

The Where, When, and Why of the Korean War

Tell America

19 – GEN RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

Five members delivered a presentation at Acworth Elementary School. They included Jim Conway, Bob Hendershott, Bob McCubbins, Bob Moore and

Urban Rump. Altogether they spoke to about 200 enthusiastic fifth graders.

*Jim Conway
conatlanta@comcast.net*



Bob Moore of Ch 19 addresses students at Acworth Elementary School

44 – MISSOURI #1 [MO]

Expanded Tell America Type Program

In 2010 the Lindbergh High School in St. Louis County started an all-day veterans session called the History Alive Program, which is similar to our Tell America Program. In the program, veterans from WW2, Korea, and Vietnam come in at separate times and talk to the students about their experiences. The program is coordinated by Brad Durnell of Lindbergh High School and Vietnam veteran Mike Lavin of the American Legion Post 156 in Kirkwood, MO.

This year the WW2 Veterans had their session in March and the Vietnam veterans participated in May. The Korean veterans held their session on April 5. Korean veterans have participated from the beginning. Last year about a

dozen Korean veterans participated. Most of them were KWVA members from Missouri Chapter 1 and Chapter 4 (CID 96).

This year there were over 25 Korean veterans in attendance. They included Don Gutmann, Commander of CID 44, and five other members, plus Ken Hoffman, Commander of CID 96, and three of his members, including National KWVA Director Jim Fountain.

The session lasts all day, from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., with 2-4 students rotating every 20 minutes to a different veterans table. Altogether, we spoke to over 500 students during the session. We were encouraged at their interest in what the veterans were explaining to them.

Lindbergh High School is to be

congratulated on its effort to give its students a face-to-face experience with actual veterans' memories of their wartime encounters. It would be nice if this type of program could be expanded to more

schools statewide and nationally, like the KWVA program, to help build a higher degree of patriotism in our young people.

Ken Dawley, 382 Autumn Creek Dr., Manchester, MO 63088



Korean War veterans speak to students at Lindbergh High School



Ike Henderson of Ch 44, Missouri Tell America chairman (L), and Don Gutmann talk at Lindbergh High School



At Lindbergh High School, Cliff Wildeisen discusses his experiences flying over Korea in a C-119 Box Car delivering supplies and evacuating the wounded, using a model of a C-119 and other relative objects to emphasize his points

Kenn Dawley explains his Korean War experiences and his medals to Lindbergh High students



The Korean War veterans who spoke at Lindbergh High School (Jim Fountain sits in the jeep)



Mike Lavin of American Legion Post 156, Kirkwood, MO (L) and his associate at Lindbergh High School

54 - THOMAS W. DALEY [NJ]

Several members joined local veterans of different wars in a program presented to over 1,500 Washington Township High School social studies students and Air Force ROTC cadets. The veterans told stories about their military experiences.

Commander Andy Jackson led a discussion with students regarding what it means to be a veteran and to serve one's country.

Korean War veterans in the group described how they felt about their receptions as they returned home, realizing that the public considered the conflict as the "Forgotten War."

The veterans also dressed a student in each session in the gear that soldiers actually carried.

Andy Jackson, 117 Kingsdale Ave., Cherry Hill, NJ 08003



Korean War veterans with Washington Township [NJ] social studies teachers (L-R) Charles Kerber, Ray McBride, Charles Jackson, Fred Connolly, Brittany Mason, Bill Millison, Andy Jackson, Jennifer Wisor, John Hartley

55 - NASSAU COUNTY [NY]

We participated in two Tell America events, one on 14 March in Oceanside, NY. The other was 29 March, when our Tell America Committee made a presentation to the Wellington C. Mepham High School in Bellmore, NY. Four of the committee's eight members participated in the Bellmore presentation: Buddy Epstein, Bernie Hoffman, Tom Nuzzo, and Don Zoeller. During their five hours at the school, the committee spoke to five separate classes.

The committee begins by using a Power Point presentation to tell briefly the history of the Korean

War. Then, each presenter tells what he did during the war, whether they were in Korea or not. As has been the case in other schools, the individual accounts are what the students find most interesting. Students are encouraged to ask questions at any time.

The students received the presentation enthusiastically, as did their teachers and the school's social services chair, Robyn Einbinder, who assured the committee that it would be invited back next year.

Robert P. O'Brien, P.O. Box 1591, N. Massapequa, NY 11758



Bernie Hoffman, Don Zoeller, and Buddy Epstein (L-R) of Ch 55 at Tell America presentation



Don Zoeller, Buddy Epstein, and Tom Nuzzo (L-R) of Ch 55 handle questions during Tell America presentation

102 - EL CENTRO [CA]

We conducted a Flag Retirement Ceremony to teach school children at Washington Elementary School in El Centro the importance of our national flag and the proper etiquette of disposing of it properly after it is no longer a fit emblem for display.

Students, teachers, and visitors watched as chapter members burned the retired flags in a dignified manner and disposed of the ashes in a burial on the school's grounds.

N.O. Benavidez, P.O. Box 5, El Centro, CA 92243



Hector Pompa, Stanley Martinez, Merrill Andrews, Benny Benavidez, ?, Max Lizarraga, Bill Farris, Albert Newton, and Jim Hamilton (L-R) at Ch 102's flag retirement ceremony



Albert Newton (L) and Stanley Martinez (R) of Ch 102 oversee flag disposal as press member (C) observes



Students at Washington Elementary School in El Centro, CA at Ch 102's flag retirement event

148 - CENTRAL JERSEY [NJ]

Spotswood, NJ High School teacher Frank G. Yusko received a Certificate of Appreciation for his outstanding collection of DVDs he collected for use by veterans at the New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home at Menlo Park.

Spotswood High School is the first school to display the Korean War Veterans flag in the back of a room since they received it in 2000.

Charles Koppelman, 6 Yarmouth Dr., Monroe Township, NJ 256 -



Frank Yusko displays his Certificate of Appreciation as Ch 148 members look on (L-R) Commander Charles Koppelman, Sr. Vice Cmdr. Andrew Oslinker, and Chaplain Harvey Weinberg



Students at Spotswood High School, NJ, display Korean War Veterans flag

256 – NORVILLE FINNEY [MI]

We have been very active in our program. We visited two schools in March and April. At Troy Athens High School in Troy, MI we spoke to 6 classes, each containing about 100 students. We were there for eight hours, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

At Rochester High School, in Rochester, MI, we spoke to 6

classes of 110 students each. We were there from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

We have received very positive responses from the students to whom we spoke of our combat experiences.

James E. McCarthy, 2159 Parliament Dr., Sterling Heights, MI 48310, 586-264-4223



Tell America presenters from Ch 256 at Rochester [MI] High School: James E. McCarthy, Fred Quinn, Donald L. Bouffard, Phil Trupiano (L-R)



Rochester [MI] High School students at Ch 256's presentation



Richard L. Charbonneau, Ernest A Hood, and James E. McCarthy of Ch 256 (L-R) at Troy Athens [MI] High School



Students at Troy Athens [MI] High School listen to Ch 256 presenters

270 – SAM JOHNSON [TX]

We did a "Tell America Program" presentation at one of the largest high schools in the Dallas area on May 3rd and 4th. Nine chapter members participated in presentations at Allen High School to students in 10th through 12th grades. Student enrollment is over 5,000, making the school one of the largest secondary schools in the state of Texas.

The above presentations started with a brief slide show, followed

by a 10-minute video. Then, each member stood and talked about his experiences in Korea. During each class, there was a drawing for a P-38 can opener.

The course evaluations completed by 2-3 students each period were very positive. This was the 12th presentation we participated in during the past year. Over 3,600 students have received this program and that is just the beginning. their teacher.



Ed Wuermser talks about the close relationship between South Korea and the United States

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KWVA Associate Member Joe Seiling asks where a young refugee and her brother will go when they have lost their parents



Presenters, students, and staff follow Paul Pfrommer's explanation of events