

America's Forgotten Victory!

# KOREA VETERANS

## The Graybeards

Official Publication of

THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

September - October 2012 Vol. 26, No. 5



# VETERANS DAY



# HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

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# The Graybeards

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



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**We Honor Founder William T. Norris**

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# From the President

James E. Ferris

As of this writing I have been in office 89 days. A lot has happened in this short period of time.

So far it has been all for the good. As you know, I have set two major priorities: 1) recruiting 2) lowering the cost of publishing *The Graybeards*, which is our major budget item.

Before I get into this message to all of you, I apologize to the folks who were in Korea with me recently. I wanted to spend more time with you, but we were extremely busy. There really was no place for us to get together just to talk. I want you to know that I was not ignoring you.

Let's look at the recruiting efforts so far. I formed a recruiting sub-committee and appointed John ("Sonny") Edwards to head it under the direction of the Membership Standing Committee Chairman Tom Stevens. Sonny is doing a bang-up job.

He has been reaching out to other organizations and working on a methodology that, after it is approved by the board, will be distributed to the chapters and departments to aid them in their recruiting efforts. As a result of his efforts, in the last 90 days we have seen an increase of 200 new members according to the results shown on our website. This is just the tip of the iceberg. Sonny is continuing to find new ways to recruit new members on a day-to-day basis. Of course, he cannot do it alone. Each of us needs to become a recruiter. So, if you have any ideas that will help Sonny in his efforts, please contact him.

In addition to creating this new sub-committee, I have also been working personally on recruitment. The VFW and the American Legion have more Korean War veterans on their membership rolls than we have on ours. On 26 September, 2012, I met in Washington with the Executive Director of the National VFW to solicit his aid in recruiting a large number of new mem-

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**The VFW and the American Legion have more Korean War veterans on their membership rolls than we have on ours. On 26 September, 2012, I met in Washington with the Executive Director of the National VFW to solicit his aid in recruiting a large number of new members from his organization.**

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bers from his organization. I am not suggesting that people drop out of the VFW, but that they consider belonging to both organizations. I think it is worth a try.

Also, I just returned from Korea, where I had the opportunity to meet with some people who are willing to help us in our recruiting efforts. Most importantly, I met with Mr. John Y. Lee, who is a member of our association, an attorney, and a native of South Korea, where he resides. I appointed Mr. Lee as our South Korean Liaison officer to assist us in recruiting those veterans who married Korean ladies and remained in Korea after the war. They are indeed Korean War veterans. I was surprised to learn that there is a great number of veterans in this category.

When the IRS begins to recognize the men and women who have served on the peninsula since 1955 to now as viable association members, Mr. Lee will be of great help in our recruiting in that area.

Incidentally, after my first President's message in *The Graybeards*, I heard that it sounded like I thought the Korean Service veterans comprised only 10% of our association, to which some folks took offense. I assure you that I am totally dedicated to the fact that these people are eligible to join the KWVA, and we want and need them as true members of the KWVA.

I apologize if you got that impression that I did not want more Korean Service veterans in the KWVA. I urge all of you to contact your congressional representatives and get them to co-sponsor the bills we have in Congress right now that expands the number of veterans we can include in the KWVA. I cannot put enough emphasis on the importance of

this action.

Now, for *The Graybeards*. This is a whole different set of problems. *The Graybeards* is costly to publish; approximately \$175,000.00 per year are budgeted for this magazine. I am working on a grant that I hope will bear fruit in the next six months. If I am successful in this mission, the cost of *The Graybeards* will be lifted from our budget and we will be in much better shape financially than we are now. Don't get me wrong: we are in a safe financial situation, and I don't see any change in that in the near future.

This message, I hope, gives you some idea of what we are up to in my administration. I am also working with the Board of Directors to move our concentrations from changing bylaws and the SPM manual to working on things that will insure that the KWVA is in existence for generations to come.

We are a unique veterans association. We should place our attention on two things: 1) never allow anyone to forget the people we lost or who were maimed or missing in action 2) remember that because we are unique we should strengthen our camaraderie and spend more time on being friends and sharing our lives with each other than in arguing about some simple rule or whatever, as we sometimes find ourselves doing.

We are members of the best veterans organization in the United States. If all of us work together and support our chapters, departments, and National officers, and enjoy our meetings and annual conferences and conventions, we will even be a better association and the KWVA "WILL" exist for generations to come.

Thank you, and God bless you all.

Jim Ferris, President

COVER: The official 2012 Veterans Day poster provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.



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## From the Secretary



Frank Cohee

In the July-August, 2012 issue I included some remarks from a letter that I had received from one of our members. The article was entitled "Five Shots I Would Like Again." I received two responses. This is what they said.

Jim Low, from E. Syracuse, NY, wrote, "This note is in reference to the letter from Jake on page six of the July-August *Graybeards*. Enclosed is a copy of my shot record with the five inoculations we all received: Smallpox Vaccine, Triple Typhoid Vaccine, Typhus Vaccine, Tetanus Toxoid and Cholera Vaccine. Jake could take these shots every day for a month and his libido will not improve. His arms will be sore and his stomach will be upset, but like the song, "The Party's Over, It's Time to Call It A Day," "Now You Must Wake Up, All The Dreams Must End."

Unfortunately, the other letter, which was a hand written note, materially disappeared, but it essentially contained the same information.

### Be Careful of Those Trying to Scam Vets

The following information was in a newsletter that I received from Central Jersey Chapter #148. It was provided by Carl Asszomy, a member of the Veterans Advisory Council at the VA Medical Center in Lyons, NJ. It is worth repeating, because I frequently get calls asking "Should I donate to this organization?"

Many times the question is asked, "I would like to donate to the veterans organizations and help our veterans, but how do I know which organization is legitimate?" This is a question we should ask every time we see a person wearing a military camouflage uniform with no insignia standing outside a supermarket asking for donations. It is a question we should ask when receiving requests for donations in the mail, or someone coming to the door representing a veterans group, or calling on the phone seeking personal or financial information, or offering a plan that seems too good to be true.

Many of us are aware of the major legitimate veterans organizations, such as American Legion, VFW, AMVETS, Vietnam Veterans of America, Jewish War Veterans, etc. Even these organizations need to be looked at closely, because there are some in which their administrative costs are more than what ends up being available to support the veterans.

There are many other legitimate organizations. However, because they are not well known, they add to the confusion of determining which groups can be trusted. Unfortunately, there are groups and individuals who are so unscrupulous they would steal from the elderly, military families, veterans and the general public. Some of their scams involve identity theft or outright schemes to steal money. Therefore, some simple rules that apply to the elderly, veterans, and the general public are: do not accept unsolicited phone calls—and

never provide personal information to unsolicited telephone calls.

Some callers claim to represent the VA and request personal information on the phone. The VA does not call on the phone to discuss personal or financial information.

Check the IRS's list of registered non-profit companies and charities. There are many other things one should not do, but I think that I have covered the most important ones. The bottom line is that the veterans appreciate your help, but, use caution as to whom you are giving your money.

### Another Letter of Thanks

Dear Mr. Frank Cohee,

My name is BJ Park and I am one of millions of Korean-Americans. I am living in Oregon. I am 40 years old and despite not having lived through the Korean War, I am forever grateful to our country for the sacrifice and honor shown by our Korean War vets. I have always wanted to show my appreciation and thanks to the vets.

If there is any way I can speak to and thank any Korean War vets at any function or gathering, I would be very interested to do so. This is something I have always wanted to do.

Thank you and please feel free to contact me.

## 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 Garry Rockburn, 518 East Ave., Kirkville, NY 13082. 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.

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# Korean War 60th Anniversary Update

The 60th anniversary of the Korean War armistice is fast approaching. No doubt local, state, and national organizations are planning celebrations of some sort. With each issue we will track events being planned.

And, it is a good time to start compiling stories for our 60th anniversary special edition (May-June 2013). Please let us know where you were when the armistice was signed, what you were doing, what was going on where you were, last minute surprises, your emotions after learning that the armistice was signed, your concerns about left-over ammo, how you and your buddies/units/enemies/families et al reacted...whatever you feel is important to cover in the special edition.

If you have photos, newspaper clips, diary entries, or other documents that supplement your remembrances, they would be welcome. We will put everything together for the special edition of *The Graybeards* that we are working on.

Send your material to 60th Anniversary Editor, *The Graybeards*, 895 Ribaut Rd. #13, Beaufort, SC 29902. *(Please make sure to include the #13 part of the address.)*

## July 27th

### Danville, IL

On July 27, 2012, the Danville Area Community College Student Veterans' Association re-dedicated a tree honoring Korean War veterans. The ceremony honored DACC Korean War veteran alumni.

### New NPRC Address

All of the 60 million military personnel and health records from the early 1900s are being moved to the new National Personnel Record Center facility. The new address is National Personnel Record Center (Military Personnel Records), 1 Archives Drive, St. Louis, MO 63138.

## CALL FOR ELECTIONS

The membership is hereby notified that elections will be held in the spring of 2013 for the following National Korean War Veterans Association, INC. (KWVA) offices: four (4) Directors for the years 2013-2016.

**No later than December 15, 2012**, any regular members in good standing of the KWVA seeking to run for the aforementioned offices shall make their intentions known to the Chairman of the Elections Committee, Thomas M. McHugh., in writing, using the following format:

### Requirements:

Applicants must:

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

**B.** Present a current photograph, suitable for publication in *The Graybeards*.

**C.** Submit a letter, signed and dated, limited to approximately one (1) page, including 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) Your email address, if available.
- 5) Alternate email address and alternate phone number. if available.
- 6) A statement that you will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and that you understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for your removal from office.
- 7) A statement that your dues are current through the whole term of the office that you are seeking. Note: Payment of delinquent dues shall not be retroactive for the purpose of establishing eligibility to run for office within the Association.

**D.** Send the above items by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Elections Committee Chairman, to arrive not later than December 15, 2012.

Applicants are requested to contact the Elections Committee Chairman if they have any questions.

Address application packages and questions to: Thomas M. McHugh, Election Committee Chairman, 217 Seymour Road, Hackettstown, NJ 07840: Ph: 908-852-1964 Email: TMMcHugh@msn.com

### The KWVA election process is as follows:

The Elections Committee certifies the candidates who are qualified to stand for office.

- The candidate declarations are sent to the editor of *The Graybeards* for publication in the January-February 2013 edition.

- The ballots are also published in that edition.

Members cast their ballots by May 10, 2013, and mail them to the KWVA-approved CPA.

- The CPA counts the ballots and reports the results via certified tally sheets to the Elections Committee.

- The results reported by the CPA are verified by the Elections Committee.

- Copies of the completed and verified tally sheets are sent by certified mail to each of the 15 Board Members, the Secretary, the Treasurer. and to each of the candidates for office, regardless of whether they are a winner or loser:

Frank Cohee  
KWVA National Secretary



# 60TH ANNIVERSARIES KOREAN WAR REVISIT KOREA TOURS



**2010 – 2013**

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## And So We Wait®

Waiting is one of the hardest things we do in life. We are always waiting for something. Sometimes we wait for something good to happen. At other times we wait for outcomes that may not be good, e.g., results of medical tests or trial results. But, no matter what we are waiting for our time is being wasted, because we can be doing more productive things.

Hey, I am preaching to the choir here. Who knows more about waiting than military veterans? They spent half their tours in “hurry up and wait” situations. They waited for trucks to arrive to transport them to someplace else where they would wait for something else. They waited in endless chow lines. They waited for the “Brass” to show up to conduct IG (Inspector General) or “Junk on the Bunk” inspections. They waited in lines at theaters to see a play titled “Waiting for Godot.” Whatever they did, they waited.

Okay, obviously I am waiting for something. (Actually, I am waiting for a lot of things. But I will concentrate on one specific thing here.) I am waiting for a decision from a publisher regarding a manuscript I submitted a few weeks back. My waiting is trivial compared to that being endured by the subject of the book. He is waiting to find out if he will receive the Medal of Honor. (I will keep his name out of this column for now. You can read all the details in the book—if it is ever published.)

At the tail end of 1969 this 21-year-old U.S. Army Special Forces Captain was in charge of security at a firebase located on a hill in the triangle where Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam come together. (He was the youngest Green Berets Captain in the Army at the time.) It was his first command. He and a Special Forces Sergeant were responsible for the security of 27 1/92nd U.S. Artillerymen and about 120 Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) members. They were surrounded by 5,000 highly trained North Vietnamese Army (NVA) soldiers whose mission was to annihilate the “friendly” troops.

The firebase was under siege for six

**They were surrounded by 5,000 highly trained North Vietnamese Army (NVA) soldiers whose mission was to annihilate the “friendly” troops.**

days. U.S. Army helicopter pilots and crews and U.S. Air Force gunship crews went above and beyond the call of duty at great risk to themselves to protect and resupply the 150 defenders. Sadly, their heroic efforts went for naught. Finally, the Captain realized that if he didn’t get the troops off the hill they would all be captured or killed—most likely both. There was a problem with escaping: “Vietnamization.”

Early in 1969, then President Richard M. Nixon set up a program through which command of operations in Vietnam would be turned over gradually to the South Vietnamese government. As a result, by the time late 1969 rolled around no one knew exactly who was in charge of military operations in the central highlands of Vietnam. (Sound familiar?) So, when the Captain requested permission to conduct an escape and evasion operation (E&E), he was turned down. The U.S. Army deferred to the South Vietnamese. They, in turn, said they didn’t have the wherewithal to support an E&E. The Captain was on his own. He did not waste any time making a decision.

One night, under the cover of darkness, he led his 150-man force off the hill toward a link-up with a Special Forces rescue team that had to fight its way to the rendezvous point. It took six hours for the two groups to find one another, because the NVA was out in force looking for them.

After a thirteen-hour experience that was fraught with disaster, the E&E force and its rescuers reached relative safety at a large Special Forces camp in the area—that was attacked by a large NVA force within a couple days. They lost only one man in the E&E, who unfortunately took a wrong turn at a crucial junction en route and is still listed as missing in action.

The story does not end there. The Army passed out medals to just about everyone who was involved in the E&E—as long as they were artillerymen. The Captain pretty much got a pat on the back and a new assignment. Forty years later, several veterans who were knowledgeable about the episode decided that would not stand. They compiled and submitted a Medal of Honor package to get the Captain the recognition they felt he so rightly deserves. That package and firsthand accounts of many of the individuals involved in the siege and E&E ended up in my hands. And so we wait.

I am used to waiting for publishers to rule on whether they will accept or reject my books and articles. But, neither I nor the Captain is used to waiting for word about whether or not he will receive the Medal of Honor he so richly deserves. As for me, there are always other publishers. For him, he has only one shot at a Medal of Honor. Let’s hope he receives it. He earned it—and about 150 Soldiers whose lives he helped save can attest to that.

And so we wait.

## 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

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING – ARLINGTON, VA - JULY 25, 2012**

Call for the Meeting: Website and March-April 2012 issue of *The Graybeards*.

Place of Announced Meeting: The Sheraton National Hotel, Arlington, VA.

Call to Order: President Ferris called the meeting to order at 0857 hours, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Sergeant of Arms Billy Scott. National Chaplain Leo Ruffling gave the invocation.

Roll Call and Introductions: President Ferris asked for a roll call of the officers and directors, which was then called by Secretary Cohee:

KWVA Board Members present:

- Jim Ferris, President
- Larry Kinard, 1st Vice President
- Roy E. Aldridge, 2nd Vice President
- Frank Cohee, Secretary
- Garry Rockburn, Treasurer
- James Fountain, Director
- Arthur Griffith, Director
- J. Tilford Jones, Director
- George Lawhon, Director
- Thomas McHugh, Director
- Richard Brown, Director
- Luther Rice, Director
- Luther Dappen, Director
- Salvatore Scarlato, Director
- Lewis Ewing, Director
- Thomas W. Stevens, Director
- Erza Williams, Director

■ Secretary Cohee noted that all officers and directors were present and declared that there was a quorum.

■ President Ferris introduced the new and re-elected officers and directors: Larry Kinard, 1st Vice President; Roy Aldridge, 2nd Vice President; Directors Luther Dappen, Tilford Jones, Salvatore Scarlato, and Ezra Williams. He also introduced the new Judge Advocate, Bill Burns, and Jennifer Young, the recorder. Other new appointed staff members in attendance were National Legislative Director Billy J. Scott and KWVA Liaison to Canada KWV Garry J. Rockburn.

■ New Committee Chairman in attendance were J. Tilford Jones, Chairman of the Budget/Finance Committee; Sal Scarlato, Chairman of the Resolutions Committee; and Lewis Ewing, Chairman of the Bylaws Committee.

■ Installation of recently elected Board members: Judge Advocate Burns installed the new and re-elected officers and directors and the appointed officers, Secretary Frank Cohee and Treasurer Garry Rockburn.

■ Departments and Chapter Commanders/Presidents Recognized: Ezra “Frank” Williams, Department of Missouri; Roy Aldridge, CID 249; Frank Cohee, CID 158; Florida Tom Stevens; CID 181, Kansas; CID 129, Indiana; Warren

Wiedhahn, CID 100, Virginia; Sonny Edwards, Department of Virginia; Sal Scarlato, New York.

■ Adopted Agenda: Director Brown made a motion that agenda be adopted, it was seconded by Director Griffith and passed unanimously.

■ Directors Rules of Decorum and Debate: President Ferris read the nine rules.

■ Approval of Previous Board of Directors Minutes of 10/29/2011 Meeting: In lieu of having Secretary Cohee read the minutes, Director Brown made a motion to approve the minutes as published in the Nov-Dec 2011 issue of *The Graybeards*. Director Williams seconded the motion and it was approved without opposition.

Treasurer’s Report:

• Treasurer Burns commented that due to the diligence of his predecessor, Tilford Jones, the corporation is in good shape financially. The primary checking account as of July 12, 2012 has a balance of \$53,070.89.

• Director Jones added that he has given a copy of the audit for 2011 to all members of the Board. This is the complete audit that we have to give to Congress and which the President uses to make his report to the Congress.

• Director Griffith made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report. The motion was seconded by Director Stevens and approved unanimously.

■ At this point, President Ferris introduced two very distinguished guests, Col. Bill Weber, Founder of our National Memorial, and Col. Warren Weidhahn, Washington DC Liaison and Revisit Committee Coordinator.

President’s Report:

■ President Ferris commented that since he has only been President for about a month he did not have a lot to report. However, as he suggested in his resume, he wanted to mention some top priorities. The first one is recruiting.

• There is only one way to recruit, and that is to make it a top priority and buy into the premise that it can be done. To support this effort, I have appointed John (“Sonny”) Edwards as the Chairman of a new subcommittee under the Membership Committee.

• The second priority is *The Graybeards*. This magazine costs us about \$170,000 a year. We must make this self supporting. I need you to give my recruiting plans and my plans for *The Graybeards* a chance to work.

■ At this point, President Ferris commented that he was going to break away for a minute from the business matters and make us a little more cohesive if he could. He took the liberty of making all new name tags for the Board members, and he asked Secretary Cohee to hand them out.

■ The President then asked for permission to have polo shirts made so that we would all be dressed the same at the Board and General Membership Meetings. He said that he would buy them if the Board members agreed, which they did.

■ Comments by Larry Kinard, 1st VP:

- He commented that the Association's new administration has gotten off to a very good start. We need to give a big thank you to Past President Mac Swain. We have accomplished a lot in the past four years. We received our Charter and put ourselves in good shape financially.

- Larry then presented Past President Mac Swain with a laser range finder that takes one right to the pin when playing golf, and a dozen golf balls.

- Yesterday evening there was a meeting of the standing committee chairman and a few of the new appointed officials and officers. The purpose of that meeting was to improve communications; it was very successful. Larry agreed to put together a bi-monthly report with information to pass on to the Board

Remarks by Col. Wiedhahn:

- Col. Wiedhahn announced that the Ambassador and the Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs, contrary to previous plans, were going to set up a wreath-laying ceremony at our memorial today, which would require that the Board meeting be over by that time. Immediately following those ceremonies, there would be a reception at Capitol Hill.

- Request from Charles Smith to be reinstated in the Association:

- Secretary Cohee read a letter that had been sent to him by Charles Smith requesting reinstatement in the Association. Mr. Smith was expelled from the Association several years ago because of some derogatory remarks that he made not only against the Association but also against some of the Directors.

- Director McHugh made a motion that the request be denied; it was seconded by Director Brown and passed unanimously.

- Request ratification of the Business without a Meeting: add the immediate Past President as an Advisor to the new President and to approve Robert Mitchell as the KWVA Liaison to the Korean War National Museum.

- Director Brown made a motion to approve the ratification. It was seconded by Director McHugh and passed unanimously.

- Request to approve a change to the bylaws to add a legacy of life membership provision:

- Past President Mac Swain commented that this would require a change to the charter that requires approval by Congress.

- Director Griffith made a motion that the request be denied. The motion was seconded by Director McHugh and approved without objection.

- Approval to destroy ballots for 2012 Election:

- A motion was made by Director Brown to destroy the 2012 ballots. It was seconded by Director Lawhon and was approved without opposition.

- Discuss and approve proposed location for a Board Meeting in 2013 and a General Membership Meeting for 2014:

- President Ferris recommended that we have a one-day Board Meeting in Syracuse, NY on March 13, 2013.

- A motion was made by Director McHugh that a Board Meeting be held in Syracuse, NY on March 13, 2013. The motion was seconded by Director Brown and passed without objection.

- 1st Vice President Kinard read a letter from Director Dappen

recommending Rapid City, South Dakota for the General Membership Meeting in 2014.

- It was then pointed out that there are two more proposals to have the 2014 meeting. One was for Rochester, MN and the other one for Knoxville, TN.

- Director McHugh commented that since there are three proposals to have the meeting in 2014 there would not be enough time for the board members to read them, so he made a recommendation that the proposals be presented to the board members as a meeting without a meeting.

- Director McHugh made that a motion. It was seconded by Director Griffith and was passed without objection.

Discussion and request for approval to provide support for the planning and erection of a memorial in the DC area to honor the Korean Service Veterans:

- 1st Vice President Kinard handed out some pictures of such a memorial erected in Yongsan, South Korea. It was erected by the South Korean government to honor those who have served in Korea since the armistice was signed. The action to be accomplished today is to request Board approval to begin necessary action to publicize to the KWVA membership and the appropriate government officials that the KWVA strongly recommends and supports building of such a monument. If approved, past Director Brodeur should be appointed Chairman of a committee charged with developing the scope and funding method for the project. The committee will be expected to report on its progress at the October 2012 Board and Membership Meeting.

- 1st Vice President Kinard then made a motion that past Director Brodeur be appointed Chairman of the Korea DMZ/Korea Defense Service Memorial Committee and charged with developing the scope and funding methods for the project. The motion was seconded by Director Fountain and passed without objection.

- At this point President Ferris asked Col Weber to come forward and speak to the group.

He spoke about the proposed bill, H. R. 2563, that is now in Congress. If it is approved, a Wall of Remembrance will be built at the Korean War Memorial on which will be listed all the names of the fallen.

When the Col was asked if he thought the proposed Defense Service Veterans Memorial would hinder what he is trying to do, he replied that while he supports the Korean Defense Veterans, there would be too many things in the pot right now. Let's get H.R. 2563 passed first.

- Director Lawhon had submitted five agenda action items that had been recommended by our webmaster, Jim Doppelhammer. They were numbered GEL 1-5. Action was taken on GEL 1, which was a Request for Approval to raise Associate Member dues to \$25.00 a year:

- Director Lawhon made a motion that the request to raise the Associate Member dues be approved. It was seconded by Director Dappen. The motion failed to pass.

- Director Griffith questioned why these items were not brought up by the membership committee. Since they had not been reviewed by that committee, it was decided that no action would be taken on items GEL2-5 at this time. The items will be

reviewed by the membership committee and put on the agenda for the October 11, 2012 Board Meeting in St. Louis, MO.

- 2nd Vice President Aldridge made a motion that the four items be tabled and returned to the Membership Committee and to go with that Committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Director Mc Hugh and passed without objection.

- Request approval to revise SPM section 3.9.6 Special Meetings: Director Lawhon made the motion that the request be approved. The motion was seconded by 2nd Vice President Aldridge and it was passed without objection.

- Request approval to add a National Legislative Director to SPM Section 2.6 Special Committees:

- It was decided that this position would be appointed by the President and no committee was required.

- 2nd Vice President Aldridge made a motion to change the title of Director to National Legislative Affairs Liaison. The motion was seconded by Director Williams and passed with one opposed.

- 1st Vice President Kinard read a list of duties that he had prepared, to include that the liaison will aggressively promote current legislation, especially 2563 and 5903, and will establish and maintain a relationship with other veterans organizations like the VFW and American Legion.

- 2nd Vice President Aldridge made a motion to accept the duties and responsibilities as written. The motion was seconded by Director Williams and passed without objection. Director Lawhon agreed to write up the change and give it to the new Bylaws Chairman.

- Request approval to revise SPM 4.6.1 to require all new applicants to sign on to the KWVA Code of Conduct.

- This action item was submitted by Stephen Szekely, Chairman of the Ethics and Grievance Committee.

- Director Lawhon made a motion to revise the SPM to contain that requirement. Director Brown seconded the motion. Director Lawhon pointed out that the Code of Conduct was not in the bylaws or the SPM. The motion failed to pass by a majority vote.

- Request approval to revise the SPM to require submission of the DD Form 214 to prove authorization to become a member of the KWVA:

- Director Lawhon made a motion to require submission of the DD Form 214. The motion was seconded by Director Jones. Judge Advocate Burns commented that the federal government and federal law does not consider it a public document, so we have no right to have it. The motion failed.

- Request approval of a proposal to revise the SPM to expand Chapter and Department access to the KWVA database: (Submitted by the Department of Florida).

- Director Lawhon made a motion that this action item be tabled and taken up with everyone for consideration in October. The reason is that neither the webmaster, Jim Doppelhammer, nor Jake Feaster, Membership Management, are at the meeting today, but they will be at the October meeting to speak to this request. The motion was seconded by Director Brown and passed with no objection.

- Director Griffith, Chairman of the Fund Raising Committee, reported on this year's fund raiser.

- He reported that this time last year we had taken in \$58,765, whereas this year we have only taken in \$40,404. So, we have to come up with another source to make our \$65,000 profit this year.

- An offer has been received by a Mr. Cummins in Florida, who wrote a book entitled *The Forgotten*. The book sells for \$27.95, but it would cost the KWVA only \$9.00. I am asking the Board's approval to run a special offer in *The Graybeards* and on the website that will only go to December 31, 2012. I am about \$2,000.00 under budget, so I would like to use about \$450.00 to order 50 books at a time.

- Director Griffith made a motion to get approval to sell the book. The motion was seconded by Director Brown and passed without objection.

- President Ferris commented that at the last meeting that Director Williams was appointed as Chairman of an Awards Committee. He has developed some nice awards for some very important people. The first one on the list is Past President Mac Swain, an old friend of mine and a great friend of all of all of us.

- President Ferris then asked Past President Mac Swain to come up to the podium to accept his award/plaque. The plaque reads: "Distinguished service award to William F. Mac Swain for outstanding vision, dedication and commitment of excellence while serving in the United States Army, 1950-1952 in Korea 1951-1952 as a weapons platoon Master Sergeant. A charter member of the General Walton Chapter (CID 215) and a life member of the KWVA, you have served six years on the Board of Directors as a member of the bylaws committee and then as Chairman of that committee, active in the Tell America Program and President of the Association for four years.

- Several other plaques were given to various members for their service to the KWVA.

- Warren Weidhahn took a few minutes to talk about the 60th Anniversary Commemoration Committee headed up by Col. Dave Clark. That committee has a database of 12,000 Korean War veterans and the Col. has agreed to let us use it to recruit new members.

As for the Revisit Committee, Korea is planning to double not just the visit of veterans going back, but their children and grandchildren.

- 1st Vice President Kinard also made some closing comments. Probably the most important was that the DOD has agreed to print 25,000 of Jack Walker's little blue book, a brief account of the Korean War. The book can be read on the KWVA web site.

He commented that he planned to send at least 100 of those to every chapter. Jack Walker agreed to accept \$1,000.00 for the right to reprint the book.

- Vice President Kinard made a motion to pay the \$1,000.00 to Mr. Walker. The motion was seconded by Director Brown and was passed with no objection.

- Director Scarlato announced that that there is a Korean here named Professor Han. He belongs to the Korean War Veterans Memorial Digital Organization. He is filming many Korean vets

on the computers so that later on, when we are gone, our stories will be told on the computer. He will provide you with a DVD of the interview. He will come to your chapter as long as he has multiple participants, like at least 8-10 people. Director Scarlato commented further that the Department of New York was on a crusade right now and he was wondering if the KWVA wanted to get involved. The crusade is about the Cold War Medal and the Certificate. The Certificate is free but one has to pay for the medal. H. R. 1968 is in the house now to award all of the Korean War Veterans the medal. So there is a crusade going to notify all of our Congressmen. Right now you can purchase it for \$24.95, but we do not want to buy them. We want them to be issued as an official medal.

■ Vice President Aldridge commented on the ads in The Graybeards. While it is a great magazine, the advertisements are limited. If one looks at the VFW magazine that issues 1,352,000 copies monthly, it is 75-80 percent ads, whereas our magazine is only about 80 percent articles and a few ads.

The VFW charges \$12,000 for a full page. We charge about \$750 or \$850 for full cover. So, we have to get more ads to help pay for our magazine.

■ Director Williams questioned if he had a budget for the award plaques. Past President Mac Swain commented that the President has the funds for that type of thing and I think it is \$3,000.00 .

■ President Ferris asked the Board to stay for a few minutes, as a short executive meeting was necessary. Everyone except the Board members was asked to leave the meeting room.

■ After the executive session, President Ferris asked the Sergeant at Arms to lead us in salute to the Flag. President Ferris then asked Chaplain Ruffing to give us the closing prayer.

■ President Ferris then asked that the members of the Board join with him in singing "God Bless America."

■ Director McHugh made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Director Fountain and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1331 hours.

Respectively submitted

*Frank Cohee, National/Association Secretary*

## Reunion Calendar: 2012 - 2013

Mail your info to Reunion Editor, The Graybeards, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or email it to sharp\_arthur\_g@sbcglobal.net. Include Unit, Date(s), Place, and Contact's name, address, phone #, email address. Entries are posted "first come, first served." *The Graybeards* is not responsible for the accuracy of the information published.

### NOVEMBER, 2012

**KWVA Department of Texas**, 16-18 Nov., San Antonio, TX, Menger Hotel. Tom Cacy, pastortomcacy@sbcglobal.net

### APRIL, 2013

**USS Renville** (APA 227), open to all former crew and troops, 3-7 Apr., Portland, OR, Red Lion Hotel. Lynda Rumble, 187 Lakeshore Dr., Mooresville, NC 28117, 704-906-7622, lyndahd01@aol.com (ship's website is ussrenvilleapa227.com)

**USS Ault** (DD 698), 25-29 April, Erlanger, KY. Pam@GatheringsPlus.com, P.O. Box 1023, Branson West, MO 65737, 417-338-4048

## TO RECRUIT



Comrades: I am sure each of you is aware that President Jim Ferris has recruiting new members as his top priority. This is imperative if we want to remain a strong organization for years to come. There are many Korea War and Service Veterans in the cities and towns where each of us live. I recommend that we contact the news media in our area to make Korea Veterans aware that there is a KWVA organization and we are seeking new members.

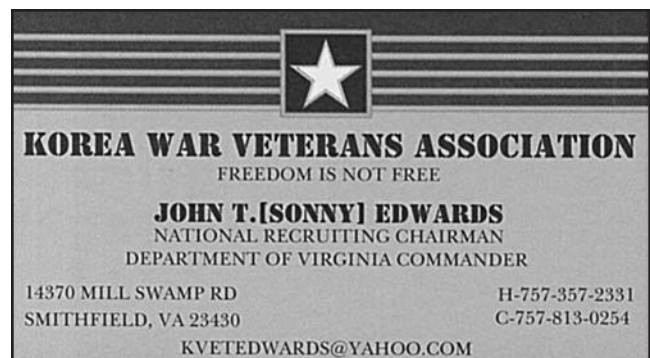
In my report to President Ferris at the Gathering, I said that I think we should capitalize on the DOD Certificates of Appreciation. I used this approach recently where I live, and it was very successful. I was able to recruit several new members.

I used the local news media to inform the public of the certificates with my phone number and e-mail address. When the veteran calls, I ask for his name, branch of service, and phone number. I then email this information to [ioni.m.smith9.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:ioni.m.smith9.ctr@mail.mil).

I suggest having one point of contact to control the information and to inform the recipients they will be called for date, time, and place for the award ceremony. I also suggest attaching an application to each certificate and have members present to recruit them to join the KWVA.

Comrades: recruiting is a daily activity. Always have applications and your business card with you. If at any time I can be service to you, please contact me.

John T. 'Sonny' Edwards, 14370 Mill Swamp Rd., Smithfield, VA 23430, 757-357-2331, [KVetEdwards@yahoo.com](mailto:KVetEdwards@yahoo.com)



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# Battleship Sailor Remembers War In Korea

By Brooks W. Outland

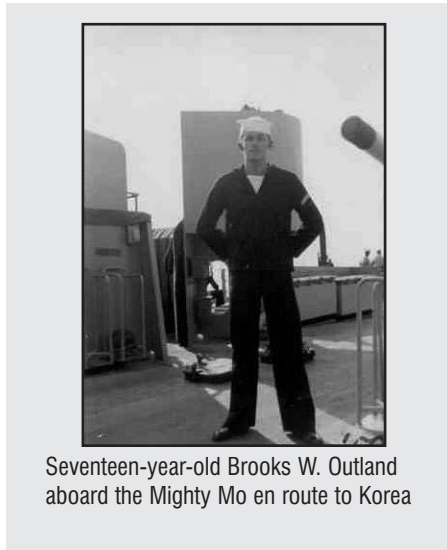
A few months before my 17th birthday, my stepfather and I had a terrible argument. Rather than allow him to use a belt on me, I told him that I would not allow him to hit me again! My Mom could see only more trouble ahead, so she helped me alter my birth certificate to show I was born in 1932, not 1933. The Navy recruiter immediately noticed the attempt to change the certificate and said I would have to wait the few months until my 17th birthday and then they would accept my enlistment.

On my 17th birthday, 21 May 1950, I jumped on a Greyhound bus bound for Columbus, Ohio, where the inductees were to be sworn in. We were then transported by train to the U.S. Naval Recruit Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois. Upon arrival, I was assigned to Company 107, along with 59 other guys. Recruit training was called "Boot Camp," and our instructor (Boot Pusher) was a real live Chief Petty Officer. He was only an E-7 in pay grade, but he was like a high-ranking naval officer to us!

Sometime in the summer of 1949, I managed to enlist in the U.S. Naval Reserve in my hometown of Akron, Ohio. As a member of the Reserve Unit, I was trained in Semaphore, Morse Code, the Manual of Arms (right shoulder, left shoulder, port arms, parade rest, etc. – with an M-1 Garand Rifle), and we learned precision marching. I already knew Semaphore from Boy Scout training, but all the rest was new and fascinating. You can imagine how exciting that would be for any 16-year-old lad!! It was great and I really enjoyed it!

Because of the eleven months training I had received while I was stationed at the Naval Reserve Unit, I already knew quite a bit of what we were about to learn. Because of this experience, I was selected as ACPO (Assistant Chief Petty Officer) of the company. Oh boy, my first week in the military, and I'm already getting a taste of responsibility and leadership. Sometime during the latter part of our training, our company was combined with Company 108.

I remained ACPO of this new, larger



Seventeen-year-old Brooks W. Outland aboard the Mighty Mo en route to Korea

company (120 men). About the time we were completing our basic training, the Korean War heated up. All post-graduation orders and boot leave were canceled. Our entire company was assigned to duty aboard the battleship *USS Missouri* (BB 63), moored alongside Pier 7 at Naval Operating Base (NOB), Norfolk, Virginia.

We were shipped by troop train to Norfolk, hustled into a barracks, and told that we could have "base liberty" that evening until midnight. The Navy calls that kind of liberty "Cinderella Liberty." Many a teenaged young man got very drunk that night! The barracks was a shambles the following morning, and the odor of vomit was stifling! A half dozen Shore Patrolmen came to awaken us at 0500 and marched us to Pier 7.

I looked up in awe at this huge ship. As I saluted the ship's Ensign and the Officer of the Deck, I heard the shipboard assignments being made. The 35 or 40 men ahead of me were assigned to deck divisions. My group of about a dozen men was assigned to the "FA" Division, which was responsible for the ship's armament. Back then, we had 20 Quad 40mm mounts, 10 Twin 5"38 mounts, 49 20mm guns, and, of course, the main battery of 16" rifles – 3 in each of the three turrets.

I worked with FCs and FTs as a Fire Controlman Striker. I came aboard as a Seaman Deuce (E2), but made First Class Seaman within two weeks. Boy, was I ever proud of those three white diagonal stripes on my sleeve!

Back in those days, my payday was \$89 a month. We received an additional \$8 or \$9 a month for sea pay. Cigarettes were only 70 cents a carton.

A scant four hours after we boarded the ship, it moved away from the pier and headed for the open sea. As we cleared the mouth of Chesapeake Bay, I heard the 1MC click open and Captain Irving T. Duke's voice told the crew that we were steaming with all haste for Korean waters. A thunderous roar of approval filled the atmosphere.

After nineteen steaming days, which included a hurricane off Cape Hatteras, transiting the Panama Canal, stopovers in San Diego, California and Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and finally Typhoon "Kezia" in the Sea of Japan, we arrived in Korean waters too late to take part in the actual Inchon invasion, as planned. So, the ship was sent to the east coast of North Korea for a diversionary action at Samchok.

North Korean intelligence people might just think that an invasion was taking place on the east coast rather than at Inchon. The first 16-inch shells to explode on North Korean soil occurred the morning we hit Samchok!

I won't bore you with details of all missions undertaken by *Missouri*, but I will tell you that in addition to aircraft carrier screening duties, she participated in gun-fire support and 19 bombardment missions; 2 were categorized as major battles. The ship and its crew earned two silver stars on the Korean Service Medal for those major battles.

We fired so many rounds of 16-inch projectiles that we had to put in at Sasebo, Japan and shave the liners of the big guns. The lans and grooves liners were protruding at least half an inch from the face of the barrels!

Incidentally, my battle station was the 40mm mount, which was located on the fantail, port side. I was Telephone Talker/Assistant Director Operator for that gun mount. I was qualified on the Mark 51 Director with its Mark 14 gun sight and was also qualified to take over any gun crew position should anyone become incapacitated. When General Quarters was sounded, I had to double-time it from my

berthing quarters just aft of the Anchor Windlass Room in the bow, to the fantail, often through snowflakes.

It was the coldest winter in Korea's history! Temperatures dropped to 29 degrees below zero. The wind-chill factor got down to 98 below. We were issued arctic foul weather gear, which included pressed-wool face masks that had a slit for seeing and nose and mouth holes for breathing. The moisture from breathing formed icicles dangling from my face mask. It gave the appearance of fangs! We laughed about that.

When Turret #3 was needed for bombardment, all personnel on the fantail were ordered into the superstructure. During one of the missions, three of us did not make it to the safety of the superstructure before Turret #3 fired a two gun salvo. The concussion waves (which I later learned travel about 400 feet per second) picked us up like rag dolls and slammed us to the wooden deck. We received minor injuries, but we managed to return to our battle stations when Turret #3 was no longer needed. I suffered what I thought to be only slight injuries to my spine. In later years, I started having severe problems with my spine.

Our proudest moment in Korean waters was when the ship was assigned covering-fire duty to protect the First Marine Division as they made their way from the Chosin Reservoir to the port city of Hungnam, North Korea. We fired those 16-inch shells on top of, or just ahead of, the hordes of Chinese troops who were in hot pursuit.

There was a mass evacuation of UN troops and tons of supplies and equipment from Hungnam that week. When all personnel and serviceable equipment were loaded aboard the awaiting ships, the demolition teams demolished the entire port area.

For its combat service, *Missouri* and its crew were awarded several medals: the Korean Presidential Unit Citation, the Korean Service Medal (with two silver stars), and the United Nations Service Medal! The Korea War Service Medal and the Navy Combat Action Ribbon were not delivered to eligible recipients until the year 2000. The Combat Action Ribbon is likened to the Army's coveted Combat Infantryman Badge! I was quite proud to

add that ribbon to my others.

We departed Korean waters sometime in April 1951 and were relieved by the USS *New Jersey*. I served aboard the Mighty Mo until mid-1952. I did not see the *Missouri* again until 2006. In December of that year, my wife and I were given special permission to have our wedding ceremony aboard the ship, which was moored permanently on Oahu in Pearl Harbor. It was the first time such an event had ever been authorized. It was only because I am a former crewmember that this permission was given. It was quite a hoot!

I experienced a fantastic career in the Navy and retired as a Senior Chief Yeoman with 20 years, 5 months and 12 days service. I volunteered for my one-year tour in Vietnam (1966/67). I was assigned to MACV/SOG, which was a covert Special Operations Group. SOG operated in Cambodia, Laos, and North Vietnam.

During my last four years prior to retirement, I was the Personal Aide to Rear Admiral Dean L. Axene. I had the dubious honor of being the first and only Flag Officer Personal Aide in the Navy at the time. Some of you may recall that Admiral Axene was the Commissioning Commanding Officer of the ill-fated submarine USS *Thresher*. The Admiral (then a Commander) had transferred off the sub prior to its final voyage.

My wife and I returned to Oahu in mid-2007, having decided to live out the rest of our lives in the islands and do volunteer work aboard my old ship. We are both official volunteers and I am one of the Supervisors of Volunteers. During most of 2008, I worked shoulder-to-shoulder with a group of "Wounded Warriors" who had

recently returned from combat duty in the Mid-East. These Marines were given permission to come aboard to assist in the repair and maintenance of the ship. I was the supervisor of that group. It was a mutually rewarding experience that I shall never forget.

Nowadays, because of my advanced age, my duties as a volunteer aboard the ship involve mostly speaking with groups visiting the ship and at special breakfasts/lunches/dinners. However, I believe that I am still a part of my beloved U.S. Navy.

I would be remiss not to mention that I was chosen by Universal Studios during November 2011 to be an extra in the movie "Battleship." I was one of 34 men nicknamed "Old Salts" who were called upon to make the Mighty Mo ready for war with the aliens. Two of the scenes I was in actually made it to the final version of the movie.

They filmed a "Special Features" section in January 2012 for the DVD, which was scheduled to be released on 28 Aug 2012. The feature is approximately 45 minutes in length and it films a "walk about the ship" by Mr. Peter Berg, the Director. During the walk, Mr. Berg was accompanied by several former crewmembers of the *Missouri*: a former Executive Officer, a former Captain's Steward, and me.

While filming that day, I had the distinct pleasure of meeting and talking at length with Colonel Greg Gadson. The Colonel was cast as a double amputee in the movie.

*Brooks W. Outland, Senior Chief U.S. Navy (Retired), 87-1057 Huamoa Street, Waianae, HI 96792, 808-744-2945.*

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# The Poignancy of War

I recently received about six dozen photos from relatives in Korea from the 1950-51 era. Many bring back memories. Unfortunately, I do not know the origin of the photos.

Apparently, the nearby photo was taken on a train somewhere in Korea. It raises questions. Who is the Soldier? Where was the photo taken? Where was he headed?

Anybody have any answers? If so, let the editor know. Send your info to him at 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

I realize the near impossibility of identifying the Soldier in the picture. But, if anyone knows, perhaps we can get the photo to his family—or to him.

Thanks to George Parks, 61 Corman Ct., Decatur, IL 62521, 217-423-3072, for submitting the photo.



The poignancy of war

"A GIANT OF A NOVEL...I HATED FOR IT TO END." William Hoffman—*The Trumpet Unblown*

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# Things Remembered From 1950

By Byrl Harlan

When the attack came across the 38th parallel in June 1950, I was a twenty-year-old air traffic controller at Johnson AFB near Tokyo, Japan. We were assigned to work both in the control tower and in Tokyo Air Traffic Control Center, which was located there at the base. We had early notification that the attack had occurred because the Air Defense Command was co-located with us, and because the air traffic between Japan and Korea was suddenly very heavy. We knew also because we were on Red Alert.

Johnson AFB itself was busy. Air Sea Rescue was flying missions one after another with their SA-16s and the B-17s in their unit. The P-51s, P-61s and B-26s were all flying missions very quickly after the attack. B-29s and B-50s were soon using our base as overflow from Yokota. The Aussies brought up a squadron of P-51s and were with us for a while.

Sometime in July or August I was sent to Tachikawa as the first move for me to join the small group of airmen sent to Korea by a very long process. At first, I was the only air traffic guy. That changed when I was sent to Nagoya to join the rest of my unit. We totaled thirteen controllers, repairmen and radio (CW) operators. From Nagoya we were forwarded to Itami, where we languished for several weeks wondering when we would go on to Korea.



In September we boarded an LST in a nearby harbor. We were bunched up with several other ships loading men and equipment. Our thirteen airmen were on the ship that was loaded with Marines. The ship was manned by Japanese sailors. We heard that a Japanese company owned the vessel, which was leased to either the U.S. or the UN.

When we boarded the ship we did not know what our mission was. There were no officers with us in the know. The highest rank among us was a staff sergeant. We occupied ourselves with card playing and moving around into the spaces where we were allowed to go. The deck was covered with all types of Marine vehicles that had been lashed down with chains and parked very close to each other. We left the harbor in mid- to late-September and joined several other ships.

Our arrival in Korean waters was a rude awakening. We were in sight of Wonsan harbor, where we dropped anchor and remained for several days. In the meantime, we had a view of the battle going on in and around Wonsan. We could see and hear aircraft strafing and dropping bombs. In the harbor, we could see the U.S. and ROK navies sweeping the mines that had been sown there. We heard the explosion that sank one of the minesweepers; some of us saw a second minesweeper that blew up and sank while we watched in horror.

*EDITOR'S NOTE: USS Pirate (AM 275) sank first, on 12 October 1950, after striking a mine and enduring North Korean heavy shore battery fire from Sin-Do Island. Of the 77 crew members aboard, 43 were reported injured and 6 missing. Shortly afterwards, USS Pledge (AM 277) sank after hitting a mine. USS Endicott (DMS 35) picked up the survivors of Pledge.*

Before we landed—finally—the Navy swept clear a path for the ships to go

A tank crew in front of Byrl Harlan's tent just before the tank was dug in as part of the inner perimeter around Yonpo airbase ➤

◀ A bombed-out hanger in Wonsan, Korea with a North Korean aircraft that was damaged in the bombing

through to the beach by using two destroyers with a cable tied between them. At last, *USS Zellars* (DD 777) escorted us to the beach. Our landing was uneventful. We walked on shore with our equipment on our backs, found our way to the airport, and reported in to AACS unit there.

We were told to leave our stuff and go over to a hanger where the Bob Hope troupe was to do their show that afternoon. Bob's first joke was to greet the Marines and welcome them on shore. That got a big laugh from some and boos from the Marines. I think it was ironic that Bob Hope, Les Brown and his band, along with a bunch of women, was on shore to greet an invasion.

We stayed at Wonsan for a few days, then boarded a C-47 and flew up the coast to our new duty station at Yonpo, K-27. We had a 4,600-foot runway with one bomb crater in it. The runway was extended on both ends with punched steel matting to make it something over 5,000 feet long.

Soon after we arrived the bomb crater was filled with dirt and rock. That made the runway useful to us, and a NOTEM (notice to airmen) was issued warning all pilots. We found out that our primary mission was to furnish air traffic control and communications for the Marine air wing that began arriving. The Marine fighters and associated other aircraft were the bulk of our traffic.



Our commander, a reserve captain from California, had joined us at Wonsan. As a result, when we got to Yonpo we were organized sufficiently to get a control tower and radio station set up and running. We used a corner of the roof of the headquarters building for the tower. The base was pretty much a wreck, so we took windows from empty buildings and formed the tower cab and striped wire from poles to use to hook up equipment. We had no vehicles, except for one jeep. But, if we found one not in operation, we made use of it.

When our commander joined us, we also gained a CRIPTO operator and several other airmen who finally made up Detachment 13 of the 1973 AACs Sq. Our thirteen guys, put together in Japan and gathered from units all over the world, had grown a lot. Our duties were around the clock, but not much happened at night since the airport lights were almost nonexistent. (Who wants lights turned on in a war zone anyway?)

With the increase of radio traffic of the secret kind, our CRIPTO guy was busy. If he got any relief, it had to be from the captain. He was the only person who also knew how to encrypt and decode the messages. Both of them were busy people.

We worked hard in the tower, because the build-up of traffic was terrific. We had units of Marine aircraft, all the way from light O1s to fighters and transport planes, fighters from South Africa and one or two other foreign countries, USAF C-119s and C-47s in and out with resupply cargoes,



**When the battle began in the Chosin Reservoir area, the supplies were loaded on the C-119s and air dropped to the troops there. The flying of supplies became so intense that some of the aircraft flew without the doors on the tail of the aircraft.**

and several units of AIREVAC and Air Sea Rescue. The U.S. Navy had a large contingent of bombers and fighters, along with some light stuff mixed in. Quite often we would have a Flying Tiger C-46 arrive with either troops or cargo. Our traffic count set some records for a single runway operation.

There were also a holding pen for prisoners and a M.A.S.H. field hospital located near the north end of the runway mixed in with all the air traffic. Finally, we had a large area of supplies stacked east of the hospital tent. When the battle began in the Chosin Reservoir area, the supplies were loaded on the C-119s and air dropped to the troops there. The flying of supplies became so intense that some of the aircraft flew without the doors on the tail of the aircraft.

One of the C-119s became disabled and was pushed to the side of the runway. Another C-46, which belonged to the Flying Tigers, crashed on landing and was pushed aside also. We had our share of VIPs come our way, too. Admiral Joy had his headquarters in our building, so his visitors were usually his field commanders, and Gen. Douglas MacArthur was there at least once.

When we first arrived at K-27 we were so few that we could live where we wanted to. We picked out a building not far from the tower, tossed our sleeping bags on the floor, and took up residence. As supplies became available we had the wood and canvas bunks and other things we just picked up to make the place livable. We lost that building when all the pilots began arriving and we were moved into eight-man tents.

Getting our mail was like all GIs experienced, in bunches and not too often. My

Byrl Harlan in Korea ➤

◀ Four of the original thirteen men sent to Wonsan; Joe Urton is at far right

Mom would write me once a week and my girl friend usually wrote daily or almost daily, but I got them in a small bundle. My girl friend has now been my wife, Dolores, for 59 years.

We ate mainly field rations, but after a few days the cook and his crew showed up and we had a mess hall. We had been getting our water from a small stream that ran through the base; we used the pills from our rations to purify it. When the cooks arrived they had a big tank trailer, from which we got our water from then on—until the guy who had the duty of filling it was killed. His death was our first indication that the fighting was getting close.

We also knew the enemy was getting closer because of the shelling. One shell landed close to the building we had been in and knocked plaster from the ceiling and sent it all over the room. That happened just before we were told to move out and set up a tent for ourselves. I did not need to be told twice.

The shot that knocked our ceiling down hit right on a small concrete block building used as the officers club and blew it into small pieces. Fortunately, since it was during the day, no one was in it.

One day we had another indicator that



all was not well at K-27 when an Army tank moved into our area. The crew dug a hole about ten feet in front of our tent, backed the tank into the hole, and took up residence with us. We were told the tank was part of the inner perimeter being set up. The tank gave me a sense of dread and security at the same time.

Our tent was heated somewhat by a small stove that burned diesel fuel, which made the tent livable in the severe cold. One day a barrel of fuel had to be hooked up because the one in use had been emptied. One of our guys, Joe Urton, had adopted a kitten. The ones moving the fuel barrel into place saw the kitten too late and squashed it. Everyone was hurting for the kitten and Joe, so we understood when Joe gave it a proper burial.

Rolly Premeoux, from Lafayette, Louisiana, was a good guitar player. I don't know how he managed to keep his guitar with him all the way, but his playing and singing were something we needed—and he did it a lot. Premeoux could sing some funny lyrics in a Cajun accent that were just great.

Rolly is the only person at K-27 that I have met after the war. My wife and I were on vacation in Louisiana. I went to play golf, and there he was. He is one great golfer, and he invited me to play along with him and his friends.

There were two sights from the tower at K-27 that I will never forget. One night when I was on duty my eyes were drawn to the northeast by a large fire in the middle of an encampment. Through my binoculars I saw crowds of men in uniform around the blaze. Other men on small horses rode around the fire inside the circle of men. There were also men with horns, something like our trumpets. Although I could not hear them, I'm sure they were blowing the horns. I was amazed at the strange sight.

The other event took place to the west of the airport where our dead were buried. It seemed like overnight that the field of crosses grew to be a large mass. The stark white crosses on the brown and white field were easily visible without the binoculars. I know it was not long after the cemetery appeared that we knew we would not be in the area very long.

Long lines of trucks were coming down

**The battleship *Missouri* fired overhead day and night, and we had to restrict traffic when “Big Mo” was shooting. We were warned via radio message about the times for live firing from the ships.**

at night from the mountains. I was told later they carried the dead and wounded. Ground support flights of single engine bombers and fighters were increasing daily, and incoming rounds were hitting closer and closer to our base.

The battleship *Missouri* fired overhead day and night, and we had to restrict traffic when “Big Mo” was shooting. We were warned via radio message about the times for live firing from the ships.

Like the shells from the “Big Mo,” our rations were hit or miss. So, one of our guys borrowed a shotgun from an MP and brought down a duck. We made a fire and cooked the duck in a helmet. After trying to supplement our diet with a duck, we decided the rations were much better. Most of the duck was discarded.

“Bed Check Charlie” was getting closer and bolder. Although we could not see the pest, we saw and heard the results of his antics. It was about this time that Marine and Navy jets appeared on the scene to complicate our traffic. Mixing jets and reciprocating engine powered aircraft using just one runway is not easy.

We had an alert signal that was three rounds by AA quad fifties, and I had traffic in the pattern for landing when AA fired off the alert. The pilot in a not very friendly way said, “Who the hell owns this airport?” I told him we still held it, but that he should circle out over the bay and I would get back to him. When we got the all clear, I cleared him to land without incident.

I know the records of the war show that K-27 was abandoned earlier than the date I am going to give you. I believe we left K-27 on December 22, 1950. It was about midnight when our aircraft took off. For several days the troops were loading on ships in the Hamhung harbor to our west. We could see the jammed up traffic on the roads and ships coming and going around the harbor. We had been told to pack up and be ready to leave when ordered.

In order to facilitate transporting the

wounded out by aircraft from the Chosin area, engineers had scraped out a small landing strip on the side of one of the mountains. Our CO had us draw straws to see who would go up there to furnish traffic control. We had a jeep modified with a two-way radio and sent along in an aircraft with the two men who drew the two short straws. My straw was long. I don't know if our guys got out.

Those of us still at K-27 drew straws again to man a radio jeep that would operate when we shut down the tower. I still drew a long straw. Our CO and two men stayed behind when the rest of us left. I don't know if they got out, either.

I know that about ten at night on the 22nd a few of us reported to a C-119 on the ramp and our stuff was on a “six-by” sitting behind the plane. The loadmaster asked me if I could drive the truck. I climbed into the seat and he told me to drive up the ramp and keep going until he said stop. I did; the clam shell doors shut and we prepared for takeoff.

The pilot warmed up the engines on the ramp and did not slow down when he pulled onto the runway. Takeoff was hairy. We saw tracer rounds going past the aircraft, and they kept coming until we were out over the bay. There were no holes in the aircraft that we could see and the guys on the guns must have been poor shots, for that big aircraft was not very fast and must have been a tempting target.

I slept most of the way to Japan, for I found a way to crawl onto the flight deck of the aircraft and curl myself around a stool mounted up there next to stacked radios. Those big old radios were warm and made my flight short and sweet.

I finished my tour back at Johnson AFB and never returned to Korea. That was 61 years ago. I still remember some things from 1950.

*Reach Byrl Harlan at 323 Acre Ave.,  
Brownsburg, IN 46112, 317-440-3444,  
BDHarlan@comcast.net*

# John Burke Uses Aluminum Foil For An

There was an article in the January 9, 1953 issue of *The Cleveland Press* titled, "Cleveland Saves Life With Aluminum Foil." That "Cleveland" was U.S. Army combat medic John Burke, of 45th Inf. Div., 179th RCT, who saved his buddy near Luke the Gook's Castle.

As Burke recalled, his buddy was test firing his carbine when a bullet struck a hand grenade buried in the snow. The grenade exploded, and a fragment entered the Soldier's chest. Burke reacted immediately by giving the wounded man a shot of morphine. Unfortunately, Burke thought the Soldier was dazed due to a concussion. That was not the case.

When the wounded Soldier slipped into unconsciousness, Burke loaded him into a jeep, which he drove down an ice-covered road until he spied an ambulance. The medic and the Soldiers transferred to the ambulance, where the wounded man regained consciousness.

He asked Burke, "Do you hear that sucking noise?"

Burke realized that he was listening to a sucking chest wound. Immediately, he covered the soldier's wound with gauze and covered it with a piece of aluminum foil that had been used to wrap first-aid kits. Then, he pressed the wound with one hand while he administered blood plasma with the other. That saved the wounded Soldier's life, according to a doctor at the aid station.

Ironically, Burke had worked for one summer at the Aluminum Company of America after he graduated from high school. He may not have gotten all wrapped up in his job, but he did prove the value of aluminum foil as a versatile product. One lucky Soldier can attest to that.

Does anybody know who that wounded Soldier was?

Contact John J. Burke Jr. at 505 Bay Hill Dr., Avon Lake, OH 44012-4105, 440-930-2251, [JBurke@fbw.com](mailto:JBurke@fbw.com)



SFC John Burke (R) and PFC Elmer Chuway, from Cleveland, OH, and their dog, "Lightning"



SFC John J. Burke and "Skoshy Boy" (L), an adopted war orphan, who is dressed in cut-down GI clothes



45th Inf. Div. replacement combat medics waiting for assignment to their infantry companies in 1952



Young Korean girl asking over the barbed wire fence for food

# Unusual Purpose



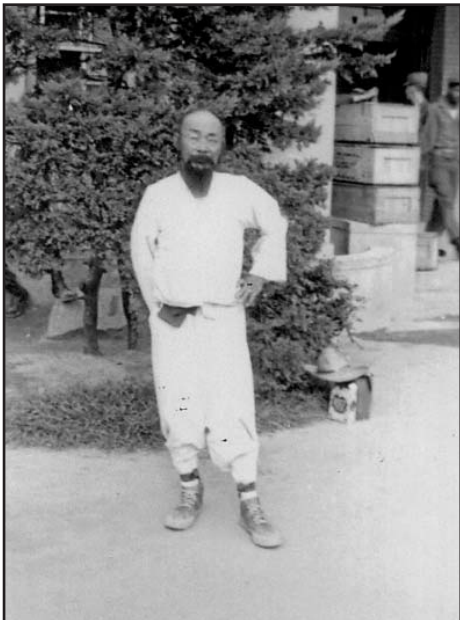
Unknown officer, General Ruffner, Commander of the 45th Inf. in Korea (1952-53), Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York City, who flew in by helicopter to visit the troops of 45th Inf. Div., and unknown officer (L-R)



A papasan pulling a cart in Korea

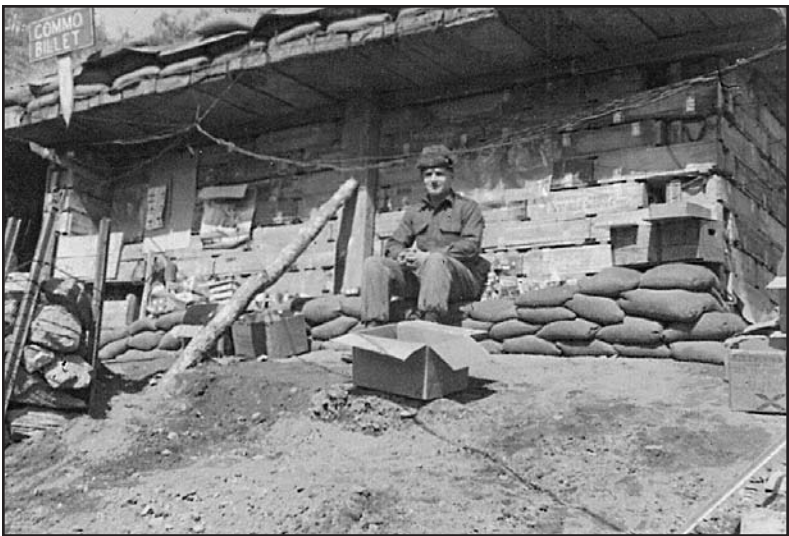


Wash day Korean style



"Retired" Korean farmer who was happy to have his picture taken

The largest bunker mess hall in the 179th RCT—and maybe in Korea—4.2 Heavy Mortar Co., at Luke the Gook Castle



CP Commo Bunker at Luke the Gook Castle, 45th Inf. Div., 179th RCT, 4.2 Heavy Mortars



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The Korean War National Museum salutes all Veterans but this month would like to extend a special thank you to those who fought in Inchon. Thank you for your service and thank you for your never-ending and inspiring bravery.



Denis J. Healy Freedom Center (Springfield, Illinois)

The Korean War National Museum is happy to announce the official re-launch and re-design of the KWNM website ([www.kwnm.org](http://www.kwnm.org)). This new site will play a key role in increasing the overall visibility of the Museum and be a connection point where you can find regular updates and information on the Museum and our efforts.



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*An easier to use portal for our Veterans and supporters*

The Korean War National Museum is happy to announce the official re-launch and re-design of the KWNM website ([www.kwnm.org](http://www.kwnm.org)). This new site will play a key role in increasing the overall visibility of the Museum and be a connection point where you can find regular updates and information on the Museum and our efforts.

Additionally, for those who have not been able to visit the Denis J. Healy Freedom Center in Springfield, Illinois in person, the new website also hosts the option to visit the Center through a virtual tour. With interactive modules on some of our key artifacts and stories, you will now be able to share part of your experience with your families from the comfort of your own homes. Finally, the website will also host updates on our progress of building a new home in New York City and be central to our efforts of keeping you better informed and more involved. Please visit the new site at [www.kwnm.org](http://www.kwnm.org).

On behalf of the Korean War National Museum and our Board of Directors, we are honored to be partnered with *Graybeards* and today and every day, thank you so much for your service. We are honored to work for you.

Sincerely,  
Tony Enrietto  
President and CEO  
Korean War National Museum

## Where To Send Last Call Notifications



"Last Call" notifications should be sent directly to the KWVA membership office, not to the editor of *The Graybeards*. As webmaster Jim Doppelhammer explains:

"Unless we here at the Membership Office get notification of deaths of the members, their names will not be listed in *The Graybeards* or on the KWVA.org website 'In Memoriam' section, and we will not remove them from our Active Membership rolls.



The editor receives his *Graybeards* "Last Call" list from the Membership Office. If you let us know first, including member number, date of death and year of birth, it would be greatly appreciated, and save all the extra steps of back-and-forth emails.

Providing member number and date of death also saves me lots of time. I spend lots of hours every week doing online searches for this information. For example, I just spent twenty minutes searching for the correct members, and then searching online for dates of death.


Thank you so very much for your assistance."

Jim Doppelhammer, Webmaster KWVA.org/Membership Office  
Technical Advisor, KWVA Membership Office, PO Box 407,  
Charleston, IL 61920-0407, Office: 217-345-4414, Cell: 217-512-9474



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## Korean Vet Receives Medal After Sixty Years



**Bart Kent's son presents Air Medal to his father**

Chaplain Forrest Kirk (USN), of the Jack C. Montgomery VA Medical Center, Muskogee, OK, presented Ch 177, Eastern Oklahoma, member Bart Kent with a long-overdue Air Medal on July 19th. The medal was actually authorized sixty years ago!

Kent was a Flight Surgeon with the 319th Fighter Interceptor Squadron, 5th Air Force. He volunteered to fly in an all-weather fighter as a radar technician, which marked a first for a surgeon during the Korean War.

It took over sixty years for him and his medal to catch up with one another for a good reason: he was discharged before anyone had a chance to present it to him, and then his records were burned in a fire.

Here is an excerpt from an article, "Flier gets medal 60 years later," by reporter Cathy Spaulding, that appeared in the July 19, 2012, Muskogee [OK] Phoenix:

"The medal honors Kent for flying in a fighter jet over enemy territory twice in 1952. Kent served as a flight surgeon with the 319th Fighter Interceptor Squadron, Fifth Air Force during the Korean War.

"His medal citation states that although his duties as flight surgeon did not require that he participate in combat operations, Kent flew as a crew member in an All Weather Jet Fighter in order to get first-hand knowledge of the psychological aspects of combat flying.

"Kent said Thursday that he had noticed pilots feeling fatigue and disillusionment. He said he figured he could better respond to their concerns if he knew what they went through. He flew as a fighter crew member on May 28 and July 26, 1952."

To read the entire article, go to <http://muskogee phoenix.com/local/x1447692329/Flyer-gets-medal-60-years-later>



# Recon Missions

## Dogs In The Signal Corps And The Hilltop Lodge

In response to your inquiry in the Nov.-Dec. 2011 issue, "Dogs and Other Critters In Korea," p.79, we definitely had dogs in the Signal Corps units I was with in Chuncheon and Inje.

The pictures below shows me with the puppy I inherited when transferred to the 71st Signal Battalion ACT School at Chuncheon in 1954. At my previous station at the 57th Signal Co. near Inje, there were also a number of dogs, at least in the 1953-54 time frame.

One I recall was raised at the radio relay station (nick-named Hillside Lodge) on a hilltop across the river. Apparently, being raised without canine companionship on the hilltop, he never learned sexual differences. After he was brought down as an adult to the company area, we were amused to see him trying to mount other male dogs in the area - at least that was my guess as to the cause.

I wonder if any of your readers remember Hilltop Lodge, the 57th or the 71st?

Martin Rothenberg, 5211 Hook Cir.  
Jamesville, NY 13078, 315-446-5024  
[MRothenberg@glottal.com](mailto:MRothenberg@glottal.com)



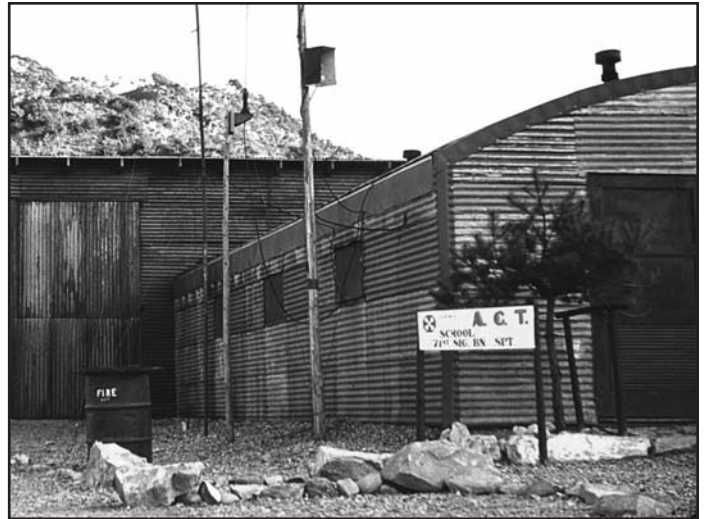
**ABOVE:** Martin Rothenberg with a puppy at Chuncheon



**RIGHT:** Puppy at 71st Signal Bn.



Hillside Lodge,  
57th Signal Co.



Air Control Team school at 71st, Chuncheon

## Boxer, Valley Forge, or Philippine Sea?

The photo below was taken during the Korean War. The Sailors are members of the VA-65 group. They were assigned to maintain assets and assist in take-offs and recoveries involving the AD Sky Raiders pictured.

The Sailors are in relaxed moods, although they look a bit cold. They are grouped on the carrier's flight deck and dressed in their work gear. But, I cannot remember whether the photo was taken aboard the *USS Boxer* (CV 21), *Valley Forge* (CV 45), or *Philippine Sea* (CV 47).

Does anybody know?

John Klettlinger, 20328 N.  
Peoria, AZ 85382, 602-566-1001



What carrier were these Sailors aboard

# Award Winning Photo

A dear friend who, after retirement, has become an extraordinary photographer, has taken an astonishing picture that actually took my breath away. It is titled "Touching The Past."

I showed it to Martin Greenberg, a disabled Korean war veteran, who was quite active in the effort associated with the Korean War Memorial and an active member and officer of the war veterans associations, both in Pennsylvania and Maryland. He suggested it would be something the readers of *The Greybeards* would certainly wish to see.

The photo definitely is unique. And lo & behold, last week at its first showing it won a special award. (See the note below from the artist, Saeed Ordoubadi.)

Hi Pat,

Thanks again for all your kind words. I am attaching the picture you saw. In fact, anyone that saw the picture had a similar reaction filled with emotion. By the way, this evening I learned that the image was awarded the First Place in the "People" category in the Annual Fredericksburg Photography show.

This is certainly one of my favorite images that records a deep and strong feeling—the expression on the face of the lovely innocent girl, with her deli-

cate touching of the wall of the past, while holding tightly to her father's hand overwhelmed me.

Thanks again,

Saeed

Patricia Brislin, 5506 Potomac Landing, King George VA 22385,  
540-775-4014, 561-212-9210 (cell), Patbmct@aol.com



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★ 8 – 15 Mar '13 68<sup>th</sup> Anniv Iwo Jima Reunion of Honor Guam & Charter Iwo Flight

16 - 28 Mar '13 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Khe Sanh & the Hill Fights

13 – 26 Apr '13 Vietnam I Corps "Chu Lai to the DMZ"

19 - 27 Apr '13 Turkey Battle of Gallipoli ANZAC Day

10 - 24 May U.S. Army in Vietnam "Delta to the DMZ"

★ 17 – 27 May '13 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of WWI American Battlefields

24 May - 2 Jun '13 MHT Founder's Viking Seine River Cruise D-Day Normandy & Belleau Wood

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Minister Park salutes Korean War veterans at banquet

# Korean War Vets Honored on Anniversary

## Korean Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs Hosts Banquet Honoring Korean War Veterans on the 59th Anniversary of the Korean Armistice, 27 July, 2012

By C. Monika Stoy

The Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MPVA) from the Republic of Korea, the Honorable Park, Sung Choon, honored American Korean War veterans on the occasion of the 59th anniversary of the signing of the Korean Armistice with a banquet the evening of 27 July 2012 in Arlington, Virginia. About 500 guests attended the event, which was held at the Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel.

This was the first time the MPVA has organized and conducted such a wonderful banquet commemorating 27 July. In the past, the MPVA supported an annual banquet on 27 July by providing funding for the dinner.

Guests listened to addresses by Minister Park; Ambassador Choi, Young Jin; General (ret) Walter Sharp, former Commander, United Nations Command, Commander, ROK-US Combined Forces Command and Commander, U.S. Forces Korea serving as Honorary Chairman, Department of Defense 60th Anniversary

of the Korean War Committee; and Lieutenant General (ret), Edward Rowny – the oldest Korean War veteran in attendance.

LTG Rowny, a Lieutenant Colonel when the war broke out, served as X Corps Engineer and G-4. He was a Plans Officer involved in the planning of the Inchon Landing. He also organized the evacuation of 100,000 Northern Koreans from the port of Hungnam at Christmas 1950. In fact, he was the last man off the beach before the harbor was demolished.

Minister Park presented Thank You plaques to representatives from the United Nations countries which supported

Donation to DoD KW60 Honorary Chairman General Sharp

South Korea during the war. The Minister presented the Ambassador for Peace Medal to representatives of each of the U.S. armed services during the program. Veterans were given their Peace Medals as they registered upon arrival at the banquet.

Veterans were also presented 60th Anniversary Medallions when they arrived, and representatives of veterans' organizations present were called forward to receive medallions from Minister Park. Minister Park presented \$100,000 to General Sharp for the Department of Defense's Memorial Book project.

After a delicious meal, the grand finale of the evening included a stirring performance by the Little Angels song and dance





### Visiting the Armed Forces Retirement Home

troupe from Korea and a very sincere "Thank you" film produced by the Republic of Korea specifically for Korean War veterans.

Mistress of Ceremonies for the evening was Captain, US Army (ret) C. Monika Stoy. Captain Stoy has been serving as U.S. Advisor to the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs for Korean War 60th Anniversary commemorative activities in the DC area. Many guests, including Minister Park, LTG Woodall and MG Singlaub, expressed the opinion that she ran a tight, but very full, program with fitting solemnity as well as a good sense of humor, which the veterans appreciated.

On 26 July Minister Park had a meeting with Veterans' Affairs Secretary Shinseki at VA Headquarters in Washington, DC; hosted a luncheon at the Fort Myer Officers' Club for former USFK and 2nd Infantry Division Commanders, as well as other general officers who had at some point in their careers served in Korea; visited the Washington, DC VA Medical Center to thank Korean War veterans and present

them the Ambassador for Peace Medal; and visited the Armed Forces Retirement Home to thank veterans there and present them the Ambassador for Peace Medal.

The Little Angels accompanied Minister Park to the luncheon and the visits to the hospital and the retirement home, singing wonderfully for the veterans at each stop.

On the morning of 27 July the United States Department of Defense held its official commemorative ceremony for the 59th anniversary of the signing of the Korean War armistice in the Memorial Amphitheater of Arlington National Cemetery, with Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta as the keynote speaker. Minister Park participated in that solemn ceremony, which was followed by a floral ceremony at the Meditation Bench outside the Amphitheater.

After that ceremony Minister Park visited the graves of former Commanding General of all United Nations forces and US 8th Army in Korea Matthew B. Ridgway and former 8th Army

Commanding General James Van Fleet in Section 7 of the cemetery, placing wreaths for each general.

Throughout his stay in the DC area, and at every venue, Minister Park was sincere in expressing his and his country's deepest gratitude to Korean War veterans for their sacrifice and service during the Korean War.

For those veterans who attended the activities hosted by Minister Park, they can find photos of the events as well as the group photos taken at the banquet by going to the below website and following the instructions.

1. Enter: <http://www.skydrive.com/>
2. ID: Koreanwar@hotmail.com
3. Password: 60anniversary
4. Log on Sign In  
(<https://skydrive.live.com/#cid=3CABACC6870FFB8C>)
5. Click on Files

There are nine sub folders under the Files containing photos taken at events and activities.

**"I pledge allegiance  
to the flag of the  
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America, and to  
the Republic  
for which it stands,  
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indivisible, with liberty  
and justice for all."**



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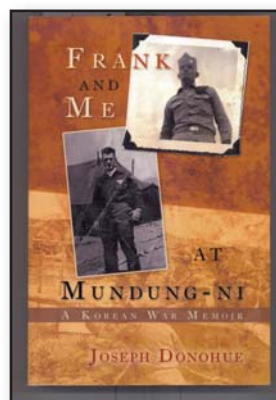
## Book Review

***Frank And Me At Mundung-Ni***

*Joseph Donohue*

iUniverse, Bloomington, IN, ISBN 978-1-4620-7283-5 (softcover), 466pp. (with photos), \$29.95.

*By Rego Barnett*



Joseph Donohue's Korean War memoir is one of the more readable books of its genre. The book is broken into the traditional three sections of such a volume: the writer's pre-war years, war experiences, and homecoming. Donohue's background as a college instructor shines through in the well-written prose that fills the pages of the book.

Donohue served with the 40th Infantry Division, 224th Regiment. He was unlucky enough to fight at Heartbreak Ridge and Punchbowl. He and a childhood friend, Frank J. Milisits, joined the Army together in the hopes of serving together in Korea. They completed jump school and awaited their assignments. They got their wish—but never knew it. (Both survived the war, however.)

Milisits was assigned to the 45th Infantry Division, which was located pretty close to the 40th in Korea. They were writing to each other without knowing how close their fighting positions were. In fact, they could almost have walked across a few trenches and hand delivered their letters had they known how close they were. That was one of the ironies of military life, as are other strange incidents that Donohue discusses in the book, e.g., his close brush with death, which was prevented because he turned his head the right way at the wrong moment (or maybe the wrong way at the right moment).

Donohue's descriptions of the conditions under which he and his buddies fought are chilling. Readers can almost see the huge rats on the front lines, feel the terror the troops experience as Chinese artillery shells pour down on them, exalt in the joy of finding civilized people while on leave...in short, he runs the gamut of emotions front-line troops felt as they strived to earn the number of points required to go home.

Simply put, Donohue described his book this way:

"It's a story about naïve, enthusiastic, twenty-year-old kids sharing their journey to war. It's about friendship, sadness, and joy during twenty months of service to their country. It's about growing up and facing the realities of war. It's about the boredom and routine of living on the front lines, which could suddenly turn ugly and become a hair-raising, deadly, heart-thumping moment of terrifying fear and exhilaration. It's a memoir of unforgettable personal moments..."

Most of all, it's readable. That is the best reason for anyone to get the book.

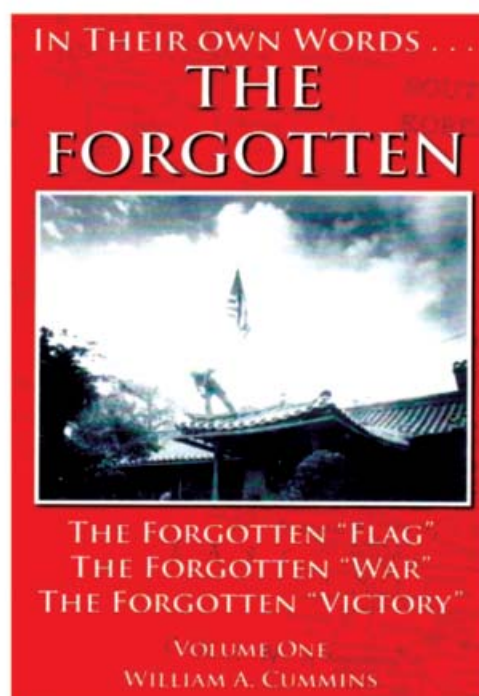
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**KWVA Fundraiser: Valid until Dec. 31, 2012**

## The Where, When, and Why of the Korean War

# Tell America

### 108 – WESTERN OHIO [OH]

For 17 years, Ken Williamson, fellow Korean War veterans and I have conducted the “Tell America Program” in countless schools in Miami County and beyond. On February 22, 2012, we were conducting the first day of the program at Troy Christian School, Troy, OH. The class consists of 10th grade students and their teacher, Steve Shively (my son). At the end of the session, a student, Addy Younce, approached us and asked if we knew her great grandfather, Jim Palsgrove.

As both Ken and I smiled, we explained to this student that we did indeed know Jim Palsgrove. Jim is also a Korean War veteran and our chapter’s VA Center Visitation Chairperson. His wife, Shirley, is a member of our Auxiliary. We found out that two of their great grandchildren are Troy Christian Students.

To further connect us, Jim is also my cousin. The nearby picture shows Steve, Jim, Jim’s great grandchildren (Addy and Matalie) and myself during the 2nd day of our presentation.

On May 17, 2012, Ken and I com-

pleted another successful school year presenting the “Tell America Program” and Veteran’s Day Programs. Since starting our programs, we have been on the road 796 hours, traveled 30,820 miles, and spent 1,085 hours in schools (classrooms and assemblies) with 45,071 students and 2,471 teachers and guests. We are honored to share the history of America’s challenges to these students and are constantly amazed at the connections we are able to experience: both for us and the students.

The Good Lord willing, we will continue these programs in the 2012-2013 school year.

Incidentally, we often receive letters of appreciation from students. Here is a sample:

Dear Mr. Shively,

I would like to thank you for the service you have given this country. I do not understand what it means to be a soldier, or what it means to risk your life for something greater than yourself. I don’t know what it is like to leave your family, your

friends, your home, to fight in some far away land. I can only imagine the rough times you have been through, and what they may have looked like.

I have heard stories about your experiences in the Korean War, your son (my teacher) respects you very much, as I respect you for what you have done and for who you are. I am glad that men like you have served our country in the greatest way possible. It means a lot to be able to have

the freedoms that others are not as fortunate to have.

I understand completely that because of people like you, we are able to have those freedoms. We live in a great country, and I am thankful for all of the men and women who serve our country in anyway.

Thank You,

Alex Moritz

*Fred Shively, 1842 W Parkway Dr., Piqua, OH 45356, 513-473-5345*

### 131 - NORTHWEST OHIO [OH]

We awarded our annual \$1,000 college scholarship to Anthony Wayne High School graduating senior Brian Vogtsberger, who entered The Ohio State University. To be eligible in our Tell America program, applicants are required to participate in the Korean War research project and complete a 250-word essay explaining their lasting impression of the veteran, the Korean War’s role in American history, and its impact on global democracy.

Here is Mr. Vogtsberger’s essay:

#### Success in Korea

Some of the most important unsung heroes on the world were those soldiers involved in “The Forgotten War,” or the Korean War. Even though some argue that it was a stalemate, the Korean War was a successful military venture because it helped contain the spread of communism in the world. During this time period, communism was one of the main fears for the American people.

Consequently, the Americans felt strongly about getting involved in the fight against

communism. Korea was the focal point of this fight and could determine the fate of many other nations.

Other nations knew this as well. That is why China supported the North which was for communism, while America backed the South. In the end, the United States Navy proved themselves superior by taking the ground inward from the sea. The war finally ended when a cease fire treaty was signed on the 38th parallel. If the U.S. had not gotten, the South would have been taken over by the North and it would have been all communist. Many South Koreans would have lost their lives during the takeover of their country.

America’s success in the Korean War was crucial because without it, communism would have been more widespread throughout the world. It showed that the U.S. was willing to commit to helping countries overcome the onset of communism. Therefore, “The Forgotten



Ch 108 Tell America group at Troy Christian High School (L-R) Fred Shively, Matalie Younce, Steve Shively, Addy Younce, Jim Palsgrove

Brian Vogtsberger (L) with Ch 131 Education Committee Chairman Len Tomasik



War" proved itself a success through the containment and control of communism in Korea and the world.

*Louis G. Streb, Secretary, 415 Turnbury Lane, Perrysburg, OH 43551, 419-874-7037, lgstreb@buckeye-express.com*

## 172 – HANCOCK COUNTY [OH]

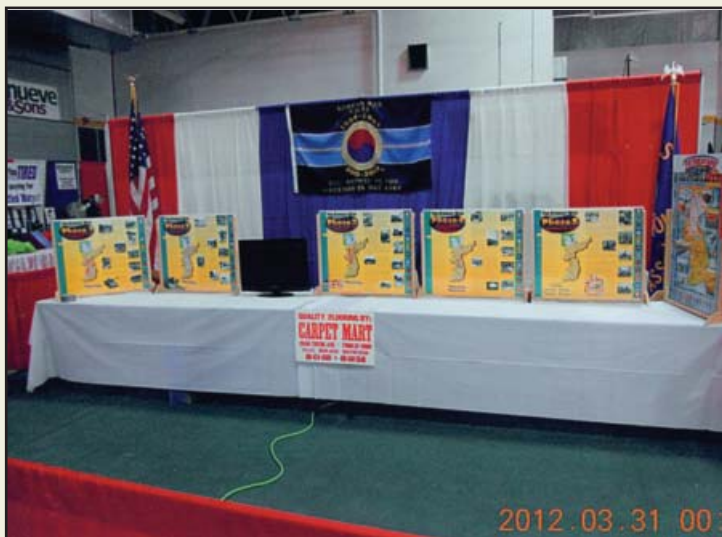
We were busy this spring, with presentations at St. Wendelin High School in Fostoria on March 29th; The Hancock County Lawn and Leisure Show, March 30, 31 and April 1 in Findlay; and an Armed

Forces Day booth on May 18th and 19th at the local fairgrounds.

*Harry C. Biddinger, 1 Windstone Ct., Findlay, OH 45840, 419-957-7837 (cell)*



Presentation by Ch 172 members Don Van Renterghen (L) and Bill Webb at St. Wendelin High School



Ch 172's booth at the Lawn & Leisure Show in Findlay, OH



Co-Chairmen Ray Jameson (L) and Don Van Renterghen of Ch 172's Tell America Committee

## 227 – SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN [WI]

We have participated in a "Tell America" program for the past ten years. We have presented our programs at schools of all levels, ranging from elementary to high

school and universities.

*Jim Becker, 3709 Candle Ct. Apt. 3, Racine, WI 53402, jbecker625@wi.rr.com*



Members of Ch 227 at Reuther Central High School, Kenosha, WI: Bob Boulden, Jim Becker, Ed Slovak, John Kamperschroer, Instructor Dave Underwood of Reuther High School (L-R)

## The Truth About "Choggies"

How valuable were "Choggies" to the U.S. forces in Korea? Could they be trusted? What specific services did they provide that the Soldiers could not--or would not--perform for themselves? Why did "Choggies" work for U.S. forces? Who paid them? Did other UN military units employ them? Were they more trouble than they were worth?

Please send your information and stories about "Choggies" and their value to "Choggies" Editor, *The Graybeards*, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

# Thanks!

As we have noted in past issues, there is no shortage of thanks extended from Koreans to the veterans who fought for their country's freedom over fifty years ago. Here are more results.

## 44 – MISSOURI #1 [MO]

We were invited as special guests to attend the first regular concert of the Korean-American Choir of St. Louis, held on June 3, 2012. The Korean-American Association of St. Louis hosted the event. (No one was allowed to take photos of the performance.) The choir, conducted by renowned Korean Conductor Mi Jin Im, consisted of about 20 young Korean ladies and 6 young Korean men.

The first half of the program included "Panis Angelicus" (Cesar Franck), "Ave Verum Corpus" (W.A. Mozart), "Festival Gloria" (Jim Stanton), "Dry Bones" (arranged by Mark Hayes), and "The Battle of Jericho and Joshua," (Hyo Won Woo). The second half was a little more festive, with "A Little Jazz Mass" (Bob Chicott), "Do Re Mi" (Richard Rodgers), "Nostalgia" (Hee Gab Kim), "All of You" (Hang Gi Yoon), and other pieces. There was also a comedy skit called "The Third Daughter of the Noble Mr. Choi," arranged by Byeong Hee Oh.

The program closed with a medley of folk songs from around the world. Afterwards, refreshments were served.

It was a very entertaining evening, enjoyed by over 400 individuals and the chapter members attending, which included Cmdr. Don Gutmann and wife Phyllis, Dwight Henderson and wife Dolores, Harry Hope and wife Terrie, Kenn Dawley and wife Jackie, and Walt Schoenke and wife Beverly.

Kenn Dawley, 382-A Autumn Creek Dr.  
Manchester, MO 63088, 636-529-1355

## 54 – THOMAS W. DALEY, JR. [NJ]

We received this invitation:

My name is Kevin T. Kim and I am the Executive Vice President of the Korean American Association. Our Organization had planned



Fort Dix Army Honor Guard at Atlantic City KWV Memorial

Ch 148 Commander Charles Koppelman (L) with Mr. Eugene Chin Yu, President of The Federation of Korean Associations, USA, Co-Chairman, at the 2012 Appreciation Party



to host the 2012 Korean War Commemoration Ceremony on June 25, 2012 at 11:00AM at Philip Jaisohn Memorial Center located at 6705 Old York Road, Philadelphia, PA 19126. Following the ceremonies, all the guests were to re-convene at a local Korean restaurant about 5 minutes away for a delicious Korean lunch. The ceremonies will consist of several speeches by distinguished guests and as a part of the ceremonies, and special commemoration medals were going to be given out by the Korean Consulate General from New York Korean Consulate to the Veterans of the Korean War.

Four chapter members attended the ceremony: Charles Reed, William Wildman, Jimmy Krysztoforski, and Frank A. Brown.

Andy Jackson, [captjack71@comcast.net](mailto:captjack71@comcast.net)

## 170 –TAEJON [NJ]

### Paramus Church Honors Korean War Veterans

Eighteen chapter members and their guests attended a ceremony in their honor at the Korean Methodist Church in Paramus, NJ on 16 June, 2012. Also honored were Salvatore Scarlato, the President of the Department of New York and National KWVA Director, and members of CID 64, Central Long Island. New Jersey State Commander and former National KWVA Director George Bruzgis was also in attendance.

The Reverend Dr. Timothy Myunghoon Ahn, Pastor, welcomed Korean War veterans, guests, and family members. Sr. Vice Commander Kenneth Green and Jr. Vice Commander Henry Ferrarini of Ch 170 advanced and posted the Colors. Miss Jiyoung Lee sang the Korean and American national anthems in a salute to the flags.

Reverend Matthew Na offered the invocation, after which chapter Commander Dr. Richard Onorevole introduced guest speakers. They included New Jersey State Senator Kevin O'Toole, Korean General Consul Mr. Young Mok Kim, County Executive of Bergen County Mrs. Kathleen Donovan, and former Mayor of Edison, NJ, Mr. Jun-choi.

Following the speeches, attendees shared a special Korean dinner and pleasant conversation in the church hall. One or two Korean church members sat at each table with the veterans.



**Jr. Vice Commander Max Mandis of Ch 148, Elaine Mandis, Fran and Charles Koppelman (L-R) at the 2012 Appreciation Party**

**Lunch following Georgia Korean War commemoration with Mr. Sunny Park, Consulate Kim, Gen. (Ret.) Larry Ellis (L-R)**

After dinner, chapter member Robert J. O'Toole, the Mayor of Cedar Grove, NJ, and his Korean wife Young-ok gave a beautiful testimony on how they met in Korea, married, and produced seven children. Robert offered his testimony in English for the veterans and guests; Young-ok spoke in Korean for the church members. Their son Kevin was also a Cedar Grove mayor, as was their daughter, who was the youngest person ever to hold the office of mayor in the township.

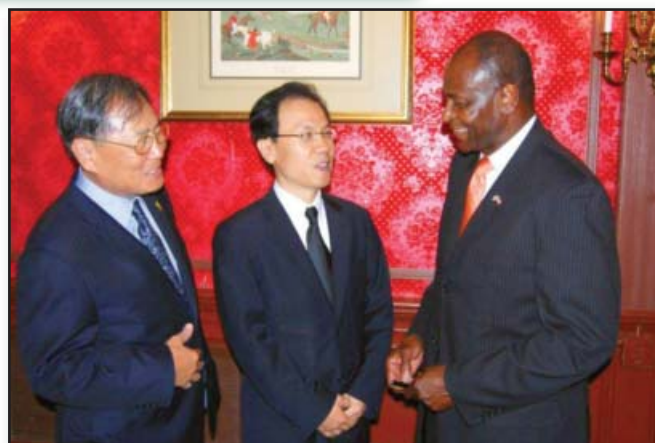
Sal Scarlato spoke to the audience about the Korean War and described the memorabilia at a display table. He provided many of the items, including three rifles used in the war: an M1 Garand, a Cal. 30 carbine used by U.S. troops, and one of the enemies' favorite weapons, a Mosin-Nagant rifle, Cal. 762x54.

Following the speeches, Pastor Ahn distributed gift items, and Commander Onorevole presented special certificates. Pastor Ahn placed ribbon medallions over the heads of the honored veterans and Korean War hats on their heads.

Korean church members provided entertainment after the presentations, including songs by Miss Lee, choir singing, and traditional Korean music.



**Wreath laying at the Georgia State Capitol with Mr. He-Beom Kim, Consul General of Republic of Korea**



To close the beautiful evening of friendship, Pastor Ahn offered a benediction, Taps was played, and the Colors were retired.

Louis Quagliero, 142 Illinois Ave., Paterson, NJ 07503

## 199 – MANASOTA [FL]

The St. Petersburg Korean Presbyterian Church again invited Korean War veterans and their wives to join them for a nice dinner and a night of Korean entertainment, including a movie of South Korea as it looks today. It showed the towering modern buildings, wider streets and bridges for vehicles and for people walking, now dressed in western clothing. They told us that Seoul looks like Las Vegas, brilliantly lighting up the evening sky.



**Korean Baptist Church members and Ch 121 guests**



**Chapter 199 members Frank Petraglia (L) and Thaddeus Sobieski (R) flank Mr. Kyung Ho Cha, President and host of the inviting society**

Continued on page 77

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Several chapters that submitted material for inclusion in The Graybeards have been excluded from this issue. They have been placed on the "Noncompliant List" for various reasons, e.g., Election Report Delinquent, No Secretary, etc. Chapters interested in being removed from this list and restored to the "Compliant List" are advised to contact Jake Feaster, Supervisor, Membership Management for guidance. (See p. 2 for his address.) The editor apologizes for the omissions, which are beyond his control.

The exclusions apply to other sections in which chapter news is included, e.g., Parades, Recruiting, and Tell America.

## 19 GENERAL RAYMOND G. DAVIS (MOH) [GA]

We are working with the Airborne & Special Operations Museum in Fayetteville, NC (Ft. Bragg) to design a new section in the museum devoted to special operations during the Korean War. The new section will include panels that display the special forces 8240th AU, White Tigers guerrilla operations in North Korea and the 2nd Ranger Company operations.

The first display was dedicated on 15 June 2012 and is a monument to the 8240th AU. It should be completed and on display at the museum by 31 Dec 2012. The funds for the monument were donated by Korean members of the unit from Washington DC.

Col (Ret.) Ben S. Malcom, who was a member of the 8240th AU, was a guest speaker at the Special Forces school at Ft. Bragg on 16 February, 11 May, & 3 August 2012. He will be back at the school on 7 Dec 2012.

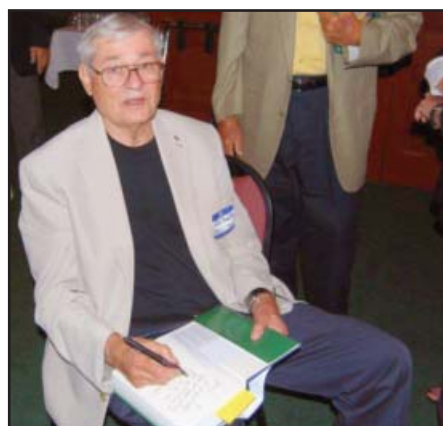
Col Malcom's book, *White Tigers*, is about his Special Forces operations in North Korea in 1952. It is recommended reading at the school.

We had two very interesting and informative speakers at our August luncheon. Four-star General William J. Livsey, U.S. Army (Ret.), delivered a moving speech on his time as Commander In Chief, United Nations Command Korea (1984-



Ben Malcom stands behind monument at Ft. Bragg

General William J. Livsey speaks to Ch 19 members



Col. Pete Booth talks with Ch 19 luncheon attendees

87), in addition to combat leadership roles during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Colonel James W. "Pete" Booth, U.S. Army (Ret.), using a Power Point presentation, spoke of the early years of the Army's introduction of armed helicopters and his combat operations during the Vietnam War. He also signed copies of his book on the subject, titled "Returning Fire," which is available at most local book stores.

Jim Conway, [conatlanta@comcast.net](mailto:conatlanta@comcast.net)

## 56 VENTURA COUNTY [CA]

On June 28th, Major General Seung-woo Choi honored us by coming to Santa Paula. He had certificates and medallions for our entire membership—even our deceased comrades.

Here is the letter we received that prompted his visit:  
Gentlemen,

My name is Seung-Nam Kim ("Nam"), living in Fresno, California for the last 33 years as a practicing physician, and I am a high school classmate of General Choi, Seung-Woo. With your help, I would like to help general Choi's visit this summer to western states, Washington, Oregon, and California for his life-long mission.



Gen. Choi, David Lopez, Sally Ann Lopez, Seung-Nam Kim (L-R) at Santa Paula meeting



Some—but not all—of the veterans in attendance at the Santa Paula meeting with Gen. Choi

Gen Choi is a retired major general of Korean army who is now serving his country for the last 6 years as an elected county supervisor (2nd term) of YeSan county and Mayor of Yesan City on the west side of Korea, about 80 miles southwest from Seoul.

Gen Choi has special conviction to American veterans who participated in Korean War in 1950. He has a strong feeling that Korea owes a great deal to U.S. soldiers who served and sacrificed in Korean War in 1950 to 1953. He also believes that Korean War was a pivotal moment in its history to preserve the freedom and democracy. Korea is now world 7th economy and most of all enjoying a full democracy, despite the constant threats of the communist North Korea.

Every year for the last 12 years, he spent a week and two of his personal vacation to USA, visiting many U.S. cities to show his appreciation to nearly 6,000 Korean War U.S. veterans (KVETS) with medals and letters of appreciation. He visited a dozen cities in the eastern USA every year during the last 12 years, and now this summer he wants to visit the cities of western USA, i.e. states of Washington, Oregon, and California.

Gen Choi thought it is proper to do this event around the day of North Korean invasion in 1950, on June 25th.

During his visit he would like to meet as many KVETS as



Louie Espinoza of Ch 56 talks to Gen Choi (R) as Seung-Nam Kim (L) observes; Alice Guevara, Rudy Arellano (to her right), and Henry Guevara in background



Members of Ch 56 at Santa Paula, CA Korean War Veterans Memorial (L-R) Benjamin Espinoza, Commander David Lopez, Arthur Rabego, who came from Oregon, John Campos, Arthur Estrada, and Henry Marin

possible and give the medals and a letter of appreciation to them.

He would appreciate deeply if you could help him to arrange the meeting. Veterans' hospital and veterans' homes have been a great place for that in the past. But Gen Choi would like to go and meet KVETS wherever they are.

Sometimes these events may be participated by the local Korean community, depending on the willingness and availability. These will be solely my responsibility and I will be coordinating.

Most expenses like the medals, letters of appreciation, transportation and lodgings will be provided by Gen Choi's personal fund, no governments involved.

Gen Choi is asking your favor the things he cannot do, such as getting the place for ceremony, assembling the veterans, and their names for the letter of appreciation.

He can spare only 10 days of his vacation from his demanding job.

He plans to allocate one day in Washington, one day in Oregon, and 5 days in California.

Enclosed you will find his busy itinerary and if you could accommodate his tight schedule, he will appreciate your help. If you cannot he will find time in the future.

David Lopez, 1121 New St., Santa Paula, CA 93060

## 58 MONROE COUNTY [NY]

On June 5th, we honored LPGA golfer Jeong ("JJ") Jang with a reception to thank her for all she has done for us since she won the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) Rochester Tournament in 2006.

Chapter President Roger Hill and Trustee Dr. Betty Perkins-Carpenter presented JJ with an engraved piece of crystal at the reception, which she attended along with her husband, baby daughter, father, and other Korean golfers. Also attending were members of the Korean American community, many chapter members, and Department of New York Judge Advocate Jim Lewis, who is a regular attendee at LPGA tournaments.



Attendees at Ch 58's reception (Front, L-R) members Charley Harshbarger, Pete Ciavarrri, Roger Hill, Frank Lisuzzo (Row 2, L-R) SukJung Jang (JJ's father), Jeong Jang, Jennifer Song, Chella Choi, Seon Hwa Lee, M.J. Hur (Back, L-R) Junsik Lee (JJ's husband, holding their daughter Samantha), Guy Kittelson, Betty Perkins-Carpenter, Gerard Eisele, Frank Nicalozzo, Paul Wurzer, Dept of New York Judge Advocate Jim Lewis, Joe Vogel



After winning the tournament, she and her family visited the Korean War Veterans Memorial and made a generous donation to our chapter for its upkeep and maintenance. Each year since 2006 she and her family have continued visiting the Memorial

Roger Hill of Ch 58 reads the inscription on the crystal piece presented to Jeong Jang



Betty Perkins-Carpenter presents Jeong Jang with a rose, while Ch 58 members Paul Wurzer, Frank Lisuzzo, and Roger Hill watch



Mimi Loftus, Korean-American rep, reads a congratulatory letter from Mrs. Byoung Baek (presently in Korea) to Jeong Jang

and making donations!

Incidentally, the nearby photos of the reception were provided courtesy of an LPGA photographer.

Joe Vogel, 1432 Leicester Rd., Caledonia, NY 14423

## 60 ADIRONDACK [NY]

We participated in Veterans Day and 9/11 commemorations last year.



Ch 60 Color Guard marches in the Malta, NY Annual Veterans Parade



Dignitaries at the Saratoga Springs, NY War Memorial at Historic Congress Park during the 9/11 ceremony



The Color Guard of Ch 60 at the Saratoga Springs 9/11/ commemoration service



Commander Ray Waldron of Ch 60 leads the Pledge of Allegiance at Saratoga Springs event, as Mayor Scott Johnson and other dignitaries participate

Members of Ch 60 stand tall at the closing of the well-attended Saratoga Springs 9/1 ceremony



Ray Waldron,  
EXADRAY@aol.com

## 99 TALL CORN [IA]

We co-sponsored a Korean War 60th Anniversary Recognition Ceremony held at the Knapp Center, Drake University, Des Moines, IA on July 14th. The U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) presented Korean War veterans of Iowa with certificates of appreciation at the event.

Over 3,200 veterans, family members, friends, and visitors attended the event, which was also sponsored by the DoD, the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum, the Iowa National Guard, and the Iowa National Guard Officers' Auxiliary.

Vilas ("Sid") Morris, 5026 Sage Rd., Cedar Falls, IA 50613, 319-266-5184, 319-290-0813 (cell)



Speakers at Ch 99's recognition ceremony (L-R) Sid Morris, Bob Holliday (President of the Board, Iowa National Guard Memorial Association, Iowa Gold Star Military Museum), BrigGen Janet Phipps (Asst. Adj. General, Iowa National Guard,) Congressman Leonard Boswell, Will McIntee, representing Congressman Bruce Braley, Congressman Tom Latham



Bob Holliday, Col Gregory Hapgood (Public Affairs Officer, Iowa National Guard), Sherrie Colbert (Director, Iowa Gold Star Military Museum) (L-R) at Des Moines event



The wreath dedicated to Iowa Korean War veterans at Des Moines commemoration



Overview of the large crowd that attended the Drake University event.

## 105 CENTRAL NEW YORK [NY]

We held our annual clambake on July 29, 2012. Our special guest of honor was the Korean Ambassador, Young-mok Kim. He is a warm and gracious man, who thanked us for our sacrifice in saving his country.

A number of people from South Korea who have settled in and around Syracuse were in attendance to thank us as well and meet the ambassador.

Jim Low, 114 Wembridge Dr.  
E. Syracuse, NY 13057, 315-437-0833



Ambassador Young-mok Kim thanks veterans at Ch 105 event



**BELOW:** KWVA President Jim Ferris (C) and Ch 105 President Ed Grala (R) present an American flag to Ambassador Kim

**RIGHT:** Ambassador Kim accepts a hat covered with unit pins at Ch 105's clambake



**BELOW:** Trumpet player Dave Allen of Ch 105 (far right) plays Taps at clambake, as the "troops" and Ambassador Kim assemble



Silver Star recipient Joe Owens (USMC) talks with Ambassador Kim at Ch 105 clambake



Ambassador Kim becomes official Ch 105 food taster for clambake cooks

## 126 TRI-STATE [OH]

We participated in two parades this past summer as a follow-up to a Memorial Day ceremony and a day selling "Forget-me-Nots." Two of our members served as Grand Marshals: Dan Gallagher for the Memorial Day Parade and Jack Balser for the 4th of July Parade.

George Piggott, 3720 Root Ave. N.E.  
Canton, OH 44705



Members of Ch 126 share a float with some WWII vets at Midland, PA 4th of July Parade



Gordie Griffiths and friends lead Ch 126 vets in the 4th of July Parade in Midland, PA



Mike Kilcoyne, Dan Gallagher, Lindy Malignani, and George Germusa (L-R) of Ch 126 set up flags for Memorial Day ceremony in Midland, PA

Lindy Malignani (sitting) and Dan Gallagher of Ch 126 sell "Forget-Me-Nots"



## 131 NORTHWEST OHIO [OH]

Chapter President Dan Draheim received the Ambassador For Peace Medal from Jin Hyun Lee, Counsel of the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Chicago, at our July meeting. Over sixty medals were awarded at the meeting.

Richard H. Converse, 17279 N. Dixie Highway  
Bowling Green, OH 43402



Dan Draheim of Ch 131 receives Ambassador for Peace Medal (Photo by Richard H. Converse)

## 137 MAHONING VALLEY [OH]

Our new officers include Commander Paul R. Lawson; 1st VP Lloyd Edwards; 2nd VP Bob Vitullo; Secretary Frank Sloat; Treasurer Harold Baringer; Trustees Bob Bakalik, Wickham Flower, and Richard Koker.

We are an active and "good looking" group of Korean veterans, and we look forward to many more years of serving our Mahoning Valley veterans.

Bob Bakalik, 2841 S. Schenley Ave.  
Youngstown, OH 44511, 330-792-3110



New officers of Ch 137 (L-R) Commander Paul R. Lawson; 1st VP Lloyd Edwards; 2nd VP Bob Vitullo; Secretary Frank Sloat; Treasurer Harold Baringer; Trustees Bob Bakalik, Wickham Flower, and Richard Koker



John Pariza (L), outgoing Commander of Ch 137, hands over the colors to new Commander Paul R. Lawson

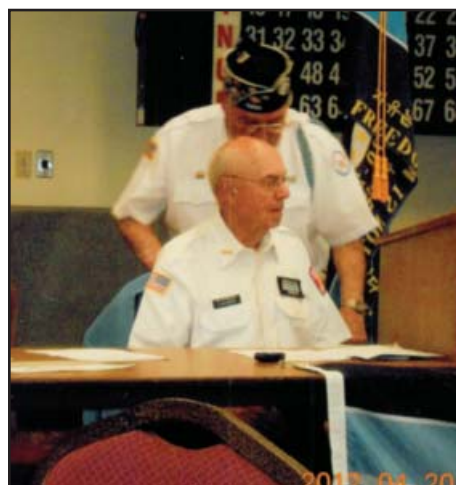
## 172 HANCOCK COUNTY [OH]

We held a Veterans Benefits Seminar on April 20th at the Senior Center in Findlay, Ohio. A total of 100 veterans and guests enjoyed the presentation, which was open to all veterans and their spouses. The presenters were the Veterans Service Directors of Hancock and Seneca County.



**LEFT:** MOH recipient Ron Rosser (C) addresses crowd at Ch 172's Spring Banquet

**BELOW:** VP Ron Dutton and President Weldin Neff of Ch 172 participate at Ch 172's Veterans Benefits Seminar



Attendees at Ch 172's Spring Banquet (L-R) George Rosser, Ron Rosser, Nan Dutton, Ron Dutton, Weldin Neff, Chaplain Cliff Peterson, Barb Smith

We also conducted a Rose of Sharon Scholarship Fund Drive on May 12th and 19th in Findlay. A little over \$3,000.00 was donated by the public to the event. We presented seven \$500.00



Volunteers at Ch 172's Rose of Sharon drive (L-R) Jim Welch, Paul McDaniel, Jim Compton



**ABOVE:** Members of Ch 172 at Rose of Sharon drive (L-R) Don Bair, Francis ("Bud") Cavin, Dale Yoder and his grandson

**RIGHT:** Volunteers at Ch 172's Rose of Sharon drive (L-R) Wilfred Frisch, Charles Giles

**BELOW RIGHT:** Earl Windle of Ch 172 at Rose of Sharon drive



scholarships to grandchildren of our members in July. Twenty members and 1 grandchild participated in this project.

Our Spring Banquet was held on June 21st at the Senior Center in Findlay. A total of 40 members, 4 prospective new members, and 60 guests were in attendance. Mr. Ron Rosser, a Korean War Medal of Honor recipient from Roseville, Ohio was our guest speaker. Mr. Rosser was also a guest at the McComb, Ohio Andrews Raiders Celebration on June 23rd.

Harry C. Biddinger, 1 Windstone Ct.  
Findlay, OH 45840, 419-957-7837 (cell)

## 177 EASTERN OKLAHOMA [OK]

Doctor Bart Kent is our newest volunteer at our Jack C. Montgomery VA Medical Center in Muskogee. His wife, Ann, is also a doctor. She put in 25 years at the VA Hospital here. (See the story on page 23 about Dr. Kent's Air Medal presentation.)

Jerry Faught, President of Ch 177, and his wife at recent meeting



Members of Ch 177 gather at January 2012 meeting (Front, L-R) Bill Webster, Bob Thomason, Jerry Faught, James Stark, Ed Bradshaw, Tom Cotton, Jim Blair (Back, L-R) Gene Miller, Bill Pollock, Darrell Parks, Duane Kutcher, Sam Nodine, Carl Threlkeld, Dan Carroll

He and I both work the information desk at the hospital. He told me that after retiring as a family physician he stayed around the house until his wife told him to find something to do outside the home. So, he joined Chapter 177, then started volunteering one day a week here at the VA.

Our chapter is unique. I am the VA VS Rep. The Assistant Chief of Volunteers let me sign up five deputy VA VS reps. The secretary, who is in charge of placing volunteers who don't have a specific group to give their hours to, is assigned to the KWVA. The group also includes adults and the kids.

The last hourly report gave us 1900 hours for last month at the hospital here and the Tulsa outpatient clinic. Not too bad for a chapter with 29 members.

Bill Webster, 2404 Pin Oak Rd., Muskogee, OK  
74401, [docwilly6@gmail.com](mailto:docwilly6@gmail.com)

## 186 ST. CHARLES COUNTY [MO]

We swore in our new officers for the 2012-2013 term at our July meeting. They include Commander Dick Saip, 1st VP Art Minor, 2nd VP Bob Breig, Treasurer Bob Cummiskey, Adjutant Bob Greeley, and Judge Advocate/Chaplain Don Baur.

Members attended a speech given by a Korean teaching professor from the renowned Washington University in St. Louis. The event took place at the city's Korean War and Chosin Few Memorials. He was accompanied by a Korean dignitary from Chicago.



Missouri State Commander and National Director Frank Williams (far right) swears in Ch 186 officers (L-R) Don Baur, Bob Greeley, Dick Saip, Bob Cummiskey, and Art Minor



South Korean professor from Washington Univ. speaks at St. Louis Memorial Day ceremony

We were also represented at Memorial Day activities in both St. Peters and St. Charles. In St. Peters we supplied the honor guard, where we presented the American and KWVA Chapter flags. On the same day, other members placed the typical wreath and read the names to honor those veterans who had passed away during the previous year.

Finally, we participated in the yearly Senior Fair sponsored by the city of St. Peters.

Salvatore ("Chris") Christifulli, 923 Annabrook Pk Dr.  
O'Fallon, MO 63366, [schristifulli@charter.net](mailto:schristifulli@charter.net)



Bystanders watch members of Ch 186 at Memorial Day ceremony: Bob Osborn (holding American flag), Bob Breig (holding chapter flag), Virgil Olendorff, Dick Saip, Bob Peitz (L-R)



Art Minor (L) and Virgil Olendorff of Ch 186 walk away after placing wreath at St. Charles, MO Memorial Day commemoration



Bob Breig, Virgil Olendorff, Darold Woodstock, Bob Greeley, and Clarence Schleuter of Ch 186 at City of St. Peters Senior Fair

## 209 LAREDO KWVA 1950 [TX]

Members were involved in several diverse activities. They included:

- Attendance at a ceremony in San Ignacios to honor ICE Agent Jaime Zapata, who was killed in the line of duty in Mexico
- Participation in the Annual Indian Pow-Wow, at which Ernesto Sanchez and Reynaldo Reyna received the David Whitehead Vietnam Era Intertribal Award
- Attendance at Beginning of the Korean War and End of the Korean War commemorations

Pedro "Pete" Trevino Jr., 3219 E Lyon St.  
Laredo, TX 78043, 956-723-6978



Ch 209 members at San Ignacios, TX ceremony to honor ICE Agent Jaime Zapata (L-R) Nico Nanez, Sal Scharaffa, Eduardo Sanchez, Rey Reyna and Neta Sanchez



Ernesto Sanchez and Reynaldo Reyna receive the David Whitehead Vietnam Era Intertribal Award from an unidentified Pow Wow official



Contingent from Ch 209 at 27 June 2012 Beginning of the Korean War Ceremony (L-R) Neta Sanchez, Sal Scharaffa, Nico Nanez, Eduardo Sanchez, Rey Reyna, unidentified persons



July 27, 2012 End of the Korean War commemoration attendees from Ch 209 (Front, L-R) Rey Reyna, Hector Castaneda, Neto Sanchez, Sandra Hernandez, Sal Scharaffa (Back, L-R) Edwardo Sanchez, Nico Nanez, John McKeown, Jorge de la Garza, J.J. Trevino (holding child)

## 250 CHARLES THACKER [VA]

We held our annual picnic at Natural Tunnel State Park, near Big Gap, VA. We were blessed with great weather and big appetites. Pretty women like Jean Fannon and Shirley Hall directed the food supply, prepared by Fred Bishop, who knows how to attack a grill.

Once again Dan Perkins entertained us with patriotic songs. We all left with full stomachs.

Jack Bentley, PO Box 114, Pound, VA  
276-796-4993, jandm67@verizon.net



Attendees at Ch 250's annual picnic

Jean Fannon and  
Shirley Hall at Ch  
250's picnic



Dan Perkins entertains the  
"troops" at Ch 250's fete



Fred Bishop, Ch 250's "grillmaster"

## 251 SAGINAW/FRANKENMUTH [MI]

We elected new officers: Commander Dallas Mossman, Sr.; 1st Vice (Vacant); 2nd Vice Ronald Lubis; Finance Officer Richard C. Anderson; Adjutant Lydia M. Davis; Sgt.-at-Arms Robert W. Hubbard; Chaplain Frank Licht; Service Officers Lydia M. Davis and Dick E. Redifer; Board of Directors Bob Simon (Past Commander), Richard C. Rosa, Donald A. Lyons, Charles F. Wenzel; Quartermaster and Brick Sales Fred W. Bauer; Public Relations and Scholarships Bob Simon.

Because various officers vacation in the south for the winter, we elected Alexander Crowe as Assistant Commander. Lois Simon will fill in as Historian until we select a permanent Historian.

Bob Simon, 7286 Spring Lake Tr.  
Saginaw, MI 48603, 989-792-3718



Lydia Davis presents wreath to  
veterans

## 259 CENTRAL INDIANA [IN]

We were honored to have an informative Q and A session at the July meeting with a representative from The American Legion National Offices in Indianapolis. John Hickey, Legion Director of Rehabilitation, from the Department of Indiana Service Officers, presented some valuable information regarding Post Traumatic Stress treatment, disability claims, and new services being provided by the Veterans Affairs Department. He is a long-time Legion official and very knowledgeable.



Jack Beaty (behind flag) Acting Commander of Ch 259, Tine Martin (retiring Cmdr), John Hickey (behind speaker), Tom Shepherd, Treasurer, Vice Cmdr Don Hall, Chaplain Bill Barnhill at July meeting

John also outlined the process by which over 100,000 claims are processed, according to priorities established for the individual cases. His comments on "Non-Service Connected" benefits included pensions that may be available based on a veteran's annual income limits.

John is a Vietnam veteran who was wounded twice in that war. He has a sincere interest in proper treatment of those who served because of his own experiences in the military.

John M. Quinn, Saggi32@aol.com

## 289 MOUNTAIN EMPIRE [TN]

We started slowly this year, but things got busy when June 30 rolled around. That day we took part in the Veterans Homecoming, which was held at the Appalachian State Fair Grounds in Grey, TN. We set up a table manned by members with application blanks and sample Greybeards magazines on display.

We were near the front of the Kingsport 4th of July Parade. Our contingent was led by member Ralph Yelton, who was pushed in his wheelchair by another member. Ralph, a former state representative, is the longest-living combat wounded veteran who is paralyzed from the waist down. Two members followed him carrying our banner; four vehicles carrying members were in the parade as well.

On July 13 we participated in the annual Kingsport parade to kick off a week-long festival called Fun Fest. Five of our mem-

bers, along with members of the Vietnam Veterans and active duty military, rode on the veterans float. Other veterans marched in the parade.



Dewey Harless, Joe Cody, Commander Mack Dunford, Arlen Hensley, and Bill Reed (L-R) of Ch 289 at the Veterans Homecoming at the Appalachian State Fair Grounds

One of the magnetic signs we put on the sides of our vehicles for parades



Members of Ch 289 prepare Veterans Float for the Fun Fest Parade

Bob Shelton (sitting) and a waving Fred Himelwright of Ch 289 at Fun Fest Parade



The next week the veterans set up tents in front of the Kingsport Veterans Memorial for four days. We had a table set up similar to that at the Veterans Homecoming. There was also a world map on which veterans and their families could stick pins showing where they had served.

There was also a continuous showing of a DVD with scenes

from the various wars. On Saturday veterans shared their war stories with the general public.

Carol Shelton, [cselton37663@yahoo.com](mailto:cselton37663@yahoo.com)

## 303 PALMETTO [SC]

Nine members received certificates of appreciation issued in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Korean War.

Donald E. Shea, 8 Yellow Rail Ln.

Hilton Head Island, SC 29926, 843-681-8309

[DonMark@hargray.com](mailto:DonMark@hargray.com)



Members of Ch 303 display their certificates of appreciation

## 311 H. EDWARD REEVES [AZ]

We have new officers: Commander James Johnston; 1st Vice Commander George Schlotterbeck; 2nd Vice Commander Vern Gerdes; Adjutant John McKinney; Treasurer Bert Ransom; Judge Advocate Bruce Bikson; Director 1 Carl Shanahorn; Director 2 George Thyden; Director 3 Chuck Slagle; Senior Past Commander Chuck Stohr

Vern Gerdes, 4571 N Calle Santa Cruz

Prescott Valley, AZ 86314, 928-777-0545



New officers of Ch 311 for 2012-2013 are sworn in on July 19, 2012

## 315 SOUTHERN OREGON [OR]

The annual "Take a Vet Fishing Day" sponsored by the Middle Rogue Steelheaders for Grants Pass, OR was held on May 19, 2012. Five members of our chapter participated in this event.

The Steelheaders provide boats, bait and tackle, breakfast, a BBQ, and door prizes and cash prizes for all attendees. This year, 75 veterans took part in a day of trout fishing at Lost Creek Lake, Oregon.

We thank Keith Miller, Middle Rogue Steelheaders coordinator, and Doris Wellborn, MRS Photographer, who supplied the nearby photos.

Howard Arnold, 3217 Riverbanks Rd., Grants Pass, OR 97527, 541-479-2928, [haha@budget.net](mailto:haha@budget.net)



Keith Miller, boat captain Howard Arnold, Bruce Pence, and Gary Orton (L-R) of Ch 315 at the "Take a Vet Fishing Day" barbecue

Ron Duke (L) and Al Pule of Ch 315 at "Take a Vet Fishing Day" event



Visit the Korean War Veterans Association Website:

[www.KWVA.org](http://www.KWVA.org)

### 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**



Alan Lauckner sent us these photos that depict life in Korea in the early 1950s—and death in the Korean War. He submitted along with the photos a book entitled “Pictorial Korea, 1951-1952,” published by the International Publicity League of Korea. (They may be a bit fuzzy in places. The pictures were converted from slides that are over 50 years old.)

The 226-page book is packed with stories and photos of life in Korea during those two years. Unfortunately, it is too fragile to reproduce for these pages.

One of the photo essays, “Entering Into North Korea,” was particularly poignant. It had photos of North Korean citizens cheering as UN troops entered Pyongyang. One photo had a caption of a “Mass meeting of Pyongyang citizens celebrating the liberation of the city by the UN forces. This city had been the capital of the puppet government of Kim Il Sung before it was retaken on September 19, 1950. The 1st division of Korean army was the first to enter the city.”

Another was captioned, “Cheering and waving ROK flags. This group of North Korean villagers gathers around jeep carrying men investigating the brutal North Korean army and police atrocity sayings just outside of Chinnampo on 24, Oct. 1950.” (The caption may seem confusing, but it is printed verbatim.)

What happened after that?

Alan K. Lauckner, 8 Concord Rd., Milford, DE 19963, 302-430-7661, [aleanor@aol.com](mailto:aleanor@aol.com)

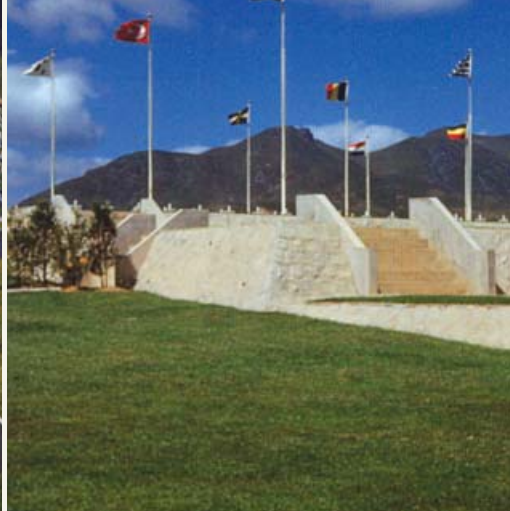


Alan Lauckner in Korea



## Images of Korea







**Varkess Karbassian...** was featured in an article, "An Unbreakable Bond," in the 6 November 2011 edition of *Parade Magazine*. As Herhall Lee observed, "I met Varkness through The Graybeards several years ago and we became friends. He represented not only himself as a Korean War veteran—but his cap spoke loud volumes of words for our association." (He was pictured on the cover wearing his KWVA cap.)

One of Karbassian's comments quoted by writer Lynn Sherr summed up what a lot of veterans no doubt felt after the war: "After I got back, my mother used to come in, shake me and wake me up, because I'd be screaming in my sleep that the Chinese are coming. That wasn't the case, of course. But it took me about a year or two just to get over that experience."

**Dorothy Antonelli...** and her brother Peter Antonelli attended a memorial service at the Korean War Veterans Memorial at Cadman Plaza, Brooklyn, NY on July 27, 2012. The event commemorated the 59th anniversary of the Korean War armistice signing.

The Antonellis attended in honor of their uncle, Sgt. Peter A. Patete, F Co., 2/38 Regt., 2ID. Sgt. Patete was killed in action on November 26, 1950 at Kuni-ri, North Korea. His remains are among those still missing.



Dorothy and Peter Antonelli at Korean War Memorial in Brooklyn, NY

*Dorothy Antonelli can be reached at 26 Carole Place, Old Bridge, NJ 08857, 732-679-1746 (home), 732-235-7665 (cell) or antonedm@umdnj.edu*

**Dick Bedard...** completed a promise to a WWII Navy veteran, Raymond Champy, who died on 31 May 2012. Bedard explained: "We worked together for a couple years at Avis Rent-a-Car at Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks, CT. Ray was ten years older than me and not feeling well. Before he left the company I told him that if anything happened to one of us the other one would celebrate his Navy career."

Bedard noted that even though his four-year Navy stint was uneventful, Champy's was anything but. In his four years he

went from North Africa (1942) to the Mediterranean (1943), D-Day (1944), and Japan (1945), where he was involved in shelling military targets along the country's coast. He sailed into Tokyo Bay in September 1945. (His obituary sums up his four years in one simple sentence: "He was a WWII veteran, serving in the U.S. Navy." Obituaries can be a bit terse.)

So, Bedard honored his promise at a 30 June 2012 memorial service. He and fellow Korean War veteran Laurie Bastarache, a Recon Marine, folded a flag in his honor. Bedard also gave a moving speech extolling Champy's Navy exploits.



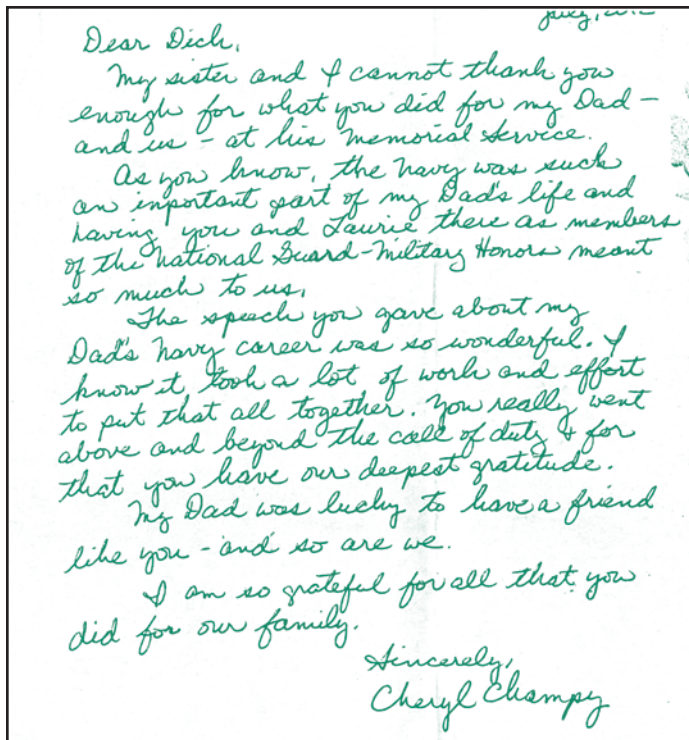
Dick Bedard and Laurie Bastarache prepare the folded flag for presentation



The flag folding ceremony in progress at the Champy service



Dick Bedard (L) and Laurie Bastarache stand by the table set-up at the Raymond Champy memorial service



A thank you note from Raymond Champy's daughter to Dick Bedard

Reach Richard F. Bedard at 814 Gatewood Dr., Enfield, CT 06082, 860-253-9128 or Laurie Bastarache at PO Box 166, Somersville, CT 06072, 860-749-2163.

**John Ramieri/Ralph Rodriguez**...represented the KWVA at the Memorial Day services at the Veterans Section of the Santa Barbara, CA Cemetery. Ramieri served with 1 INF 16 INF 3 BN HVY MTR. Reach him at 121 Dearborn Pl. Apt 150, Goleta, CA 93117, 805-698-4304. Rodriguez, who served with 7 INF 31st INF HQ, can be reached at 802 W Victoria St., Santa Barbara, CA 93101, 805-965-7566.



John Ramieri (L) and Ralph Rodriguez participate in wreath laying ceremony at Santa Barbara Memorial Day service



Wreath laying ceremony at Santa Barbara cemetery

**Ernesto Sanchez**...the President of Ch 209 Laredo KWVA 1950 (TX), visited Korea in June as part of the official Revisit Tour. He saw some interesting sights and met some interesting people along the way, as the nearby photos taken by Sandra Hernandez demonstrate.

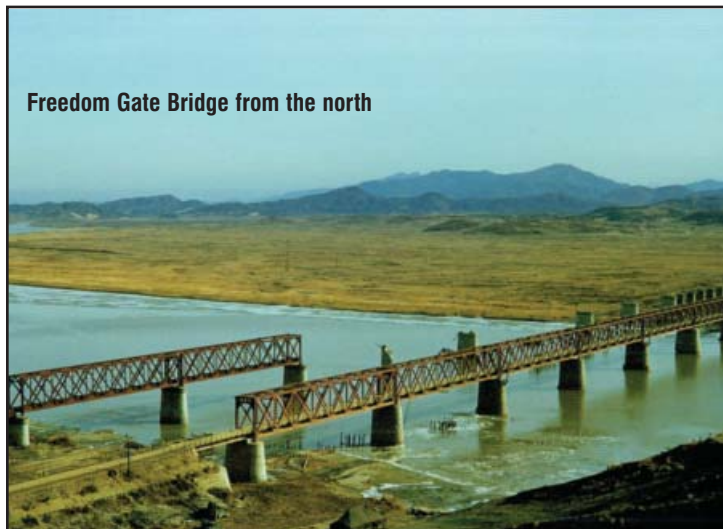


The bus that carried Ernesto Sanchez, Jr., and his Revisit companions

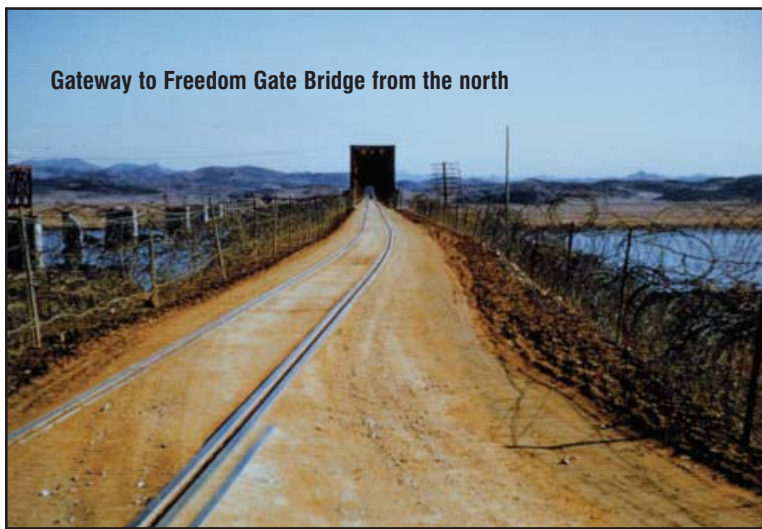


Ernesto Sanchez stands by the monument to United States Soldiers killed in Korea

Continued on page 56



Freedom Gate Bridge from the north



Gateway to Freedom Gate Bridge from the north

## Freedom Bridge

We ran a photo of Freedom Bridge on p. 52 in the Nov/Dec 2011 issue. In the text, titled "Vault's Alarm," we asked for verification that the subject was indeed the Freedom Bridge. One reader, Oscar Cortez, wrote:

"The picture in question on page 52 is the Bridge of No Return where POW's cross at Panmunjom South Korea. I crossed that bridge on August 26th 1953 after spending 30 months as a POW and it sure was a welcome sight.

In 2001 my wife and I returned for a revisit and we were taken to that sight. Another former POW went along on the trip. He was Jose A. Hinojosa, who passed away in July last year.

Only Jose and I were allowed to walk halfway on that bridge. My wife and I also walked halfway. We embraced and it was a very moving experience."

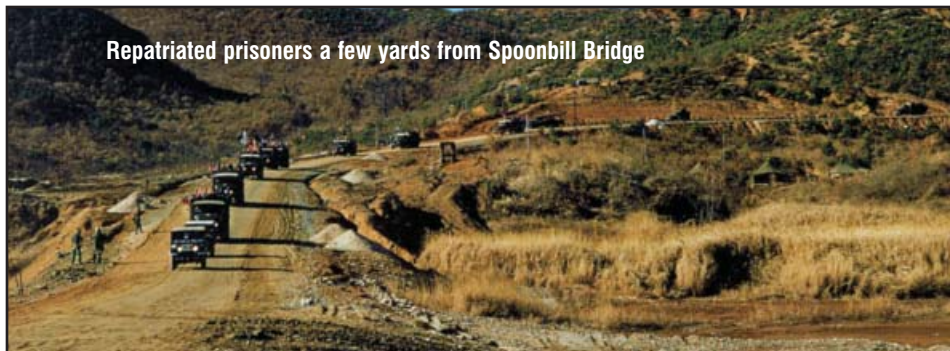
*Oscar Cortez, elhobo@msn.com*

Now, we have some new photos, created from slides, that were taken around Freedom Bridge in 1953. They were provided graciously by Allen Affolter, whose patience is to be applauded.

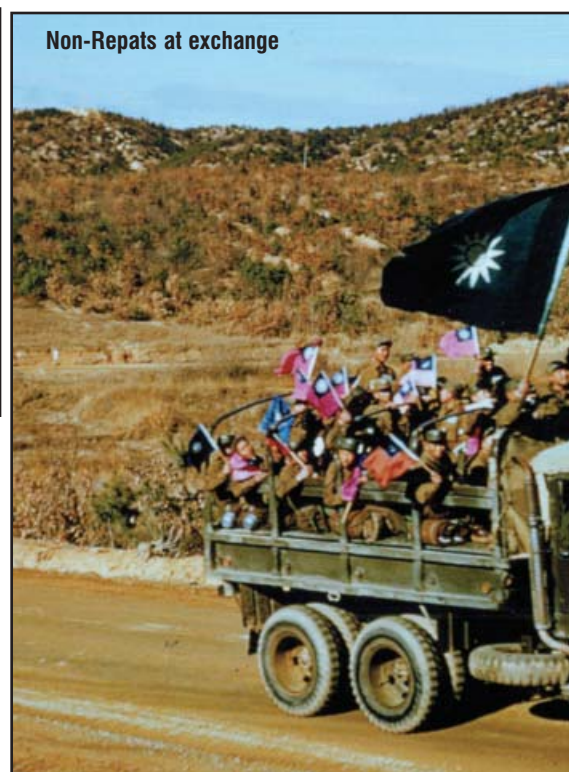
Reach him at 514 S Franklin, New Ulm, MN 56073, [Beu\\_Allen7@hotmail.com](mailto:Beu_Allen7@hotmail.com).



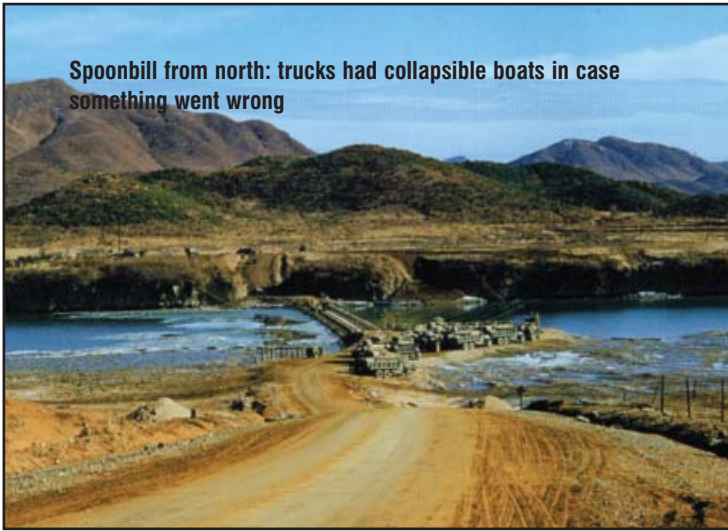
More Non-Repats at exchange



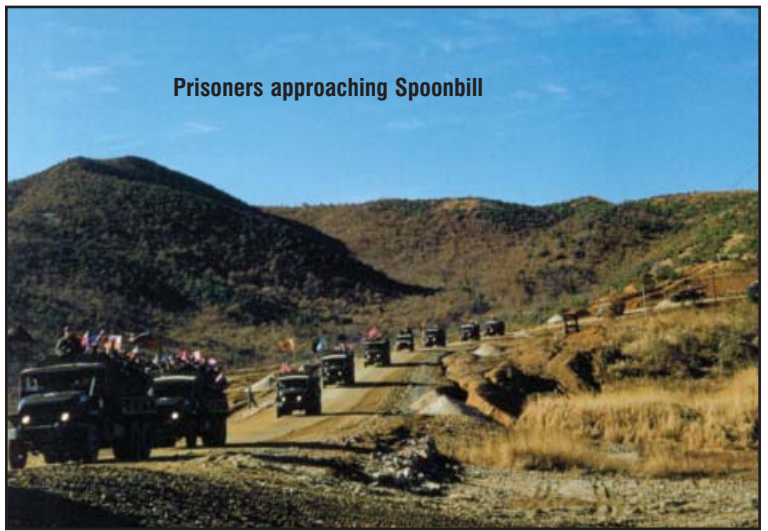
Repatriated prisoners a few yards from Spoonbill Bridge



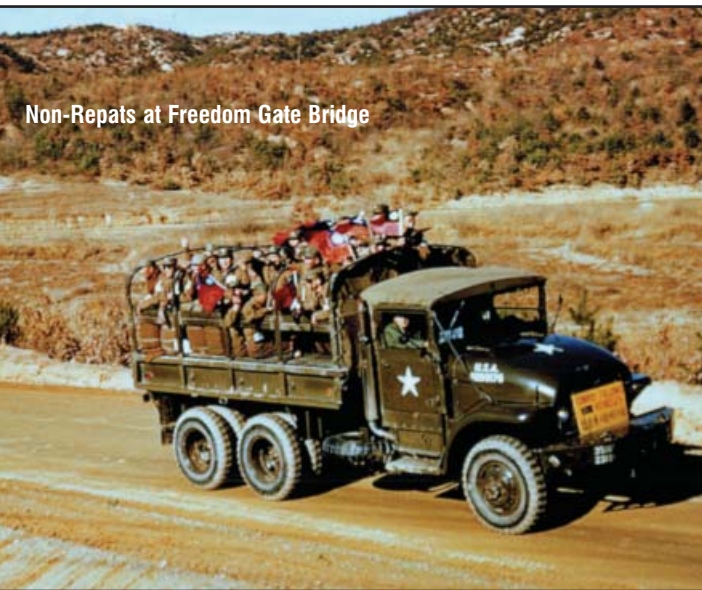
Non-Repats at exchange



Spoonbill from north: trucks had collapsible boats in case something went wrong



Prisoners approaching Spoonbill



Non-Repats at Freedom Gate Bridge



Prisoners approaching exchange



Prisoners crossing Spoonbill

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

## 1st Plt., Co. A, 301 ASA Bn.

Our group numbered about 16 members. We get together periodically, although the group is getting smaller and some of us can not travel any more. This year seven of us were able to get together in April 2012 in Gettysburg, PA.

We served from 1956 to 1957.

Antonio Torres Jr., 718 CR 3376,  
Kempner, TX 76539, [atorresjr1@centurylink.net](mailto:atorresjr1@centurylink.net)

Members of 1st Plt., Co. A, 301 ASA Bn. (Front, L-R)) John Erickson, Frank Fogl, James Bullard, Antonio ("Tony") Torres, Jr. (Back, L-R) Gerry Beckley, Edward Rankin, Al Shanefelter, William Callaghan, John Bligh



## 3rd AAA AW BN (SP)

The 3rd AAA AW BN (Self Propelled) held its 11th annual reunion at the Park Grove Inn, Community Center Dr., Pigeon Forge, TN, April 24-26, 2012. Next year's meeting will be on April 23-25, 2013 at the same location.

Women's Auxiliary group members at 3rd AAA reunion



Pigeon Forge is a wonderful resort area for the entire family, and we have thoroughly enjoyed our meetings there. Anyone who served in the 3rd AAA is most welcome to join us. Contact Leon Espe, 931-250-5133, [lespe@kc.rr.com](mailto:lespe@kc.rr.com).

Chyung M. Kim, 1550 Elgaen Place Dr.,  
Roswell, GA 30075

3rd AAA reunion attendees

## 73rd Tank Battalion

The 73rd Tankers Association held their 16th reunion April 25-29, 2012 at the Westin Crown Center Hotel complex in Kansas City, the birthplace and home of the Hallmark cards. The reunion host was Bob Jones.

The 73rd Tank Battalion left Fort Benning, Georgia in July 1950 and arrived in Korea August 1950. The first year in Korea they participated in four major battles: Pusan Perimeter (Bowling Alley), August 1950; Inchon Landing, September 1950; Hungnam Perimeter November-December 1950; and Iron Triangle April 1951.

Other than spending time visiting a lot in our hospitality room, we had two other events. On Thursday, April 26th, we toured the National World War I Museum. The other event was our banquet on Saturday, April 28th. Our guest speaker was LTC Yoonkap Lim, Korean Liaison officer from Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas.

We had a total of 25 73rd Tank veterans, family, and friends at the banquet. A good time was had by all. Next year (2013), our reunion will be in Columbus, Georgia. Our host will be Bobby Hill.

See you in Columbus!

Robert R. Jones, 13975 E. 35th St. S #428, Independence, MO 64055, 816-836-0969 (H), 816-809-0123 (Cell), [bobjones73rdtkbn@yahoo.com](mailto:bobjones73rdtkbn@yahoo.com)



73rd Tank Bn. group visiting Missouri Korean Memorial in Washington Park, across the street from WWI Memorial; Standing in front of WWI tank are Bob Jones, Barbara Weisbradt, Bob Weisbradt, Curtis Banker, Donna Bowlby, Lois Mitchell, Lucille Hill, Bobby Hill, Tour Guide Gene Winslow (L-R)



**LEFT:** Sunghee Lim, Bob Weisbradt, Bob Jones, Curtis Banker, LTC Yoonkap (L-R) at 73rd Tank Bn. reunion

**BELOW:** Bewey Flener (L) and Lois Mitchell flank map of Korea on display at 73rd Tank Bn. gathering



Attendees at 73rd Tank Bn. reunion (Front, L-R) Bob Jones, Lois Mitchell, Dewey Flener (Middle, L-R) Alice Easley, Barbara Weisbradt, Sharon Morgan, Lucille Hill, Beverly Morin, Don Morin (Back, L-R) Courtney Easley, Curtis Banker, Bob Weisbradt, Dennis Morgan, Bobby Hill



Visiting after banquet (Front) Bob Jones, Alexa Varady; in background Don Morin and partially hidden Bobby Hill talk with LTC Yoonkap Lim (back to camera)

**More** ➤

## 772nd Military Police Bn.

The Korean veterans of the 772nd M.P. Battalion held their 17th reunion in Nashville, TN May 3. They visited President Andrew Jackson's home and estate, The Hermitage, and enjoyed an evening performance at the Grand Ole Opry.

"The Deuce" landed in Inchon October 7, 1950 and came ashore in Wonson October 31. They provided support to the First Marine Division and the X Corps operating on the MSR to the Chosin Reservoir until the Hungnam evacuation in December, 1950. Members of the Battalion received several decorations, including two Silver Stars, six Soldier's Medals, 42 Bronze Stars and 11 Purple Hearts.

Next year's reunion is being planned for Mystic Seaport, CT. All Deuce members are welcome.

*Phil Willemann, 5300 Pheasant Dr., Orient, OH 43146, 614-877-9844, pwillemann@att.net*



772nd members at Nashville reunion (Seated, L-R) Phil Willemann, Gene Kopal, John Cantrall, Paul Rich, Willis Sanford, Denny Davis (Back, L-R) Deane Behrends, Donato Altieri, Bill McDonald, Bob Cumiskey, Dean Tribby, Gene Michaels

## Fort Sill OCS Class 11-52 Meets in Denver

Army officer graduates of the Artillery School held their 13th reunion in the "Mile High" city of Denver, June 11-13, 2012. DeReef and Yvonne Green hosted the gathering at which the attendees again shared their experiences of their time in combat during the Korean War.

One evening Ralph and Pat Silversmith hosted the group with cocktails and dinner at their home. Other highlights included a day trip to the Broadmoor Hotel and Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. Some folks toured the Denver Botanical Gardens.

A special remembrance of sharing their memorabilia at their hospitality suite was a look back to those fighting days, freezing temps, and active duty time.

On our last day we toured the expansive fish exhibits at the Aquarium Restaurant. We culminated our reunion when Dwight and Dorothy Thomas presented hosts DeReef and Yvonne Greene with parting gifts.

Dwight L. Thomas, 319 Palm Drive, Marlin, Texas 76661

OCS Class 11-52 grads at Denver reunion: David Perry, Dwight Thomas, Gene Richards, Richard Nagle, DeReef Greene, Herman Baumann, Ernest Hirsch (One name is missing)



OCS Class 11-52 ladies: Yvonne Greene, Reggie Smith, Dorothy Thomas, Carolyn Hirsch, Rose Baumann, Mary Nagle, Pat Silversmith

## Swift Walker Runner

Not all of the interesting experiences of a Korean Revisit tour are on the published agenda. While visiting the Korean Folk Village on the tour, three veterans realized our surnames gave us something in common...well, loosely. They were Kenneth Swift, James Walker, and Robert Runner—Swift Walker Runner.

While two of us were sitting down to rest in downtown Seoul, a Korean gentleman showed an individual interest in our name tags. I encouraged him to come over and read our names on the tags.

When he realized who we were, he explained loudly to everyone in hearing distance who we were. He removed from his wallet what I assumed was a veterans ID and then sat down to have his photo taken with us. I am sorry I did not get his name.

*Robert C. Runner, 29437 Runner Rd.  
Ashby, NE 69333*



Kenneth Swift, James Walker, and Robert Runner (L-R) on Korean revisit



Robert Runner (R) and unidentified Korean veteran

## 91st MP Bn.

The "Mighty 91st Military Police Bn." that served in Pusan, Korea held its annual reunion in Bismarck and Medora, North Dakota, July 24-27, 2012. Arlen Blumer of Kindred, ND was our host. Four loyal couples could not be present due to illness. Sadly, one former MP passed on about three months ago.

The nine most recent MPs who signed up with us are from different states. Five members in the nearby photo come from New York, Ohio, North Dakota, and Wisconsin.

The 2013 reunion will be in Wisconsin.

*Bob Simon, 7286 Spring Lake Tr., Saginaw, MI 48603, 989-792-3718, rob-simoncondo@charter.net*



91st MP Bn. reunion attendees (Front L-R) Marilyn Blumer, Jenny Martin, Nancy Bouldin, Mary Carpenter, Esther Bein, Joan Murray, Ruth Frohmader, Lois Simon, Nancy Walker, Fran Gay, Dorothy King, Velma Monks (Back, L-R) Arlen Blumer, Don Martin, Jim Bouldin, Dick Suchodolski, Bob Bein, Norm Murray, Major General David Sprynczynatyke (Medora Reserves), George Frohmader, Bob Simon, Jack Walker, Manual Sanchez, Milton Negrin



Former KWVA National President William Mac Swain and Ernesto Sanchez meet in Korea



Lt. Gen. Jan-Marc Jouas, USAF (in uniform), Deputy Commander, United Nations Command Korea and Deputy Commander, U.S. Forces Korea, consults with Ernesto Sanchez

**Joe W. Green...**President of Ch 17, Lt. Richard E. Cronan—and the chapter itself—was featured in a July 4, 2012 edition of the Ft. Lauderdale [FL] Sun-Sentinel. The article, entitled “Fundraising efforts help Korean War veterans,” described an effort by the chapter to provide clothing for their peers at the VA Medical Center Home in West Palm Beach.

The reporter, David DiPino, explained what they did in his opening paragraph:

“With their organization approaching its summer break, a group of local veterans decided they wanted to help out their peers at the VA Medical Center Home in West Palm Beach. They knew that their fellow veterans needed new underwear, shorts, undershirts and socks, so members of the Lt. Richard E. Cronan Chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association in Delray Beach pooled the money they collected during an On the Avenue event and other fundraising efforts.”

Green described to DiPino some of the chapter’s fundraising efforts:

“Chapter 17 president Joe W. Green said that each year the organization raises funds in support of the Fisher House, a facility that helps military families in West Palm Beach.

“We did this last year and also provided cosmetics for the Fisher

House. This year we heard from some VA patients that they needed T-shirts and shorts to hang out in during the day like everyone else,” Green said.

“We’re down on Atlantic Avenue on Thursdays when they have On the Avenue, and we set up a table and collect money. We also get donations from families of those who passed on... and put that in the kitty. Our mission is to help.”

The exposure demonstrates how newspapers and KWVA members can work together for veterans’ benefits—and recruiting efforts.

Read the entire article at [http://articles.sun-sentinel.com/2012-07-04/news/fl-drf-donation-0704-20120704\\_1\\_va-patients-fisher-house-va-hospital](http://articles.sun-sentinel.com/2012-07-04/news/fl-drf-donation-0704-20120704_1_va-patients-fisher-house-va-hospital). Or, contact Joe Green at 1710 Stonehaven Dr., Apt 4, Boynton Beach, FL 33436, 561-739-8575, JWG913@comcast.net

**Vern Gerdes/Ch 311...**were featured in an article in the July 31, 2012 Prescott [AZ] Daily Courier. In his article on p. 6A, “Korean War Veterans share special camaraderie,” Columnist Jerry Jackson provided a snapshot of the chapter and the KWVA. Jackson began his column with this description: “They’re known as The Graybeards, which is an appropriate pseudonym for the Korean War Veterans Association. After all, it’s been more than six decades since that war was being waged, so its members have come by the coloration of their beards honestly.”

He included all the criteria for joining the association and listed the chapter’s activities, meeting time, etc. Gerdes pointed out that Ch 311’s numbers have grown from 32 to 80 over the past three years. No doubt articles like Jackson’s are a great help in the recruiting effort.

Read the column at <http://prescottaz.com/main.asp?Search=1&ArticleID=109239&SectionID=74&SubSectionID=114&S=1>  
Contact Gerdes at 4571 N Calle Santa Cruz, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314, 928-777-0545

**Donald L. Van Beck...**a charter subscriber of the KWVA, was featured on Florida’s TV Channel 9 along with a group of veterans who visited the Lake County, FL Democratic Headquarters to request that an American flag be taken down. The flag in question, which was flying below the true American flag, had an image of our current U.S. president in the space that normally depicts the stars.

Van Beck and the other veterans, accompanied by Channel 9 reporter Berndt Petersen, visited the headquarters building and asked Democratic Party Chair Nancy Hulbert to remove the flag. “Any American would be sick to see this,” Van Beck told Petersen.

The veterans stressed that their request to remove the flag had nothing to do with politics. Rather, they said, the 3x5 flag violates the United States Flag Code.

“If you’d been a veteran and fought—and some died—for this flag, you don’t want to see it desecrated. That’s how simple it is,” Van Beck explained.

The veterans asked Hulbert to remove the flag. She checked the U.S. Flag Code before doing so, after which she cut the offensive flag from the pole with the help of the group of veterans.

Reach Van Beck at 32004 Harris Rd., Tavares, FL 32778, 352-343-1529, [Seafari.VB@juno.com](mailto:Seafari.VB@juno.com). View the video at <http://www.staged.com/video?v=Sfmc>.



# Welcome Aboard!

## New Members of the Korean War Veterans Association

### ALABAMA

R044273 HEWITT F. RYAN  
R044232 JERRY M. SEHLER

### ALASKA

R044289 LAURENCE L. KILLINGER

### ARIZONA

A044206 NANCY C. COMSTOCK  
R044199 DARRELL A. CUSICK  
R044238 ELEY P. DENSON  
A044210 JERRY W. JACKSON  
R044163 FRANCIS N. MEREDITH  
A044260 PATRICIA A. WITTMAN  
R044198 THOMAS ZEROD

### ARKANSAS

LR44214 ROBERT E. FERRAND SR.

### CALIFORNIA

LR44142 JACK E. ANDERSON  
LR44175 ROBERT S. COLLINS  
R044188 JAMES D. 'JIM' HATCHER  
R044192 ROBERT S. JOHNSON  
LR44247 ORLO E. MELLON  
R044179 CARMEN P. MESSINA  
R044234 WENDELL P. ROUND  
LR44223 BUD SIMMONS  
LR44203 ROBERT E. THOMAS  
R044286 DONALD L. VERSAW

### COLORADO

R044288 CHARLES J. V. FRIES III  
R044221 CHARLES E. KAMMERER SR.  
R044235 DOUGLAS H. WATTS

### DELAWARE

R044240 HAROLD GIACOMINI

### FLORIDA

R044275 WILLIAM C. BLOOD  
R044170 ARNOLD C. BOROWITZ  
R044259 JOEL B. BRIGGS  
R044233 LIONEL E. FORD  
R044257 DONALD F. FOY  
R044244 RAYMOND D. GUIMOND  
A044271 HEE SOONG LEE  
R044218 EDWARD P. MCMENAMIN  
R044212 GEORGE N. STEIN  
R044205 PAUL TENENBAUM

### GEORGIA

LR44269 JOSEPH H. JONES

### HAWAII

LR44216 TOSHIO AOYAGI  
LR44290 HENRY PASCUA SR.  
R044213 ROBERT G. SUGEL  
LR44204 MASAICHI UEHARA

### ILLINOIS

R044164 LEO C. CUSHING  
LR44222 ROBERT J. GUSHANAS  
R044246 KLESS GYZEN  
R044180 EDWARD J. KROHN  
R044152 ROBERT H. LEWIS  
R044151 WILLIAM H. MARLOW

LR44149 CLIFFORD L. SELDAL

### INDIANA

R044209 ROBERT F. BOLINO  
A044224 JERRY W. BONDURANT  
R044237 PATRICK M. FERRARI  
A044267 WILLIAM M. 'BILL' MCCLURE  
R044279 EDWARD E. MCWILLIAMS  
R044168 CHESLEY MITSUK  
R044253 WILFRED STEVENS

### IOWA

R044207 DONALD P. HAYES  
LR44255 JOHN J. SCARPINO

### KANSAS

R044166 EDWIN HENRY

### KENTUCKY

R044189 CHARLES W. DAVIS

### MAINE

R044262 ROBERT E. DILLINGHAM  
R044283 JAMES M. DOTY

### MARYLAND

R044281 PAXTON E. PICKRELL  
R044284 WILSON T. RENWICK  
R044148 EDMUND A. RUOS

### MASSACHUSETTS

R044159 WILLIAM H. BOURQUE JR.

### MICHIGAN

R044276 WILLIAM D. BARR  
LR44226 ALBERT G. BONNEY SR.  
R044190 MELVIN MCKANDES

### MINNESOTA

LR44143 LYLE K. ANDERSON  
P044183 DUANE C. BROTEN  
R044160 VIRGIL H. SCHLOTTE

### MISSISSIPPI

R044201 CHARLES L. FOWLER

### MISSOURI

R044264 DENNIS W. HEINE  
LR44217 RICHARD D. O'DELL

### NEVADA

R044261 GABRIEL M. KOORY JR.

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

R044196 RUSSELL G. FARNHAM  
A044194 DOROTHY M. ANTONELLI

### NEW JERSEY

R044171 EDWARD G. LAVELLE  
R044185 MERWIN METLITZ  
R044231 BEN F. NIGRO  
R044167 NORMAN G. ROBINSON

### NEW MEXICO

R044287 HARRY BECKHOFF  
A044266 FREDERICK A. SCHNEIDER  
LR44265 MONTE R. SHRIVER

### NEW YORK

R044254 JAMES CAPPELLO  
R044245 FRANCIS W. CASE

R044181 JOSEPH W. DIMARIA  
R044277 DONALD H. EATON  
R044243 ALEX FEDYSHYN  
R044162 JOHN T. MOSS  
R044184 ANTHONY PELLE  
R044227 JAMES C. SOCCI  
R044195 YOUNG Y. WHANG

### NORTH CAROLINA

R044211 PHILIP A. KLEVA  
R044258 ROBERT A. PRUETT  
R044229 JOANNE C. 'JODY' WILLIAMS  
R044230 WALTER R. WILLIAMS

### NORTH DAKOTA

R044161 GEORGE A. GILFUS

### OHIO

R044256 DEE DOGGETT JR.  
R044144 CLETUS B. KOTTEN  
R044145 DONALD E. KRAMP  
R044285 FRED LAUGHLIN  
R044146 AL J. LINHART  
R044141 JOHN T. POWELL  
LR44186 RONALD J. RETTIG  
R044147 ROBERT E. ZELLERS

### OKLAHOMA

R044165 DAVID DANIELS JR.  
LR44280 TERRY P. SPRADLEY

### OREGON

R044248 DEAN A. BOSCHE  
R044169 RICHARD A. TRAUGH

### PENNSYLVANIA

R044156 JAMES R. DICKSON  
R044219 ROBERT HARBULA  
R044215 HUMPHREY J. LUKACHIK  
LR44228 RICHARD K. OVERHEIM

### RHODE ISLAND

R044178 HERBERT GOLD  
R044250 DAVID C. MANN

### SOUTH CAROLINA

R044239 ROBERT F. BUDIHAS  
SOUTH CAROLINA

R044157 BERLYN K. SUTTON

### TENNESSEE

R044272 ARTHUR J. WELLS JR.

### TEXAS

R044154 WILLIAM H. BURGWIN JR.  
R044173 ROBERT E. DUDEK  
R044153 GONZALO GARZA  
R044174 PAUL W. GEIGER  
R044208 THOMAS KYAK  
R044268 DENNIS M. MCCARTY  
R044251 OSCAR G. NORIEGA  
R044241 JUVENTINO OROZCO  
R044197 ADAN C. SALGADO  
R044200 MICHAEL E. WALTER  
R044182 VICTOR M. ZAVALA

### VIRGINIA

R044263 JAMES W. BROWN  
R044172 MALCOLM P. CLARK  
LR44177 OSCAR K. CREASY  
R044278 JAMES E. ELLIS  
R044282 CHARLES R. EWING SR.  
LR44158 ROBERT E. FANTON  
R044187 ALLIE J. PEOPLES  
R044236 JOHN R. READ  
R044150 CHARLES W. WHITE

### WASHINGTON

R044220 DONALD P. CABE  
R044202 THEODORE E. CONNELLY  
R044249 T. E. 'ED' HEWITT  
A044191 BYUNG J. JI  
R044242 EDWARD J. MOODY  
LR44193 ROBERT W. PAXTON  
R044274 RONALD A. SPARLEY

### WISCONSIN

R044225 ROBERT N. DAVIS  
R044155 PAUL R. FINE  
LR44270 LEE R. FRANQUIST  
R044252 JOHN N. MURRAY  
R044176 FREDERICK J. SAGE

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## 2012 Appreciation Party

By Stan Levin

**O**n July 16th and 17th, the Friends of Korean War American Veterans held a party at Caesar's Casino in Atlantic City to honor Korean War veterans. The Federation of Korean Associations, USA, The World Federation of Korean Associations of Commerce, and The Korean Society hosted 395 exuberant Korean War veterans and their spouses. Similar parties have been held in cities since 2008, in Virginia, Las Vegas, and California. In 2013, the party will be held in Hawaii.

Special praise is due fellow Korean War veteran Joe Bradley, who has been one of the major planners of all the anniversary parties. When planning these events, Joe does so seemingly effortlessly while working behind the scenes. Such a major event requires clear communication, follow-up with long and short range numerous details, and coordination among all the planners to achieve a successful party. Joe Bradley makes it look easy putting all the key parts together.

The keynote speaker was the South Korean Ambassador to the United States, the Honorable Y.J. Choi. His speech comprised a comprehensive view of the world situation, in which he discussed the contrast between the South Korean paradigm of trade versus the North Korean paradigm of war.

Mr. Choi compared the dominant militaristic regime and the plight and poverty of the North Korean people to the economic success of South Korea and the standard of living of the people benefiting from freedom. He noted South Korea is now the eighth largest economy in the world and growing. He emphasized that if not for American intervention and response to defend against the North Korean invasion in June 1950, the country would not exist today in its present form.

The Ambassador told a poignant story of how his mother was able to save his two sisters and himself from a long march as prisoners en route to North Korean captivity. He was two years old at the time. He said jokingly he would probably be a North Korean Ambassador today if not for his mother's escape plan.

Throughout his speech he paid tribute to American soldiers' sacrifices and America's decision to save South Korea. He emphasized that without that commitment he would not be alive today, nor would South Korea be enjoying the success and freedom it now enjoys. The content of his talk made Ambassador Choi the perfect choice as the keynote speaker.

The next speaker, Mr. Eugene C. Yu, delivered an inspiring welcoming address. Mr. Yu is the President of the Federation

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**Mr. Choi compared the dominant militaristic regime and the plight and poverty of the North Korean people to the economic success of South Korea and the standard of living of the people benefiting from freedom. He noted South Korea is now the eighth largest economy in the world and growing.**

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**Andy Jackson, Fred Connolly, Stanley Levin, Ray McBride and Isaac Hand of Ch 54 (L-R) with MajGen David L. Mann (in uniform) at Our Community Salutes of South Jersey dinner**

of Korean Associations of U.S.A. His booming voice did not necessarily need a microphone as he extended his warm greetings to the Korean War veterans and spouses attending the party. He expressed the deep feelings of the South Korean community for the “many who gave their lives, the many who were wounded and the many who survived the war.” He also mentioned “they would not forget the suffering of the prisoners of war and the missing in action still not accounted for.”

His heartfelt choice of words was most welcome to the audience when he also said “in the hearts and minds of the Korean people those young men and women who fought for our cause will never fade away!” He added that “as long as the Korean nation endures, they will always be remembered.”

Another speaker, who was one of the sponsors of the anniversary party, discussed how he was saved from being captured by the Chinese army in 1950. He and many hundreds of North Korean citizens who had been fleeing from the Chinese army were rescued by the Americans. They were boarded onto a transport ship at the port of Wonsan. He said the transport was provided by those American forces performing a humanitarian act which he said he would never forget. When he came to the U.S. he decided he would devote his efforts to celebrating the memory of what Korean War veterans accomplished by their sacrifices.

The entertainment was extraordinary. It featured the Kenny Orchestra, which performed a broad range of music that included the themes of all our military branches, smooth romantic dancing music from the 1940s, jitterbug numbers, “funky” music, and on and on until the party ended. The music ranged from Elvis to the Beatles to Frank Sinatra sentimental favorites. The talented female singer also sang an aria from the opera *La Bohème*.

The dance floor was always crowded with us “old-timers,” which the band leader praised. The music was so inspiring that this writer, not known for his dancing

abilities, danced and danced with his wife to the smooth sounds of this wonderful band of extraordinarily talented musicians.

We were also entertained by a Korean Traditional Dance Troupe, whose members were costumed in traditional Korean folk attire. The individual dancers wore long white gowns while slowly whirling with white silk scarves. A small group of dancers wore multi-colored gowns and, while performing their multitude of skips and jumps, they tapped on a small hour glass drum.

The highlight of performances was the presentation by a group of approximately fifteen young Koreans pounding on traditional drums in perfect harmony and sequence. The performance lasted for at least 10-15 minutes. The perfectly synchronized kids never missed a beat. The act was so extraordinary it would be difficult to describe their performance and the positive reaction of the audience, which watched in awe. The performers received resounding applause as they bowed exhaustedly at the finish.

On the next day, during the breakfast session, Chapter 54’s acting Chaplain, Dorothy Coffee- Trout, delivered a prayer. She substituted for the scheduled priest, who was unable to attend. Many American Korean War veterans offered war story testimonials. After lunch many veterans and their spouses went to the wreath laying ceremony at the Korean War Memorial site near the Bally Casino. The intense heat of the day prevented many of the attendees from attending the outdoor ceremony.

In the mid-1980s, I went to South Korea on a business trip and was astounded at the growth of their infrastructure. We saw skyscraper buildings, major highways, and progress that we could not even imagine when we were there during the war. That trip was 26 years ago. Since my long-ago trip, the country has achieved further growth and progress.

During 1953 and 1954, I had been stationed briefly in prison camp #9 near Pusan, which was where President Syngman Rhee had allowed hundreds of prisoners to escape in his unsuccessful attempt to scuttle the peace talks. I eventually passed through Taegu, served several months in a hospital near Taejon, and

passed on through Korean cities en route to the Yanggu Valley, and I do not recall ever seeing a concrete road.

The South Korea of today has major super highways, a modern subway system, modern shopping malls, and produces and exports major products ranging from ships, steel, electronics, and automobiles to all manner of consumer goods. The South Koreans also perform major engineering projects worldwide.

The combination of sacrifices made by Korean War veterans and the pride and work ethic of the South Korean people has enabled a modern miracle of positive economic growth to emerge. It is truly an amazing accomplishment.

While enjoying this party, I had the surreal feeling of remembering the Korea of the early 1950s juxtaposed with an awareness of the status of South and North Korea today. What is most exceptional to this writer is the fact that more than two generations since the war ended, younger South Koreans who were not even alive during the war, but who are now living in America, keep the memory alive of our service during the war with regard to the sacrifices of all 1.7 million of us who served and fought over the period of some 37 months during that long-ago era.

Unfortunately, in America our war is known as the “forgotten war.” The South Koreans certainly have not forgotten. “Freedom is not free.”

Incidentally, Chapter 54 members Andrew (“Andy”) Jackson, Fred Connolly, Stanley Levin, Ray McBride, and Isaac Hand attended a dinner sponsored by Our Community Salutes of South Jersey, an organization that recognizes and honors graduating high school students who plan to enlist in the armed services after graduation. MajGen David L. Mann, commander of the U.S. Army Recruiting Command, was the featured speaker.

The ceremony and dinner were held May, 30, 2012, at the Main Street Mansion in Voorhees, NJ. Some 45 young men and women and their parents were honored at the fourth annual event.

*Stanley A. Levin, HQ Co., 24th Inf. Div. Reach him at 115 E Kings Hwy Unit 251, Maple Shade, NJ 08052, 856-234-0576, 609-744-5753 (Cell), SalMoors@com-cast.net*

# 'Letter to the Lost' Leads Godson To His Uncle

A "Letter to the Lost" written six years ago led a Bowling Green, OH, orthodontist to learn more about his uncle-godfather's death 61 years ago in the Iron Triangle area of North Korea.

Wayne and Kaye Michaelis visited with Tom Thiel, 24th Infantry Division Association Webmaster, at Tom's home in Eustis, FL, on August 31, 2012. They came to better understand the death of Wayne's uncle and godfather, Arthur A Schwind, on July 8, 1951.

Art died immediately in a "friendly fire" incident as his rifle company was launching an attack on the Chinese People's Volunteers; Tom was in the same column and witnessed the incident. Tom said that Art and he took basic training together at Camp Breckenridge, KY, and traveled to Korea together. Both were assigned to Easy Company, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division in April 1951.

Tom wrote the Letter to the Lost in 2006 in response to a request from a website administrator. In it he said:

"What's more important is what about your life during those same 55 years, Art?"

"That is the life you could have had perhaps had you not been nearest that short falling US artillery round on that fateful noon on July 8, 1951.

"I didn't recognize you as that GI who had lost his life on one of our "jabs" into the Chinese Peoples Volunteers communist positions in the Iron Triangle. It was not until an hour or so later that your Sergeant Williams would answer my question about that GI he

lost that I realized it was my very good friend Art from Bowling Green.

"We took basic together, crossed the Pacific on the Mitchell together, went to Korea together on the Howze, and then to E Co, 19th!

"Art, Rudy and me from Basic to Company E; now it was only Rudy and me!

"I was speechless, but not your Sergeant! He cursed everyone he could, especially those arguing over which chairs to sit in at the Peace Talks, which had just begun.

"Oh, how your life might have been, Art. A wife there in Bowling Green. Children. A home. And now perhaps grandchildren. Or maybe even like me a great grandfather too! Probably they would have all been BGSU (Bowling Green State University) Falcons!

"But that was all taken from you 55 years ago in a far-away place called North Korea, in the Iron Triangle."

Tom wrote five such letters. After sending them to the website, he wondered, "Why not try to reach the families?" So, he sent them to newspapers in the locals of "his Korean War KIA friends."

As far as Tom knows, only the Sentinel-Tribune in Bowling Green, OH, carried his letter. That was on Veterans Day 2006, Saturday November 11.

Tom said that on the following Sunday evening his phone rang and a female voice asked, "Did you write the article in the paper?"

"I live in Florida and do not know what article you are referring to," he replied.



Art Schwind, E Company, 19th Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, July 4, 1951, in rest area in rear; photo by Thiel

"An article about Art Schwind," she said quite excitedly.

"I sent an article to the paper," Tom said. "That probably is what I wrote."

"I am Art's sister, Mary Michaelis," she replied. "We have been wondering all these years how Art died. The military people did not explain it very well, and we'd like to know more."

Mary and Tom talked for a while and he sent her a letter with more detail. A couple months later Art's older brother called and he and Tom visited for a while by phone.

Tom says that he had forgotten about his letters, but not his comrades who lost their lives, three as a part of Tom's recoilless weapons section of E Company.

Then, on August 29, 2012, another call came from area code 214 in NW Ohio. This time it was from Wayne and Kaye Michaelis, who had come to central Florida on a personal trip. Wayne is, of course, Mary's son. They came to try to get "real" answers to how Wayne's uncle and godfather, Art, had died in the Land of the Morning Calm, on that beautiful clear summer day in a grove of pine trees along a North Korean trail.

Tom explained that Art was singled out by the "gods of chance" falling of a short U.S. artillery round on July 8, 1951, as he walked in single file into combat against the Chinese Peoples Volunteers. He told them what he had seen from his position in the line behind where the shell fell. A few minutes later he walked by the spot where the body lay on the ground.

Tom says he truly hopes that his meeting with Wayne and Kaye will help to provide

Continued on page 79



Wayne Michaelis (L) accepts photo of his uncle and godfather, Arthur A Schwind, from Tom Thiel, who served with Art in Company E, 19th Regiment, 24th Infantry Division

# Korean War Veterans Honored on Memorial Day



Korean War Veterans who were honored at the Oak Grove Cemetery 2012 Memorial Day Service on May 28, 2012 (L-R) Vern Davis, U.S. Navy; Tony Mendes, U.S. Army; Dick Adams, former president of the KWVA, U.S. Army; John C. Mendes, U.S. Army; Bill Macedo, U.S. Army and Les Rutherford, U.S. Navy

By Kathi M. Gulley

With the 60th anniversary of the official end of the Korean War looming in 2013, special recognition was given to Korean War veterans at the Oak Grove Cemetery Memorial Day Service Monday, May 28, 2012, near Riverdale, California.

The touching annual service began with a rendition of the "Armed Forces Song" by the Ambassador Youth Choir, Riverdale Assembly of God, under the direction of Charla Metheny.

The crowd of approximately 400 stood for the Parade of Colors and the Star Spangled Banner, followed by welcome remarks and an opening prayer.

Following was what has become a highlight of the service each year, when the Ambassador Choir presents a medley of theme songs for each branch of the military. As each song is played, veterans who served in the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard or U.S. Marines step forward and stand with their respective flag.

At this point of the program, six men came forward when Jim Petty, VFW #559, asked all Korean War veterans to come to the podium. The crowd showed their apprecia-

tion with applause and cheers, as each man was presented with a hat and thanked for his service.

Dick Adams, past president of Korean War Veterans Association, attended the service and was included in the Korean veterans recognition. Adams, from Caruthers, remarked afterwards that the service at Oak Grove was "one of the best programs honoring veterans" that he has attended. The Cemetery Board and Memorial Committee was honored to have Adams as a guest and a participant this year.

Korean War veteran Les Rutherford, U.S. Navy (Ret.) presented the bell of the *USS Menard*. The bell rang once for each name, as the local veterans who died in the past year were read.

Committee members fired off the replica Civil War cannon, and The Sons of the Confederate Veterans Camp 1804 and Civil

**Centerpiece replica civil war cannon of Oak Grove Memorial and crowd at the Riverdale, CA event**

War Reenactment Society gave a traditional gun salute.

The conclusion of the service was the traditional playing of Taps and retiring of the colors. Following the service, all in attendance were invited to the annual bbq, sponsored by VFW 559.

The Oak Grove Cemetery serves the communities of Laton, Riverdale and Burrell, California. More than 470 veterans are laid to rest there, including several veterans of the Civil War.

Each Memorial Day, the Cemetery Board coordinates a Memorial Service to honor all veterans. In 2009, a Veterans Memorial was completed and officially dedicated, after several years of fund raising and community effort. A story of the creation of this memorial was featured in the November 11, 2009 edition of *Graybeard's Magazine*, featuring Korean War Veteran John C. Mendes.

Mendes was hoping to participate in the "Revisit Korea Tour" in September of this year, but the excursion to Kojedo was cancelled when no one else signed up. He is hoping to have the opportunity to sign up for the tour again in 2013, and visit the island where he served as a radio operator.

The Oak Grove Veterans Memorial is quite impressive. It includes a large central, circular paved foundation, with a central flag pole flying the American and POW/MIA flags. At the base of that flagpole are plaques for each of the branches of U.S. military service. Surrounding the foundation are flag poles for each of the 50 state flags.

Central on the foundation is a replica civil war cannon with the names of the committee members who worked tirelessly to fund and build the memorial. The heart of the monument comprises the six black granite panels with the engraved names of all known veterans of all service to the U.S. who lived at any time in the cemetery district.



# How Many Military Courtesy Rooms Exist?

The members of Ch 105, Central New York, volunteer for “duty” at the Gregory J. Harris Military Courtesy Room at Hancock International Airport in Syracuse, New York, which is eighty miles south of Camp Drum and the U.S. Army’s 10th Mountain Division.

How many similar facilities exist in the U.S. at transportation centers, e.g., airports, railroad terminals, bus stations, and how many KWVA chapters and/or individual members volunteer at them? And does anyone remember anything similar for returning Korean War veterans?

Let us know. Send your info, including photos where possible, to MCR Editor, 895 Ribaut Rd., #13, Beaufort, SC 29902. (*Note The Change In Address.*)

Here’s the lowdown on the Syracuse facility.

The Gregory J. Harris Military Courtesy Room was established for the use and relaxation of all active and reserve military personnel traveling through the central New York area. Harris, a U.S. Marine, was taken prisoner during the Vietnam War. Here are his particulars:

table
Name:	Gregory John Harris
Rank/Branch:	E4/US Marine Corps
Unit:	H/3/11 1st Marine Division
Date of Birth:	01 October 1945
Home City of Record:	Syracuse NY
Date of Loss:	12 June 1966
Country of Loss:	South Vietnam
Loss Coordinates:	145800N 1084900E (BS670578)
Status (in 1973):	Missing In Action
Category:	2
Acft/Vehicle/Ground:	Ground

He is still unaccounted for.

The courtesy room opened in July 2008. As of June 2012, more than 43,600 personnel have made use of the room. The facility comprises two lounges, both of which contain leather recliners, LCD TVs, a Play Station, and X-Box games. All the equipment has been donated, along with cable provided by a local carrier.

There is also a device in the lounge which provides a direct line to Camp Drum. The device presents the answers to almost any question service members or their families might have.

Also included is a kitchen. It contains a refrigerator that contains soft drinks, fruit juices, and bottled water, and a freezer section holding frozen meals that can be heated in the microwave. And, if anyone in the military or their families has to spend the night, blankets, pillows, and towels are available. The bins in the rooms contain personal hygiene items.

Thanks to Jim Low, 114 Wembridge Dr., E. Syracuse, NY 13057, 315-437-0833 for the information.



▲ Jim Casey, Agnes O’Kane, and Bill O’Kane, the Adjutant of Ch 105, volunteer at Syracuse Military Courtesy Room



Partial view of the kitchen at Syracuse Airport military guest facility



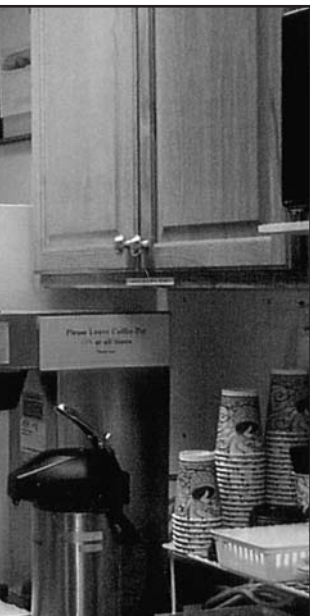
Bill O'Kane stands ready to greet the next group to arrive at Syracuse Military Courtesy Room ➤



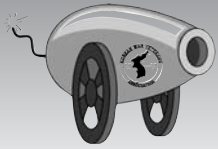
The lounge area at Gregory Harris Military Courtesy Room ▼



▲ Bins full of hygiene items for military travelers passing through Syracuse airport



◀ Blankets, pillows, towels...all available at the Syracuse Military Courtesy Room



# 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 Skyview Drive, Rocky Hill, CT, 06067; E-mail it to: sharp\_arthur\_g@sbcglobal.net, or phone it in to (860) 202-3088. Whatever the medium you choose, we welcome your input.

## Korean War Resource

Are you aware of a great new resource for Korean War Marines trying to remember the names of former comrades. Ancestry.com now has "U.S. Marine Corps Muster Rolls, 1798—1958" on-line and searchable. I entered my name and found about 15 entries for the about two years I was attached to the Marines as a Navy Corpsman.

The site had listings for me for company muster rolls, transfers to various units, and a list of the 22nd Rotation Draft I went to Korea with. I recognized a lot of names that I had not seen for sixty years. It brought back many good memories.

Although Ancestry is a paid subscription service, most larger public libraries have it available for in-library use. I now have a subscription, but I used to take a flashdrive with me to the library to copy the material to bring home to my computer. One can also get a free trial period. Of course, they want a credit card number and will charge you if you neglect to cancel on time.

To complement the Ancestry information, the Korean War Project has the USMC Korean War Command Diaries on-line. These are day-to-day records of what happened in each battalion-sized USMC unit serving in Korea. The information varies by unit, but many give the weather, enemy activity—rounds of incoming, KIAs and WIAs—theirs and ours plus, at times, where they occurred. The diaries may include after-action reports and special investigations.

I found it very interesting to discover sixty years later what was happening in my battalion area. Back at that time, I think I only knew how some of the platoons in the company were doing.

I think this is something that may be of interest to those who read the "The Graybeards."

Incidentally, I have no connection with Ancestry except having genealogy as a hobby.

Dick Payne, 6319 89th Ave W  
Tacoma, WA 98467, 253-564-3252

## More People To Identify

In the May-June 2012 issue we requested information about a list of people who appear in Korean War photos given to Dr. Betty Perkins-Carpenter. (See "IDs, Anyone?", p. 14) The intent was to present the photos to the individuals identified or their families. We have a few more names to add to the list, using all the information we have available about them:

RANK	NAME	HOMETOWN	BRANCH
Major	Elmer G. Owens		
Hosp 1 Cls	Thomas E. Slattery		Navy
LtCol	Pat O'Malley		
GnMate	John C. Ketzlar		Navy
Cpl	Barry Burke	Naplan, KY	Army
Pfc	Alvin Bapga	Union City, OH	Army
Cpl	Vincent A. Ross	Everett, MA	Army
Pfc	Barry U. Quahl	Ft. Thomas, KY	Army
Pfc	Robert T. Tate	Jacksonville, FL	Army
SSgt	Freddie H. Savage	Blue, OK	Air Force

That is all the information we have about them. If anyone knows if they are still alive, and if so, where, or if their family members are still around and where they live, please let the editor know. (Arthur G. Sharp, Missing Persons Editor, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067, 860-202-3088, sharp\_arthur\_g@sbcglobal.net) We would like to get the photos to the individuals pictured or their families.

Incidentally, we did get a couple positive responses to our original request and presented the photos to the people we identified.

## Reflections On Pork Chop Hill

Some comments about the article, "Korea Remembered, 60 Years Later - A Soldier's Story," p. 18, in the May-June 2012 edition.

The last battle for Pork Chop Hill was in progress 59 years ago today as I write this letter, so I will assume that (like the rest of us) Charles S. Douglas' memory might be failing a little due to time, at least as far as Pork Chop is concerned.

I was not involved in the other actions he wrote about. I remember 59 years ago (July 9 and 10, 1953) as if much of it had happened last week. After being wounded by a Chinese hand grenade early on July 9th, I had spent the past 36 hours or so, at first leading my squad, and then alone with occasional lapses into a state of amnesia from concussion while slipping around Pork Chop and defending myself from Chinese soldiers—and in general trying to stay alive.

As part of the July 6th through July 12th battle for Pork Chop, King Company of the 17th Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division assaulted the Chinese-held part of the Pork Chop on July 9 about daylight. My presence on the hill at that time is ver-

ified by a Bronze Star with V device I received for leading my squad in taking the hilltop after I was wounded.

Unfortunately, or perhaps fortunately, for me I do not recall that event very well due to my concussion and the resulting reoccurring bouts of amnesia at the time. The event was later reported by my surviving squad members. Therefore, I was awarded.

I finally came out of one of my lapses to amnesia in the Battalion Aid Station behind Hill 347 about dark on July 10. Later, my head cleared pretty much permanently in the Norwegian MASH Hospital. I don't remember many of the details about how I got to the Battalion Aid Station. I was to learn that the 12 unwounded survivors of King Company were pulled off Pork Chop the 10th of July.

But that's a long story, which was outlined briefly here only to verify my status as a critic of one major point in Douglas' article, at least the part of the article about Pork Chop Hill. I feel this critique is necessary because, in his article, Douglas gives Pork Chop to the Chinese in April. He writes, "May arrived and we had lost Pork Chop."

We never abandoned Pork Chop in April. Complete control was regained. Under orders from the top, our troops finally pulled off Pork Chop on July 12, 1953 after the last fight for the hill. That was fifteen days before the cease fire and about eight weeks after Douglas indicates we lost it to the Chinese. Why is this important? It's important because we lost several hundred good men from a number of rifle companies on Pork Chop during the July 6 through July 12 battle. To not correct this error would dishonor them.

From King Company, 17th Regiment, 7th Division, all six officers and most of the enlisted men were killed during our 36 hours of the July fight. All but 12 of the 180 participants from King Co. who went up the hill in that fight were killed or wounded. Some of the dead were friends and bunker buddies of mine. Had Pork Chop been lost (or given away) in April, this last fight would not have occurred. I wish they had given it away in April. At the time, it wasn't worth \$500. Sitting in no man's land, it still isn't.

There's another point that's not clear in Douglas' article. Douglas writes of his experience, "We were loaded on trucks in the dark of night and waited at the base of Pork Chop to move up the hill. ... the order didn't come and we were returned to the rear." Trucks didn't go out to the base of Pork Chop to stage an attack. They would have been under direct fire from eighty-eights on Chinese-held Old Baldy (less than half a mile to the west) and from machine gun fire and small arms fire from Chinese held Pokkae Hill (200 yards to the northeast).

When you got to the base of Pork Chop, you were pretty much in the fight. We received machine gun fire from Pokkae going up the hill. Luck was with us and Pokkae's machine gun fire was high. Some things are just unexplainable.

The staging area to attack Pork Chop was behind Hill 347 and/or 200, also called Hotdog, Main Line of Resistance hills. These staging areas were about 600 to 1,000 yards south of Pork Chop, depending on the route one took. During attacks you walked from there to Pork Chop, almost always at night.

I'm real familiar with the area. King Co. of the 17th spent

weekly rotations on Hill 200 and Pork Chop as a defensive unit between the battle of April and the battle of July 1953 for Pork Chop. Things were not so busy between the various fights and one could take a good look around if you didn't expose yourself too much. King Co. of the 17th happened to have a few days in reserve to rest when the last battle broke out on July 6th, and we were not committed until the 9th.

For anyone who might be interested, I suggest two books: *Pork Chop Hill*, by S.L.A. Marshall, is the book about the April fight on which the movie was based. *On Hallowed Ground - The Last Battle for Pork Chop Hill*, by Bill McWilliams, is a book about the July fight.

The battles for Pork Chop Hill have been credited as being the heaviest artillery bombardments of all military history. As a participant, I would vote for that. As is the case in all such situations, only luck allowed some of us to live.

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[Pvarnes@cox.net](mailto:Pvarnes@cox.net)

## **Air Force Life With The 822**

There was an article on p. 69 in the May-June 2012 edition of *The Graybeards* about the 822nd Eng. Aviation Bn. I was assigned to this unit for my "Harry Truman" extended one-year tour. I was an Air Force SSgt at the time, serving at Taegu from June to November 1951. That tour changed my mind about being a thirty-year retiree.

We Air Force people assigned to the 822 Eng. Aviation Bn. were outsiders. Their lieutenant made that clear. So, I got my own transfer and moved to Yung Doc Po, which was all U.S. Air Force. It was great duty.

The 822 assignment was a joke. I pulled guard duty, while privates assigned to the 822 did not pull any kind of duty. They got up when they wanted to, and spent most of the day in the nearby village—and then made fun of me.

The 822 Eng. Aviation Bn. had a discipline problem. (I am sure you will not print this letter.)

Robert McKeever, 1083 E. Rio Mesa Trail,  
Cottonwood, AZ 86326, 928-634-6435

## **Special Forces and the CIA during the Korean War**

The following is new information on special operations in North Korea that I think will be of interest to our Korean War veterans.

In mid-October 1950, approximately 260,000 Chinese People Volunteers (CPV) attacked the UN Forces at the Yalu River and forced them back past Seoul. On 8 January 1951, the South Korean Navy (Task Force GP 95.7) was picking up some refugees fleeing the main land near the Yalu River and discovered over 10,000 North Korean guerrillas fighting in North Korea.

The North Korean guerrillas requested weapons, ammunition, and Americans to come into North Korea to help train and lead their North Korean guerrilla units. The US 8th Army received the South Korean Navy's message but realized they had no units that were trained to do that type of mission. During WWII, that type of training was done by OSS, but President Truman abolished OSS in 1945.

Congress authorized the CIA to be formed in 1947 and gave them 60% of the OSS mission. Congress then gave the U.S. Army the other 40% to form Special Forces Units. However, the Pentagon did not see a need for Special Forces and did not authorize any Special Forces Units.

The 8th Army quickly recognized the problem and formed the first Special Forces Unit of the Army in January 1951. This was a top secret operation; the cover name for the Special Forces Unit was the 8240th Army Unit. It took the Pentagon another eighteen months to study and finally approve the Special Forces School at Ft. Bragg, NC in July 1952. The first graduates arrived in South Korea in March of 1953.

The 8th Army located some OSS soldiers still on active duty and used them to set up a Special Forces School in Seoul in January 1951. They then selected a few Lieutenants, Captains, and Sergeants who were coming into South Korea for training commands in the U.S. They gave them two weeks of training in Seoul and shipped them into North Korea.

I was one of the Lieutenants coming out of the 3rd Armored Division at Ft. Knox, KY. I was selected and trained to go 125 miles behind the lines in North Korea to work with a North Korean guerrilla unit. I was the only American with 800 North Korean guerrillas in North Korea in 1952.

This top secret operation was finally declassified in 1990. My book, *White Tigers: My Secret War in North Korea*, which was published in 1996, explains the details of the CIA and Special Forces operations into North Korea (245 pages, ISBN 1-57488-605-3). In 2005 the History Channel made a one-hour documentary film on my book, titled "Heroes Under Fire - White Tigers." The film has now been shown over 150 times on national TV and is still being shown today. The film is available from the History Channel is listed as DVD item # AAE-74637.

On 9 November 2010, Voice of America (VOA) interviewed me and then broadcast that interview into North Korea from four different locations (China, Russia, U.S., and South Korea).

The following is an edited copy of the VOA interview with Col Ben S. Malcom (ret.) that was broadcast into North Korea. (The VOA reporter was Baik Sung Hun.)

**Question # 1:** Explain how the North Korean guerrillas were organized.

**Answer:** They were organized into 21 different units spread all over North Korea (NK). We initially had 10,000 NK guerrillas, but continued to recruit and ended up with 22,000 in July 1953.

**Question # 2:** Explain the different types of NK guerrilla units that were available.

**Answer:** We had five different fighting units in NK. Leopard Base was my unit near the Yalu River and consisted of 11 battalions and 5,000 guerrillas. Wolf Pack was south of Leopard Base; they had 10 battalions and 5,000 guerrillas. Kirkland was on the east coast; they had 300 guerrillas.

The tactical liaison office was on the front lines and had 25 guerrillas each who worked with the American divisions. The guerrillas would put on NK uniforms and go into NK and gather intel for the division G-2 (intelligence officer). Baker section was the fifth unit; they dropped NK guerrilla paratroopers deep into NK to blow up ammunition dumps and supply depots.

**Question # 3:** How successful were your operations in NK?

**Answer:** 8th Army statistics stated that we conducted 4,485 separate operations inside NK between January 1951 and July 1953. We captured 950 POWs and sent them to the 8th Army headquarters for interrogation. We killed or wounded more than 69,000 NK military with our air strikes, naval gunfire, and raids. We captured over 5,000 weapons and destroyed 80 bridges.

**Question #4:** What was your most dangerous operation?

**Answer:** I conducted a raid on 14 July 1952 that was 125 miles behind the lines in North Korea and destroyed a 76mm gun and bunker. I trained 120 North Korean guerrillas. We used four large sail junks and landed at midnight on the mainland on North Korea. The next morning I used a British frigate and three Marine Corsair aircraft and my guerrillas to destroy that complex. We killed 63 North Korean soldiers; we had 6 killed and 7 wounded. We got counterattacked and had to fight our way back to the beach. My base commander was Major Tom Dry. He was on the British frigate controlling my naval gunfire. I was the only American on that raid.

**Question #5:** What happened to the North Korean guerrillas after the war?

**Answer:** Out of 22,000 North Korean guerrillas in North Korea, over 5,000 got out alive and now live in South Korea. Some got out to the islands and others came to the U.S. My interpreter is now an American citizen living in Chicago.

## END OF INTERVIEW

On 4 October 2011 KBS-TV flew a film crew from South Korea to Atlanta, GA to interview me and members of Ch 19, General Raymond G. Davis, about our special operations in North Korea. KBS-TV had listened to the VOA broadcast into North Korea and was making a four-hour documentary film titled "The five west sea islands." They planned to cover some of the more than 100 aggressive actions by North Korea against South Korea over the past 60 years. They will also cover the death of Kim Jong Il and the rise in power of his son Kim Jong Un.

The film crew also traveled to North Georgia College (in Dahlonega, GA) and interviewed Ron Martz (co-writer of my book and historian). They then went to Franklin, TN, where they interviewed Major General John Singlaub (CIA station chief in Seoul). He wrote the foreword of my book and was one of my bosses.

The four-hour documentary film was shown in South Korea 21 to 24 January 2012 on KBS national TV. My friend, Col (ret.) Mike Alexander, Director of the 2nd Infantry Division Museum in Camp Red Cloud, South Korea, taped that film and will have it translated and mailed to me.

BBC of UK plans to make a two-hour version of the film and show it on some of their TV stations worldwide, but not in the U.S. We are still trying to find U.S. TV stations that will show that film in the U.S.

Col. (Ret.) Ben S. Malcom, 200 Old Mill Ct.

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## Burial At Sea

I was on board the Tacoma-class frigate *USS Burlington* (PF 51) when we made our first tour of East Korea, participating in

the naval blockade. Our primary duty involved transporting South Korean guerillas north and setting them ashore to infiltrate the Chinese Communist forces. We arrived in March 1951.

On 20 April 1951, we were operating near Wonsan Harbor, when a Navy Corsair fighter was shot down. The pilot, Lieutenant Commander Coffman, flying off the USS *Philippine Sea* (CV 47), was conducting low-level strafing and received ground gun fire. Coffman bailed out over the harbor. His parachute was on fire and did not open completely.

His body was transferred from the USS *St. Paul* (CA 73) to the *Burlington* for burial at sea. We took the body, along with a chaplain, for the service. It was noted that LCDR Coffman had requested in his records to be buried at sea.

We steamed northward. At sundown the service was conducted. It was my desire to attend this service. However, I had watch on the bridge observing our radar screen. By chance, I was able to briefly step out on the open bridge. At this moment, I heard the gun salute. I knew then the pilot's body was in the sea. This was a very sobering incident.

Ron Burt, [rbu12@att.net](mailto:rbu12@att.net)

## Terry Moore

You were kind enough to include my photo of actress Terry Moore in the May-June 2011 issue, p.25. As a result, "Bud" Collette, a friend of hers, sent me a letter which anyone who was a fan of Ms. Moore's will find of interest. (The letter is reprinted below.)

I also heard from Link S. White who, as a Korean boy, was adopted, returned to the states and fought in Vietnam as an infantry officer. Terry Moore is also a part of his story, which he tells in his autobiography, *Chesi's Story: One Boy's Long Journey from War to Peace*, which I recommend to all Korean veterans. (It is available through [amazon.com](http://amazon.com).)

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## From The Second Marine Division To The First Marine Division Overnight

Per Feedback/Return Fire, page-66, July-Aug. 2012, "The Last 33," Blake Jones-Gordon Provost discourse. Some info from USMC history:

On Sunday, 2 July 1950, two weeks into the Korean War, General MacArthur requested the JCS for immediate assignment of a U.S. Marine Regimental Combat Team and supporting Air Group for duty with his command. The 1st Provisional Marine Brigade (Reinforced) began activation, and Brigadier General

Edward A. Craig, USMC was placed in command.

To form the brigade, the 1st Marine Division divided its staff and transferred the 5th Marine Regiment and necessary supporting elements to the brigade. Then, men from the regular Corps, from 105 posts and stations throughout the U.S., were ordered to Camp Pendleton to bring the brigade to combat strength. The brigade sailed from San Diego, CA on 14 July 1950 aboard the USS *George Clymer* (APA 27), arriving at Pusan, South Korea on 2 Aug. 1950. Within days they were in combat.

The brigade was deactivated 13 Sept. 1950, and joined the 1st Marine Division. The 5th Marine Regiment was an organic part of the 1st Division, landing at "Red Beach" in the 15 Sept. 1950 Inchon Landing.

After bringing the brigade to strength, the 1st Marine Division, under the command of Major General Oliver P. Smith, USMC had a little more than 3,000 officers and men remaining. Between 31 July and 10 Aug. 1950, the division assigned "6,831 men from the 2nd Marine Division," 812 from the 1st Replacement Draft, 3,630 regulars from posts and stations throughout the world, and over 10,000 officers and men from the reserves to Camp Pendleton.

The 1st Marine Division sailed from San Diego on 16 Aug. 1950, and arrived in Japan on 3 Sept. 1950. The 1st Marine Division sailed from Kobe, Japan on the 10th and 12th of Sept. 1950, and the 5th Marine Regiment (old brigade) sailed from Pusan, South Korea on the 12th and 13th of Sept. 1950, for the 15 Sept. 1950 Inchon Landing.

Tom Moore, [tm103ps@yahoo.com](mailto:tm103ps@yahoo.com)

## Captain Anthony Flew An F84B

I just got the July/Aug 2012 issue of *The Graybeards*. On page 64 there was an article titled, "When MiGs Would Not Fly." I was at Itazuke and K2 Korea in 1951-53 with the 182 FBS.

I know it was a long time ago, but I am pretty sure Captain Anthony was flying an F84B, not a F94B, as the article states. Someone can correct me if I am wrong.

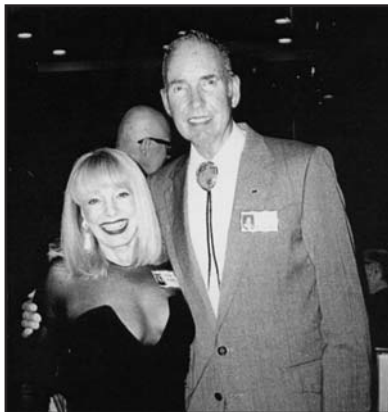
Joe Labretto, PO Box 313, Wolfeboro Falls, NH  
03896, 603-569-4799, [Hrlevill@metrocast.net](mailto:Hrlevill@metrocast.net)

## Escalle, Hill 938, Black, Atomic Annie, and Nuclear Weapons

I just received the July-August *Graybeards*. I was especially touched by the article on Lieutenant James Escalle, "No Sign of Jim Escalle." What caught my attention in addition to the story of a young Air Force hard charger lost at the end of the war was the fact that he operated as close air support in the sector where I had served.

The author described the increasing pressure of the Chinese at the end of the war, particularly in the Pukhan River Valley, which came to be known as the "Kumsong Salient." My regiment was dispatched on July 1, 1953 to relieve the 5th ROK Regiment in the Christmas Hill sector, which was being very badly beaten up. My battalion, the 1st of the 180th Infantry, 45th Division, was assigned the sector just west of "Christmas Hill" and the dominating geographic feature of Hill 1220.

I and the other squad leaders and platoon leaders who preceded the regiment in order to scout out our positions watched as



Bud Collette and Terry Moore at their 50th high school reunion in June 1997

a ROK infantry company valiantly tried to retake Hill 938, known locally as “Outpost Texas.” The Chinese held off the ROKs with a couple machine guns due to the difficult razorback approach to the hill.

Hill 938 was also attacked by American F-86s firing rockets. We were 1,000 yards away and the noise was tremendous. I have no idea if the F-86s were USAF or Marine Air, as I know Major John Glenn also flew close air support F-86 missions at that time.

I also wanted to express my appreciation for the article by Bob Black on “Why Are Our Guns Blowing Up?” His comment about people mistaking the 240mm guns then in Korea for the 280mm atomic cannons brought to mind the comments and pictures you published in the March-April 2011 issue “Atomic Annie and CIB” (page 65).

I clearly recollect that there was talk in the spring of 1953 in my battalion about atomic cannon being in country following the tests in Nevada in May. The scuttlebutt was that President Eisenhower was fed up with delays in signing the Armistice and was letting it be known that he was prepared to use atomic weapons if the communists didn’t stop their delaying tactics. (As one who would have been intimately involved in any resumption of attacks to the north, I was interested.)

I had some knowledge of the Atomic Cannon, since I had been on a tour of the Watertown (Massachusetts) Arsenal in 1951 as a member of the American Ordnance Association and was shown the completed barrel of the atomic cannon. I still recall the enormous size of the square breechblock, the size of a small refrigerator, on the 280mm barrel. The shots taken in Korea in 1952 shown in the 2011 issue of “Greybeards” were not the atomic cannon.

Finally, you published a comment by Tom Moore in the March-April issue on page 22 in which he asserted that there were atomic weapons aboard the U.S. aircraft carrier Lake Champlain (CVA 39) during the spring of 1953 and that there were plans to use them in the event the armistice talks failed.

Moore, with whom I corresponded, said he had his information from the pilot who was designated to fly one of the first missions. I think this is the most logical answer about which atomic weapons President Eisenhower threatened or implied he would authorize.

Andrew Antippas, Fairfax, VA, [afotis31@netzero.net](mailto:afotis31@netzero.net)

## Escalle And The “Flying Fiends” Patch

I really appreciated the article about fellow “Mike Flight” pilot Jim Escalle, written by his nephew/namesake. I was a member of Mike Flight from August 1952 until April of 1953, and flew my missions in the F-80C aircraft. On my arrival, the Mike Flight patch was a rather rudimentary sketch, and I was tasked by my “hutmates” to update it and produce a sign for our Quonset hut. Using an aluminum disc provided by the 36th Maintenance, I painted the disc. We then used it to have patches made for Mike Flight members to wear. This is the patch Jim Escalle is wearing in the picture on page 18 of the magazine.

I had been offered the assignment to perform support functions during the transition period and to confirm my spot promotion to First Lieutenant before returning home. So I ran the Suwon Range and served as the airdrome, tower, and runway

control officer, etc., until early April. I had the experience of taking Ted Williams to the hospital after his crash on our K-13 runway. While I have no specific memory of Jim, his experiences as related in the article are familiar.

Mike Perry hosts a web site, <http://www.flyingfiendsinkoreanwar.com>, created in memory of his uncle Raoul P. Mouton, Jr., who was a 36th pilot killed in the crash of a C-124 in June 1953 returning from R&R in Japan. This crash occurred one day before Jim Escalle was lost. On this site is a memoir (including many photos) I wrote about my experiences as a Flying Fiend, and several gun camera clips taken during missions. Mike keeps in touch with many of the former Flying Fiends.

George Robert (Bob) Veazey, Sr.

## The Marines At Inchon

Here is some information regarding Tom Kittrel’s letter in the “Feedback” section, “The Marines Did Not Fight Alone,” p. 65, July/Aug 2012.

The 1st Marine Brigade landed at Pusan on August 2, 1950. I was there. We were pulled out of the 2nd Naktong River Battle at midnight September 6, 1950 to get ready for the Inchon Landing.

Regarding “Gordon Provost’s response” on p. 66 of the same section/issue: the infantry elements of the 1st Provisional Brigade, the 5th Marines were not only integrated at Inchon, but they were the initial landing force.

John Stevens, A-1-5 Korea, [usmcable6@sbcglobal.net](mailto:usmcable6@sbcglobal.net)

## Did I Earn My C.I.B. At Hill 360?

I just received my July–August 2012 edition. I noticed a picture of Suwon Airfield on the lower left of page 16. In the background are three large hills. I don’t know how the airfield is situated now, but those hills, I’m sure, are the same ones in which I earned my C.I.B. in September of 1950.

I was with “G” Co., 2nd Bn., 31st (“Polar Bear”) Regiment, 7th Division, at the time. I joined that unit in September of 1949 in Sapporo Hokkaido, Japan. I was a grunt for the first few months in the company. As I remember, the Company Commander was Captain McNulty, a huge man who was a West Point graduate and played football there. He used to throw the ball around with the junior officers and knock them down with the force of his throw. I never knew what became of him.

I wormed my way into the Company Mail Clerk’s position. I don’t know how I did it, but it was the best job in the company. When the war started, on a Sunday, I was on pass in Sapporo and was at the Army bus stop, holding up a lamp post, when the bus came from Camp Crawford. When some of my friends got off the bus, they told me about North Korea attacking South Korea. I sloughed it off as a civil war in which we would never be involved.

When I got back to camp, we were restricted, started digging fox holes around the barracks, and started losing all of our ranking non-coms to the 1st Cav. 24th and 25th Divisions. Within a few weeks we entrained for a move south and ended up at the base of Mount Fuji for training. We started receiving reinforcements in the form of Korean conscripts who didn’t know what a latrine was. I stepped in it several times.

When we made our move from Sapporo to Mount Fuji, I made

a fool mistake and asked to be transferred to the fourth platoon, the weapons platoon. The brass was happy to accommodate me, so I ended up as an ammo bearer for one of the 57mm recoilless rifle squads. It seems I carried that gun from one end of Korea to the other after I made gunner.

In September we hit the seawall at Inchon right behind the Marines and spent the first night in the soccer stadium. The next day we headed south.

We cleared Suwon and my unit secured the train station. From there we went to Suwon Airfield (which I see now was finally christened K-13). I remember that when we got there I noticed an aircraft which appeared to me to be either a B-25 or an A-26. It was shiny black with no markings and it looked like it had just rolled off the assembly line. It was parked as though it was ready to go on a mission. The fighting was still going on—and I still don't know what that plane was doing there.

We went through the airfield and entered some rice fields on the south side. We received small arms and mortar fire from the hills to the south (which appear to be the ones in the picture) and a small village at their base. We crawled through the rice fields, which had been flooded with about six inches of water and human fertilizer. That is where I lost my genuine stainless steel wrist watch, which I was very proud of. It was the first one I had ever owned; my mother had given it to me when I entered the Army. I loved that watch, and I didn't know how I was going to explain to my mother how I lost it.

We reached the hills and took them and the village. The fighting was savage, and a lot of my friends, who I had served with up to that time, were lost in the battle.

If I am correct, the hill number was "Hill 360." It was so long ago that I could have the wrong designation. Anyway, the picture brought back a lot of memories. I wish I knew more about the battle.

Ronald G. Todd, ron.todd@ymail.com

## **It Really Doesn't Matter As Long As The Stories Appear**

This afternoon I had the pleasure to sit down and read my copy of my favorite magazine, *The Graybeards*. I always enjoy reading the magazine because I have an opportunity to relive a part of my life that seems to have gone by so quickly that I can scarcely remember all the details. In this edition, page 11 brought me back to a time in my life when all was not so peaceful.

On this page is an article about Corporal Robert I. Wax, who was buried in Arlington National Cemetery this past June. Robert, a member of Battery A, 555th FA, 5th RCT was killed on August 11, 1950, but was listed as MIA for close to 60 years. On that date, I was also in the "Battle of Bloody Gulch," which I remember well. From time to time I read where men who I had served with that day, and who were listed as MIA, were recently found and returned to this great land for their final rest.

As I continued to read *The Graybeards*, I came across a couple articles in the "Feedback/Return Fire" section in which some members wanted to be removed from the mailing list because, "as Navy veterans of the Korean War," they find very few articles of interest; or that they may disagree with someone who wrote an article with something omitted or added, or that they

might know a better way to tell the story.

To make a long story short, *The Graybeards* should be treated as a "Journal that relives a period long past," not just as a magazine of interesting short stories. The editor is the "Librarian of our Immortality." In a few short years, the stories told on the pages of *The Graybeards* will end, because those who are still able to tell the stories will themselves be gone.

I served in both the Army and the Navy in Korea from 1950 to 1953. I was already in the Army in Schofield Barracks, Hawaii in 1950 when the Korean War started. The 5 RCT had been in garrison there since its arrival from Korea in 1949. As stated above, I was with the 555 FA (Triple Nickel) from June 1950 until May 1951, when I was discharged from the Army. I had received the Silver Star and my first Purple Heart on August 12, 1950.

I joined the Navy in October 1951 and returned to Korea serving aboard a minesweeper, *USS Chatterer* (AMS 40). During the time I was aboard, we swept 23 mines from Wonson Harbor on the east coast to Chinannpo on the west coast, captured several mine laying sampans, and fired a few rounds at the enemy from time to time.

My job as a Gunner's Mate was to sink the floating mines with gunfire from either a 20MM cannon or an M1 rifle. Not all duty for the Navy was as up close and personal as minesweeping duty, but whatever they did, and wherever they did it, it was a job that needed to be done.

I'm sorry there are not many interesting Navy stories submitted to *The Graybeards* for publication, because there are a lot waiting to be told. The Navy had its share of the conflict. I am reminded of the two minesweepers, *USS Pirate* and *USS Pledge*, which hit mines and sank with loss of life; also of the *USS Perch* (SSP 313), that landed British Commandos on the Korean coast and destroyed a train tunnel, with the loss of one British soldier; or when the *USS Los Angeles* went into Wonson Harbor and was hit on the fantail by enemy coast artillery.

There are many interesting stories that the Navy can tell. Maybe the Navy veteran who wants to end his membership could tell a few himself.

In August 1953 I left Korea and attended Submarine School in New London, CT. I served in submarines during the Cold War. One of those submarines was the *USS Perch*; the other three were Regulus Guided Missile submarines, long before the nuclear powered "Boomers" relieved us from the cold and rough Bering Sea patrols that made the television program "Deadliest Catch" look like child's play. I retired from these adventures in 1969 as a Chief Warrant Officer.

The reason I am telling you this is because I was a Navy veteran, as well as an Army veteran, of the Korean War. I personally find many articles of interest in *The Graybeards*, even if they don't always relate directly to my branch of the service.

Jerry K. Beckley, 513 Winburn Ave.  
Schertz, TX 78154

## **More Brothers**

Here's another story of two brothers who served during the Korean War. My twin brother, Harry V. Couch, was in the Army Security Agency in Korea (1953-54). I do not know his unit or

location. I was at Chitose, Japan at the same time.

He arranged to be in Tokyo on R&R at the same time I was on leave. We met at a Tokyo hotel for a brief visit. I'm still amazed that two Mississippi boys could find each other at such a time and place.

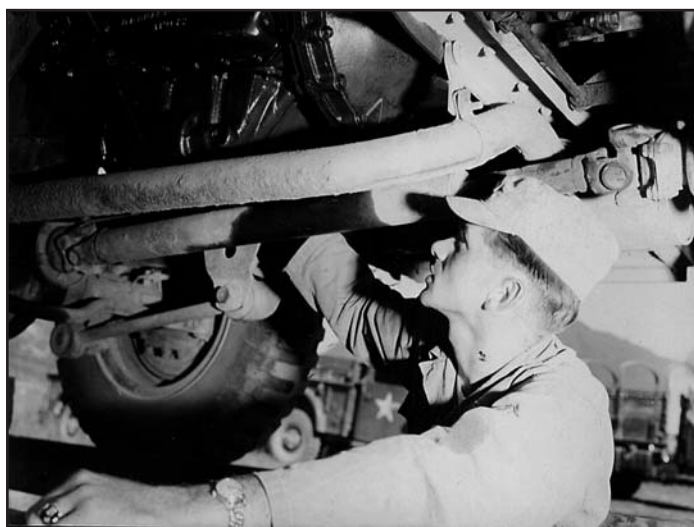
Incidentally, I am still looking for guys who were stationed at Camp Chitose in 1953-54.

James E. ("Jim") Couch, 1115 Houston St.  
Tupelo, MS 38804, 662-842-3503

## Picture From The Past

Leo Martynowski found this photo of himself. The photo, taken by PVT Michael Block, U.S. Army, is dated 23 Feb 53. The caption read: "At the technical inspection section of the 17th Ord., Cpl Leo T. Martynowski checks the transmission of a 2-1/2 ton truck."

Reach Leo T. Martynowski at 29708 Lorain Rd.  
North Olmsted, OH 44070, 440-777-8030



Leo Martynowski conducts an inspection

## More On Sinanju

A letter entitled "Sinanju HA V A NO" appeared on p. 54 in the May-June issue of "The Graybeards." At that time I considered it a hoax, but I have since changed my opinion.

I have pursued considerable research on the matter, including Clay Blair's monumental tome on the Korean war, "The Forgotten War." It is now obvious that the inaccuracies are the result of confusion and probably an overactive imagination.

The claim that the peace talks began at Sinanju is not true. The writer has confused Sinanju with Kaesong, where my sources agree that they got underway on July 10, 1951. Sinanju is located on the Chongchon River, deep in North Korea, and not far south of the Yalu, a place that would be an unlikely venue for such delicate negotiations.

The violations of the neutral atmosphere that should have prevailed and which the writer attributes to Sinanju actually occurred at Kaesong. The communists attempted to extract every possible propaganda advantage from the location.

Incidentally, the UN was guilty of a few minor violations

as well. But Far East commander General Ridgway was incensed and refused to allow the talks to continue at Kaesong. He even went so far as to defy the Joint Chiefs of Staff. But he prevailed, and the talks eventually resumed at Panmunjom on October 25.

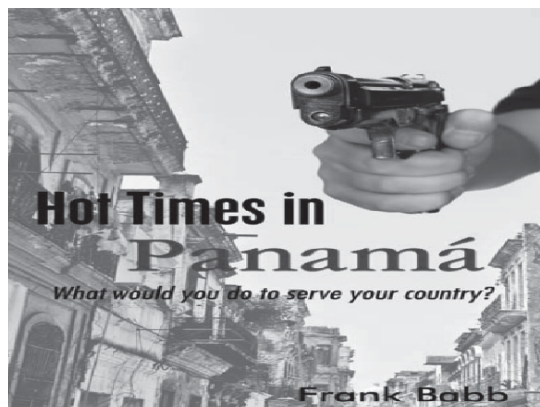
Kaesong today is in North Korea and Panmunjom is located in the DMZ. My wife and I were there a few years ago during a Revisit trip.

The writer also presented a scenario involving a ghostly aerial attack by a plane which he assumed was a B-38. Of course, there is no record of such an event and I cannot categorically deny such an attack occurred. But it seems highly unlikely and is probably pure speculation that a single plane obliterated Sinanju. It is more likely that a flight of B-29 Superfortresses did inflict a devastating attack on the area.

Sinanju occupies a strategic location that includes five bridges and extensive railroad marshaling yards (Wikipedia). USAF planes repeatedly bombed the area to interdict the flow of supplies from China and Russia headed for the battle front. On one occasion, 300 of these planes bombed a city on the Yalu and north of Sinanju. Allied (UN) planes bombed western North Korea throughout the three years of war, but the North Koreans (like the North Vietnamese in that war) often repaired the damage in record time.

Sinanju today is a small political entity with a population of about 16,000 (2006).

Bob Hall, 3827 Fraser St., Bellingham, WA 98229  
(360) 671-5516



A novel about a farm boy posted to the Army Counterintelligence Corps in Panama in 1954 and his participation in a secret assignment with Julia, a woman he wants to know better. She disappears from his life after the shooting ends. Interwoven with this mystery are the stories of the civilian soldiers temporarily serving as secret agents in the backwaters of Central America. Almost 45 years later the mystery of why Julia vanished is explained. **Available from Amazon and other online book retailers. See [frankebabb.blogspot.com](http://frankebabb.blogspot.com)**

# Korea Cold War Veterans Seeking Combat Patch

Some U.S. Army veterans are attempting to get Army regulations changed so Korea Cold War veterans can be allowed to legally wear a combat patch on their right shoulders. The petitioners include 2nd Infantry Division, 7th Division, and 1st CAV veterans who served in Korea post armistice!

This message from Bob Haynes, one of the leaders of the petition campaign, explains the reasons behind the effort.

As we all know, the Korean War has never ended! Only a 'cease fire' armistice agreement was signed and it is still in effect. Those of us that served in Cold War Korea and especially on the DMZ know that the armistice has been violated thousands of times by the NKs. Hundreds of U.S. and South Korean troops have been Killed In Action and many hundreds of others have been Wounded In Action since the armistice was signed.

Also, not widely known is that Agent Orange was sprayed in Korea on the DMZ and some other areas. Many of us that have been exposed to Agent Orange, Agent Blue and Monuron suffer from debilitating diseases and many have died.

Attached are a letter and a congressional bill proposal we would like interested veterans to complete. And, if it is possible for any of them, we encourage them to have a sit-down visit with their U.S. Senate and Congressional representatives. We need a sponsor for the bill. Then, we need co-sponsors to get the bill passed. People who cannot visit with their representatives can mail or email the forms to them and their veteran liaison personnel.

Anyone who wants more information can contact Bob Haynes at [2idahq@comcast.net](mailto:2idahq@comcast.net).

This action needs to be taken if affected veterans want to get this deserved honor of the combat patch. This could be their final try. Some veterans have already tried contacting the Dept. of the Army and have not gotten any results!

## Now Hear This:

All comments concerning, or contributions for publication in The Graybeards should be sent to:

Art Sharp, Editor  
895 Ribaut Rd. #13  
Beaufort, SC 29902  
or emailed to:

[sharp\\_arthur\\_g@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net)

### A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to revise the requirements for award of Army Combat Shoulder Sleeve Insignia Indicating Former Wartime Service with Respect to Service in Korea between July 28, 1954 and a date after the enactment of this Act to be determined by the Secretary of the Army.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the 'Korea Service Combat Recognition Act'.

#### SEC. 2. REQUIREMENTS FOR AWARD OF COMBAT SHOULDER SLEEVE INSIGNIA INDICATING FORMER WARTIME SERVICE WITH RESPECT TO SERVICE IN KOREA AFTER JULY 28, 1954.

(a) STANDARDIZATION OF REQUIREMENTS WITH OTHER GEOGRAPHIC AREAS- (1) Chapter 357 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

##### 'Sec. 3757. COMBAT SHOULDER SLEEVE INSIGNIA INDICATING FORMER WARTIME SERVICE WITH RESPECT TO SERVICE IN KOREA AFTER JULY 28, 1954

'The Secretary of the Army shall provide that, with respect to service in the Republic of Korea after July 28, 1954, eligibility of a member of the Army to wear on their right sleeve the shoulder patch insignia for the Army unit to which assigned during their tour in Korea, shall be met under criteria and eligibility requirements that, as nearly as practicable, are identical to those applicable, at the time of such service in the Republic of Korea, to service elsewhere without regard to specific location or special circumstances. In particular, such eligibility shall be established—

- (1) without any requirement for service by the member in an area designated as a 'hostile fire area' (or by any similar designation) or that the member has been awarded hostile fire pay, awarded the purple heart, the combat infantryman's badge or combat medical badge;
- (2) Service in the Republic of Korea, to include contiguous water and airspace for a period of 30 consecutive days or longer or 60 non-consecutive days shall qualify for such recognition.
- (3) No government funding for issuance of insignia, nor amendment to separation documents will be authorized by this act.

(2) The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

##### '3757. COMBAT SHOULDER SLEEVE INSIGNIA INDICATING FORMER WARTIME SERVICE WITH RESPECT TO SERVICE IN KOREA AFTER JULY 28, 1954

(b) APPLICABILITY TO SERVICE BEFORE DATE OF ENACTMENT- The Secretary of the Army shall establish procedures to provide for the implementation of section 3757 of title 10, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), with respect to service in the Republic of Korea during the period between July 28, 1954 and a date after the enactment of this Act to be determined by the Secretary of the Army. Such procedures shall include a requirement for recognition of "former wartime service" by the individual with respect to service before the date of the enactment of this Act. No insignia will be issued at government expense as a result of this act.

2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division Association  
Post Office Box 218  
Fox Lake, IL 60020-0218



Honorable XXXX X XXXXX  
Street Address  
City, State, zip code

Dear Representative \_\_\_\_\_:

I am sending this letter as a former member of the Army's 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division, on behalf of veterans of service along the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) who were, for unknown reasons denied appropriate recognition by the United States Army for their service in a combat zone in Korea from 1954-2004.

Soldiers assigned to Army units stationed near the Korean DMZ and other locations in Korea during the afore mentioned years performed duties that were comparable to service in Vietnam and later conflicts. Unlike the other conflicts however, Soldiers stationed in Korea were denied the distinctive "Former Wartime Service Shoulder Sleeve Insignia" designation or "Combat Patch" by the Department of the Army. Only in extreme cases, did Soldiers in Korea receive such recognition. Attached at "Tab A" is an explanation of the exact time frame and rationale for such combat designation.

On behalf of my fellow Korean DMZ veterans, we request that you sponsor the proposed legislation attached at "Tab B" that would recognize service in Korea under the wartime criteria. The action would require no cost to the Government and compel Army leaders to correct an historical oversight.

Sincerely,

XXXX XXXX  
Veteran  
2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division

# Flying Ace Lt. Col. George A. Davis Jr.'s Last Flight

I met LtCol. Davis in late 1950 when he was a Major with the 71st Fighter Interceptor Squadron at the Greater Pittsburgh Airport, PA. I was only an Airman 2nd Class at the time, but since there were only 168 people in the unit, everyone got to know everyone else. I would see him at many spots around the base.

I ended up in Korea, although we were never on the same base there. I was enlisted then, and he was an officer. But, he was friendly towards everyone. He was already an ace from WW II, having completed 266 missions in Europe.

At Pittsburgh they flew the new F-86 Sabre Jets. The pilots were mostly there for training, but they were also there for protection if anyone should attack. Along with his other abilities, Maj. Davis' eyesight was so keen that while flying his aircraft he could shoot a target trailing another aircraft 200 times out of 200. None of the other pilots there could claim that accuracy.

In October 1951 he was sent to Korea. On his 59th mission there, he was killed at age 31 after shooting down his 21st enemy aircraft. Most people in the States were not aware that the MiG Russian Jets in Korea were flown most-

ly by Chinese or Russian pilots, instead of North Koreans.

On Maj. Davis' last day, 10 February 1952, he and his wingman, 2nd Lt. William Littlefield, were protecting a group of F-84 Thunder Jets that was conducting a low-level bombing mission. They snuck up behind 12 MiGs that were intent on attacking the F-84s. Davis shot down 2 MiGs. While shooting down the 3rd MiG, his plane sustained a direct hit and crashed to the ground. Immediately, other F-86s arrived on the scene and shot down the MiG that hit Davis. But the MiG Chinese pilot, named Zhang, was able to bail out.

The enemy found Davis days later, still in his crashed aircraft, but his body was never returned to the U.S. A cenotaph (empty) grave for him is located in the Lubbock, Texas cemetery.

Things that distinguished him from the other pilots are: he was the only pilot to shoot down 4 Korean aircraft in 1 day and the only F-86 pilot awarded the Medal of Honor. He was promoted to Lt. Col. posthumously.

*Maj. David N. Baker, USAF (Ret.),  
dnb313@msn.com*



## DAVIS, GEORGE ANDREW, JR.

Rank and organization: Major, U.S. Air Force, CO, 334th Fighter Squadron, 4th Fighter Group, 5th Air Force. Place and date: Near Sinuiju-Yalu River area, Korea, 10 February 1952. Entered service at: Lubbock, Tex. Born: 1 December 1920, Dublin, Tex.

### Citation:

Maj. Davis distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. While leading a flight of 4 F-86 Sabrejets on a combat aerial patrol mission near the Manchurian border, Maj. Davis' element leader ran out of oxygen and was forced to retire from the flight with his wingman accompanying him. Maj. Davis and the remaining F-86's continued the mission and sighted a formation of approximately 12 enemy MIG-15 aircraft speeding southward toward an area where friendly fighter-bombers were conducting low level operations against the Communist lines of communications. With selfless disregard for the numerical superiority of the enemy, Maj. Davis positioned his 2 aircraft, then dove at the MIG formation. While speeding through the formation from the rear he singled out a MIG-15 and destroyed it with a concentrated burst of fire. Although he was now under continuous fire from the enemy fighters to his rear, Maj. Davis sustained his attack. He fired at another MIG-15 which, bursting into smoke and flames, went into a vertical dive. Rather than maintain his superior speed and evade the enemy fire being concentrated on him, he elected to reduce his speed and sought out still a third MIG-15. During this latest attack his aircraft sustained a direct hit, went out of control, then crashed into a mountain 30 miles south of the Yalu River. Maj. Davis' bold attack completely disrupted the enemy formation, permitting the friendly fighter-bombers to successfully complete their interdiction mission. Maj. Davis, by his indomitable fighting spirit, heroic aggressiveness, and superb courage in engaging the enemy against formidable odds exemplified valor at its highest.



The F-86 Sabre Jet



# Monuments and Memorials

Korea: the Forgotten War, Remembered

## 319 – LAWTON [OK]

We dedicated a memorial on June 25, 2012 to the veterans who served during the Korean War and to the men and women who have served in the defense of South Korea. Over 250 guests and members attended the dedication ceremony.

Commander C. “Bud” Arenz designed the memorial. Reverend Jeong Kiyong, who was a force in raising funds used to help pay for the memorial, represented the Lawton Korean community.



Commander C. “Bud” Arenz of Ch 319 thanks Rev. Jeong Kiyong



A large crowd listens to speakers at Lawton memorial dedication

MajGen Mark McDonald, Fire Support, Ft. Sill, the guest speaker at the dedication ceremony, reminded our current generation of the sacrifice that our generation incurred. A guest speaker from Korea, Sun Song Om, Commander of the Veterans of Korea, informed the audience that South Korea will never forget what the American Soldiers did for freedom.

The former Mayor of Lawton, John T. Marley, a Korean War veteran, observed that this memorial has been a long time com-



Members of Ch 319 and guests stand at ease in front of their memorial

ing. One veteran said that other groups claimed it would take five years to complete the memorial, “But we did it in a year-and-a-half. We were blessed.”

Following the dedication, the Korean Ladies of the Church of New Light served a lunch.

Cecil Duwain (“Bud”) Arenz, 2807 NW Lynn Cir.  
Lawton, OK 73507, 580-512-7282  
[OPASTIENKOFF@aol.com](mailto:OPASTIENKOFF@aol.com)

## 300 – KOREAN WAR VETERANS OF MASSACHUSETTS [MA]

At a Memorial Day commemoration we dedicated a granite bench at the Massachusetts Korean War Veterans Memorial in honor of HM3 Joseph F. Keenan.

MOH recipient Thomas Hudner was the guest speaker. Louis Pelosi was the Memorial Chairman.

The *USS Constitution* provided the Color Guard.

Michael P. Keenan, Sr., 95 Ponderosa Dr.  
Hanover, MA 02339, (781) 924-1005  
[mikekeenansr@comcast.net](mailto:mikekeenansr@comcast.net)



The HM3 Joseph F. Keenan granite bench

## Official Membership Application Form

### The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407 (Telephone: 217-345-4414)

**DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE** Assigned Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_

KWVA Regular Annual Dues = \$25.00 ♦ Associate Membership = \$16.00  
MOH, 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 ☐ Medal of Honor ☐ Regular Member ☐ Regular Life Member ☐ Associate Member  
☐ Ex-POW ☐ Honorary ☐ Gold Star Parent ☐ Gold Star Spouse

(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 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407** (Telephone: 217-345-4414)

(Or you may pay by Credit Card)

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ VISA ☐ MASTER CARD (only)

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ V-Code \_\_\_\_\_ Your Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted 10/26/2009

## CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR KWVA MEMBERSHIP

In addition to completing the KWVA membership application form on page 1, 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 Medal of Honor recipient 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 \_\_\_\_.
- ☐ 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 the 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, is eligible for membership if:  
a. Said service was within Korea including territorial waters and airspace at any time, September 3, 1945 to Present, or  
b. Said service was outside of Korea, June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955.
2. **Medal of Honor.** Any KWVA Member, who is a Medal of Honor recipient, is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.
3. **Prisoner of War.** Any person held as a prisoner of war by the North Koreans, Chinese, or Russian forces during and after the period of hostilities from June 25, 1950 forward is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.
4. **Gold Star Parents.** Any parent whose son/daughter was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.
5. **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 (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

#### B. Associate Members.

1. Must not be eligible for Regular membership.
2. 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 KWVA Charter and its Bylaws and Standard Procedure Manual, shall be eligible for Associate Membership in the Association. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

**C. Honorary Members.** Any person of good character may be elected as Honorary Member by vote by the Board of Directors. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

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

# VETERANS GIVING TWICE

Members of veterans' organization are in effect serving twice. They served their country by putting in their time in the military. Then, they joined their respective organizations such as the KWVA to give even more. Various KWVA chapters provide scholarships, packages for

deployed active duty troops, toiletries and clothing for their comrades in VA facilities...the list goes on.

We are starting a new feature in this issue, called "Veterans Serving Twice." In it we will include the benefits provided by individual chapters, to whom

they were given, etc. It is a way of giving chapters recognition for their philanthropy, which is sometimes overlooked by society in general.

So, if your chapter is providing scholarships, "care packages," and other benefits to society, please let us know. Send your

info to Veterans Giving Twice Editor, The Graybeards, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

Here are a few entries to get us started.

## 17 – LT. RICHARD E. CRONAN [FL]

We made a donation to fellow veterans in the extended care facility at the VA Medical Center in West Palm Beach, FL. The items included \$870 worth of shorts, underwear, and socks. The merchandise was purchased at a local Kohl's, which gave us a discount. We held several fundraisers for this project.



Members of Ch 17 at West Palm Beach, FL VA facility (L-R) Commander Joe Green, Stan Gavlick, Bernie Ruthberg, Mary Philips (volunteer coordinator at the hospital), Barry Tutin

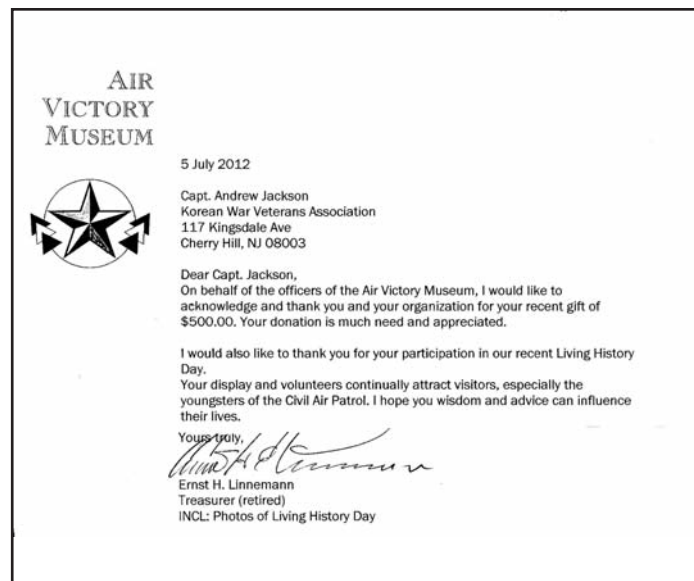
Our next project will be the 60-year celebration of the Korean War Armistice (7-27-13), to be held at Lynn University in Boca Raton, FL.

*Stanley P. Gavlick, gavjs@comcast.net*

## 54 – THOMAS W. DALEY, JR. [NJ]

Several members recently visited the Air Victory Museum in Lumberton, NJ for Living History Day. As part of our visit we donated \$500.00 to the museum.

*Andy Jackson, captjack71@comcast.net*



ABOVE: A letter of thanks from the Air Victory Museum

RIGHT: Veterans, visitors, Civil Air Patrol members et al salute while the Star Spangled Banner is played outside the Air Victory Museum



## 121 – TWIN CITIES [TX]

### Hero's Pantry

Chapter members, in concert with their Auxiliary, recently donated nonperishable food items to the "Hero's Pantry," an organization that provides food and personal items for local veterans in the Texarkana, AR/TX area.

Jean Heilman, the coordinator of the pantry, was the guest speaker at a recent chapter meeting.

*Dee Reece, 500 Cavite Pl., Wake Village, TX 75501*



Chapter and Auxiliary members of Ch 221 display donations to Hero's Pantry: Jeff Holder, Mrs., Cliff Barrett, Charles and Chris Terry (L-R)

## 142 – COL WILLIAM E. WEBER [MD]

We have a scholarship program which is managed by the Frederick County Community Foundation. We award scholarships annually.

We awarded two scholarships this year, to Meghan Stouter and Keiffer Moorman.



*Robert Mount, 6518 Fish Hatchery Rd.*

*Thurmont, MD 21788, 301-898-7952, Mount252@comcast.net*

**Ernst H. Linnemann, Fred Connolly, Clarence Davis, Stan Levin, Andy Jackson, Charles Jackson of Ch 54 (L-R) at Air Victory Museum**

## 155 – FLORIDA GULF COAST [FL]

### Ch 155 Awards Annual Scholarship

The Florida Gulf Coast chapter (CID 155) awarded its annual \$1,000.00 scholarship to Carlos Barahono, a full-time student at Edison State College, located in southwest Florida, who just retired from the military. It is for the benefit of a veteran, child, or grandchild of a veteran.

This has been an annual contribution for several years. We are very proud to have helped several students receive their education.

*Robert H. Hebner, 404 SE 28th Terr.,  
Cape Coral, FL 33904, 239-573-1983,  
931-628-2848 (Cell), RHHebner@embarqmail.com*



**Carlos Barahono, Dr Jones (Edison Regional Director), Nick Napolitano (1st VP), Bob Hebner (President), Barbara Wells (Director of Development and Alumni Relations), Bob Kent (Treasurer), Jerry Montagnino (Sgt-at-Arms), Melissa Congresss (Foundation Board Member), Bill McCarthy (chapter member)**

### THANKS from page 33

There were several chapters of Korean veterans in attendance representing the surrounding areas. A few of the vets spoke of their past experiences while in Korea. One of our members mentioned that he had served in World War Two and the Korean War.

The South Koreans were so thankful for our service in their time of need. They mentioned that without the help of the USA and our allies they would not be where they are today, which is the seventh largest supplier of goods in the world!

The South Korean people are the only people who have ever honored the United States veterans with such a wonderful reception. We all enjoyed a delicious meal, entertainment, including a beautiful dance and drum solo performed by a lovely Korean lady, and a Tae Kwan Do exhibition presented by students from ages 6 to 46. We all had a very good time together and thoroughly appreciated a most lively meeting.

**Hank Buhlinger, 2215 73rd St. E, Lot 81  
Palmetto, FL 34221**

# APPLICATION FOR KOREA REVISIT & PEACE CAMP FOR YOUTH (PCFY) TOURS

(UPDATED 01/14/11)

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_

KWVA Member, # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date (Exp date) \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: If you have not yet received your membership # from KWVA please insert "applied for."**

**List all your addresses, (seasonal/if more than one per year) and dates of residence, no P.O. Boxes.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Dates \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Dates \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ **E-Mail\*** \_\_\_\_\_

\*- CRUCIAL FOR IMMEDIATE TOUR UPDATES

## **Korea Revisit Only**

Veterans Passport# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth (DOB) \_\_\_\_\_

Companion Name/Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

Companion's Passport# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: If you do not have a passport with 6 months validity after last date of return to USA and have applied for a new one, please insert "Applied for" in the space provided and contact MHT when you receive it.**

## **Veteran's Korean Service Information (Both Tours)**

Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Period of Service in the Korean Theater (month/year) from \_\_\_\_\_ thru \_\_\_\_\_

Veterans / family member signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Complete and mail this form along with the \$450.00 deposit / service-fee per person (check, money order or Credit Card) to Military Historical Tours. Payment in full is required for applications submitted within sixty days of tour departure.**

## **(PCFY) Peace Camp For Youth (Only)**

Grandchild: Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail<sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Passport #<sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTES: 1- CRUCIAL FOR IMMEDIATE TOUR UPDATES 2- If no passport put Applied for in this block and call in when received.**

## **Credit Card Authorization:**

I authorize **Military Historical Tours** by my signature above to charge my Visa, Master Card or Amex **\$450.00** Per Person,

The amount of **\$450.00** Per Person Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ **please include the 3-Digit code on back of card** \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on the Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_

**Korea Revisit related material please send to:**

**KWVA Revisit Korea Program  
C/O MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS  
13198 CENTERPOINTE WAY STE #202  
WOODBIDGE, VA 22193-5285**

**Phone: 703-590-1295 or 800-722-9501  
Fax: 703-590-1292  
E-Mail: mhtours@miltours.com  
[www.miltours.com](http://www.miltours.com)**

## **Background**

The Korea Revisit program was begun by the **Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MPVA/Seoul)** in 1975 for the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War to express the **Republic of Korea (ROK's)** government's gratitude to Korean War veterans and their families also to show them the bountiful results of

their sacrifices and devotion.

## **MPVA's Eligibility Requirements**

Korean War Veterans who served in or supported ground, naval, or air operations in the Korean Theater between June 25, 1950 and October 15, 1954. **Family members** of deceased or disabled Veterans are eligible to participate in the "Korea Revisit Program." An eligible applicant is allowed

to bring a family member or friend as a "travel companion."

## **Expanded Eligibility**

- 1) For the 60th anniversaries (2010-13) there will be more quotas available. In addition, those who have been on a Revisit prior to 2006 can apply to return again. (Call MHT for more details)

2) Widows and family members of deceased veterans or those unable to travel are also eligible for the Revisit as **Veteran Representatives**.

### Benefits & Schedule

Free hotel accommodations for the veteran their companion or veteran representatives, meals for 5 nights and 6 days in Seoul for 2 people. If you want to bring more people you may at your expense. Accommodations are based on (2) persons per room, if you want your own hotel room you may at your own expense. All of the above items need to be requested in writing. Tours of Seoul and its vicinity, banquet hosted by the MPVA and KVA with presentation of the "Ambassador for Peace" medal, tours of the DMZ, Pan-Mun-Jom, War Memorial Museum, and the National Cemetery.

### Peace Camp For Youth (PCFY) Program for Grandchildren of Veterans

Purpose is to express the sincere gratitude of the Korean people and to build a network for future collaboration among **Families of Korean War Veterans**. Grandchildren must be at least 18 years old.

### Benefits & Schedule for (PCFY)

Same as the Veterans tour with an extra day of events and subsidizes are per person, with no companions.

### Sundry Notes

1. The **MPVA** Revisit Program privileges are provided for scheduled groups only.
2. Participants are required to have a valid passport that does not expire until 6 months after return to the USA.
3. Neither **MPVA** Seoul nor **MHT** Virginia U.S.A is responsible for any loss of or damage to personal or other items; medical expenses, injuries or loss of life due to any accident of any nature during the tour.
4. Hospitalization, Evacuation and Trip Cancellation Insurance is required by **MPVA** for all veterans, companions or veteran representatives. Insurance costs are included in the admin service charge for Korea only.
5. Transportation costs to/from Korea will be borne by each person who participates in the program. The Korean government is now subsidizing airfare for persons traveling with the **MHT** administered group.
6. Applications will be received/accepted on a "First-come, first-served" basis.
7. Use of frequent flyer miles or other "free" transportation is allowed, but the administrative service fee of **\$450.00** per person is still required for the insurance and administration.



# 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.

## ARIZONA

JOHN R. TAPIA

## CALIFORNIA

WILLIAM M. FARRIS  
ARTHUR H. SCHMOYER  
THOMAS F. SHEPHERD  
FRANK TORREZ

## FLORIDA

RICHARD C. CHRISTIE  
DONALD L. DENNY  
ORVIL H. GANN  
CLINTON TODD GREEN JR.  
ROYCE V. JACKSON  
CHARLES F. MIKELL  
LEWIS C. NELSON  
CHARLES J. REAMES  
RALPH E. REYNOLDS  
JOHN ROBERT SPENCER SR.  
GLENN A. WHITTINGTON JR.

## GEORGIA

ROLAND H. ANDERSON  
GEORGE H. WALLACE JR.

## ILLINOIS

DAVID S. EULASS  
PATRICK V. QUINN  
KEITH E. SAGE  
ALFONSE M. SANDOVAL

## INDIANA

EARL W. 'BILL' ADAMS  
EDWARD BAILEY JR.  
ROBERT WAYNE CLARK  
LAWRENCE R. HARROD  
JOE L. OCHOA JR.  
HARRY W. ROCKHILL  
PHILLIP J. SEE  
RAYMOND L. YBARRA

## KANSAS

GERALD LEE WORLEY

## KENTUCKY

JAMES A. KEHOE

PAUL A. MUELLER

RAYMOND W. SMITH

## MASSACHUSETTS

DONALD J. MAHONEY  
FRANCOIS ROY

## MICHIGAN

DONALD H. ADAMS  
STANLEY C. ELLEFSON  
PAUL J. LOUCHART

## MINNESOTA

DARVIN D. COTTEW  
HARRY C. TIEFS SR.  
LEONARD A. YANEZ

## MISSOURI

EUGENE S. BLANDFORD  
KENNETH A. MCKALIP  
WALTER L. PIERSCHBACHER  
JAMES S. STEWART

## NEVADA

BERNARD E. HALL

## NEW JERSEY

JULES D. KURTZ  
FRED J. SCHEERLE

## NEW YORK

VICTOR CABAN  
ROBERT C. HUTT  
IRA M. JULIUS  
JOHN D. MULLER  
NICHOLAS V. PAUL  
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LAVERAL R. PIEPER  
MELVIN S. 'MEL' TYBORSKI  
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some degree of closure for Art's family. He says, "I know it helped and encouraged me beyond belief."

For this Veterans Day, he plans to renew his efforts to contact the Zollman (MI), Spisco (OH), Pillon (NY), and Culler (NC) families again somehow through his 'Letters to the Lost' written six years ago.

*Tom J. Thiel, R032530, President, KWVA of*

*Lake County FL Chapter 169, 24th Infantry Division, Korea 1951-52, 19147 Park Place Blvd, Eustis, FL 32736 (originally from Upper Sandusky, OH)*

*\*\* Tom wrote a similar letter to Rudy Spisco, KIA November 24, 1951. In it, he said "Art, Rudy and me, from Basic to Company E; now it was only ME!"*

**Korean War Veterans Association**  
**Membership Administrative Assistant**  
**P.O. Box 407**  
**Charleston, IL 61920-0407**

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PYEONGTAEK, Republic of Korea (Aug. 25, 2012) Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class James Norman gives a ship tour of the U.S. 7th Fleet flagship USS Blue Ridge (LCC 19) to Republic of Korea navy sailors. While in port, Blue Ridge Sailors and the men and women of the embarked U.S. 7th Fleet staff will interact with their Republic of Korea navy counterparts and participate in various community service events. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Apprentice Ben Larscheid/Released)