the sparks flying upward. War is a destiny raker, and the quartet of Jesse, David, John, and Dave plays daily with fate. John and Jesse say recon in Japan is chiefly jeep maneuvers. In Korea, over 50% of recon missions are night foot patrols through enemy lines, gathering intelligence. Concealing themselves during daylight, they return to their Headquarters Company, 35th Reg., 25th Division the next night.



David Morningstar (2nd from right) at high school graduation, about to join army at 17 yrs old

Colonel Fisher reminds us, “Your job is never to shoot except in self-defense! We don’t want them to know you are out there. Never provoke a fight. For killing people, we got all these guys back here on the line. Your job is gathering information, not drawing fire.” But there are times we do call in artillery or the air force to take care of a situation.

A recon squad may go solo, by twos or threes, or all the squads as one, depending on prior aerial, refugee, officer speculation/intelligence. No two intrusions are the same, and each one is a strategic peril.

Whether on foot or in jeep, 1st gunner/driver Jesse Perkins gets the reputation of “First one in, last one out,” after his initial patrol. With 2nd gunner/ammo

man David Morningstar riding shotgun, Jesse leads his #3 squad, 4-jeep patrol on a two-track path through woods and over mountains. In this daylight recon run, drawing near enemy territory, another outfit’s jeep, with a lieutenant, rushes up behind, its horn blowing to “Clear the way!”

3rd Squad pulls off in the grass, Jesse waving them on, and the “looie” races ahead. Jesse’s patrol resumes, keeps a two-hundred-yard separation. In a blink, the lieutenant’s jeep is blasted high in the air by a landmine! Jesse’s patrol pulls alongside the wreck—the two dead bodies—reports the location/situation, and moves on. Jesse whispers, “Thank You Lord for sparing our lives.” Jesse relates this story in a tomblike-quiet voice. Then—after a pause—he adds quietly, “This is the first time God saves my life in Korea.”

Time to add that when they return from a mission to Headquarters—whether it is one, two, three, or all four squads—none of the enlisted men sleep in a tent. Jesse says, “We throw our shelter halves away right away and we sleep on the ground. When it rains, we cover up with our ponchos and helmets. This is combat and we have no place but the dirt to lay our heads.”

On the next mission, Headquarters

Company sends out the entire recon: 29 men in 11 jeeps, led by Captain Smith. There is “a vermin infested village behind enemy lines,” and it’s the 35th Regiment’s job to get the skinny on the situation. Behind enemy lines on a simple dirt road comes a narrow, high embanked pass, holding back rice paddies on either side. Once through, the jeeps scatter up a small mountain to set up the observation post. The village in question lies far below.

Waiting for dark, here come two Air Force P-51s, into a dive. They machine gun the village. Pulling a quick u-turn, they now hit it with napalm, and withdraw over another mountain. Suddenly David Morningstar points up, shouting, “Spotter plane!” and the captain yells, “Head for cover!” Jesse says, “We scattered like a covey of quail.

Captain forgets to put out today’s color-code ID panels so we can be identified by air, and....here they come again, 50 caliber guns a-blasting. My jeep’s hit and the sergeant’s 50 cal is destroyed—boy, is he mad!—but — miraculously—no one’s wounded.”

John Hughes gets on his 30 cal and squeezes a few off at the P-51’s going away. “Nobody shoots at me and don’t get shot back at,” John says sounding like Billy-goat-gruff.

Much worse to come. Way down there, chugging up from the village comes a fire-engine-red deuce-and-a-half, full of South Korean refugees escaping the North Koreans. Back come the P-51s, straight for this new target. Jesse says, “Can’t do a thing but stay undercover and watch in horror. Right in that tight spot, the pass between the paddies, their truck is hit, disabled. The refugees are burning in napalm, shot up, dying.”

Jesse stops. Looks down. “Their disaster has trapped us as well, and all night long we listen to the cries of wounded and dying. Can’t give our position away or the enemy regiment will wipe us out.”

Jesse won’t even look up. “Next morning we phone Headquarters and they send out a company of men, three ambulances, and a tank-retriever to clear the deuce-and-a-half’s carcass. We are new to Korea and this stuff is like a tire-tread across our memories.”

Soon enough Jesse and Dave brawl



Jesse Perkins and siblings here Ed/Dorothy/Barbara/Jesse at seven

over the machine-gun mount, and John's there to break it up. "Can't fight here," John adds, "We gotta depend on each other!"

A few days later there's an active night tank battle between some Russian T-34s and our Shermans. Colonel Fisher calls Jesse in to, "Assist the medics and bring out the wounded!" Driving to the encounter, Jesse finds a lieutenant shot in the face, stuffs a rag in his mouth, and puts him in the 2nd gunner's seat. Off he roars, but it's night and he only has those dim slit headlights on.

"Lieutenant waves his arms for me to slow down, but I'm getting away from those tanks; wanna be alive tomorrow morning!" KA-BLAM!!!! Jesse hits the back end of a stalled deuce-and-a-half, tossing the lieutenant up on the jeep's now crumpled hood.

"Side-bar here," Jesse says. "Before boarding the Japanese freighter to Korea, we get orders to remove our windshields. No explanation. We do and throw 'em in the ocean. Kinda shallow, so we see 'em pile up down there. Someone else comes along and says we shouldn't have taken our windshields off, but it's done, and there they are.

"Now here's this lieutenant is on my hood—no windshield to stop him. Poor guy. Can't scream. He's shot in the mouth. Man—does he give me a look!"

Jesse puts it in reverse, gets himself loose, and creeps the jeep to a MASH where he dumps the lieutenant. "Then I nurse the jeep back to what goes for our motor pool. Sergeant Simpson takes a look at my jeep, says, 'Well, Perkins. Looks like from now on you'll be walking.'"

"Back at Headquarters I tell my sad tale to Dave Rogers as we set up on the dirt to get some sleep. Dave says, 'Don't worry about it. We'll get you better one tomorrow night.' Next night after dark, up pulls Dave with a borrowed deuce-and-a-half. 'Don't ask. Jump in.' Off to the 25th Division Supply Depot. I get out, pick out the best jeep and drive it back to Headquarters. Once we're sure Sgt. Simpson ain't around, we park it, erase the numbers and put on new decals: same numbers as my old jeep.

"Next day Sgt. Simpson sees me at my new jeep. 'Where did you get that jeep, Perkins?' I cold eye him. 'Same one I've always had, Sarge.' He smiles, says, 'Right. Nice looking jeep except for all the new decals.' Then, like he's changing the subject, 'Did you know the general is missing his jeep?' and walks off. I grin. What's the general gonna do? Arrest me? Court martial me? Take me outa here and put me in a safe place? Till I'm wounded and sent to Japan, that's my jeep!"

Next mission is an odd one. "A friendly village a few miles outside our lines is being used by the North Koreans on a nightly basis. They infiltrate, eat the villager's food, rape the women, and put the men to slave labor—take 'em out at midnight, force 'em to dig huge holes in the road to make it impassible should UN units make a move outside the perimeter. North Koreans leave before daybreak.

"We get orders to solve the problem. Been a while since we go behind enemy lines in daylight. We requisition a half-track with quad 50s. Those guns will cut big trees down like a chainsaw though bamboo. Arriving, we call out the villagers. 'In thirty minutes we are burning your village to the ground. Take what you can, now!' Women start a fuss, but our interpreter assures them

we mean business. In half-an-hour the village is gone and so are we. War is a miserable line of work."

Next time it's a nighttime foot patrol: "There are eight of us, plus a new 2nd lieutenant tagging along for training purposes. Corporal William Hurt is our squad leader. Penetrating the enemy lines, we set up in a deserted village to observe enemy movement. We conceal ourselves at daybreak—sleep, guard duty, or sit waiting for night so we can return to Headquarters.

"A perimeter guard rushes up to Corporal Hurt, whispers, 'Big [North Korean] unit—company or battalion—on the other side of the village, getting ready to quarter here!' Hurt takes a peek, comes back, tells the 2nd lieutenant, 'Sir, we are leaving this village now!'

2nd Lieutenant—only there to get recon experience—replies, 'No! Orders are to stay put in this village until nightfall. We are not moving.' Hurt said, 'We are leaving.' 2nd Lieutenant phones Headquarters, reports. Colonel Fisher says, 'Lieutenant, I suggest you leave with the men.'

"We successfully slip out of the village until we come to a seventy-yard-wide opening before the brush of the adjacent mountain. The North Koreans spot us and fire. No one's hit, and we're up one side of the mountain and down the other. Maybe two hours. Resting a minute on the bottom, we stare down a two-track in disbelief: here comes a GI patrol of nine soldiers—What are they doing behind enemy lines? Are they crazy?

"Staggered as they should be, they head in our direction. One-hundred-fifty yards away, the North Koreans, following us, ambush them! Kill 'em' all in thirty seconds. We're reconnaissance, intelligence, concealment—Green Beret stuff before there is such—we have our one mission. We have no chance against this big NKPA outfit.

"Unknowingly, these GIs give their lives for us. We keep cover, keep the 2nd Lieutenant quiet, waiting for night to take the intelligence back to Headquarters Company. We are miserable for those GI's, but this is war and no soldier can stand still in sorrow. Must put the energy of remorse into battlefield revenge.

"Next recon is only my #3 Squad of four jeeps. Once beyond the enemy's perimeter and reconnoitering, we're spotted. Enemy sets a machine gun on the hill behind us, cutting off our escape route, pins us down." Hours of zig and zag and eating dirt builds a crazy rage in Jesse. "Sometimes your reason fuse-box blows. I'm no hero, but this intensity steps me out of character. Inconceivable beforehand. I tell Cookie—Cooke was his real name—'Wire me up to the 3.5 bazooka and tap me on the back when it's ready.'

"He does and I do, walking right out in the middle of the road—plain sight of the machine gun—put the cross-hairs on his nest and pull the trigger. Rocket takes off, swirling in wide, wild spirals. I'm thinking, 'Well hell. That stupid rocket ain't gonna hit nothin'! At the last second it takes a dive, right in on the button. With the nest gone, it's 'Thank you Lord,' hop in the jeeps and get the hell back to safety!"

The love affair Jesse Perkins concocts with recon jeeps in Japan is running out of gas in Korea. Approaching Colonel Fisher, Jesse asks for a transfer. "Sir, I'm tired of being on the run. I want my own real estate. I want to dig a deep foxhole and get to know

the guys on my left and on my right. I want to be a sane soldier on a stable line.”

Looking at Jesse, the colonel drops his head and sighs. With true heart he says, ‘Jesse, I wish I could. I honestly would love to help you. Problem is, you are too valuable. You are my eyes and ears behind the lines. You know how to survive and have become the expert of getting in and out of tight spots. I can’t let you go. Perkins, as long as I am here, you’ll always be first in and last out!’” Did not Napoleon select his lucky general to lead his next expedition?

KOREA: PUSAN PERIMETER, Tuesday 31 July 1950

Three weeks pulling recon at what will be known as the Pusan Perimeter gets Jesse’s outfit a lead part in General “Johnnie” Walker’s BIG GAMBLE: Walker swings the 35th Regiment of the 25th Division from where it is at Taegu, down fifty miles to the southwest, buttressing an artillery battalion near Masan. At perhaps the most critical moment of the Korean War, General Walker intuitively anticipates the NKPA’s next move.

North Korea’s leader, Kim Il Sung, decides that on the 15th of August—the 5th anniversary of the defeat of Japanese forces in WWII Korea—the NKPA will ice the cake with the blood of all United Nations’ forces. Total annihilation. Of the four NKPA thrusts, the major thrust will be to the southwest corner of the perimeter, blasting through Masan to Pusan.

Jesse Perkins remembers Walker’s order to Gen. Kean’s 25th Division with unabashed relish. “It is a dream come true! You know how convoys go: Slow! Slow as the slowest vehicle. This time orders say ‘Take off! It’s a rat race! Every vehicle goes as fast as it can: bypass the slow!’ Imagine the joy of a jeep-driving teenager getting this order! Captain says, ‘If your vehicle breaks down, too bad. Push it off the road and grab a ride from anybody who’ll pick you up.’”

“We sandbag the jeeps so we can corner like a race car. The joy ride of my life! David Morningstar, my shotgun navigator, is by my side, beaming like a badger with a sack of fresh mice. Never look at the speedometer. I know I’m averaging 60 miles-per-hour on these raggedy Korean roads. We go—he makes a whistling noise to accompany his hand making a dive like a P-51—“down to Masan, set up a defensive position next to an artillery battalion. We’re never told—before or after—what it’s all about, but it is fifty-miles of pure jeep-adrenaline.”

In 24 hours, by road and rail, Walker shifts the entire 25th Div with outlandish efficiency, and Jesse and the recon boys help halt the NKPA’s troops—who are highly experienced and highly motivated—in their tracks. A blood bath for both sides; but, a decisive victory in a dark hour.

Before the battle General “Johnnie” Walker addresses his troops: “There will be no Dunkirk....A retreat to Pusan would be one of the greatest butcheries in history....Capture by these people is worse than death itself....If we must die, we will die fighting together. Any man who gives ground may be personally responsible for the death of thousands of his comrades....I want everybody to understand that we are going to hold this line.” And hold them they do. Following the battle, recon again witnesses the brutality of the enemy: GI prisoners shot in the head, hands tied behind

their backs.

The 35th Regiment gets a Presidential Citation for its part, but Colonel Michaelis and his Wolfhounds are the most decorated unit of the 25th Division at this state of the war. Often, US/UN troops and ROK units fight side by side, covering each other’s flanks—not always with the best results. During this battle, Col. Michaelis is aghast seeing the South Korean outfit on his left flank in retreat. Michaelis phones the highest officer in the ROK Army, General “Whitey” Paik Sun Yup, to say, ‘Your ROK Army is bugging out and I must withdraw before my line of retreat is cut.’ Gen Paik begs Michaelis, ‘Don’t do it just yet. Hang on till I can get up there and see what is going on.’

Paik jumps into a jeep, roars up where this ROK outfit, in the face of the enemy, pulls off a mountain. The officer in charge tells Gen Paik his men haven’t had ‘a drop of water to drink in two days’ and are exhausted. Paik orders the troops to sit down and listen. He thanks them for their hard fighting, then says, ‘We just don’t have room to retreat any more....If we run now, Korea is done for. Look at those American troops over there. They’re fighting because they trust the ROK Army; and, if we retreat, we bring shame down on the entire ROK Army. We are men of Korea; let us fight for this land. We’re going to turn around and kick the enemy off our ridge, and I shall be at the front. If I turn back, shoot me.’”

And kick they do, retaking the mountain, reestablishing the front. Col. Michaelis later apologizes for his call. “When I [see] the division commander [Gen. Paik] himself leading the attack, I [know] the ROK Army [is] God’s own force.” With General Walker’s starch and the United Nations’ guts, the enemy fails to put the “Happy” on Kim Il Sung’s “Anniversary” cake.

August 1950 is a toss-up tussle, with a mix of despair and levity for young, displaced American males. John Hughes/Dave Rogers’ of #2 Squad and Jesse Perkins/David Morningstar’s #3 Squad go behind enemy lines at different times to witness the same macabre scene: dozens of G.I. prisoners, hands tied behind their backs with wire or rope, shot dead in the face or in the back of the head. The North Koreans leave them like a Mafia message.

But instead of terrorizing our soldiers, it gives them extra bite. Recon members swear to each other, “Never surrender! Die fighting!” When the Stars and Stripes prints photos of the executed men, soldiers cut the photos out, stuff them in their helmets. Never forget!

On a lighter side, in 100+ heat, David Morningstar, Jesse Perkins, and a fleet of soldiers bathe sans suits in a shallow river when a correspondent jeep fords their tide, carrying the most famous American female in Korea, New York’s Herald Tribune’s reporter, Marguerite Higgins.

A month earlier, Army brass orders Marguerite out of Korea—“no place for a woman”—but her restoration comes by back-home newspaper pressure and General MacArthur’s acquiescence: “Let her stay,” says the Big- Mac-Cheese. Jesse Perkins says her watery bisection of the Nakdong River whets the eyes of both genders! The swimming soldiers stand as she goes on her way, laughing and saluting!

...to be continued

WILLIE JOHNSON – U.S. ARMY

Excerpts from *The Times of My Life*, by Willie Johnson. Willie and another soldier, Bella, were sent to Bloody Ridge.

**Second Indian Head Division, 23rd Infantry, Heavy Mortar Company,
Forward Observer for 4.2 mortar**

ACTION AHEAD

As we neared our destination we could hear sporadic rifle fire to our front. It got louder as we proceeded and we commented to one another that we likely were headed into some serious problem and up ahead we could see soldiers lined up in a trench firing downhill sporadically at what I assumed to be the enemy. As we approached the soldiers looked at us with obvious curiosity and suspicion and several turned their weapons in our direction. We began to yell at them and explain who we were and asked where the C.P. was.

“Where the hell y’all come from? We near about took a shot at you,” one soldier offered. “Y’all better get your butts down in this trench before you catch a sniper round.”

On up the line I saw a soldier rushing in our direction along the downside of the trench, obviously shouting some kind of orders. One soldier offered that it was the platoon sergeant. He soon arrived at our position.

“Keep y’all’s butt down and everybody fix bayonets; we’re expecting a charge of Chinese about dark,” he ordered.

“Who the hell you two people?” I never saw you before!” the sergeant barked, eyeing Bella and me.

“We’re 4.2 forward observers ordered up here to help y’all out; where you want us?” I shot back at him. “And I don’t really give a damn about being up here, Sarg’!”

“Why didn’t you say so? We need y’all bad,” he replied. “Lay in a concentration out in front and be prepared to bring it in close and to sweep it up and down the main ridge line where all our troops are spread and don’t drop none in on us, I know what kind of damage them 4.2 rounds can do. And don’t worry ‘bout the C.P. right now. You can talk with the Co. Commander later if you live.”

We hunkered down a few yards behind the trench and began laying in a number of concentrations with one round of white phosphorus, making adjustments when necessary and bringing them in as close as I felt was safe for our troops. Even so I heard several nervous outbursts from the troops when they felt the rounds were getting too close.

After I was satisfied with where the rounds fell I advised fire control center to ‘Mark concentration#1, #2’ and so on. I logged these points on my map, as did fire control, so that at any given time I could contact them and call for fire missions on any one of the concentrations.

By this time it had started to get dark. Bella and I had taken up a position in the trench with the troops and they approved of

our company. I continued to view the terrain out in no man’s land with my binoculars but as yet, as far as I could tell, there was no enemy movement.

The terrain to our immediate front sloped downward at approx. 40 deg. for about 100 yards. It was mostly bare of vegetation due to

the many rounds of heavy artillery, napalm, and mortar fire that had severed most of the trees up to eight or ten inches in diameter, leaving stumps of various heights with ragged cuts. Any tree that had survived the vicious shrapnel was left with bare branches, all leaves having been blown away by the explosions.

Farther down the terrain tapered off to about 20 or 30 degrees with enough vegetation and bushes for the enemy to be hunkered down in while waiting for the darkness which was to cover their attack—assuming it was true there was an imminent attack expected. I never was privy as to where and how these expectations were derived, but in our case it would come to pass. This night would not be an exception.

Darkness came and just being crouched down there was real hard. Suddenly, all hell broke loose. Mortar rounds began to rain in on our position. There was also artillery fire, but most of it went over our heads and was for the most part ineffective.

Mortar fire was more effective simply because of its lobbing effect. That is, it was fired from two to three thousand yards distance high into the air and came from a vertical direction, whereas artillery was fired most often from many miles away in a more direct line of elevation. This was expected before an attack to soften us up and hopefully keep our heads down while the enemy advanced.

We knew they were on the move, but they had a lot of ground to cover before they reached our position and it was all uphill for them. The enemy bombardment would cease soon as they neared our position. I had already notified my fire control of the situation and they were on stand-by. As soon as the enemy lifted their bombardment I knew they were nearing our position.

Suddenly the shelling ceased. Soon after we would hear many voices screaming, yelling, and making all kinds of noise from the darkness out front. I had heard about the Chinese and their troop charges. There was also the trumpet blaring away during the charge, which we surmised was to sort of act on our minds. We thought it was stupid.

About that time a number of flares were fired into the air by our line troops. Suddenly it was like daylight. The number of Chinese to our front was unbelievable. It wasn’t a line of troops; it was a continuous body of enemy troops emerging from the shrubs and trees below us. I called for my mortars to begin starting with #1 concentration and rounds began to rain down on the enemy. I watched the advancement and made adjustments with my rain of hell where needed.

Contributed by Sun Kim,
sunmkim@aol.com



Willie Johnson after completion of basic training in 1951

The Chinese were many and were for the most part bunched up, which is mostly discouraged on the field of fire. But, there were so many of them that they just naturally formed into a bunch. The enemy wasn't progressing very much as our troops were cutting them down like so much grass. When my 4.2 High Explosive rounds fell amongst them great numbers would fall. In most cases they fell in many pieces.

Looking closely, I was astounded to observe that the enemy troops following close behind the front line had no weapons. They would simply snatch a weapon from a fallen comrade and continue to charge. The flares were constant and the enemy were easy targets. They were soon stumbling over their own fallen troops chanting, yelling, and blowing that damned trumpet in their irrational charge. It was maddening, and I thought to myself that this was the 'HELL ON EARTH' so many people described war as being.

After making an adjustment to my field of fire I started firing my own M-1 into the horde of enemy. It was like shooting ducks. One fell; another picked up his weapon and continued. We were also sustaining casualties as we were in a trench with upper part of the body exposed as necessary to offer the resistance required. The enemy was also pounding us with their heavy mortars that claimed many of our men's lives before the night was over.

Flares kept popping high in the air that kept it bright as day. The enemy kept falling, stumbling, and crawling. It was suicide on the part of the enemy. They might just as well have made the charge in broad daylight.

After about an hour of this, the enemy started to fall back, leaving their fallen behind. The flares died down and a strange quiet fell over the front line. But no one was completely relaxing

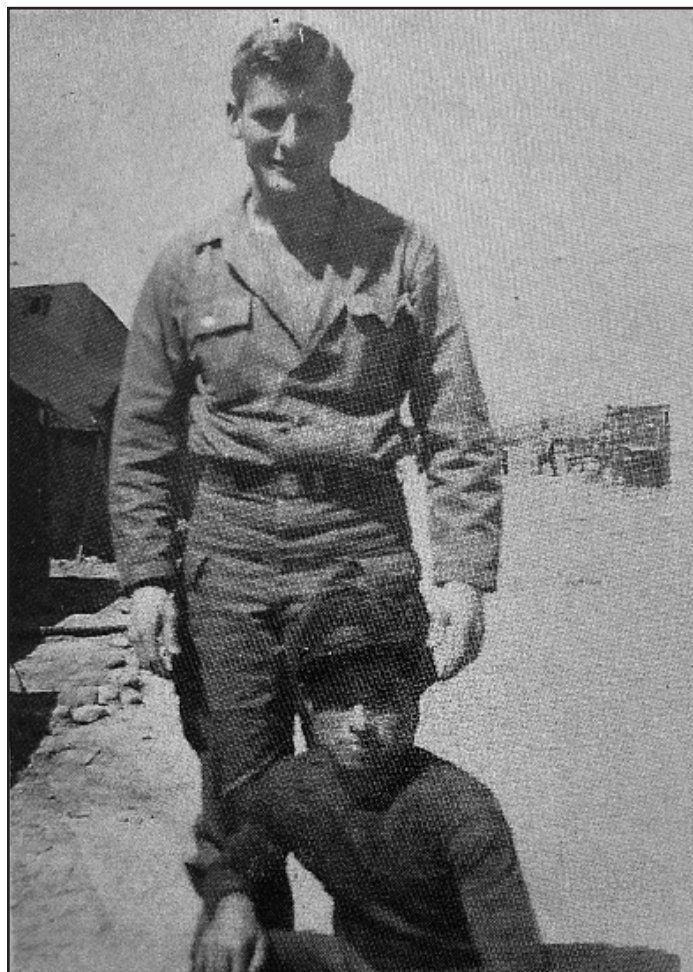
as yet. There was just enough light from the moon and stars over 'no-mans-land' for us to distinguish the many fallen bodies heaped up on the slope before us.

Everyone was tired and exhausted. Some of the soldiers found a depression of some sort in the dirt and tried to sleep. Rounds of harassing enemy mortar fire fell periodically about us. Likewise, I moved my field of fire down the hill to an area where small brush and trees might offer the enemy cover, only I mixed the High Explosive with a bit of white phosphorus (WP), mainly because it was easier to make corrections in the darkness and would cause severe burns to the skin. WP might not kill, but it would surely put enemy troops out of the fight.

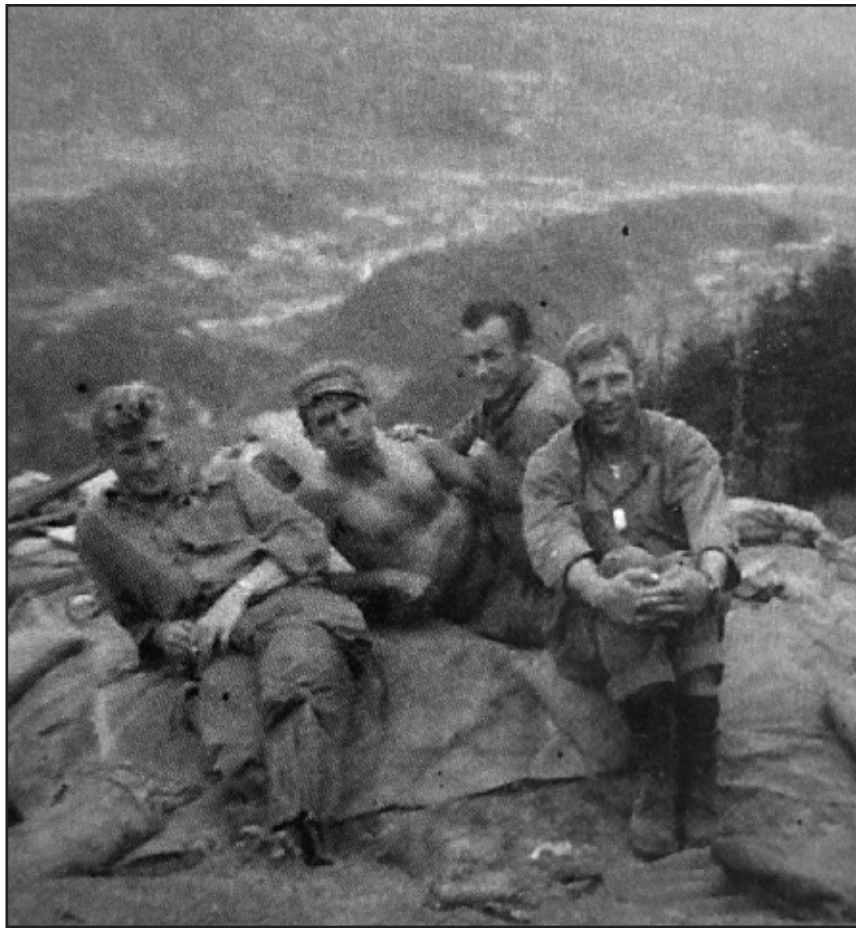
TENDING THE WOUNDED AND THE DEAD

The medic worked on through the night tending to the wounded. The stretcher-bearers likewise labored painstakingly, moving the seriously wounded down the hill to an area where a Mobile Army Surgical Hospital' (M*A*S*H*) retriever helicopter Bell-H-3D was able to land. There were hardly any areas on the hill that were safe for the chopper to land first. They would likely have been brought down by snipers had they tried. The little chopper had two gurneys, one on either side, just above the landing skids. The wounded soldier was strapped down and away would go the chopper back to the M*A*S*H*.

Daylight came on Bloody Ridge this day, about the first week of August as best I can recall. Most of the injured troops had



Willie Johnson on his return to Korea



(L-R) Will, Frenchman, Bella, and Pete with Punchbowl in background

three other troops racing for another hole in the ground that was probably made by a bomb on another day. The three troops reached their safe place first and I saw them dive head on into the depression. Just as Bella and I reached our safety, a round dropped directly into the depression with the three soldiers.

I could easily make out the many body parts that flew into the air mixed with dirt and rocks. Earlier on I had vowed that I would not step on body parts. The very idea gave me the creeps, and if I ever did I wasn't aware.

Fighting was continuous. The sudden shelling was nerve-wracking. A round could explode about you, say just below the ridge or an embankment, and you not catch a piece of shrapnel. The explosion causing the sudden increase in pressure about you caused your ears to pop and the ringing them remained loudly for quite some time. Today I blame these terrible explosions for my declining sense of hearing.

Bella and I moved about this hellish land for about seven or eight days before John Phelps and his radioman, whose name slips my memory, made it up the hill to give us some relief. We hunkered down and visited for a spell.

John and his radio trooper had brought along some kind of dried packages of spaghetti mix as well as a tin of some sort of heating agent that would burn when set with a match. We built up a kind oil platform around the heating element and placed someone's helmet over it—minus the liner, of course—dumped in the spaghetti with a bit of water from a canteen, and sat back. When it came to a boil, we each dished up a bit into our tin dish and ate it. We couldn't say that it was delicious, but it was different from the C-rations we were used to.

been evacuated by now, but the stretcher-bearers continued to ferry the dead down the hill. Below, in no-man's-land, we could see the enemy recovering their injured which were many. The dead were left on the field to swell in the blazing sun. The maggots would eventually clean the bloated carcasses. How this particular hill got its name was obvious. The fighting was furious, and almost continuous.

The Chinese were intent on taking the hill; we were just as intent on retaining it. It had already been lost to the enemy once before, even as it had been taken from them in the first place. Incoming rounds of artillery and the 120 mm mortars from the desperate Chinese took their toll on our troops, and I knew for sure that our artillery and mortars were taking a toll on the enemy. The hill was ours, but the enemy wasn't giving up easy.

Firefights broke out continuously along the ridge, day and night. Rifle fire, exploding grenades, and mortar fire could be heard all up and down the ridge. Often, we were called to move to different locations along the ridge which in effect put Bella and me in the awkward position of exposing ourselves to sudden incoming mortar fire. Most often we were not near a trench or bunker for protection.

On one occasion rounds started falling about our immediate vicinity. It was about midday and visibility was clear. After the first round exploded there flowed a number of yells from the troops. "INCOMING, INCOMING! HIT THE DIRT!"

Bella and I spotted a fair size depression some twenty yards ahead of us and we began to run for it. Farther on ahead I saw



Willie Johnson in July 2021

Korean War service in Alaska

By Richard Aronson

In early December, 1953, I received orders to report to Ladd Field, Fairbanks, Alaska, departing from San Francisco on the USNS William M. Black, a Military Sea Transportation Service ship (MSTS) servicing Korea, Japan and Alaska before and after the war.

My bunk was located in an area that held around 30 men. I was on the fourth and top hammock. This was good break for me, as many men were seasick and threw up over the side. It missed me!

My bunk was located in an area that held around 30 men. I was on the fourth and top hammock. This was good break for me, as many men were seasick and threw up over the side. It missed me!

In the early mornings, I left the sleeping area and went to a higher deck and sat for hours under the warm air exhaust coming from the engines. The food on board was questionable; one had to stand to eat and with the ship's rocking (North Pacific Ocean in the winter). The metal trays went down the table and you had to chase them to salvage the food.

The fifth day out we landed in Whittier, where we stood on deck in the cold and rain for two hours until we could board, possibly a wood burning train, for the 300 miles to Fairbanks. Upon arrival there I was sent to the 5001st Base Hospital, where I would remain for the duration of my enlistment, except for the time when I qualified for flying status as a medic.

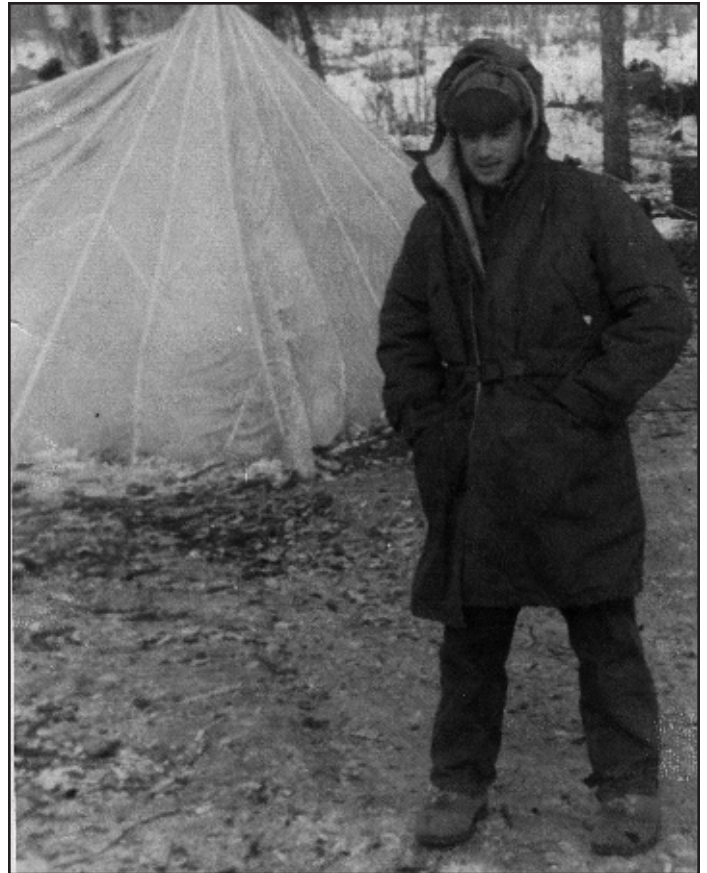
Twice I left for the states to represent the Air Force in national gymnastics competition. Since there was no sleeping room for new medics, I was housed in the basement of the hospital for six months, until I was promoted and moved upstairs to a converted hospital ward to a 'comfortable' barracks.

Early in the hospital stay, I was sent on an 'overnight survival' - picked up by truck and driven a few miles into the woods where I, and others, had to live outside - around 35 below - slept in a tent - gathered wood for a fire - food was either c or k. rations.

There was an NCO Club, but it was off limits unless you held the basic rank of A1C, which happened to me later in my tour. Of course, one could go into Fairbanks, but that meant increased prices and other entertainment.

I might add that, at that time, we did not have any female enlistees in any of the bases where I was stationed, only female nurses. Ladd was also interrupted by two air raid alerts. Everyone took cover until the siren sounded.

I was assigned to a dentist who specialized in oral surgery. After a few months I learned enough to become an able assistant - far beyond basic dental training at Great Lakes in 1952. We did everything from the neck up - suturing a jaw knife wound to a full gown and gloves in an operating room for a full mouth extraction. It appeared that some enlisted personnel had never seen a dentist prior to entering the service.



Richard M. Aronson, Korean War (1952-55), Alaskan Air Command, 1954-55

One time I was passing the hospital emergency room when an attending physician called me to help two other medics in an emergency situation. A tank went into some high water. I had absolutely no experience in what he wanted - to inject a needle with epinephrine into a soldier's chest to revive him.

After a very quick explanation, which involved a process similar to a dentist injecting a needle into a patient's gum, I got the picture, I held the needle and was ready to go when the doctor said to stop: he was dead. I put the syringe down. The doctor didn't need me and I quickly disappeared.

Later in my career, I was selected for a trip to various DEW posts in the far eastern part of Alaska. I loaded the medical equipment on a C-47. When we took off, one of pilots told me to put on a parachute. I thought, "What would I do if we had a flying problem - jump out?"

We made it to Nome without incident. Nome was like going back in time to around the late 1800s. It had wooden sidewalks and plenty of bars. From there, we changed planes to a smaller airplane and flew to Tin City and Wales with the runways up and downhill. Both destinations were about 25 miles from USSR, across from the Diomed Islands.

My enlistment ended in December 1955, when I was age 25.

*Richard Aronson, USAF - 1952-55,
EmProf- Univ. of Mass-Lowell, mabrinic@aol.com*

MIAs ID'd

The remains of the following veterans have been identified recently:



PFC Jack Emmett Lilley

PFC Jack Emmett Lilley, Headquarters Co., 1st Bn., 34th Inf. Rgmt., 24th Inf. Div. On July 20, 1950, Lilley, from Westerville, Ohio, or possibly Medina, OH, was reported Missing in Action while fighting enemy forces near Taejon South Korea. On December 31, 1953, his status was changed to presumed Killed in Action Remains Not Recovered.



PFC Jimmy Rowland

PFC Jimmy Rowland, Heavy Mortar Co., 19th Inf. Rgmt., 24th Inf. Div., SK. On July 16, 1950, Jimmy Rowland, from Mississippi, went missing in action during the Battle of Kum River, as his unit was attempting to withdraw through an enemy roadblock outside Taejon, South Korea. He was not seen again,

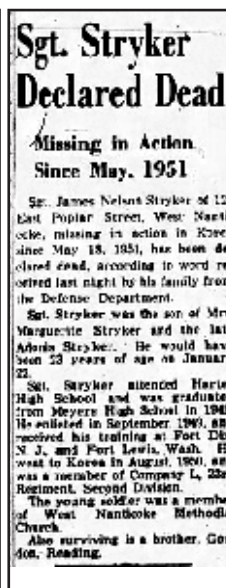


Sgt. James N. Stryker, 20, of West Nanticoke, Pennsylvania, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Aug. 5, 2020. In May 1951, Stryker was a member of Company L, 3rd Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on May 18, when the enemy attacked his unit near Han'gye, South Korea.

Sgt. James N. Stryker



Newspaper notes Sgt. Stryker's disappearance



Sgt. James Stryker stands by his car.

LEGACY from page 61

fighting with the Marine Corps. He proceeded to complete his internship, and was immediately deployed to Korea in September 1950 and participated in the Battle of Incheon and the Battle of the Chosin Reservoir.

Henry served as a Navy Doctor attached to the 2nd Infantry Battalion, 5th Regiment, 1st Marine Division. On September 15, 1950 he was transferred to Incheon where he took part in the surprise amphibious assault. Upon boarding an amphibious assault vehicle, Henry recalls being handed a rifle, and as a physician he was clueless as to what to do with it. At that time, physicians did not attend basic training so he swapped the rifle for a sidearm. Henry now found himself on the front lines of the Korean War.

He remembers being bereft of sterile materials, food, water, and warmth, and recalls the difficulties this circumstance presented when treating patients in combat situations. It was under these conditions that as a medical doctor he had to come to terms with the knowledge that he was unable to save everyone that he treat-

ed. This was especially true during the Battle of the Chosin Reservoir, where the extreme conditions of frigid Korean winters froze and numbed his fingers.

Henry was honorably discharged from the Marines on March 1, 1951, after saving countless lives. His time in the Marines has stayed with him throughout the years. Even today, Henry remembers in startling detail a dog's barks saving him and others from an explosion caused by an oil leak. He also vividly remembers seeing Ewha Women's University, which is still standing today, and crossing the Han River in order to retake Seoul from Chinese troops.

As a physician, Henry had dedicated himself to providing the best possible medical care to every sailor, airman, soldier or marine he treated. His memories of his time in Korea and the men saved and the men lost have remained vivid and powerful. Today, Henry is retired and a proud grandfather. He remembers his time in Korea with emotion and astonishing detail.

Official Membership Application Form

The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

PO Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407 (Telephone: 217-345-4414)

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

Assigned Membership Number: _____

KWVA Regular Annual Dues - \$25.00 | Associate Membership - \$25.00 | MOH, Ex-POW, Gold Star Parent or Spouse & Honorary - \$0.00
Regular Life Membership: (May be paid in lump sum or 6 equal payments by check over a 12 month period.)

Ages 35 and Under: \$600

Ages 36 - 50: \$450

Ages 51 - 65: \$300

Ages 66 - 79: \$150

Ages 80 & up: \$75

Please Check One: ☐ New Member

☐ Renewal Member # _____

Please Check One:	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Member (<input type="checkbox"/> KATUSA?)	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Life Member (<input type="checkbox"/> KATUSA?)	<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Member	<input type="checkbox"/> Medal Of Honor
<input type="checkbox"/> Ex-POW			<input type="checkbox"/> Gold Star Spouse/Parent	

(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

☐ Army

☐ Air Force

☐ Navy

☐ Marines

☐ Coast Guard

Dates of service:

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.

"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: _____

Adopted 3/13/2019, R3 Approved 10/27/2020

[KWVA Membership Application Form Page 2]



Membership is Our Strength

It's not the price you pay to belong, It's the price you paid to become eligible to join



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, or
 - c. Said service was as a member of the Korean Augmentation to the United States Army (KATUSA) any time September 3, 1945 to Present, who has relocated to and become a citizen of the United States of America.
2. **Medal of Honor.** Any person qualifying to be a Regular Member, who is a Medal of Honor recipient, is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.
3. **Prisoner of War.** Any person qualifying to be a Regular Member and was held as a prisoner of war by the North Koreans, Chinese, or Russian forces during and after the period of hostilities from June 25, 1950 forward, is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

B. Associate Members.

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

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

E. Honorary Members. Any person of good character may be elected as Honorary Member by vote by the NATIONAL Board of Directors. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

F. Ineligible. Any person who has been separated from the service of the Armed Forces of the United States under conditions other than honorable shall be ineligible for membership in this Association.

WEB SITE: www.kwva.us

The Graybeards Submission Guidelines

Ongoing Series

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

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

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

Editor's Office Hours

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

Photo Captions

Whenever possible, please identify the subjects in photos you submit. We realize that is not always possible, especially in group photos. But, when you can, identify them, use designations such as (R-L), (L-R), (Standing, L-R), (Seated, L-R), etc. And, please write subjects' names as legibly as possible. We can usually figure out who the KWVA members are, but we cannot guess at non-members' identities.

Photo Limits

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

91st Military Police Bn. holds reunion in

Dorothy King and sister Velma Monk suggested that we have a 91st Military Police Battalion reunion in Frankenmuth, Michigan in 2021. Frankenmuth is named to remind the earlier settlers of the homeland “Franconia” and the “muth” (courage) required to fulfill their mission.

Our first reunion was in July 1995. We arranged one for July 2020. However, it was postponed twice because of the COVID pandemic. Previously, we met every two years and then decided to meet each year. Finally, we arranged our reunion for July 26-27, 2021 to be held at the Bavarian Inn Lodge in Frankenmuth, where we could get “Michigan’s Little Bavarian World’s Famous Chicken” and enjoy river boat cruises, horse-drawn carriage rides, and small town strolls.

During our tour of the historic St. Lorenz Lutheran Church our guide, Chris Nuechterlein, gave us a vivid apparition of the log cabin church constructed on the banks of the Cass River in 1846. It served as a church, Indian school, parsonage, and Frankenmuth’s first block house. Chris gave us an interesting glimpse into 19th-century life. The present church was constructed in 1880. The 167-foot high steeple is an historic Frankenmuth landmark.

It is a must on our agenda to visit the Korean Veteran memorials wherever our reunions take place. The Korean Memorial in nearby Saginaw, Michigan has 79 names grouped together. Thanks to



Chris Nuechterlein describes St. Lorenz Lutheran Church, Frankenmuth, MI

the Saginaw County Veterans Memorial staff, particularly retired office manager Janet Knepper and her husband Randy Knepper, we received a group tour of the memorial. The Kneppers were very helpful.

As a side note, for ten years I had a concerned neighbor cut my grass during my absences. Rob stopped over for a visit. During our discussion I mentioned our 91st MP Bn. banquet. He told me his grandmother, Mary Tyra, and his mother, Debbie Tubb, were attending a military banquet. I asked him his grandfather’s name.



Debbie Tubb, Rose Bernreuter, Howard Bernreuter, and Fran Gay (seated, L-R) at St. Lorenz Lutheran Church

“Tyra,” he told me.

“Richard Tyra?” I asked.

“Yes,” Rob replied. “He was my grandfather.”

Unfortunately, Richard passed about five years ago. We served together in Korea in 1953. What a grand surprise!

Mary Tyra, Debbie Tubb, and Rob honored us with their presence at our reunion.

Manuel Sanchez, 4160 Burnham St., Saginaw, MI 48638



Bavarian Inn Lodge, Oma’s Restaurant: last day of 91st reunion. Suchodolski, Mary Carpenter, Fran Gay, Manuel Sanchez (L-R)

Fran Gay, Manuel Sanchez, Howard Bernreuter, Rose Bernreuter, Rudy Bauer, Marilyn Bauer, Debbie Tubb, Mary Tyra, Mary Carpenter, and Dick Suchodolski (L-R) at Korean Memorial in Frankenmuth, MI



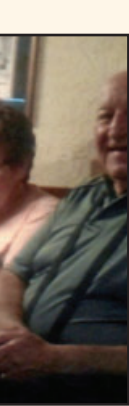
Frankenmuth, MI



Randy Knepper, Manuel Sanchez, Fran Gay, Rudy Bauer, Marylin Bauer, Rose Bernreuter, Howard Bernreuter (Left side of table, Front to rear); Scott Mauer, Lisa Mauer, Rob Tubb, Debbie Tubb, Mary Carpenter, and Dick Suchodolski, (Right side of table, Front to rear) at Bavarian Inn banquet



Janet Knepper, Manuel Sanchez, and Randy Knepper (L-R) at Korean Memorial in Frankenmuth, MI



union: Dick (L-R)



Dick Suchodolski, Debbie Tubb, Mary Tyra, Howard Bernreuter, Manuel Sanchez, and Rudy Bauer (L-R) at Korean Memorial in Frankenmuth, MI



167-foot high landmark steeple at St. Lorenz Lutheran Church, Frankenmuth, MI, built in 1880



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

CHARLES R. DOPSON

ARIZONA

EUGENE J. CONWAY

ELEY P. DENSON

DONALD W. LALLY

ARKANSAS

GUADALUPE E. MONTALVO

RICHARD H. SCHWARTZ

ROBERT L. WARFORD

CALIFORNIA

HENRY F. AGUILAR

RUSSELL R. HUNTINGTON

COLORADO

THOMAS W. KELLER

DELAWARE

JAMES LEON BAKER

HARRY F. SAWYER JR.

RICHARD SCHWALB

FLORIDA

PHIL Z. FRETWELL

GABRIEL R. GALLETT

CHARLES F. 'FRED' HARRELL

ARTHUR M. JOHANSEN

RAYMOND S. LANG

FRANK T. MIJARES

NICHOLAS A. NAPOLITANO JR.

JAY C. O'BRIEN

JOHN E. PRINTY

HERBERT W. SHEPPARD

WILLIAM E. SLAVINS

HAWAII

ROBERT J. LUUWAI

ROBERT L. MONTAGUE

TOMMY M. SATO

AL S. SPENSER

ILLINOIS

DON L. GLASELL

WILLIAM E. GLENNON

DANIEL G. KONCELSKI

LARRY LAWLER

INDIANA

ROBERT E. 'BOB' LANDSTOFFER

RICHARD S. WY SOCKE

IOWA

LORAIN F. ADAMS

VILAS L. 'SID' MORRIS JR.

LOUISIANA

HARTWELL CHAMPAGNE

ALBERT J. DUNN

MAINE

RICHARD E. CLARK

JESSE R. WILSON

MARYLAND

PERRY F. REESE

MASSACHUSETTS

LINTON 'LINN' CAMPBELL

RICHARD M. FRARY

ROLAND W. GENDRON

ARTHUR P. HENRY

MICHIGAN

RICHARD C. ANDERSON

LOUIS D. BUNKER

LANARY R. CULPEPPER

RICHARD A. FAULKNER

ROY W. MOSSNER

RONALD C. REIMERS

CHARLES F. WENZEL

JOHN R. WILCOX

EUGENE A. WOLFBAUER

MINNESOTA

ROBERT L. FISCHER

MISSOURI

LESLIE V. BURRIS

JAMES P. 'JIM' CITTADINO

ROLAND A. DOBSCH

ROBERT GREELEY

JOHN C. JARVIS

GERALD G. JENNINGS

THOMAS A. REHAGEN

RICHARD L. SAIP

ARLIE G. SCHEMMER

KENNETH W. SCHEMMER

MONTANA

DONALD C. EASTON

NEBRASKA

WILLIAM HARTMANN

GLENN J. KRABBENHOFT

NEVADA

COL CARLETON D. BINGHAM

NEW JERSEY

GORDON R. BENKERT

JOHN H. LEONHARD

RAYMOND F. LYNCH

NEW MEXICO

ROBERT E. CHISOLM

NEW YORK

DONALD J. CARSS

JOSEPH J. DELVECCHIO

SALVATORE GIANNETTO

THEODORE J. KOCIENSKI

JOHN W. OHRNBERGER

CONSTANTINO PROCOPIS

ROBERT M. SANDERS

GEORGE P. SMITH

WILLIAM A. SOPKO

NELSON W. SWEENER

OHIO

THOMAS L. BROWN

LAWRENCE E. CUMMINGS

DONALD A. FRANCIS

GLENN A. GREENAWALT

ROGER E. HAZLETT

ROGER E. HUNTER

PAUL R. MCCLOUD

EARL WAYNE MULLEN

OKLAHOMA

AVIS H. GOAD

OREGON

RICHARD R. BAUTCH

WILLIAM A. 'WILLIE' CRENSHAW

PENNSYLVANIA

JOHN BAUSERT

CHARLES F. FURLONG

DEVERE A. KENDALL

LUTHER W. RICHARD JR.

SOUTH CAROLINA

LESLIE B. FISKE

HAROLD E. HAMILTON

GEORGE T. JACOBY

DONALD E. SHEA

TEXAS

ROY L. CLINE

JOSEPH F. LISSBERGER

JIMMIE F. MCGEE

RICHARD C. ROSA

ARTHUR E. SEELIG

WILLIAM J. YOSS SR.

VIRGINIA

KENNETH G. FANNON

DONALD H. JONES

PAUL M. ROACH

LEROY L. SHOOK

WEST VIRGINIA

THOMAS W. SHRINER

WISCONSIN

WAYNE A. PICKARTS

ONTARIO

JAMES J. WHEELER

Have a Mini-Reunion?

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

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



Welcome Aboard!

New Members of the Korean War Veterans Association

ARIZONA

R050141PHYLLIS A. DAUGHERTY
LR50151RICHARD S. ROE

CALIFORNIA

R050146JAMES LANTZ
R050129ROGER A. LEWIS
LR50154HERMANN F. ANTON
LR50122KEN U. BEASOCK
P050157RAYMOND BORDNER
R050155FRED G. DUBOIS
R050170NATHANIEL J. EPHRIAM
R050139DAVID L. FERRIS SR.
LR50147ALFRED J. GROOS
R050134STANLEY LEMELL

FLORIDA

R050127 ..ANTEO V. MAGGIO

GEORGIA

LR50145JAMES C. CALDWELL

ILLINOIS

R050161JOHN A. BUGAJSKY
R050140JAMES H. CLARK
R050160JOSEPH P. SENER

MAINE

LR50165ARTHUR L. CARTER

MARYLAND

LR50169HAROLD E. BROWN
A050167JOSH MARKS
A050149GALE P. STICKLER
A050150PATRICIA B. TWENTY

MASSACHUSETTS

R050131FRANCIS J. COLLERY
A050130ALYS J. COVELLO
A050168CAROL A. MARTINO

A050132JEAN M. OLSSON

MICHIGAN

LR50136JIM BAYNE

NEVADA

R050143MARVIN D. ROGGE

NEW HAMPSHIRE

LR50156LYMAN F. HOLMES

NEW JERSEY

R050133FRANCIS MONDROSCH

NEW YORK

LR50158WILLIAM E. BARTON
A050124PETER E. NOONAN JR.

NORTH CAROLINA

A050163KORI J. LAWSON
A050164MIKE MCCARTHY
A050166MARGARET T. SEGAL
LR50135MATTHEW R. SEGAL

OHIO

A050142JOHN G. HARRIS

R050138ROBERT J. JACOBS

R050123RICHARD F. TALLINI

PENNSYLVANIA

LR50162RICHARD L. BRETZ

SOUTH CAROLINA

R050137JACK D. BENSON
A050153SHERRI F. CRAIN

TENNESSEE

R050125JENNIFER R. HOOVER

TEXAS

R050159ORAN D. MCADAMS
A050148BEVERLY J. ROBERTS
LR50128HENRY G. WICKES

VIRGINIA

R050120DANIELLE C. APPLGATE
R050121JACK PENNINGTON
LR50126RODNEY E. SAWYERS

APO-AE

A050144CHRISTOPHER M. MARTINEZ

JEEP from page 56

lack of spare parts, Dad said his Jeep was always in top running condition. He wasn't sure, but there might have been some late-night swapping of parts from other Jeeps in the battalion!

Albert Harris passed away in 2013. His war story can be read in *323 Days, A Marine Battery Commander's Firsthand Account of the Korean War, 1951-1952*.

The cover of 1st Lt. Albert Harris's book

323 DAYS

A Marine Battery Commander's Firsthand Account of the Korean War, 1951-1952



Transcription and Editorial by John Harris

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**

Photos Submitted for Publication in The Graybeards

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

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

Korean War Veterans Association, P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920



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33rd RQS takes flight to save lives

Senior Airman Eaven Allison, 33rd Rescue Squadron special missions aviator, looks out over the landscape from inside an HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter during a combat search and rescue training event at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, October 14, 2021. The training event involved multiple search and rescue teams across Pacific Air Forces as they all worked together to hone their skills. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Douglas Lorange)