

Call for the Meeting: KWVA Website and The Graybeards, Jul-Aug 2009 Issue

Place of Announced Meeting: The Westin Dallas Fort Worth Airport Hotel. 4545 W. John Carpenter Way, Irving, TX 75063, Phone 972.929.4500

Call to Order: President Mac Swain called the meeting to order at 0927 hours followed by the Pledge of Allegiance..

The Invocation was given by Chaplain Ruffing.

Roll Call and Introductions:

The roll was called by Secretary Cohee:

- William Mac Swain, President - Here
- James Ferris, 1st Vice President - Here
- Robert Banker, 2nd Vice President - Here
- Frank Cohee, Secretary - Here
- J Tilford Jones, Treasurer - Here
- Charlotte Ayers, Director - Here
- Jeffrey Brodeur, Director - Here
- Richard Brown, Director - Here
- Luther Dappen, Director - Here
- Lee Dauster, Director - Here
- Marvin Dunn, Director - Here
- James Fountain, Director - Here
- George Lawhon, Director - Here
- Tom McHugh, Director - Here
- Luther Rice, Director - Here
- Glen Thompson. Director - Here
- Ezra "Frank" Williams, Director - Here

Declaration of a Quorum of eighty-two (82) was affirmed by Secretary Cohee.

Rules of Decorum, Debate and Voting: President Mac Swain instructed all in the rules governing decorum and debate for the meeting and how the voting process would be conducted.

1. To obtain the floor, a member must address the presiding officer; the President, give the member's name, chapter number, and its state. The member can then address the assembly, facing them, using the microphone.
2. Civility and courteous speech only: discussions shall be focused on the idea in question, and not on personality: no derogatory comments or accusations.
3. Stick to the single subject to be addressed, with a 10-minute limit per subject. If a motion was made by the member, that member had the first right to speak to that motion. Members may speak more than once, if permitted by a majority vote of the assembly.
4. Three (3) members shall do the vote counting; voting members were to be to the front of the assembly to permit an easier count.
5. Non-voting members may be recognized by the President after the voting members have completed their discussion on the pending motion.

Director Dauster made a motion to adopt the rules of decorum, debate and voting. The motion was seconded by Walter Ade. An 'Aye' voice vote was given in unison, with no objection.

The President asked for a motion to adopt the agenda; Director Brown made the motion to adopt, and it was seconded by Director Brodeur. A 'Yes' voice vote was given in unison, with none opposed, and the motion carried.

President Mac Swain then introduced Major Staff Members, Chapter & Department Officers present, and Other Distinguished Guests:

KWVA STAFF:

- Billy J. Scott, Judge Advocate
- Jake Feaster, Asst. Secretary and Supervisor of Membership Records Management
- Tine Martin, Ethics and Grievance Committee Representative
- J.D. Randolph, National Veterans Affairs Service Director
- Jim Doppelhammer, Webmaster & Data Manager
- Larry Kinard, Tell America Operations Director

KWVA CHAPTER AND DEPARTMENT OFFICERS:

Department Presidents/Commanders:

- Roy Aldridge-TX
- Jim Bradford-FL
- George Bruzgis-NJ
- Larry Doolittle-SC
- Sal Scalotto-NY (First Vice President)
- Frank Williams, MO

Chapter Presidents/Commanders:

- Walter Ade-Sangamon County IL, 27
- Roy Aldridge, El Paso, TX, 249
- Ruby Brawley-Modesto, CA, 316
- Art Griffith-MS, 299
- Larry Kinard, Arlington/Fort Worth, TX, 215
- Tine Martin, Central Indiana, 259
- J.D. Randolph, Dallas, TX, 270
- Luther Rice, Aurora, IN, 129
- Billy J. Scott, Shenandoah Valley, VA, 313
- Paul Sutton, IL, 243
- Warren Wiedhahn, Northern VA 100

President Mac Swain briefly discussed Warren Weidhahn's considerable contributions as KWVA Coordinator for the Revisit Program, and gave those interested a heads up, that the coming year promises to be a great one for return visitors to Korea.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS:

- Yung (Paul). Lee
- Hannah Kim
- Colonel Stone

President Mac Swain introduced Yung H. Lee, attending the meeting as Chairman of the American and Canadian Region of the KVA and also representing General (Ret.) Park, Se-Hwan, who is the new Chairman of the Korean Veterans Association in Seoul, Korea.

Mr. Lee spoke at length; first, to extend General Park's gratitude and appreciation from the Korean Veterans Association in Seoul, Korea, then to tell of the 2010 Veteran's Revisit Program, significantly expand-

ed and linked to the 60th Anniversary and Commemoration of the Korean War. Details were:

Invited. - 2,700 veterans from America and 20 other nations.

Participated to date. - 25,000 from 1975 to 2008

Point of visit. - For the reunion of comrades, to visit battle sites, to attend ceremonies, and to experience Korean culture

Schedule. - March to July & September to November 2010

Eligibility. - Veterans and immediate family with no previous visit; but if the quota is not filled; consideration would be given to veterans who have not participated in five years; those who did humanitarian work in Korea during the war; immediate family members of MIA, and immediate family members of those whose remains had been recently discovered.

Mr. Lee also pointed out that all of the Program details were not as yet worked out, but the Commemoration Committee in Korea hoped to have them ready soon.

President Mac Swain then introduced Hannah Kim, a young lady who played a significant role helping in the enactment by Congress of the Korean War Veterans Recognition Act (HR2632), which is to display our flag at half mast on our Armistice date of 7/27 for recognition of those who sacrificed their lives during our war. The President pointed out that she considers all of us Korean War veterans as her 'grandpas.' President Mac Swain then introduced fellow CID 215 member Colonel James L. Stone, a recipient of the Medal of Honor, who responded with a cheerful and confident acknowledgment to all. The President then pointed out what a help it was to the Tell America Program when Colonel Stone spoke to school children with straight talk and sharp questions.

Finally, Vickie Garza, our very competent Court Reporter, was introduced by President Mac Swain, together with an acknowledgment as to how important her work is to us.

Presentations: Two video presentations were made. First was a heart-warming one that began with a parade that included Vincent Mannion, son of KWVA Director Jeff Brodeur. Vincent was severely wounded in Iraq, but with a strong heart and spirit, was able to be in the parade. Awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star, Vincent is now on a long road to recovery, assisted by his family and friends.

The second video was introduced by Hannah Kim, a short clip about the Korean War Veterans Recognition Act (HR2632). After it finished, Hannah said, "I just wanted to show that to all of you. July 27th, America will remember you and honor you and thank you and will raise the flag at half staff in your memory. Know that I also appreciate you. I'm so grateful that I can say thank you in person. So, what an honor!"

Approval for Minutes of Previous General Membership Meeting:

Secretary Cohee referenced minutes of the previous Membership Meeting, at Norfolk, Virginia, on October 25, 2008, as printed in the November/December 2008 issue of *The Graybeards*. A motion was made by Bill Hoyle of CID 215 that the minutes be approved and seconded by Director Dick Brown. The motion carried, with none opposed.

Treasurer's Report: "KWVA Treasurer T. Tilford Jones: The normal question that I always receive is: How are we doing financially? Last year this administration took over on June the 25th with some carry-over from our previous administration. And at the end of the year, we

had quite a deficit that we covered with monies from our investment portfolio. At the end of September alone we had spent \$52,600 more than we had taken in. For the nine months this year, we have a profit of \$11,000. This profit is realized even though our income from dues is down by \$48,000. In nine months in 2008, we had income from dues of a \$196,688. This year, during the same period, we have only received \$148,023.

In 2008, we received approximately \$42,600 from our fundraiser. This year we will realize about \$7,000 from our fundraiser. What all of this means is what we have over \$50,000 less in income this year as opposed to 2008. And, in spite of this deficit, we are showing a profit at this time. There's another little bright star coming up, and that's our investments. Our investments continue to grow as the market continues to make its recovery. At the end of December 2008, our portfolio was worth \$274,174. At the end of the September, 2009, our investments were worth \$314,893. As we're well aware, the dues figure will probably continue to become smaller each year due to those that are members like me, above 80 years old. We must find a fundraiser that will raise the necessary monies to allow us not only to meet our needs from the interest or dividends. But, most of all, we must obtain a surplus to donate to worthy causes that will indeed help our fellow veterans. This is the basis for our existence: to help our fellow man. Thank you."

There were no questions on the Treasurer's Report. Roy Aldridge, El Paso CID 249, Department of Texas, made a motion to accept the report. Paul Pfrommer, Dallas area CID 270, seconded the motion. There was no discussion, and the motion was approved with no objections.

OLD BUSINESS:

Reunion/Convention Committee Report: President Mac Swain thanked Chairman Banker for his work and Host Chapters 215 and 270 for their support. The President suggested that for the 2010 Annual Meeting we accept help from the HRM Group in organizing and getting our accommodations in place and in integrating our function with The Gathering, which is also being held in July, in Washington, D.C.

Jim Fisher, President of the HRM Group, offered his services and that of his organization, to the KWVA for free and also promised to arrange for a guest speaker, starting with our choice, General Walter Sharp, UNC/CFC/USFK Commander. The motion to accept the help of Mr. Fisher and his organization was made by Director Lee Dauster, seconded by Paul Sutton, CID 234, and approved unanimously by voice vote.

Bylaws Committee Report: At this time, the Bylaws Committee report was postponed until after new business and the other committee reports.

NEW BUSINESS:

Budget and Finance Report: Chairman Dunn commented that the budget has been reduced considerably from last year. Essentially, the total revenues are \$324,550.00. Most of the revenues come from dues, which are projected to be \$258,450.00. Revenues from other sources are insignificant. The expenses are also \$324,550.00; the major single expense is for *The Graybeards*, at \$177,000.00. Director Brown, CID 213, made a motion that the proposed budget be accepted; Director Dappen, CID 294, seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Revisit Committee Report. Coordinator Warren Weidhahn, who works on both the Revisit Program and the 60th Commemorative Committee,

opened his presentation with a question, and a statement of fact: "Can I see a show of hands of how many have gone on a Revisit Program? For those not aware of it, the Revisit Program started in 1975 by the ROK government to thank all Korean veterans who served in Korea during the war; that's from 6/25/1950 until October of 1954. The ROK government appropriates and subsidizes the Revisit Program with an appropriation of several million dollars every year to bring the Korean War veterans from all 21 countries back to Korea."

Warren pointed out that each appropriation finds its way to the ROK Ministry of Patriots & Veterans Affairs (MPVA); Mr. Lee, who is present here today as their representative, negotiates with us on any changes in the Program and also the plans for the 60th Commemorative. The principal current changes are that revisit allocations will be tripled for the coming year, that those who have used the Revisit Program before are eligible to repeat, and that certain others are now eligible, such as widows, dependent children and grandchildren of the deceased veteran. The other change is that all the Officers and Directors of the Association are exempt from most restrictions. Finally, Warren finished his presentation with the suggestion that you check the next edition of *The Graybeards*. It will have the information on next year's revisit tour. Check the KWVA website as well.

Tell America Report. Larry Kinard, Operations Director of the Tell America Program, praised those KWVA chapters that have Tell America programs. He spoke with passion about how he hated the words, 'forgotten war,' and that more rightly, we had experienced a 'forgotten victory' in Korea. That was the message he wished to give to the school children who are the intended recipients of the Tell America Program.

Larry pointed out that most school children are inadequately informed about the histories of World War II and the Korean War, and that not only were veterans most suited to give them one through the personal view of actual experience, but it was the veteran's obligation and job to do so.

Our obligation, Kinard pointed out, went also to the missing and the dead. We, the veterans, are the living representatives of those who could not return to tell their story. Consequently, he remains determined to encourage getting more chapters involved with taking Tell America to more of the children.

Kinard pointed out that last year thirty (30) more chapters got started with Tell America, but that there was a great need for help to the chapters that "...call and ask for maps and posters that I've had that I can send out to them, and they've been very effective. In fact, that's probably one of the most effective things we have; is to be able to show some visual aids, map of Korea and some of the posters. I think the schools and the kids really like seeing that...I'm running really short on that and we're going to have to do something about getting those reproduced, if we can."

Larry also spoke about Arthur Underwood, a veteran, who is a Regular Member of the KWVA, but is not a member of a chapter. On his own, Arthur is getting involved in Tell America's mission. It is Kinard's hope that other members will be motivated to do likewise. Those interested are encouraged to contact him.

Fund Raising Study: President Mac Swain asked the Membership for a motion to approve that the Fundraising Committee study fundraisers and put into effect any they think would be good for the KWVA. Director Brown made the motion, Director Dauster seconded it. It was

approved by a YES voice vote, in unison.

VAVS Report: National Veterans Affairs Service Director J.D. Randolph spoke about the contribution in hours of service the KWVA VAVS volunteers have given to hospitals, VA hospitals, and clinics. In the 2008 fiscal year, we did well over 50,000 hours, which equates to the VA at almost a million dollars, (\$998,000 +), about a \$19/per hour equivalence. We plan to do better this year, Director Randolph added, "...We need to get more VAVS representatives in the hospitals close to your chapters to be able to have representatives and deputies there to make sure our Korean veterans get the service. And you notice I did not say "Korean War," because it's not all the Korean War per se; it's the Korean veterans. And we really need your help to getting representatives in the hospitals."

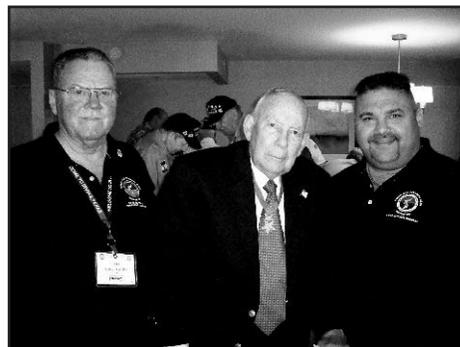
J.D. then described the criteria to be a KWVA Representative, that he could be contacted by email or phone by anyone interested in volunteering, or if you need it, and if you want to know who to talk to in the veterans organization or veterans hospitals, he has a complete list of the Chief of Volunteer Services in those hospitals. If you need their names and their telephone numbers or e-mails, just give him a call or send an e-mail and he will respond.

Membership Report: Director Jeff Brodeur, Membership Chairman, reported that we now have 17,721 National Association members, an increase of 829 members since last year. 1,296 of those are renewals from the KWVA Directory sales that went out, which dramatically increased the membership.

Director Brodeur pointed out there were 81 new members; 474 deaths at the present (in all of 2008 there were 705), and that four (4) new chapters were formed.

He pointed out that he had fliers, decals and CD's available that could be used at VA hospitals and other VSO locations such as the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) posts. They cost the KWVA \$960 last year, but they are good recruiting tools. He pointed out that those materials account for 20 to 25% of new members. They are a good investment and that their use definitely should be continued.

KWVA/KVA Ch 299 Vice Cmdr Art Griffith (Leominster, MA) and KWVA National Director Jeff Brodeur (Hyannis MA) with Col James Stone, MOH recipient, at the KWVA National Convention in Irving, TX in October 2009



Jeff Brodeur and Art Griffith with Korean Ambassador and Korean Consulate General of Houston, TX at the KWVA National Convention in Irving, TX

Director Brodeur recommended that, funds permitting, we should try recruiting "In Country (Korea)", with the posters, fliers and decals, to let them know there is a veterans organization they can call home when they return.

Jeff pointed out the changes to the cover of *The Graybeards*, which he believes helped in the current increase in membership. One was to change from 'Korean War Veterans' to 'Korea Veterans.' Another was the addition of the new Korea Defense Service Medal Ring to complement the Korean War Service Ring. It is his belief that these items are important, and sensitive to the younger veterans who have served since the Armistice was signed.

National Ceremonies Report: Director Tom McHugh, KWVA National Ceremonies Committee Chairman, commended Marty Goge CID 242 and participating chapters for their unfailing support of the ceremonies to which we give service.

Individuals are needed for the honor guard and wreath ceremonies, Memorial Day and Veterans Day every year. And, although there are a lot of chapters not too far from the area, they handle their local events, also. He and President Mac Swain attended ceremonies on both Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

On Veterans Day '08, Marty Goge attended VDNC. It's the Veterans Day National Committee, of which the KWVA is a standing member. Chapter 141, Maryland, was the honor guard for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the Korean War Memorial. They also assisted in the presentation of wreaths. On Memorial Day '09, Chapter 299, Massachusetts, was the honor guard for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the Korean War Memorial. They assisted in the presentation of the wreaths.

Director McHugh said, "Since Otis Mangram, one of the honor guard members and an Associate KWVA member, is also a Vietnam Veteran, we included a ceremony at the Vietnam Wall. It really was appreciated by most of the people who attended who probably never saw anybody in blue jackets walk down that row before."

He added, "On October 8, '09, General Sharp was there for a wreath presentation at the Korean War Memorial. Several members of Chapter 142, Maryland, and Chapter 313, Virginia, attended. Chapter 142 was the honor guard at the presentation. And Chapter Commanders John Wilcox of CID 142, Maryland, and Billy Scott, CID 313, Virginia, made the wreath presentation while the General was there."

Director McHugh concluded, "On Veterans Day '09, CID 142, Maryland, again will be the honor guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the Korean War Memorial. And, if anybody has a free day and would like to be there, you can participate with us at the ceremony."

Vice President Bob Banker spoke: "Bob Banker, CID 33, Maryland. On July 27th, at The Gathering in Washington DC and the functions for the organization here, my Chapter has provided the honor guard on that particular date for many years. I'd just like everybody to be aware that it's not part of Tom's purview, but I thought you should understand that. Thank you."

Director McHugh replied that since Jack Cloman does all the work on The Gathering, he did not include that in his comments.

Illinois Museum: President Mac Swain informed the members present that he had been the KWVA Liaison to the Korean War Veteran's Museum and Library when they were in Tuscola, and also when they moved later to Rantoul, Illinois. He then introduced the Executive

Director of the Korean Museum, Larry Sassorossi; Vice President Bob Mitchell and Paul Sutton, a former Museum Board member.

President Mac Swain explained that the Museum officers were planning to relocate the Museum to Springfield, Illinois, and that they would be bringing display items from the old locations to the new building for the museum that was planned to start in June 2010. He pointed out that while there had been a dry spell for the Museum to advertise in *The Graybeards*, hopefully they would resume soon, in the form of construction schedules and progress reports. President Mac Swain said, "I would hope that the Koreans would look at this, because I think the Museum has some plans to show some of the life of the Koreans before the war started; then the way it looked during the war and then after the war." He then asked Mr. Sassorossi if he had brought any brochures or information with him.

Mr. Sassorossi responded, that yes, he did, and thanked President Mac Swain's for his comments, and for inviting them to the meeting.

Bylaws Committee Report: Director George Lawhon, Chairman of the Bylaws Committee, gave his report. He began by thanking the Bylaws members for their diligence and hard work in producing the revisions to the Bylaws in the form of an amendment that was about to be placed before the Membership to decide the question of ratification. Before he began with the report, he told the members that at the completion of his presentation, he would make a motion to ratify the revised and amended Bylaws that had been approved unanimously on July 26th by the Board of Directors, at Arlington, Virginia.

Then he gave the members present a short history of the 2009 Bylaws/SPM Revision Project, from when it was approved unanimously by the Board of Directors at the 2008 Annual Membership Meeting in Norfolk to the present.

The Project Plan, as given to the Board at Norfolk and published in *The Graybeards*, was that the entire voting KWVA membership would be given a chance, for a 90-day period before the vote by the Board in Arlington, to provide input to the Bylaws Committee. Towards that purpose, an email address to the Bylaws Committee was set up, and notice was given on the KWVA website.

Before the Committee set about its task, it was agreed by all that its product would not be placed before the Board unless the whole Committee approved its entire content. The goal was to provide clarity and specificity where needed and add or remove content where necessary.

As work progressed, there was one issue that needed to be addressed. It became apparent that there were chapters and departments that allowed persons to participate in KWVA business who had not applied for KWVA Membership and pay the required annual dues to the Association. On October 5, 2005, a clause was inserted into the KWVA Bylaws that basically instructed all the chapters that anyone joining a chapter after October 5, 2005 must become a National member. There were words that were spoken at the meeting, and afterwards, that the implication of that clause was that anyone joining before October 5, 2005 did not have to belong to the National Association membership, but that membership and annual dues were required after that date.

The fact is, as Director Lawhon pointed out, is that nowhere in the language in any Bylaws has there ever been permission given to allow any chapter or any department to have someone be recognized as a member who did not join the Association and pay the required annual dues. The result, he said, "Is that we've come to have, I'm going to

describe it as two KWVAs. One KWVA consists of paid-up members, who comply with the Bylaws and the Standard Procedure Manual (SPM), the other, for want of another term, a 'Shadow KWVA' who call themselves members of chapters and departments, and sad to say, Officers, who had sworn to uphold the Bylaws who allow them to do so.

Therefore, we have 'shadow members' who have never exposed themselves to any kind of formal examination for eligibility of giving proof that they are/were in the military, much less in the Korean War. I didn't realize at that time the actual reality of this virtual, this shadow KWVA. But then after meeting several of those people, at least one of them thought it was good to put on a campaign to try to defeat this amendment at this meeting. And, in the mail I receive, on top of a lot of e-mails, I received a petition from two chapters and their Department Commander, with signatures. And in that petition it says the reason that they not want us to change the Bylaws—the reason was that they had chapter members who had paid life membership to the chapters, and yet they, the department and chapter officers, still didn't enforce the rule for them to pay annual dues!

I don't know how you regard that. But it seems to me that the issue here today is a decision by this membership. Pure and simple. Decide what they want; a KWVA that follows the rules, and Officers who honor their obligation to support the KWVA, and they enforce it, or a group of those who choose to comply (or not) with the rules as and when it suits them."

He continued, "And let me stop right here and tell you how you enforce it. Commander Don Gutmann of Chapter 44, and its other officers, won't let you into a chapter meeting unless you have paid up Annual membership to the Korean War Veterans Association. The only "Inactive" members are its deceased."

It was pointed out to the members that the practice of not paying the Association dues was unfair to the more than 7,000 'at-large' members, who don't belong to chapters, and have no choice but to pay.

Director Lawhon then ended his report and made a motion to ratify the Bylaws Amendment that has been approved by the Board of Directors. The motion was seconded by Director Frank Williams.

Following that was an extended, considerable discussion and debate from both those who were for the motion to ratify, and those who opposed it. Finally, Ed Buckman made a 'Call for the question.' It was determined by President Mac Swain that there was a quorum, which was verified by Judge Advocate Billy Scott. President Mac Swain asked for a standing count of those who wished to adopt the amended Bylaws, followed by a standing count of those opposed to it. It was declared by the President that the Motion to adopt had passed, with a 2/3 majority vote.

President Mac Swain then asked for a motion to adjourn, which was made by Director Williams and seconded by Director Brown. A point of order was made by Director McHugh that there was still some business: the report by Assistant Secretary Jake Feaster, who is also Director of Membership Management. The meeting was then continued before the meeting was adjourned.

Membership Management Report: Jake Feaster pointed out that people joining after October 4th, 2005 were required to maintain their membership, paid up and current. For your information, he pointed out, even with that ruling, there are 330 persons in chapters that chapter officers let in and have not required them to maintain

their membership. There are 10,000 in chapters that are paying their dues.

He continued, "So I would like to appeal to those chapters that are, there's 70 to about 75 of them that have not sent in their election reports, so we have no idea who the officers are.

Can you imagine a 1. President of a department or a chapter that's not a KWVA member? We have them. 2. Treasurer who's not a KWVA member handling all your finances? We have them. 3. Judge Advocate who is not a member of the KWVA? We have them."

President Mac Swain commented that there was one more thing that had to be done and that was to have the drawing for the raffle. The winner of the \$5,000.00 travel gift certificate was First Vice President Jim Ferris; the winner of the 46-inch TV was Robert L. Flores from Warrensburg, NY; the winner for the laptop was Charles Giulini, from Pelham Manor, NY.

President Mac Swain gave the benediction.

The meeting was adjourned at 1246 hours.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Frank Cohee, National Secretary*

U.S. ARMY MAJ. GEN. ASSUMES JPAC COMMAND

HICKAM AFB, HAWAII – U.S. Navy Rear Adm. Donna L. Crisp relinquished command of the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command on Friday, Jan. 29, 2010 at 10:00 a.m., at Bldg. 45, Hickam Air Force Base, during a ceremony officiated by Adm. Robert F. Willard, commander of U.S. Pacific Command.

United States Army Maj. Gen. Stephen Tom, the former Chief of Staff for the U.S. Pacific Command, assumed command of JPAC. The ceremony marked the end of a 35-year career for Crisp, who received her commission in 1974 after graduating from California State University in 1971. Crisp was the third commander in JPAC's history.

Under Crisp's leadership JPAC carried out more than 135 recovery and investigation missions, ultimately identifying approximately 170 missing Americans; an improvement by 35 percent over the previous 5-year averages. During her two-years as commander, the Central Identification Laboratory became the third Federal Laboratory to pass the International American Society of Crime Laboratory Assessment.

Tom, a graduate of the University of Michigan with a Bachelor of Arts degree, was commissioned through the Army Reserve Officer's Training Corps Program in 1971. He continued his civilian education by entering Boston University School of Law, and graduated with a Juris Doctor degree in 1974. In his civilian capacity, Maj. Gen. Tom was a private practice attorney and a partner in a law firm; he was recalled to active duty in January 2006.

"Until They Are Home"