

Tell America

Diamond Sutra Recitation Group Making 'Tell America' Material Available

I hope many of you noticed the letter on page 62 of the September-October 2006 copy of *The Graybeards* magazine from the Diamond Sutra Recitation Group. This organization contacted us in August to tell us of their interest in promoting a stronger relationship with the American people, especially the KWVA, because of what we did fifty years ago. They appear to be an organization that we would like to continue to maintain contact with and utilize some of their material in the Tell America Program.

They have developed 2 websites (www.koreanhero.net and www.koreanpatriot.net) in 6 languages about Korean culture and history. For the first part of this promotion project they are featuring a booklet about one of their national heroes, Admiral Yi Sun-sin, his life and achievements. They sent 300 of these free booklets for distribution to KWVA members at the October Convention in San Antonio. They have also provided Admiral Yi's story to the U. S. Naval

Academy, Air Force Academy and West Point.

George Washington University, Wittenberg University, and several other universities are using them in their history programs. They plan to expand their program by publishing other booklets featuring King Sejong the Great and essays on other influential people in Korean history. All these booklets are free, and will be sent to KWVA chapters upon request. The Admiral Yi booklet is available now; others will be available in the near future.

Those who are interested in these booklets, especially those of you who have Tell America programs and are working with the schools, may want to contact Mr. Yon Han (www.admiralyi@hotmail.com) and ask about getting some of his booklets for your schools. If you have questions about this program you may call me at 682-518-1040 or email www.larry.kinard@yahoo.com.

Larry Kinard
National Tell America Program

I hope this story will motivate all veterans and Chapters to work hard in making a positive approach to their "Tell America" programs.

If any Chapter is interested in trying TV, please contact me.

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Reverend Han (L) and James E. Yaney make one of their many appearances together



Indiana students listen attentively to a "Tell America" presentation

Do You Want Your Tell America Program On TV?

The television show "Tell America" celebrated its first year on Access TV, Channel 57, in Fort Wayne, IN. It was a dream in the making. Today it has become a reality. Our program airs every third Wednesday at prime time—6:30 p.m.

Our TV station has informed me that it wants to forward our show to the Library of Congress for everyone to enjoy. Also, I will

be working with the Genealogy Departments to get more in our history books for our younger generations about the Korean War.

The leader of the Korean community, Reverend Han, has been touring with me to the schools and television station. He makes a hit with everyone wherever we go.

MS 201 @ WEST POINT 2005: After Action Report

The AY05 (Academic Year 2005) "Instructors for a Day" program at The United States Military Academy at West Point was a pleasant memory for those who attended it. The Point of Contact for the event was KWVA member and Tell America committee member Irving M. Breitbart.

Due to the coverage that was given to this program last year in the July-August edition of *The Graybeards*, there was a tremendous response from the membership. Breitbart is proud to say that replies came in from South Carolina, Massachusetts, and Maryland, plus those from the members in the immediate



Participants at West Point "Instructors for a Day" Program, 2005

New York and New Jersey area.

The program covered approximately 62 classes of cadets taking this session for the day. It attracted coverage by Korean War veterans from Staten Island, Central Long Island, Rockland County, and Westchester-Putnam County. The idea of the program was to have at least two veterans for each class. Breitbart's thanks go out to the Commanders of each of these chapters for their assistance in getting members to participate.

The 2005 program began on 9 November, when Breitbart received the veterans at Buffalo Soldier's Field at 0830 hours for check in. By 1015 hours everyone had appeared, and the group was ready to load the buses to go to Washington Hall, on the main part of the academy grounds.

At the unloading point for the buses, the veterans were met by officers from the Department of Military Instruction, who led them across the plain towards Washington Hall, and to Lecture Hall 5006.

Once everyone was settled in the lecture hall, Breitbart had the

privilege of welcoming all to the program. The Department Head, Col. Peter Curry, then welcomed everyone. Finally, Capt. Daphne Austin, the OIC (Officer in Charge for the Course), explained to all present what their day at the academy would involve.

A roll call was conducted. As each individual's name was called, a cadet appeared to be their escort for the day and to take them to the mess hall to eat chow (lunch) with their respective company members in the mess hall. It was an amazing sight to see how the academy was able to feed 4500-5000 people in under ½ hour.

An announcement was also made telling all the cadets present that the civilians present for the meal were all veterans present for the MS201 program. A big round of applause was given to all the veterans present. To the veterans in attendance, it was truly a great experience to be able to sit and eat a meal with the cadets in the mess hall.

Upon completion of the meal, the veterans were escorted to their respective classrooms in Thayer Hall to commence their "Instructor for the Day" role. The

mug and one of his Challenge Coins for his efforts in coordinating this program.

Since 10 November is the birthday of the United States Marine Corps, the group had to do something special for those Marines present. Maj. John Bob, a Marine attached to the academy, decided to do something special for the Marine Corps Birthday. He contacted the detachment of Marines attached to Stewart AFB. As a result, four Marines from the base carried the cake that was brought in for the celebration. A group of Marine Bagpipers performed as well.

A message was read from the Marine Corps Commandant commemorating the birthday, after which the birthday cake was cut. The first slice went to the honored guest present—who happened to be Breitbart. The next piece went to the oldest Marine veteran present. The piece after that went to the youngest Marine present.

After the cake cutting ceremony, the Marine Corps Bagpipers put on a musical show, which included appropriate melodies for all branches of service. Major Bob put on a great show.

Once everything was done in the lecture hall, and everyone present had their coffee and cake, the group went downstairs for picture taking in front of Washington Hall of those present.

Since this was the 6th year that Breitbart has been doing this program, he considered it to be a true success, thanks to all those veterans who attended.

Editor's Note: Thanks to Irving Breitbart, who contributed this report.

Another Way to 'Tell America'

What a wonderful tribute you paid in your May/June magazine to the KWVA founder, Bill Norris. He was quite an outstanding man and a patriotic veteran who did much more than most in serving his country and the

Korean War veterans.

Mr. Norris' story about his daughter Ginny reminded me of my experience two years ago when my grandson Daniel asked me to be a part of his report on the Korean War. (See 'An Early

Memorial Day') Unbeknown to me, he had read a book titled Christmas in July that I co-authored with seventeen other Korean War veterans. He and a friend decided to report on the Korean War to two eighth grade classes in his school that knew nothing about that war. (His grammar school only goes up to World War I in history. Some children learn a little bit about the Korean War in high school.)

I am enclosing the letter I wrote to my co-authors and veteran friends about my experience in helping to get the word out that there was a Korean War. I also write to various media outlets about the Korean War, because I greatly dislike the

"Forgotten War" moniker that has been laid on that terrible war. I also find that it may become "forgotten" if we don't speak out.

I might add that Daniel and Ian, like Ginny, both received "As" for their report. One of the teachers told me that she could teach until she turns blue, but when the kids see and hear someone who took part in history, it sticks with them. Hopefully, other vets will get the opportunity to get the Korean War message out in this way too.

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The Blackhawk Middle School student body assembled on Tell America Day

An Early Memorial Day

I had an early Memorial Day happening this past Tuesday, May 25th [2006], when I attended a history class at my youngest grandson's Valley Center Middle School in California.

My grandson is Daniel Gunnar Osterberg, who is an eighth grader at this school. He had asked me to take part in a project report that he and a neat kid named Ian were to give to two of their eighth grade school's history classes. He and Ian had selected the Korean War as their subject. He selected it because he had read Christmas in July, and he thought that the other students might have an interest in this almost forgotten war. The eighth grade's text book only reaches as far as World War I, so the kids know little or nothing about the Korean War.

Not known to me, Daniel and Ian used Christmas in July and the Internet for their reference in gathering information for this combined history report. I, as their guest, was to be "Exhibition A" as a real live person who had fought in this long ago war.

Barb and I arrived at the school on time, and met the two very pleasant teachers of these two particular history classes, Mrs. Freeman and Mr. Marx. All

the students of each class filed in, and the current events of the school were given over a TV screen by some of the school's students. After all that information was given, we all stood up to recite the Pledge of Allegiance—including "one Nation under God," which everyone recited. The teachers introduced Barb and me as Daniel's grandparents. Then, she asked Daniel and Ian to begin the report.

Each boy had a brief turn telling about the Korean War, when Korea became a nation, and how it became the split countries of North and South Korea after World War II. They explained how the war started and the major battles in the first year of that war. They told us of the Inchon landing, various Heartbreak Ridge battles, how the soldiers lived, the cold weather, food, ["chipped beef on toast"] weapons used [BAR, M-1 rifle], radios [PRC- 6 and PRC 10], clothing worn, e.g., Mickey Mouse boots, and the trench warfare we all knew. It was easy to pick out the parts that came out of our book, Christmas in July, like the little Korean kids scooping food out of the garbage cans, Heartbreak Ridge trench warfare, and the Outpost.

I found myself becoming

30 – INDIANA CHAPTER ONE [IN]

CID 30 kicked off its 2006-07 Tell America program in a big way.

On October 11th, at Blackhawk Middle School in Ft. Wayne, our veterans and spouses enjoyed a wonderful day. The veterans went into the classrooms and told their stories and experiences. Then, they had lunch and a beautiful cake with the students and faculty.

In the afternoon, they honored veterans from our group, as well as a Vietnam veteran and

one returning from the war in Iraq. Each veteran had their own personal escort to assist them throughout the day in getting to their proper locations.

Hearing 900 students recite the Pledge to our Flag was totally awesome.

We had several schools scheduled for November as well.

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CID 30 veterans and their escorts at Blackhawk Middle School in Ft. Wayne, IN: (Front, seated, L-R) Commander Bernard Wisniewski, Carl Fowler, Harold Schick, Bob Myers. (Standing, L-R) Garry Sink, Al Clendenen, Mel Franke, Ken Roemke, Lynn Shady, Tell America Chairman

emotionally moved as I sat listening to these two young boys talk about something I had lived so very long, long ago. It was hard to realize that I am now an old man as I listened to his grandson tell some of what I saw and lived an eternity ago. The report was quite moving and required a major gathering of my emotions. [Getting old is not easy.]

The boys mentioned things that I had long forgotten and now recalled. When they finished their portion of the report, my grandson introduced me as, "his

grandpa, who was a soldier in the Korean War."

I explained how and when I went into the Army. I quickly went from basic training, on to Korea, Outpost Queen, the end of the war, and my return from Inchon to New York City and the parade. These kids probably didn't know what I was talking about, but they sat very attentively and listened to what I had to say.

I gave the class a copy of Christmas in July after I explained how we all got together

through the Internet to tell our stories and create the book. I hope that the kids learned a little about the "Forgotten War" and that these reports will somehow go on to help inform our youth that there was a Korean War and that "freedom isn't free."

The whole event was not only a very emotionally moving and a touching experience for me, but it also made me so proud of Daniel, Ian and all these wonderful Valley Center Middle School students. It is gratifying to know that we have these fine young people to keep this country

strong, as they one day will move on to become good responsible citizens of this great nation.

Yes, my "Early Memorial Day" is something that I know I will always remember. I couldn't help but pass this event on to you, because Christmas in July, whether we know it or not, is getting the word out about the Korean War in a very subtle and constructive way.

Hats off to the kids and teachers at Valley Center Middle School!

SPECIAL REPORT

One of the things that may be overlooked in operating "Tell America" programs is just how far-reaching they may be. Note in this special report provided by CID 108, Western Ohio, for example, that the program reaches many foreign exchange students who will no doubt take the stories back to their homelands. That way, the story of the Korean War—and the universal struggle for freedom—will be spread a lot farther than western Ohio, in this case, or wherever other programs operate.

No wonder "Tell America" is so popular. Participants are actually telling a lot more than America. Proof? Look at the homes of the students in the nearby photos.

Here is an example of the time involved and the number of contacts made in one year by one Chapter. But, as is so often the case, numbers don't tell the whole story.

TELL AMERICA PROGRAM CHAPTER 108 – WESTERN OHIO

School Year 2004 - 2005
Fred Shively, Chairperson

Number of schools	19
Number of trips	31
Miles traveled	1,828
Travel time	48 hrs.
Number of classes	67
Number of periods	112
Classroom time	81 hrs.
Number of students	1,599
Number of teachers and adults	44
 Combined net totals: Veterans Day & Tell America Programs	
Number of schools	29
Number of trips	41
Miles traveled	2,294
Classroom, assemblies, travel time	166 hrs.
Number of students	6,043
Number of teachers & adults	289.

Nor do these letters, which have been "word processed" for *The Graybeards*. In every case the writer took his or her time to write the note by hand. And, some of the comments are really revealing regarding what young people learn about the military and the veterans who have served in it. The letters were written by students at Coldwater High School, in Coldwater, OH.

Dear Mr. Shively,

I want to thank you for the time you took out of your day to give the presentation on Korea to my Coldwater High School class. I found the presentation to be very interesting. All the visual aids and the quick pace made it easy to follow and learn. Even though I didn't try the kim-chee, I am glad we had the chance to. Thank you again for your time and I hope you will continue to give your excellent presentation to our school and area schools in the future.

Sincerely,

Kevin Abels

Dear Mr. Fred Shively,

My name is Katie Wellmar and I am in Mr. Hamberg's U.S. studies class at Coldwater High School. I am writing to thank you for coming in and talking to us about the Korean War, and also for serving and risking your life for our country.

I learned a lot and really appreciate the time you and Mr. Williamson took to come in. ...I never knew how versatile a soldier's helmet was. Now I've even tried Korean food!

Thanks,

Katie Wellman

Continued ➤

Mr. Fred Shively,

Thank you for taking time out of your day to help us better understand the Korean War. Thank you for risking your life in a fight to contain communism even when so many believe it to be a fight not worth fighting.

Your presentation showed me a different perception of the war and that the Korean War was not a worthless fight.

I greatly appreciate all you have done.

Thank you,

Lydia Raney

Mr. Shively,

Thank you so much for coming to our class to teach us about the Korean War. It was really interesting to learn about.

My grandpa was in that war. He doesn't talk about it much, but now I have some background information so I can ask him about it.

Thanks again,

Sarah Naveau

Dear Mr. Shively,

Thanks for coming in a talking to us about the Korean War. I found everything you spoke about interesting and new. You also helped me understand how hard it was to be a soldier back then. The food you had to eat sound-ed just awful.

(Name withheld due to illegibility)

So that's what the kids were thinking. The letters alone make the "Tell America" worthwhile. Fred Shively and his colleagues in CID 108 can attest to that. Hopefully, more Chapters will emulate their efforts—and "Tell America."

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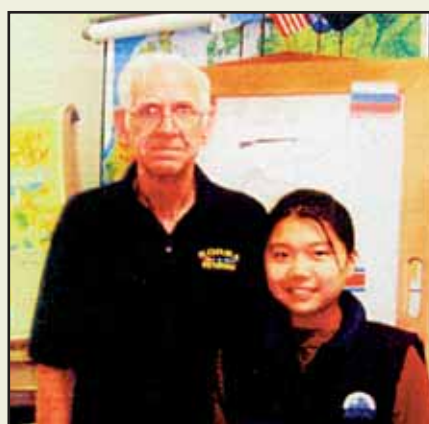
(L-R) Dinah Schuman (Berlin, Germany), Ken Williamson (CID 108), Han Kyung (Seoul, Korea) Fred Shively (CID 108) at Coldwater, OH



Ken Williamson, Hyun Jeune Cheong (Seoul, Korea), and Fred Shively



Ken Williamson, Han Kyul Kim (Seoul, Korea), and Fred Shively



Fred Shively and Chow Kit Yan (Hong Kong, China)



Lenobll Keneko (Tokyo, Japan) and Fred Shively