

I, George S. Covell, hereby state my intention to run for the office of 1st Vice-President of the Korean War Veterans Association. I am a Life Member of the association with dues paid through the upcoming term of office and beyond. I promise to attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors during my term of office. I understand that two (2) unexcused absences from such meetings may be cause for my removal from office.

I am currently a Life Member of the Northeast Chapter 59, KWVA and an active member of Adirondack Chapter 60, KWVA. I have been Chairman of the Memorial Service for the Department of New York's annual convention. I first joined the KWVA at its beginning, but due to poor communication during those early days, I became inactive until rejoining in the late '90s, when I joined the Northeast Chapter. I am currently finishing a term as Director of the KWVA, and a Past Director/Trustee of the Department of New York, Korean War Veterans Association. During my term as Director, I have served on the By-Laws Committee, under Past Chairman Lewis Ewing and our current Chairman, Tom Stevens.

During the Korean War I enlisted in 1952 to serve in the First Army Band, but, as is usual with the Army and its penchant for snafu, I was sent to Camp Gordon, GA to learn to be a high-speed radio operator. After finishing training, I was assigned to the First Army Band until I came up on a levy for FECOM. I served from 1952 through 1954 (six years after I had polio), 1953-54 as a Sergeant (E-5), Tuba Section Leader, 8th Army Band, which was the ceremonial band for the United Nations Command Honor Guard. During red alerts, Bed-Check Charlie and ground alerts, I handled the .50 caliber machine gun on a tower in our compound.

Following my discharge, I served in the NY National Guard as a Court Reporter in the JAG section, 42nd Inf. Div., where I rose to the rank of MSGT (E-7) until 1960, when I received a COG Honorable Discharge which was necessitated by my employment at the United Nations as an English language verbatim reporter of debates. Seems the UN was considered a foreign government and it would be a conflict of interest for me to be in the National Guard and work at the UN at the same time.

My desire to serve my fellow veterans of the Korean War is prompted by a wish to see our membership rolls grow as a result of the hard work done by Sonny Edwards, Past Membership/Recruiting Committee Chairman, and his successor Director Bob Fitts, to enlarge our membership. I want to work to get the word out about Korean veterans and what we did and how we do not want to see our efforts or the memories of our fallen comrades forgotten. We have been The Forgotten War too long; we must continue doing something about it, and that's why I want to serve you. I also want to see our organization continue on a sound financial basis.

My education and prior employment, plus my long history of service to my colleagues in my profession, fellow union members and fraternal brothers gives me the experience to serve as First Vice-President of this great organization of ours. I

attended Hofstra College (now Hofstra University), Juilliard School of Music, and have attended Skidmore College as an audit student for the past several years. I worked for 45 years as a court reporter, working in the NYS Supreme Court, NYS Court of Claims, the United Nations, and, as a free-lance reporter in New York, New Jersey and Washington, DC, where I had the opportunity to work at The White House. For 25 years, I was the official reporter for the Grand Lodge conventions of the BPO Elks Lodge. Serving the youth of my area, I skated as a USA Hockey Referee until age 70.

My association experience includes being a Past Exalted Ruler of an Elks Lodge, Vice-President of a labor union local and a board member of two other labor union locals. I am a Past President of my professional organization, with ten years as its Legislative Committee Chairman.

I am married to the former Joan Borowiec of Lowville, NY, for the past 63 years. We are the parents of five children, have nine grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Joan has been very supportive of me in all of my service to the organizations of which I have been a part.

All information contained in this letter and the copy of the Membership Application Form is hereby released to the Elections Committee for verification.

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