

Update

Tell America

Chapter 30 – Indiana #1 [Fort Wayne, IN]

Thanks For The “Bubble”

Chapter members visited Mrs. Ecclestone’s 6th grade class at Lane Middle School in Fort Wayne. They impressed the students with their stories, as their letters suggest. Jim Yaney, a medic in Korea and the Chapter’s Tell America program coordinator, particularly interested them with his stories.

Dear Mr. Yaney,

Thank you so much for taking time to come see our class, and for serving in Korea. If you didn’t, my life would be horrible.

I found it quite interesting when you told us about the helicopter “bubbles.” It must’ve taken a lot of courage to go over to Korea.

I greatly appreciate what you’ve done for this country and for me. I will never forget you.

Molly Morgan

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Dear Mr. Yaney:

I’m glad people like you helped in the Korean War. I’m glad you came to our class. I think it’s cool that you had that medal. It must be a big honor.

How many people came to you a day with frostbite? It’s scary knowing [that] people froze on the helicopter ride to see a doctor. I’m glad they created the bubble.

Overall, I would love to have you back.

Chase Ellinwood

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Chase Ellinwood’s art work

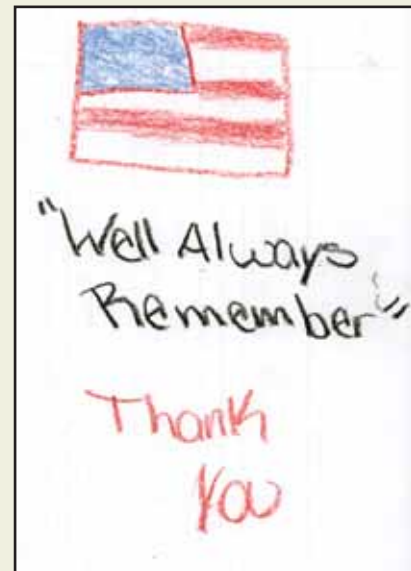
Dear Mr. Yaney,

I am very thankful that you took all your time to tell us about the war. Everything was shocking. It was all terrifying. I felt like I was actually there.

The thing that impressed me the most was about the disease when the mice or rats touched the soldiers and they got fever.

It was all impressive. That’s why I’m very thankful.

Esthefania Poniagua



Esthefania Poniagua’s letter cover



The Yaney brothers Jim, a medic in Korea, and Joe, who was in the Army in WWII and Korea

Chapter 71 – Western Ohio

Fred Shively

The Chapter sponsors an active Tell America program. For example, members have participated at Fort Laramie, Lehman, Anna, Tipp City, Tri-Village, and Versailles High Schools over the years. One in particular, stands out: a 2004 Veterans Day visit to Tri- Village High School, where they were joined by Cindy LaPointe, the widow of Conscientious Objector Joseph G. LaPointe, Jr., who died in Vietnam—and was awarded the Medal of Honor.

The program, presented by Fred Shively and Ken Williamson, was extensive. It included:

- INTRODUCTION
- VETERANS CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR HISTORY
- HOW ONE BECOMES A VETERAN
- HOW DO YOU RECOGNIZE A VETERAN
- WAR STORIES
- THE MILITARY FUNERAL

- THE REST OF THE STORY (The story of Joseph G. LaPointe, Jr.)
- THE FLAG
- THE MEANING OF THE FLAG TO A VETERAN
- ENDING: THANKS, AND GOD BLESS AMERICA

Based on the letters from students and administrators alike, e.g., the nearby letter from Principal Whitstone, the Chapter's efforts and presentations have been very well received.

See letter from Principal Whitstone – Page 13



256 members march in 2005 Sterling Heights Memorial Day parade; Tell America coordinator holds the 50th Anniversary flag

71's Fred Shively (L) and Ken Williamson (R) share a laugh with students at Lehman High School at a 2003 presentation



(L-R) Fred Shively, Cindy LaPointe, and Ken Williamson together at Tri-Village High School at their Veterans Day presentation in 2004

71's busy Tell America summary

| KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| TELL AMERICA PROGRAM | | |
| "2002"-2003 school year | "2003"-2004 school year | "2004" school year |
| VETERANS DAY PROGRAM | VETERANS DAY PROGRAM | VETERANS DAY PROGRAM |
| Number of schools -- 8 | Number of schools -- 7 | Number of schools -- 10 |
| Number of classes -- 22 | Number of classes -- 17 | Number of classes -- 39 |
| High Schools assemblies -- 1 | High Schools assemblies -- 4 | High Schools assemblies -- 8 |
| Presentation time -- 11.4 hrs. | Presentation time -- 19.2 hrs. | Presentation time -- 23.7 hrs. |
| Number of students -- 1,423 | Number of students -- 2,333 | Number of students -- 4,444 |
| Teachers & Adults -- 37 | Teachers & Adults -- 31 | Teachers & Adults -- 243 |
| Number of trips -- 6 | Number of trips -- 14 | Number of trips -- 10 |
| Miles traveled -- 320 | Miles traveled -- 487.6 | Miles traveled -- 330 |
| Travel time -- 3.6 hrs. | Travel time -- 14.6 hrs. | Travel time -- 11.8 hrs. |
| TELL AMERICA PROGRAM | TELL AMERICA PROGRAM | |
| Number of schools -- 22 | Number of schools -- 22 | |
| Number of classes -- 36 | Number of classes -- 34 | |
| Number of periods -- 114 | Number of periods -- 120 | |
| Classroom time -- 89 hrs. | Classroom time -- 89.7 hrs. | |
| Number of students -- 1,420 | Number of students -- 1,520 | |
| Teachers & Adults -- 110 | Teachers & Adults -- 62 | |
| Number of trips -- 36 | Number of trips -- 34 | |
| Miles traveled -- 2,328 | Miles traveled -- 2,407 | |
| Travel time -- 60.8 hrs. | Travel time -- 67.9 hrs. | |

Chapter 256 – Oakland, Macomb, Wayne [Rochester, MI]

Robert C. Sharrard

During the past four years, the Chapter has conducted an ongoing school program for grades 5-12. We have obtained a reputation that has kept our "School Squad" busy. They have returned to many schools, and are picking up more."

Our program, under the direction of Sgt. Richard Charbonneau, each man introduces himself, tells the students where in Korea he served, what unit he was with, and what branch of service he was in. We talk about some of our experiences, and then ask the students for their questions.

We find that the elementary students seem to ask more questions than the high school students; the middle school students are close behind.

The teachers have stated that the students talk about us and our program for months afterwards. The students say that they learn more from us in the hour [sometimes two] that we are there than they learn from all the books. That is because we were there.

Another aspect of our visits the students like is that they get a chance to see some of the medals that they have heard about, what they look like, and what they mean.



256 members march in 2005 Sterling Heights' Memorial Day Parade; Tell America coordinator holds the 50th Anniversary flag.

175 – Lt. BaldoMero Lopez [FL]

Clarence Clifton

Chapter 175 members make frequent visits to school in the Tampa Bay area. The members who are assigned and participate in the School Program go to schools to present the history of the Korean War throughout the year.

November is a demanding and busy month. The School Program was conducted at eight schools during November 2004. Schedules and outlines were made for Memorial Day, 2005.

The procedure and explanation of the POW/MIA table is a highlight for the students. They eagerly await each revelation. Afterwards, they ask questions relating to the Korean War.

This has proven to be an excellent opportunity to give an account of the Korean War. Details of events and times are explained to the students. They, in turn, are encouraged to write an essay of their understanding of the Korean War. The winner receives a \$50.00 Savings Bond and a trophy.

The members enjoy making visits to the schools, as they spend this valuable time with the students. Lopez - Chapter 175 has been involved in the School Program for five years.

Lucinda Ford, shown in the photograph, is our youngest member. She has spent time in South Korea and is now stationed in California. Lucinda is twenty-six. When she comes home on leave, she attends our monthly meetings and participates in the activities.



It may not be a collage for 175 in Tell America, but this is a collage of their activities

Chapter 296 – Cayuga County [Auburn, NY]

An Experience One Will Never Forget

On April 17, 2005, Chapter 296's Commander, John Barwinczok, and 1st Vice Commander, Donald Tavener, presented a talk on the Korean War to 111 6th grade history students at Whitney Point Middle School, Whitney Point, NY. There were 5:40- minute sessions. We

spoke of the harsh living conditions, the weather, and our readiness throughout all phases of the war.

We received 81 letters from the students thanking us for enlightening them about the Korean War. After reading those letters, I had tears in my eyes. They restored my faith in today's youths. (A couple of those letters appear below.)

If anyone ever has the opportunity to speak to youth groups or organizations or schools, don't pass it up. It's an experience that one will never forget.

John Barwinczok

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Letters to Messrs. Barwinczok and Tavener

Thank you for visiting Whitney Point Middle School and speaking to our sixth grade World History classes. Your presentation was informative and interesting, but perhaps your presence was most important.

To some sixth graders, a war that happened in the 1950s may seem like ancient history, but your being here brought real life to their study of the Korean War. Veterans such as yourselves are so valuable to our country, not only for what you have done, but also for what you still do.

Our students need to understand that we owe our freedom and democracy to those who have been willing to fight for it.

Thank you again for your willingness to travel to schools and share your experiences with students.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey S. Johnson, World History Teacher

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Dear Mr. Barwinczok and Mr. Tavener

Thank you for taking time off from your day to talk to us. I liked the posters you two brought in. I agreed with you guys about the Korean War being forgotten.

I will try to get a lot of my friends to go to the Memorial Day parade to honor the veterans that served in the war to protect us and give us what we have today.

Once again, I thank you all.

Yours Truly,

Harley Burden

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Dear Mr. Barwinczok and Mr. Tavener

Thank you very much for taking time out of your life to come share about the Korean War. I appreciated it very much. I really enjoyed the pictures and the displays you showed us.

I agree that the Korean War is the "Forgotten War." I have heard about it, but haven't learned too much about it.

Veterans are a very important part of my life, because if they hadn't gone and fought for our country, I probably wouldn't have the freedoms that I have today.

Sincerely,

Mary Krasse