

MEMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BRUCE R. HARDER

I hereby release this information for verification by the election committee.

I am proud to announce my candidacy for member of the Board of Directors of the KWVA.

In May 1969, I was commissioned a second lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps. I served two tours of duty in Vietnam. From 1969-70, I served a one-year tour in Vietnam, as an infantry platoon commander with the First Marine Division. From 1972-73 I was the intelligence officer for a Marine Fighter/Attack Squadron deployed aboard the aircraft carrier America. Subsequent tours of duty took me to a variety of locations at home and abroad where I held command and staff positions and took part in planning and executing joint and combined military exercises and operations. I was assigned to III Marine Expeditionary Force on Okinawa for 6 years. During this time, I deployed many times to the ROK to participate in planning and executing amphibious field exercises and command post exercises for the defense of the ROK. I was promoted to colonel in 1990, and retired from active duty on December 31, 1997, with 27 years of active duty.

From October 1997 until August 2002, I was the Director, National Security and Foreign Affairs for the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. While working for the VFW, I traveled to Southeast Asia, Northeast Asia, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, the Middle East, and Russia, and worked on National Security and POW/MIA issues.

I joined the staff of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) in August 2002 and was initially appointed to the position of Policy Advisor, Personnel Accounting Directorate, DPMO. From August 2002 to July 2013, I was the senior policy & strategic planning analyst responsible for developing policy positions for the Director, Defense DPMO, and team leader of the Northeast Asia personnel accounting policy team. I retired from federal civil service on July 31, 2015.

I am a Life Member of KWVA and member of the Northern Virginia Chapter #100. On August 1, 2015, KWVA President Larry Kinard, appointed me as the POW/MIA Coordinator for the KWVA. I consider the next four years to be a critical period of transition of the organization from Korean War Veterans to Korean Defense Veterans. While working at DPMO, I visited the Korean Peninsula many times including two visits to North Korea (2002 and 2005) when DoD was conducting Korean War remains recovery operations in North Korea. I am a Korean Defense Veteran and would like to participate in this process of transition. In the KWVA we have a vast wealth of experience including those who have served in Korea in wartime and in peacetime. I feel very strongly that we must work together to carry on the legacy of the Korean War veterans who served with honor and distinction during the Korean War.

I hereby certify that I will attend all called meeting of the Board of Directors and that I understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for my removal from office.

Respectfully submitted,

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Bruce R. Harder *10 Dec 2015*