

# Tell America

## 2 - NORTHWEST ALABAMA II [AL]

By the end of this school year, the Chapter had made presentations to a total of 2,785 students at three high schools and two middle schools in the area. These were all-day presentations divided into 45-minute class periods.

We began each class with a "WHERE, WHEN, AND WHY OF THE KOREAN WAR," followed with two or more members telling personal experiences. We allowed at least ten minutes for questions from the students. Those making the presentations represented four branches of service (Army,

Navy, Marines, and Air Force). Each school library received a copy of the book *Faces of War*; which contains pictures and over 180 personal stories of the Korean War.

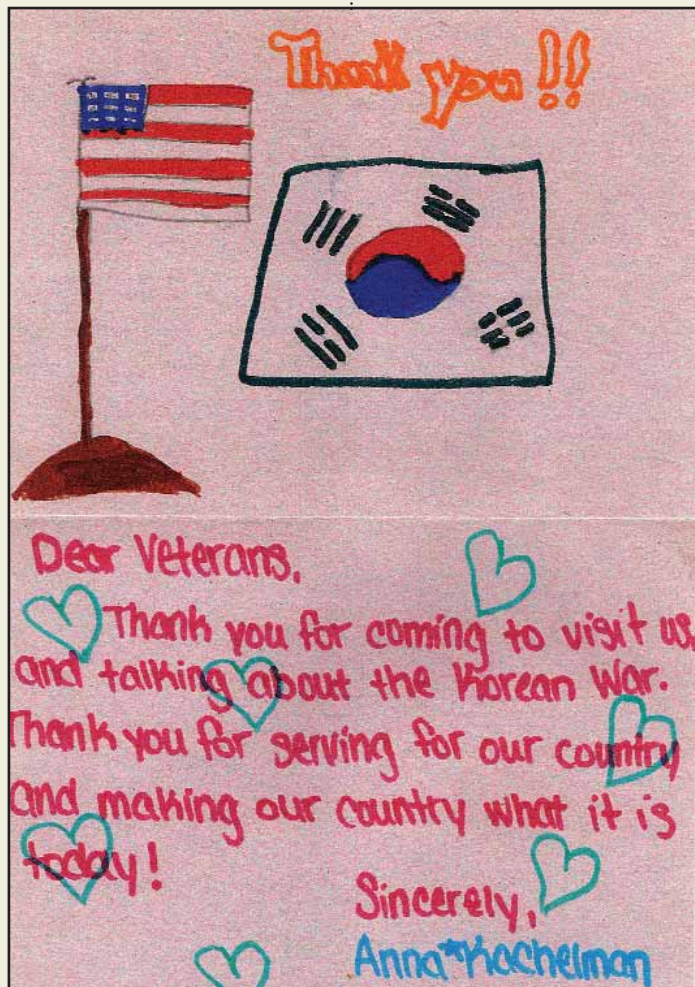
We know that each student went home with a better knowledge and a personal perspective of the Korean War.

We challenge all other chapters to surpass our number of schools and students in our Tell America Program.

*George Ellis*  
1020 Wildwood Park Road,  
Florence, AL 35630



George Ellis of CID 2 presents copy of *Faces of War* at Hibbett Middle School as (L-R) Wayne Higgins, teacher and director of "Wheeler Rifles," Cadet Russell, Librarian Ms. Angie McMullin, Cadet Drake look on



Thanks from a Hibbett Middle School student to CID 2 Tell America presenters



CID 2 President Bill Gober explains Chosin Reservoir campaign to students at Hibbett Middle School



Bob Norris explains the Air Force's role in the Korean War to Hibbett Middle School students

## 11 – GREATER DANBURY AREA [CT]

Upon invitation from the Superintendent of Schools in Monroe, CT., Chapter members Gerard (“Art”) Sheehan and Franklin Heffelfinger presented seven presentations over the period May 14 - 16, 2007 to the entire junior class of Masuk High School in Monroe, CT.

Their presentation included information on the background and events that led up to the Korean War and the periods 1950-1951 and 1952-1953, with which Sheehan and Heffelfinger were most familiar with respectively. The presentation concluded

with a display of photos, items of memorabilia, questions and answers, and an appeal for the students to never to forget the military and political achievements that resulted from the war, and that as young Americans they should forever know that “Freedom Is Not Free.”

Sheehan was a member of the First Cavalry Division, while Heffelfinger served with both the First Cavalry and the 45th Infantry Divisions.

*Gerard A. Sheehan,  
572 Moose Hill Road  
Monroe, CT 06468-2413*



CID 11 members (L-R) Gerard (“Art”) Sheehan and Franklin Heffelfinger at Masuk High School, Monroe, CT

## 54 – THOMAS W. DALEY JR. [NJ]

On March 30, 2007, Chapter members participated in a “Tell America” program at the Gateway High School, Woodbury Heights, New Jersey. The program was well received by the students and faculty, who thanked all the Korean War and Korean Service veterans for their service to their country.

We presented to history teacher Ms. Amy Rosell a few dozen back issues of *The Graybeards* magazines. She said these would be used in her classes when she is teaching about Korea. (Notice in the nearby photo that she is hold-

ing a copy of *The Graybeards*.) Gateway is a great school, and Ms. Rosell is a great teacher. We all were proud to tell of our experiences to her classes.

Since 2000 our Chapter has visited over 100 schools and appeared at many memorial services for veterans and their families. We can truly say we have touched the hearts and minds of our fellow citizens. As we impress upon them—and it is a lesson that always bears repeating—“Freedom is not free.”

*Andrew Thomas “Andy”  
Jackson, 117 Kingsdale Ave.,  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08003*



At CID 54’s Tell America presentation. (L-R) Dom Carrera, Gennaro Porco, Andy Jackson, USAR (Ret), Amy Rosell, Bill Millicent, Charles Kerber

## 105 – CENTRAL NEW YORK [NY]

On May 11, 2007, members of the Chapter participated in a USA Support Group function at Gillette Road Middle School in Cicero, NY for families of troops on active duty. The Tell America members were Ed Grala, Jim Low, and Vic Spaulding.

Over 1,200 students came to the event and asked questions. They expressed great interest in memorabilia from WWII, Korea, Bosnia, and present conflicts.

The same group, along with Lloyd Pitman and John Reidy, participated in a similar program at Homer, New York’s Living History Club Days in honor of Pfc Shawn P. Falter, who was killed in Iraq. We were greeted warmly concerning our military service and information about how the military functioned.

*John F. Grala, 341 Clover  
Ridge Drive, Syracuse, NY  
13206, (315) 463-8455*



Ed Grala, Jim Low, and Vic Spaulding of CID 105 at Gillette Road Middle School

## War Refugees in Korea

In early January 1951, I was Operations NCO, Hq 1st Bn, 32nd Infantry Regt, 7th Infantry Division. Our battalion was in the Pusan Area recovering from its Chosin Reservoir wounds. We had been evacuated by sea from North Korea, and the reconstituted battalion was being ordered north to stem the Communist move south.

The battalion moved north by rail to the town of Tanyang, the railhead on the east side of South Korea. Units to stop the enemy were in short supply, and our battalion became an "island of resistance" to block the MSA (Main Supply route) south. Another battalion, also an "island," was located a few miles west of us.

Our first contact with anything from the north was the refugees. We determined that they were being herded ahead of the main enemy force to determine our locations.

We were able to stop the refugees from going south on the MSR, and to identify enemy soldiers dressed as civilians in among the refugees.

Our troops searched some of the refugees for weapons, but did not let them move through us on the MSA. Our only course was to send them laterally to the west and our other battalion. Often, the refugees were directed back to us. None went south through our perimeter.

I am not sure what happened to the refugees. They could have filtered south between our islands-of-resistance. "Where there's a will there's a way."

Fremont "Monty" Piercefield  
5692 Cedar Beach Lane  
Belgium, WI 53004  
(262) 285-3042

### New Sentry

A soldier recently finished basic training and was assigned to sentry duty at the main gate. His orders were clear: no car was to enter unless it had a special sticker on the windshield. Soon, a large Army vehicle drove up with a two-star general sitting in the back seat. The sentry said, "Halt! Who goes there?"

The driver, a corporal, answered, "General Wheeler."

"I'm sorry; I can't let you pass because you do not have a sticker on your windshield."

The General said, "Drive on!"

"You really can't come through. I have orders to shoot if you try driving in without a sticker on the windshield."

The General repeated, in a loud voice, "I'm telling you, son, drive on!"

The sentry walked up to the rear window and said, "I'm new at this. Do I shoot you or the driver?"

### So that his brethren shall know...

Please report the death of any member of the KWVA to: Membership, P.O. Box 22857, Alexandria, VA 22304-9285 for listing in "Last Call."

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### 256 – NORVILLE FINNEY [MI]

#### Thanks from a "Grateful" Teacher

Members of CID 256 visit the Hazel Park Junior High School as many as 4-5 times in a school year. School administrators invite veterans to an All Veterans Night. As many as 300-400 people have attended each event for the past 3-4 years.

Beverly Blair, whose letter of appreciation appears below, has helped our Chapter with their participation at many of the schools in the area. In fact, she is an honorary member of our organization.

Richard Charbonneau  
532 W. Troy Street  
Ferndale, MI 48220  
(248) 543-3577

April 30, 2007

Mr. Richard Charbonneau  
Korean War Veterans Chapter #256  
Warren, Michigan

Dear Mr. Charbonneau:

I would like to thank you and your fellow Korean War Veterans for your willingness to be open about your experiences during the Korean War. My students, through your stories and pictures, have learned so much about this critical period in our country's history. I can think of no better way to communicate this information to my students than through your personal experiences. This is just another excellent example of how the community can work with the schools to further a child's education through real life experiences.

Your presentations allow the students to open up a dialogue with veterans in their own families and, in turn, personalize these experiences. These students, as they pass through high school, still remember, with fondness, the stories shared by you and your fellow veterans. They are very grateful for your honesty, openness and, most of all, your time.

Those of us in the Hazel Park Community Schools are extremely fortunate to have a group of Korean War Veterans available to provide our students with an educational experience of a lifetime. These are the stories of the past that define who we are as a nation. These stories, through your help, will continue to be passed down to the next generation. My students, with your assistance, will not allow the Korean War to be "the Forgotten War."

Gratefully yours,

Beverly Blair  
8th grade Social Studies Teacher  
Hazel Park Junior High School  
Hazel Park, MI 48030

Visit the Korean War Veterans Association  
Website: [www.KWVA.org](http://www.KWVA.org)