KWVA National Furnished Websites For Departments And Chapters

In the 2008 March-April Issue of The Graybeards, on Pages 22-23, the idea of Chapter and Department websites, furnished by KWVA, Inc., was proposed to the KWVA Membership. The proposal was then placed before the KWVA Board of Directors at the 2008 KWVA Annual Reunion, at Norfolk, Virginia, on October 24, 2008. It was approved unanimously.

The project task is to set up two website servers; one each for KWVA Departments and Chapters. The target date to have the system in place is January 1st, 2009. It may be sooner; if so, notification will be given to you via the KWVA, Inc. website http://www.kwva.org/ So, if you are interested, check the National website often.

There will be no website cost to a Department or Chapter, including that for the annual domain name registration. While the KWVA will furnish the software, it will be the individual Chapter or Department that will be required to provide their Webmaster.

The web design and editing software is Microsoft FrontPage 2003. Access to it will be given to the approved Department or Chapter Commander and Webmaster. A one-time licensing fee may be passed on to the Department or Chapter. That is being negotiated at this time.

For information on FrontPage, go to http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/frontpage/default.aspx

The following steps are currently planned to be put in place by January 1st, 2009:

- Two Website Hosting Plans were ordered and placed into service on November 11th, 2008.
- Design and set up "Website Templates" for the Department and Chapter websites.
- Revise the Standard Procedure Manual to provide the interactive procedure(s) between the KWVA Webmaster and those operating the Department or Chapter websites. Revise Standard Procedure Manual, as appropriate. In particular, it will establish eligibility requirements incorporated into a petition procedure and form.
- Establish a petition and approval process in the KWVA Standard Procedure manual whereby a chartered and Bylaw-compliant Department or Chapter can have their website set up, and appropriate website security established by the KWVA Webmaster.

During the process above, the KWVA Department of California website and KWVA Chapter 6, Santa Clara will be used as pilot websites. Their new addresses will be:

Website Address

For KWVA

http://www.kwvadepartments.org/dca http://www.kwvachapters.org/cid6

Dept. of California Chapter 6, Santa Clara

You are encouraged to visit. The 'general look' and functionality will essentially be the same for all of the websites, with some 'room' for individuality and customization. At the start, your 'Home' page will be tailored for your Department or Chapter, and

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then turned over to your President or Commander and your Webmaster.

These are samples of the naming convention that will be used:

http://www.kwvadepartments.org/dde for Delaware) http://www.kwvadepartments.org/dny for New York) http://www.kwvadepartments.org/dtx for Texas) http://www.kwvachapters.org/cid270 for Chapter 270) http://www.kwvachapters.org/cid255 for Chapter 255) http://www.kwvachapters.org/cid300 for Chapter 300) http://www.kwvachapters.org/cid66 for Chapter 66) http://www.kwvachapters.org/cid1 for Chapter 1)

The present KWVA Department of California website, http://www.dcakwva.org/, is at this time a record of the Department's effort to get a KWVA charter and to participate in the recent KWVA Election. During the election period alone, the website was visited over 4,300 times.

Admittedly, as presented at this time, it is pretty much a simple bulletin board, with links to pages that were developed for one purpose or another, as the Department grew to the point of the grant of a department charter, and a bit beyond. All of the relevant information will be archived on the new Department website.

As a "for instance," it enabled the Department of California, together with Texas Chapter 270, to help candidates for the KWVA 2008 National Election elaborate on their views and intent for post-election performance in office, by adding access via an election page dedicated to that purpose.

We believe that this new tool for Departments and Chapters will encourage enrollment, interest, and most of all, sharing of information between the brotherhood that is the KWVA. You are encouraged to contribute your cooperation, creativity, and helpful comments.

Our KWVA Webmaster, Jim Doppelhammer, who contributed in a major way in the conception and execution of this project, will ultimately be the person to help in the technical end of getting you started with your website, once your petition and approval process is complete. He will also be the 'go to' guy for security and technical issues that may arise.

Respectfully and fraternally to all,

George E. Lawhon LR18750 California Chapter 6, Santa Clara County Secretary & Webmaster KWVA California State Department Director, KWVA, Inc.

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