

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT: E-mail from the Secretary, *The Graybeards*, Jan-Feb 2013 issue.

PLACE OF ANNOUNCED MEETING: Holiday Inn, Syracuse/Liverpool, 441 Electronics Parkway, Liverpool, NY, Tel: 315-457-1122.

ANNOUNCED PERIOD OF MEETING: March 20, 2013- 0900- Completion of business

CALL TO ORDER Jim Ferris, President

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Tom McHugh, Director

INVOCATION Leo Ruffing, Chaplain

ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS Jim Ferris, President

APPOINTMENTS Jim Ferris, President

■ Jongwoo Han was appointed to act as the Sergeant-At-Arms.

■ President Ferris read a letter that 2nd VP Aldridge received from Lee Dauster's daughter. Lee was a Past Director who passed away recently. 2nd VP Aldridge attended his funeral as a representative of President Ferris and the KWVA. Director Lawhon also attended the funeral and arranged for flowers to be sent by the Association.

■ Director Jones then made a motion that the Board approve the appointment of Carmen Zeolla as Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Director Fountain and passed unanimously.

■ Director Brown made a motion to adopt the agenda that was prepared by Secretary Cohee and previously sent to all of the KWVA officers and board members. The motion was seconded by Director Dappen and passed unanimously.

ROLL CALL: Jake Feaster,
Asst. Secretary

KWVA Board Members:

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

KWVA Staff: William B. Burns, Judge Advocate; Charlie Price, National Legislative Director; Jim Doppelhammer, Webmaster; Jake Feaster, Membership Management and Assistant Secretary;

Jongwoo Han, KWVA Liaison to Korean-American Assn.; Warren Wiedhahn, KWVA Liaison to Washington/Revisit Committee Coordinator; Colleen Reed, Recorder,

ACTION ON ABSENCES IF NECESSARY:

■ President Ferris commented that Secretary Cohee and Directors Rice and Williams were absent. They all had valid reasons, so all three should be excused. He asked for a motion to that effect. Director McHugh made a motion to approve our absences. The motion was seconded by Director Brown and passed unanimously.

DECLARATION OF QUORUM:

■ President Ferris announced that there is a quorum.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES OF 10/11/2012 MEETING:

■ Director Brown made a motion that the minutes be approved as (Printed in the *Graybeards*, Nov-Dec 2012 issue) presented. The motion was seconded by Director Griffith and was passed unanimously.

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Dr. Jongwoo Han, President, Korean War Veterans Digital Memorial Foundation, Inc.; Col. Dave Clark, 60th Anniversary-Korean War Armistice Commemoration Committee; Mr. Bob Wiedower, Executive Director, USAA

■ First VP Kinard introduced Mr. Wiedower, Executive Director of the Military Affinity Development from USAA, to speak about the KWVA's opportunities to work with USAA. He commented that he was here today to talk about the Affinity Program. USAA built relationships with several different veterans' organizations and developed partnerships in which we work together for the mutual benefit of your membership. They are one and the same.

He said that USAA has over nine million members today and through this Association, that is USAA, those nine million members will have access to the KWVA. Some of them may not know you exist, but for whatever reason, never decided to join, didn't think it was any benefit to them, etc. But they will—and they could enjoy the benefits of

President James Ferris Resigns His Position

KWVA National President James Ferris has resigned his position effective midnight May 18, 2013 "due to circumstances both personal and professional." 1st Vice President Larry Kinard will assume leadership of the organization in his absence. A small group of Board members is being organized to assist with this transition.

The excellent leadership that Jim Ferris has provided KWVA, over many years, will not soon be forgotten. We wish both he, and his lovely wife Felice, many years of health and happiness.

Larry Kinard, 1st Vice President
Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

USAA and actually join the KWVA.

“What I am proposing is a co-branded credit card with KWVA logo on it and a USAA logo on it. The credit card will have a graphic of KWVA's choosing. There is relatively no risk to the KWVA.”

- Director Jones commented that there are also some fringe benefits. For example, when one has to travel by air, you automatically get free travel insurance.
- Directors Lawhon and Aldridge asked if USAA members would have to get new cards. The answer was yes, new cards would be required.
- Director McHugh asked if there would be an annual fee for the card. Mr. Wiedower said that there would be no annual fee.

Following a few more questions, 1st VP Kinard asked Mr. Wiedower to step outside a few minutes while the subject was discussed internally with just the Board members. He mentioned that everyone has to understand that if the Board votes to proceed with this it will be necessary to make our data base available to USAA.

■ Director McHugh made a motion that the KWVA proceed with the proposed Affinity Program. The motion was seconded by Director Stevens. 2nd VP Aldridge corrected the motion by saying it should be USAA, not Affinity, Director Jones further corrected the motion by commenting that the brochure says Affinity USAA. The motion was then approved unanimously.

■ President Ferris then commented that he had overlooked Past National President Mac Swain when making the introductions earlier and he thanked him for coming.

■ President Ferris then introduced Dr. Jongwoo Han as the next speaker.

■ Dr. Han reiterated that he is President of the Korean War Veterans Digital Memorial Foundation. The main reason for the foundation is to preserve the Korean Veterans legacy. This is being done by putting our memories into the website and the database. Many of the interviews appear in the website already. He reported that he now has done 123 interviews and has more than 5,000 artifacts, pictures, diaries, letters, posters, maps, etc.

■ 1st VP Kinard then asked Dr. Han if he could have a few minutes to speak about the Tell America Program. VP Kinard commented that he has been working on the program for seven years. That program has grown over the years and the initial passion for it was to preserve our legacy. “I could not ask for a better companion and missionary for preserving our legacy than Jongwoo,” he said. “He is one of the biggest supporters of our Tell America Program. He is not only spending his time, but he is spending money to preserve our legacy and I think as a Board that we make sure we support what he has done.”

■ Dr. Han then asked Director Scarlato to say a few brief words about what is being done. Dr Han was invited to come to the Stonybrook Veterans Home that is home to about 100 Korean veterans. When he interviewed them they seemed to come to life and things came out, where normally they were in their shell.

So when VP Kinard mentioned the legacy, there is a typical example how a resident who has a problem loosened up. And now Dr. Han has these new programs with grandchildren and great grand-

children. We need the full support of the KWVA for that.

Dr. Han commented that when he left for Seoul in January he was asked by President Ferris to do two things: secure the funding for the KWVA and establish a channel where we could promote his policy of recruiting Korean Service War Veterans.

“I went down to talk to this guy (holding up a picture); his name is Park,” Dr Han said. “He is my drinking buddy and the founder of the company called Pantec. I asked him if he would be interested in funding the Korean War Veterans Association. His response was immediate.

“Yes, I want to do this, but I need to go through the Board of Trustees to pass it on,” he said.

They approved it, Dr. Han acknowledged, “so I was able to tell Jim you are going to get \$100,000.”

■ President Ferris thanked Dr. Han and said that he has invited him to the sixtieth anniversary event in July. “I think we will continue to support him and he will continue to support us, I am sure. This is just the beginning.”

■ Dr. Han responded to President Ferris. “Jim asked me to see if we can establish the kind of connections to promote and recruit the Korean Service Veterans. I went to U.S. Eighth Army, and I met with the promotion director and explained about the background... and he was very receptive of this idea.

“So, as soon as Jim got cleared from New York and if you make a promotion brochure or poster I am ready to distribute it in Korea so that the KWVA can recruit those. I made a rough calculation of how many Korean War Service Veterans have been in Korea. Approximately—and this is very conservative figure—there will be more than one million American soldiers.

“So this is what we have to do. Promote what you did for Korea, what you did for the United States, and what you are doing now, including my own Foundation. So I came up with a list of souvenir items, something that we can co memorial the Sixty Years Anniversary. If you look at the handout that I gave you there are three posters. You can show the big one.

“The first one is the mosaic and it is the collective items that I got. I have more than 5,000, so this is what we have to do. We have to make use of it. I think it gives you the good picture where you were, how you fought, all distance. I work with Norm, Sal, Larry and others about patches. There are sixteen and many of you are asking me why there are no patches. There is one there and I know that are hundreds.

“But we cannot fit those patches in this poster. It is just a draft so it needs to be fixed. When it is fixed, I will print this as an official poster to commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of the Armistice and U.S. Korean alliance. We could also do it as whole poster, KWVDM Foundation and KWVA together.”

■ Norm Champagne, Chapter 105, commented that on the patches themselves we can't certainly satisfy everyone who was in Korea. There are probably 1,000 or more.

■ Dr. Han displayed the next poster. It is the Stars and Stripes, all made of the artifacts he collected from the Korean War veterans. The last one is the Korean flag.

First Dr. Han said his proposal is to see if we to do with Korean War veterans did in the Memorial Foundation and distribute it together.

■ There was a lot more discussion on the poster, like a title for each one, how many patches can really fit, pricing, etc. Dr. Han said he plans to print out tens of thousands by the end of March or early April. He wants the KWVA to come up with some kind of idea.

■ President Ferris stated that, "I think we all agree that this project is worthy of our devotion. I guess maybe we ought to form a committee to work with Jongwoo so that we're not all, you know, sending him e-mails, or phone calls or whatever. I'll have to give that some thought. I'm sure you all agree that we're going to cooperate with Jongwoo, is that correct?"

"All in favor say 'Aye.'"

All said "Aye."

President Ferris commented that he did not think we need a motion on that. It's just a vote of confidence for Jongwoo.

"And I thank you, sir, very much," President Ferris concluded..

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

■ President Ferris commented he thought the report has been pretty well covered here this morning.

"When I ran for President I did not promise anything, but I did mention that I was hoping that we could find some extra money here and there to take the burden off the membership's dues and so forth. Well, we have done that; we got \$100,000 this week. And now, along with the proposal that Jongwoo is working on, there is a good chance for some more money coming in once we get it rolling.

"And with the USAA, of course, there is another opportunity for some financial gain on our part. So this is all good stuff. I mean, it is a win-win in every one of these things and there is more. I am talking more and more to more people, and hopefully we are going to see more of these things, donations and so forth, from large companies here and there.

"The Korean Government cannot do it, as I mentioned, but there are people over there that can and will. All we have to do is ask and that's what happened in this case.

"I had lunch with Jongwoo one day and I said, Jongwoo, I need \$100,000. Well, he did not say, oh, okay, but he said, well, let's work on it. And we got it, so all you have to do is ask. And, I am not afraid to ask. So, I will be asking more people as we go on.

"Recruiting is coming along great. Tom Stevens and his committee, and Sonny [Edwards] of course—Sonny is working day and night on this and he is going to give us a report later.

"Later on, when we finish with the old and new business, we are going to break out into small work groups which I have made up. So, I am not going to ask for any committee reports until after the group meetings because you might want to change your report.

"We have some things to do here first so I am going to pass on the Treasurer's and the Membership Management Reports now and go right to Old Business."

OLD BUSINESS:

"There is a petition in your package that you received from Frank from the Department of Florida about use of the website. I want Jake and Jim Doppelhammer to address this petition, President Ferris announced..

Proposal To Revise The SPM To Expand Chapter And Department Department Of Florida

Access To The KWVA Database

■ Jim Doppelhammer:

"Let me go into a little bit of background on this. As an officer and/or Director of the KWVA you have membership access to the full membership database, that is, all information on who is a member, active, inactive, deceased, etc. Chapters and Departments have a lesser eligibility as far as what they can see. Chapters get to see only members listed in the database as their Chapter. Departments get to see members of the national database but only in their state.

"What the Department of Florida's webmaster is proposing is that all Chapters and Departments be given full access to the full national database for recruiting purposes. I do not feel personally myself just to recommend this as something that should be given out. I think that we need to at least keep it restricted—I might suggest that a Chapter be given access to not just his Chapter but possibly his state for recruiting purposes."

- Mr. Price asked, "What is wrong with the way it is at present?"
- Jim replied, "Mr. Thiel [CID 169, KWVA of Lake County] feels that Chapters should be given full access to the database nationwide."
- Mr. Price then said, "I don't think he is entitled to my information. I don't think he should have it and I would object to it."
- President Ferris then commented, "At this point I would like a motion that we reject this agenda item to either allow them to have this database information, or not."

Director Stevens made a motion that we reject this agenda item from the State of Florida and that we accept Jim's recommendation that we leave access to the database as it is today. The motion was seconded by Director Lawhon, followed by some discussion.

- 2nd VP Aldridge commented that there should be some exceptions. He gave as an example two Chapters in New Mexico. Their Presidents are unable to find out who lives around them. "So I think local Chapters should have access at least to the state database," he said.
- Director Lawhon responded by saying, "If you read what the gentleman in Florida has suggested, it's a lot more than what is being discussed here."
- Asst. Secretary Feaster then explained how the Chapters could get the information they wanted by contacting him.

At that point, Director Stevens said he would revise his motion to simply reject what the State of Florida is recommending here, and "I won't say anything in the motion about the existing database." The revision was seconded and passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Presentation And Discussion Of A Proposed Affinity Relationship With USAA

First VP Kinard

- President Ferris asked the First VP if there was anything further to say on this presentation and discussion of the proposed USAA Affinity relationship.

- First VP Kinard responded that there was nothing more. He talked with Bob, the USAA Representative, after the meeting and told him that we are ready to go forward and would like for them to tell us in detail what the contract and proposal will be. So we will be hearing more from him.

- President Ferris commented that he felt that the next item on the agenda would be better handled in an Executive Session. An Executive Session is attended only by Board Members and the Judge Advocate. So at that time President Ferris asked all guests to leave the meeting room. NOTE: The results (pages 102-120) of an Executive Session are not available to the General Membership.

(BOARD MEETING CONTINUED):

Discuss Revision to bylaws, Article 1, Membership To Further Clarify Gold Star Spouses' Qualifications For Membership In The Association
 Director Ewing

- Director Ewing commented that the Bylaws Committee is proposing four bylaws amendments and one SPM amendment. The first amendment deals with Gold Star Spouses.

- The Bylaws Committee has looked at all the proposed amendments. Our recommendation for the first one is that Bylaws Article 1, Membership Section 1, Qualifications for members, A. Regular Members. (5) Gold Star Spouses be revised to add some verbiage in the center of the paragraph to read "any person whose spouse was killed in Korea in action or was missing in action or died as a prisoner of war" and insert the words, "While serving within Korea, including territorial waters around and air space above, during the Korean War June 1950 to present, is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval."

He said, "In order to get this on the floor for discussion on behalf of the Bylaws Committee, I recommend that we adopt this proposed amendment to the Bylaws to insert the words "while serving within Korea, including territorial waters around and air space above" in the center of that paragraph.

- Director Jones moved for the recommendation of the Committee. The motion was seconded by Director Fountain and passed unanimously.

- Director Ewing continued by commenting that "The one proposal that you do not have deals with Gold Star Parents—and it's identical to the one you just passed except we insert—substitute the word "Gold Star Parents" for "Spouses."

He moved to make that proposed amendment to the Bylaws. Director McHugh so moved. It was seconded by Director Griffith and passed unanimously.

- Director Ewing: "Our third and fourth proposals, again, are identical except one deals with Gold Star Parents and the other deals with Gold Star Spouses. The way—in the section of the Bylaws where "Gold Star Parents" and "Gold Star Spouses" are listed right now, technically any Gold Star Parent or Gold Star Spouse could run for office in the Association. They could run for office as

President or as a Director position based on where they're listed in our Bylaws right now.

"We are proposing that we move them to a new section of the Bylaws. I make a motion that amendment be made to the Bylaws also." Director Lawhon seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- Director Ewing: "The next proposed amendment deals with Gold Star Spouses, identical to the one you just passed. So, again, I make a motion that proposed amendment be adopted also." Director McHugh seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- Director Ewing: "And the last one we have would be a SPM change based on the actions we just took, reclassifying Gold Star Parents. We would move Gold Star Parents in the SPM to Section 3.0 Korean War Veterans Association Incorporated procedure, Subsection 3.2, Associate Members, and description, list them as Item No. 4 and 5. Gold Star Parents, that is, items 4 and 5. So I would move that we make that amendment also." Second VP Aldridge made a motion that we make that amendment. The motion was seconded by Director Dappen. The motion passed unanimously.

- Director Ewing: "I just would make one additional comment. There was some discussion about whether we should move Medal of Honor and Prisoners of War to a new section, but our feeling was that even if they do not pay dues they qualify as members of the KWVA on their own right based on their service. So we would encourage that they run for office."

- Asst. Secretary Jake Feaster mentioned a couple of other items that possibly need to be clarified. One has to do with a member listed as a Medal of Honor recipient, which he did not receive it as a result of the Korean War. We also have a Gold Star member listed as such, but he is not a parent or a spouse. No action was taken on the foregoing items.

Contact The IRS Commissioner And Chief Council To Request Consideration Of A Change In IRS Policy Regarding The Definition Of A Korean War Veteran
 Director Lawhon

- Director Lawhon first explained the relationships among the IRS Commissioner, U.S. Treasury Department, and Chief Counsel. "My action is, I want to recommend to the Board, if it is reasonable for the KWVA to contact the IRS Commissioner and Counsel to request con-

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sideration of a change in IRS policy with its limited regard to the definition of a Korean War Veteran. And as I said previously, I am not putting this before the Board in conflict with our efforts to get the 113th Congress to put a bill out. It's in addition to."

- President Ferris commented that he was in no way going to stand in the way of any proposal that will help us get this classification change. "And if this is going to help, I am all for it," he exclaimed.

- Director Lawhon then made a motion that the KWVA contact the IRS according to what you see here and ask them to change that regulation. It is not a law. It is a regulation. Director Griffith seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- Second VP Aldridge said he has looked at the IRS revisions also and he went into detail how they define a war veteran. The bottom line is that 97.5 percent of the membership has to be a member during that period of war. For us that is June 27, 1950 to January 31, 1955.

"I agree with George," he noted. "We should bury the IRS with letters from Congressmen or whatever to revise that to include up to present along with if they have been awarded the Defense Medal, then they are a war veteran."

- Director Lawhon responded that the letter that will be prepared would cover that.

- Past President Mac Swain commented that he did not believe that this individual makes the code. Only Congress can make the code. "So the main thing that I can say to you is I hope you do not try to muddy the water because our bill, when resubmitted, can get passed," he suggested.

"I do not care if you go ahead and try to see the IRS people, but I do not think the Commissioner can change the Code himself. That job has to be done by Congress. And the other word that I have is the fact that the Ways and Means Committee is going to want to change the whole Income Tax Code after the Sequester so it may be quite a while before we will be able to get a bill introduced."

- President Ferris stated that he was aware what the Past President was going to say and he is right about the Sequester holding up everything" But, I still think we ought to make some moves," he averred.

- The conversations on this subject continued for some time from 2nd VP Aldridge suggesting that we might want to go to a 501 (c) (3) to Mr. Price saying "NO, NO, NO"—and then explaining why that would not be a good idea.

- Finally, President Ferris asked Director Lawhon to form another motion to sum up most of what had been discussed.

- Director Lawhon: "The body of this motion is to approve a plan whereby KWVA regular members who have e-mail addresses can contact their individual U.S. District Members of the House of Representatives for the purpose of persuading their representative to become a co-sponsor of the House bill that will replace HRr5903. The rest of the content of this is in pages 2 and 3, of this which is just a repeat of what we did in the last Congress. That is my motion." Director Fountain seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- Director Scarlato said he had the VFW Bylaws there and they

included how the VFW accepted the Korean Veterans. And they do not have a problem. Why don't they have a problem?

When did they lose their 501-19?

- President Ferris responded, "Because a membership of two million people is a lot. That's probably why."

- Director McHugh announced that it might work out that Sonny Edwards will be attending the VA meetings in Washington. That will save some travel money. Chapter 299, the Color Guard that covers Memorial Day, has offered to cover Veteran's Day also and that has been approved.

- President Ferris commented that we have a request for attendance from the Canadian Recognition Group to the Sixtieth Anniversary. We have an individual as our liaison, a Canadian Korean Veteran with whom we have been working for years.

- "At this time I would like to make a motion that we approve our Canadian liaison on June 21st to 23rd in Ontario, Canada," he said. "The representative is Garry Rockburn, our former Treasurer." Director Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- President Ferris announced that he was going to assign a few people to a few groups to discuss the items that he has listed. A spokesman has been assigned to each group who will address the Board when the groups are reconvened. The individual group meetings were conducted off the record.

- President Ferris asked each Group Spokesman to state what he was supposed to discuss and the results. First up was Director Stevens and his group, which was to discuss recruiting and retention methods, new methods of opening new Chapters and Departments, non-national members of Chapters, how to bring them into the fold, and a method to help Chapters recruit.

- Director Stevens has recently written a letter to the Kansas City Star to try and recruit additional members. He read the letter. Obviously as a result of the letter, the membership office received twelve calls the first day the letter was published. "We need to get our existence made known through newspapers, radio, TV, etc.," he observed. "Get better known in the community by providing speakers to various functions, etc. Consider when to hold your meetings. Many older veterans do not drive at night anymore. Have events during the year that involve families. Participate in the Tell America Program."

- After discussing these items, Director Scarlato suggested that all of these ideas be put in a letter to all of the Department Presidents and then follow up to see if the ideas are actually being floated down to the Chapters level.

- Asst. Secretary Feaster suggested you wear your KWVA cap except where it would not be appropriate.

- The next spokesman was Webmaster Jim Doppelhammer. Jim said they had two projects: Determine a method that does not penalize the Chapters but insures that Jake and Jim get the proper information that is needed from the Chapters and Departments.

"A lot of information is now being put on line that the Chapters and Departments can look at, but Jake still needs help," Doppelhammer explained. "We need to assign each Director 20 Chapters to monitor and maintain and assist Jake with gathering information."

The second project was to determine a method of having the CPAs

and accountants in one permanent location in lieu of changing them after each Presidential election. What has been discussed is to hire a professional firm, basically a bookkeeping firm, to assume that responsibility.

- President Ferris asked for a motion to allow Jim and his Committee to look a little deeper into this situation and to get some more bids. Director Brown made a motion to comply with the President's request. Director Stevens seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- Next up was spokesman Art Griffin. "All in all we had four projects," he revealed. "Number 1 was ideas for new fund-raising items. The majority decided they would like to see a car raffled off at \$25 a chance. That may happen next year, but this year the grand prize is going to be a U.S. Springfield .03 rifle donated by Mr. Price. It is a U.S. Army 1917 weapon, called the Alvin York model that York carried when he won the Medal of Honor.

"Number 2 was to determine new methods for fund raising besides raffles. We concluded that raffles are about the only way out there to rise any type of funds with the exception of what Jim's already doing getting hold via large companies in Korea donating here and there.

"Number 3 was recommending the use of profits and fund-raisers. Everyone was against scholarships. The majority wanted to use the funds for VA hospitals and needy veterans' families.

"Number 4 was advertisements, use of newspaper, posters, magnetic signs to put on your cars, KWVA National Challenge coins, neckties with Korean War Veteran embroidered on them, belt buckles, etc."

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Carmen Zeolla

- President Ferris commented that "There are a couple of things in the report that I want to investigate at this point, so we are going to hold that in abeyance until I can talk to Tilford and Carmen."

- President Ferris: "Up until now when we have our General Membership Meetings we have generally gone out to the Chapters and asked them to bid on the location for the next General Membership Meeting. Sometimes, there are no bids.

"I would like your approval to appoint a person to handle our membership meetings in the future. We are all set for this year, 2013, Washington DC and next year, 2014, Rochester, MN. So this will be for 2015. Just give me the okay to appoint someone at a later date."

Director Brown made a motion to allow the President to appoint someone to arrange for the General Membership Meetings. Director McHugh seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- President Ferris: "I failed to report to you what we did, the two VPs, myself, Charlie Price and Past President Mac Swain while you were in your breakout sessions. As far as the 5903 bill, Charlie is going to see what he can do about pushing this in a little different direction."

- Director Lawhon proposed that we advertise in The Graybeards to all of our membership to come up with ideas as to where there could be a membership meeting place. We might get some response.

- President Ferris said that he had no objection to that as long as it goes through the committee that was just approved. He added, "Let's move along, I have a couple of awards to give away right now."

- President Ferris: "First of all, I would like Art Griffith to come up here please. Most of you probably know that Art is not going to run for

Director this next term, although he is eligible. However, he has agreed to stay on as our fund-raising guru.

- "This is the President's Award, Art, and it is presented to Arthur J. Griffith, United States Army. Art, thank you so much for all your hard work.

- President Ferris: "Tom McHugh, please come forward. Tom has timed out and cannot run this year. But he is going to stay on with us with the ceremonial duties that he has had and some other duties that I have for him to do. So, I present Tom with this award for outstanding vision, dedication, and commitment of time and excellence of duties while serving in the U.S. Army."

- President Ferris: "I am going to ask Sonny Edwards to come up and give us a real quick preview of what he wants to show us."

- Sonny Edwards: "I am still getting requests from the Chapters and Departments to how to obtain the DOD certificates. Those Chapters that have done that have recruited members from that. It is still going on and I still get telephone calls.

"I did not know anything about the DOD giving certificates. It tells me some of our members do not read The Graybeards to find out what is going on. I am pleased to report that three VFW Posts in VA have had three large ceremonies of presenting DOD certificates. I want to congratulate Chaplain Ruffling for holding three ceremonies to award the certificates.

"I have issued 60 recruiting guides to different Chapters and Departments. I have a couple of extra copies I will let you have.

"In January, I appointed Dave Barrett to my committee. He lives in Florida and has made two decals to go on our vehicles. At President Ferris' request I have had a recruiting banner made.

"I share with you the recruiting results for the past 90 days. There are fourteen states that have recruited five or more members. There are 22 states that have recruited one to five new members. There are fourteen states that have recruited none. Gentlemen, this is not acceptable."

- President Ferris: "Would you please stand and put your hand on the right shoulder of the person next to you and let's sing together "God Bless America." Please remain standing and uncover."

- Second VP Aldridge: Good of the Order, Item presented would require Bylaws changes, so it was set aside until the next meeting.

- Chaplain Ruffling gave the benediction, Meeting adjourned.

Edited and submitted by Frank Cohee, KWVA National Secretary

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 \$4.00 S/H.

Minimum order is 20 doz. @ \$60 plus \$6.00 S/H.

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



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