

America's Forgotten Victory!

November-December 2007

# The Graybeards

Official Publication of  
**THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION**



Vol. 21, No. 6



*Our Warmest Wishes For The Holidays*

The National Officers and Staff of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.



# The Graybeards

Official Publication of  
**THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION**

In loving memory of General Raymond Davis, our Life Honorary President, Deceased.



The Graybeards is the official publication of the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA), Camp Beauregard, LA. MAILING ADDRESS OF THE KWVA: 163 Deerbrook Trail, Pineville, LA 71360. Website: <http://www.kwva.org>. It is published six times a year for members and private distribution. It is not sold by subscription.

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on the KWVA website**



# From the President

Louis T. Dechert

## THIS WE'LL DEFEND!

For several years in our Nation's beginnings there was only one military service and one department: The War Office. Their heraldry proclaimed THIS WE WILL DEFEND. That history is alive today in the Seal of the Department of Army, and on the badges which Drill Sergeants wear.



I recently received an email from a soldier whom I have known for several years, in two wars—a distinguished veterans worker, advisor, and consultant at the Department of Veterans Affairs in Washington, as well as with state veterans affairs organizations across the country. He asserted:

The KWVA has become a victim and dysfunctional organization by allowing a small group of malcontents to seize control of the organization. I believe over 17,000 members are bowing to the demands of less than 30 nonconformist and non-productive individuals claiming to speak for the entire organization\* \* \* \*

The continued "Public Floggings" of the President is unheard of. The Public Ridicule of the professional qualifications and standards of our Counsel, the falsifications about official records, such as financial reports, as well as outright lies are unacceptable in any civilized society. There are laws against libel and slander, and, I believe, the organization has gone much too long in not taking the appropriate actions to remove the cancer from the body and allow healing.

I believe more good citizens, veterans and members of the KWVA must take a position and step up to the task of silencing these few people that would never be allowed continued membership in any other organization because of disruptive behavior and unacceptable conduct.

For the GOOD OF THE ORDER please move forward without delay.

He is right—although the number might be closer to 100 than 30. To indicate how far this has traveled, a KWVA Associate Member has established a charity website on the internet, solely for the purpose of implementing the travesties listed above, all under the umbrella of their version of 'free speech.' The individual has even chosen to use our name in the name of the website! We do not believe that is legal. Obviously, no permission was sought for the perverted use of our name, and the content is certainly not a respectful use of our organization's name.

Another charity website purporting to serve veterans but giving no public accounting for their operations has likewise lied about the National Korean War Veterans Association for months. They have been attempting to provoke the KWVA/USA into filing legal actions against them. Then they can claim martyrhood and hike contributions. Their initial slander against the KWVA/USA several months ago was evidently a dry run of their intentions

In 2004 I asked the members for me to be allowed to serve as President based upon a specific campaign platform. I fulfilled that platform. Among the principles to which I promised adherence—and took an oath to carry out—was the return and adherence to legal Bylaws. That was done, and that practice has been continued since that time. The Executive Council—now the Board of Directors—and the membership have approved by whatever votes and numbers required everything this Administration has done.

The membership was twice provided with our Bylaws in *The Graybeards* in pull-out format so they could be retained. The membership has twice approved the Bylaws and the Board has approved all procedures several times. The members have 24/7/365

### THE MISSION OF THE KWVA/USA

**DEFEND** our Nation  
**CARE** for our Veterans  
**PERPETUATE** our Legacy  
**REMEMBER** our Missing and Fallen  
**MAINTAIN** our Memorial  
**SUPPORT** a free Korea

access to the Bylaws and to the Standard Procedure Manual on the world-class website [www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org).

I ran for re-election based on my goals and objectives for the organization. While this Administration still has several months yet to run, the following accomplishments are a matter of record, 2004-2007.

## Upgraded Chapter And Membership Communication

- Authorized chapter officers [who must be National members] can access the national membership database online to verify the accuracy of their members' records.

- Chapter officers [who must be National members] can seek information from the Membership Office by email.

- The Membership Office is more responsive than ever to requests by chapter officers.

- Anyone can view a list of chapters and departments showing the addresses, phone numbers, dates and locations of meeting places on the KWVA web site.

## Increased Numbers Of Chapters And Departments

- The 220 Chapters actually in existence when this Administration took office (over 290 were claimed to exist) has increased to 232, mainly accredited.

- The 13 Departments in existence when this Administration took office has increased to 16, mainly accredited.

- Some 600 members who had been long deceased but were still carried as active members were removed with reverence from the active rolls and honored in the process.

- A national program of accreditation—a prerequisite for a Federal Charter—was developed and has made steady progress.

## Created A World-Class KWVA Website

- KWVA has a dynamic up-to-the-minute website.

- Anyone can view the bylaws on KWVA's web site. (Note: One cannot view the Bylaws of very many other Veterans Service Organizations on the web.)

- Anyone can browse through archived issues of *The Graybeards* on the KWVA website. We salvaged these—there was no national archive of *The Graybeards* before 2005.

Continued on page 56



COVER: Washing up! Kumsong River, Korea, Feb. 1952.  
Photo courtesy of William S. Bakalyn (center in photo),  
RR #2, Box 429, Gillett, PA 16925



32



36



52



73

# CONTENTS

## Business

Thanks for Supporting <i>The Graybeards</i> .....	7
Bylaws And Standard Procedure Manual .....	7
Management Information System .....	9
Minutes: Board of Directors Meeting .....	10
Call for Elections .....	12
Korean War Veterans Association Financial Statement .....	13
Official Membership Application Form.....	14
Minutes: General Membership Meeting .....	16
Tell America Program Report: National Convention .....	20
Ask the Secretary... ..	21

## Features

Images of Korea.....	22
Prisoner Exchange at Panmunjom, 1953 .....	58

## Departments

From The President .....	3
The Editor's Desk .....	6
Tell America .....	28
Monuments and Medals.....	32
Chapter News .....	36
Mini-Reunions .....	52
Feedback/Return Fire .....	64
Reunion Calendar.....	68
Book Review .....	69
Last Call .....	72
Thanks .....	73
Recon Missions .....	74

## News & Notes

Not Forgotten: The Greek Expeditionary Force .....	25
From Refugee to Interpreter to Pastor and Author.....	25
Korean War Veterans And Robbins Middle School .....	26
Maryland Route 43 Designated As Korean War & Korea Service Veterans Memorial Highway.....	50
The Burial of Sergeant Mitchell Wallace.....	56
William E. Cranston, a KWVA VUMS .....	61
The Pusan Cemetery .....	62
Tour News: Revisit Korea .....	63
The North Koreans Did Not Want To "Kidd" Around.....	68
Guest Editorial: For the Good of the Order .....	70
The Hands Say It All.....	79
The USS Cavalier .....	79

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**"So, it is me and me alone who decides what does or does not get printed."**

Grrrrr...

There is a corollary to Edmund Burke's warning that "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." It is this: "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for bad men to do something, no matter how nefarious it is." That corollary is at work within the KWVA as you read this, and it has goaded me into doing something I have studiously avoided as editor of *The Graybeards*: getting mixed up in the KWVA's politics.

Until now, I have concentrated on my primary goal as editor. I did not want to get involved in the overt attempt by a few misguided and uninformed people to subvert the entire association. The reason is simple: I have no dog in the fight—or at least I didn't think I did. I do now. Its name is "Integrity."

Here is what has riled me up. In his recent declaration of candidacy for the presidency of the KWVA, Byron Dickerson wrote:

*The Graybeards*, while a truly wonderful magazine, contains only items approved by the current administration. You may recall that the issue prior to the last election contained 10-12 pages of all the accomplishments of the current president. This may happen again - promoting whoever the administration has chosen to run for president in the next election. The average member never sees or hears anything that is contradictory to the policies of the organization as it is now operating.

Mr. Dickerson's allegations are untrue. Besides, how would he know? Neither he nor the people pulling his strings have ever approached me directly about the editorial process.

The "current administration"—of which Mr. Dickerson is a part—does not tell me what to include or not include in *The Graybeards* (and no one asked me to write this, either). There have been occasional discussions regarding the value of some submissions, but no one has ever told me "don't print that." I—and I alone—make the final decision regarding what makes the cut and what does not, with the exception of news from noncompliant KWVA chapters. **I invite**

**The "current administration"—of which Mr. Dickerson is a part—does not tell me what to include or not include in *The Graybeards* (and no one asked me to write this, either).**

***Mr. Dickerson or any of his supporters to provide any evidence they have to back up their claim regarding the contents of *The Graybeards*.***

While we are at it, let's look at Mr. Dickerson's claim, "You may recall that the issue prior to the last election contained 10-12 pages of all the accomplishments of the current president." (Note that he is admitting that the President has accomplished something—and if he has accomplished enough to fill 10-12 pages, that is something to be admired, not belittled.) If he is referring to the March-April 2006, issue, there were eight pages devoted to candidates' accomplishments. Those eight pages included the bio of every candidate for office—including Mr. Dickerson's, in which he touted his accomplishments (and did not mention anything about *The Graybeards* needing editorial improvement).

If he means the Jan/Feb 2006 issue, the president's comments comprise a seven-page review of his first term in office. No matter how Mr. Dickerson couches it, 7 is a smaller number than 10 or 12. Anyone who wants to be president of a prestigious organization like the KWVA should focus on accuracy and accomplishments over allegations or accusations—and learn to count precisely.

Okay, what about the last part of Mr. Dickerson's paragraph, i.e., "The average member never sees or hears anything that is contradictory to the policies of the organization as it is now operating." The key words there are "...as it is now operating." I venture to guess that the average member—however Mr. Dickerson defines "average"—does not hear anything that is contradictory to the policies of the organization as it used to operate, either, at least not in *The Graybeards*. That is by design as far as I am concerned. (Incidentally, if Mr. Dickerson wants to be president of the KWVA, he better get over the notion that its members are nothing but average. Personally, I resent being labeled as average. I bet most of the

KWVA's members do as well.)

I made it part of my editorial policy to avoid printing charges and countercharges regarding wrongdoing, rightdoing (I just made that word up), he said, she said, etc., in the magazine, whenever it occurred. That is because some of the sophomoric charges and allegations made by a few disgruntled members were so ridiculous that even highly respected tabloids (now there's an oxymoron) wouldn't print them, and I wanted to save them from the humiliation they seem to invite upon themselves. (I will be happy to print some of them *verbatim* if Mr. Dickerson and his cronies grant me permission.)

Anyone within the organization with the ability to reason could see that there were positive changes ongoing within the organization, and that allegations of administration wrongdoing were for the most part fabrications by people filled with hate whose mission is to destroy—not enhance—the KWVA.

So, it is me and me alone who decides what does or does not get printed. That is what editors do: they determine what does and does not appear in the publications, and edit what makes the cut. The charge by Mr. Dickerson that the administration—again, of which he is a part—approves the content of *The Graybeards* is patently false. An effective administrator checks facts before alleging or accusing, which apparently Mr. Dickerson does not. The same holds true for any candidate for office.

Let me backtrack and give you a bit of history regarding my selection as editor of *The Graybeards*. I was not Lou Dechert's first choice. In fact, he and I got off to a rocky start. My name arose as a candidate for the editor's position only because I had been working with the publisher of *The Graybeards* on other magazines. He offered my name to the KWVA leadership when he learned that Mr. Krepps was resigning. That led to a misunderstanding on Mr. Dechert's part.

My appointment as editor was announced about the time Mr. Dechert assumed the presidency of the KWVA for his first term. He did not know who I was. He assumed that I was a member of the outgoing KWVA administration. Therefore, he did not want me as editor of *The Graybeards*, and he told me so in no uncertain terms.

Mr. Dechert wrote me a letter in which he told me I would not be the editor, and he ordered me—**yes, ordered**—to return all KWVA documents in my possession. (Mr. Krepps had sent me a boxful of documents to facilitate the editorial transition.) Now, I am normally a pretty complacent individual. Mr. Dechert's order raised my hackles, however. I wrote back to him and said he could have the material. I told him I was putting the box by the curb in front of my house and he or one of his minions could pick it up at any time.

"Be aware, though," I wrote, "Trash collection takes place on Tuesday here. Whoever gets here first can have the material."

I never sent the letter. And, Mr. Dechert phoned me to follow up on his letter. We talked, and we reached an accord. He asked me to stay on; I accepted his offer. We agreed that I would have full editorial control, and he has honored that commitment. That editorial control is one of the greatest benefits KWVA members have regarding *The Graybeards*.

I am a professional editor. I am not a voting member of the Korean War Veterans Association. Therefore, I have always been able to stand aside and watch with bemused detachment as a very small number of subversives within the Association do all in their power to tear the KWVA apart. Some of them have made attempts to sway me or persuade me to print their complaints in *The Graybeards*. But, I turned down their requests. Again, I had no dog in their fight, and I did not want to get involved—especially since their goal is to destroy the KWVA.

Let's go back to that word "subversive." It is an appropriate word for the band of mischievous miscreants trying to destroy the KWVA from within through subversive tactics, i.e., those intended to overthrow or undermine an established government—in this case, the president of

the KWVA.

Not one of them has offered any concrete ideas or constructive criticism regarding what the KWVA should do to resolve its problems (most of which they have manufactured and misled the membership about). Nor have any of them submitted their names as candidates for office as agents of positive change. Instead, they attack the president and complain to the IRS, FBI, Congress, state officials, postal authorities.... How does that help the rest of the Association? It doesn't—and, ladies and gentlemen, it is subversion. Making unfounded accusations about *The Graybeards* falls into that category.

The bottom line here is that I do have a dog in the fight after all. Its name is "Integrity." When the subversives make unfounded accusations about who controls *The Graybeards*, they are attacking the editor's integrity. They are also manifesting a blatant display of individual ignorance, because they are blissfully unaware of the editorial process. That does not stop them from making unsupported claims, though. Are these the types of people you want running your organization?

The dog is out of the kennel now, and will return only when it is no longer being attacked.

Grrrrr...

## Bylaws And Standard Procedure Manual

The Membership voted to ratify Bylaw changes presented at the Reno, NV Annual Membership Meeting on October 25, 2007. A new 2007 Bylaws copy will be made available on the KWVA Website as a download by the time you receive this issue.

Changes to the Standard Procedure Manual (SPM) were also approved by the Board of Directors. Those who have already downloaded a copy of the SPM will be able to download the changes or a complete revised SPM. Those who sent in a coupon with a payment of \$3 for a SPM will be mailed the changes to update their manuals to the current issue.

Both the 2007 Bylaws and/or a SPM may again be ordered by mail by contacting the Secretary and including a check for \$5 for a new 2007 Bylaws and \$10 for an updated SPM-004. Downloading is still free for both. Instruction for downloading or printing will be available on the website.

The purchase price for both will only be available for a limited time (until February 28, 2008). Any changes after February 28, 2008 will need to be downloaded from the KWVA Website only.

## Thanks for Supporting *The Graybeards*

Members are invited to help underwrite the publications costs of *The Graybeards*. All contributions in any amount are welcome. Mail your donations to KWVA Treasurer Richard Hare, 1260 Southampton Drive, Alexandria, LA 71303. All contributions will be acknowledged, unless the donor specifically requests to remain anonymous. And, if you have an "In memory of" (IMO) request, include that as well. We thank you for your generous support..

CONTRIBUTOR		LOCATION	CONTRIBUTOR		LOCATION
A. E. Griffith	Bates Jr.	Wash DC	Doris	Heaney	NJ
Verlon H.	George	FL	Clifford J.	Hall	FL
Melvin J.	Behnen	AZ			

### THE GRAYBEARDS DEADLINES

Articles to be published in the *The Graybeards* must be sent to the editor no later than the 15th day of the first month of that issue. —Editor.

Jan-Feb	Jan 15
Mar-Apr	Mar 15
May-June	May 15
July-Aug	July 15
Sept-Oct	Sept 15
Nov-Dec	Nov 15

# **TOUR PROGRAM 2008 DATES**

**MAY 18-24**

**JUNE 22-28**

**SEPTEMBER 4-10**

**NOVEMBER 5-11**

***ASK ABOUT THE CHINA EXTENSION***



Our leader then Private Garr "cools his heels" Korea 1951 Warren Wiedhahn, KVA Chairman Park-Se-jik & Mrs Park



Welcome banner at the May 2007 banquet and the distinguished guests, "Ambassadors of Peace"!

**May and September tours fill up fast, contact MHT soon for deposit/registration information.**

***Eligibility expanded to families of Veterans***

***Military Historical Tours the official KWVA Revisit facilitator***

**Phone: 1-800-722-9501 \*\* Website: [www.miltours.com](http://www.miltours.com)**

**4600 Duke Street #420 Alexandria, Virginia 22304-2517**



## Korean War Veterans Association

# Management Information System

## KWVA Database Information and Statistics of Interest

### Subject: Maintaining Accreditation

To: KWVA Department/Chapter Presidents and Members  
From: Lou Dechert, President, KWVA/US

This is a revised reprint of my original article found on Page 38 of the Jul/Aug, 2006 issue of The Graybeards concerning the printing of articles, reports and pictures from you and/or your Department/Chapter/Members in The Graybeards. After over a year since its publication and several reprints in succeeding Graybeards, I feel it necessary to update the article and provide wider distribution.

The Graybeards reports on the activities of accredited Departments, Chapters, members, and affiliates of the Korean War Veterans Association of the USA. Basically, it is about national members, published by the national organization, and requires over 60% of all the dues income received each year from national members to publish and distribute.

The Secretary of the KWVA (there have been three) and his assistants are concluding an intensive three year+ effort to assist each Department/Chapter and their members to comply with the membership accreditation requirements of the KWVA pertaining to active National Membership, National data base corrections, and required elections, per the Bylaws and Standard Procedure Manual. Required elections, reports, and meeting of membership requirements are not optional and are required to maintain National accreditation.

In view of the lack of a specific definition of "Accredited" being listed in the Bylaws or Standard Procedure Manual (though certainly implied), after consultation with the Membership Chairman, two successive National Secretaries, the VA, the General Counsel, and the JA, I have stated the following to be in effect until further modified:

To be considered as accredited

1. Chapter maintains a minimum of 12 assigned regular members who are current in their dues; and
2. Department/Chapter conducts election of officers each year or two years, according to KWVA Bylaws; and
3. the results of the election/appointment of the required officers will be reported to the KWVA Secretary within one month of the election; and
4. the Department/Chapter president, vice president[s], secretary and treasurer are to be regular KWVA members who are current in their dues; and
5. Members who join(ed) the Chapter after October 4, 2005 are required to become and maintain active KWVA membership while being assigned to the chapter [unless deceased].

As there are always more news/articles/pictures being submitted for publication in The Graybeards than there is room to include, "Accredited" Chapters/Departments/

Individuals of the National KWVA are being afforded priority of space. Exceptions will be made from time to time for a limited number of articles from Korean War veterans organizations of nations belonging to the International Federation of Koreans War Veterans Associations, and for a limited number of articles from special sources such as the Veterans Administration and various MIA/JPOW

oriented organizations.

This procedure has been in effect for a year and has resulted in the suspension of publication of various submissions for failure to maintain the above requirements.

Departments/Chapters which cannot meet all of the requirements should report their situation as soon as possible to The Secretary, KWVA. He will discuss the matter with the Membership Committee and get the approval of the President as to how to proceed.

The intent of our National efforts in this area is NOT to reduce units; the intent is

to help units maintain the standards they attained to become chartered status to begin with, as well as the application of all Bylaw requirements.

Any questions on this matter should be addressed to the KWVA Secretary at the address listed inside the front cover of the magazine. Questions concerning your membership and election reports should be directed to KWVA Supervisor of Management Information. That contact information can be found inside the front cover of The Graybeards or the KWVA website, [www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org).

*Lou Dechert, President, KWVA/US*

To: KWVA Department Chapter Presidents

Attn: KWVA Members

As this report is being written, we are nearing the end of calendar year 2007. It is time to reflect on what has been happening in your organization concerning the KWVA Website [[www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org)] and the Department/Chapter/Membership Databases. Though some of this information is a repeat of that found on Page 11 of the May/June 2006 issue of The Graybeards, other parts of it are an update.

The KWVA Management Information System is in full operation and is able to provide data to the National, Department and Chapter Staff on a "need to know basis." It also provides information that is available to individual KWVA members, prospective members, and the public in general. Our very capable and knowledgeable webmaster is constantly "tweaking" our Management Information System [consisting of the website and the databases] to give you daily up-to-date information concerning the status of KWVA and its Departments, Chapters and Membership.

To get this information easily and quickly requires access to the internet via a computer. Each KWVA Board and Staff Member, as well as each Department and Chapter President, is being encouraged to become a part of the "Electronic Age" and utilize the available resources provided by your Association to improve it and contribute to its growth!

The past 3-1/2 years of operation have provided instant and more accurate information concerning our Association than has ever been available in the years past. If you have not visited our KWVA website at [www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org), you have been missing an important part of what is available to you as a KWVA member. In fact, you should visit it often, as it is constantly being updated with timely and "good to

Continued on page 71

**Minutes: Board of Directors Meeting, Reno NV**

This is a summary of the Board of Directors Meeting, held at the Eldorado Hotel and Casino, Reno, Nevada, on October 23-25, 2007. This Summary is subject to confirmation when the "Verbatim" court recorder record becomes available to the Secretary.

**Call for the Meeting**

KWVA Website and The Graybeards, July-August 2007, Email and posted by Chairman, September 23, 2007

**Call to Order**

President Dechert called the meeting to order at approximately 1330 hours.

To the Colors and Pledge of Allegiance

John Sonley, Sgt-at-Arms, led the Call to Colors and Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation

National Chaplain Leo Ruffing led the group in prayer.

Administrative Announcements and Adoption of Agenda

President Dechert reminded everyone present that they are still bound by Korean War Veterans Association Board of Directors Rules of Decorum & Debate which was passed at Gaithersburg with a 2/3 majority vote of the voting members of the Board at the regularly called Board meeting.

Director Yanacos made a motion that the Agenda be approved. The motion was seconded and carried with no objections

**Roll Call and Introductions**

The roll was called by Secretary Cohee. Present were:

Louis Dechert, President

Byron Dickerson, 1st Vice President

Jim Ferris, 2nd Vice President

Frank Cohee, Secretary

Richard Hare, Treasurer

Charlotte Ayers, Director

Robert Banker, Director

Jeff Brodeur, Director

Lee Dauster, Director

Michael Doyle, Director

Marvin Dunn, Director

Tom Edwards, Director

James Fountain, Director

William Mac Swain, Director

Tom McHugh, Director

Warren Wiedhahn, Director

Chris Yanacos, Director

Declaration of Quorum affirmed by Secretary Cohee

Introductions by President Dechert

Department Presidents/Commanders

Leo Agnew, Judge Advocate, Parliamentarian

Stephen Szekely, Chairman, Ethics and Grievance Committee

John Sonley, Sergeant-at-Arms

JD Randolph, National VAVS Director

Larry Kinard, Tell America Operations Director

Edwin Buckman, National Co-Director of Legislation

Jake Feaster, Assistant Secretary

Jimmy Faircloth, Attorney, Assistant Parliamentarian,  
General Attorney

Vicki Lee-Garza, Recorder

Jim Doppelhammer, Webmaster

Annelie Weber, Membership Executive Assistant

Bill Hutton, Past National Secretary

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Secretary Cohee referenced minutes of previous Board of Directors meeting 07.25.2007, summary printed in The Graybeards (Jul-Aug, 2007). A motion was made by Director Yanacos and seconded to approve the minutes. The motion was carried with no objections.

**Audit Reports**

Treasurer Hare reported that 2006 was the third year for an audit under President Dechert's administration. The first year, 2004, covered half of the previous administration and half of this administration and there was a very, very qualified audit report because we received very poor records from the previous administration. For the second audit, 2005, the auditors now had a basis established for preparing the audit and the results were much better. The 2006 audit was an absolute clean audit and the auditors stated that "In our opinion, the financial statements...present fairly, in all material respects, the financial positions of Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. at December 31, 2006, and the changes in net assets, statements of functional expenses and cash flows for the year ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America."

**Financial Report**

Treasurer Hare presented a 12-month financial report, from October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2007.

- The balance sheet shows total assets in checking, savings and investments of \$452,252.58 as of September 30, 2007.

- As for income, the significant differences from the previous year are an increase in dues of approximately \$40,000.00, primarily due to the efforts of Jim Doppelhammer, Jake Feaster and Annelie Weber and their "We miss you and want you back campaign" and the increase in annual membership dues from \$20 to \$25.

- The other significant income item is the fundraiser that netted \$84,000.

- In the expense area, insurance costs are down by almost half, primarily due to Director Dauster's efforts, professional services are up because of the three audits in one year, meeting costs are up and lastly, the costs for printing, publication and postage for The Graybeards are up.

- Mr. Hare further commented that he took a snapshot of the association's financial status as of Sunday, October 21, 2007 and the results at that time were, \$12,835.76 in the checking account, \$4,454.44 in the savings account and \$428,585.68 in the A. G. Edwards mutual fund account, for a total of \$445,875.88.

- He also pointed out that, from the activation date in



## Minutes: Board of Directors Meeting, Reno, NV (Continued)

December 2005 until the end of September 2007, the association has realized a 9.36 percent gain in our assets from the A.G. Edwards account.

- In conclusion, Mr. Hare noted that while the association has had a good gain he has recently had to go into that mutual fund account in order to pay bills of about \$40,000.00. Our income is not keeping up with the costs. Korean veterans are passing away rapidly (President Dechert commented that they are dying at the rate of 630 a day) costs are increasing for The Graybeards, the website, etc. The proposed budget for 2008 is a "status quo" budget and unless we take action to raise the necessary funds to break even, our assets will go down to a point in about five years where the continued existence of the KWVA will be questionable.

A motion was made by Director Mac Swain and seconded to accept the Financial Report, and carried with no objections.

### Old Business

#### Report of Reunion/Convention Committee

2nd VP Jim Ferris noted that Virginia Beach had previously been selected and approved by the Board for 2008. However, after further review, it was decided that the Norfolk, VA area would be more appropriate.

Director McHugh made a motion to rescind the Board action in Gaithersburg naming Virginia Beach as the convention site for 2008. The motion was seconded and passed with one objection.

Director McHugh made a motion to select Norfolk, VA as the convention site for 2008. The motion was seconded and passed with no objection.

For the Convention and Annual Meetings in 2009 and 2010, the sites proposed are San Diego, CA and Hartford, CT respectively.

#### Report of Bylaws Committee

Chairman Mac Swain presented additional Special Procedure Manual (SPM) changes requested by members, chapters and committees.

- A summary of changes were the addition in the PURPOSE: A. B. and C. paragraphs to further define the reason for having an SPM and that it was Bylaws authorized.

- The PROCEDURE CHANGE METHOD: was rewritten to clarify who could submit changes and who was to check the changes before presentation to the Board for approval.

- A method of CONFIGURATION CONTROL was added, since the SPM is a changing document, and how the control will be maintained.

- An additional Appendix page S-1 titled CONFIGURATION CONTROL OF THE STANDARD PROCEDURE MANUAL was added with information on FORMAT to use and how CHANGES will use Revision Numbers so configuration will always be known. These changes were essentially approved without objection.

#### Legislative Matters

Director Bob Banker updated the Board on the status of

Federal Charter Bills, HR 2852 and S. 1692. On September 13, 2007, the Senate passed S. 1692 by a unanimous vote and the bill has been sent to the House. The House bill was introduced by Representative Hoyer, the number two member in the House.

Mr. Buckman, a Co-National Legislative Director, commented that Congressman Sam Johnson attended a recent meeting where the Congressman commented that he has been in contact with Representative Hoyer with regards to this matter and that it will become a reality this year.

#### Report of Resolutions Committee

Director Dauster presented 10 resolutions for approval or disapproval. After consideration by the board, Resolution #1 was rejected, #s 2, 6, 7, 8 and 9 (virtually all the same) were approved and #s 3, 4, 5, and 10 were disapproved. Director Edwards moved that the resolutions committee report, as amended, be approved. The motion was seconded and passed without objection.

#### KWVA & MHT Lease Agreement

President Dechert presented the Agreement for the KWVA office in the Washington, DC area and commented that the action had been directed by two previous Executive Councils and the Administration recommends that the lease be approved or the previous Executive Council actions be rescinded.

Director Yanacos made a motion to authorize the President to sign the lease as presented. It was seconded and voted on by a show of hands. The motion carried.

#### Appointments

President Dechert recommended that Robert C Schofield LR29120 and Leonard Speizer LR04855 be appointed to the Nominations and Election committee, and the Board was requested to approve their appointments.

Director Yanacos made a motion that they be approved. The motion was seconded and approved with no objection.

#### Report of the National Ceremonies Committee

Director McHugh stated that the KWVA has not had any control and little input for the July 27th Ceremony at the Korean War Veterans Memorial on the Mall in DC because another organization not affiliated with the KWVA has always sought and obtained the permit from the National Park Service. That organization falsely claims they already have the 2008 permit. Director McHugh made a motion that the Board authorize the KWVA to request a permit for July 27th, 2008. The motion was seconded and passed without objection.

#### Report of the Ethics and Grievance Committee

Chairman Stephen Szekely reported that 11 complaint assignments were received from the Judge Advocate. Six were found to be sustained, two were found to be not sustained, one was terminated for lack of evidence, one was found to be unfounded and one was abated by resignation.

All investigations of the E&G Committee are confidential

#### Closed Hearing

The session was closed except for Board members and the

## Board Meeting (Continued)

E&G Committee members at 1721 hours. The Closed Hearing recessed for the evening at 1844 hours and reopened at 0841 hours on October 24, 2007. It concluded at approximately 1110 hours and the Agenda continued to New Business.

### New Business

Secretary Frank Cohee presented the Agenda for the General Membership Meeting, October 25, 2007 and recommended that the Agenda be approved.

Director McHugh moved to accept the Agenda. The motion was seconded and passed without objection.

At 1145 hours the meeting was recessed until October 25, 2007, following the Annual Membership meeting.

Board Meeting continued at 1611, October 25, 2007, in open session.

President Dechert commented that it appeared that the agenda for the Board meeting had been exhausted as the remaining items were covered at the Annual Membership meeting.

### FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

#### Comments from Chaplain Stegman

"I think that the greatest gift that we give our whole membership is to be unified. We all make mistakes, we have our ups and downs, but one thing we got to do is go forward, go forward all the way together. So I think the greatest gift to the whole organization is we're united. No matter what the price, we are going to do it because it's for GOD and Country every day".

#### Comments from President Dechert

In the Spirit of Father Stegman's prayer, I would like a motion for the Board to remit the remainder of the probation of Vice President Dickerson. Director Yanacos so moved. The motion was seconded and all in favor were asked to stand. The motion was passed unanimously.

#### Additional SPM/Bylaw Changes

Director Mac Swain proposed adding item g. under the Ethics and Grievance Committee section of the SPM stating, "The member that has been admonished, reprimanded, suspended or placed on probation, shall receive the conditions, established by the Board of Directors, with his letter from the President/Judge Advocate" and he so moved. The motion was seconded and passed without objection.

Director Mac Swain made a motion that the Bylaws Committee be authorized to advertise copies of the Bylaws for \$5.00 a copy and \$10.00 for a copy of the SPM by mail form to cover the cost and advertise this in The Graybeards and the website.

The motion was seconded and passed without objection.

#### Closing Prayer by Chaplain Ruffing

Meeting adjourned at 1622 hours, October 25, 2007

Respectfully Submitted

*Frank Cohee, National Secretary*

# CALL FOR ELECTIONS

The membership is hereby notified that elections will be held in the spring of 2008 for the following National KWVA positions:

■ President, First Vice President and Second Vice President for the year 2008-2010.

■ The offices of four Directors for the years of 2008-2011.

**No later than February 15, 2008** any regular members in good standing of the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA) seeking to run for any of the aforementioned offices shall make their intentions known to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Tom McHugh, in writing, using the following format:

### Requirements:

**A.** Must present proof of service by submitting a separate signed Official Membership Application Form showing eligible service years and a statement releasing the application form for verification by the Nominating Committee (no fee required)

**B.** Must present a current photograph suitable for publication in The Graybeards.

**C.** Must submit a letter with the following:

- 1) Your intent to run for an office and the office sought.
- 2) A resume of your qualifications for this office, stating any experience that will be of benefit to the Association.
- 3) Your current mailing address, telephone number and KWVA membership number.
- 4) This letter will be limited to approximately one typed page.
- 5) A statement that you will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and that you understand that two unexcused absences could be used for your removal from office.

**D.** You must sign a statement that your dues are current through the whole term of the office that you are seeking.

**Payment of delinquent dues shall not be retroactive for the purpose of establishing eligibility to run for office within the Association.**

**E.** Send the above items by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Nominating Committee Chairman to arrive **not later than February 15, 2008.**

Nominees are requested to contact the Nominating Committee Chairman if they have any questions.

Application and questions are to be addressed to:

Thomas M. McHugh  
Nominating Chairman  
217 Seymour Road  
Hackettstown, NJ 07840  
[TMMcHugh@msn.com](mailto:TMMcHugh@msn.com)  
Ph: 908-852-1964

The process is as follows: The Nominating Committee certifies the candidates that are qualified to stand for office. The declarations are sent to the Editor of *The Graybeards* for publication in the March-April edition. The ballots are also published in that edition. Members then cast their ballots by June 10th. A CPA then counts the ballots and reports the results to the Nominating Committee.

*Frank Cohee, National Secretary*



## Korean War Veterans Association Financial Statement: October 2006 – September 2007

Board of Directors  
Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.  
Alexandria, LA

We have compiled the accompanying balance sheet and income statement-cash basis/income tax basis for the twelve month period ended September 30, 2007 of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. and the accompanying supplementary information which is presented only for supplementary analysis purposes, in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

A compilation is limited to presenting, in the form of financial statements information that is the representation of management. We have not audited or reviewed the accompanying financial statements and accordingly, do not express an opinion or any other form of assurance on them.

Management has elected to omit substantially all of the disclosures required by generally accepted accounting principles of the United States. If the omitted disclosures were included with the balance sheet and income statement, they might influence the user's conclusion about the Company's financial position. Accordingly, this balance sheet and income statement is not designed for those who are not informed about such matters.

We are not independent with respect to the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

### Oct '06 - Sep 07

#### Ordinary Income/Expense

<b>Income</b>	
4000 · Contributions - Support of Gray	3,369.18
4002 · Conventions	
4002.a · Convention Registraton & Meals	<u>6,600.00</u>
Total 4002 · Conventions	6,600.00
4003 · Dues	
4003.a · Paid by Cash	271,028.22
4003.b · Paid by Credit Card	<u>13,191.40</u>
Total 4003 · Dues	284,219.62
4004 · Donations	2,201.68
4005 · Graybeards Advertising	9,535.00
4006 · Fund Raiser-Net of Expenses	
4006.e · Travel & Meals	<u>-1,820.19</u>
Total 4006 · Fund Raiser-Net of Expenses	-1,820.19
4007 · Sales - Miscellaneous Items	636.17
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>304,741.46</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
5000 · Professional services	
5000.a · Accounting fees	20,036.22
5000.b · Legal Fees	14,849.32
5000.c · Other	<u>10,872.59</u>
Total 5000 · Professional services	45,758.13
5001 · Other Fund Raisers	
5001.a · Decals & Patches	-19.00
5001.b · Other	<u>1,121.50</u>
Total 5001 · Other Fund Raisers	1,102.50
5002 · Bank charges	3,120.38
5007 · Web site	16,494.63

5008 · Depreciation	2,877.66
5009 · Donation -Veterans Org	500.00
5014 · Graybeards Magazine	
5014.a · Editing	12,000.00
5014.b · Printing/Publishing	121,360.74
5014.c · Postage	<u>40,718.33</u>
Total 5014 · Graybeards Magazine	174,079.07
5015 · Insurance	
5015.b · Directors and Officers	6,401.40
5015.d · Other	<u>28.50</u>
Total 5015 · Insurance	6,429.90
5016 · Judge advocate	342.12
5017 · Membership Office	
5017.a · Secretarial Services	18,246.53
5017.b · Telephone	2,859.04
5017.c · Postage	8,715.95
5017.d · Membership Cards/Supplies	7,851.75
5017.e · Other	<u>626.71</u>
Total 5017 · Membership Office	38,299.98
5019 · Meetings and conventions	
5019.a · Travel	31,799.94
5019.b · Recorder	7,828.10
5019.c · Hotel Charges	13,547.24
5019.d · Entertainment	3,718.63
5019.e · Other	<u>1,386.31</u>
Total 5019 · Meetings and conventions	58,280.22
5021 · Headquarters Expense	
5021.a · Travel	27,154.10
5021.b · Telephone	1,832.14
5021.c · Supplies & Postage	5,681.43
5021.d · Other	<u>5,641.63</u>
Total 5021 · Headquarters Expense	40,309.30
5022 · Miscellaneous	
5022.a · Chapter Development Expenses	59.59
5022.b · Other Expenses	3,275.96
5022.c · Reimbursed Expenses	<u>1,055.13</u>
Total 5022 · Miscellaneous	4,390.68
5023 · Elections	2,225.70
5024 · Travel	
5024.a · President	<u>6,871.21</u>
Total 5024 · Travel	6,871.21
5031 · Telephone/Supplies/Postage	
5031.a · Office of the President	1,107.51
5031.b · Other	<u>307.46</u>
Total 5031 · Telephone/Supplies/Postage	1,414.97
5032 · Credit Card expense	112.06
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>402,608.51</b>
Net Ordinary Income	-97,867.05

#### Other Income/Expense

<b>Other Income</b>	
7001 · Dividends	8,295.84
7002 · Interest Income	15,842.80
7004 · Unrealized Gain(Loss) Invstmnts	22,206.37
7005 · Royalty Income	1,500.03
Total Other Income	47,845.04
Net Other Income	47,845.04
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-50,022.01</b>

## Official Membership Application Form

The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 22857, Alexandria, VA 22304 (Telephone: 703-461-0061)

**DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE**

Assigned Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_

KWVA Regular Annual Dues = \$25.00 ♦ Associate Membership = \$16.00

Ex-POW, Gold Star Parent or Spouse & Honorary - \$0.00

Regular Life Membership: (May be paid in lump sum or 6 equal payments by check over a 12 month period.)

Ages up to and through 35 years of age: .....\$600

Ages 36 through 50 years of age: .....\$450

Ages 51 through 65 years of age: .....\$300

Ages 66 years of age and older: .....\$150

Please Check One:

☐ New Member

☐ Renewal Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Please Check One:

☐ Ex-POW

☐ Regular Member

☐ Life Member

☐ Associate Member

☐ Honorary

☐ Gold Star Spouse

☐ Gold Star Parent

(Please Print)

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle/Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Number/Name (if applicable) # \_\_\_\_\_

*All Regular members please provide the following information if applicable*

Unit(s) to which Assigned

Branch of Service

Division \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Army

Regiment \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Air Force

Battalion \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Navy

Company \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Marines

Other \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Coast Guard

**Dates of service:**

Within Korea were: (See criteria below)

From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

Without Korea were: (See criteria below)

From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the above information provided by me for the purposes as indicated, is true and correct."

[If you are applying for membership in a category other than Section 1, par A.1., of the "Criteria for Membership," complete the "Certification of Eligibility for KWVA Membership" form on next page.]

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: KWVA

Mail to: Korean War Veterans Association Inc., P. O. Box 22857, Alexandria, VA 22304

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ VISA ☐ MASTER CARD

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Your Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted 07/25/2007



## CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR KWVA MEMBERSHIP

In addition to completing the KWVA membership application form on page 1 above, persons who make application for membership and qualify under one of the categories listed below, are required to fill in the appropriate blanks, sign in the space provided below and attach this page to the completed membership application form on previous page.

Check One

- ☐ Medal of Honor: I am a recipient of the Medal of Honor for service during the Korean War and the date on which it was awarded was: Month \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Ex-POW: I was held as a Prisoner of War at some time during the period June 25, 1950 to the present,  
From: Month \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_ To: Month \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_.
- ☐ UN Command/Korean Armed Forces: I served honorably in the Armed Forces of the United Nations Command or in the Republic of Korea Armed Forces during the Korean War era (June 25, 1950 - January 31, 1955):  
From: Month \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_ To: Month \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Gold Star Parent: I am the parent of : Name [print] \_\_\_\_\_, who was  
( ) killed in action, ( ) missing in action or ( ) died as a Prisoner of War  
on: Month \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Gold Star Spouse: I am the spouse of: Name [print] \_\_\_\_\_, who was  
( ) killed in action, ( ) missing in action or ( ) died as a Prisoner of War  
on: Month \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Associate: I have a legitimate interest in the affairs of the Korean War Veterans Association and agree to accept the terms and conditions set forth in its charter and bylaws.
- ☐ Honorary: I was elected as an honorary member of KWVA by a vote of the Board of Directors  
on: Month \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_.

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the above information provided by me for the purposes indicated is true and correct."

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Month \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_

### CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC.

**Section 1. Qualifications of Members.** Membership in this Association shall consist of Regular, Associate and Honorary Members. No person shall be excluded from membership because of race, color, creed, sex, national or ethnic origin, or physical or mental disability, as long as the individual meets the criteria of service requirements as stipulated below. Only Regular Members as defined in A. below have a vote in National or Department matters.

#### **A. Regular Members.**

- 1. Service in the United States Armed Forces.** Any person who has seen honorable service in any of the Armed Forces of the United States, defined as Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard, said service being within Korea including territorial waters and airspace OR who served outside of Korea from June 25, 1950 to Jan 31, 1955 is eligible for Membership.
- 2. Medal of Honor.** Any Medal of Honor recipient, so honored for service during the Korean War is eligible for life membership.
- 3. Prisoner of War.** Any person held as a prisoner of war by the North Koreans, Chinese, or Russian forces during and after hostilities from June 25, 1950 forward is eligible for life membership.
- 4. United Nations Command and Korean Armed Forces.** Any person who served honorably in the Armed Forces of the United Nations Command or in the Republic of Korea Armed Forces during the Korean War era and thereafter is eligible for membership. However, UN/Korean membership of the Association may not exceed 10% of the total membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.
- 5. Gold Star Parents.** Any person whose son/daughter was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War is eligible for life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.
- 6. Gold Star Spouses.** Any person whose spouse was killed in action, missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War is eligible for life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.

**B. Associate Members.** Any person with a legitimate interest in the affairs of this Association and who wishes to support its aims, and not being eligible for Regular membership and who agrees to accept the terms and conditions set forth in the charter and bylaws shall be eligible for associate membership in the Association.

**C. Honorary Members.** Any person of good character may be elected as Honorary Member by vote by the Board of Directors.

**D. Ineligible.** Any person who has been separated from the service of the Armed Forces of the United States, or the United Nations Command, or the Republic of Korea under conditions other than honorable shall be ineligible for membership in this Association.

WEBSITE: [www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org)

Adopted 10/25/2007

## Minutes: General Membership Meeting, Reno, NV

This is a summary of the Annual General Membership Meeting, held at the Eldorado Hotel and Casino, Reno, Nevada, on October 25, 2007. This Summary is subject to confirmation when the "Verbatim" court recorder record becomes available to the Secretary.

### Call for the Meeting

KWVA Website and The Graybeards, July-August 2007

### Call to Order

President Dechert called the meeting to order at 0907 hours.

John Sonley, Sgt-at-Arms, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chaplain Emeritus Leonard Stegman gave the invocation.

- Administrative Announcements:
- Annual business meeting this morning
- Special presentation before we get to the agenda
- Fund raiser auction for some original designed cups from Don Struhar
- Director Dauster will be presenting information on another fund raiser later
- Receiving line this evening at 1800- Ambassador Lee from the Korean

Embassy will be greeting you and will have a gift for all veterans.

- Early departure, before 0600, sign up at registration desk for transportation

### Award of Charter to Department of California

• President Dechert commented that we are going to do something that we have never done before at an Annual Convention and Membership meeting. We are going to present a charter to the most populous state in the country, so far as the Korean War veterans are concerned, and that is the newly formed Department of California. Commander Mike Glazzy was asked to come forward and bring all of the California members in attendance for presentation of the charter. Following the presentation, Commander Glazzy presented President Dechert with the official Department of California patch signed by Joe Velasquez, the designer of the patch.

• While the new Department was taking time for pictures, President Dechert introduced Art Sharp, Editor of The Graybeards, and asked Art to be sure and get the presentation of the Charter in the magazine.

• President Dechert also introduced Kevin Secor, US Department of Veterans Affairs Liaison Officer. Kevin will be one of the guest speakers at the banquet tonight.

### Special Presentation for Father Stegman

• President Dechert commented that of all the men he has known in his life, the least fearful one was Father Stegman. He is not afraid of anything. He certainly was not afraid of bullets. He has his Purple Hearts and Silver Stars. He has his 90 years of age and 63 years of priest ministry behind him. He is the Chaplain Emeritus of the Korean War Veterans Association and the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

• Director Dunn presided in the introduction of the Special Program for the Chaplain.

This included a special video presentation of the Father prepared by Angelique Herran, who came all the way from Colorado to make the presentation.

In conclusion, President Dechert presented a copy of the proclamation within the Korean War Veterans Association as a remembrance and commendation to the Father. There will be more information on this special presentation on our web site, [www.KWVA.org](http://www.KWVA.org)

- President Dechert introduced Leonard Speizer, an Assistant Sergeant at Arms from NJ, and recognized his birthday today.

### Verification and Declaration of Quorum

• A physical count was made by John Sonley, Sergeant –of-Arms, and his assistants. The count was 94. Since 75 are required for a quorum, the Secretary declared that there was a quorum.

### Adoption of Supplemental Meeting Rules

• Director Mac Swain commented that the rules were handed out this morning, that the rules notice was in the July/August *The Graybeards*, and they are out of Robert's Rules of Order. A motion was made by Eugene Tinberg from Kansas to approve the rules as presented. The motion was seconded by Ed Buckman from Texas and approved without objection.

### Roll Call and Introductions

• President Dechert commented that there are some names that are not on the agenda. He then introduced Eugene Tinberg, Commander of the Chapter in Johnson County Kansas, probably one of the largest chapters in America, Department Commanders Mike Glazzy, Department of California and his wife Lis, Marvin Dunn, Department Commander of Texas and his wife Joanne, George Bruzgis, Department Commander of New Jersey, Charles Lusardi, Department Commander of Oregon and his wife Sarah, Bob Balzer, Department Commander of Florida, and the representative from Department of Illinois, Sal Amati and his wife Diane.

• The President also explained the absence and circumstances concerning Commander and Mrs. Clyde Hooks from South Carolina, asking for prayers for Mary Hooks.

- The roll was called by Secretary Cohee. Present were:

Louis Dechert, President  
 Byron Dickerson, 1st Vice President  
 Jim Ferris, 2nd Vice President  
 Frank Cohee, Secretary  
 Richard Hare, Treasurer  
 Charlotte Ayers, Director  
 Robert Banker, Director  
 Jeff Brodeur, Director  
 Lee Dauster, Director  
 Michael Doyle, Director  
 Marvin Dunn, Director  
 Tom Edwards, Director-Temporarily Absent, excused due to an emergency.

James Fountain, Director  
 William Mac Swain, Director  
 Tom McHugh, Director  
 Warren Wiedhahn, Director  
 Chris Yanacos, Director

### Introductions by President Dechert

- Leo Agnew, Judge Advocate, Parliamentarian
- Stephen Szekely, Chairman, Ethics and Grievance Committee
- John Sonley, Sergeant-at-Arms-Previously introduced
- JD Randolph, National VAVS Director
- Larry Kinard, Tell America Operations Director



## Minutes: General Membership Meeting, Reno, NV (Continued)

- Edwin Buckman, National Co-Director of Legislation
- Jake Feaster, Assistant Secretary
- Jimmy Faircloth, Attorney, Assistant Parliamentarian, General Attorney
- Vicki Lee-Garza, Recorder
- Jim Doppelhammer, Webmaster
- Annelie Weber, Membership Executive assistant
- Bill Hutton, Past National Secretary

### Minutes of Previous Meeting

• Secretary Cohee referenced minutes of previous General Membership Meeting, printed in *The Graybeards*, Nov-Dec 2006. Richard Brown made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Louie Espinoza. Motion passed without objection.

### Financial Report

• Treasurer Hare presented a 12-month financial report, from October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2007.

§ The balance sheet shows total assets in checking, savings and investments of \$452,252.58 as of September 30, 2007. As for income, the significant differences from the previous year are an increase in dues of approximately \$40,000.00, primarily due to the efforts of Jim Doppelhammer, Jake Feaster and Annelie Weber and their "we miss you and want you back campaign" and the increase in annual membership dues from \$20 to \$25. The other significant income item is the fundraiser that netted \$84,000.

§ In the expense area, insurance costs are down by almost half, primarily due to Director Dauster's efforts, professional services are up because of the three audits in one year, meeting costs are up and lastly, the costs for printing, publication and postage for *The Graybeards* are up.

§ Mr. Hare further commented that as of Sunday, October 21, 2007, the balances for all accounts of the association were \$12,835.76 in the checking account, \$4,454.44 in the savings account, and \$428,585.68 in the A. G. Edwards mutual fund account, for a total of \$445,875.88.

§ He also pointed out that, from the activation date in December 2005 until the end of September 2007, the association has realized a 9.36 percent gain in our assets from the A.G. Edwards account.

§ Mr. Hare also noted that while the association has had a good gain this is the slowest time of the year for income from dues and so we have a period right now where we have a serious cash flow problem, just due to the timing of things. Because of this cash flow problem, he reported that he has recently had to withdraw funds from the mutual fund account in order to pay bills.

§ With respect to dues, he pointed out that out of the approximately 17,000 members, 7,000 are life members and contribute nothing on a yearly basis anymore. If they all contributed at the \$25 rate, that would bring in another \$175,000.00.

§ In conclusion, he commented that the proposed budget for 2008, to be presented later by Director Dunn, is a "status quo" budget and we must now start looking at how we can handle our expenses and not go into a deficit situation to the point where we will be out of business in five years.

A motion was made by George Bruzgis and seconded by JD

Randolph to accept the Financial Report, and the motion carried with no objections.

### Audit Reports

• Doyle Henderson, CPA, reported that 2006 was the third year for an audit under President Dechert's administration.

§ The first year, 2004, covered half of the previous administration and half of this administration and there was a very, very qualified audit report because we received very poor records from the previous administration.

§ For the second audit, 2005, the auditors now had a basis established for preparing the audit and the results were much better.

§ The 2006 audit was an absolute clean audit and the auditors stated that "In our opinion, the financial statements...present fairly, in all material respects, the financial positions of Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. at December 31, 2006, and the changes in net assets, statements of functional expenses and cash flows for the year ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America". This is the highest level of service that is issued and it is the opinion that everyone sees because it says basically everything is okay and there are no exceptions.

§ The organization is in good shape. Auditors said everything is fine, but the expenses are exceeding the income from dues. Therefore, fundraisers are a necessity, or the KWVA has got about a four- or five-year life span.

### Report of Tell America Program

• Prior to the report, President Dechert presented the following awards to the Tell America Group:

Larry Kinard, Operations Director  
Chris Yanacos, Chairman

James Yaney, Committee Member

John Pequiot, Committee Member

Gilwood Hoepfner, Committee Member

Bill Parish and Bill Hollinger (Volunteers)

Irving Breitbart, representative at West Point

• Larry Kinard reported that many of the Chapters who have grown are in the program and are doing a wonderful job. This is one of our best programs. It is one of the things that helps, hopefully, or partially erases that "forgotten" out of that Forgotten War thing, because the war is still going on.

### Report of Reunion/Convention Committee

• 2nd VP Jim Ferris noted that Virginia Beach had previously been selected and approved by the Board for 2008. However, after further review it was decided that the Norfolk, VA area would be more appropriate. For the Convention and Annual Meetings in 2009 and 2010 the sites proposed are San Diego, CA and Hartford, CT respectively.

• A motion was made by Bob Balzer, Department of Florida, and seconded by George Bruzgis, Department of New Jersey, to accept the report. The motion was carried with no objections.

• Dick Hartung, Chapter 191, Tidewater, VA announced that Chapter 191 would be the host chapter for the convention in 2008, and he pledged the chapter's support to help the reunion committee.

**Minutes: General Membership Meeting, Reno, NV (Continued)****Report of Bylaws Committee**

- The Bylaws Committee Chairman presented to the membership changes that had been approved by the Board of Directors and published in The July/August *The Graybeards* for notification per the existing Bylaws. The Bylaws Chairman made a motion to accept the changes, with only those areas the Regular Membership might have objections too brought up for discussion and amended before the next Bylaw change objected to is discussed and amended. This motion was seconded and passed with no objection.

One Bylaw was amended to place the word "OR" in capital letters and in bold print to aid in the clarification as to whom was eligible for membership under the Bylaws, Article I, Membership, Section 1. Qualification of Members, A. Regular Members, 1. Service in the United States Armed Forces.

- The eight additional changes were then presented and no objections to them were made. Director Mac Swain, as the Bylaws Chairman, made a motion that the changes discussed and amended be ratified by the regular membership and placed into effect. The motion was seconded by John Crossley, from Carson City Chapter 305, and was carried by a two-thirds vote of a quorum as required.

**Legislative Matters**

- Director Bob Banker reported on the status of Federal Charter Bills, HR 2852 and S. 1692. On September 13, 2007, the Senate passed S. 1692 by a unanimous vote and the bill has been sent to the House. The House bill was introduced by Representative Hoyer, the number two member in the House. Mr. Buckman, a Co-National Legislative Director, commented that Congressman Sam Johnson attended a recent meeting where he stated that he has been in contact with Representative Hoyer with regards to this matter and that it will become a reality this year.

- Director Banker encouraged everyone that when they go home to contact their Congress person and ask them to co-sponsor HR2852.

**Proposed Fund Raiser**

- Director Dauster proposed to donate a Hatfield 50 caliber Kentucky rifle, with red maple from the tip to the butt, for a fund raising effort. The rifle has never been fired and its estimated value is from \$1500 to \$2000. This offer is contingent on five more members, out of approximately 17,000, donating an item of a minimum value of \$1000 to provide a drawing for six items.

- President Dechert thanked Director Dauster for the offer and referred it to the Budget and Finance Committee for action, with a suggestion that Director Dauster head up the fund raising sub-committee.

**Report of Budget and Finance Committee**

- Director Dunn, Chairman, presented a budget of \$428,000 for 2008 compared to \$398,000 for 2007. Most of the projected income is \$250,000 from dues and \$125,800 from fund raisers. Most of the projected expense is \$172,000 for *The Graybeards*, (postage alone is \$35,000), \$53,800 for the Membership Office and activities, and \$53,000 for Meetings and Conventions. This budget had been discussed and approved by the Board of Directors at the July 25, 2007 meeting in Gaithersburg, MD. Director Wiedhahn made a motion that the budget be approved as presented and Director Edwards sec-

onded the motion. The budget was approved unanimously or by an abstention approval and is so noted in the minutes.

- There were two other budget action items that required consideration by the membership. The first one was an increase in the Associate Membership dues of \$4.00, from \$12.00 to \$16.00, effective for 2008. This increase had been discussed and approved by the Board of Directors at the July 25, 2007 meeting in Gaithersburg, MD. Director Wiedhahn made a motion that the proposed increase in the associate dues be approved and it was seconded by Doyle Dykes, Chapter 270, and Bob Balzer, Department of Florida. The motion carried unanimously or by abstention.

- The second action item was a proposed fund raiser to buy and resell a new book released in September by Pulitzer Prize winner David Halberstam, entitled *The Coldest Winter*. Director Wiedhahn recommended the KWVA explore putting this book and others on a website link to a seller of books from which we would realize a profit. The motion was seconded by Edward Dauster, and was approved unanimously. NOTE: A review of this book appears on pg. 69 of this issue.

**Report of Resolutions Committee**

- Director Wiedhahn reported that there are no new resolutions to present at this time. This is because the Board of Directors did not finish their meeting yesterday, and the resolutions must be presented and acted on by the Board before they are presented to the general membership.

**Report of the Revisit Program Committee**

- Director Wiedhahn reported that the revisit program is alive and well due primarily to the efforts of President Dechert going to Korea several times and negotiating for more slots authorizing more veterans to go back. Approximately 350 will be going back this year, and the same number, or maybe more, in 2008. In addition, due to the negotiations, spouses and other dependents can now go if the eligible veteran has passed away, dependents can go if the eligible veteran is incapacitated and can not travel because of health reasons, and lastly, if an eligible veteran can not travel by himself and his spouse or children can not go, a buddy (even if he has been before) can accompany the eligible veteran back.

**Report of the Membership committee**

- Director Brodeur reported that the KWVA has 17,185 members as of 10.25.2007. At this time last year there were 17,093 members, which is an increase of almost 100. Considering the age of most Korean Veterans and the fact that many of them are now passing away at a dramatic pace, an increase of 100 is very good. At the end of 2008, the Chapter which has recruited the most members will receive a National Plaque.

§ There are pins and posters available on the website, [www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org), that can be used for recruiting efforts. We are working on direct recruiting of the younger veterans now serving in Korea. Both General Bell, CG of all UN Forces in Korea, and Lt. General Valcourt, CG of Eighth Army, are KWVA members and are our allies. When we get our Charter, the KWVA will definitely realize some gain from those relationships.

§ President Dechert commented that when we get our charter, the Military Order of the Purple Heart may consider including the



## Minutes: General Membership Meeting, Reno, NV (Continued)

KWVA in the club which they are considering establishing in Korea.

§ Past Director Jake Feaster, Assistant Secretary, Supervisor of Management Information Systems, and a member of the Membership Committee, provided some interesting statistics of the active and inactive membership and Departments and Chapters. As indicated previously, there are approximately 17,000 active members, 16,000 inactive members, and 4,000 deceased members, for a total of 37,000 members. There are 15 Departments and 231 Chapters.

§ Mr. Feaster's presentation was accompanied by Jim Doppelhammer, who demonstrated, live, on the big screen, how the website database may be utilized by authorized users.

### Report of the Library and Museum Liaison Committee

- Director Mac Swain reported that the building for the museum, an approximate 4 million dollar project, was initially supposed to begin construction in Springfield, IL in January 2007. Subsequently, however, the Board met and decided to wait until more money was raised to preclude borrowing at a high interest rate. They are now still collecting money.

§ The city of Springfield has offered a grant of \$570,000. Another \$250,000 has been donated by the CEO of a large corporation, who is a Korean War veteran. He promised to recommend to some of his Korean veteran friends that they support the project also. These friends are also CEOs of other large corporations.

§ The Museum Executive Director, Larry Sassorossi, recently made a trip to Korea. While he was there he received donations of \$30,000, with a pledge to get companies in Korea to provide additional backing. The museum is on track and, hopefully, construction will begin in early 2008.

§ The KWVA has still not extended support for the museum project due to the previous stops and starts and relocations of the developers. This will be considered again when actual results are available to consider. The KWVA certainly wants this project to be successfully completed.

### Report of the National Ceremonies Committee

- Director McHugh stated that the KWVA has not had any control and little input for the July 27th Ceremony at the Korean War Veterans Memorial on the Mall in DC because another organization not affiliated with the KWVA has always sought and obtained the permit from the National Park Service. That organization falsely claims they already have the 2008 permit.

Director McHugh made a motion to approve what the Board has already approved, that the KWVA request a permit for the July 27th, 2008 ceremony. The motion was seconded by Eugene Timberg, Chapter Commander, Johnson County, Kansas, and passed without objection.

### Awards and recognitions

- President Dechert recognized two members of the Board who are term limited out in the next election. These members, Director Mac Swain, from Fort Worth, and Director Wiedhahn, from Arlington, VA, have served for two terms and they have served the Board quite well. Further, President Dechert commented that this is the last time that you will see this Board as you see it today. They have done a good job, so please stand up and recognize them.

§ This has been the most successful convention that we have ever had. "We go forward together." That is the only way you can go forward is together. Otherwise you got another catch somewhere else. I thank you for your applause and hard work. I was just handed a news flash that the Koreans today agreed to stay in Iraq with the Americans, while everyone else is pulling out. **God Bless America!**

### Comments from Chaplain Stegman

- I would like to also put my word in as far as what this organization has meant, what the organization has tried to do, and what they have done. We had ups and downs, and I think too often it was a question of there being misunderstandings. Sometimes it was ego. Whatever it is, I think we are back on the road to where we should be. Each one of us is an individual. We have our own ideas and we also know that we have those ideas we can go without. But positive is the word: positive—and not negative.

And remember that, as I say again and again, we only have one day to give God and to give this organization, and that is the day we have and where we are. The Commander-or the President—is not God, and he has made mistakes. I have made many of them too. We all have, but the point is, what is our goal?

We make mistakes. We disagree, but the point is to come back together and know there is one thing we all want to do is to be true to God and Country and the Good of the Order. So I submit to all of you, let's continue to advance.

### Auction of Designer Cups

- Noted artist and KWVA Member Don Struhar, the designer of several Super Bowl rings and other noted works, donated a set of six personally designed cups to Mrs. Dechert and the ladies at the convention to use in their fund raising effort on behalf of *Operation First Response*, serving wounded service members arriving at Walter Reed and Bethesda hospitals in the Washington, DC area. Don is a KWVA member.

§ The ladies believed the cups should be offered to the entire membership at the Annual Meeting and asked Director Bob Banker to conduct an auction at the close of the Annual Meeting.

§ There were six cups, one each for the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard and Seabees. The Army mug drew the most amount, over \$300.00. The Marines were a close second. For all six cups the auction raised \$1207.00, and the Ladies raised \$200 more at their meetings.

§ A contribution of \$1407.00 was sent to OPERATION FIRST RESPONSE. This is the first time that such an outreach activity had been conducted at the Annual Convention.

### Closing Prayer

- Chaplain Emeritus Stegman conceded the benediction to National Chaplain Leo Ruffing.

### Motion to adjourn

- Doyle Dykes made a motion to adjourn. This motion is undebatable and passed unanimously at 1604 hours.

Respectfully Submitted

*Frank Cohee, National Secretary*

## Remembering Reno

This section is dedicated to *official, unbiased, and accurate* “After Action Reports” from the October 22-26, 2007 KWVA Convention in Reno. Remember, the 2008 Convention will be held in Norfolk, VA, dates to be determined. Rather than reading about what went on in the After Action Reports, though, why not attend and hear everything for yourself? Rumors and fabricated news from people who were not actually in attendance are a poor substitute for firsthand knowledge.

# Tell America Program Report: National Convention

I am pleased to have this opportunity to bring you up to date on the Tell America program. Good things continue to happen, but I think we can do a lot better with something I propose and will get to in just a moment.

One of the very best things happened shortly after the meeting in San Antonio last year. You may remember that at the meeting I made a strong appeal to the Executive Board to help me replenish the 50th anniversary educational material that has been so useful to the chapters in their Tell America programs. I am pleased to say that several people came forward with help.

J.D. Randolph sent me several posters that he had; Warren Wiedhahn and Judith Knight both provided me with software that will allow us to get the posters reprinted if it ever becomes necessary. Immediate help came from Bob Desmond and Larry Sassorossi at the Korean War Veterans Museum in Springfield, IL. They provided me with 40 sets of each of the posters I was looking for and shipped them directly to me at no cost to the KWVA. They indicated there were more if I need them. My sincere thanks to all of these people who responded to my call for help.

I would like to ask a couple of questions.

- How many of you know what the Tell America program is?
- How many of you believe it is a good thing for chapters to help communities and schools know and understand what the Korean War was all about?

I am a little biased, but I believe it is one of the best and most rewarding things our chapters can do. Even though we didn't know it then, we accomplished historic and monumental successes 50 years ago,

and we need to talk about it. If we don't, who will?

Requests for the material have decreased, but I continue to hear from chapters that are interested in starting programs or getting the material to enhance what they are doing. Since last October I have sent out 50 packages of the posters and videos to chapters and schools across the country. We have done well with what we are doing, but I truly think we can do better and give the Tell America Program a boost by working through the State Departments.

I visited with President Dechert about this. He agreed that I could contact all the State Department Commanders and ask them to appoint a Tell America Chairman or someone in their state with whom I could work to encourage chapters to develop TA programs. I contacted the State Commanders earlier this year. To date, I have had very little response. Basically, nothing has happened to get this done. I would appreciate any thoughts from the Board or membership about getting this off the ground.

I am pleased to state that we have also made the *International* scene.

Back in July I received a letter from a member of the Greek Korean War Veterans organization, Demetrious Mastsoukas, the Special Secretary of the Panhellenic Korean Veterans Organization in Athens, Greece. He is not a Korean War veteran, but his brother was killed in October, 1951 in the Punch Bowl area.

He had read one of our *Graybeards* magazines and was interested in obtaining posters, maps and DVDs for their programs in Greece to set up a “Tell Greece” program about the Korean War. After checking to make sure he was legitimate, I sent him the material he requested. I

have established email communication with him, and we visit regularly through the internet.

Some of you may know that Greece provided over 5000 troops in Korea, and 186 of them were killed in the fighting. They feel very strongly about their contribution to the Korean War, and have erected a monument in Athens in recognition of those who died. At the end of September, they had a memorial service in Athens at which they displayed the posters and showed the DVDs I had sent. Demetrious also sent me a CD of their May, 2007 revisit trip to Korea—looked just like us.

It seems to me there is increasing public interest about the Korean War. Recently, I have received numerous requests from schools and individual students who want information about the war and want to interview veterans of the war for a research paper or a project they are working on. I have been able to satisfy all these requests so far.

In September, I received an email from Jonathan Hull, a former journalist for *Time* magazine, who has developed a website entitled “Were You There?” He states, “My hope is to enable and encourage a conversation about the moments in life that made a difference, for better or worse, and I’m especially interested in providing a forum for veterans. As a history buff, I’m frequently dismayed by the number of Americans who know next to nothing about the Korean War and the enormous price paid by U. S. troops, so I’m eager to make sure that the voices of Korean vets are represented at “Were You There?” The site is just getting started. Ultimately, I hope it will become a communal archive of sorts that is useful to students, researchers and historians.”

COMMITTEE MEMBER Jim Yaney is still working diligently with the Public Access TV station in Ft. Wayne, Indiana in the production of monthly shows on Channel 57 there. Jim recently received a letter from Indiana State Senator Gary Dillon expressing appreciation for his



“efforts to educate people on the Korean War and its veterans.” Their TV program has been entered in a contest for the “best program of the year” produced on Channel 57 and Comcast Cable Television.

Jim is currently working with Chapter 259 in central Indiana to get a Tell America program started there. As I mentioned earlier, we frequently get requests from students across the nation for veteran interviews or information about the Korean War. One such request came to me from a “Gifted Resource Teacher” in Henley Middle School in Virginia seeking information about the Chosin Reservoir for one of her students.

I asked Jim to contact her to see if he could assist. Jim helped their project by producing a TV show in which he interviewed several Chosin Few veterans and sent the DVD to the student for his project. It won 2nd place in the contest and caused Max (the student) to write an email thanking Jim for the effort.

In it, he stated, “It was hard to find the right words to thank him. But hopefully the best way was to show more people the bravery that soldiers and Marines at the Chosin Reservoir displayed. Putting your life on the line for your country is the noblest thing a man can do. The Chosin Reservoir really should go down in history alongside Bunker Hill, The Alamo, Gettysburg and D-Day.”

At present, Jim is working hard with Channel 57 to put together a major TV production for the Ft Wayne area [which was shown] on October 30. The program featured two Korean War veterans and two from WW II telling their experiences at the Chosin Reservoir and Iwo Jima. They expect[ed] 500-600 people to attend and anticipate[d] coverage by the local network TV stations. TA Chairman Chris Yanacos attend[ed] this program.

Committee Member Irving Breitbart tells me he [held] the Veterans Panel once again on November 8 at West Point. This [was] the 7th year he has done the program. The cadets really appreciate hearing from the veterans and being able to talk with them. He [had] at least 150 veterans there with him from the Central Long Island and Nassau & Staten Island Chapters, and some from his own Chapter 91. He says the New York chapters [were]

## Ask the Secretary...

Do you have a request for information? Why not ask the KWVA Secretary? From time to time we will print members' requests and Secretary Cohee's responses. He may not be able to help in every request, but he will do his best to get answers.

♦ ♦ ♦

I received a hand-written request from a member seeking information on whether a book has been written about his unit, the 89th Tank Bn., 25th Inf. Div. My response:

November 6, 2007  
Frank J Olsson  
56 Walnut St.  
Montclair, NJ 07042

Dear Mr. Olsson:

I searched the web site for both the 25th Inf Div and the 89th Med Tank Bn. There is a lot of information on that site including a complete history of the 89th Tank Bn, but there is no mention of any books. If you have access to a computer, you can type in “25th Inf Div” in the Google search site and it will take you to their home page with a link to the 89th. If you do not have access to a computer, I suggest you write to the 25th Inf Div Association. I am enclosing a copy of their home page which contains their mailing address.

Hopefully, they will be able to answer your question as to whether or not there have been any written. As a minimum, they should be able to provide you with a history of the 89th.

Good luck and best regards.

Frank Cohee  
National Secretary, KWVA

♦ ♦ ♦

Today, I received a reply from Mr. Olsson and this is what he wrote:

Dear Sir:

Thank you very much for the address and info you sent me to locate the history of the unit I served in Korea. I am now in the process of finding someone who may help me in the search for my unit's history. Your info is the key and very valuable to me.

Much Regards.

/s/ Frank Olsson

invited to visit a ROK Navy ship due in the area around November 2. Tom McHugh [coordinated] this effort.

I want to put in a good word for another couple of dedicated veterans in Western Ohio Chapter 108. Fred Shively and Ken Williamson recently provided me with a summary and pictures covering their visits in this last school year and what they have done. They spoke to over 3500 students, 250 teachers and guests, and traveled 2267 miles. These guys are doing a great job in that area.

Bottom line—I feel strongly that we are making a difference in the schools and communities with the Tell America Programs that are active around the coun-

try, and it reflects very positively on the Korean War Veterans Association. I have been impressed with the enthusiasm and dedication that most of the veterans show when they call to talk about what they are doing.

However, I think we can do a much better job if we can get the State Departments to support the program by having someone to promote the Tell America Program on a more local basis. I would appreciate hearing from the State Department Commanders about this proposal.

Thank you.

*Larry Kinard*

# Images of Korea

Marco Pensiero has shared some photos taken in Korea during his service with the 7th Inf. Div. in 1952 and 1953. He dedicates them to "those brave soldiers who did not come home., for they are the true heroes."

*Marco Pensiero, 78 Bellmere Ave.*

*Stamford, CT 06906-1108 (203) 348-5418*









# Images of Korea (Continued)





# Not Forgotten: The Greek Expeditionary Force

Here is a letter I received from Dom Matsoukas, Athens, Greece last month. Since then I have written him a letter and corresponded by email several times. I think all this is legitimate and will send some of the posters and other material to him.

He mentioned in one of his emails that he had seen my articles and pictures in The Graybeards. I will continue to pursue a relationship with them.

Larry Kinard

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you to ask you to help us—our Panhellenic Association of the Korean War Veterans—in our efforts to “Tell Greece” about the “Unforgettable War”—the Korean War.

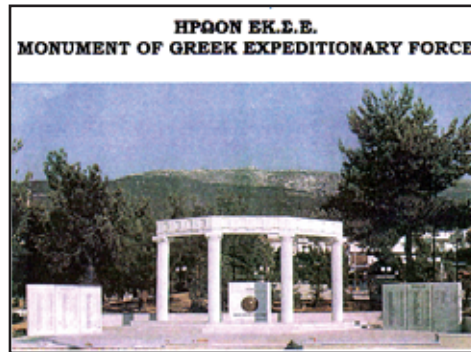
Here in Greece, Sir, the leftists and socialists have put a stain on the glory of the “Greek Expeditionary Force” in Korea. They have insulted the memory of the 186 Greek heroes—among them my brother—1st Lieut. George Matsoukas, KIA on 7 Oct. 1951 at Scotch Hill battles during a “Commando Operation.”

Help us, Sir, in any way (maps, posters, history books, ways of teaching the Korean War history). It is necessary to keep the deeds, the fights, the sweat and especially the blood of your generation in the mind of the next generation.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Dom Matsoukas

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** According to our records, there were 169 Greeks KIA, 536 WIA, 2 MIA, and one captured in Korea.



Greek Korean War veterans on Korea revisit



Greek Korean War veterans in Korea

## From Refugee to Interpreter to Pastor and Author

Recently, there was a story with pictures of two old veterans of the Korean War, Dr. Henry Kwak and me, on the front page of the Korea Daily (6/16/07). Both of us were serving in the same outfit of the U. S. Marine Corps located at Kimpo, Korea. Dr. Kwak served as a medical doctor and I as an interpreter. We each came to the U.S. at different times for study, and we met for the first time after 55 years.

Through this article some Korean War veterans came to know me. They approached me to apply for membership in the Korean War Veterans Association.

In 1947 I fled to the South from the communist North Korea all alone as a teenager, because my parents were captured and not able to make it. While I was waiting in the South for my parents, who never did make it, I was studying and completed high school, supporting myself doing odd jobs.

When the Korean War broke out, I joined the USMC as an Interpreter, during which time I made some close friends among the Marines, including Corporal Mike Hegan, who was from Louisville, KY. Through him and his blessed mother, Mrs. Mary Kate Hegan, I was able to come to the U.S. for study. After the study I became a pastor of American Churches and later Korean churches.

Matthew Whong, 9326 Ridings Way, Laurel, MD 20723, (301) 776-3887, [mkwhong@aol.com](mailto:mkwhong@aol.com)

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Mr. Whong is currently a member of Chapter 33, Maryland. He has preached and lectured in 4 languages, English, Portuguese, Japanese, and Korean, in 14 countries, ranging from Argentina and Brazil to Japan and Russia. He has published a book, *Korean Immigrant Churches in Brazil and Their Mission*, and written chapters for two others. He has accomplished quite a lot since coming to the U.S. from Korea. Mr. Whong is living proof of the success of the troops who fought for and secured South Korea's freedom over a half-century ago.



Matthew Whong in Korea in 1952. Above right he poses with MP



## Korea War Veterans And Robbins Middle

Over fifty students at the Irving A Robbins Middle School, Farmington, Connecticut, prepared numerous letters, notes, and “Thank You” pictures for Korea veterans. Ms. Wendy Huntington was the coordinator of the project.

A few samples of their work appear nearby. It is refreshing to know that some educators are appreciative of veterans’ efforts to keep the U. S. free and “export” democracy—and that they are teaching their students that “Freedom is not free.”

It is only fitting that we reciprocate. So, we send Ms. Huntington and her colleagues at Robbins Middle School a resounding “Thanks” for their emphasis on what veterans have done for them and their students.

“Thank you” to the parents, teachers, and faculty who worked so hard on the Veterans Day project—and may they remain free and appreciative of their freedom forever.



**Freedom Is**







# Tell America

## Tell America Television Show Celebrates 2nd Anniversary

On 30 October, 2007, the television show "Tell America: The American Veteran" celebrated its 2nd anniversary on TV 57, Comcast cable TV. The program was presented in Ft Wayne, Indiana at the new auditorium in Library Plaza. The two-hour program was carried by Access TV and Channel 21 (ABC) news.

Indiana Senator Gary Dillon delivered the main address, along with the leader of the Korean community, Rev. Byong Cheol Han.

The United States Marine Corps Honor Guard presented a flag program directed by Korean War veteran Cpl Dale Parish.

Special awards from our President and National Chairman

of Tell America were presented by National Director Chris Yanacos to National Committeeman James E. Yaney, Sr. and his staff of Dale Parish, Wm. Hullinger, John Pequignot, and Gilbert Hoepfner for their work on the television show.

Rev. Han presented two freedom medals, to John Pequignot and Gilbert Hoepfner, for their heroics in ending Japanese control of Korea.

The highlight of the program came when Senator Dillon presented the Silver Star to John Pequignot, after it was overlooked for more than five decades. The citation was for his bravery in combat as a medic.

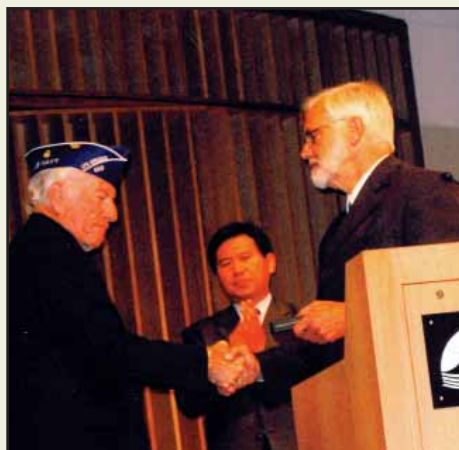
Rev. Ross Odell delivered an outstanding invocation.

There were many survivors of the Chosin Reservoir in attendance, along with numerous other veterans.

Starting their year on television, Producer James E. Yaney

Sr. said, "Our third year will be even more memorable as we continue to honor our veterans and to advocate the proclamation that 'Freedom is not free.'"

The program, which everybody in attendance enjoyed, was a huge success.

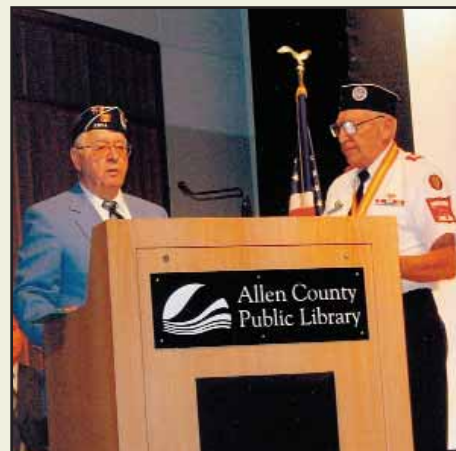


State Senator Gary Dillon presents the Silver Star to Combat Medic John Pequignot—after he waited over five decades for it



Rev. Byong Cheol Han, leader of the Korean community, presents the WWII Commendation Medal to John Pequignot and Gilbert Hoepfner for their participation in expelling the Japanese from Korea

National Director Chris Yanacos presents National Award to James E. Yaney Sr. for his accomplishments in the Tell America program



National Director of Tell America Chris Yanacos presents national awards to the television staff of "Tell America: The American Veteran"



United States Marine Corps Honor Guard of Grissom Air Force in Peru, IN retires the United States flag



## 30 – INDIANA CHAPTER 1 –[IN]

The veterans in the nearby picture all participated in our Tell America program for the 2006-07 school year. It was a busy season, and working with these men only confirmed what I felt all along: that we had the best season ever.

We visited 11 schools and presented our program to a total of 3,497 students. We are now beginning to take our program to

several retirement centers. The veterans in these centers really enjoy talking to our members.

We're all looking forward to next season and already have schools lined up.

Incidentally, Lynn Shady is our Tell America Chairman.

*Mary Anna Roemke,  
P. O. Box 8795,  
Fort Wayne, IN 46898-8795*

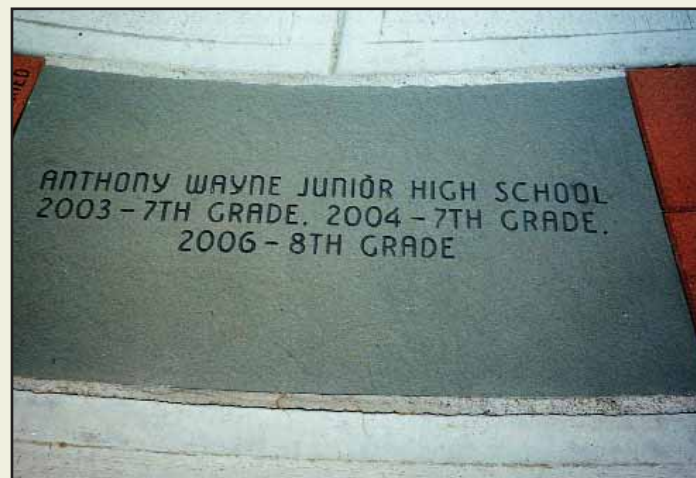


CID 30 members who participated in Chapter's Tell America program: (Front, L-R) Lynn Shady, Carl Fowler, Garry Sink (Back, L-R) Robert Myer, Bernard "Ski" Wisniewski (Chapter Commander), Harold Schick (Chaplain), Ken Roemke, Jim Winnie, Melvin Franke, Jim Leslie

## 131 – NORTHWEST OHIO [OH]

The Korean War Veterans Memorial that graces the Civic Center Mall in downtown Toledo could still be a distant dream of

Chapter 131 without financial support from the students of Anthony Wayne Junior High School.



Engraved plaque at the Korean War Memorial dedicated to Anthony Wayne Jr. High School



Members of Northwest Ohio Chapter 131, including many involved in Tell America

During the many "Tell America" presentations at the school, the students became aware of the Chapter's longing to build a memorial and in due course raised over \$6,600 to get the project off the ground. With that seed money, which was to be the largest amount received from any nongovernmental entity, enough money was soon obtained to build the \$50,000 monument.

To show its appreciation, the Chapter engraved a plaque at the memorial site dedicated to the school.

The Tell America program at Anthony Wayne was initiated in 2003 and is presented annually. The program is unique in that it supports a school research project about the Korean War. The project is part of the school's curriculum.

We are all thankful and proud of all who participated to make our relationship with Anthony Wayne a special success.

*Leonard J. Tomasik, Chairman,  
Education Committee*

*L. G. Streb, 415 Turnbury Lane,  
Perrysburg, OH 43551*

## 168 – QUAD CITIES [IL]

Chapter members made a presentation at Annawan High School and posted the colors at Bethel Wesley United Methodist Church in Moline, IL. We thank

Superintendent Rakestraw for her help with the high school presentation.

*Art Holevoet, 16801 County  
Highway 5, Atkinson, IL 61235*



Members of CID 168 and students gather at Annawan High School





CID 168 members post the colors at Bethel Wesley United Methodist Church in Moline, IL

## 170 – TAEJON [NJ]

I am enclosing letters from students, teacher and photographs taken at the Rutherford Union School located in Rutherford, NJ during our "Tell America" session in February. The librarian, Miss Jan Rose, also sent e-mails to various other schools telling them of our program. (A copy is included nearby.) Some of the schools that received the e-mails have contacted us. We have done one

session already, have two more scheduled for the month of May, and are still awaiting final decisions from two other schools.

Our participating members of the Taejon Chapter are pleased that our program has been accepted so well, and we hope to do many more classes.

*Sincerely, George Bruzgis  
Commander, Dept of NJ  
Chairman "Tell America" program,  
Dept. of NJ*



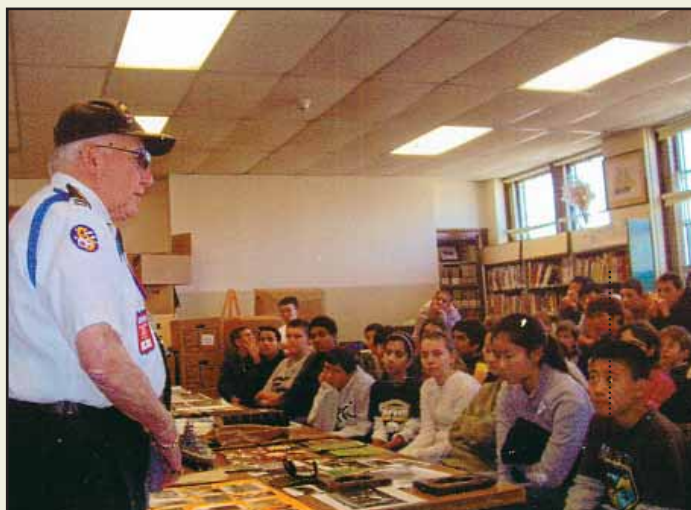
"Telling America" at Union School. CID 170 members (L-R) Tom Falato, George Bruzgis, Harold Dinzes, John DiLenardo, Red Casserly, and unidentified students



CID 170 TA presenters show exhibits to Union School students (L-R) Harold Dinzes, John DiLenardo, Red Casserly, Erwin Burkert, Ray Cohen, Ed Frye



George Bruzgis (L) and Harold Dinzes (R) talk to students at Union School



Students listen intently to Harold Dinzes during TA presentation

**All Chapter and/or Department news for publication in *The Graybeards* should be mailed to Art Sharp, Editor, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or emailed to:**

**Sharp\_arthur\_g@sbcglobal.net**

### National KWVA Fund Raiser Flower Rose of Sharon

The Rose of Sharon is the National KWVA fund raising flower. The Rose of Sharon is sold by the dozen.

- ☐ Sample order is 4 dozen @ \$12 plus \$3.00 S/H.
- ☐ Minimum order is 20 doz. @ \$60 plus \$5.00 S/H.

**Order from:** Earl House  
1870 Yakona Rd.  
Baltimore, MD 21234  
Phone 410-661-8950



Make Checks payable to: **Maryland Chapter – KWVA**



## Letter from Rutherford Union School Student

February 11, 2007

Dear [Mr.] Bruzgis and veterans of Foreign Wars,

Thank you very much for sharing to us your experiences on the Korean War. I really appreciated it because I learned new things about the war. I learned things such as the helmet being very useful in the war and also to other things. I was shocked that such a little thing can be useful like survival in the war because you can cook in there and everything else.

I realized how hard it is to be in a war because aside from the fact that your life is at risk it is not very comfortable and you don't know what the enemy is planning like in the Korean War. I was terrified when you told us about the battle for Seoul and I think that they shouldn't have terrified the Chinese because it was obvious that they would fight back.

I was so surprised that the battle for Seoul was long and it was just repeating because after the South got back there would be another battle after that after finally when it ended temporarily because no one ever knows what they are planning.

I also learned that the ship in battle was really big. I also learned that what they eat in the war was all in one pack and I felt bad for those eating it in the war because you have to eat it every meal. I am also sad that until now Korea remains divided and that fear is still in them. I also feel sorry for those in North because they ended up like you and the others said was a mean communist.

Thank you again for sharing your experiences of the war and all you know about the Korean War.

Sincerely,

Agnes Francisco

## Jan Rose's Letter to colleagues at other schools

I would like to share a program that has come to Union School library (Rutherford) for the last 4 years. As part of our investigation into finding primary sources when we research, Korean War veterans of the Taejon Chapter 170, 73rd Tank BN., talk with seventh grade students. They have quite a presentation.

The thank you letters that students are inspired to write to the vets will remind you that patriotism still exists. It especially means a great deal to the Korean students. They always stay to talk and thank the vets.

The veterans have an act! They will be in complete uniform and enter to a military whistle. George Bruzgis is the commander and shows a quality 11-minute video explaining the war historically.

Harold Dinzes served in both World War II and Korea. He is ninety, a college student, and in medical school at the same time. Erwin Burkett grew up in Germany during WWII and when his parents finally got the family to the US he was drafted! When he got off the boat in Korea he started to cry as the smell was one he knew well: war. John DiLonardo talks about responsibility and the importance of school. Red Casserly was a sailor and plays taps on the harmonica in honor of our soldiers in Iraq. Their stories are straightforward and hard hitting. They bring artifacts, ship and tank models.

At Union School they present twice during one day (1.5 hour presentation) to about 60 students per session in the library. They have presented in auditoriums, but they are more effective in an intimate environment. They only ask for a lunch in return. We make it a great one.

They have asked me to share with you, before they get too old to spread their story.

To contact them:

Senior Vice Commander, George Bruzgis  
73rd Tank BN.  
230 Legion Place  
Haledon NJ 07508  
973 956 8672

To contact me:

Jan Rose  
School 201 438 7675  
E-mail: iros@rutherfordscbools.org



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USN Ret. DAV, VFW, AL  
&**

**Randy Sweet LPN,  
MM3 USN Ret. DAV**

## Have a Mini-Reunion?

Send your photos and a short write-up to *The Graybeards* editor for publication!

Mail to Art Sharp, Editor, Korean War Veterans Association, 152 Sky View Drive., Rocky Hill, CT 06067



# Monuments and Medals

Korea: the Forgotten War, Remembered

## 10th Anniversary of Montana Memorial Celebrated

I have enclosed a photograph from our 10th Anniversary Commemoration of the dedication of our Montana Korean War Memorial.



Montana Korean War Memorial, Missoula, MT: dedicated 14 June 1997.  
(Photo taken in June 2007)

In a related matter, we were contacted a few years ago by a group in Augusta, Georgia who were planning to construct a Korean War Memorial. The major benefactor of the project was/is Eugene Chin Yu. He had been our guest at the 5th anniversary ceremony in 2002. He had visited several Korean memorials around the country, and decided that ours was the one they wanted to use as a model

Bruce Haegg Johnson, LtCol USA (Ret.), who created the artwork for us, granted permission to the committee in Augusta GA to use his art in the creation of their memorial. Also, committee member Ted Stetler, who handled the acquisition and setting of the granite for us, worked with the Augusta committee in the same capacity.

The three of us, our wives, and retired Air Force General



The Montana Commemorative Ceremony brochure

Nels Running were invited to the dedication of the Augusta memorial in December 2004. Our visit was hosted by Eugene Chin Yu.

We also had the opportunity to meet and visit with President Dechert while in Augusta.

*C. E. Crookshanks, Lt., USN (1953-56), 2416 Duncan Drive, Missoula, MO 59802-3156, (406) 728-3432*

## A 21st-century Liberty Tree and the Korean War Memorial

The Liberty Tree predates the American Revolution. Each of the thirteen colonies had its own tree: big, strong, old, and dominant, where patriots would meet to engage in dialogue and plan



The Korean War Memorial and the Liberty Tree in Freedom Lake Park, Pinellas Park, FL, there thanks to CID 14

resistance to the British.

The first Liberty Tree was located in Boston, Massachusetts. But, on August 14, 1765, British troops destroyed it when they found two British effigies hanging from its limbs. The tree, either an elm, oak, or poplar, became the rallying point and a sign of liberty for the colonists.

The last original tree, located at St. John's College in Annapolis, Maryland, was finally removed after Hurricane Floyd struck on October 25, 1999.

When Chapter 14 built the memorial at Freedom Lake Park, Pinellas Park, Florida, we were faced with a dilemma. In order to fit our memorial into its site, it would be necessary to remove two trees, a palm and an elm. The giant elm would provide



The dedication on CID 14's monument



shade and comfort, but its roots could damage the foundation of the Memorial. And, if we cut the roots, severe damage could destroy the tree.

Al DeStefano knew of a VFW program that would help preserve the elm. Environmentalists were called to assist in the Chapter's decision to save the tree. If this tree were to be saved (liberated from the woodsman's axe) extreme caution (and extra expense) would be needed to avoid damaging the roots. The Chapter decided the tree must be saved at all costs. Alas, the palm tree had to be removed. The tree was then designated as a Liberty Tree by the VFW.

We approached American Forest Co., a nonprofit National Historic tree registry in Jacksonville, Florida, for further validation. The group presented Chapter 14 with a circular plaque identifying our beautiful elm as a Liberty Tree.

On May 30, 2005, at the Memorial Day celebration, the tree was officially dedicated with a plaque on a bronze plate and black marble plinth which matches the marble in the KWVA Memorial. Chapter members involved were Charles "Chuck" Dawson, Founder and Past National Director, Al DeStefano, Joseph Sheehan, George Carter and Clarence Dadswell, Past President.

So, once again, Patriots, aka Korean War veterans, can meet at their Liberty Tree, not to plot or make plans to revolt, but to honor those who dedicated their lives for the Home of the Brave and the Land of the Morning Calm.

*Joan M. Arcand, 5674 Bay Pines Lake Blvd.,  
St. Petersburg, FL 33708, (727) 392-5648*

## CID156 dedicates Korean War Memorial in Sophia, WV

On June 24, 2007, at 2 p.m., 10 years of planning, hard work, design, prayers, and dogged determination came to fruition as Chapter 156 dedicated the Southern West Virginia Korean War Memorial in the Main Street Park, in Sophia, WV. (Sophia is approximately three miles south of Beckley, WV, on Route 16.)

The keynote speaker was U.S. Congressman Nick Joe Rahall, an avid advocate of veterans of all wars and a voice for the advancement of veterans' rights. Mr. George Weidensall, a member of Task Force Smith, gave a brief history of the Korean War; Mr. Franklin Goff, President of the West Virginia KWVA, spoke on the formation of Chapter 156. All surviving charter members of Chapter 156 were present at the ceremony.



**ABOVE:** The Southern West Virginia Korean War Memorial.

**LEFT:** A map of Korea at the Southern West Virginia memorial

Members of the U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion of Beckley, WV presented the Colors. Mr. Gratton Underwood, Master of Ceremonies, and Chapter 156 member, led the Pledge of Allegiance. In closing, Mr. Underwood read the names of those

deceased members of Chapter 156. As "Taps" was sounded in their honor, the ceremony was brought to a close, after which a reception was held at the Sophia Fire Department.



CID 156 members at the Southern West Virginia Korean War Memorial (L-R) Marguerite Bowers, Joseph Kartman, Jack Guy, Walter Mankins, Charles Shumaker, David Frame, Prince Clyburn, George Weidensall, William Wiseman, Samuel Birchfield, James Sibray



a memorial monument a reality. We especially wish to thank the good people of Sophia, who helped in so many ways. To paraphrase General James Gavin, "Never have so few owed so much to so many."

The bulk of Chapter 156 members are from several counties in Southern West Virginia, A few members reside in other states. The Chapter's headquarters is in Beckley, WV.

This summary and the photos were provided by Gratton Underwood, a member of KWVA, Chapter 156, Beckley, WV.

## CID 265 Memorial Update

Here is an update of our progress in building the North Carolina Korean War Memorial.

It has been just two years since we launched our drive to remember the 784 fallen brothers from North Carolina who did not return from the battlefields, and those who have served since on Korean soil. Today, I can proudly report that we are in the final stage of the program, fundraising. We have completed the design phase, and we have a location donated by the City of Mint Hill, a bedroom community of Charlotte NC. The site is Fairview Park, located on NC-218 and I-485.

We have contractors willing to contribute labor and materials, and an Elberton, GA granite quarry supplying pavers, benches and other granite products at a very low cost to us. We have a company in Charlotte, NC that is engraving pavers for the walk of remembrance—at their cost.

The important item is that the people and business operators of Mint Hill NC are very excited about our project. The City Commissioners are fully behind our efforts, and local newspapers are producing articles that will give folks a better idea of our progress.



Model of the North Carolina Korean War Memorial

The first paragraph of an article in the September 27, 2007 Mint Hill Times gives a good description of the monument:

The Korean War Veterans Association N.C. 265 (sic) will unveil a model of its Korean War Veterans Memorial during this year's Mint Hill Madness. The memorial is planned for Fairview Park in Mint Hill. Designed to resemble the South Korean flag, it will be a circle 60 feet in diameter with four inner columns 10 feet tall listing all 784 North Carolinian's (sic) who were either killed or missing in action during the three-year war. At each end of the memorial will be two statutes of American soldiers wearing ponchos.

We have received more than \$29,000 from members and their friends; we are just beginning to ask for public support.

*Don Putnam, 7036 Thorncliff Drive, Charlotte, NC 28210-6509, (704) 496-4709, donpat@juno.com*



CID 265 members (L-R) James Humphries, Don Putnam, and Roland Bellette "provide security" for Miss North Carolina 2007 Jessica Jacobs



CID 265 Honor Guard (L-R) James Humphries, Don Putnam, and Roland Bellette on parade

## CID 293 Members Attend Dedication

Members attended the dedication of a Korean War Monument in Pensacola, Florida on June 25, 2007. The groundbreaking ceremony took place on November 11, 2003.

People from the local Korean community provided the food for the Korean veterans who attended the ceremony. Sukie Lambert sang the Korean National Anthem, and Korean Consulate General Kuang-Jae Lee offered comments about a "grateful nation."



Groundbreaking for the Pensacola monument—in 2003

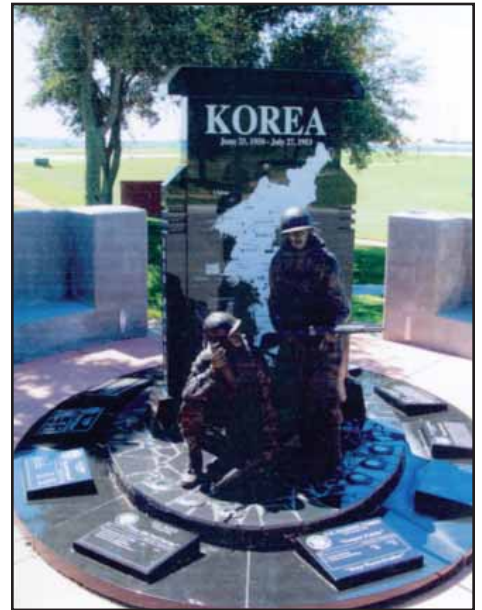




**LEFT:** The start of the Pensacola monument  
**BELOW:** CID 293 members at Korean War Monument in Pensacola



The Korean War Monument in Pensacola, FL



Kuang-Jae Lee speaks at Pensacola dedication



Sukie Lambert sings the Korean National Anthem in Pensacola



Members of the Korean community who provided the food at the Pensacola dedication ceremony

*Gerald Damico, 5534 Fox Fire Road  
Milton, FL 32570*



## 2 NORTHWEST ALABAMA [AL]

The Chapter sponsored an exhibit at the recent North Alabama State Fair. For the sixth year, we were in the top four exhibits. Our 60mm mortar crew exhibit won for originality and realism.

Chapter members were on hand to distribute literature and answer questions.

*George Ellis, 1020 Wildwood Park Road  
Florence AL 35630-3352*



60mm mortar crew ready to fire mission at the North Alabama State Fair



Bill Gober (L) and Eric Plunk (R) of CID 11 put finishing touches on exhibit at North Alabama State Fair



Overall view of CID 11's exhibit at the North Alabama State Fair

## 11 GREATER DANBURY AREA [CT]

The Chapter hosted a 9/11 Commemorative Ceremony on September 8, 2007 at the request of Mr. Howard Lasher. It was held in Newtown, CT.

Mr. Lasher lost ten friends in the Twin Towers attack in New York City on September 11, 2001. He invited the Chapter to conduct a solemn ceremony at his property on his behalf. Chapter President Bernard Rotunda arranged the ceremony in honor of Mr. Lasher's friends and everyone else who perished on that day.

The event was opened to the public. Local police and fire personnel from neighboring communities, veterans groups, school children, and Boy Scout and Girl Scout organizations joined the Chapter in its salute. Connecticut's Governor Jodi Rell, U.S. Senator Joe Lieberman, and U.S. 5th District Congressman Christopher Murphy sent proclamations.



Mr. Howard Lasher (foreground) addresses the assembly and thanks CID 11 for its assistance. Chapter President Bernard Rotunda stands at Parade Rest in front of the specially commissioned memorial site



The solemn service concluded with prayer offerings by clergy members, a singing of the National Anthem, a rifle salute, Taps, and the skirl of bagpipes.

*Art Sheehan, 572 Moose Hill Road  
Monroe, CT 06468, (203) 268-2172*

## 56 VENTURA CITY [CA]

We participated in several events recently. They included a Christmas Parade in Santa Paula and Veterans Day ceremonies.

*KWVA, 1121 New Street  
Santa Paula, CA 93060*



CID 56 members attend a Veterans Day ceremony at a school in Santa Paula (L-R) Commander David Lopez, Vice Commander Mike Hidalgo, Manuel Adame, David Garcia, Henry Aquilar, Rudy Arellano, William Cobos, Richard Ruiz, Manuel Salazar, Eutimero Beas



The CID 56 Rifle Squad on Veterans Day (L-R) David Garcia, Fred Rodriquez, William Cobos, John Campos, Everett Baca, Henry Marin, Robert Bermudez, Henry Aquila



A tribute to Korean War veterans. Assembled at the memorial on Veterans Day are CID 56 members (L-R) Mike Hidalgo, Manuel Salazar, Fred Rodriquez, William Cobos, Frank Torrez, Rudy Arellano, Eutimero Beas, Henry Marin, Robert Bermudez, John Campos



CID 56 members march in Christmas parade in Santa Paula, CA (L-R) Celso Perez, David Lopez, Benjamin Espinoza, David Garcia, Robert Bermudez, Rudy Arellano, William Cobos, Mike Hidalgo, Frank Torrez, John Campos, Unidentified



David Garcia drives CID 56's jeep in the Santa Paul Christmas parade, as Chapter Commander David Lopez rides along



## 99 TALL CORN [IA]

Chapter members gathered for a meeting at the Iowa Veterans Home in Marshalltown on October 13, 2007. There was a good turnout.

Preceding our informal meeting, staff members of the facility gave us a tour, which included a visit to their new Korean Veterans Memorial. We all enjoyed the tour—which our hosts followed with a very nice lunch.

*Bill Hartsock, 2301 Agency Street, Apt. 29  
Burlington, IA 52601*



Guest, staff members, and CID 99 members mingle at Marshalltown, IA facility



**ABOVE:** Gathering around the Korean Veterans Memorial at Marshalltown, IA Veterans Home

**LEFT:** The Korean Veterans Memorial at the Iowa Veterans Home



CID 99 officers at the Iowa Veterans Home Korean Veterans Memorial (L-R) President Bill Hartsock, Sec/Treas Tom Pratt, 1st VP Sid Morris, 2nd VP Leland Staker

## 109 NE PENNSLYVANIA [PA]

In recognition of their involvement in what is often referred to as the "Forgotten War," more than 300 Korean War veterans currently living in Carbon County were acknowledged at a special ceremony in Jim Thorpe, Pennsylvania.



Bill Neville, CID 109 Secretary (L) and Chapter member Joe Drozd (R) proudly wear the medals they received from Rep. McCall (C)

On Saturday, October 6, 2007, state Representative Keith McCall honored these veterans with medals and certificates of appreciation.

An estimated 2,300 people from the county served; the total number of Pennsylvania's Korean War veterans is approximately 177,000.

*Bill Neville, P.O. Box 187  
Albrightsville, PA 18210-0187!*

## 141 CAPE AND ISLANDS [MA]

Present and past Commanders of the Cape and Islands Chapter (CID 141) [MA] gathered on July 26, 2007 with other



members, friends, and family members to commemorate the 54th anniversary of the Armistice signing.

The group included former Commanders Thomas Holmberg of Hyannis, Al Makkay of Centerville, and Lloyd Sherwood of West Barnstable. Current Commander William Hennessey of Mashpee was there as well.

*Albert Makkay, 15 Meadow Farm Road  
Centerville, MA 02632*

## 142 FREDERICK [MD]

Every "Wounded Warrior" from Walter Reed gets a personal parade down the "Hall of Heroes" at the Pentagon. Each month a group of veterans, with their loved ones, are told they are getting a tour of the Pentagon, which in itself is very interesting. After it is completed, they are walked and wheeled down the Hall of Heroes (one whole side of the building), which is filled on both sides by hundreds of employees clapping in unison. This is followed by a special lunch and a chance to meet the very high "Brass."



Members of CID 142 and guests at the "Hall of Heroes" event (L-R) Scheller Garlock, Col. Dottie Johnson, Ruth Chipley, Chip Chipley, Dan Wagner, Glenn Wienhoff, Tony Malavenda, Jim Miller, Marty Goge, Leroy Hansberger

The Frederick Chapter was invited by Col. Dottie Johnson, a staff member and honorary Chapter member, to participate in one of these events. When those veterans reached our group, we snapped to attention and saluted. It was obvious that it was emotionally moving to both groups of veterans.

We were allowed to meet with them and their families before and after lunch, and we got the feeling they enjoyed that more than meeting with the "Big Brass."

It was a memorable day for us.

*Marty Goge, 6505 Springwater Ct., #7103  
Frederick, MD 21701*

## 168 QUAD CITIES [IL]

Atkinson [IL] celebrated its 150th birthday with a parade on Sunday, 17 September 2006. CID 168 sent a ten-member color guard and a float.



**TOP:** CID 168 members line up for Atkinson parade. **BELOW:** A "Float" in a parade—sponsored by CID 168. **RIGHT:** Josh Rahn wears Art Holevoet's uniform



One of the high school boys riding on the float, Josh Rahn, wore my Army uniform—the same one I wore when I got out of the service in August 1954.

*Art Holevoet, 17881 County Highway 5  
Atkinson, IL 61235*

## 170 TAEJON [NJ]

Sr. Vice Commander Alexander Atheras led Chapter members in a thirty-block march up 5th Avenue, from 26th Street to 56th Street, in New York City's 3 ½ - hour Veterans Day Parade. The long day started at 9 a.m., as members boarded the bus in Saddle Brook, NJ for the trip to New York City—and the march up 5th Avenue.

We had an Army 2 ½ ton truck available for members who chose not to march. Jr. Vice Commander and Color Guard Captain Henry Ferrarini led the Color Guard and veterans, who sang cadence as they marched.

TV reporters interviewed 91-year-old Chapter member Harold Dinzes, a WWII and Korean War veteran. Harold waved to the large crowd as he rode along the parade route.

Harold is currently attending Montclair State University as a student. He might be the oldest college student in New Jersey. Understandably, the Chapter is proud of Harold Dinzes.



Harold Dinzes, New Jersey's oldest college student (maybe)



Many veterans groups of all wars marched on this traditional day that dates back to the Civil War (1861-65). At that time, veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic would meet each year to remember their fallen comrades. Today's veterans do the same.



TV crew on truck accompanies CID 170 members in New York City parade. Members include Augie Sposa, Harold Dinzes, Raymond Cohen, Louis DeStefano, and New Jersey State Commander George Bruzgis



TV reporter interviews CID 170 members Perry Georgison, Louis Quagliero, John Cosentino, Richard Onorevole, Alexander Atheras, William Burns, and Erwin Burkert before they step off

The official program cover stated that this year's theme was "We the People." According to the program, "The purpose of Veterans Day is to pay tribute to our veterans, who have served and sacrificed for the freedoms we hold dear."

*Louis Quagliero, 142 Illinois Avenue  
Paterson, NJ 07503-1638*

## 191 TIDEWATER [VA]

Chapter members participated in a Veterans Day ceremony held at Hampton Monument Park in Hampton, VA on Nov. 11.

*Richard Hartung, 1812  
Broadstreet Rd  
Hampton, VA 23666  
(757) 838-2267*



Taejon Chapter members (L-R) Perry Georgison, Richard Onorevole, Alexander Atheras, and Pasquale Candela carry CID 170's banner in New York City parade



Two members of American Legion Post 31, Hampton with post flag at Veterans Day ceremony in Hampton, VA



16 members of CID 170 ready for the New York City Veterans Day Parade



Richard J Hartung, Commander of CID 191, Major David Scharff, Deputy Installation Chaplain, Ft. Monroe, VA, and Harry K Butts, 1st Vice Commander, American Legion Post 31, Hampton (L-R) at wreath laying ceremony



## 199 MANASOTA [FL]

We collected 106 pounds of canned goods for the Manatee County Food Bank. Chapter members presented the goods to Director Joe Mercado on October 26, 2007.

*Gene Gillette, c/o Manasota Chapter 199  
P. O. Box 3067, Oneco, FL 34264-3067, (941) 746-4440*



(L-R) CID 199 Judge Advocate Ted Czerwinski, Joe Mercado, CID 199 Secretary Dora Frierson, CID 199 Commander Gene Gillette at canned food presentation

## 215 GEN WALTON H. WALKER [TX]

Our Chapter, based in Arlington, recently invited Chapter 270 in Dallas, Texas to attend their annual picnic. Not only was this an opportunity for some jovial socializing, but it also provided an opportunity for the Chapter leaders to compare notes about fund-raising, membership boosting, and other issues.



**ABOVE:** J. D. Randolph (L) President of Chapter 270 in Dallas, Texas, describes developments at the Dallas VA hospital to Larry Kinard (R), Chapter President of 215, during the annual 215 picnic in Texas



**BELOW:** Larry Kinard makes a point during announcements at CID 215's annual picnic



Col. Stone (L) shares good food and conversation with Ken Borchers (R), of Chapter 270. They served together in the same unit during combat in Korea

One distinguished attendee was Chapter member Colonel James L. Stone, the last remaining Congressional Medal of Honor recipient living in Texas.

*Jerry Jasten, jdkasten@sbcglobal.net*

## 255 HAROLD F. ADKINSON [SC]

On Sept. 22nd, Chapter 255 hosted a POW/MIA recognition day and memorial dedication ceremony at the Horse Creek - Midland Valley Veterans Park at Bath, Aiken County, South Carolina. Judith Knight, an Associate Member of the Chapter, did all the planning, and she did a magnificent job.

Clyde Hooks, Dept. of South Carolina Commander and CID 255 Adjutant, was the master of ceremonies. Speakers included Neil Dillon, an Air Force veteran of the Vietnam War, who stepped in for a guest speaker who was unable to attend. Sadly, Mr. Dillon lost a son in the Iraqi War last December.



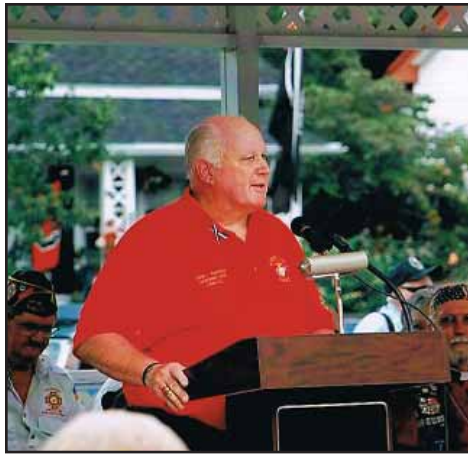
**LEFT:** A POW/MIA monument at the Horse Creek-Midland Valley Veterans Park at Bath, Aiken County, South Carolina

**RIGHT:** Clyde Hooks emcees the South Carolina POW/MIA ceremony



Ms. Cindy Raybould, the Assistant Veteran's Affairs Officer for Aiken County, South Carolina, gave a speech and helped dedicate the memorial, assisted by Aiken County Councilman Gary Bunker.





Neal Dillon speaks at the South Carolina memorial dedication

A bench dedicated to the Korean War at the Veterans Park in Bath, South Carolina



The Signal Corps Band from Fort Gordon, GA, led by SFC Ken Harvey, performs at the South Carolina ceremony

Cindy Raybould offers remarks to the South Carolina audience



The Signal Corps Band from Fort Gordon, GA, provided music. About 100 motorcyclists of Dixie Thunder/ABATE, led by Jim Bronder, arrived just about the time the ceremony began.

*Clyde Hooks, via email*



Aiken County Councilman Gary Bunker speaks to crowd in Bath, South Carolina



A bearded Jim Bronder, chapter coordinator for Dixie Thunder/ABATE led the motorcyclists in attendance at the POW/MIA ceremony

## 258 NORTHERN RHODE ISLAND [RI]

The Chapter installed new officers recently and presented Past Commander Gilbert Cochran with an award for a "Job Well Done."

The new officers are:

- Commander - Herb Southworth, Sr.
- Vice Commander - Norman J. Derosier
- Treasurer/Secretary - Eugene P. Pezzullo



CID 258 Past Commander Gilbert Cochran installs new Chapter officers (L-R) Herb Southworth, Sr. Vice Commander Norman J. Derosier, Treasurer/Secretary Eugene P. Pezzullo



Commander Herb Southworth (L) presents CID 258's Past Commander Gilbert Cochran (R), with "Job Well Done" award



CID 259 member Joe Cunningham places wreath at POW ceremony in Indianapolis



"Well-wishers" and members of Company "C," (FWD), 103rd FA gather at local Northern Rhode Island "good-bye" ceremony

Members also attended a ceremony honoring their local Army unit, Company "C," (FWD), 103rd FA, which deployed to Iraq on September 27th.

*Frank Meo, 70 Brookside Ave.  
N. Providence, RI 02911-1538*

## 259 CENTRAL INDIANA

At the Ex-POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremonies held at Indianapolis War Memorial Building in September, Joseph R. Cunningham, Chapter 259 member and Commander of the Indianapolis Chapter of Ex-POWs, lit the bulb symbolizing the freedom of POWs from captivity. Joe, a captive of the North Korean Army for 34 days in February 1951, was liberated by Allied troops while being marched to Pyongyang by the



CID 259 member Joe Cunningham, with head bowed, sits with other officials present for prayers and tributes to our defenders at the Indianapolis ceremony



Miss Indiana visits CID 259's booth at Veterans Community Day. Chapter members (L-R) Thomas J. Shepherd, Jack Beaty, Everett McFarland



William Kim, Commander Tine Martin and Condra (L-R) of CID 259 receive badges from Mr. Flanner commemorating the Indianapolis Veterans Day event



Korean dancers entertain attendees at the Indianapolis Veterans Day ceremony





At CID 259's recruiting booth: (L-R) Don Hall, General Goodwin, Jack Beaty, Everett McFarland

enemy. When captured, he was serving with 2nd Div, 38th Infantry Regiment, Company B, U.S. Army.

A large crowd attending the affair watched the placing of the wreath in memory of those who have not returned from the battlefields. It was posted by the Indiana State Cmdr of the Ex-POW Association, Gordon Squires, who was a prisoner of the German Army in WWII.

Joe Cunningham has attended this honored event for ten years. Several organizations sponsor the activity, including the Veterans Affairs Office and the City of Indianapolis. Branches of the Armed Forces are also represented, including the IN National Guard Concert Band, which provided appropriate music for the respectful and emotional event.

Miss Indiana visited Chapter members manning a 'Recruiting Station' at the Indiana War Memorial. She could not join, but she did help bring attention to the Korean War veterans who might obtain membership and enjoy the friendship and activities. Another visitor was Indiana Air National Guard Brigadier General J. Stewart Goodwin.

The event was a Veterans Community Day which brought Veterans Affairs and other Veteran Service groups together to provide help and information to the public. Over 20 organizations were present for the event.

Among Chapter members manning the "recruiting post" were: Thomas J. Shepherd, who was a member of 1st BN, 21st RCT, 24th Infantry Div., and who manned a BAR north of the Imjin River near the "Freedom Bridge" guarding the border of the DMZ, in 1954; Jack Beaty, who served with the Air Force running airfield maintenance operations at Taegu (K-2) in 1952; Don Hall, who guarded the DMZ with the Army in 1954 during a 17 month tour; and Everett J. McFarland who was wounded twice while serving with "H" Co., 3rd Bn., 7th Regiment, First Marine Division.

Everett received head wounds November 10, 1950 while moving up from Wonson, in North Korea. Back in the action again, he received leg wounds during the Chosin Reservoir battle on December 1st. He holds two Purple Hearts.

Each of the members has held office in Chapter 259.

Korean War Veterans were honored on Veterans Day by the

Flanner and Buchanan Community Life Center of Indianapolis. Over 150 guests enjoyed a delicious buffet, after which they were entertained by Korean ladies in colorful costumes performing traditional dances.

Chapter Commander Tine P. Martin, Sr., who was assigned to an Army AAA Unit in Korea, served on the committee for this festive and respectful event, along with Jack Beaty, LtCol USAF (Ret), Thomas Shepherd (Korea 1954 on DMZ patrol), and Earnest G. Condra, Sr., SFC U.S. Army (Ret), who was with USA I Corps.

Mr. Flanner presented badges commemorating the event to Chapter members William Kim, a Korean native who served in the early 1950s with the Marine Corps as an interpreter, Commander Martin, and Earnest Condra.

The dancers were members of the Korean Presbyterian Church of Carmel, IN. Spokesmen for that community were very kind in stating their appreciation for the veterans who saved their freedom from Communist rule and helped Korea grow into a successful industrial and educational society.

*John M. Quinn (via email)*

## 264 MT. DIABLO [CA]

Maurice A. Robichaud, U.S. Army (Ret), received a Certificate of Appreciation as a member of the Freedom Team. He received it at the John Muir Medical Center.

Maurice Robichaud (L) of CID 264 shows his Certificate of Appreciation to Chapter colleague Don Sharp (R)



## 270 SAM JOHNSON [TX]

### 2007 Dallas Veterans Day Parade

Over 30,000 spectators lined the mile-long parade route for the 2007 Dallas Veterans Day Parade. Twenty-nine blue shirted members of KWVA Sam Johnson Chapter 270 either rode in Humvees or marched in the 150-unit parade.



The CID 270 Color Guard at the staging area before the Dallas parade (L-R) Jerry Kasten, Ed Wuermsier, Billy Joe Denton, Dick Lethe, and Gui Jung. (Charles Buckley took this picture.)





Blue-shirted CID 270 members riding past the Dallas parade review stand in one of three Humvees. (John Pope took this picture from the review stand.)



CID 270 marchers pass in review in front of Dallas City Hall. Richard Sanchez (left) and Tilford Jones are carrying the chapter banner. Following the banner are the color guards. (John Pope took this picture from the review stand.)



Local members of the ROK Korean War Veterans chapter ride in a Humvee as they pass the Dallas parade review stand

Local members of the ROK Korean War Veterans chapter took part in the parade as part of Chapter 270's unit. Next year, the ROK veterans plan to file their entry forms early enough to enter as a separate unit.

Chapter 270 members and spouses taking part in the parade were Bob Bailley, Ken and Grace Borchers, Dick Bové, Charles Buckley, Bill Carman, John Cauduro, Bill Cave, Billy Joe Denton, Keith Fannon, Joe and Pat Haug, Tilford Jones, Gui Jung, Jerry Kasten, George Kraus, Tae Hui Lee, Dick Lethe, Homer Mundy, Paul Pfrommer, Tom Phelps, Cliff Platt, John Pope, Richard Sanchez, Clyde Scott, Jesse Verdin, Ed and Elizabeth Ann Wuermser, and Bob Wojciechowski.

*Glen Thompson, via email*

## 272 GREATER ROCKFORD [IL]

On Saturday morning, October 20, 2007, Chapter members broke ground for their memorial to the 59 men from Winnebago, Boone and Ogle Counties who died during the Korean War. Over 65 members and friends attended the ground breaking.

The completion of the memorial is planned for July 27, 2008; the cost will be over \$150,000. It is located in Anderson Peace Park in Loves Park, Illinois.

*Jack F. Philbrick, (815) 226-1601  
Felbrigge@insightbb.com*



John Shipman of the North Park Water District digs the first large shovel full of dirt at CID 272's groundbreaking ceremony. (Thanks to volunteer Patrick Gibbons, owner of the Gibbons Electric Company in Rockford, Illinois, who used Jack Philbrick's camera to take the picture.)



The aerial photograph was taken immediately after John Shipman dug the first shovelful with the district's back hoe at 272's event.

## 282 MAUI NO KA OI [HI]

We embarked on a project of designing, funding, building and final dedication of a monument in recognition of those who served in Korea. The project took three years to complete from concept to dedication. Under the leadership of Presidents Abel Cravalho, Clarence Okamura, Royal Vida and Committee Chairman Michael Suda, the final event, dedication, became a reality on November 12, 2007.





CID 282 President Royal Vida (behind the stone) and Chairman Michael Suda (to Mr. Vida's left) during the Hawaiian traditional "Blessing" of the memorial



The engraving on CID 282's plaque

Members, family, local government officials and the Korean Consul General, Kang Dae Hyun, gathered at the Maui Veterans' Cemetery under the blue skies and gentle breezes of Maui, Hawaii to witness the dedication of this monument.

The monument is a native stone from the slopes of Mt. Haleakala on the island of Maui. The members trucked it to a stone carver who artfully shaped it and made a place to implant a marble plaque. The marble plaque had to be engraved on the island of Oahu and shipped to Maui by boat. With the help of county employees, the members built the pedestal on which the stone and plaque are mounted.

The members of Maui No Ka Oi Chapter 282 can now rest comfortably with the knowledge that a monumental acknowledgment of those who protected our freedom shall last into eternity!

*Doug Halbert*

## 299 KOREA VETERANS OF AMERICA [MA]

On a beautiful New England autumn day, three Massachusetts-based KWVA Chapters participated in an early



CID 141 and CID 35 Color Guards in line of march at Bourne National Cemetery parade



CID 35 Color Guard at Bourne National Cemetery



Bob Wagner, Jeff Brodeur, Al McCarthy, and John Durham, members of CID 299 at the Bourne National Cemetery

Veterans Day ceremony at the Bourne [MA] National Cemetery. Several hundred people were in attendance; about a dozen veterans organizations participated.

The three Massachusetts Chapters were CID 35, Rudolph H. DeSilva Memorial C/O VFW Post 611, CID 141, Cape & Islands #1, and CID 299, Korea Veterans of America. The members marched as a unit.



KWVA National Director Jeff Brodeur, KVA Commander Al McCarthy, and CID 141 Secretary Joe Fallon laid wreaths.

*Jeff Brodeur, 48 Square Rigger Lane  
Hyannis, MA 02601-2100*

## 305 CARSON CITY [NV]

Members and their guests enjoyed their annual pot luck luncheon at the Korean War Memorial in the Carson City Korean War Veterans Memorial Park in September. Members of the Reno Korean Presbyterian Church joined them. Everyone had a great time.

Chapter member Richard Tieben owns an old mint-condition military jeep. He drove the vehicle in the Capital City's Nevada Day Parade, which celebrated the anniversary of statehood in 1864. The entry took third place in its category.

*Angelo P. De Felice, 214 W. King Street, Carson City, NV  
89703, Angnmare@aol.com*



Richard Tieben drives his jeep in the Nevada Day Parade, as passengers Chapter Past President Fred Williams and member Eliot Callender go along for the ride



CID 305 members and their guests at their annual pot luck luncheon

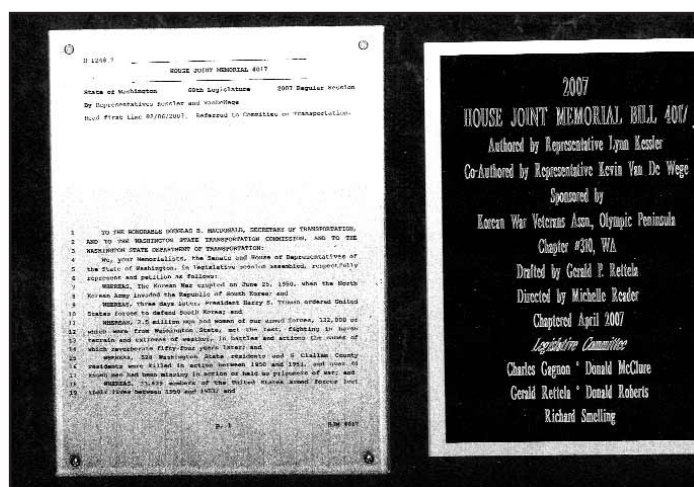
## 310 OLYMPIC PENINSULA [WA]

### Membership is growing

The photo below of our Chapter members reflects over two-thirds of the membership at that time. We are getting approximately two new member's average per month. Our recruiting started in September, 2006 and we are approaching 40 members.



CID 310 members at recent meeting (note Lt. Reid in the middle)



CID 310's plaque for Representative Kessler



Lt. Mary Reid, U.S. Army Medical Corps, CID 310 member who served in Korea



As a group we marched in the Queen Victoria's Birthday Parade on May 21, 2007 in Victoria, B.C. We got our own parade permit for the Clallam County 2nd Annual Korean War Memorial Service. This will be one of the first County military parades in the history of the city. I believe the first parade was back in the late 1800s, when the Admirals Fleet was stationed in Port Angeles. The insurance cost me an arm and leg, but I feel that it is well worth the cost and effort.

I also sent you the latest on the progress of the Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway. The legislation has been chaptered and sent to the Secretary of State on April 20. The Secretary will send it on to the Transportation Commission and from there on to the Department of Transportation. The plaque for the Author, Rep Lynn Kessler, has been made. There is a copy nearby. The Port Angeles Flower Beautification Society (Blue Star) has agreed to glorify the area where the plaque was going to be placed.

For our 2nd Annual Korean Memorial Service we honored the men who were captured and missing in action by date, rank and unit. We also read off the names of those killed in action (6) in Clallam County. The featured speaker was Major General Herbert Pinn. He commanded the Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry in Korea. We again had the Consulate General Chanho Kwon from Seattle.

The honor guard comprised members of the Washington State National Guard and the Coast Guard stationed at the Ediz Hook, Port Angeles.

*Gerald P. Rettela, 72 Derrick Road  
Port Angeles, WA 98362*

## 311 H. EDWARD REEVES [AZ]

The newly chartered Chapter has hit the ground running. It conducted a one-day Rose of Sharon event during which members took in \$1,500.00.

*Chuck Stohr, 2094 Summer Breeze  
Prescott, AZ 86303, (928) 443-7371, cpstohr@aol.com*



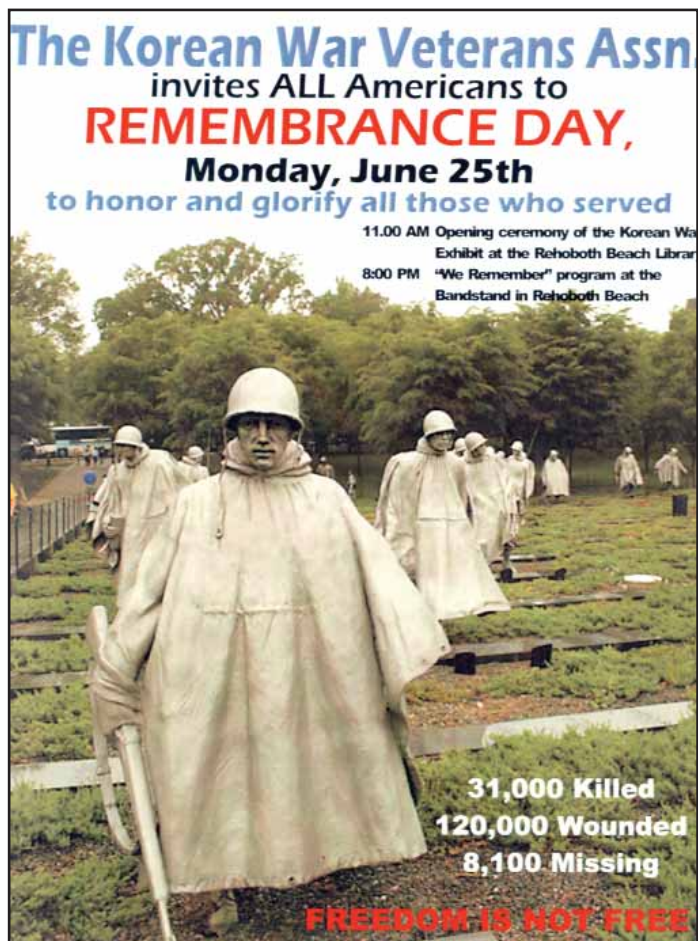
CID 311 members at their Rose of Sharon Event



National Sgt-at-Arms John Sonley presents CID 311 Commander Charlie Henderson with the new Chapter's Charter as members look on

## DEPARTMENT OF DELAWARE

The Department sponsored a Remembrance Day on 25 June 2007 at the Rehoboth Beach Bandstand. City Mayor Samuel R. Cooper proclaimed the day, "Korean War Remembrance (sic) Day," and he called on "all citizens to join with me in honoring the men and women who fought and died for their country in this war which has largely been overlooked in the annals of American history."



Poster advertising the Department of Delaware Remembrance event

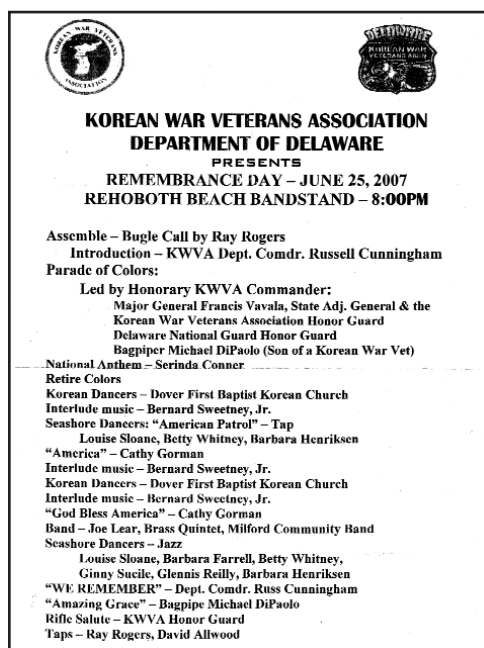
The event was well publicized in the Cape Gazette newspaper, which devoted a multi-page spread to the event. (The article is available via the Internet. Search for Cape Gazette and search the



The Mayor of  
Rehoboth Beach's  
Proclamation



The Department of  
Delaware's  
Remembrance agenda



Walter R. Koopman, CID 13's President, pins Korean War pin on Mrs. Edward Clungeon at May 7, 2006 memorial service for her husband, Edward A. "Red Bear" Clungeon



President Koopman presents a special Bible to Mrs. Clungeon at May 7, 2006 service

archives. The article appeared in the June 29 – July 2, 2007 issue, p. 118.)

Actually, Delaware newspapers provide a good deal of coverage for the Department of Delaware and its local Chapters, 12 Capt Paul Dill #2, 13 Bill Carr, and 92 Richard D. Hutchinson. For instance The Wilmington News Journal included in its June 25, 2007 issue a story about that day's event. And its August 25, 2007 issue included a lengthy story about the "phantom grave" of Paul N. Dill, a WWII and Korean War veteran who is MIA as of 3 Dec 1950.

Department of Delaware Commander Russell Cunningham offered these remarks at the ceremony in Rehoboth Beach:

**"We Remember"**

We remember Korea.

We remember Pusan, Inchon, Seoul, Yongdangpo.

We remember Papareu and Mo and thousands of children!

We remember the deuce and ½, the jeeps, the helicopters ferrying the wounded.

We remember the sounds of the M-1 rifle, the 105s, and the 155s.

We remember the light of the star shells, the bugles, and the planes.

We remember the quiet of the night of July 27!

We remember that then we knew we would be going home—the lucky ones!

We remember the ships at sea and the jets in the sky above.

We remember the 130,000 killed who would not be coming home!— and we will not let America forget!

We remember the 8,100 MIA and POW—some of whom never got to come home—and we will not let America forget them!!

To highlight the "Remember," a bell sounded each time Commander Cunningham said the word.

*Russ Cunningham, 33161 Woodland Ct. S*

# Maryland Route 43 Designated As Korean War &



CID 33 members and the Maryland Korean War Memorial Highway sign



By Jack Cloman

During the 50th commemoration years of the Korean War, in the year 2001, the Maryland Chapter #33 Korean War Veterans Association began a quest to have a Maryland highway designated as a KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY.

We contacted Legislative members in our State Capital who represented the area of Maryland's Route 43 that at the time was a route from I-695 Beltway to US Route 40 at Cowenton, Maryland. It was just 5 miles in length. However, there were plans on the drawing board to extend the highway, Maryland Rt. 43, to Eastern Avenue at Maryland's Martin's State Airport at Middle River, MD.

Chapter Chairman Raymond Glock began the legwork, making personal contacts with our legislators in Maryland, key personnel at Maryland's Dept. of Transportation, and the Maryland's Dept. of Veterans Affairs.

In time, with the help of then Delegate Kathleen Klausmeier and Senator Norman Stone, the idea for a highway to be dedicated as a Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway became a reality with the signing of a Bill on April 20, 2001, before the 2001 Maryland General Assembly by Governor Glendening.

Signs were erected on MD Route 43 and a dedication was held with much fan-

The new signs were erected at two sites on the highway, one near Baltimore's I-695 Beltway and one near the end of the new extension of the highway.

fare on March 11, 2002. Over a period of years the signs were improved by adding service ribbons and adding the United States and Republic of Korea flags.

That was the beginning of a bigger project. Soon it was learned that MD Route 43 would be extended and become a major highway in Baltimore County. The desire to have special signs for the all-new MD Route 43 "Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway" began with meetings and ideas, sketches, and the means to meet the cost of the project.

The highway construction began in 2003 and the possibility for special signs was readily becoming a reality. On 23 October 2006, MD Route 43 (Whitemarsh Blvd.) held a Dedication and Ribbon Cutting for the 3.8 mile highway extension that was opened to the public.

During the dedication of the highway, a model of the new road signs was unveiled, and all present were treated to their first look at what was to come. On 25 June 2007 the signs were erected at two special highway sites and a special dedication ceremony for the signs was held at

Erickson's Retirement Community, Oak Crest Retirement Village.

The new signs read, "KOREAN WAR AND KOREA SERVICE VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY."

The sign project became the product of a public and private partnership that included the committee of the Maryland Chapter #33 Korean War Veterans Assn., State Senator Kathleen Klausmeier, Senator Norman Stone, offices of the Maryland State Highway Administration, Erickson Retirement Communities, Day's Cove Reclamation Company, S&G, and Shuster Concrete Companies, McQuire, Inc., Hunt Valley Contractors, Inc., and Chesapeake Real Estate Office, Baltimore County Executive Jim Smith, and Maryland's Dept. of Veterans Affairs. They all came together to be a part of a special project.

The new signs were erected at two sites on the highway, one near Baltimore's I-695 Beltway and one near the end of the new extension of the highway. The monuments (signs) are large, and mounted between two tall pillars placed at the side of the road in an area that gives the



# Korea Service Veterans Memorial Highway



motorist a clear view of the signs, providing a tribute to all veterans of the war in Korea 1950-1953 and the post War Defense Service veterans who have served in Korea since 1953. Over 2 million American troops in the past 54 years,

and approximately 37,000 who remain today in Korea, along with thousands of Republic of Korea military, preserve the peace daily and the life style of free people of the Republic of Korea..

Across America the Republic of Korea and in countries that served in

the Korean War under the United Nations Command have highways designated to Veterans of Korea, monuments, museums, highways, and Memorials, to honor Veterans of the Korean War to include Veterans of the Republic of Korea. They are tributes to those who served and fought for a cause that was just and honorable.

We honor the sacrifices of our patriots and we remember and honor our comrades who made the supreme sacrifice and we remember our POWs and MIAs who are known only to God for they have never returned.

The Maryland Chapter #33 Korean War Veterans Association officers, our members, and Korean War veterans of Maryland, are indeed grateful to so many persons and agencies for their contributions and their generosity. They made these monuments (signs) possible on a highway that links an area that provides service and unending growth to new and expanding areas for Marylanders and those across America who visit our state.

## MARYLAND ROUTE 43 DESIGNATED AS KOREAN WAR & KOREA SERVICE MEMORIAL HIGHWAY

During the 50<sup>th</sup> commemoration years of the Korean War, in the year 2001 the Maryland Chapter #33 Korean War Veterans Association began a quest to have a Maryland highway designated as a KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY.

Legislation members in our State Capital were contacted, who represented the area of Maryland's Route 43 that at the time was a route from I-695 Beltway to US Route 40 at Cowenton, Maryland, just 5 miles in length. However there were plans on the drawing board to extend the highway, Maryland Rt. 43 to Eastern Avenue at Maryland's Martin's State Airport at Middle River, MD.

Chapter Chairman Raymond Glock began the legwork making personal contacts with our legislators in Maryland, key personnel at Maryland's Dept. of Transportation, and the Maryland's Dept. of Veterans Affairs.

In time, with the help of then Delegate Kathleen Klausmeier and Senator Norman Stone, the idea for a highway to be dedicated as A Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway became a reality with the signing of a Bill on April 20, 2001, before the 2001 Maryland General Assembly by Governor Glendening.

Signs were erected on MD Route 43 and a Dedication was held with much fan fare on March 11, 2002. Over a period of years the signs were improved by adding service ribbons and adding the United States and Republic of Korea flags.

That was the beginning of a bigger project. Soon it was learned that MD Route 43 would be extended and become a major highway in Baltimore County and the desire to have special signs for the all new MD Route 43 "Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway" began with meetings and ideas and sketches and the means to meet the cost of the project.

The highway construction began in 2003 and the possibility for special signs was readily becoming a reality. On 23 October 2006, MD Route 43 (Whitemarsh Blvd.) held a Dedication and Ribbon Cutting for the 3.8 mile highway extension that was opened to the public.

During the dedication of the highway a model of the new road signs were unveiled and all present were treated to their first look at what was to come. On 25 June 2007 the signs were erected at two special highway sites and a special dedication ceremony for the signs was held at Erickson's Retirement Community, Oak Crest Retirement Village.

The new signs read, "KOREAN WAR AND KOREA SERVICE VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY".

The sign project became the product of a public and private partnership that included the committee of the Maryland Chapter #33 Korean War Veterans Assn., State Senator Kathleen Klausmeier, Senator Norman Stone, offices of the Maryland State Highway Administration, Erickson Retirement

Communities, Day's Cove Reclamation Company, S&G, and Shuster Concrete Companies, McQuire, Inc., Hunt Valley Contractors, Inc., and Chesapeake Real Estate Office, Baltimore County Executive Jim Smith, and Maryland's Dept. of Veterans Affairs. They all came together to be a part of a special project.

The new signs were erected at two sites on the highway, one near Baltimore's I-695 Beltway and one near the end of the new extension of the highway. The monuments (signs) are large, mounted between two tall pillars placed at the side of the road in an area that gives the motorist a clear view of the signs, providing a tribute to all Veterans of the war in Korea 1950-1953 and the post War Defense Service Veterans who have served in Korea since 1953. Over 2 million American troops in the past 54 years and approximately 37,000 that remain today in Korea, along with thousands of Republic of Korea military, preserve the peace daily and the life style of free people of the Republic of Korea..

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The Maryland Chapter #33 Korean War Veterans Association Officers, our members, and Korean War Veterans of Maryland, are indeed grateful to so many persons and agencies for their contributions and their generosity that made these monuments (signs) possible, a highway that links together the best in highway transportation bringing together an area that provides service and unending growth to new and expanding areas for Marylanders and those across America that visit our state.



MD Chapter #33 K.W.V.A.  
JACK E. DIAMON, Secretary  
27001 I. J. Road  
Joppa, MD 21085



# Korean War Veterans' Mini-Reunions .....

## Co. M, 7th Cav., 1st Cav. Div.



Members of Co. M, 7th Cav., 1st Cav. Div., met in Antioch, CA, September 2007.

*Andrew E. Gandolfo, 961 Chalet Drive, Concord, CA 94518, (925) 825-4098*

Co. M, 7th Cav., 1st Cav. Div. mini-reunion attendees (L-R) Gene Bartlett (CO Jeep Diver), Ed Hinderer (Motor Pool), Ratz Sangimino (CO Radio Operator), Mario Florio (Machine Gunner), Andy Gandolfo (Company Clerk)

## Co. M, 279 Inf. Regt, 45th Inf. Div.



Fourth Squad, M Co., 279 Inf. Regt., 45th Inf. Div. at Branson (L-R) George Wagner, John Klein, Joe Nurre, Ervin Sacra, Donald Leece, and Gene Reutz

Members gathered at the Branson Windmill Inn & Convention Center, Branson, MO in September for their annual reunion

*Ervin P. Sacra, 114 South Marion Avenue*

*Hopewell, VA 23860, (804) 458-7146, EPSMASI@aol.com*



Co. M, 279 Inf. Regt, 45th Inf. Div. members at Branson, MO gathering: Claire Anker, Dewey Ballew, Ronnie Bowman, William Braun, Donald Hennes, J.D. Kennicut, John Klein, Donald Leece, Howard Mayberry, Ray Nelson, Joe Nurre, John Ritchey, Daniel Ross, Gene Ruetz, Ervin Sacra, Ralph Schwagel, Jim Smith, Bill Taylor, Roy Thomason, Wilbert Unnerstall, Lee Williams, and George Wagner.

## 35th Inf. Regt. Assoc.



Several Korean War veterans of the 35th Regt. Association got together at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in downtown Philadelphia in July 2007.

*Richard E. Lopez, 14378 Chestnut Street  
Adelanto, CA 92301*

Korean War veterans of the 35th Inf. Regt. Assoc. gather in Philadelphia (L-R) Robert Paiz ("I" Co.), Joseph Noga ("I" Co.), Richard Lopez (Heavy Mortar Co.), Francis Dahl ("I" Co.)



## Co. "B," 180th Regt., 45th Inf. Div.



Unit veterans attended a mini-reunion in Oklahoma City, OK, Sept. 27-30. They gathered in front of a bench at the 45th Inf. Div. Museum, which is depicted in the nearby photos. Why not? After all, the regiment donated the bench to the museum.

*George Bray, 212 Fremont Street, West Branch, MI 48661*

B Co., 180th Regt., veterans at the 45th Inf. Div. Museum (L-R) Bobby Joe Floyd, George Bray, George Smrcina, Harvey Kruse, Percy Townsend, William Odell, Charles Beedon, Charles Todd, Jimmy Rodgers, Kenneth Inman, Don Wisniewski, Fred Martin



The ladies at the B. Co., 180th Regt. Museum (L-R) Ludy Fry, Norma Smrcina, Ann Bray, Pauline Bryant, Margaret Trexler, Virgie Hahn

## GHQ 1st Raider Co. (8245 AU)/X Corps Sp Opns Co



Veterans of the unit gathered in El Paso, TX in October 2007.

*J. E. "Buck" Ballow, 83 Roundtable Road, Springfield, IL 62704, (217) 546-7168, j.ballow@insightbb.com*

Members of GHQ 1st Raider Co (8245 AU)/X Corps Sp Opns Co in El Paso, TX



## G-3-1 (Korea)



G-3-1 reunion attendees gather before their Memorial Service (L-R) Col Willy Buhl, former Commander of 3rd Bn, 1st Marines [3/1] at Fallujah, Iraq [now assigned to the Pentagon]; SgtMaj Ed Sax, former 3/1 SgtMaj in Fallujah; and Korean War vets: "Bing" Bingham, past President, now Secretary, G-3-1 KOREA; Carl Winterwerp, Chaplain G-3-1 KOREA; Tom Enos, Quartermaster G-3-1 KOREA; Harrell Roberts, former President, now Board Member, G-3-1 KOREA; and Lt Kermit Jones, Chaplain Corps, USN, Base Chaplain

**G**-3-1 KOREA, an association of veterans of the Korean War who served with George Company, Third Battalion, First Marines, First Marine Division during the period 15 September 1950—15 March 1955, held its 23rd annual reunion October 15-18, 2007 in Quantico, VA; 128 Marines, their ladies, and family members attended.

One highlight was a tour of the new National Museum of the Marine Corps that renewed memories of 55+ years ago. The museum contains an amazing collection of Marine Corps history, which initially concentrates on WWII, Korea and Viet Nam—with more to come.

Other highlights included a tour of the FBI Academy and of The Basic School, where newly commissioned 2nd Lieutenants undergo basic officer training.

An annual Memorial Service remembers the names of the 149 US Marine comrades and 31 British Royal Marine comrades killed in action in Korea. A bell was tolled for each name read. In addition, the names of 41 US Marines from the 3rd Bn, 1st Marine Regiment killed in action during 4 tours in Iraq were similarly remembered.

*Carleton "Bing" Bingham, 1453 Patricia Drive, Gardnerville, NV 89460, (775) 265-3596*

## Korean War Veterans



Attendees at the Korean War Veterans reunion in Lancaster, PA

**T**he 2nd Annual Korean War Veterans Reunion was held at the Eden Resort in Lancaster, PA in September 2007. Two great side trips were scheduled, along with a banquet and a group meeting that included a free brunch. A hospitality room was also provided with open bar and food.

All Korean War veterans are welcome to next year's reunion, which will be held at Gettysburg, PA. POC is Egresitz at (717) 652-4088 or (717) 497-6971

## 25th Div Signal Corps, "Photo Section"



25th Div Signal Corps reunion attendees (Bottom, L-R) Roy Pinzke, Dick Wawrzyniak, Chuck Sanders, Fred Fahdt (Above them, L-R) Rollie Berens, Hank Babel (3rd Row from bottom, L-R) Carlton Sauder, Howie Backer, Bob Quarello, Geo Flynn (Top row, L-R) Bob Eifert, Jay Brown



## 68th Fighter Interceptor Squadron



68th Fighter Interceptor Squadron members and guests in Oklahoma City: (Front, L-R) Pic Monsees, Peg McDonald, Sandy & John Underwood, Caroline Farnsworth, Al Farnsworth, Bob Rigney, Nancy Rigney, Henry Baird, Myrtle Baird, Laverda Loomis, Don Loomis, Arlene Johnson, Joyce Timson, Bob & Pauline Kronbusch, Joan Blackburn, Wally & Hazel Hearon; (Row two) Jim Monsees, Jim McDonald, Lyla Dockter, Nancy Nyquist, Donna Stone, Ivy Skinner, Ann Johnson, Dee Yocum, Bob Jenks, Stan Grogan, Cheryl Howell, Arlene Johnson, Floyd Timson, Ron Iberg, Dick Blackburn, Shirley McCool; (Row three) Avery Nofsinger, Sharon Nofsinger, Duane Dockter, Paul Nyquist, Henry Stone, K W Summers ?, Lee Skinner, Ole Johnson, John Yocum, Rudy Howell, Iris Stull, Jim Johnson, Ron Iberg, Dick Blackburn, Shirley McCool; (Row four) Bobbie Ruckman, Paul & Mary Henn, Guy Seely, Ron Stull, Margaret Lopp, Bob Boland, Eugene Humphrey, Shirley Page, Harold Page, Harry McCool; (Row five) Jim Reeves, Millie Reeves, Bette Foulke, Frank Foulke, Dave Valier, John Lopp

Thirty-eight former Squadron members gathered in Oklahoma City, OK recently for their 2007 reunion. There were several first-time attendees, and eleven members who attended the unit's first reunion in Denver.

The next reunion is scheduled for 2009 in San Antonio, TX.

Stanley J. Grogan,  
2585 Moraga Drive,  
Pinole, CA 94564-  
1236

Mini-reunions  
continued on  
page 76...

(1951-54) Members held their eighth reunion in the Tampa/Clearwater, FL area recently. The four-day event, hosted by Jay and "Tooter" Brown, was "fabulous."

After a 47-year hiatus, the members started getting together in 1999. So far, they have met in Washington DC (1999), Kauai, HI (2000), Branson, MO (2001), Korean Revisit (2002), Tucson, AZ (2003), Milwaukee, WI (2004), New London, CT (2005), Fort Wayne, IN (2006), and Tampa/Clearwater, FL (2007).

Members pay special tribute to four members of the unit who have passed away in recent years: Art Jaffe (1999), Gene Coffman (2002), Larry Lifkin (2003), and Al Seidenrose (2007).

The next reunion is scheduled for St. Louis, MO in September 2008. Any 25th Signal Corps people interested in attending are invited to call or contact Rollie Berens, 18400 Brookfield Lake Drive, Unit 42, Brookfield, WI 53045, (262) 797-8897.



The 25th Signal Corps ladies (Front, L-R) Joanne Sauder, Pat Pinzke (Back, L-R) Karen Babel, Pat Fahdt, Tooter Brown, Sandy Quarello, Sue Sanders, Dianne Teske, Joanne Calderwood (Inset) Jan Graveline



# The Burial of Sergeant Mitchell Wallace

Not all families of MIAs want to endure the ceremonies associated with their loved ones' returns. Their reasons are personal, and must be respected. That does not mean that the returning MIAs/POW should not be accorded the military rites they so richly deserve. That was the case with U.S. Army member Sergeant Michael Wallace, whose remains were laid to rest at the Dayton, OH National Cemetery on Thursday, June 22, 2005. An Honor Guard from Fort Knox, KY provided full military honors.

Sgt. Wallace starved to death in a North Korean prison camp in 1951. A U.S. recovery team found his remains in an unmarked grave near the camp some 53 years later. It took a year for them to determine that the remains were those of Sgt. Mitchell Wallace.

Wallace's surviving family members told the military they would not attend the service, because they didn't want to relive his death. Thus, a local soldier based out of the National Guard armory in Avondale, OH worked to make sure Sgt. Wallace got the homecoming he deserved.

Sergeant First Class Stephen Sharp accepted the flag on behalf of the family at the graveside service. The Honor Guard delivered the folded flag to the family on their return to Fort Knox.

Members of Western Ohio Chapter 108 of The Korean War Veterans Association were present to honor their fallen comrade. They included Eugene Hoening, James Faller, Harvey Zimmerman, Herbert McBee, and Kenneth Williamson.



The burial of  
Sergeant Mitchell Wallace

## PRESIDENT from page 3

- Anyone can view the Standard Procedure Manual on the KWVA website.

## Added Financial Controls And Disclosures

- Anyone can view the annual financial reports in the Nov/Dec issues of *The Graybeards*. (You don't see this much open information on the national websites of other Veterans Service Organizations.)

- Three annual audits (so far) by an independent CPA. There are no prior independent audits on record going back as far as 1985.

- The most recent Balance Sheet of assets roughly equal to what they were when this Administration was first elected, even though four times as many members (volunteers) are now engaged in running the Association and numerous other improvements have been put in place.

- Strict controls on checks issued by KWVA. Two signatures are required—and the recipient must not be one of them.

## Improved KWVA Communication with Korea and Korean Community in USA

- Return Visits quotas have increased each and every year of this Administration, and the rules have steadily improved to allow more and more return visits to the Republic of Korea.

- Rules changed through President's efforts to allow spouse (or surviving spouse) or children of a 1950-1954 veteran who could not or did not use his return benefit to return in his place.

- The President has personally scheduled or facilitated over 20 public gatherings hosted by the Korean Ambassador in all areas of the country. Veterans were given expensive gifts by the Korean Government at each of these events.

## Recognized And Rewarded KWVA Achievers

- Before 2004 there is no record of a single individual or chapter ever receiving a citation, award, or plaque from the National. Over 400 individuals and departments and chapters have been officially recognized and rewarded by this Administration.

## Enhanced Kwva Image Within VSO Community

- The Association has the active support



for a Federal Charter by the Military Order of the Purple Heart, which has also included the Association in the Annual Congressional presentations by Veteran Service Organizations (VSO) having Federal Charters.

- The Association is no longer in annual arrears of its obligations to the Veterans Day National Committee (White House and VA) or to the International Federation of Korean War Veterans Associations.

- Additional VSO have expressed support for KWVA to receive Federal Charter.

- The Association has steadily increased an outreach to the troops still serving in the Korean War, numbering among its members the CINC, UN/Combined Forces/US Forces, Korea—the first time in KWVA history.

- The Association has been annually addressed by national leaders of prominence—The Commandant of the USMC, The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Commanding General of Eighth Army, The Vice President of the US, The Commander in Chief, US/CF/USFK, and The Korean Ambassador to the US.

### **Created An Impressive Volunteer Service Record**

- The Association has amassed almost 1 million hours of volunteer service to the VA in each of the past two years (VAVS).

- The Association began a certification course of training of KWVA Veterans Service Officers in 2007. The Military Order of the Purple Heart has provided this training without charge and is doing so again in 2008 (VSO)

### **Other Accomplishments**

- A National Capitol Area Office, ordered by the Executive Council in February 2004, has now been established.

- New emblems, insignia, and other items have been designed and made available through the National Capitol Area Office.

- Renewed support for Memorials honor-

ing fallen comrades and recognition of KWVA Founders

- This Administration reinstituted official support for the maintenance of the Memorial on the Mall in Washington.

- This Administration restored, published, and defended honors for founders Bill Norris and Joe McCallion, and Honorary President General Raymond Davis.

- For the first time a National Convention/Reunion raised significant funds to support wounded veterans of a current war- Reno, Nevada, October 25, 2007-\$1407.00.

- For the first time since Bill Norris, a formal Mission Statement was annunciated and distributed, and is available on our website.

### **Other First Time Actions**

- A Code of Conduct was developed and appointees nominated by the President were required to subscribe to the Code. Other members agreeing with the Code are also signing up.

- Another Korea unit joined their reunion with our reunion in 2006 and 2007—a first (40th Recon).

The group(s) and individuals discussed earlier in my friend's evaluation have vehemently opposed and lied about virtually each one of those accomplishments. For almost two years they even sought to have me condemned and punished for making awards to members! And for the record, the loudest of them vehemently opposed and often lied about my predecessor during his legal terms in office. This indicates the presence of a malignancy transcending the terms of former President Harley Coon and myself. They intend to keep on doing so into the future.

Significantly, none of the individuals with this malignancy have subscribed to the Code. And neither of the "early bird" opportunists recently seeking attention by premature declarations of candidacy have subscribed to the Code.

We also have a group of 2 or 3 so-called 501 (c)(3) "not-for-profit" charity organizations publicly slandering us on the internet and writing and urging others to write inflammatory lies to Congress, to Eighth Army, to the Defense Department, and to state attorneys general about the KWVA.

Several members of this cabal have already banded together and are advertising themselves as candidates for the next Association elections (contrary to the Bylaws). The notice which I received started with a lie and went downhill from there.

One of our Directors recently helped stage a special event for the KWVA in New York where the scores of members attending were feted by the ROK Navy. He reported meeting and listening to three members supporting the anti-KWVA activities that I have denounced. He said their common lament was that, "We don't have any fun anymore! We want to go back like it was!"

Those slandering this Administration have that same old lament, "Let's go back to the good old days" when:

- KWVA officers could steal upwards of \$300,000 from the members and never go to trial.

- \$144,000 of the members' assets were disposed of for less than \$2,000—and no one answered for it (until 2005)

- officers spent whatever they wanted on whatever they wanted

- we were not respected and did not deserve respect due to our conduct

- the Hospitality Room was the first order of business!

Are these really the "good old days" to which the membership wants to return?

Yes, I suppose they were the good old days for the persons referred to by my friend in his aforementioned comment to me.

Nevertheless, I repeat, concerning this Administration and our accomplishments—

### **THIS WE'LL DEFEND!**

Louis T Dechert  
National President and Chairman,  
KWVA/USA

*NOTE: Because of our publishing schedule you may not receive this edition until January 2008. Please be assured that the Administration, the Board of Directors, and Staff wish for you the blessings of the season and a very happy 2008.*

Lou Dechert.

### **Membership Report (12-22-07)**

The KWVA has 17,163 members. At this time last year the KWVA had 17,068. This is an increase of 95 members. We had 614 members die in 2007.

We now have new KWVA flyers with the KWVA posters on the National Website to download at [www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org)

Jeff Brodeur, , KWVA Membership Committee Chairman

# Prisoner exchange at Panmunjom, 1953

## Little Switch and Big Switch ©

As you may recall, the Korean War prisoner exchange was accomplished in two stages: Little Switch and Big Switch. The former involved the transfer of wounded and disabled. Frank Praytor, who was working for the Pacific Stars and Stripes at the time, took numerous photos of the exchanges, which we have converted from negatives to prints. We present some of them here.

Unfortunately, he said, "I cannot distinguish between the two just looking at the negatives." So, we present these never-before-published photos without distinguishing between the stages.

Praytor gave us a bit of background on the photos. "Probably the greatest frustration working for Pacific Stars and Stripes was the heavy-handed censorship imposed by the Far East Command during the Korean War," he said. "Editors in Tokyo became so intimidated and psyched out that when given the choice between a staff-written news report and the same report written by one of the wire services, they printed the latter.

"That gave them an excuse when the FEC censor called and complained about something in the paper he didn't

like," he noted. "The editors could point out the wire service story was approved before it reached them. To make it easier on themselves, they'd kill the staff-written story and go with the wire-services' [articles] just to avoid the harassment."

It was the same with photos he took in Korea. As Praytor explained, "It was so much hassle involved in getting a news-worthy photo of mine in the paper, they'd either not use anything, or if there was a wire service photo that had been passed, they'd use it instead of mine."

For him, getting his photos developed was difficult. "My 120 and 35mm rolls of film were dutifully developed by the Japanese gentleman in Tokyo who operated the Stripes photo lab. He'd trim them and slip them into packaged sleeves. It was easy for me to go into the lab files and leave with my photos (Stripes did not furnish my film, I got it from my dad at home), so I felt no guilt when I took all my negatives I could find just before I left for the states and discharge."

We thank Frank Praytor for allowing us to be the first to publish these photos—and we copyright this material in his honor.

**1, 2 North Korean General Nam Il arriving at the Panmunjom "Peace Pagoda" for a day of negotiations**

**3 Prisoner exchange at Panmunjom, 1953**

**4,5 UN truce negotiators meet with the correspondents after a day of negotiations**

**6 Free at last! Prisoner exchange at Panmunjom, 1953**

**7 ROK President Syngman Rhee opening presents on his birthday anniversary in 1953 in his palatial mansion**

**8, 9 Never missing an opportunity to propagandize, the North Koreans collected their former POWs in ambulances for the return to North Korea. UN forces delivered them to the exchange site by train!**

**10 General Harrison, head of the U.S. negotiating team, arriving at Panmunjom for another day of peace talks**

**11 UN Truce Team at "Peace Pagoda," Panmunjom, 1953.**



**1**



**4**



**7**

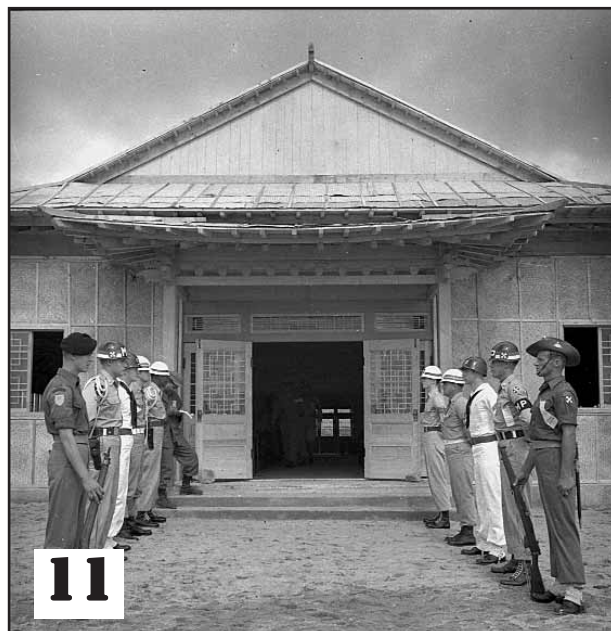
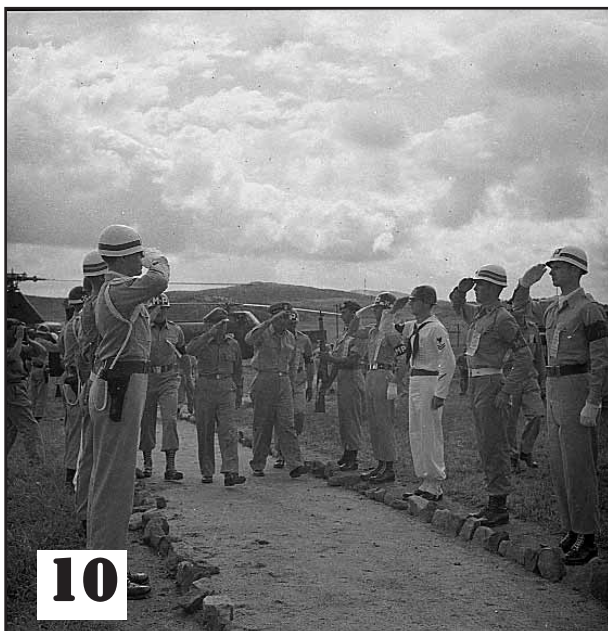
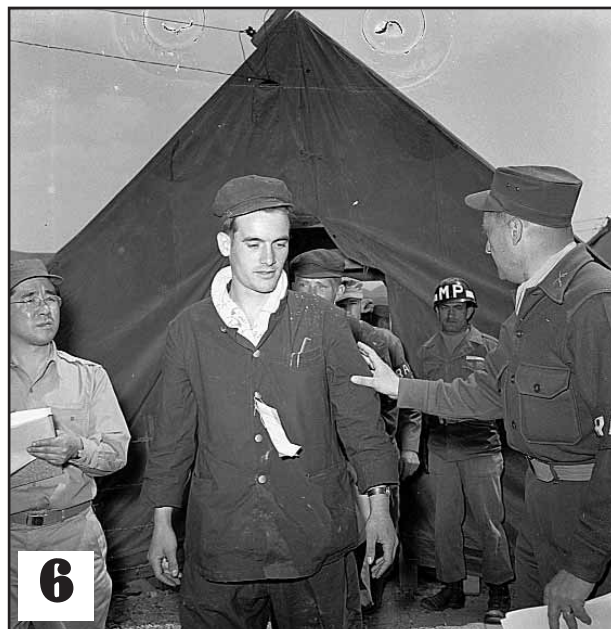
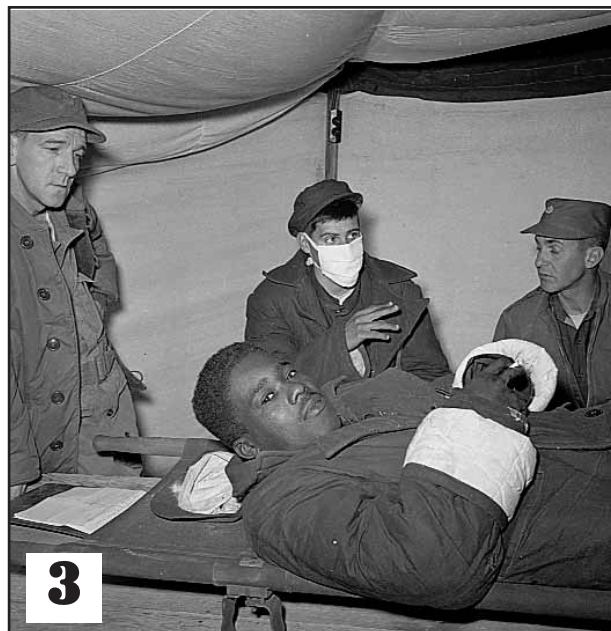


**8**



**9**







# Panmunjom (Continued)

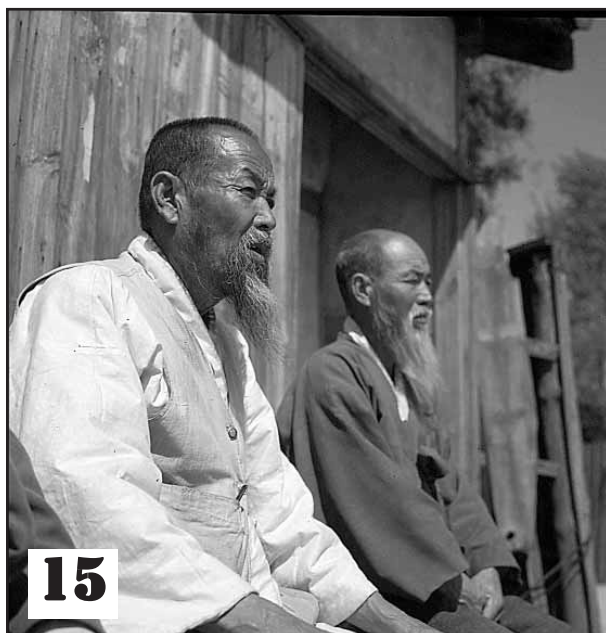
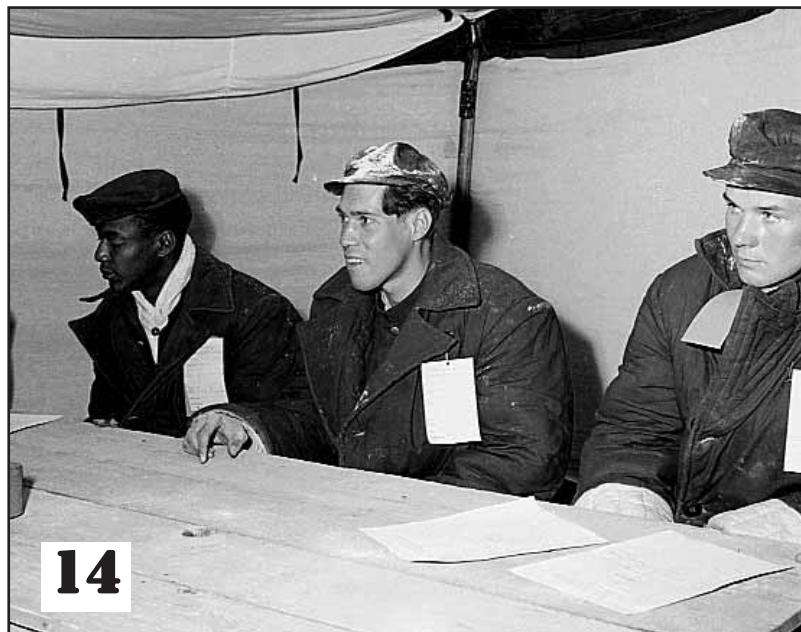
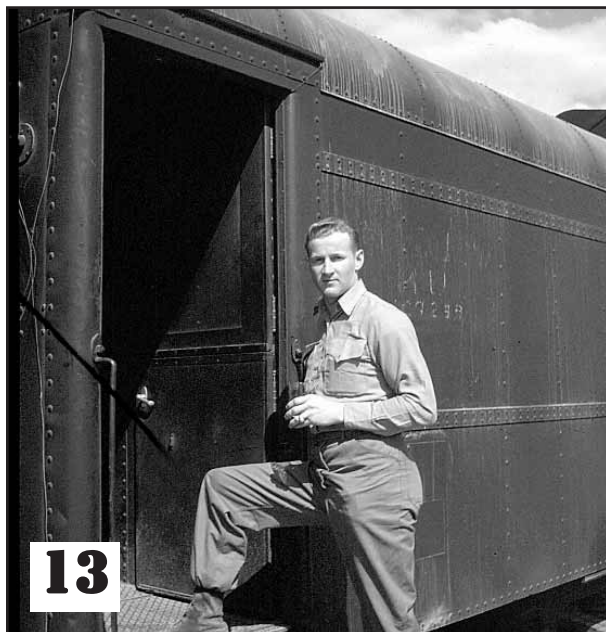
12 UN Truce Team at Panmunjom, 1953.

13 Frank Praytor outside the press train at Munsan-ni, where UN correspondents were housed temporarily during the prisoner exchanges and truce signing

14 POWs returned in prisoner exchange are interviewed at news conference in "Freedom Village" delivery site

15 Elders at Seoul

16 "The Road Back" A column of Marines retiring from the MLR—and back to the U.S. eventually—after the armistice went into effect





## William E. Cranston, a KWVA VUMS



William E. Cranston, Sr. on the MLR in North Korea, 1951

*Just before Veterans Day 2007 one of the major television networks did a feature on young people who joined the military in World War II when they were as young as age 12. There were so many of them then—and during other eras—that they have their own association, VUMS (Veterans of Underage Military Service). At least one member, William E. Cranston, Sr., is also a member of the KWVA.*

*Mr. Cranston joined the USMC at age 16, shortly after the Korean War began. He served...well, let him tell his own story.*

I was raised in Minneapolis, Minnesota where I was born on 23 July 1934. During my teenage years I had no direction and I was always getting into trouble. I came home quite late one night and found my mother waiting up for me. She told me about the war that had just started in Korea. Since I was a patriotic, gung ho, American boy, I told her I was going to join the Marines.

She asked, "You are only 16 years old. How are you going to do that?"

I replied, "I'll find a way."

I asked my older brother to change the date on my birth certificate to 1933 from 1934. He did, and I had a Photostatic copy made of the certificate. I went to the Marine recruiting office and handed my phony certificate to a sergeant. He looked at it, smiled, and said, "You're OK, young man."

I was sworn into the Marines on 2 August 1950. This was a big, big change in my life. The next day I was on a train headed for San Diego, California and boot camp. From boot camp I

went to Camp Pendleton for infantry training, after which I joined the 14th Replacement Draft and went to Korea.

Upon my arrival in Korea, I was assigned to Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division. This was my home for thirteen months. During this time I was involved in quite a few skirmishes with the North Korean army and the Chinese army as well. The battle that sticks in my mind is Bunker Hill in August 1952. We had many casualties, but this young rebel didn't get hit at all, just plenty, plenty scared. Have you ever been so scared that you urinated in your pants? This happened to me more than once.

One day when we came off the line, just as we reached the rest area, an Army officer drove up in a jeep. The officer asked, "Any of you jarheads (Marines) want to take the GED tests and get your high school diploma?"

I said, "I'll take it."

I passed the test and sent the results to my mother, who took them to my old high school where they issued me a diploma. It seems rather strange that I finished high school in North Korea.

I was rotated back to the states in October 1952, and I have thanked the Lord many times for bringing me back safely from Korea. I returned to Camp Pendleton and was assigned to a weapons company in the 3rd Marine Division. Less than a year later I volunteered for duty with an amphibious reconnaissance company, the first one formed after World War II.

We went to Hawaii for thirteen great months. We worked from the USS Perch, a troop-carrying submarine. We also learned how to jump out of helicopters and get picked up out of the ocean. I returned to the mainland in the spring of 1954 and was discharged on 2 August 1954.

I am thankful for the privilege of having served this great country of ours. I will always be grateful to the United States Marine Corps, the best outfit in the world, for taking me in as an underage, rebellious teenager, teaching me so much, and making a man out of me.

How many kids my age get to do what I had done by the time I was sixteen? As a teenager I participated in three major battles in North and South Korea. I earned the Combat Action Ribbon, Presidential Unit Citation, Navy Unit Citation, Good Conduct Medal, American Defense Ribbon, Korean Service Ribbon with 3 Battle Stars, Korean Unit Citation, United Nations Ribbon, and the Korean Service Medal. I was no war hero. I just did my part without whining about it. I learned discipline and respect for my fellowman and country. I'm glad and proud I went in at an early age, and may God always bless this great country of ours!

*Bill Cranston returned to Minneapolis and worked for a defense plant that manufactured guided missiles for the Navy. In 1964 he started driving an 18-wheel truck for a Minneapolis grocery chain. After an injury in 1990, he retired on a disability pension. In 1991, Bill and Donna, his wife of 42 years, moved to Peoria, Arizona where they now live. They have three children, eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.*

*Reach him at 9151 W. Greenway Rd. #16-234, Peoria, AZ 85381-3717.*

# The Pusan Cemetery

I took these shots of the UN Cemetery overlooking the ocean in Pusan in October 1953. As I understand it, there were no U.S. personnel buried there, and the upper level seemed to be for officers.

There may be Turkish grave markers in one photo, but I cannot be sure that is what they are. And, I am not sure if the cemetery is still there or if the bodies were removed and sent home. Maybe some of our members can clear up these questions.

I served in Korea from October 1953 to March 1954 in various units of the 3rd TMRS Railway, mainly 765 TRSB and 724 TROB, between Pusan and Taegu.

*Arnold G. Van Deusen, 11 Pine Street, Claverack, NY 12513*

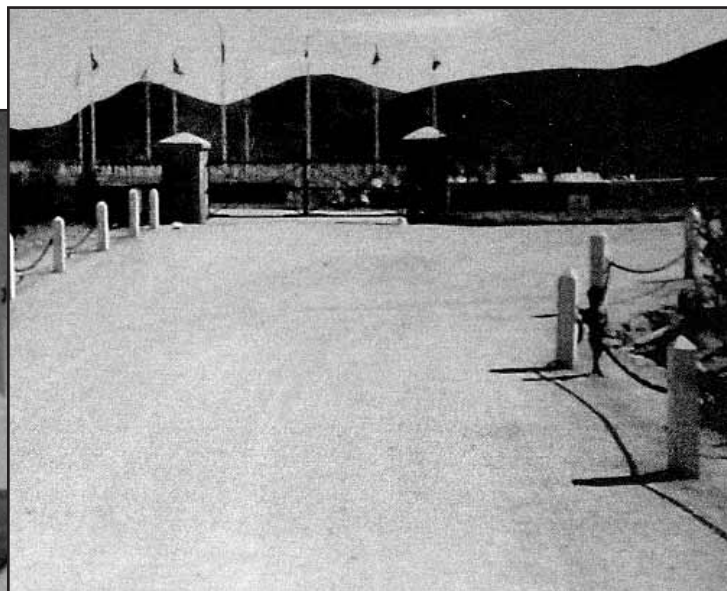
Rows of crosses at the UN Cemetery in Pusan



A soldier remembers



Another view of the UN Cemetery in Pusan



The gate to the Pusan cemetery (note the small, unclad Korean orphan at the right)



# Tour News

## Revisit Korea

### "After Battle" Report

Don Sharp, of Mt. Diablo Chapter 264, participated in the 9-16 September 2007 Korea Revisit Tour of the KWVA. The tour group consisted of 101 KWVA and Hawaii attendees, 19 Philippine attendees, and 9 USAF Aces of the Korean War.



Don Sharp (L) and CID 264's current President Bill Flaherty

The itinerary was well organized and full. There were official ceremonies at the Korean National Cemetery, the US Memorial at Imjingak, the 57th Incheon Landing Operations Commemoration, and a banquet hosted by KVA Chairman She-Jik Park. Ambassador of Peace Certificates and Medals were awarded at the banquet. Don Sharp received his awards from Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Chang Hyun Noh.

A high point was a trip and tour of Panmunjom and the DMZ. Security was tight and the United Nations Command Security Battalion on duty there has the motto "In Front Of Them All."

There were several briefings to bring the attendees up to date on the current situation in Korea, about both the military and the great progress the country has made.

There were also tours of the War Memorial, the Incheon Landing Operations Museum, the Kyungbok Palace, and a shopping trip to Itaewon Street.

One of the high points of the trip was being with the people who had been there before, but now are somewhat older.

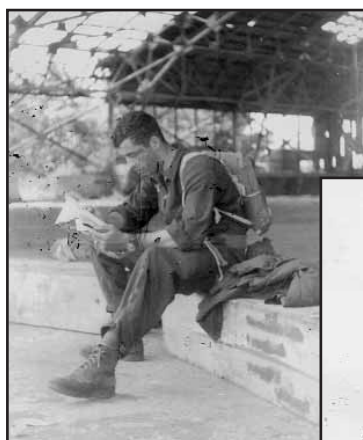
Korea has changed quite a lot; it is now a new country with some old places in it. They have built and are moving ahead into the future.

Don remembers that during one of the many speeches, someone said "the Korea of the War only exists in the memory of the veterans who were there." He adds that although the country can and has changed, we must do all we can to keep the memory of the war alive.

Don, a Past President of CID 264, received the Korean War Medal presented by the Korean Veterans Association in Seoul, thereby making him an "Ambassador of Peace."

The citation read in part, "We cherish in our hearts the memory of your boundless sacrifices in helping us re-establish our Free Nation..."

On a personal note, I remember that after I completed a revisit to Korea with my family in 1993, I wrote a letter to the President of Korea, who I had met in Taejon. I told him that all my combat missions in fighters and bombers were done at night—and that I had never toured Korea in daylight.



ABOVE: Stanley J. Grogan at the conclusion of a six-day survival training course at Miho Air Station, Japan, 1953

BELOW: Stanley J. Grogan before a RB-29A at the end of his second combat tour



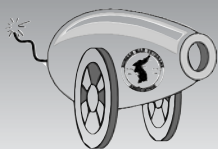
I completed a six-day survival training course at Miho Air Station, Japan in 1953. The bombed-out site was a former Japanese flying training school. I went through the course with a partner. Neither of us was permitted to carry rations. We had to live off the land and avoid being "captured" by instructors. The course was a prerequisite to flying B-29 missions in Korea.

I participated in many leaflet drop missions deep into enemy territory, including the famed \$50,000 for a MIG-15 leaflet which kept MIGs on the ground for six days. But, I never saw Korea in the daylight until I revisited.

*Stanley J. Grogan  
2585 Moraga Drive  
Pinole, CA 94564*

Korean War veterans and members of CID 264 (L-R) William J. "Bill" Flaherty, Ronald Silva, Stanley J. Grogan, Donald K. Score, and Peter T. Muller gather in 2007





# Feedback/Return Fire

This section of *The Graybeards* is designed to provide feedback—and generate more feedback. It gives readers the opportunity to respond to printed stories, letters, points of view, etc., without having to write long-winded replies. Feel free to respond to whatever you see in the magazine. As long as it's tasteful and non-political, we will be happy to include it. If you want to submit ideas, criticisms, etc. that you prefer not to see in print—with your name attached to it—then we will honor that. Make sure to let us know, though.

Mail your "Return Fire" to the "Feedback Editor" at 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067-2859. E-mail it to: sharp\_arthur\_g@sbcglobal.net, or phone it in to (860) 563-6149. Whatever the medium you choose, we welcome your input.

## The Korean War: Forgotten Once Again

Walter Hinnichs saw an article in the Philadelphia Inquirer written by Associated Press reporter Pauline Jelinek, entitled "High Costs, High Safety." The pull line read, "As the price to equip troops with the best goes up, so do survival rates." The article compared soldiers' protection in WWII, Vietnam, Current Operations, and Future System. Notice something missing. Hinnichs did.

"She jumped from WWII to Vietnam, of course forgetting the Korean War," he said. "As veterans of that war can tell you, we had flak jackets. I had one in 1952 in Korea."

"It gets annoying that they forever skip or forget altogether the Korean War, which was one of the bloodiest," he commented. "In 1952 the Marines alone were losing 25 KIA a day."

Unfortunately, Hinnichs is preaching to the choir. In some people's minds, the Korean War is indeed still the "Forgotten War."

Reach Walter Hinnichs at 2195 Martin Dr.,  
Gilbertsville, PA 19525

## Chosin (Chosen?) Hotel

I want to hear from anyone who knew of, heard of, or had been at the Chosin Hotel in Seoul, Korea during the Korean War for a three-day R&R. I was sent there alone in the spring of 1951. I had only been in Korea for 1-1/2 or 2 months when I was sent there, which surprised me considerably. As I recall, it was located on the same street as the burned-out capitol building. There was a muddy river nearby where people were living in corrugated shanties.

I do not know where I was in Korea at the time. We moved north and we were in the mountains. I was a member of 2nd Squad, 81mm. Mortar Platoon, "M" Co., 27th "Wolfhound" Inf. Regt., 25th Div. Besides Americans, there were men from other countries.

I buddied up with a soldier from England. I enjoyed the three days immensely, and I have never forgotten them. But, I have never heard of the Chosin Hotel since.

Russell Buechler, 917 Hillcrest St.  
Columbia, Illinois 62236,  
(618) 281-5357

*EDITOR'S NOTE: We operate on pure coincidence at The Graybeards office. How else can we explain the arrival of the letter below a couple days after Mr. Buechler made his request?*

## Speaking of the Chosen Hotel

I am a veteran of the Korean War, and I recently noticed a photo

of the Seoul Railroad Station in an article titled "Mystery Photos" printed in your July/August issue of *The Graybeards*. As the text of the article stipulates, this brought back memories of a few photos I took in June of 1951 as I was transporting some troops to the Kimpo Airport in Seoul for sorely needed R & R.

I've included the photos I took at the time in case they are of some benefit to your photo archives. I was able to take these shots



The Chosen Hotel in Seoul



A building somewhere near the Chosen Hotel

because, as a driver, I was required to stay in Seoul until the troops actually left on their scheduled flights out of Kimpo Airport. This gave me ample opportunity to drive around Seoul and take pictures of some distinctive buildings.

The first photo I've enclosed is of the Chosen Hotel. It was impressive and in good condition at the time. The second photo was taken of a building in the vicinity of the Chosen Hotel. Yet, it apparently suffered substantial damage. The third photo is of the





The Seoul Railroad Station in June 1951



The Imperial Palace in Seoul

Seoul Railroad Station, and depicts the building much as you did in the article mentioned above. Apparently it remained intact from the date I photographed the building in June of 1951 to the 1956 date you refer to in the article. The fourth photo is of the Imperial palace which, as shown, exhibited some structural damage. Note that the main gate has been demolished or blown away by some means.

Perhaps my photos may contribute in some small way to the overall impression of Seoul at that critical time in history. I do so enjoy reading the articles in *The Graybeards*, and I appreciate your effort in bringing the memories into clear focus to those of us who survived the Korean War.

Harry J. Lynch, Jr., Vistanna Villas  
9237 Aegean Circle  
Lehigh Acres, FL 33936,  
LynchEnterprise@aol.com.

*(Mr. Lynch served with Co. B, 430th Eng. Bn. in Korea.)*

## "Nail biters" on the Globemaster

After reading about the legendary C-124 "Globemaster" and some of the experiences related by K-vets as reported in the July-August issue of *The Graybeards*, I could not resist telling about two "nail-biting" flights I had during TDY trips I took from Seoul to Tokyo in 1953.

The guys in my ASA outfit used to call the Air Force C-124 cargo/troop carrier "a warehouse with wings" because we thought it remarkable that the huge, bulky aircraft could even get airborne,



Troops waiting to board plane for R&R (Thanks to Arnold G. Van Deusen)



Taking a picture of troops and a C-124 (Thanks to Arnold G. Van Deusen)



A C-124 (Thanks to Arnold G. Van Deusen)

despite its four powerful Pratt and Whitney piston-prop engines at full throttle during take off.

Both flights were from K-16 (an island strip in the Han River between Seoul and Yongdungpo) to Tachikawa Air Base, Japan. Both involved aircraft malfunctions while landing at Tachikawa and both occurred during hours of darkness.

Nail-biter No. 1 occurred when the pilot discovered that his on-board ILS (Instrument Landing System) equipment wasn't working. There was a 100-foot ceiling at the time, and the pilot had to be directed by radio into the final approach to the ILS runway by the air controller in the tower. That's after the pilot, in the interest

of aviation safety, flew in circles for a couple hours in order to use up most of his fuel in the event of a crash landing.

Just above the 100-foot ceiling, the pilot spotted what he thought were the ILS runway lights shrouded by thick fog. But, as he dropped beneath the 100-foot ceiling, he discovered that what he saw were really the streetlights of the village of Tachikawa below him! We passengers could see the terrified populace running for cover. The pilot gunned the engines and the vibrating plane quickly regained altitude. The second attempt at finding the ILS landing was successful, and the Globemaster landed without further incident.

Nail-biter No. 2 occurred when the pilot, attempting a normal nighttime visual landing, deployed his main landing gear, only to discover that one of the two wheels would not lower into place. Fearing he might have to “belly land” the heavy aircraft, the pilot gained altitude and flew around a couple hours to use up his fuel. Meanwhile, crash trucks with foam aboard were at the ready.

As the C-124 touched down on the runway with just one wheel down, the shock of landing caused the second wheel to deploy and a normal landing took place. In both instances, there was plenty of praying going on aboard the aircraft!

Cliff Borden, President, CID #245,  
South Central Wisconsin

## Coronas on the circuit

I have just read Herb Potter’s article in the July-August 2007 issue of *The Graybeards* regarding the 6146th Air Base Unit at K-2, at Taegu, South Korea! His article is the first one I have seen concerning that air base.

I was called upon shortly after arriving in Taegu (with the 534th Engineer Technical Intelligence Team) to examine a problem that was occurring at K-2 with the runway lights. Something was causing the lighting system to have coronas all along the circuit!

I took soil samples all along the runways, and had them tested for contents! The result was that the soil was “saturated” with “JP-4” jet fuel. Each jet on take-off was losing some fuel, and it soon began to erode the insulation on those circuits—even though the insulation was “NEOPRENE.” After I reported my findings, the Base Commander ordered new electric cables and re-installed the lighting system. That solved the problem.

When I was there, I was informed that the Japanese had constructed the base during their occupation and had installed reinforced concrete under ground hangers for their aircraft! I did not have a camera with me and could not take any pictures of such buildings. If anyone has pictures of any of the buildings at K-2, I would appreciate getting copies!

Charles L Collins, 3931 Shamrock  
Dr., Huntsville, AL 35810-4033,  
(256) 859-3913,  
kwvet@bellsouth.net

## Mystery Photos

In the Sept/Oct issue of *The Graybeards* we published two “mystery photos” and asked readers to identify them. Apparently they are no mystery to some readers. Here is one of the responses we have received so far.

The picture on the left is one of the numerous bridges spanning the Han River in Seoul. It was built by the 62nd Eng. Const. Bn. They have a web page at <http://unitpages.military.com/unitpages/unit.do?id=104100&ESRC=unitpages.kw> Perhaps you can get some information from participants on that page.

The center picture is of Seoul Station. When I visited Korea in 1996, I sought out a KATUSA soldier that was assigned to my unit in 1953. I found him in Daejeon. He took the train to Seoul and we met at the station. I have attached a photo of me and Choi Kee Soo when we met at Seoul Station.



Doug Halbert and Choi Kee Soo at  
Seoul Station

Doug Halbert, Chapter 282 [HI]  
Correspondent  
doughalbert1@gmail.com

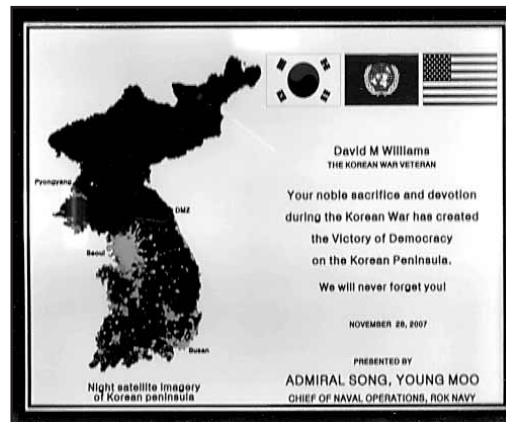
## Korean War Ship in San Pedro Harbor on 28 November 2007

A Korean warship visited San Pedro [CA] Harbor on 28 November 2007. The crew hosted a reception on board the vessel for Korean War veterans.

We had a great time. The Korean Navy was very gracious to us and everybody had a good time.



A Korean warship  
in San Pedro  
Harbor



Plaque presented  
to Korean War  
veterans by  
Korean warship  
personnel





David and Eva Williams with Korean Navy cadets at reception aboard Korean warships



Seated at table (L-R) at reception aboard Korean warship: Thomas Coubat, David Williams, Eva Williams, Darlene Byrne, James Byrne, Debra Donovan (Standing), Michael Glazzy

David Williams (via email)

## Status of S. 1877

The action by Senator Inhofe of Oklahoma, reported on page 3 of the September-October 2007 issue, to allow veterans and servicemen not in uniform to salute the flag if they choose to do so instead of placing the hand over the heart deserves applause.

But, as I understand it, the bill (S.1877) doesn't become law until it is signed by the President. Has that been done, and, if not, is there a date for that event? Until it happens, the old law is still on the books.

Eddie Deerfield, LtCol  
US Army (Ret.)

**Editor's Note:** We assigned our expert Congressional Bill Tracker to find out what has happened with the bill. Here is what we learned:

S. 1877: A bill to amend title 4, United States Code, to prescribe that members of the Armed...A bill to amend title 4, United States Code, to prescribe that members of the Armed Forces and veterans out of uniform may render the military salute during hoisting, lowering, or passing of flag.

Overview Summary Floor Speeches Other Info

Bill Status

Sponsor: Sen. James Inhofe [R-OK](no cosponsors)

Cosponsors [as of 2007-10-21]

Co-sponsorship information sometimes is out of date. Why?

Bill Text: Summaries (CRS)

Full Text

Status: Introduced Jul 25, 2007

Passed Senate [details] Jul 25, 2007

Voted on in House -

Signed by President -

This bill has been passed in the Senate. The bill now goes on to be voted on in the House. [Last Updated: Oct 20, 2007]

Last Action: Aug 10, 2007: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.

Show All Related Votes

This bill is identical to H.R. 3380 (Status: Introduced).

In other words, it is sitting in a dark, dusty corner of the U.S. Congressional campus somewhere awaiting disposition. Incidentally, anyone can track Congressional bills by accessing [www.govtrack.us](http://www.govtrack.us) and following the prompts.

## A "Firing Squad" for the Editor?

There is what I believe to be a common misconception regarding the twenty-one gun salute. The term often appears in *The Graybeards*, and is a source of constant irritation to me.

Firing parties, with which most of us are familiar, normally consist of seven riflemen who fire three volleys of one round each. These are not 21- gun salutes. Twenty one gun salutes are fired from cannon or howitzers during funerals of presidents, ex-presidents, and presidents-elect. They are also used, but are not limited to, honoring visiting foreign dignitaries and heads of state.

It should also be noted that firing parties are not firing "squads." Firing squads are used for executions, and do not render honors or salutes.

Thank you for letting me get this off my chest. Of the numerous veterans organizations publications I receive, *The Graybeards* is by far the single most anticipated and enjoyed.

Don Barnes, Tarpon Springs FL,  
[barnzy@verizon.net](mailto:barnzy@verizon.net)

**Editor's Note:** Mr. Barnes' comments are helpful. We will be more careful of our use of the terms in future issues—lest someone suggest a firing squad for the editor.

All Chapter and/or Department news for publication in *The Graybeards* should be mailed to Art Sharp, Editor, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or emailed to: [Sharp\\_arthur\\_g@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net)

## Reunion Calendar 2008

To post your Reunion Dates, send your information to Reunion Editor, The Graybeards, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT, or by email to sharp\_arthur\_g@sbcglobal.net. The preferred format is: Unit, Date, Place, Point of Contact (POC). Provide as much POC info as possible, e.g., name, address, phone #, email address. Many of our readers do not use email, so contact information is important. Entries are posted on a "first come, first served basis" as space allows. The KWVA is not responsible for the accuracy of the entries, nor is inclusion guaranteed. Just a suggestion: do not use *The Graybeards* as the only means of publicizing your reunion. Occasionally, reunion notices cross in the mail or get misdirected, technical glitches interfere with publication, etc. Therefore, it is a wise idea to have an alternative method of publicizing your reunion.

### MARCH

**USS Cowell** (DD-547), all crews, 26-30 March, Greenville, SC. POC: L. D. Salley, 19 Auburn Street, Greenville, SC 29609-4043, (864) 268-3365, lsalley2@bellsouth.net

### APRIL

**19th and 34th Infantry**, 25-27 Apr., Pigeon Forge, TN, Holiday Inn Express. POC: Bob Taylor, 302 Thunder Road, Brevard, NC 28712-7740, (828) 884-9593, bobnjoan@citcom.net.

**USS Ault** (DD 698) 30 April - 4 May 4, Branson, MO. POC: Scott McLean, (651) 253-3068, 3279 Upper 75th St. East, Inver Grove Hgts., MN 55076, encsmclean@aol.com

### MAY

**722nd M.P. Bn.**, All, 1-3 May, Columbus, OH. POC: Bill McDonald, 10009 Mulberry Ave., Oak Lawn, IL 60453, (708) 422-3892, wlmac@comcast.net

**73rd Tank Bn. & 73rd Armor**, 1-5 May, St. Louis, MO. POC: Curtis Banker, 44 Westcott Rd., Schuyler Falls, NY 12985-1940, (518) 643-2302, dmbanker-curtis@northnet.org

**"D" Company, 223rd Inf. Regt., 40th Division** (members who served with the company during 1951 & 1952), 4-7 May, Reno, NV, Circus-Circus Hotel. POC: Keith Maggini, 2970 Spring View Ln., Placerville, CA 95667-3225, (530) 295-1257, kmaggini@hotmail.com

**USS Sole** (DD-707), 12-May 18, Plymouth, MA. POC: Eugene Blum, 6749 San Benito Way, Buena Park, CA 90620-3741, (714) 527-4925, eblum3@juno.com, or www.usssole.org.

8th Cavalry Regiment Association, 15-18 May, Branson, MO. POC: Margaret J. Sharples, 738 Aspen Rd., White Haven, PA 18661, (570) 443-0889, angel836@pa.metrocast.net (If you email, please put "REUNION" in SUBJECT LINE.)

### JUNE

**KMAG**, 27-29 June, Minneapolis, MN. POC: Joe Domagala 17705 County Road 24, Plymouth, Minnesota, 55447, iidomagala@aol.com

NOTE: We are also looking for a KMAG Officer willing to attend and give a 20-30 minute speech on Saturday to the attendees.

**728 M.P. Bn.**, 28-29 June, Oklahoma City, OK. POC: Tony Anallo, 829 N. Arnold, Moore, OK 73160, (405) 794-7906

### AUGUST

**USS Cavalier** [APA-37], 10-14 Aug., Tacoma, WA, King Oscar Motel & Conv. Ctr. [1-888-254-KING — Advise Cavalier Reunion]. POC: Ed Kimble, (775) 751-0213, Tom Wolder (417) 345-0082, or Ralph Hall, (630) 879-5909. Website: [http://www.microburmbi.net/index\\_0.html](http://www.microburmbi.net/index_0.html) (See story on page 79.)

### SEPTEMBER

**8th Cavalry Regiment/10th Infantry Division**, Basic Trainees, 5-7 Sept., Branson, MO, September 5-7, 2008. (Specifically Fort Riley Basic Training Companies HHC 1 Bn., 85th Inf., and Item Company, 8th Inf. Rgmt., Dec '53-Jan '54. Also George Company, 86th Inf Rgmt., Feb-April '54 and 8th Cav Rgmt., May '54-Nov '56, of Camp Crawford, Hokkaido and Camp Whittington, Honshu, Japan. POC: Steve Bosma, 7109 Via Portada, San

## The North Koreans Did Not Want To 'Kidd' Around



USS Kidd

In the March/April issue there was a mention of Navy stories. I feel the same way. The Navy was very active in Korea.

I served on the *USS Kidd* (DD-661), which earned four stars for Korean War tours. It was one of the 175 Fletcher class destroyers, the largest class ever built for WWII. There were 76 of them reactivated for Korea. The only three left in the world are the *Kidd*, *USS Sullivans* (DD-537), and *USS Cassin Young* (DD-793).

The *USS Kidd* was re-commissioned on March 28, 1951. The crews included around 25% WWII veterans and 75% from boot camp. I was one of the WWII men.

Fletchers could go close to shore, in only 8-10 feet of water. So, we could wait on the deck and see what we shot at and what we hit.

Wonson, an oil and industrial city, was under siege for more than two years. During Operation War Dance, the *Kidd* would slow to 10 knots in Wonson Harbor. Then, when it was fired on, it would speed up to 30 knots and fire on the disclosed enemy—with much success.

The *Kidd* joined the *USS New Jersey*. Together, we tormented the communists as we roamed north and south of the bomb line.

Part of our patrol duty was to help a Marine captain and his crew of South

Koreans on an offshore island named "Nando." From there, he would go ashore and call fire for the destroyers. Captain Coke did this for approximately two years. The North Koreans wanted him so badly they used every means possible to get to Nando. They tried swimming, floating on tree logs, going in small boats and sampans...anything they could. This caused many "Maydays" for us.

We would speed up to 35 knots and ram, shoot, stop, and/or sink the invasions. These situations were almost weekly events.

Some of my Army pals told me they could see the *New Jersey's* 16" shells go by like a shadow, and they could feel the hits from a mile away. They also said that help from the Navy's planes was welcome.

Mark Honetschlager, 2032 N 4th Street, Mankato, MN



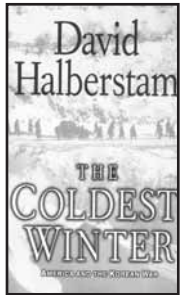
# Book Review

## The Coldest Winter: America and the Korean War.

David Halberstam

Hyperion, New York, NY, 705pp, ISBN 1-4013-0052-9, \$35.00 (\$42.00 Canada).

By Arthur G. Sharp



David Halberstam's book about the early stages of the Korean War has generated a lot of controversy, especially among veterans of the war. Critics have cited numerous factual errors, biases towards political and material leaders, and his manipulation of history. Criticisms aside, one thing can be said for sure about *The Coldest Winter*: it has certain similarities to its title. Like winter, it is far too long and tedious. Nevertheless, it is worth reading, because there are some nuggets of knowledge contained in its 705 pages. It is just that readers have to wade through too much extraneous material to find them.

Halberstam did his homework in the process of producing this book. But, he went a bit overboard in including so much of it in its pages. Readers can probably start the book on page 250 and not miss a lot. That is because Halberstam provides far too much biographical background about some of the major (and a few of the minor) players in the Korean War. Do readers really need to know the ins and outs of the relationship and the ultimate treachery between Chairman Mao and General Peng?

For example, readers probably do not need to know a lot about "Pinky" MacArthur's role in raising her son

Douglas. Nor do they need pages and pages of background on her relationship with her husband and his father, Arthur MacArthur, the fighting between the American troops and Filipino rebels in 1899, the roles of Elihu Root, William Howard Taft, Teddy Roosevelt in late 19th-and 20th-century history.... Yet, Halberstam waxes eloquent for pages and pages on such luminaries and their significance, when the book is supposed to be about Korea.

It takes Halberstam almost as long to get to the actual war as it did for some of the first troops to reach Korea from the United States in 1950. Once he gets there, though—just like for them—the action picks up.

Halberstam does a thorough job of analyzing the leadership qualities—or lack thereof, in some cases—of Generals Almond, Walton, MacArthur, and Smith and delving into the political intrigues between and among them and the politicians in Washington. He writes, for instance, about MacArthur's dislike for almost everybody and how it affected his planning for the Inchon operation:

Back in Washington the Joint Chiefs were wary, and MacArthur was very much aware of that. Technically they were his superiors, but he saw them as small-bore bureaucrats, men who had gained their power by accommodating themselves to politicians whom he despised. He knew that if he wanted success at Inchon, he had two battles on his hands and the first was with them. (p. 296)

He wrote in a similar fashion about the animosity between Generals Almond (U.S. Army, Tenth Corps Commander) and O.P. Smith (USMC, 1st Marine Division Commander):

Even before they collided over the use of the Marines in the Chosin-Yalu area, Smith loathed Almond and was completely distrustful of him. The two men already had a history, of course. Even before Inchon, Almond had postured to Smith, an expert in amphibious landings, about how easy they were, though he had never been part of one. (p. 428)

In both cases mentioned above, Halberstam discusses the differences between and among the people involved in excruciating detail, and explains how they affected operations. These are the parts of the book that are well worth reading, especially for the individual soldiers (and here I use the word in a generic sense) whose little patches of turf in Korea never gave them an overall picture of the total war. This one of the reasons reading the book is so exasperating: readers have to work at finding the parts that really describe the strategies and tactics involved in fighting the Korean War.

One of the other problems with the book is that it covers only the first few months of the war—hence the title *The Coldest Winter* (singular). He ended his coverage with the battle of Chipyongni which, he wrote, "had signaled the beginning of a new stage in the war, one that lasted two more years without granting either side any turn-of-the-tide victory (p. 624)." In the end, he wrote:

It became a war of cruel, costly battles, of few breakthroughs, and of strategies designed to inflict maximum punishment on the other side without essentially changing the battle lines. In the end, there would be no great victory for anyone, only some kind of mutually unsatisfactory compromise. (p. 624)

It might be kind of difficult to sell those ideas to the men and women who were actually there and who have bristled for so many years at the suggestion that they "died for a tie," which he noted on p. 5 "became a favorite [phrase] among the troops." Based on a statement like that, it might as hard to sell his books as it is to sell the idea that the troops "died for a tie."

## Now Hear This:

All comments concerning, or contributions for publication in *The Graybeards* should be sent to Art Sharp, Editor, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or emailed to: [sharp\\_arthur\\_g@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net)

# FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Duty calls me to enter into an aspect of the title subject that is unpleasant at best. While I personally did not encounter anything of the sort at the Reno Convention, there are folks in the National Korean War Veterans Association who apparently feel that their payment of dues entitles them to inflict verbal damage upon other members, in the form of correspondence and other misplaced venues that are abusive and outrageous to an unacceptable extreme. I first encountered this when helping the Resolutions Committee, when its Chairman asked me to review ten 'resolutions' that had been submitted to him.

In the strictest sense, none of the submittals to the Resolutions Committee qualified for acceptance, since they were not prepared in accordance with the Standard Procedure manual in either content or form. It did appear that seven (7) could be presented to the Board of Directors with recommendations for at least conditional acceptance. That left three (3) that would have to be rejected not only for non-compliance to format, but also for using the resolution process instead of submitting their complaints to the Ethics & Grievance Committee. Moreover, not only were they presented with no supporting evidence for any of the accusations, but that they came dressed, no, cloaked in a tone and an attitude of anger and disrespect. It was trash talk at its worst, because it came from KWVA Officers as an indictment against another elected and sworn officer of the organization.

In another case, a KWVA state department officer sent a 16-page letter to the Board of Directors. Its content was an indictment of a previous disciplinary action taken by the Board. His letter contained no evidence to support his complaint; and although he had been advised by the KWVA Attorney and the Judge Advocate of the correctness of the Board's conduct and performance, he persisted. Reading the letter, which contained a scolding lecture on the proper use of Roberts Rules of Order, one could only wonder if he was a proxy for others, since he was not present at the disciplinary hearing concerned.

I must add that he wasn't very familiar with Roberts Rules of Order. Had he informed himself correctly, he would have had no cause for his complaint. Again, even done properly it would have to be submitted to the Ethics & Grievance Committee.

Such behavior is not for the 'Good of the Order,' an organizational state of which Father Stegman spoke so simply, so elegantly, and with such purity of purpose at the Reno Convention. Doing some research through the KWVA website, to better inform myself of recent and past history, I came upon a very timely source, a 'President's Update,' dated June 13, 2005, that explains what 'good of the order' means. Here is the link: [http://www.kwva.org/update/archives/i\\_update\\_050613\\_faircloth\\_good\\_of\\_order.htm](http://www.kwva.org/update/archives/i_update_050613_faircloth_good_of_order.htm)

It is a common sense presentation on the issue of which I speak, written with such clarity that I can add very little to what Jimmy Faircloth, our General Counsel, gives you there, except for this: Each member of the KWVA, in application for membership, agrees to support the organization's 'rules of order,' which in our case consists of our Bylaws and the Standard Procedure Manual (SPM) that implements said Bylaws. We are thus duty bound to that obligation, each and every one of us.

**It is my opinion that those who engage in unnecessary attacks on their fellow members are not meeting their obligation to the fraternal order to which they gave their word, and in some cases their sworn oath to uphold, protect and preserve**

Please read Attorney Faircloth's wise counsel. More than two years after it was available to us all, it is still timely. It explains the organizational illness with which we are infected, and offers reasonable recommendations as to a corrective medicinal course to its cure. Right here, right now, this essay is my small attempt at a start on that path.

In the case of an officer, there is a higher duty to the organization. Each officer, upon assumption of office, must swear an oath, as follows:

"I, do solemnly swear to uphold the constitution of the United States of America, the Bylaws and Procedures in the Standard Procedure Manual of the National Korean War Veterans Association, and I further promise that I will administer the duties of the office that I am about to assume to the best of my ability. Upon completion of my term of office, I further promise that I will turn over all records, equipment and monies that I have in my possession to my successor, So help me God!"

It is my opinion that those who engage in unnecessary attacks on their fellow members are not meeting their obligation to the fraternal order to which they gave their word, and in some cases their sworn oath to uphold, protect and preserve.

A person can well be defined by the manner with which they perform to their obligations; in fact you ARE your obligations. To those of you who indulge your self-centered, willful ways in anger, and who do not give respect to the order to which we all belong: You know who you are, and so do those who observe and suffer from your actions. Be assured that had you behaved this way in the outfit in which you served, the probability of a court-martial or severe sanction would be high. Fortunately for the many, there are only but a few of you. That does not lessen the threat to the order that you represent, which is that your attack, unlike those who choose to do it from without the order, is from within, and from what should be a trusted position. From what I heard at the Convention, patience of the many towards your behavior has worn very thin. Their attitude is simple: enough, already.

Not one person in our order has the time to waste on such self-destructive behavior, especially those who wish to serve and preserve. You know the drill, gentlemen: 'Lead, follow, or get out of the way.'

At the Reno Convention, Father Len Stegman reminded us all of his daily commitment, "Here I am O Lord; I want to do Your Will. What would You have me do today?" That's good enough for this Airman.



Although I joined this outfit in 1996, except for paying my dues, I confess to contributing little. This year I helped bring a Department into existence, and assisted Messrs. Dauster and Mac Swain in their duties. I pledge right here, right now, to do more, to help where I can with my small talents and skills. As I promised at the Convention, I consider it my duty to call, fax and email my United States Congressperson and both my U.S. Senators to give us our federal charter. I hope every veteran who reads this will do the same, and do it today. We should all be persistent in our focus towards that goal: to get our charter.

As Father Stegman pointed out, "We can't fix yesterday, tomorrow is not yet here, only today is ours to use." How we do that is our choice. I choose duty.

"Duty, honor, country": a common call to us all that truly goes way, way back. Without duty, duly performed, there is no honor. Without honor given to the order, there is no country. That applies not only to the service in which you served, it is a standard

just as meaningful to the fraternal order named the National Korean War Veterans Association. May God bless us, each and every one, and yes, America, too!

Respectfully and fraternally to all,

George E. Lawhon R018750  
California Chapter 6, Santa Clara County  
Secretary, KWVA California State Department,  
[www.dcakwva.org](http://www.dcakwva.org), [george@lawhon.org](mailto:george@lawhon.org)

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## DATABASE from page 9

know" information! *The Graybeards*, though an excellent and important resource, can only provide so much and, at best, only on a periodic basis of every two months.

A portion of this Management Information System is available to KWVA members and the public at large who have access to the Worldwide Internet System. There you are able to view information concerning title, name, address, phone number, mailing address and email address of KWVA National Staff, Department Presidents and Chapter Presidents. You can also locate where, when, and what time the chapters meet. This information is updated daily by the Webmaster, Supervisor of Membership Records Management, and the Membership Recording Secretary.

The information can be found on the KWVA homepage by clicking on these two links, "Directory of Officials" and "List of Depts/Chapts," which are found in the center of the dark blue bar just under the flag. In order to keep this information up to date, it is necessary that Department and Chapter Staff report the date of their last election and the officers' names and titles as provided for in the KWVA Bylaws and Standard Procedure Manual. Presently, that information is to be sent to: "Supervisor, Management System," preferably by email, to the address listed below and in *The Graybeards* and on the KWVA Website.

Individual KWVA Members are able to view their membership status with KWVA by entering their KWVA member number in the appropriate space after clicking on the link in the upper-center portion of the homepage titled, "Check Your National KWVA Membership Status Online:"

Here are some interesting statistics. It is obtainable on a daily basis as needed by Board Members and those staff with a higher level of authorized access.

As of 11/20/07:

[1] There are 16 active departments and 231 active chapters. Of the 247 active departments and chapters, 228 have email address contact, 239 have presidents who are members of KWVA and dues are current, 179 have reported their current election information.

[2] 143 of the 247 active departments and chapters are in "good standing," which qualifies them to be issued passwords that allows them to access their membership records in the data base and print their own rosters. Chapter Presidents or their designated staff, without email contact, may receive a current copy of their chapter membership upon request by mail or phone.

[3] There are 16,739 KWVA voting members, of whom 9,842 are reported as being assigned to chapters. There are 420 associate members and 294 of these are in chapters. Included in the 16,739 KWVA members, 7,220 are Lifetime Members, 358 are Ex-POWs, 14 are Medal of Honor recipients, and 43 are Gold Star Members.

[4] Approximately 1,100 annual members have not renewed their membership for the current year. When Departments and Chapters were issued their charter, it was required that the members and officers be KWVA members in "Good Standing" [dues are current]. Sadly, that requirement has not been maintained over the years for a number of the departments and chapters.

There are an undetermined number of chapter officers, including some chapter presidents, who are not current in their membership dues. This does not set a good example for the chapter members, and violates the intent of the KWVA Bylaws. I would urge the officers to honor their commitment to the organization and act accordingly!

Though some of the statistics above don't look positive, this has been a year of steady improvement. With your support, I believe that we can accomplish the goals listed below.

Desirable goals the coming year are to:

- 1) have 100% of the Department and Chapter Presidents current in their dues
- 2) reduce the number of membership non-renewals to less than 500
- 3) decrease the number of Departments and Chapters without email communication
- 4) have close to 100% reporting of Department and Chapter Elections and Meeting Information on a timely basis
- 5) have every Department and Chapter that has email communication capable of accessing and printing their membership rosters directly from the password-protected section of the web site.

I have enjoyed talking and working with many of you over the past 3-1/2 years. We have made much progress, contrary to what some of you may have heard via the "grapevine." Keep positive, stay the course and do what you know to be the best for our organization!

Yours for a better KWVA,

Jake Feaster, Ass't Secretary  
KWVA Supervisor  
Management Information System  
22731 N Hwy 329, Micanopy, FL 32667  
[JFeaster@kwva.org](mailto:JFeaster@kwva.org) Ph: 352-466-



# Last Call

All of us in the Korean War Veterans Association extend our sincere sympathy to the families and friends of those listed below. May they rest in peace.

## Arkansas

TROY MARVIN KING 115 WOODSDALE CT MTN HOME AR 72653

## Arizona

JOSEPH H. FRIERDICH 444 S HIGLEY RD #322 MESA AZ 85206-2192

## California

ALFONSO MARTINEZ 120 WAKEFORD AVE SANTA PAULA CA 93060  
SCOTT L. KING JR. 9981 WALDGROVE PL SAN DIEGO CA 92131-1832  
KENNETH M. KINNEY 200 N 5TH AVE KINGSBURG CA 93631-9000

## Colorado

THOMAS. RICHARDSON 7280 MEDICINE BOW FOUNTAIN CO 80817  
MARVIN R. JOHNSON 15545 ARCHER TER ELBERT CO 80106-8844

## Florida

NICHOLAS R. CRETA 6960 20TH AVE N ST PBURG FL 33710-4722  
KENNETH HEISNER JR. 5203 FISHER ST ZEPHYRHILLS FL 33541-7901  
SANFORD W. THATCHER 234 PEACOCK ST FORT PIERCE FL 34982-6314  
JOHN A. REARDON 2515 RAINTREE LK CIR MERRITT IS FL 32953-2905  
THEODORE WILLIAMS 2390 DUNDEE CT E ORANGE PARK FL 32065  
RAYMOND TIENTER 5555 WANDERING TRL JACKSONVILLE FL 32219

## Hawaii

SIMANU AFOA JR. 91-597 AIKANAKA PL EWA BEACH HI 96706  
EUGENE G. MIURA 45-610 HEUPUEO PL KANEOHE HI 96744-1811  
PAUL J. TANAKA 95-372 WAIJA LOOP MILILANI HI 96789-1326

## Idaho

GEORGE W. GOODWIN PO BOX 6703 KETCHUM ID 83340-6703

## Illinois

WILLIAM L. ZEHR BOX 156 HENNING IL 61848-0156  
JAMES O. SPINDLER 1042 STATE ST OTTAWA IL 61350-4462  
ARCHIE EDWARDS 520 S ELM ST ARCOLA IL 61910-2048  
JAMES E. OGLESBY 3540 E ORCHARD ST DECATUR IL 62521-1639  
HENRY F. STEINKAMP 3209 FIELDS CT DECATUR IL 62521  
COY F. BAKER 302 MCNAIR AVE MADISON IL 62060

## Kentucky

PAUL D. ROSS 3425 KEITHSHIRE WAY LEXINGTON KY 40503  
WILLARD E. POWELL 385 CAT CREEK RD STANTON KY 40380-9665

## Massachusetts

GEORGE A. BRATIANU 215 NORTHAMPTON RD AMHERST MA 01002  
RICHARD J. DESELLIER 153 DRAPER ST SPRINGFIELD MA 01108-2910  
EDWIN M. PAJAK 88 ELLERTON ST CHICOPPEE MA 01020-1841  
FRANK H. CAREY JR. PO BOX 295 LEICESTER MA 01524-0295

## Maine

LEWIS A. FYE ME

## Michigan

JOHN C. ROWEN 14650 ENZIAN PLAINWELL MI 49080-9095

## Missouri

WENDELL E. PRATHER 18 BRIARWICK TRL DR SAINT PETERS MO 63376  
FRED AYERS MO  
EDWARD SMITH 2227 N GRACE AVE SPRINGFIELD MO 65803-2137

## New Jersey

JOHN F. WATSON SR. 7474 COLLINS AVE PENNSAUKEN NJ 08109-3108  
RICHARD W. BURKE 5709 BLOYE RD FRANKLINVILLE NY 14737-9523

## New York

SAM C. PRINCIPE 1946 W 6TH ST BROOKLYN NY 11223  
THOMAS M. MARTIN 113 STONEY DR SYRACUSE NY 13219  
NORMAN E. FLAUM 162 W GENESEE ST #8 CHITTENANGO NY 13037-1523  
GLEN D. HAMMON 580 N CREEK RD GREENFIELD CTR NY 12833-1106  
ALFRED F. DEMIZIO 129 SAND CREEK RD ALBANY NY 12205-1870

CHARLES POST 468 KISSEL AVE STATEN ISLAND NY 10301  
LARRY DACHILLE 447 HUMPHREY RD SCOTTSVILLE NY 14546-9604  
FRANK BIFULCO 431 MEDINA ST STATEN ISLAND NY 10306  
RICHARD A CORBEIL NY  
PHILIP R. MELVILLE 24 EDGEWOOD DR SAUGERTIES NY 12477

## Ohio

JESSE L. PELPHREY 950 BURGANDY DR MARION OH 43302  
KENNETH G. BEITZEL 1002 E 3RD ST DOVER OH 44622-1224  
MAURICE L. KIRKMAN 5823 JACKSONTOWN RD NEWARK OH 43056-9391  
JOEL VARGO 10550 JERUSALEM RD CURTICE OH 43412-9418  
JAMES W. ZOLLER 28575 WESTLAKE VILL DR WESTLAKE OH 44145-6756  
RICHARD A. RILEY PO BOX 972 MARION OH 43301  
LAWRENCE P. MILLER 151 CHRISTY DR CAYAHOGA FALLS OH 44224

## Pennsylvania

WALTER A. GRITSavage 265 E CHURCH ST NANTICOKE PA 18634-2408  
LEO E. KIBBLE 273 E VALLEY RD SMETHPORT PA 16749  
HAROLD N. SCHMIDT 3525 RESERVOIR RD HELLERTOWN PA 18055-2006  
LEO L. LARSON PA  
JAMES FREY 3315 STAGECOACH RD W PALMERTON PA 18071-4025

## South Carolina

GEORGE J. PAPIAK 127 WILLOW POINT RD BEAUFORT SC 29906-6783  
PARKS GARMON 990 HWY 161 N CLOVER SC 29710-8499  
BERNARD N. RUSS 22 SANDFIDDLER DR PAWLEYS IS SC 29585-7689

## South Dakota

ROBERT E. TEGLAND 220 W DAKOTA AVE #114 PIERRE SD 57501-2414

## Tennessee

JAMES E. BURDETTE 610 N GRAYCROFT AVE MADISON TN 37115  
ROBERT E. JONES TN

## Texas

MILES C. LAY 3649 BRANDY RD CADDO TX 76429-2716  
CLIFFORD P. RICHARD 242 WOODCREST DR RICHARDSON TX 75080  
C R. 'TEX' RACKLEY 16421 TIMBERWOOD LINDALE TX 75771-4820

## Virginia

TURNER S. NELMS 2154 TOWER HILL RD POWHATAN VA 23139-6007  
BOYED H. BURNLEY 203 LEMON DR LYNCHBURG VA 24501-3127  
RUSSELL C. LOFTIS 3107 HEY RD RICHMOND VA 23224  
EDWARD AQUILIO 11110 SPG MEADOW BLVD FREDERICKSBURG VA 22407-2516  
ROBERT L. TOMKINSON HC 73, BOX 950 LOCUST GROVE VA 22508-9539  
WARREN L. STORY HC 75, BOX 604 LOCUST GROVE VA 22508-9525  
EDWARD F. MCMANUS 8703 CURTIS AVE ALEXANDRIA VA 22309-2003

## Vermont

OSCAR G. LAMOTHE 21 PLATT ST WINOOSKI VT 05404

## Wisconsin

WALTER E. HELM W637 US HWY 10 CHILI WI 54420-8883  
WILLIAM J. HUCEK 1025 HOLZER ST GREEN BAY WI 54303-3872

## West Virginia

ARTHUR C. GOTTSALL 2246 NELSEN CT MILTON WV 25541-1027

## Dues Increase Coming For Associate Members

Membership Dues for Associate members will increase as approved by the Board of Directors at their meeting on July 25, 2007 and as approved by the General Membership on October 25, 2007.

The dues for Associate Members for 2008 will be \$16.00.



# Thanks!

As we have noted in past issues, there is no shortage of thanks extended from Koreans to the veterans who fought for theirs and their own and their predecessors' freedom over fifty years ago. Here are more results.

## Members OF CID 281– Rolla [MO] Guests of Pulaski County Korean Association

Chapter members were invited recently as guests of honor to dine with and to be entertained by the Pulaski County Korean Association in St. Robert, MO. The event was held Saturday, Sept. 29, 2007 during the traditional Korean Thanksgiving celebration known as "Chuseok." St. Robert, which borders on Fort Leonard Wood, has a sizable Korean Community, most of whom are Korean women married to American soldiers.

During the program, Col. John Megnia, Fort Leonard Wood garrison commander, thanked both American military veterans and Republic of Korea forces for their services. The Koreans then presented a certificate of appreciation and a 50th Korean War Anniversary medallion to Korean War veterans.

Koreans young and old, including drummers, dancers and singers, provided excellent entertainment.

Roger Lueckenhoff, 208 Steeplechase Road, Rolla, MO 65401-3784, (573) 364-4145, lueck@fidnet.com



The Korean MC at the St. Robert "Chuseok" event



The Mother's Choir performs at St. Robert



Korean hostess welcomes CID 281 President Les Burris to the "Chuseok" celebration



CID 281 member Harrison Meaux Jr. displays the 50th Korean War Anniversary Medallion presented to him.



The Children's Choir entertains CID 281 members



CID 281 members leave the stage after receiving their medallions



CID 281 members enjoy a "cool" "Fan Dance" at their "Chuseok" ceremony



# Recon Missions

## George F. Balfour

I was given the attached photo of George F. Balfour from a member in Reno while out there for the convention. George was a POW; he died while he was a prisoner on March 26, 1951. However, his remains were not recovered, and how he died remains a mystery. His father, John Balfour, is trying to find out.

I have done quite a lot of research at the Battalion and Division level, as well as various search sites, to include the one on Korean War Casualty information. I have not been able to find anything. George is not even on the casualty list. So, I thought I might give it one more try and put his photo and other information in The Graybeards and ask if anyone has any information about him: most importantly, how he died.

If, by a long shot, someone does recognize George, please contact me.

Frank Cohee, 4037 Chelsea Lane, Lakeland, FL 33809-4063, (863) 859-1384, FCohee@kwva.org



George Barbour

## Eugene Brown

I am trying to help my father-in-law/KWVA member Winfred Clark locate a buddy from his unit in Korea. His name is Eugene Brown. They were in the 17th Infantry, 2nd Battalion, possibly 2nd Div.

Mr. Clark's address is 7007 Fairpines Road, Chesterfield, VA 23832. His phone number is (804) 271-0768. Or, you can contact me.

Thank you for any help!!

Mrs. Pamela L. Dolen, 4316 Three Bridge Road  
Powhatan, VA 23139, (804) 598 1012  
pamdolen4316@peoplepc.com

## Billy Jean Bruce

I am trying to find information on my dad's time sent in the Korean War so that I may pay tribute to him while he is still alive. This is the information I have: Name: Billy Gene Bruce, residence at time: 606 Sparks Ave. Boaz, Alabama, Marshall County. He was in 45th Division, 180th Regiment, 2nd Battalion, Company G; 2nd Platoon, Weapons Squad Leader.

He was processed at Columbia, South Carolina, and completed basic training at Camp Polk, Louisiana. Then, he shipped out to Hokkaido, Japan for advanced training. The town was Schistous. After that, he shipped out to Korea, and he returned to Fort Rucker, Alabama. He was discharged after 6 months on a hardship.

Any help filling in the blanks would be greatly appreciated.

Rhonda Bruce, 142 Horse Range Place  
Cleveland, GA 30528, (706) 865-7159  
rackonmisty@windstream.net

## Jinsley/Finsley?

I have been member of the KWVA since 2001. I am a Belgian Korean War veteran. I fought in Chat-Kol '52 and '53' Belgian Bon, Third U.S. Infantry Div. 7th Regt.

I found here in Belgium the jacket of one American Korean War veteran. It is a fancy jacket (maybe Japanese made). Maybe you can help me find its owner.

The name on the jacket is Mr. Jinsley or Finsley. It reads 520th Maintenance. On the back is written Hephzibah GA, and there is one great American eagle on it.

Now, I say thanks and God Bless America to all the brave American soldiers who serve in the world for the peace!

Sincerely yours,

Claude Billiet, 44, rue du Doyard  
4990 Lierneux  
Belgium

## Ed Shaver (Son)

Art Snyder is trying to locate the son of a former buddy, Ed Shaver. He and Shaver were together for 5 1/2 years as pilots in both Korea and Vietnam. They last got together in 1962.

"He is dead now," Snyder revealed. "I know he became a doctor after his service days ended, and I believe he practiced medicine in Texas and Florida. I know he has a son, and I would like to find him."

Snyder said that the two men had piloted a variety of planes, including B-26s, B-29s, and B-57 Canberras. They also served as flight instructors.

"We spent a lot of time together and shared some harrowing experiences," Snyder said. "I would like to talk with his son to learn more about his father's life after our flying days, and to get some closure for myself."

If anyone knows where Snyder can find the young Shaver, please get in touch with him at 429 Manor Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016-2063, (908) 272-5700.

## Robert Simon

I am looking for Bob Simon. He was from Bakersfield CA. and served in Korea around 1957-1959. Bob was born in 1936, was of short-stature, and blue-eyed. His father was Jewish, his mother Italian.

Bob drove a Yellow Cab in Santa Monica in 1960. He dated a girl called Isabel, who worked for a family in the San Fernando Valley, called Richland

If anyone has any news on Bob/Robert Simon, would you please pass on the message?

With best wishes, and thanks,

Heather Savage, 10/3 Woodcourt Street, Marrickville,  
NSW 2204, Australia,  
h.savage@bigpond.net.au



## Clarence Harold Thompson

I am looking for anyone who served with my uncle, Pfc. Clarence Harold Thompson (known as Harold), who served in Co. E., 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. Uncle Harold was Killed in Action on September 5, 1950 at the "Walled City of Kasan" Hill 902, just north of Taegeu. He was originally listed as Missing in Action on Sept. 5th, but later was declared Killed in Action after the hill was retaken on Sept. 25.



Clarence Harold Thompson

Uncle Harold graduated from basic training at Ft. Knox, Ky in March 1950. He was then sent to Camp Stoneman, CA and then to Okinawa. I believe he was one of 400 fresh recruits sent from the states to Okinawa in mid-June 1950. He was assigned to Co. E, 29th Infantry Regiment on Okinawa prior to being sent to Korea in late July 1950.

Uncle Harold stated in one of his letters that there was a boy from Stanford, Ky with him, and that one of his sergeants was from Louisville, Ky, but he did not name them. Reference the book: South to the Naktong - Applemen. Co. E, 8th Cavalry was with Co. D, 8th Engineers at the "Walled City of Kasan." They were overrun and driven from the hill. Co. E, was commanded by Capt. William McClain. Many of these men were later killed or captured at Unsan in November 1950.

I am seeking anyone who served with my uncle in Korea or on Okinawa. I would love to contact former soldiers of Co E, 8th Cavalry Regiment who fought with my uncle or who were there with him in this battle. Any information or photos would be greatly appreciated.

I am also looking for company rosters of Co. E, 8th Cavalry Regiment and Co. E, 29th Infantry Regiment for the months of July/Sept 1950. Also would like to contact Mr. Robert W. Stephen and family, last known address 44 NE 86th Ave, Portland, OR 97220.

Last, but certainly not least, thank you Mr. Sharp and the fine staff of *The Graybeards*. It is the finest veterans magazine I have ever read. Everything that can be done to keep these men's memories alive must be done. They are all truly Heroes. God Bless Them All.

Mr. George A. Thompson Jr., 904 Pine Street  
Crab Orchard, KY 40419, (606) 355-7002  
gthompsonjr2003@yahoo.com

## Hospital Corpsman Williams

I am a former South Korean soldier who was assigned to the 8240th Army Unit, United Nations Partisan Forces, Korea. I was wounded while attacking an enemy position near Haeju, North Korea on April 12, 1953.

I was evacuated to the 171st Army Hospital at Taecheon, South Korea, where I was attended to by a hospital corpsman named Williams.

I would like help locating Mr. Williams, to whom I owe many thanks and much gratitude. I do not have his full name, but I have enclosed a photo to aid in my search.

Hong, Chol, Ilsin-Samik Apartment, #198 Tanhyun-dong,  
Ilsan Seo-ku, Koyang City, Kyonggi Province, Korea PO#  
411-320

## People who served with Daniel "Lippy" Lipschulz

The Palm Beach County, Florida Veterans Service Division is attempting to locate former Air Force members who served with the 1604th Maintenance & Supply Squadron, Bermuda Base Command, during the period 1950-1952. In particular, we would like to locate persons who may have served with Daniel Lipschulz, also called "Lippy."

Please contact Marvin Krantz, Assistant Veterans Service Officer, Veterans Service Office, 810 Datura Street, West Palm Beach, FL 33401, (561) 355-4761.

## John Hoover

On November 11, 2007 there was a memorial monument dedication for Lt. Baldomero Lopez, MOH, in the Tampa, FL area. Some Koreans, who are citizens of our country, donated money for the monument. One of those who made a donation was a Phil K. Lee, a South Korean.

For every donation we received, we mailed a thank you letter to the party making the donations, one of whom is Mr. Lee. We received a letter of appreciation from him, and a notice that he planned to drive from Daytona Beach to our celebration.

He asked us for help in locating a Lt. John Hoover, who was in the 24th Infantry Division, 24th Signal Company. Lt. Hoover took Mr. Lee in at the age of 16, as he and his parents became separated. He wants to thank Lt. Hoover for caring for him and teaching him to speak English. He further adds Lt Hoover saved his life and gave him opportunities.

Does anyone remember Lt. Hoover, or have any information about him? If so, please email me at [kwvalopez@verizon.net](mailto:kwvalopez@verizon.net).

Thanks, Clarence Clifton, Secretary, Chapter 175

Please advise.

Thank you kindly



Hong, Chol (C) and  
Corpsman Williams  
(R). Man at left is  
unidentified

# Korean War Veterans' Mini-Reunions (Continued from page 55)

## Company L, 45th Inf. Div., 279th Inf., 3d Bn

Company held its 2007 reunion October 1-4, 2007, in Laughlin, NV, at the Riverside Hotel, along with the Korean War Veterans reunion hosted by Dick Gallmeyer. We had 18 attendees: Richard Bendon, Gene Dennis, Paul & Sue Elkins, Lawrence & Glenda Gilbo, Charles Hicks & Britta Coons, Frank & Rita Price plus daughter & son-in-law, Norbert & Donna Robben, and Gerald & Carol Williams plus daughter. The number included 8 former members of L Co.

The first day (Monday) was check-in. Later in the day we watched an exciting performance by a Korean Dance Company. We started Tuesday with a welcome breakfast and a talk by Harley Coon about Korean War POWs. Harley was taken prisoner while serving with the 2nd Infantry Division (ID) on November 30th, 1950. He gave a good speech in which he described the bad treatment they suffered at the hands of the NKPA.

That afternoon some of us attended a talk given by Joe Langone, a member of Task Force Smith. He was in Company B, 21st Infantry, 24th ID. They were the first men committed to combat. They were notified at 10 p.m. on June 30, 1950 to report to the local airbase by 8 a.m. July 1, 1950.

As Langone explained, the unit size was limited by the lack of available air transport. It consisted of 377 infantry and 137 artillery men. It was a desperate gamble and did buy some time, they held out for the better part of one day and then fell back (for

two days) to the next unit that had just arrived, also from the 24th ID.

Joe stated that, in spite of the belief to the contrary, they were well trained. He also stated he was attacked 21 times by air-power; once by Australians, once by the North Koreans and 19 times by US air. The 24th ID continued to bear the brunt of the battle up to July 20, 1950. In order to hold Taejon, General Dean was in the street helping knock out North Korean tanks. In the withdrawal, he took a wrong turn at night and was captured some 36 days later.

The 24th ID's defense of Taejon allowed General Walker time to get two more divisions in country. The 24th was badly battered, but still had to help with the defense of the Pusan Perimeter; these were desperate times.

Wednesday was open time until the social hour at 6 p.m., followed by a sit-down dinner at 7 p.m. and a dance till 11:30 p.m. This reunion had a large number of attendees from all branches of service and all units. I talked to one man who had been a member of Task Force Kingston. He was in M-Company, 32nd Infantry, the second and last unit to reach the Yalu River. Both were from the 7th ID.

Paul Elkins, 671 44th St., Los Alamos, NM 87544, (505) 662-4634, [pselks45id@yahoo.com](mailto:pselks45id@yahoo.com)



Co. L members in Laughlin (Back, L-R) Frank Price, Charles Hicks, Lawrence Gilbo, Gene Dennis, Gerald Williams (Front L-R) Paul Elkins, Richard Bendon



Donna and Norbert Robben at the Co L reunion in Laughlin



The "Ladies of Co. L" (L-R) Bretta Coons, Rita's daughter, Rita Price, Glenda Gilbo, Carol Williams and Sue Elkins



## 38th Ordnance Co. Association



38th Ordnance Co. Association members at Dayton reunion

Members of the 38th Ordnance Association assembled at the Holiday Inn North in Dayton, OH for three days recently. A highlight of their get-together was a visit to the Air Corps Museum.

The Association's next reunion will be in Fort Wayne, IN in 2009.

Bill Smith, 3938  
Oakhurst Drive  
Fort Wayne, IN 46815  
(260) 485-6369  
oakhurst468@verizon.net



### FEATURED TOUR: "DEVIL DOGS"

THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARINES IN WWI  
MAY 17-26, 2008

TOUR HOST: GENERAL "MIKE" HAGEE, USMC

33RD COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

JOIN US AS WE RETRACE THE BATTLES OF THE LEGENDARY FOURTH MARINE BRIGADE, FROM TRAINING AT VERDUN, THROUGH THE WHEAT FIELDS AT BELLEAU & SOISSONS, TO ST. MIHEL, THE BUTCHERY OF BLANC MONT & THE FINAL COMBATS IN THE ARGONNE FOREST ENDING IN THE CLIMATIC NIGHT CROSSING OF THE MEUSE RIVER. THREE NIGHTS IN PARIS, THE "CITY OF LIGHTS", ARE INCLUDED PROVIDE A FITTING CONCLUSION AS WE CRUISE DOWN THE RIVER SEINE FOR DINNER AND DANCING. SPECIAL ATTENDANCE AT THE OFFICIAL



MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONIES  
AT BELLEAU WOOD &  
AISNE-MARNE CEMETERY.

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Poland~ ~Battle of the Bulge ~ Midway  
~Hue ~ Khe Sanh ~ China ~ Holland~  
~Guadalcanal ~ Ireland ~ Okinawa~  
~Tarawa ~ England~

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## APPLICATION FOR KVA SEOUL REVISIT TOUR

*KVA (Seoul) Revisit Purpose: "To express the gratitude of the Korean Government towards Korean War Veterans who took part in the Korean War from June 25, 1950 to October 15, 1954."*

### Veteran's Personal History (Please type or print)

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

KWVA Members# \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Companion Name/Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Veteran's Passport# \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Companion's Passport# \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

*NOTE: If you do not have a current valid passport or have just applied to KVA, write "applied for" on # line*

### Veteran's Military Biography

Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_ Service Number \_\_\_\_\_

Period of Service in Korean War (month/year) from \_\_\_\_\_ thru \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Assignment \_\_\_\_\_ Location of Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Rank Achieved in Korea \_\_\_\_\_ Highest Rank Achieved while in Service \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Military Decorations for Valor \_\_\_\_\_

### Veterans' Certification

I hereby certify that I have never previously accepted a KVA (Seoul) Revisit tour and that I am a member in good standing (or have applied) with the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA).

Veteran's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Complete and mail this form along with a \$300 deposit per person (check, money order or Visa/MasterCard only) to Military Historical Tours. Payment in full is required for all applications submitted sixty days or less prior to departure.

### Credit Card Authorization

I, \_\_\_\_\_ hereby authorize Military Historical Tours to make charges to my \_\_\_\_\_

credit card, Account#: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

in consideration for airline tickets and any other travel or transportation services or products as requested by me or authorized users of this credit card. Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail To:

**KWVA Revisit Korea Program**

Phone: 703-212-0695

**c/o MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS**

Fax: 703-212-8567

**4600 Duke Street, Suite 420**

E-mail: mht@miltours.com

**Alexandria, VA 22304-2517**

www.miltours.com

### Background

The Korea Revisit program was begun by the Korean Veterans Association (KVA/Seoul) in 1975, the 25th anniversary year of the outbreak of the Korean War, to express their gratitude to veterans of the War and to show them the bountiful results of their sacrifices and devotion.

### KVA's Eligibility Requirements

**You are eligible if you are:**

1. A veteran of the Korean War and /or a war correspondent of any of the 21 nations which came to assistance of the Republic of Korea between 25 June 1950 and 15 October 1954.

2. An immediate family member of one who was killed in action in the Korean War.

*Note: You are permitted to take a spouse or one immediate descendent with you to Korea. The family member must be lodged in the same hotel room with you in Korea.*

### Privileges Accorded Veterans by the KVA, Seoul

1. Hotel accommodations (two persons per room), meals, tours, and transportation, while in Korea for six days and five nights.

2. Tours of Seoul and vicinity. The visits are to Panmunjom, North Korean Invasion Tunnels, Korea War Memorial Monument, National Cemetery, National Museum, Korean Folk Village, Korean War Museum,



plus other cultural/industrial facilities and activities in the Seoul area. Other tours of battle sites and/or Incheon may be made through the local tour guide.

3. A special reception and dinner hosted by the President of the Korean Veterans Association (KVA) during which the Korea War Medal and Certificate of Ambassador for Peace will be awarded to each veteran who has not received it before.

## Sundry Notes

1. The KVA Revisit Program privileges are provided for scheduled groups only.

2. Participants are required to have a valid passport: a visa is not required for visits of 15 days or fewer in Korea.

3. KVA/Seoul is not responsible for any loss of, or damage to, personal or other items, medical expenses, injuries, or loss of like due to any accident of whatever nature during the revisits. Trip cancellation insurance is available and highly recommended.

4. Transportation costs to and from Korea will be borne by each person who participates in the program.

5. Applications will be received/accepted on a "first-come, first-served" basis.

**Note:** If you have previously accepted an official KVA/Seoul Revisit tour from any sponsoring association or group, you are NOT eligible to participate again. The reason is that so many veterans have not gone before so they get the "first right of return."

Because former Revisit Program participants have their name in the KVA/Seoul's computer database, please do not try to beat the system. If your name is rejected because of prior participation, all of us will be embarrassed and an eligible Korea War veteran might miss the opportunity to participate.

6. If you want to use your frequent flier miles or other "free" transportation, you will be charged an administrative service fee of \$300 per person.

**Caution:** Not traveling with KWVA group air contract can result in much higher post-tour costs to China and other Pacific location.

**Note:** Should you desire to have a single room or take additional family or friends with you, this can be arranged for an additional cost. Any such requests must be made in writing.

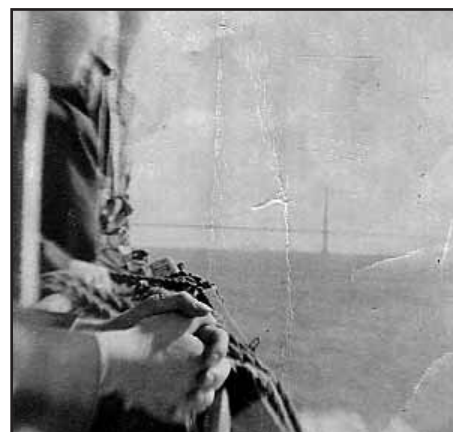
# The Hands Say It All

This is a scene witnessed by thousands of Korean War Vets who returned by ship. I am sorry that the photo has faded but I wanted readers to see it anyway. I've never had it published.

After 12 days and 1 typhoon on the Pacific, a Marine gazes through the mist as the grand Golden Gate Bridge rises on the horizon. We were on the troop ship U.S.N.S. General Weigle. We arrived in San Francisco March 8, 1952, with over 2100 troops aboard.

The Marine may be saying a prayer of thanks, because he was one who lived to see our homeland again when many had not.

After seventeen months in Korea, I was returning from my Air Force assignment with radar and radio AC&W moun-



The hands say it all

tain sites in early March 1952. Was my heart happy to see this sight after looking at water and fish for almost two weeks!

*John M. Quinn, via email*

## Navy News

# The USS Cavalier

The *USS Cavalier* was the first Navy ship sent to Korea. Initially, it was in Pusan during July 1950. As a matter of fact, *Life Magazine* showed pictures of the *Cavalier* in its July 30, 1950 issue.

This ship was on active duty from 1944 to 1968. Its most famous shipmate was the movie actor Cesar Romero (USCG).



## Death Notice of a Member of KWVA

The following notice is submitted for publication:

Name of deceased \_\_\_\_\_

Date of death \_\_\_\_\_

Department/Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Army ☐ Navy ☐ Marine Corps ☐ Air Force ☐ Coast Guard

Other \_\_\_\_\_  
Primary Unit of service during Korean War

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to deceased \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Membership, P.O. Box 22857, Alexandria, VA 22304-9285



## Chow Time!

Hq Company gets chow at the 'Kumsong Dining Room' during a snow flurry,  
March, 1952, Kumsong Korea

Photo Courtesy of William S. Bakalyan, RR #2, Box 429, Gillett, PA 16925

**Korean War Veterans Association  
Membership Executive Assistant  
PO Box 22857  
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