

America's Forgotten Victory!

KOREA VETERANS

The Graybeards



Official Publication of

THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

September - October 2014 Vol. 28, No. 5



VETERANS DAY 2014
HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

The Graybeards

Official Publication of
THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION



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MAILING ADDRESS FOR CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Administrative Assistant, P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407. **MAILING ADDRESS TO SUBMIT MATERIAL / CONTACT EDITOR:** Graybeards Editor, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067. **MAILING ADDRESS OF THE KWVA:** P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407. **WEBSITE:** <http://www.kwva.org>

In loving memory of General Raymond Davis, our Life Honorary President, Deceased.

We Honor Founder William T. Norris

Editor

Arthur G. Sharp
152 Sky View Dr.,
Rocky Hill, CT 06067
Ph: 860-202-3088
sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net

Advertising Manager

Gerald W. Wadley
Finisterre Publishing Inc.
3 Black Skimmer Ct
Beaufort, SC 29907
843-521-1896
finisterre@islc.net

Publisher

Finisterre Publishing Inc.
3 Black Skimmer Ct
Beaufort, SC 29907
843-521-1896
finisterre@islc.net

Membership Office

Address Changes, Corrections, & All Membership Questions

Sheila Fritts
Membership Administrative Assistant
PO Box 407
Charleston, IL 61920-0407
Ph: 217-345-4414
Membership@kwva.org

Webmaster

Jim Doppelhammer
Double Hammer Computer Services
430 W. Lincoln Ave.
Charleston, IL 61920-7471
Ph: 217-512-9474
webmaster@kwva.org

National KWVA Headquarters

President

Larry Kinard
2108 Westchester Dr
Mansfield, TX 76063
Ph: 682-518-1040
Larry.Kinard@yahoo.com

Immediate Past President

James E. Ferris
4311 Lazybrook Circle
Liverpool, NY 13088
Ph: 315-457-1681
JimFerrisKWVA@aol.com

Sr. Advisor to Chairman of Board

William F. Mac Swain
8452 Marys Creek De
Benbrook, TX 76116-7600
Ph: 817-244-0706
BillMacSwain@charter.net

1st Vice President

Warren H Wiedhahn
13198 Centerpointe Way Ste 202
Woodbridge, VA 22193-5285
Ph: 703-590-1295
JWiedhahn@aol.com

2nd Vice President

J D Randolph LR30988
1523 Pinebluff Dr
Allen, TX 75002-1870
Ph: 972-359-2936
Randy9683@sbcglobal.net

Secretary

Frank E. Cohee, Jr.
4037 Chelsea Lane
Lakeland, FL 33809-4063
Ph: 863-859-1384
KWVAsec@gmail.com

Asst. Secretary

Jacob L. Feaster, Jr.
22731 N Hwy 329, Micanopy, FL 32667
Cell: 352-262-1845
FAX: 352-466-3493 JFeaster@kwva.org

Treasurer

Tom Gregg
PO Box 619
Tom Bean, TX 75489
Ph: 903-546-6975
Treasurer@kwva.org

Asst. Treasurer

Richard Vaughn
5403 Timber Green Dr.
Arlington, TX 76016
Ph: 817-789-6971, Cell: 817-446-1168
rpv7@sbcglobal.net

Membership Management

Jacob L. Feaster, Jr., Supervisor
(See Asst. Secretary)

Jim Doppelhammer, Data Base Develop.
(See Webmaster)

Sheila Fritts, Data Base Input
(See Address Changes, etc)

Directors

Term 2012-2015

Luther Dappen
510 W Pipestone Ave.,
Flandreau, SD 57028-1619
Ph: 605-997-2847
LutherWDappen@yahoo.com

Salvatore Scarlato

19 Torlen Ct.
Hauppauge, NY 11788
Ph: 631-724-5459 Salbalboa@verizon.net

John T "Sonny" Edwards

14370 Mill Swamp Rd.
Smithfield, VA 23430-3536
Ph: 757-357-2331
KVetEdwards@yahoo.com

Term 2013-2016

George J. Bruzgis
230 Legion Pl
Haledon, NJ 07508-1420
Ph: 973-956-8672
GBruzgis@aol.com

George S. Covel

850 County Route 61
Shushan, NY 12873-3203
Ph: 518-854-3128
georgecovel@yahoo.com

Tine P. Martin Sr.

8 Jackson Ct.
Brownsburg, IN 46112-1684
Ph: 317-852-2413, Cell: 317-435-4804
TinePMartin@yahoo.com

Thomas W. Stevens

5310 W. 122nd. Terrace
Overland Park, KS 66209-3518
Ph: 913-696-0447
StevensT@swbell.net

Term 2014-2017

Roy E. Aldridge

6544 Grand Ridge Dr.
El Paso, TX 79912
Ph: 915-581-4725
Royaldridge@sbcglobal.net

Albert H McCarthy

15 Farnum St
Worcester, MA 01602-2101
Ph: 508-277-7300
McCarthy.Albert@live.com

Thomas M McHugh

217 Seymour Rd
Hackettstown, NJ 07840-1001
Ph: 908-852-1964
TMcHugh@msn.com

L. T. Whitmore

5625 Canterbury Ln
Suffolk, VA 23435-1605
Ph: 757-483-9784
TWhit35@gmail.com

Appointed/Assigned Staff

Judge Advocate

William B. Burns
105 Emann Dr, Camillus
NY 13031-2077
Ph: 315-487-1750, BillBurnsKWVA@aol.com

National Legislative Director

Charlie Price
126 Dirksen Dr
Debarry, FL 32713-3837
Ph: 407-221-6949, CharleyPrice@aol.com

National Legislative Assistant

Roy J. Burkhart
PO Box 204
Willow, AK 99688
Ph: 907-841-9162
RoyBurkhart702@gmail.com

National Legislative Field Man

Donald R. Duffy
1901 N Mercer St
New Castle, PA 16105-2845
Ph: 724-654-1961, PRGDUF@verizon.net

National Veterans Service Officer (VSO)

Arthur E. Hills
4300 Esta. Lee Ave., Killeen, TX 76549
Ph: 254-526-6567, AHills@hot.rr.com

National VAVS Director

J. D. Randolph
1523 Pinebluff Dr., Allen, TX 75002-1870
Ph: 972-359-2936, Randy9683@sbcglobal.net

POW/MIA Coordinator

David W Mills P039217
84 Stephania Dr
Middletown, PA 17057-4209
Ph: 717-388-1007
dwnmw75wg76@comcast.net

KWVA Liaison to Canadian KVA:

Norman C Champagne
7614 Susan Dr
Syracuse, NY 13212-1224
Ph: 315-452-0421
NormanChampagne@gmail.com

KWVA Liaison to South Korea

John Y. Lee
PO Box 1827
Vienna, VA 22183-1827
Ph: 703-827-0957, ajyleelawlogos@yahoo.com

KWVA Liaison to Korean War Nat'l Museum

Robert Mitchell
3021 Rosefield Dr.
Houston, TX 77080-2609
Ph: 713-939-8880

KWVA Liaison to Korean-American Assn.

Jongwoo Han
310 Summerhaven Dr N
East Syracuse, NY 13057-3127
Ph: 315-637-9836, JongHan@syr.edu

Chaplain Emeritus

Robert Personette
7136 Oak Leaf Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95409
Ph: 707-539-7276, PamP@vom.com

Chaplain Emeritus

Leonard F. Stegman
4707 Broadway St. Apt 123
San Antonio, TX 78209-6202
Ph: 210-822-4041 Fax: 210-805-9127
Hallo6@aol.com

National Chaplain

Leo G. Ruffing
3500 Doerr Rd., Portsmouth, VA 23703-3183
Ph: 757-484-8299, LRuffing1@cox.net

KWVA Liaison to Washington, DC

Warren Wiedhahn
13198 Centerpointe Way, Suite 202
Woodbridge, VA 22193-5285
Ph: 703-590-1295, JWiedhahn@aol.com

KWVA Committees

Budget/Finance Committee

Salvatore "Sal" Scarlato, Chairman
(See Directors)

Bylaws Committee

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(See Directors)

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John T. "Sonny" Edwards, Chairman
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See detailed list of committees at WWW.KWVA.ORG



From the President

Larry Kinard

Fall is in the air, even here in Texas. Fortunately, this summer has been one of the milder ones for this part of the country. Our weather people are saying it is the best in at least a decade for Texas mild temperatures.

We are still way behind on rainfall, however, and much of the state is still in a drought.

I am sure most of you remember my concerns in previous letters about trying to get our planning together for the July event this year. We were a little later than is comfortable getting plans in place for such an event, but it actually turned out to be among the better ones we have had in the last few years. I must give great appreciation and credit to the few people who worked so hard and managed to get everything put together in a very short time. Warren Wiedhahn, Jim Fisher, Ric Dean and "Tiger" Kang put in some long hours to get everything in order for a successful program.

With the U.S. Postal Service involved and their unveiling of the new Korean War Medal of Honor postage stamp, we had a lot of additional coordination that was required. But, I thought that particular ceremony added a great deal to a very good day.

The ROK Embassy hosted a great luncheon at the Sheraton Hotel and provided transportation for several of the chapters in the nearby areas to bring the attendance to around 300 veterans and families. Thanks to our friends at the Embassy for that support.

We have already started on the planning for the big events in July, 2015 in Washington, D.C., when we will have our annual Board and Membership Meeting and also celebrate the 30th anniversary of the founding of the KWVA and the 20th Anniversary of our Memorial. Mark it on your calendars as a significant event for all Korean veterans. We would like to see as many there as possible.

At the same time we were there in July, Dr. Jongwoo Han was holding his 2nd Convention of the KWV Youth Corps. The Youth Group consisted of around seventy of our descendants from the United Nation countries around the world who were there to find out more about Dr. Han's program and to learn interviewing techniques to enable them to interview Korean War veterans back in their countries. Several of us took the time to sit in with the young people to get acquainted and help them practice their interview skills.

Several high school history teachers were also involved this year and came away very enthused about the process and what they can do in helping their own students find out more about the Korean War. I am very proud of Dr. Han and what he is doing for Korean veterans. His program is going to be a strong force in helping us maintain our legacy.

Also in attendance at these meetings were former National Assembly Chairman Kim, Jung Hoon and MPVA Vice Minister Choi, Wan Keun. It was my pleasure to have an opportunity to speak with both of them at length. Chairman Kim presented six

We have already started on the planning for the big events in July, 2015 in Washington, D.C., when we will have our annual Board and Membership Meeting...

scholarships of \$1,000 each to members of the Youth Corps during the luncheon on Saturday. This is something he plans to continue when he gets his Foundation in place.

Through this Foundation, which is funded by several large companies in Korea, Chairman Kim feels he can be of great assistance to American Korean War veterans, their families, and descendants. Several of us had an opportunity to meet with him while he was here and discuss some of the details on how the KWVA can help him. We made progress, but we have much work to do in the future to make this project a reality.

We had a third program on that Saturday evening on the steps near the Lincoln Memorial. Many of you are familiar with Hannah Kim, the young Korean lady who has conducted a candle light ceremony every year to "Remember 727." This year she had an extensive program of speakers and performers with approximately 300 people in attendance. (See the story and pictures on p. 50.) Col. Bill Weber and I were included in the list of speakers as representatives of the KWVA to tell about the importance of remembering the date.

The program concluded with a candle light wreath laying ceremony at our Memorial. Albert McCarthy, Sal Scarlato and Norm Champagne were there as part of the Youth Corps Convention and Roy Aldridge, National Tell America Chairman, and Frank Cohee, National Secretary, as Board representatives.

It is sad that on August 20th we lost another of our former KWVA Directors, James Fountain. Jim was a National Director for the KWVA 2006-2013 and a very strong supporter of Korean veterans. He and Frank Williams, who is still very active, have provided invaluable leadership to the National Board and in Missouri. We will miss Jim and his friendship and congeniality.

Another of our beloved members, National Chaplain Emeritus Father Leonard Stegman, Silver Star recipient during the Korean War, passed away on August 12th in San Antonio. He served as National Chaplain during President Lou Dechert's term of office 2005-2007 and has been Chaplain Emeritus since that time.

Past Presidents Bill Mac Swain and Lou Dechert and I attended his funeral at the Ft. Sam Houston Cemetery on August 21st. His support and guidance over the years have been very meaningful to many of us. His presence, too, will be sorely missed.

By the time you read this, the 2014 Annual Membership meeting in Rochester, Minnesota will have concluded. Hopefully, several new initiatives for the KWVA will be in effect. I am looking forward to our future and the good things we can accomplish.

Continued on page 11

COVER: The official 2014 Veterans Day poster provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (modified to fit).



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From the Secretary

Wants Korean War Veterans Signs on Major Highways

I recently received this letter that will be discussed at the forthcoming Board Meeting on October 16, 2014. However, I would like to hear from the Chapters and Departments about Mr. White's proposal.

Do you think it is a good idea? Has your Chapter or Department ever been involved in anything like he is proposing? Do you think you could get support from one of your Congressmen? If you are located in the states that Mr. White mentions, do you already have a similar sign on your major highways?

"Dear Mr. Cohee,

Attached is a photo of a sign in West Virginia marking the 38th parallel and honoring Korean War veterans. It is what you might call a "sister sign" to the identical sign I saw on my way through West Virginia last Sunday on a different highway. On the Internet I have also found photos of a different, smaller, sign in Missouri, which I am sending to you in the bottom link in this message. I am also sending you in this message some links which might be useful, including some items from the West Virginia Legislature showing the bill which authorized the signs in that state.



38th Parallel sign in West Virginia

The 38th Parallel crosses eleven states, along with a city from that state which is close to the 38th parallel. From west to east, the states are California, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, West Virginia, and Virginia. A city near the 38th Parallel is listed in parentheses after the state name in the alphabetical list: California (Point Reyes and Stockton); Colorado (Telluride); Illinois (Mount Vernon); Indiana (Evansville); Kansas (Dodge City); Kentucky (Louisville); Missouri (Rolla); Nevada (Tonopah); Utah (Moab); Virginia (Charlottesville); and West Virginia (Charleston). I have listed the nearby cities in the hope that the VFW posts [or KWVA chapters] there might be contacted and then become involved in the process.



Frank Cohee

It is possible that some states might deserve signs on more than one highway, including some locations which might be far away from the nearest city or town. I would love to see signs on all Interstate highways where the 38th Parallel is crossed, along with other significant U.S. or state highways, or even some other roads.

http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WMAADZW_38th_Parallel_North_Oak_Hill_WV Link to Internet page of interest

http://www.legis.state.wv.us/Bill_Status/Resolution_History.cfm?year=2010&sessiontype=RS&input4=56&billtype=cr&houseorig=h&btype=res

Bill status within the West Virginia Legislature

http://www.legis.state.wv.us/Bill_Status/bills_text.cfm?billdoc=hc r56%20intr.htm&yr=2010&sesstype=RS&i=56&houseorig=h&billtype=cr

Location of signs in West Virginia, with legislative resolution directly below

<http://web.mst.edu/~mstauter/highway/> Link to photos near Rolla, Missouri. Personally, I think the West Virginia sign is more effective.

Sincerely yours,

James (Jim) White, 2111 Miller Court
Prosser, WA 99350, (509) 786-0054 (Home)
(509) 781-1789 (Cell)
Jamessusanannajamie@embarqmail.com

Group Exemption Letter

On August 29th, 2014 the Association finally received a response from the IRS recognizing certain of our subordinates (Chapters) as exempt from federal income tax under section 501 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code as organizations of the type described in Section 501(c)(19). The IRS letter was four pages long, included a lot of unnecessary detail, was hard to understand, and was certainly too long to include in *The Graybeards*. Fortunately, the KWVA Treasurer has reviewed the letter and has put his review in writing.

Tom Gregg's Letter:

September 4, 2014

To: Larry Kinard

From: Tom Gregg, Treasurer

Subject: Review of Blanket exemption letter from IRS dated August 29, 2014

1. IRS has approved a group exemption letter making any KWVA chapter listed application for federal income tax exemption under IRS 501 (c) 19.
2. The IRS Group Exemption Letter has approved the St. Charles County (Missouri) Chapter 186 tax exemption under IRS 501 (c) 19 since the chapter was listed in the request.

3. The IRS determination is based on the fact that at least 75 percent of each chapter's members are past or present members of the Armed Forces of the United States, as defined in Code section 501 (c)(19).

4. Individuals can deduct as charitable contributions made to the chapters under IRC 170(c)(4)) [programs for religious, charitable, scientific, literacy, or educational purposes; a much more favorable itemized deduction"] as a war veteran organization as long as at the time of donations 90% of the members of the chapter qualify as "war veterans."

5. If any chapter has gross revenue of \$50,000 or more in a year, that chapter will file its own IRS 990.

6. KWVA must continue to file an IRS 990 annually.

7. Any chapter organization that has an EIN may wish to be included in this blanket determination if KWVA files annually on or before 9/30 a list of the chapters to be included in the blanket exemption letter.

8. Chapters will no longer have to file IRS 1023 to obtain federal tax exemption status under IRS 501 (c) 19 if the chapter wants to be included in the group exemption.

9. KWVA should amend its bylaws to discuss the IRS Group Exemption Letter dated 8-29- 2014 authorizing chapters to submit necessary documents to the KWVA Treasurer to be included in the annual list of chapters which desire to be included in the group exemption letter. Documentation should be submitted to the Treasurer on or before July 15 each year.

10. A letter to IRS be submitted NLT September 30 of each year listing appropriate information for any chapters that have been approved by the KWVA President to be included in the group exemption letter.

11. If a chapter included in the group letter subsequently doesn't meet the membership requirements because of declining membership [at least 75 percent of each chapter's members are past or present members of the Armed Forces of the United States], the chapter must notify the KWVA Treasurer so that the chapter can be discontinued under the group exemption. When a chapter fails to meet the membership requirements, it is obligated to notify its parent and the IRS that it does not qualify for tax exemption and should not be listed in the group exemption roster. The chapter may continue to maintain its affiliation with the KWVA, but it may not maintain exemption as a subordinate post under the parent's group ruling.

12. As long as the KWVA continues to satisfy the legal requirements for its exemption, neither adding new posts nor dropping non-qualifying posts from the group ruling will affect that status.

Korea Reborn

I have received a lot more favorable comments about the book *Korea Reborn*, but I have used up my space. Maybe I will include them in the next issue. I only have about ten copies left. If you want one, contact me. Do not be left out of receiving this fantastic book.

Frank Cohee, Your National Secretary

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, 430 W. Lincoln Ave., Charleston, IL 61920 or Treasurer@KWVA.org. 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.

CONTRIBUTOR	LOCATION	CONTRIBUTOR	LOCATION
GRAYBEARDS DONATIONS		KWVA DONATIONS	
Raymond Bosch	OH	William E. Glennon	IL
Abel S. Cravalho	HI	Robert F. Fitts	IL
IMO-Fred Ogasarawa		James M. Koenighain	IA
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The Most Misunderstood Job In The KWVA

The role of *The Graybeards* (GB) editor is sometimes misunderstood. Example 1: a letter I received recently. The writer wrote:

"Some time ago, according to the newspapers, a civilian on a re-visit trip to South Korea was taken prisoner by the North Koreans. As I remember, the tour was over and he was on the plane to return to the U.S. The North Koreans boarded the plane and took him prisoner, while in S. Korea.

"I've been waiting for *The Graybeards* to feature a story about that incident. I'm quite shocked that they could do that without any opposition at all. I am also disappointed that *The Graybeards* didn't follow up on that incident and tell the rest of us Graybeards the complete story, especially since he was on a re-visiting tour backed by the South Korean government and even backed by *The Graybeards*. Too many Americans are prisoners in foreign countries—even Mexico took a Marine prisoner recently. Comment please."

Okay, I will comment. There are valid reasons for our editorial staff's lack of involvement in political issues like those mentioned above. The primary reason is that the staff comprises one person, the editor. If the editor assigned the rest of the staff, i.e., himself, to delve into the details of foreign affairs there wouldn't be anybody else left to put together the GB.

There are professional journalists and news agencies that handle foreign affairs quite capably. They do their jobs so well, in fact, that we have an unspoken agreement: our editorial staff won't get involved in their attempts to report on global events and they won't interfere in the production of GB. That agreement has worked so far. We want to keep it that way. That raises a question in readers' minds, then: if we don't strive to get the "complete story" about international events, what do we do? Here is a simplified explanation.

Our mission at GB is to present readers with the most recent KWVA National business and chapter news and activities and the photos and art work that complement them. Those are our top priorities. Then, we present stories and items of interest submitted. If we have left over space (which, thankfully, we never do), we include book reviews, reunion notices, advertisements, public service announcements, etc. If we can't fit them in, how can we possibly find room for political stories of global interest?

It is the editor's responsibility to choose which of the many items and complementary photos and art work submitted are included in the magazine. Then, he edits them for clarity, consistency, conciseness, and correctness and saves the files. That search for correctness (accuracy) is important. We do not want to print anything that invites a lawsuit for libel (written slander).

The editor selects the photos and writes captions for them. There is some research and fact checking involved in the process, which is limited to the small size of the staff (numerically, not weight wise). Once everything is assembled he forwards it to the publisher, who lays out the magazine. The draft is reviewed by several KWVA administrators and returned to the editor for one final review. It is a time consuming, labor intensive process. Okay, what does that have to do with the letter above?

Note that "the editor" and "he" are both singular. That is—and I repeat—

because the GB editorial staff consists of one person. Aside from that, our charter inhibits us from getting involved in political issues. If you want a federal charter, you have to pay the proverbial piper. Let's face it: the government is already pretty involved in the KWVA's activities and financial dealings. We do not want any more government scrutiny.

Want an idea of how entwined we are in government oversight? Read the Treasurer's explanation on p. 5 of a recent IRS ruling re chapters' finances. Consider also that the U.S. Postal Service monitors how much advertising we include in GB. Read the item in "Feedback" on p. 65 regarding the storage and use of old rifles for military funerals, in which some KWVA chapters and members participate. One sentence stands out: "Furthermore, *we are both familiar with the vagaries of all the documentation required by the U.S. Government which is meant to attest such articles are held in full compliance with federal statutes.*" (I added the italics.) Enough?

The bottom line is this: we do not have the resources to uncover the "complete story" about global affairs. Nor do we want to get involved in them lest we attract more government attention than we already experience. Our staff will stay busy putting GB together. That's a big enough job as it is.

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Call For Elections

The membership is hereby notified that elections will be held in the spring of 2015 for the following National Korean War Veterans Association, INC. (KWVA) Directors: Four (4) Directors for the years 2015-2018.

No later than December 15, 2014, 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, Albert H. McCarthy, 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 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.

8) Submit a copy of your DD Form 214 for verification by the Election Committee.

D. Send the above items by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Elections Committee Chairman, to arrive not later than December 15, 2014. Address application packages and questions to: Albert H. McCarthy, 15 Farnum St., Worcester, MA, 01602, 508-277-7300, McCarthy.Albert@live.com

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

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 2015 edition. The ballots are also published in that edition.
- Members cast their ballots by May 10, 2015 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 seventeen Board Members and to each of the candidates for office, regardless of whether they are a winner or loser.

Frank Cohee, National Secretary

Please support our advertisers

Hopefully, our readers will buy their products so we can retain our current advertisers, attract new advertisers, and use the revenues to underwrite the costs of producing *The Graybeards*.

PRESIDENT from page 3

Mark your calendars for July 2015 for another big program in Washington D.C. for the Remembrance of the 62nd Anniversary of the cease fire and the significant anniversaries of the founding of the KWVA and the dedication of the Korean War Memorial on the mall.

When you get a chance, Tell America about the "Forgotten Victory."

Note: Elsewhere in this issue, Secretary Frank Cohee provides detail on the umbrella tax exemption letter for KWVA chapters that has just been issued by the IRS. After requests from several of our chapters, we applied for this determination letter in December 2013 and received it in September 2014. Our thanks to member Elmer Austermann of Missouri Chapter 186 for his expert advice and assistance in making this possible.

Larry Kinard, President

THE GRAYBEARDS DEADLINES

Articles to be published in the *The Graybeards* must be received by 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

'The Destiny of Man is to Unite, Not Divide'

Since the most recent issue of *The Graybeards* was distributed, there have been many positive actions and recommendations. I am sure you have looked at the new recruiting Tee Shirt that Bill Russell designed and has made available to order to use in recruiting. (See the photo below.) I have purchased one myself and am wearing it when recruiting.



The shirt designed by William Russell

The National Commander of the Native American Korean War Veterans Association met our President in Washington D.C. and asked about their members joining us. I and Steve Szekely have contacted him and the material that

As of 9-12-13, 770 new members joined. This date this year, 599 new members joined. We have recruited 171 fewer members this year than last year. Active members last year on this date numbered 14,720. This year to date we have 14,694. This is 26 fewer than last year, but we are closing the gap.

he needs has been sent to him. We welcome them to join us.

The last reunion of the Korea Ex-POW Association was held in KY in July. I have talked to David Mills, who is also a member, to tell them that they are most welcome to join us at any of our functions.

I recently read an article on our website under *Korea War News* about a chapter in Cadillac, MI that is seeking Korean War veterans and Korea Defense veterans to join them. I talked to Ken Amlotte, the Commander, and told him it was a great idea and how much I enjoyed reading it. The local newspaper did a great job.

He told me he had calls the day it was issued to ask about joining. This is something each of us should do. He also told me what each of us have heard before: "I did not know that there was a KWVA."

I received an e-mail from William Balabanow in Lancaster, PA on August 1st seeking information on how to form a chapter in that area. Steve Szekely and I have mailed him the material he needs. I

just got an e-mail from him that he had their initial meeting with 23 potential members in attendance. He will have the next meeting the 1st of October to elect officers and start the charter process.

I received this past month two great recommendations for recruiting from Director Al McCarthy and Department Commander Mike Glazzy of CA. These recommendations will be discussed at our meeting in Minnesota on ways to implement them. I thank them both for their support.

The Departments of CA, FL, and TX have recruited 20 plus members during the past ninety days. I thank these and the other Departments and Chapters that are recruiting Korean War and Korea Defense veterans. The report here will show the need for each of us to make recruiting a priority.

As of 9-12-13, 770 new members joined. This date this year, 599 new members joined. We have recruited 171 fewer members this year than last year. Active members last year on this date numbered 14,720. This year to date we have 14,694. This is 26 fewer than last year, but we are closing the gap.

The number of deceased members reported this year to date is 1,253. May they rest in peace. There have been about 500 reinstated members from The Harris Directory. This has helped increase our active members count.

I thank the Membership & Recruiting committee for their support to make the KWVA stronger. We need to unite all those who have served in Korea from 1946 to the present.

It is indeed an honor for me to be a member of this great organization and to be a member of President Kinard's team.

John T. "Sonny" Edwards
National Director and
Chairman of Membership & Recruiting

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Korean War Ex POW Association Dissolved

By Gene Peeples

Ninety-five members of the Korean War Ex-POW Association gathered with their families on August 3rd at the Brown Hotel in Louisville, KY to put an official closure to their chapter, which had been active for 38 years.

President William Norwood said, "We want to keep on meeting, but the majority of the members do not have the strength to continue doing so," as he declared the dissolving of the association. On average, the members of the association are 85 years old.

The association was founded through Norwood's leadership. He experienced POW camp life for 2 years and 6 months during the Korean War. The association's purposes were to comfort the comrades who had overcome the hell-like prison camps and to pay tribute to those who were not able to return, as well as to their families.

The membership had once reached 1,200 people, but the association closed its chapter with only 95 in attendance. Most of the U.S. Ex-POWs had been captured in the battles of the 38th Parallel, Jangjin Reservoir, Hoengsoeng Massacre, and Unsan. They were dispersed among six POW camps under Chinese control and at the Apex, which was under North Korean authority.

Doctor Jongwoo Han, President of the Korean War Legacy Foundation, who conducted forty interviews of Ex-POWs in a row, said that, "Most of the POWs were barefoot or were given very poor civilian shoes to wear because their combat boots had been taken away from them. They had to march through mountain after mountain and the wilderness of North Korea in this state during the winter of 1950, which is remembered as their coldest winter. That's why the march into these prison camps felt like marching into hell. Their lives at the prison camps were a series of ordeals beyond our imagination."

The Ex-POWs told Dr. Han in the interviews with him that around fifteen U.S. soldiers had to sleep on their sides in a small room without any heating. One Ex-POW remembered that he was bleeding from his back because he had been wounded by shrapnel. But, because of the coldness, the blood froze and the bleeding stopped.

Another Ex-POW said that one of the most difficult things to deal with was the lice. It was in their hair and all over their bodies. As soon as they crossed the 38th Parallel and entered Panmunjom right after the armistice, he says, "They were welcomed with DDT" in order to de-lice.

In addition to the physical torment they had to go through, the POWs had experienced indoctrination (brainwashing) by the Chinese authorities. Every day, around four hours of indoctrination was conducted. Salvatore Conte (85) was punished by being put into a wooden box for eight months. The box was only big enough for one person to sit or lie in it with his legs folded. He had been punished this severely because he previously defied the indoctrination and Chinese manipulation. Derek Conte, the son of Mr. Conte, made a model of the wooden box to scale of its actual size.

In the disbanding ceremony, two families of two Ex-POWs who were captured at the infamous Byeokdong Prison Camp (Prison Camp 5) attended together. Robert Hammelsmith (87) and Robert Ginn (81) were kept in Camp 5 for two years and were survivors of what was known as the Death Hospital. They were the only two known of the 60 POWs to have survived after being admitted to the facility. According to them, the 60 POWs went through this "hospital" not to be saved, but to be officially declared as dead.

Even though the Korean War Ex-POW Association disbanded, all the descendants of the Ex-POWs came to share an idea for an unofficial descendant gathering, which would begin next year. President Han was moved to see the Ex-POWs watching their 3rd and 4th generations of descendants dancing together.

The Korean War Legacy Foundation is planning to invite the descendants of the Ex-POWs to the third convention of the KWW Youth Corps in 2015, which will celebrate the 65th Anniversary of the breakout of the Korean War.

Reach Gene Peeples at 8048 Rose Terr. N, Largo, FL 33777, 813-397-8801

Yonkers, NY

Street Named After Veteran

Cpl Seymour Lehman fought in what has come to be known as the "Forgotten War" (better known as the Korean War), but his legacy of selfless service will forever be remembered now that a portion of Gateway Road has been designated "Corporal Seymour Lehman Way." A dedication ceremony for the new route was held after the passage of a bill sponsored by Council Minority Leader Michael Sabatino.



The sign designating Corporal Seymour Lehman Way

"More than 1.7 million fought during the Korean War and more than 54,000 gave their lives in defense of our nation, and the least we, elected officials, can do is pay tribute to the heroes of that generation who answered the call of freedom like Cpl Seymour Lehman," Sabatino said. "In addition to his exemplary military service record, he earned an outstanding record of public service to the City of Yonkers on behalf of his fellow veterans, including service to the Yonkers Central Committee of Veterans Organizations as treasurer for 10 years."

Corporal Seymour Lehman Way was passed unanimously by the council and will be located near 50 Gateway Road between North Broadway and DeHaven Drive. The route was officially dedicated during an unveiling ceremony with the family of the corporal. The street renaming occurs in the 50th year since the Military Agreement of July 27, 1953, which ended three bitter years of warfare.

The late Lehman was born in 1932 and attended Peter Stuyvesant High School in Manhattan. Drafted into the Army in 1952, he returned in 1954 to continue his life. He worked for his father, who owned several supermarkets, and attended the New York Universities' evening program, earning a bachelor of science degree in finance. In 1967-68, he served as president of the Pioneer Food Merchants Association, during which period he administered a special program to help senior citizens, through the Pioneer stores.

Lehman continued with his relentless energies to help those who defended our freedoms. In 1994, he attended the first meeting of local Korean War veterans group, whereby he left the meeting as the first president of the KWVA Chapter 91.

"Seymour Lehman was a tireless advocate for his fellow veterans' needs and rights," said Sabatino. "He volunteered his leadership skills in numerous veterans organizations, including Empire VFW Post 375, Disabled American Veterans, Yonkers Jewish War Veterans Post 68 and the Hudson Valley Veterans Coalition, where he sought mandatory funding for veterans' health care."

Lehman is survived by his wife, Rosalind, the love of his life for the past 45 years; and their children, Ilene and Elliot, who blessed them with five grandchildren

Lehman was a recipient of the Korean Service Medal with two Bronze Stars, Combat Infantry Badge, United Nations Korean Service Medal, Korean Presidential Unit Citation, National Defense Service Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, Conspicuous Service Cross, ROK Korean Service Medal, New York State Korean Defense Medal, 50th Anniversary Korean War Medal, Korean Defense Commemorative Medal, New York State Conspicuous Overseas Medal, Korean Defense Anniversary Medal, New York State Conspicuous Service Medal, Westchester County Overseas medal, and the Presidential Unit Citation.

*Irving Breitbart, 3478 Munson Pl.,
Yorktown Heights, NY 10598,
914-245-6410
EagleATCI@aol.com*

Shipping Out To The Unknown

As they boarded the ship, our hero, a young man of nineteen years, full of life, with music and dance in his mind, realized that the last thing he wanted to consider was to travel to foreign places that could put his life in mortal danger.

The certified letter had arrived at his sister's house on a Friday. His sister called to tell him of its arrival. He read it and promised to go to the U.S. Army Headquarters in San Francisco as soon as he could. He showed up the following Monday; that was the end of the life he had known until then. By that evening, our hero was in Fort Ord, Seaside, CA.

The days and nights went by very slowly, and it brought him fear of what's to come. He was not alone; his fellow warriors were all full of dread for the future. They tried comforting one another saying they shall be okay!

They divided their next three months of training between Camp McCoy, WI and Fort Lewis, Seattle, WA before they faced off with hell. It was early September 1951 when about 4,000 troops boarded the Marine Phoenix (T-AP-195) in Seattle and headed toward Korea via Japan.

Sailing across the Pacific Ocean was not easy for anyone. Almost every one of the Soldiers got motion sickness, which created a horrible stench all over the ship.

After arriving in Japan and receiving new equipment and clothing, our valiant Soldiers proceeded to their destination: Inchon, Korea. This part of the sail lasted about 24 hours. As the ship floated across the Sea of Japan and the China Sea, flares of colored lights illuminated the sky. All cigarettes were extinguished, and all lights were turned off at night for safety. The Soldiers heard explosions in the air and felt vibrations inside their bodies. These were the resonances of bombs and explosives in the distance. Nevertheless, the ship kept sailing!

The brilliance in the sky was blinding! The sounds grew louder and louder until the Soldiers did not want to listen. But each man felt mesmerized while observing the spectacular show in the sky.

Sailing across the Pacific Ocean was not easy for anyone. Almost every one of the Soldiers got motion sickness, which created a horrible stench all over the ship.

Marine Phoenix kept going towards its goal! There was no stopping or turning back! The silence among the men was scary. The mood aboard ship was tense, to say the least. Every Soldier was trembling with anticipation. Nervousness and flared tempers were abundant. Yet, each one was the strongest warrior. Tough, Army tough—and ready to face the enemy of the people.

Finally, they arrived! The date was September 3, 1951. All 4,000 men disembarked and were ready to go. Our hero was among them, as part of the 2nd Infantry Division. He witnessed and suffered the deaths of many of his colleagues and best friends; he also lost the vision of his left eye. He spent nine months in heavy war and, like many of his surviving fellow veterans, he cried at the thought or mention of what they all had endured.

They live by the remembrance that "Freedom Is Not Free," so let's cherish it. Our hero's name is (was) Manuel Amador Cisneros, Corporal, Veteran of Foreign Wars, and U.S. Army.

NOTE: Our hero, Corporal Manuel A. Cisneros, passed away in the comfort of his home in San Pablo, CA. He was diagnosed with lung cancer and died within three months. His wife, Rosalina, took excellent care of him. Manuel was laid to rest August 12, 2014 at the Sacramento National Cemetery in Dixon, CA. Rest in Peace, Manuel.

*Rosalina Contreras-Cisneros, rosali-
na@ix.netcom.com*

Chaplain Emeritus Fr. Leonard Stegman Passes

Army Chaplain Fr. Leonard F. Stegman (CH. COL. US Army, Ret.) went to be with his Lord on Tuesday, August 12, 2014, while at Brooke Army Medical Center, San Antonio TX at 11PM as end of day TAPS was sounded for the facility. He died at age 97.

After ordination [in 1943], Father Stegman was assigned to parish and youth work in Michigan and Wisconsin. He entered the U.S. Army Reserve in 1948 and later served as chaplain of the Wisconsin Army National Guard.

In April 1950, Chaplain Stegman activated as an Army chaplain and fulfilled assignments at several stateside Army posts and stations. He served in Japan and Korea during 1950-1951 and in Europe for six years.

Chaplain Stegman served in both the Korean and Vietnam wars. His duties at every level of the Army included assignments at 3rd Infantry Division; U. S. Army Air Defense Command, U. S. Army Vietnam; 3rd Army; Headquarters, Forces Command; and U. S. Army Materiel Command. He is a graduate of the Army Command and Staff College and the Army War College.

Chaplain Stegman retired in the grade of Colonel on May 31, 1977. His awards and decorations include two Silver Stars, Purple Heart, three Legions of Merit, Bronze Star, Korean Distinguished Unit Citation, German and Japanese occupation medals, Korean Service Medal (with



Fr. Leonard Stegman

four battle stars), United Nations medal for service in Korea, and two American defense ribbons.

After retiring from the Army in 1977, Father Stegman remained in the Washington, D.C. area and ministered energetically in both civilian and military parishes. In 1988, he moved to San Antonio, Texas. There he continued a three-state supervision of World Wide Marriage Encounter as well as parish ministry in local churches. He participated extensively in local, state, and nation-

al Veterans Service Organizations, including the Military Order of the Purple Heart and the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA). He served as National Chaplain for KWVA from Sept 2005 to June 2007 and National Chaplain for MOPH from August 2004 to August 2006.

During his service in San Antonio, Father Stegman celebrated the Mass for the Korean community and was instrumental in obtaining a native Korean pastor for the congregation as they began to establish and build their Korean parish. Father Stegman also supported Deacon Philip Kim in his response to the call and to his ordination to priesthood.

71 Years a Priest, "Father Len" served the military community by celebrating the Mass at Randolph Air Force Base, Fort Sam Houston and Lackland Air Force Base. He served as Chaplain Emeritus of both the Military Order of the Purple Heart and the Korean War Veterans Association. In the civilian community, he ministered to the local congregations at St. Monica's and St. Pius X in the diocese of San Antonio, Texas and celebrated daily Mass at the Incarnate Word Village Community.

He was the recipient of the David E. White Lifetime Achievement Award from the Military Chaplains of America. The award recognized that chaplain who best personifies by spirit and acts, the concept of "Chaplain for Life."



Fr. Stegman of the 15th Inf. Regt., 3rd Inf. Div., celebrates Mass on top of a Jeep hood in July 1951

Now Hear This:

All comments concerning, or material for publication, in *The Graybeards* should be sent to Art Sharp, Editor, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or emailed to: sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net

Earlier this year nine Korean War service members were awarded the Medal of Honor belatedly. Here is the third citation in that series.

The President of the United States in the name of The Congress takes Pride in presenting the Medal of Honor (Posthumously)

to

NEGRON, JUAN E.

Rank and organization: Sergeant, U.S. Army, Company L, 65th Infantry Regiment, 3d Infantry Division.

Place and date: Kalma-Eri, Korea, 28 April 1951.

Entered service at: San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Born: 26 September 1929, Corozal, Puerto Rico.

Citation:

For acts of gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a member of Company L, 65th Infantry Regiment, 3d Infantry Division during combat operations against an armed enemy in Kalma-Eri, Korea on 28 April 1951. That afternoon, Sergeant Negron

MOH Citations



JUAN E. NEGRON, MOH

took up the most vulnerable position on his company's exposed right flank after an enemy force had overrun a section of the line. When notified that elements of his company were withdrawing, Sergeant Negron refused to leave his exposed position, instead delivering withering fire at hostile troops who had broken through a road block. When the hostile troops approached his position, Sergeant Negron accurately hurled hand grenades at short range, halting their attack. Sergeant Negron held the position throughout the night while friendly forces organized and launched a counterattack. The next morning, after the enemy had been repulsed, friendly forces relieved Sergeant Negron and found the bodies of fifteen enemy soldiers surrounding his position. Sergeant Negron's extraordinary heroism and selflessness above and beyond the call of duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

The Marine Officers Reunion Association Wants You!

LOS ANGELES, July 8, 2014 – Last year, the USMC All Korean SBC Classmates Reunion committee for the first time in its history invited all 27 Korean era SBCs to their 2013 reunion in San Antonio, Texas. That committee recently launched the Marine Officers Reunion Association. Their mission is to expand their base even further to include all USMC officers commissioned 50 or more years ago.

Previously, eligibility was only open to those commissioned between 1950 and 1954. Now officers commissioned between 1950 and 1964 qualify. Each year, as new classes reach their 50th anniversary, those officers will be eligible to join, thus ensuring future reunions.

"Most SBCs and TBSs have never had a reunion," says Marine Officers Reunion Association co-chair John Featherstone. "We're changing that, ensuring that as many people as possible have an opportunity to reconnect. We're asking for everyone to please help spread the word so we can reach as many folks as possible."

He adds, "Our motto says it all – No Marine officer left behind for reunions."

All Marine Corps Officers commissioned between 1950 and

1964 are urged to become a member of the Marine Officers Reunion Association and contact Bob Lukeman at jrlukeman@aol.com, 405-842-3601, or John Featherstone at johnf9375@aol.com, 310-833-2190 as early as possible, since planning of the next reunion is happening now.

About The Marine Officers Reunion Association

Formed in May, 2014, the Marine Officers Reunion Association was created in order to ensure future reunions by expanding its membership. Its founding members represent the 15th Special Basic Course who attended the Basic Course July-December 1952. That class of 550 has held seven reunions since 2002.

The number of reunion attendees has steadily declined due to deaths, physical ailments, care taker responsibilities, travel distance, etc. A majority of the remaining 12,000 officers commissioned during the Korean Era (1950-1954) have never had a reunion and have lost contact with the Marine Corps. It's the Marine Officers Reunion Association's mission to reach out and provide all Marine officers an opportunity to reconnect with the Marine Corps and renew old USMC friendships.

DoF President Testifies Before Congress

By Rego Barnett

Robert McGuire, a 79-year-old KWVA member from the Daytona, FL area, and President of the Department of Florida, testified at a June 12th hearing in Washington D.C. regarding VA problems. He told the bipartisan Florida Congressional delegation who held the special hearing that he uses the VA system for some, but not all, of his care. He also uses Medicare and private doctors for still more. Altogether, he feels he has excellent care, but not necessarily because the VA provides part of it.

“My message to Congress was brief and concise,” he told *The Graybeards*. “Let all service connected disabled veterans use the local doctors or hospitals as Medicare patients do. Give them the full resources of the VA system as well, when medically necessary. I use the VA, local doctors, local hospitals, local imaging, and local diagnostic testing because I am a Medicare plus Humana supplement member.

“My glasses, teeth, hearing aids, and other parts that are replaceable came from the VA. When I have cardiovascular, PAD, COPD, or other urgent medical problems, I see my private doctor the same day or go to the hospital. Why can’t a 27-year-old veteran disabled in Iraq or Afghanistan have the same high quality care?

“I have many friends alive today who would be dead if they followed the VA protocols for patient care. The VA does many things well, but they do not do timely medical care! Last year, my annual physical was conducted on the telephone. Even though I was already in the hospital with pneumonia when the call was made, I laughed hilariously at this ridiculous attempt at ‘health care’. The president has now signed a bill extending local services to some categories of VA patients, I hope they do enough to matter.”

At the hearing he said, “You can tell all the good stories you want to about the VA, and I love ’em – I love ’em because what they do well they do very well. But what they don’t do is timely



Bob McGuire explains his views to Florida's congressional delegation

medical care.”

McGuire explained that the VA system needs to better integrate its coverage options with Medicare or other supplements. The VA, he said, is a “piecemeal medical system” and can’t be

relied on for the range of care necessary.

“If I want to see a private doctor I see him today. If I want to see a VA doctor, I see him in two months,” he said.

McGuire asked the Florida delegation to consider whether they would



Bob McGuire makes point at Congressional hearing

rebuild the system the VA now has if they had the opportunity to do so.

"Is what you have today what you would create? Hell, no!" he said. "You wouldn't touch it. It doesn't work. It won't work and it never will as long as you keep tweaking and twisting little tiny pieces."

Apparently McGuire's comments were well received. He received this feedback from one person at the Congressional offices: "Bob – I can't thank you enough for making the trek to DC to partake in today's hearing. Your testimony was incredible. I've attached a newspaper story that is running nationally – thus far in the Bradenton Herald, Miami Herald and Sacramento Bee. You'll notice you are front and center. I've also attached a few more photos for your use. Please keep in touch! — Max [Goodman]"

McGuire concluded his conversation with *The Graybeards* with humorous anecdotes from the hearing.

"One of the representatives nearly fell off his chair when I mentioned the telephone physical. Near the beginning of my testimony, the speaker system acted up and it had to be repaired quickly," he observed.

Following that repair, the Chairman asked McGuire to hold his comments to one minute so the many representatives in attendance could have a chance to ask questions of the panel.

McGuire waited a few seconds and said, "Mr. Chairman, you invited me to come here and speak. You said I had five minutes. I spent \$1,000 to make the trip and that is the most expensive five minutes of my life. No sir, Mr. Chairman, I'm going to use my five minutes!"

After that response the representatives asked a lot of questions. At the end, one of them said, "Mr. McGuire, I have learned today why America wins wars!"

And, several representatives have contacted him since the hearing closed and expressed gratitude for standing up and saying what he thinks.

Ah, honesty in Washington. Hopefully, it and McGuire's testimony will lead to welcome reforms in the VA system. We can only hope.

"My message to Congress was brief and concise," he told *The Graybeards*. "Let all service connected disabled veterans use the local doctors or hospitals as Medicare patients do. Give them the full resources of the VA system as well, when medically necessary. I use the VA, local doctors, local hospitals, local imaging, and local diagnostic testing because I am a Medicare plus Humana supplement member."



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 6, 2014

Contacts:

Max Goodman (Rep. Buchanan) – 202-225-5015

Lale Morrison (Rep. Hastings) – 202-225-1313

****MEDIA ADVISORY****

FL Delegation Co-Chairs Buchanan and Hastings Announce Meeting on VA Health Care

1.5 million veterans reside in Sunshine State

WASHINGTON -- The Co-Chairs of the Florida Delegation, Congressmen Vern Buchanan (R-16) and Alcee L. Hastings (D-20) announced today a delegation meeting will be held Thursday, June 12th to address the Veteran's Administration (VA) health care system in Florida.

WHO: Congressmen Vern Buchanan and Alcee L. Hastings

WHAT: Florida Delegation Meeting on VA Health Care System

WHEN: Thursday, June 12 at 8:30 AM

WHERE: Rayburn B-318, Ways & Means Subcommittee Room

Confirmed Panelists Include:

- VA Sunshine Health Care Network (**VISN 8); Joleen Clark, Network Director
- Korean War Veterans Association, Dept. of FLA.; Robert McGuire, President
- Veterans of Foreign Wars, Dept. of FLA.; Jason Smith, Director of the Veterans Service Office
- National Organization of Veterans' Advocates; Todd Wesche, Board Member

***VISN 8 sees more veterans than any VA health care network in the nation with medical centers in St. Petersburg (Bay Pines), Orlando, West Palm Beach, Tampa, Lake City, Gainesville, and Miami.*

FL Delegation Announces Meeting on VA Health Care

served with the 204th FA Bn., Battery "B," in Korea. The nearby photos were taken in 1952. We moved around so much I have no idea of the locations where they were taken. All I recall is hills, hills, and more hills.

Just to give you an idea of our fire missions and results, between 10 April 1951 and 30 April 1952, we fired over 100,000 155mm rounds at enemy targets. Conservative results include:

TYPE OF MISSION	# OF MISSIONS	RESULTS
Enemy artillery pieces	826	11,165 enemy casualties
Enemy artillery pieces	2,139	181 destroyed
Enemy vehicles	39	37 destroyed
Enemy tanks or self-propelled Artillery	17	8 destroyed
Enemy supply points	66	37 destroyed
Enemy buildings	172	149 destroyed
Enemy villages	61	31 destroyed
Enemy pack animals	38	27 destroyed
Enemy bunkers	243	214 destroyed
Registrations	368	N/A

Robert E. Steinmetz, 4224 Briarwood Dr.
Indianapolis, IN 46250, 317-849-6569



The 204th Field Artillery Bn., Battery 'B'





The Cooper Horton Story

By Carolyn Horton (the daughter of Cooper Horton, Jr.)

I share with you a story I recently wrote and submitted to a Korean War veterans organization in Washington, D.C. (the Descendants of Korean War Foundation), about my father's military experience/history in the Korean War for Memorial Day. It was selected as their 'Story of the Month' for the veteran's organization's website.

I feel appreciative for and honored about the story, so I want to share it with other Korean War veterans.

Cooper Horton, Jr. was born in 1930 and raised in Birmingham, AL. His parents were Cooper Horton, Sr. from Birmingham, and Hattie Alma Barrett Horton from Verbena, AL. His father worked as a cost accountant for forty years at the Tennessee Coal Iron and Railroad Company (TCI), a major American steel manufacturer in Birmingham, AL, with interests in coal and iron ore mining and railroad operations. Cooper lived in Central Park, in western Birmingham. He attended Central Park Elementary School and Ensley High School, where he was in the

Corporal Cooper Horton, 7th Inf. Div., 49th FA Bn., Korea, winter 1951



Army ROTC for three years.

Cooper was drafted into the U.S. Army in January 1951, when he was twenty years old, and a sophomore accounting student at Howard College in Birmingham. He was sent to six weeks of basic training at Camp Chaffee, AR. He said it rained nearly every day and was very muddy while he was there. He then went to Fort Sill, OK for eight weeks of special training in field



7th Inf. Div., 49th FA Bn., Korea, 1951. Cooper Horton is second from left, standing in back row

artillery. He came home for a thirty-day leave before shipping out to Korea.

After his leave, his military orders were to board the train to go to Chicago, IL, and from there to Seattle, WA. He boarded a ship in Seattle with many GIs, and they sailed for Korea. The north Pacific sea was very rough. Cooper remembered that he and almost everyone else on board were seasick much of the way. They landed in Yokohama, Japan, and he then shipped into Pusan, South Korea.

During his Korean assignment, Cooper was in the 7th Infantry Division ('Bayonet'), 49th Field Artillery Battalion, Headquarters Battery, supporting the 17th Infantry Regiment. He was promoted fairly quickly to Sergeant First Class due to his prior ROTC training. He worked in a fire direction center, where his job was artillery recorder.

In the fire direction center, the crew would take directions from a forward observer who would radio back with target locations for firing. The fire direction center crew converted the location information into firing data for the battery's 105mm Howitzer guns. As an artillery recorder, Cooper was responsible for receiving, repeating, and recording firing commands and recording data such as ammunition expended and gun movements. He had a good capacity for concentration and attention to detail. His army buddies said he was good at his job and good with people as well.

Upon his arrival in Korea, he was sent

to Hwacheon with his battalion and participated in the capture of Hwacheon Dam and reservoir. In August 1951, his battalion was involved in the successful attack, capture, and defense of Hill 820.

Cooper was Baptist and read his bible at night during his Korean tour. He spent time with a young Korean boy, probably a war orphan. The young boy played 'cowboy' with the American GIs in the unit, and Cooper read the bible to him at night.

For a period of two months in the fall of 1951, Cooper's battalion was assigned as general support to the 1st U.S. Cavalry Division. During this time, 'C' battery fired over 4,000 mortar rounds in one 24-hour period.

In November, the 49th again assumed support of the 17th in the 'Punchbowl' area. They defended 'No Name Hill,' where the terrain was very rugged and the climate was extremely cold. During this time, Cooper contracted pneumonia, spent time in the military hospital, and had high hopes of going home. But, he stayed on in Korea with the 49th until summer of 1952. He then spent a few months at Camp Breckinridge, KY with the 101st Airborne Division in the Headquarters & Headquarters Company until his separation from the Army in October 1952. For his service, Cooper received a Bronze Star and other military awards.

When he was discharged, his parents and sister drove to Camp Breckinridge to bring him home to Birmingham. When they got back, his father gave him a new car, a '52 Pontiac. He continued his courses in accounting at Howard College with funds provided through the G.I. Bill. During college he worked part-time jobs, selling vacuum cleaners at Sears and driving a book delivery truck for the Birmingham Public Library. He met Carolyn Skelton at the library and they married in September 1955. They went on their honeymoon in the Smoky Mountains in the Pontiac his dad had given him. In 1962, they had a daughter, Carolyn Sue, who is their only child.

Cooper worked as an accountant at

Arthur Young, a national 'Big 8' accounting firm, for several years in Birmingham and received his CPA qualification. In 1967, he and a colleague established their own firm. The two men shared a dream of developing a prominent accounting firm, one distinguished in the Birmingham business community for its excellence in technical knowledge and client service.

In subsequent years, the firm experienced success and a steady growth rate, and added more partners over the years. The firm is a full service accounting firm named Horton, Lee, Burnett, Peacock, Cleveland & Grainger CPAs – and is still in business today in Birmingham, serving clients throughout Alabama and the Southeastern United States. Cooper was a forty-year honorary member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and a member of the Alabama Society of Certified Public Accountants.

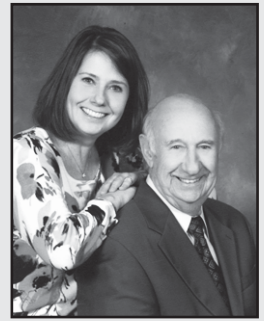
Cooper loved the outdoors and was an avid fisherman. He had a bass boat and fished in the many beautiful lakes in the

area. He also made yearly trips with friends to Canada, where he fished for walleyed pike fish, and generally had a great time. He always brought a big cooler full of frozen fish home for fish fries with family and friends.

He also loved to travel. He and his family made several wonderful family trips together in the U.S., and to Europe and the Soviet Union during the 1980s and 90s. Carolyn, his daughter, remembered that he always wanted to rent a car and drive at their own pace with their own agenda. She remembered they had fun such times together – from driving on the Autobahn to driving on remote small farm roads in rural areas. Carolyn says, "There was never a dull moment and he always had a great sense of adventure."

Cooper Horton, Jr. passed away on April 21, 2012 from complications from lung cancer. He was 81 years old. He had a wonderful life – both before and after the Korean War, and during the Korean War as well. His service in Korea was most definitely the most shining, impor-

Carolyn Sue Horton and Cooper Horton, Jr., in 2011



tant achievement in his life.

He was a terrific role model, and a great father and friend. He is a wonderful example of a survivor who was able to overcome a very difficult war experience at a young age. He didn't like to talk about his time in Korea, and we wish we knew more about it. His service there was without a doubt his most meaningful accomplishment. We are very proud of him and all of the American GIs and their time in the Korean War.

Carolyn Horton, carolynsh@att.net

Take an historic sixty-year journey back in time! With this book you will fly fifty combat missions, mostly low-level, low-speed bombing and strafing raids, along with young USAF bombardier-navigator Arthur Haarmeyer, leaning over his Norden bombsight in the nose of a swift and deadly Douglas B-26 light bomber. Your mission—to detect, destroy, damage, and delay the seemingly endless streams of men and materiel coursing down the roads and railroad tracks of North Korea from China and Russia through narrow and twisting snow-covered mountain passes.

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For answers to questions or additional information, please contact the author at arthurhaarmeyer@gmail.com.

One-third of the author's profits from this book will be donated to the Wounded Warrior's Project, Washington, D.C.

A Bombardier-Navigator's Story **INTO THE LAND OF DARKNESS**



**The Vital Role of Douglas B-26 Air Crews
in Restoring Freedom to the People of
The Republic of Korea (1950-1953)**

Arthur L. Haarmeyer

Water Supply a Vital Part of the Korean War

I was drafted into the Army on September 4, 1952. I underwent basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, MO, which included engineer training. Upon completion, we were flown to California, where we boarded the General Hass for an eighteen-day trip to Japan. In Itashima, Japan we took six weeks of Chemical, Biological, and Radiological (CBR) training, after which we departed for Inchon, Korea.

The first thing I saw from the ship was a blown-up deuce-and-a-half truck over on its side. Next I saw a large building with a section blown out of its side. Then it hit me: "Hey, this is for real." It was a sobering revelation.

From Inchon we traveled north by troop train. I knew that it would be better to be going the other direction. After a couple hours I asked how far we were from the MLR.

"Eight miles," I was told.

After another hour I asked the same question.

"About eight miles," was the answer.

As it turned out we were going northeast, parallel to the front line.

Finally, we were let off near the 1092nd Engineer HQ. A few dozen at a time were dropped off as replacements. About 25 or 30 of us ended up at the 1092nd, which comprised tents and cots.

About midnight on our first night, our siren went off and everyone started scattering for bunkers. I thought they were just putting on a show for us new recruits, so we didn't scatter. Then we heard "Bedcheck Charlie," and we ran for cover.

We learned that the North Koreans would load these little single-engine planes with bombs, fly down the valley below radar, and drop their bombs on Seoul. If they did not get rid of all their bombs, they would drop them anywhere they saw a light below.

The next day we were assigned to what we would be doing. They actually gave us choices, e.g., building bridges. I asked where.

"Up near the front line," was the answer. I remained silent.

The next choice was doing road maintenance on our main supply line. Again, I waited.

Then came an offer to serve as replacements at our three water points. Again, I asked "Where?" This time the answer was satisfactory. "About 8-10 miles back down south on the Imjin River and the Han River."

Several of us volunteered and received assignments to water supply points, which were mobile units that could be set up in just a few hours. They could produce 3,000 gallons of clear, fresh drinking water from a muddy river in a few hours.

Four of us were assigned to the 1029nd Co. C Engineer Water Point on a TDY basis (temporary duty). We were posted about 400 feet from Normash, a Norwegian medical and surgical hospital. We were fortunate enough to have good hot meals there at the mess hall—at least most of the time.

We saw many results of the war there. There was a lot of noise at night when a steady stream of helicopters with wounded soldiers on either side would land at the field hospital. As we went to the mess hall in the morning, we could see doctors working on the wounded troops who had been brought in the previous night.

I would love to hear from anyone who was involved with the Normash water point—or water points in Korea in general—while I was there

*Harry L. Kingery, 514 W Washington St.
Pittsfield, IL 62363, 217-285-2729*



Harry Kingery at water point in Korea in 1953



Water point on the Han Tan Gannie River, Korea 1953



Harry Kingery at water point in Korea, Sept. 7, 1953



Harry Kingery at Water Point 3 in Korea, 1953



Troops defend against "Bedcheck Charlie" in an air raid drill (Harry Kingery is in the back, upper left)

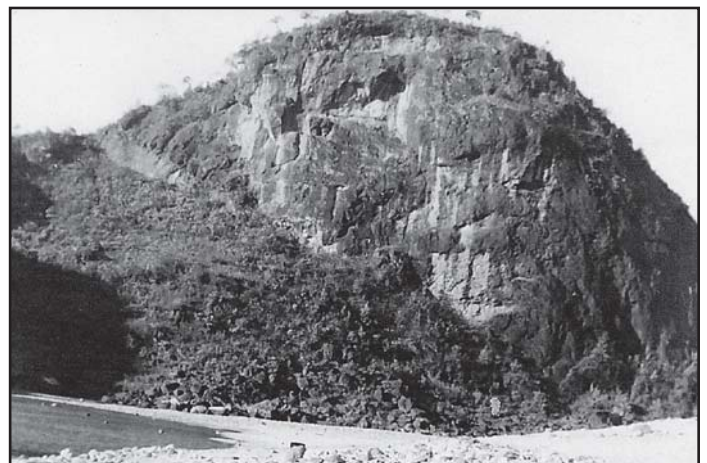


Harry Kingery at the 38th Parallel in 1953



LEFT: Four South Korean guards and houseboy near Normash ambulance (Back: Chow, unidentified, and Kong; Front: Kim and Lee)

RIGHT: View at water point #1 on the Imjin River, Korea 1954



Chapel Rededicated To Marine Who Took Enemy Fire For Navy Chaplain

By Sgt. Christopher Duncan | Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton | June 23, 2014

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. — The Caruso Chapel was rededicated to Sgt. Matthew Caruso, at the School of Infantry-West, here, June 23.

The chapel was initially dedicated to Caruso in 1953 and he was awarded the Silver Star Medal in 1950 for shielding Connie Griffin, a chaplain then assigned to the 7th Marine Regiment (reinforced), from enemy fire with his body during an ambush in the Korean War, Dec. 6, 1950.

Caruso's brother and the son, whom he never had the opportunity to meet, stood before a congregation of more than 100 Marines, sailors and civilian friends and family members to share fond memories and words of appreciation.

"My earliest childhood memory was that flag draped casket, and I remember my mother holding me and crying," said Daniel Caruso, a retired Marine aviator,



John R. Caruso reminisces about his brother's life and service after viewing a photo of him. "There went a father, a husband, a brother, and it affected a lot of people." John said with tears in his eyes. "He was a good brother, but [this is] something Marines do." (Photo by Sgt. Christopher Duncan)

Elizabeth Smith weeps as she listens to her son, Daniel Caruso, share his warm feelings about his father, Sgt. Matthew Caruso, with a congregation of more than 100 Marines, sailors and civilian friends and family during the rededication of the Caruso Chapel, at the School of Infantry-West, here, June 23. "He's been a wonderful son and I've been very proud of him," said Smith. "The ceremony was stirring and it's such an honor to be here. My husband made a tremendous sacrifice." (Photo by Sgt. Christopher Duncan)



Daniel Caruso, retired Marine aviator, weeps while sharing a story and his warm feelings regarding his father, Sgt. Matthew Caruso, with a congregation of more than 100 Marines, sailors and civilian friends and family during the rededication of the Caruso Chapel. (Photo by Sgt. Christopher Duncan)



Charles E. Griffin, retired Navy chaplain, shared his appreciation for the sacrifice Sgt. Matthew Caruso made while saving his uncle, Connie Griffin, a chaplain then assigned to the 7th Marine Division (reinforced), from enemy fire with his body during an ambush in the Korean War. (Photo by Sgt. Christopher Duncan)

"I firmly believe that he, Sgt. Caruso, inspired my uncle to be a more Christ-like servant of God," said Griffin. "The reverence my family has for Sgt. Caruso is matched by the reverence you show for his memory here, and I cannot thank you enough for the invitation to join these proceedings."

.....Charles Griffin

while holding up his father's Silver Star Medal, which was pinned on Daniel during a ceremony when he was 4 months old. "I don't remember a thing before that, and if he were here today I would tell my father that 'I wish I could have had you in mine and mom's [lives], but you found a higher calling and I'm proud of you.'"

Caruso's brother John wept while recalling the loss he and his family felt when hearing the news of Matthew's passing.

"I remember receiving the telegram and watching my father turn pale as he read it," said Matthew as his eyes welled with tears. "I was on the burial detail, escorting him home, and a woman who was on the train stopped and said to me, 'Did you know the Marine that was killed?'. I said, 'Yes, ma'am. He was my brother.'"

Caruso is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Smith, who shared her gratefulness to the Navy and Marine Corps for the great appreciation they have shown for the sacrifice her husband made in service to the country.

"It's terrific to be here this time since I missed the first one," said Smith. Smith was unable to travel due to pregnancy during the chapel's initial dedication. "The ceremony was stirring and it's such an honor to be here. My husband made a tremendous sacrifice."

From the 2nd Vice President

J. D. Randolph



Korea War Veterans Association, Inc. USA
1523 Pine Bluff Dr.
Allen, TX 75002-1870
2nd Vice President



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATIONS (IFKWVA LEADERS MEETING) 24-29 JULY, 2014 SEOUL, REPUBLIC OF KOREA

It was a great honor representing the KWVA and the USA at the IFKWVA meeting.

Arrival at Seoul International Airport on July 24th at 16:30 hours and waiting transportation to the Grand Ambassador Seoul hotel.

First Day Friday 25th

11:30 ~ 12:00 Exchange of Greeting with all members, Dress Code Class A with Medals.
Welcome Luncheon Hosted by General (Ret) Park, Se-Hwan Chairman KVA.

Second Day Saturday 26th

09:00 ~ 10:00 Wreath Laying at the National Cemetery Dress Code: Class A w/ Medals
14:00 ~ 16:00 The 6th Korean War Memorial & Peace Concert at the Seoul Art Center Hall ; Gyeonggi Philharmonic and the High School Alumni Choir.

Third Day Sunday 27th

09:00~12:00 1st Business Session of IFKWVA Leaders Meeting, updating CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF KOREA WAR VETERANS.

13:20 ~14:00 Move to COEX

15:00 ~16:00 The 61th Commemoration Ceremony of the Armistice Class A w/Medals
Hall D COEX (Our Future Together) 7.27 1953-2014

18:00 ~ 18:30 Move to Grand Hayatt

19:00 ~ 21:00 "Thank You" Banquet hosted by the Korean Government
Grand Ballroom, Grand Hyatt Dress Code Class A with Medals.

Fourth Day Monday 28th

09:00 ~ 12:00 2nd Business Session of IFKWVA Leader's Meeting complete updating CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF KOREA WAR VETERANS

17:00 ~ 18:30 Art Performance "Drawing Show" Kyunghyang Art Hall

19:00 ~ 20:30 Dinner at SamCheongGak

Fifth Day Tuesday 29th Return Home

J. D. Randolph

J. D. Randolph- KWVA National 2nd Vice President



Attendees at the IFKWV meeting.

The Ghost Fleet

By Tom Moore

Following WWII Congress established a National Defense Reserve Fleet (NDRF) to serve as a reserve cadre of ships for national defense and emergencies. America needed the NDRF five years later, when the Korean War began. In June 1950, NDRF had 2,283 ships in its mothball fleet (aka ghost fleet.) During the Korean War, 540 vessels were activated from NDRF.

The answer to how well a ship endures the mothballing process lies in how well the process was performed. The ship must be refurbished and preserved. Most mothballing was done by the ship's crew, aided by civilian experts. All equipment, e.g., engines, boilers, electronic, weapons, galley, etc., had to be in working condition. The crew soon moved ashore, and the ship was cleaned inside and outside. Chipping, painting, polishing, oiling, and removing items for storage began.

Some items were removed and put in appropriate storage ashore. Ammunition went to storage bunkers, small weapons to gunnery

storage, binoculars, long glasses and sextants to optical storage. Large caliber weapons were cleaned, oiled, inspected, and left in place. The ship clocks were allowed to run down, then left in place.

Radio, sonar, and radar equipment were cleaned, tested for operation, and inspected by civilian experts, then covered. The ship's engines and boilers were cleaned, greased, and oiled. Gauges were polished and inspected by civilians. Compartments were cleaned and the paintwork throughout the ship was chipped, repainted, cleaned, and inspected.

The bilges were pumped, hand wiped dry, and inspected. The bilge pumps operated regularly by a skeleton crew to reduce corrosion of their steel and to prevent the ship from foundering at its moorings. After everything was inspected and approved, and the vessel was pronounced shipshape, two actions remained: sealing and rust prevention.

All the watertight doors were dogged down and all outside vents were closed. The large

caliber weapons were covered with painted canvas. Every seam, e.g., watertight door and vent, was sealed with a soft compound that hardened over time. Finally, every sealed space was filled with a nitrogen mixture to prevent rust. Ship security maintained round-the clock watches.

De-mothballing involved a reverse process. The first task was to remove the sealing compound to allow air to replace the nitrogen mixture. Then the boilers were lit, the engines and electronic equipment were tested, electricity and water were turned on, the galley was lit off and inspected, food was stowed below, and the crew moved aboard. Finally, everything was tested for operation and inspected. The process required several weeks.

The ship was placed in commission, and the crew began "keeping watch," which continued as long as the ship remained in service. At last, the de-mothballed ship became an active U.S. Navy unit and headed to its home port to take on remaining equipment such as munitions.

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31 Jan – 13 Feb 47th Anniv of Tet Offensive Battle of Hue

★ 16 – 23 Mar 70th Anniv Iwo Jima Reunion of Honor

5 – 17 Mar 50th Anniv of the Vietnam War Ground Combat Units Landings at Red Beach, Da Nang—1965

19 – 27 Apr Turkey 100th Anniv of Gallipoli & ANZAC Day

2 – 15 May Vietnam I-II-III-IV Corps “Delta to the DMZ”

28 Apr – 10 May Ireland VE Day & “WWII Irish Marines”

★ 16 – 27 May France WWI American Battlefields

22 – 31 May Viking – MHT Seine River Cruise Normandy

28 May – 2 Jun Battle of the Bulge-Bastogne & Paris

★ 1 – 9 Jun 71st Anniversary D-Day: Normandy to Paris

6 – 19 Jun VN U.S. Units in I Corps “Chu Lai to the DMZ”

18 – 24 Jun 70th Anniversary Battle of Okinawa

2 – 14 Jul WWII “Eastern Front – Russia Battle of Kursk, Moscow, Stalingrad and Post Tour: St Petersburg

★ 18 – 28 Jul Liberation Marianas Campaign 1944—Guam, Saipan & Tinian

31 Jul – 11 Aug WWII Japan 70th Anniversary of Hiroshima & Nagasaki

2 – 12 Aug Guadalcanal & “Up the Slot” “Turning the Tide”








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MEMORIAL DAY 2014

94 - HUDSON COUNTY [NJ]

Members participated in the Bayonne, NJ Memorial Day Parade.

Marty Schnitzer, martinschnitzer80@yahoo.com



Al Czarnecki and Marty Schnitzer of Ch 94 and Joe Calcaterra (L-R) ride in Bayonne, NJ Memorial Day Parade

258 - NORTHERN RHODE ISLAND [RI]

A few members rode in the North Providence, RI Memorial Day Parade.

Norman J. Paiva, Sr., 42 Morgan Ave., North Providence, RI 02911, 401-231-9176, 401-573-8338 (c)



Commander Richard St. Louis, Frank Meo, Bo Kenahan, Joe Perry, Herb Southworth, and Frank Wunderlen of Ch 258 at North Providence, RI Memorial Day Parade (driver's name is Bruce)

Mayor Declares June 25 Korean War Memorial Day in San Francisco



KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

NEWS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SAN FRANCISCO MAYOR EDWIN M. LEE

PROCLAIMS JUNE 25, 2014 TO BE

"KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL DAY IN SAN FRANCISCO"

San Francisco, CA, June 18, 2014: In a ceremony at his City Hall Office, the Honorable Edwin M. Lee, Mayor of San Francisco, presented the Korean War Memorial Foundation (KWMF) with a Proclamation stating that June 25, 2014 has been designated as "Korean War Memorial Day in San Francisco". June 25 is a deeply symbolic date, particularly to the people of the Republic of Korea: the Korean War began on that date in 1950.



Photo by Tom Graves twiceheroes.com

KWMF President and former U.S. Congressman Pete McCloskey, a decorated Korean War veteran (seated on left), and the Honorable Han Dong-man, Consul General of the Republic of Korea in San Francisco (seated on right), accepted the Proclamation from the Mayor (center). Also present for the ceremony were (standing from left to right) Seoul-San Francisco Sister City Committee Chairman Hagen Choi, KWMF Vice President Man J. Kim, KWMF Secretary and Korean War veteran John Stevens, and KWMF Treasurer and Korean War veteran Donald Reid.

KWMF is in the process of raising \$3.5 million to build a Memorial to the Korean War in the Presidio of San Francisco. To date the group has raised just under \$1.9 million, with an additional \$1 million grant from the Republic of Korea now pending final approval. Full details on KWMF's progress to date and plans may be found at <http://kwmf.org>

/More...

Proclamation

City and County of San Francisco

WHEREAS, today marks the 64th anniversary of North Korea's crossing of the 38th parallel into South Korea—an act of aggression that ultimately led to a United Nations-authorized military response and three long years of war with contributions by the United States and a multinational force of 20 other countries; and

WHEREAS, the San Francisco-based Korean War Memorial Foundation is admirably working to ensure that those who served in what became known as *The Forgotten War* are in fact remembered and kept at the forefront of our Nation's thoughts; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco supports the efforts to build a Korean War Memorial here in the Bay Area, the region that served as a major mainland supply point and port of embarkation for the war; and

WHEREAS, the Korean War Memorial Foundation has selected a fitting and picturesque site in The Presidio of San Francisco for its permanent monument honoring the men and women who served; and

WHEREAS, we must work to make sure that all of our veterans returning home get the services they need and that all those heroes who have paid the price of our freedom with their lives are never forgotten; and

WHEREAS, let this memorial stand as a testament not just to war but to the friendship between the United States and the Republic of Korea, who together have built a partnership that provides us with significant opportunities for cultural, educational and economic collaborations; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Edwin M. Lee, Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco, in great respect for those who gave so much of themselves during the Korean War, do hereby proclaim June 25, 2014 as...

**KOREAN
WAR MEMORIAL
DAY**
in San Francisco!

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City and County of San Francisco to be affixed.

Edwin M. Lee
Edwin M. Lee
Mayor

The Where, When, and Why of the Korean War

Tell America

254 - FAIRMONT [MN]

Members talked to the students at Blue Earth Area High School. Each member talked about his own experiences in Korea (something not found in the

history books).

Donald Tietje, 395 Cottonwood Rd., Fairmont, MN 56031, dtietje80@gmail.com



Presenters from Ch 254, Owen Fellersen, John Hilgendorf, Gary Schwieger, Eugene McDonald, and Donald Tietje (L-R), with Blue Earth Area High School students

313 - SHENANDOAH VALLEY [VA]

There Is Nothing Better Than A Day At The County Fair!

On August 28, 2014, as we have done in recent years, fourteen members attended and participated in the "Veterans

Tribute Day" ceremony at the 2014 Shenandoah County Fair in Woodstock, VA.

The Veterans Tribute began with a

short parade in which veterans from various VSOs, including us and cadets from the Massanutten Military Academy, marched to the filled-to-capacity grandstands, where we honored the Colors. This was followed by a program with a speaker who honored all veterans of all wars, plus all our young men and women who are defending our country today.

Our presence at the fair was an excellent "Tell America" opportunity, as we were able to meet and talk to many fair visitors and to tell them more about the Korean War and how our involvement in it

and our support of the Korean people in the years since the signing of the cease fire has helped the Republic of Korea become the thriving and dynamic economy that its citizens enjoy today.

We also had the opportunity to meet and recruit a number of Korean War and Korean Defense Veterans who are potential new members of our Chapter.

Lew Ewing, 310 Clay Hill Dr., Winchester, VA 22602, 540-539-8705, lewewing@gmail.com

Have a Mini-Reunion? Dedicating a Memorial? Attending a Banquet

Send your photos and a short write-up to *The Graybeards* editor for publication!

Mail to Art Sharp, Editor, Korean War Veterans Association, 152 Sky View Drive., Rocky Hill, CT 06067



Members of Ch 313 at the 2014 Shenandoah County, VA Fair (Seated (L-R) Chuck Bachman, Narce Caliva, Dale Thompson, Bill Scott (Standing, L-R) Jack Kronenberger, Paul Campbell, Lew Ewing, Gary Fletcher, Peachie DeHaven, Herb Taylor, Maynard Wilson, Charles Hoak. Attending, but not pictured, were Dick Clark and Ed Ellis



65TH ANNIVERSARIES KOREAN WAR REVISIT KOREA TOURS



2014 IS SOLD OUT! TAKING REGISTRATIONS FOR 2015
FAMILY MEMBERS OF KOREA VETERAN'S ARE ELIGIBLE
CONTACT MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS FOR DETAILS



Peace Camp For Youth Grandchildren were mustered in less than 60 days & were in Seoul during the July Korea Revisit-R: PCFYer Jessica Anderson & MOH Recipient Ron Rosser.

**THE ROK GOVERNMENT'S MINISTRY OF PATRIOT & VETERAN
AFFAIRS WILL PAY FOR ALL MEALS, 5-STAR HOTEL ROOMS &
TOURING FOR THE VETERAN & FAMILY MEMBERS IN S. KOREA.
KWVA & PCFY QUOTAS WILL GO AS RAPIDLY AS THEY DID THIS YEAR!**

REGISTER NOW, DON'T BE LEFT OUT IN 2015!

703-590-1295 * 800-722-9501 * WWW.MILTOURS.COM

Chapter & Department News

11 GREATER DANBURY [CT]

We conducted Rose of Sharon drives at two stores, CVS in Bethel, CT and the Food Store, in Monroe, CT.

Bernie Rotunda, P.O. Box 2632, Danbury, CT 06813



Frank LoPezzo and Art Sheehan of Ch 11 at Food Store in Monroe, CT



Dick Nutting and Ray Bodde represent Ch 11 at CVS in Bethel, CT

14 SUNCOAST [FL]

Presentation Of Scholarship Award

We sponsor an annual award to a City of Pinellas Park senior high school student for an essay on the Korean War. This essay award was established in 2004, funded in perpetuity, and is held by the Public Service Education Foundation of Pinellas Park.

On July 14th, Sarah L. Folks was awarded the \$1,000.00 award for her essay on an "Overview of the Korean War." Sarah will be attending FreedHandeman University in Henderson, TN,

where she will major in Elementary Education.

Joan Arcand, 5674 Bay Pines Lakes Blvd.
St. Petersburg, FL 33708



Joe Slatton, President of Ch 14, and Secretary Joan Arcand present award and certificate to Sarah L. Folks

19 GEN RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

Members attended a Foundation Wall Dedication honoring our fallen at the Clay National Guard Center in Marietta, Georgia.

In August we participated once again in the Alpharetta, GA Old Soldiers Parade.

Jim Conway, conatlanta@comcast.net



ABOVE: The inscription on the wall at the Clay National Guard Center. **RIGHT:** A broad view of the Clay National Guard Center memorial plaque





Ch 19 members Bob McCubbins, MajGen James Donald (USA, Ret.), and Jack Seibert at Georgia wall dedication



Ch 41 members Paul Steen, and William Klatt, and his daughter Diane at Turkey Day Parade

Navy jeep carries Ch 19 members in style at Old Soldiers Parade



Group from Ch 19 at Alpharetta, GA parade



41 FROZEN CHOSIN [MN]

We marched in the Turkey Day Parade in Worthington, MN on September 13th, 2014.

Paul Steen, sargepj@mvtwireless.com



Paul Steen of Ch 41 (driver) in Turkey Day Parade, with his wife Jane (behind Paul), and William Klatt, with his daughter Diane

54 THOMAS W. DALEY, JR.

Several members attended a "Thank You" luncheon at the First Korean United Methodist Church on June 28th. Church members provided food, camaraderie, and entertainment.

Andy Jackson, captjack71@comcast.net

All Chapter and/or Department news for publication in *The Graybeards* should be mailed to Art Sharp, Editor, 8152 Sky View Drive., Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or emailed to:

Sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net



Korean dancers at First Korean United Methodist Church



Korean dancers perform intricate maneuver at First Korean United Methodist Church



TOP: The invitation to Ch 54 to attend the First Korean United Methodist Church luncheon. **CENTER:** The Korean War veterans who attended the luncheon at the First Korean United Methodist Church. **BOTTOM:** Members of Ch 54 eat delicious lunch at First Korean United Methodist Church (lower right to left) Stan Levin his wife Sandy, Fred Connolly and his wife Marie, John Hartley, Charles Jackson, Fred Adolf.

56 VENTURA COUNTY [CA]

Three members, David Lopez, Gustavo Montano, and George Silva, attended a World of Peace Organization presentation on May 22nd.



David Lopez of Ch 56 at World of Peace meeting



World of Peace Conference attendees. Note how young most of them are



George Silva, David Lopez, and Gustavo Montano of Ch 56 (L-R) at World Peace Conference

David Lopez, 3850 W 180th Pl., Torrance, CA 90504,
310-323-8481, LopezPitts9@aol.com

63 WESTERN NEW YORK [NY]

We held a dedication ceremony to honor Korea veterans this past July at the Kenny Field Memorial Park, Tonawanda/Kenmore, NY. Many members were in attendance at the ceremony, including Commander Carl Marranca, newsletter editor Sandy Marranca, 1st Vice Commander Norman Lipkus, Secretary Robert Manzella, Past Erie County Sheriff John Jrampac, and Thomas Higgins.



The Kenmore, NY memorial

The Blue Star Memorial plaque at Kenmore, NY



A Korea War Grumman F9F-6P Cougar flown off Navy aircraft carriers is on display at the front of the field. The United States flag and flags of all the military services are in front of a double wall of names of those veterans who have served their country. The American Legion Brounshidle Post 205 of Kenmore, NY provided the color guard for the placing of the U.S. flag at the opening of the ceremony.



Color Guard at Tonowanda/Kenmore, NY commemoration

A Blue Star Memorial was also unveiled at the event. The Kenmore Garden Club and the Eighth District Federation Garden Clubs of New York State donated the Blue Star plaque. The Blue Star Memorial Program began in 1944 to honor all men and women who have served or are serving in the armed forces of the United States.

Norman R. Lipkus, 19 Manser Dr., Amherst, NY
14226, 716-835-3522, Norrrip@aol.com

94 HUDSON COUNTY [NJ]

Members and colleagues from other New Jersey chapters attended an event in June of last year commemorating the 60th anniversary of the cease fire. It took place at the Korean Embassy headquarters in Palisades Park, NJ.

Attendees were treated to a magnificent Korean and American buffet dinner. Fabulous entertainment included Korean musicians, singers, and dancers. All attending veterans received a

beautiful leather-bound "Certificate of Peace" from the Korean government.

Marty Schnitzer, 3 Bergen Ct., Bayonne, NJ 07002,
201-436-8647, BayonneMarty@yahoo.com



Michael Yun, Korean businessman from Jersey City, NJ, who coordinated the 60th Anniversary commemoration for Ch 94, standing, and chapter member Al Czarnecki



Esther Schnitzer (R) with "Jackie," the hospitality coordinator of the Palisades Park, NJ affair



Attendees at Palisades Park, NJ event

Korean performer at Ch 94's dinner



105 CENTRAL NEW YORK [NY]

We participated in the July 4th Parade. We had a special guest, Bob Perrine, from Fayetteville, NY. Bob, who is 92 years old, was a B-26 pilot with the 320th Bomb Group in WWII. He was alone and asked to stand with our group.

We had a special guest at our annual clambake. He was Professor Eunky Lee, who is affiliated with the Whitman School of Management at Syracuse University. He was also the President of the Korean Association of Syracuse/Central New York.

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



Group from Ch 105 at Fourth of July Parade surrounding Bob Perrine and his great-granddaughter include Tony Vaquero, Carmen Zeolla, Ed Grala, Larry Robbins, and Tony DeFrancico



Eunky Lee (L) and Ed Grala, former Commander of Ch 105, stand guard over the cake for the chapter's clambake

106 TREASURE COAST [FL]

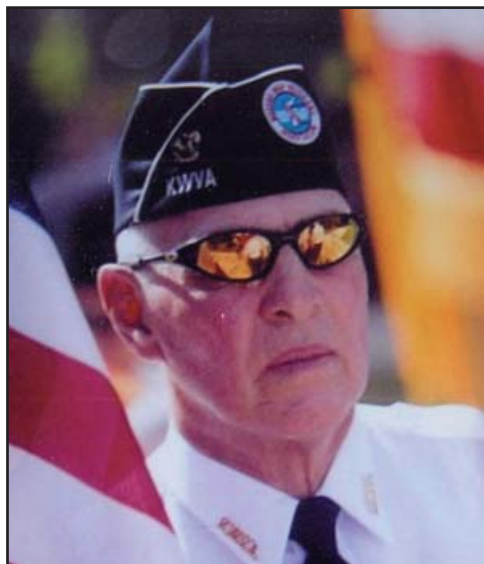
We participated in the presentation of Colors during Memorial Day ceremonies at Veterans Memorial Park in Port Saint Lucie. Vice Commander Harold Trieber carried the Colors to pay tribute to our fallen heroes.

We held a Saturday breakfast meeting to attract new members. It was well attended—and we added five members to our chapter!

Harold Trieber, 304 SE Fisk Rd.
Port St. Lucie, FL 34984



Veterans at Port Saint Lucie Memorial Day observance includes members of Ch 106



Vice Commander Harold Trieber of Ch 106 carries the colors at Port Saint Lucie ceremony

Maggi Casterlin (R) and Master of Ceremonies and Past Commander of Ch 106 Peter Popolizio lead Memorial Day event attendees in singing of national anthem



Former USAF MSgt Frank Antonucci (L), a 91-year-old veteran of WWII, Korea, and Vietnam, chats with Harold Trieber of Ch 106



Members and officers of Ch 106 at breakfast meeting (L-R) Chaplain Chuck Serra, 2nd Vice Cmdr Harold Trieber, Fund Raising Chairman Joe Wilcox, Cmdr Marcel Cartagena, Vice Cmdr Peter Popolizio, Treasurer Joe Muscarello, Memorial Chairman Frank Antonucci, Alternate Treasurer John Holdorf

112 LAKE ERIE [OH]

United States Air Museum Show, Willoughby, OH

The United States Air Museum, a Cleveland-based museum operated by Volunteer Air Craft enthusiasts, held its annual air show at the Lost Nation Airport, Willoughby, OH, on July 19th and 20th. These shows have been an annual event in the Cleveland area since 1987. The theme of this year's show was Korea -The Forgotten War.

The CEO of the museum is Mr. Tony Mazzolini, who served in Korea while in the U.S. Air Force. He is a Life Member of the KWVA, and member of our chapter.

We participated in the show, having a large covered area at the point of the merchant midway. A table was laid out with brochures, flyers, and free publications for the visitors to take. Large posters of the Korean Peninsula were hung on the back wall of our area.

Many questions were asked of and answered by our members. Membership applications were displayed prominently. As a result of the show, two new members have been added to our roster, with three more possible members.

Some chapter members also worked as staff at the show.
 Steve Szekely, 1516 Laclede Rd., South Euclid, OH,
 216-381-9080, sxdszek@sbcglobal.net



Bob Brice, 1st Vice Commander of Ch 112, Tony Mazzolini, and Past KWVA Director Chris Yanacos (L-R) at Lost Nation Airport



Two prospective members of Ch 112 on the left of the jeep chat with chapter Secretary Rick Butler and Chris Yanacos



Chris Yanacos and his war time jeep seek shelter from the rain that fell at the Willoughby air show



LEFT: Steve Szekely, Ch 112 Commander, and member Ed Thomas (R)

BELOW: Ch 112's display at Willoughby air show



122 ARDEN ROWLEY [AZ]

Members Don Taylor and Lew Bradley performed a flag folding ceremony September 12th. The event was a 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony held in the evening at Nathan Martens Arizona Memorial in the San Tan Mountain Regional Park. This event was hosted by the Park and Department of AZ VFW.

Lew Bradley also attended the annual Nathan Martens Memorial Service held at the Memorial on September 6th and presented the KWVA Chapters Honor & Remember flag.

Lew Bradley, lew.bradley@gmail.com

142 COL. WILLIAM E. WEBER [MD]

61st Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice Commemoration

Recently ten Chapter 142 members and five of their spouses attended a commemoration of the signing of the Korean War truce of July 27, 1953. The event started with KWVA President Larry Kinard and Republic of Korea Ambassador Ahn Ho-young laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns. Following this, activities moved to the amphitheater for introductions by Col. David Clark (USA Ret.) and musical selections by The United States Army Band Brass Quintet.

An invocation was delivered by Col. Jeff Zusk. Postmaster General Patrick R. Donahoe dedicated the Medal of Honor

stamps, which were released for sale on this date. Medal of Honor recipient Capt. Thomas J. Hudner Jr. (USN ret.) was introduced, as were families of Korean War Medal of Honor recipients William R. Charette, Rodolfo P. Hernandez, Einar H. Ingman Jr., Hiroshi H. Miyamura, and Tibor Rubin.



Ch 142 attendees at Washington D.C. commemoration (L-R) Tony Marra, Ken Davis, Lorraine Davis, Barb Eader, Bob Mount, Bob Eader, Jack Droneburg, Dick Knoebel, Jim Miller, Dottie Droneburg, Ruth Chipley, Chip Chipley, Glenn Wienhoff, Rosalie Wienhoff and Tony Malavenda



Republic of Korea Ambassador Ahn Ho-young and KWVA President Larry Kinard lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns

Remarks were delivered by KWVA President Kinard, Republic of Korea Vice Minister Choi Wan Keun, Representative of the National Assembly of The Republic of Korea, the Honorable Kim Jung Hoon, and His Excellency Ahn Ho-young, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea. All 296 attendees were then transported by bus to the Pentagon Sheraton Inn for additional official comments, entertainment by a special quartet of Korean drummers, and a roast beef dinner.

Thirty-six veterans (including Wienhoff, Maxey, Marra, Malavenda, Miller, Davis, Droneburg and Eader from Chapter 142) received the Ambassador for Peace Medal. Col. and Mrs. Weber also attended, but were not available for the photo.

Bus transportation and hotel reception were courtesy of the U.S. Korean War Veterans Support Foundation, Inc. It was a full

day that was enjoyed immensely by all.

Linda Crilly, Chapter 142 Webmaster, cid142webmaster@gmail.com

148 CENTRAL JERSEY [NJ]

We donated 6 TVs with DVD units included to the New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home at Menlo Park on August 19th. At the same time we enlisted a band called the "Patriots Brass Band," which entertained the veterans at the Veterans Home with patriotic music.

Monies collected on our Rose of Sharon drive helped pay for the TV/DVD combinations.

A great day was had by all the veterans, patients, and the chapter members who attended.

Charles Koppelman, 6 Yarmouth Dr.
Monroe Township, NJ 08831, 609-655-3111,
Charleskoppelman@yahoo.com



Members of Ch 148 and guests at TV/DVD presentation (L-R) unknown veteran (sitting), Memorial Home CEO Joseph Brandspiegel, Treasurer Lee Kaczmarek, Past Commander Charles Koppelman, Chaplain Harvey Weinberg, Sr., Vice Commander and Rose of Sharon Chairman Herb Picker, Edward Abrams, Finance Secretary Edward Rapple, Sr., Commander Robert D. Bliss, USAF veteran Capt. Donald Hoffman (seated) a patient at the New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home. One of the 6 TV/DVD units is on the table.

158 W.R. CHARETTE MOH [FL]

Frank Cohee, Commander, and Bill McCraney, First Vice President, received the Veterans Medallion from Governor Rick Scott at a recent special ceremony. The medallion was given to all veterans in attendance.

Frank Cohee, KWVAsec@gmail.com

**Visit the Korean War Veterans
Association Website:
www.kwva.org**



Gov. Scott of Florida presents medal to Frank Cohee of Ch 158

One of the nearly half-dozen notices carried by the Daily Commercial of Leesburg, FL



Bill McCraney of Ch 158 receives medal from Gov. Scott

169 LAKE COUNTY [FL]

Chapter 169 Honors Korean Service Veterans

Korean Service Veterans (KSV), those nearly 2,000,000 million American GIs who have served silently in Korea since the signing of the armistice on July 27, 1953, were recognized in a special 61st Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice Ceremony on August 2, 2014 at the Veterans Memorial at Fountain Park, Leesburg.

Korea defense service has been and remains a unique—but virtually unknown—cold war type of duty. At times this duty goes hot.

This ceremony was dedicated to the 1,200 or so American soldiers who have given their lives in the line of duty from July 1954 to the present time along the DMZ separating North and South Korea; neither their names nor their service has been recognized by any national memorial.

Jerry Sexsmith, USN (Ret), and Tom DeRosa, who served in Korea with I Corps from 1969-70, spoke at the event. Mr. Sexsmith presented “Unknown Korean War Facts,” and Mr. DeRosa extended a “Welcome to Korea Defense Veterans.”

We were fortunate that the local press carried several pre-event notices to help publicize the event.

An informal reception was held for those Korean Service veterans in attendance after the program, with several expressing serious interest in membership.

Tom J. Thiel, 352-408-6612, kwvathiel@gmail.com.

Photos by: Bob Peters

LEESBURG

Korean Service Veterans to be honored at Fountain Park

Korean Service Veterans, the nearly two million Americans who have served silently in Korea since the signing of the armistice on July 27, 1953, will be recognized in a special 61st anniversary ceremony at 10 a.m. on Aug. 2 at the Veterans Memorial at Fountain Park.

The event is sponsored by the Korean War and Korean Service Veterans Association of Lake County, Chapter 169.

In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held at the National Guard Armory, 400 W. Meadow St.



Jerry Sexsmith provided “unknown Korean War Facts,” which included the period following the July 27, 1953 Armistice



Tom DeRosa, Korean Service Veteran member of CID169, extends a welcome hand to his fellow KSV to consider KWVA membership

191 TIDEWATER [VA]

On Labor Day, some members assembled at the Korean War Memorial at Hampton, VA City Hall to pay tribute to the industry and dedication of those who labor on America’s behalf. In his remarks, L. T. ‘Tim’ Whitmore, KWVA Department of Virginia



Senior officers of Ch 191, 2nd Vice Commander, Ed Brooks, with National Colors; Commander Jimmie Carter, with wreath; 1st Vice Commander John Gragg, with KWVA Colors

Ed Brooks of Ch 191 places wreath at Hampton, VA ceremony



Jimmie Carter, Ch 191 Commander (L) and National Director and National Recruiting Chairman John Edwards at Labor Day commemoration

The wreath in front of the Korean War Memorial in Hampton, VA



L. T. ("Tim") Whitmore, John Gragg, Jimmie Carter, Ed Brooks, Doug Watson, John Edwards, and Allie Peoples (L-R) at Ch 191 event

Commander and KWVA National Director, noted that those who served in Korea were, for the most part, "Citizen Soldiers" who came from and returned to America's work force.

L. T. ("Tim") Whitmore, twhit35@gmail.com

223 VICTORIA [TX]

We gave a presentation on the Korean War to incoming freshmen at the University of Houston and Victoria College, which was a requirement for them. We also presented the Official Proclamation and Ambassador for Peace Medals to eligible members. Chapter President W.R. Lamprecht and Gary Moses made the presentation.



Harold Connally, John Bierman, Jim Friedel, Bud Sappington, and W.R. Lamprecht of Ch 223 (L-R) at Korean War presentation



Ambassador for Peace Medal recipients from Ch 223



Korean War veterans "a float" at Victoria, TX parade

The Weekend Warriors Association of Victoria, TX honored all Korean veterans with a parade. The theme was "The Forgotten War Not Forgotten." Approximately 100 veterans and wives from different states participated.

The sponsoring organization furnished the floats and a delicious meal.

W. R. Lamprecht, 607 Berwick Rd.
Victoria, TX 77904, 361-578-2628

234 ATLANTIC COUNTY [NJ]

On June 28, 2014 the Korean American Association of Southern New Jersey honored us with a wreath laying ceremony at the New Jersey State Korean War Memorial in Atlantic City, NJ. A plaque was presented to John Varallo, New Jersey State Commander and former Chapter commander.



Gene Corcoran of Ch 234 plays "Call to Colors"

Se-joo Son speaks at Ch 234 event



BELOW: Tony Mussara of Ch 234 reads benediction at Atlantic City as Mayor Don Guardian (L) and Young Bin Lee (R) stand behind him



New Jersey State Commander Gil Boyer at Atlantic City commemoration



New Jersey veterans at presentation of wreath at Atlantic City ceremony (L-R) Tom Major, Gil Boyer, John Varallo, Bill Coulter, Neil Wannan, Mike Stettler, Bob Goodman, and Tony Mussara



The plaque read, "In appreciation for your service and sacrifice for defending freedom and democracy for the Republic of Korea." Guest speakers included The Honorable Se-joo Son, Consul General of the Republic of Korea, Harris Baum, Honorary Consul General for the Republic of Korea, and the Honorable Don Guardian, the mayor of Atlantic City.

The festivities included a luncheon at Sally's, courtesy of the Southern New Jersey Korean Association.

Eugene Corcoran, 408 Joseph Ave.
Linwood, NJ 08221

250 CHARLES B. THACKER [VA]

Once again we had our annual dinner at Pine Mountain Grill. Even though we endured a malfunction with one of our cameras, we had a good meal and a productive meeting. Unfortunately, we were able to take only one photo.

During the meeting we made plans to visit a local elementary school when the fall semester begins.

Jack Bentley, P.O. Box 114, Pound, VA 24279
jandm67@verizon.net



Members and guests at Ch 250's annual dinner

258 NORTHERN RHODE ISLAND [RI]

Our new officers are Commander Antero ("Ted") Martens, Sr. Vice Cmdr. Joseph LaFountaine, Jr. Vice Cmdr. Dave M. Chmielewski, Treasurer John DuFour, Quartermaster Frank Sylvester, Chaplain Kenneth LaFountaine, Secretary Joseph Q. Nozolino, Sgt.-at-Arms John Shea, Trustees Jim ("Captain") Robbins, Rev. George Yany, and T.J. Berry, and Membership Chairman Robert Scanlon.



New officers of Ch 258 (Seated, L-R) Kenneth LaFountaine, Jim Robbins, John Shea, John DuFour, Antero ("Ted") Martens (Standing, L-R) Frank Sylvester, Joseph LaFountaine, David Chmielewski, Joseph Q. Nozolino,

We held a Rose of Sharon sale, using our new banner for the first time.

Antero ("Ted") Martens
54 Ferncrest Dr.
Pawtucket, RI 02861



Antero ("Ted") Martens of Ch 258 takes turn selling Roses of Sharon

Joseph LaFountaine (L) and George Lemieux of Ch 258 at Rose of Sharon sale



David Chmielewski, Antero Martens, and Eugene Champagne (L-R of Ch 258 share Rose of Sharon duty

Ch 258 members Antero Martens, Ken LaFountaine, and Joseph LaFountaine (L-R) sell Roses of Sharon



259 CENTRAL INDIANA [IN]

Several of our members were guests at a Tribute to World War 2 veterans and, for the first time, Korea War vets. This musical and banquet style celebration was put on by students of Indian Creek Elementary School who are or were class members of Social Studies Teacher Stephen Hardwick.



Members of Ch 259 at tribute (L-R) Don Hall, Lavern Nicholson, Paul Dickerson, Commander Tine P. Martin, Sr., Mel Butler, John M. Quinn, Jack Beaty and Cloice Dotson

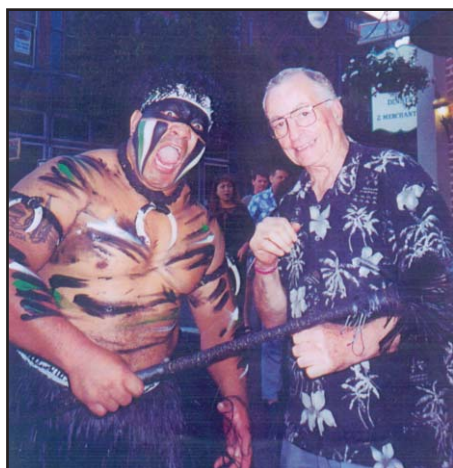
It was the 14th such annual event, with music provided by the Indiana National Guard Band. The event was held at the Armory of the 76th Infantry Brigade, Fort Benjamin Harrison.

John M. Quinn, saggi32@aol.com

264 MT. DIABLO [CA]

Several members recently visited Hawaii. A local warrior of years past greeted us at Murphy's Bar & Grill in Honolulu's Chinatown.

Stanley Grogan, 2585 Moraga Dr., Pinole, CA 94564



"Warrior" greets Stan Grogan of Ch 264 in Honolulu's Chinatown

289 MOUNTAIN EMPIRE [TN]

We had a busy spring and early summer. In April and May we awarded 21 Korean War Veterans' Medallions at eleven area high schools. We normally give two medals at each school, one to a boy and one to a girl.

We held a fund raiser in May which was not as successful as we had hoped. The weather was to blame as it rained on and off all day.



Robert Jenkins of Ch 289 presented the JROTC Korean War Veteran' Medal to his grandson, Jared Jenkins, at the Sullivan South High School Honor Program on May 12

Things heated up in July starting with the Kingsport 4th of July Parade. A week later we took part in the Kingsport Fun Fest Parade. We rode on the float with the non-marching members of the Vietnam group.



At the Kingsport [TN] Fun Fest Parade are Ch 289 members Joe Cody, Dewey Harless, Bob Shelton, Bill Reed, Fred Himelwright, and Bob Jenkins

Then we had a table set up in the Vietnam tent the following Wednesday through Saturday in front of the Kingsport War Memorial. Members manned the table Wednesday, (Thursday was our meeting night), and Friday afternoon and most of Saturday. Fun Fest ended that evening with a concert and fireworks.

Carol Shelton, cshelton37663@yahoo.com



Ch 289's Table in the Tent at Fun Fest, staffed by Dewey Harless, Bob Shelton, Fred Himelwright, and Bob Jenkins

317 SGT BILLY FREEMAN [GA]

We sent a copy of the Korea Reborn book to the Rome News Tribune newspaper. The paper printed an invitation to all veterans who served on the peninsula to stop by the Rome [GA] Area History Museum on June 28th and pick up their copies. All they had to do was show their DD-214s.

Chapter members set up a spot in front of the museum to hand out copies of the book on the appointed date. It was a successful day.

Charles W. Patterson, 545 N. Avery Rd. NW
Rome, GA 30165



Korean War veteran accepts a copy of Korea Reborn from Ch 317 members Sam Huckaby, Raynell Waters, Richard Kelley, and Bill Burchett (L-R)

319 LAWTON [OK]

We rededicated our Korean Memorial in Lawton, OK on June 25th. A large crowd was on hand. Nine of the original sixteen founding chapter members were recognized during the ceremony.



Nine of the original sixteen founders of Ch 319



The Comanche Honor Guard at the Lawton rededication

The Comanche Indian Veterans Association members composed the Honor Guard during the event. Most of these members are also Korean War veterans; some are Vietnam War veterans.

At the conclusion of the ceremonies, the Korean Church Choir from the United Methodist Church sang some beautiful renditions for all present. The church was instrumental in erecting this grand memorial.



Korean Church Choir members perform at Lawton commemoration

After the ceremonies ended, the church members invited all chapter members to lunch. Needless to say, the church members put on a spread second to none.

The veterans of Lawton have a motto: This generation of veterans will not forget our past veterans.

Cecil "Bud" Arenz, 2807 NW Lynn Cir., Lawton, OK 73507, 580-512-7282, opastien@fidnet.com

Visit the Korean War Veterans Association Website:
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.

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June 25th: Remembrance Day In Washington

Members from several chapters in Maryland and Virginia participated in the annual Remembrance Day ceremony at the Korean War Memorial on the Mall in Washington, D.C. on June 25, 2014. Remembrance Day is an annual commemorative event conducted by the ROK Embassy.

Participating in this event were representatives from the 21 countries which made up the United Nations command during the war, Korean War veterans from Maryland and Virginia chapters, KWVA President Larry Kinard, Korean veterans from Korean War chapters in the Washington, D.C. area, U.S. military representatives, and numerous staff from the ROK Embassy.

The ceremony was led by LtCol Kang Moon Ho, Assistant Defense Attaché at the Embassy. Welcoming remarks were made by MajGen Shin Kyoung So, Defense Attaché. The featured speakers were ROK Ambassador Ahn Ho-young and President Kinard, both of whom addressed the importance of Remembrance Day and its meaning to Korean and American veterans.

Special medals from the Korean government were awarded to several veterans, including Col. William E. Weber, from Frederick, MD. Wreaths to commemorate those who gave their lives were placed by the representatives of the 21 nations with the assistance of the 3rd Infantry "Old Guard." Music was provided by the USMC "President's Own" Band.

Pictures were taken, old friendships were renewed, and this very dignified ceremony was concluded on a high note for all those who braved the intense heat and humidity of the day.

After the ceremony at the Mall, many of the participants reconvened at the residence of Ambassador Ahn for lunch. The luncheon gathering provided another opportunity to socialize among the international dignitaries, who included four

ambassadors and numerous general officers, active and retired.

All in all, the Koreans proved to be great hosts and the Korean War veterans who attended both the ceremony on the Mall and the luncheon felt honored to be part of these dignified events. The KWVA chapters that participated in the Remembrance Day events were chapters #100 (Arlington, VA), #142 (Frederick, MD), #312 (Hagerstown, MD) and #313 (Winchester, VA).

5 - NORTHERN CALIFORNIA #1 [CA]

Our yearly observance of the start of the Korean War took place June 21, 2014 at the VFW Hall in Anderson, CA. It was presented by the South Korean community in honor of the local Korean veterans.

In attendance were State Congressman Doug LaMalfa, Past Veterans Affairs representative and event chairman Maurice Johannsen, South Korean Consulate General from San Francisco Dongman Han, and other local dignitaries.

The Ambassador for Peace Medal



Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition from 1st Congressional District, CA presented by Congressman Doug LaMalfa

and a citation were presented to all Korean veterans in attendance. Korean community members prepared many Korean dishes that everyone enjoyed.

Frank F. Rose, 984 West St.,
Redding, CA 96001, 530-247-3844,
ffrose32@yahoo.com



Korean veteran Jack Kilpatrick of Ch 5 (R) and VFW Post Commander Chuck Goff



Dongman Han presents Certificate of Appreciation to Kim Chamberlin for the outstanding leadership on behalf of the Korean veterans



Congressman Doug LaMalfa, Dongman Han, Kim Chamberlin of Ch 5, and Maurice Johannsen (L-R) at Anderson, CA

29 - SSGT WM E. WINDRICH #3 [IN]

Members attended an event in Wheeling, IL to commemorate the 64th anniversary of the start of the Korean War. There were 600 Korean War veterans in attendance.

oner by the Chinese in November 1950.

Sortillo spent his 18th and 19th birthdays as a POW. After the fighting ended he re-enlisted and served in Vietnam with Special Forces.

*Herbert A. Verrill, 1833
169th St., Hammond, IN
46324*



Dongman Han and Congressman LaMalfa present Memorial of Remembrance



Part of the crowd of Korean War veterans at the Wheeling, IL commemoration



MajGen Dean Sangals, USMC (ret), of Ch 29 receives award at Wheeling, IL

19 - GEN RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

At a dinner hosted by the Korean War Veterans of Atlanta commemorating the 64th anniversary of the Korean War start, Mrs. Bok-ryeol Rhyou, Deputy Consul General, and James Conway, Chapter Secretary, gave talks on appreciations.

*James Conway,
conatlanta@comcast.net*



Representatives from Ch 29 at Wheeling, IL event (Back, L-R) Herb Verrill, Eliseo Castaneda, Elliott Sortillo (Front, L-R) Al Solis, KWVA President Larry Kinard, Mel Rangel



Mrs. Bok-ryeol Rhyou, Deputy Consul General (L) and James Conway of Ch 19 at Atlanta dinner



The Color Guard at Wheeling, IL



An unidentified South Korean general sits at Wheeling, IL gathering



Sortillo, associate member, at the commemoration

One of our members in the group was Elliott Sortillo, who has an interesting military background. He joined the Army at age 15 after telling, as he put it, "many fibs." He was taken pris-

56 - VENTURA COUNTY [CA]

Commander David Lopez spoke at the San Pedro Friendship Bell on June 25th to commemorate the start of the Korean War. On June 21st there was a ceremony on Wilshire



David Lopez of Ch 56 (R) and Jesus Rodriquez at the San Pedro Friendship Bell



Benjamin and Betty Espinoza represent Ch 56 on Wilshire Blvd. in Los Angeles



Korean Americans at ceremony on Wilshire Boulevard in Los Angeles

Boulevard in Los Angeles to mark the start of the war. Several members and guests attended the event hosted by local Korean-Americans.

David Lopez, 3850 W 180th Pl.,
Torrance, CA 90504, 310-323-8481,
LopezPitts9@aol.com

Group from Ch 56 at Los Angeles commemoration



170 – TAEJON [NJ]

Arcola Korean United Methodist Church of Paramus, NJ honored Chapters 170 and 216 (KWVA M*A*S*H 4099) on June 21, 2014. The church holds this annual event to honor all Korean War veterans and family members.



Salvatore Scarlato addresses crowd at Arcola Korean United Methodist Church



Mayor Karen Chamberline and Commander Green of Ch 170 at church event

The Korean General Consul from New York City was scheduled to be at this special 5 p.m. event to give out a South Korean medal to each veteran for his service in the Korean War. He was unable to attend due to heavy traffic around the George Washington Bridge. Traffic was backed up for miles, and he was in the middle of it. Therefore, church elder Kyu Ho Park, Commander Kenneth Green, and Sr. Vice Commander Robert O'Toole presented the medals.



Robert O'Toole
of Ch 170 at
June 25th
event



25th-24 Commanders Kenneth Green and Albert Gonzalez share the podium at Arcola Korean United Methodist Church



Pastor Timothy Myunghoon Ahn of Arcola Korean United Methodist Church

The ceremony began with the Colors being advanced by Jr. Vice Commander Henry Ferrarini and Color Guard member Alexander Atheras. That was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a salute to the flag led by Adjutant Perry Georgison and the singing of the national anthem by Sarah Miller of Girl Scout Troop 4324. Prof. Yang Gil Ji sang the Korean national anthem.

Church Pastor Rev. Dr. Timothy Myunghoon Ahn welcomed the large crowd of veterans and guests. Then, Associate Pastor Rev. Hyoik Kim offered an invocation, after which emcee Commander Kenneth Green took over.

Guest speakers were the Honorable Kathleen Donovan, County Executive, Bergen County, and the Honorable Karen Chamberline, the mayor of Saddle Brook, NJ.

Reverend Ahn announced that it was time for dinner. He said a prayer and invited everyone to a great Korean-American buffet style meal. Next up was entertainment, featuring opera singers, a flute and cello duet, an accordion solo, and traditional Korean dances by young Korean girls.

KWVA National Director Salvatore Scarlato spoke about the Korean War and how South Korea and Korean-Americans honor and appreciate the U.S. Korean War veterans. He mentioned that in the history of American wars, South Korea is the only country that honors and never forgets what we did for them.

After Scarlato's presentation, plaques were presented to church members for their great work in preparing the wonderful food and arranging the entertainment. Sr. Vice Commander Robert O'Toole conducted the presentation, O'Toole is also the mayor of Cedar Grove, NJ. His wife, a South Korean, who is usually present at these events, was visiting relatives in Korea.

Commander Green called out the names of Ch 170 members as Kyu Ho Park presented the Ambassador for Peace medals and Official Proclamation certificate. M*A*S*H* chapter Commander Albert Gonzalez did the honors for his members.

To conclude the event, "Taps" was played and everyone sang "God Bless America." Adjutant Perry Georgison called for the retirement of the Colors.

All in all, it was a great night of fellowship.

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

259 - CENTRAL INDIANA [IN]

On the 64th year anniversary of the Korean War start, we were invited to tell the "Forgotten Victory" story to employees of the Veterans' Affairs Regional Office, in Indianapolis. The staff and family members gave a warm welcome to our members. The presentation was made at the famous World War I Memorial and Museum, in Indianapolis, on June 25th.

Some 100 employees and family members were attentive and very complimentary of the lecture, given by member John Michael Quinn. Introductions were made by VA Regional Director Michael R. Stephens and KWVA National Director Tine P. Martin, Sr.



Director Michael R. Stephens, Tine P. Martin, Sr. KWVA Board member, Robert Schmidt, Korea War veteran and Honor Guard member, John Michael Quinn, and Deputy Director Michael Scheibel (L-R) on the stage is in the General John J. Pershing auditorium in Indianapolis. Photo by Kyle E. Schmidt.

The gathering was held in the impressive General John J. Pershing Auditorium, where several holders of the Medal of Honor have been paid tribute in the past. This memorial was built in honor of those who gave their lives in battle during the First World War. In the museum are tributes to all those who died in subsequent conflicts and wars before and after WW1.

John M. Quinn, Saggi32@aol.com

297 - PLATEAU [TN]

July 2014 was the 61st anniversary of the Korean War cease fire. The Korean-American Association of Clarksville, TN and Ft. Campbell, KY celebrated a salute to all Korean veterans in Middle Tennessee at the Wilson Theater at the Ft. Campbell Military Base, home of the 101st Airborne

Division.

MajGen Choi Seung Woo, of South Korea, presented a 61st Anniversary Medal of the Armistice to the Middle Tennessee Korean veterans, along with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Five chapter members attended the ceremony: Commander Bob Johnston, Bob Gruber, Carroll

Reusch, Ted Hirabayashi, and Emil Zenk.

Mayor Kim McMillan of Clarksville presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Bob Johnston on behalf of all veterans in Middle Tennessee.

Korean high school students dressed in native Korean costumes provided the entertainment. The program included a full orchestra playing their native instruments.

Richard Malsack, 146 Anglewood Dr., Crossville, TN 38558

WHEELING, IL

People commemorated the 64th anniversary of the start of the Korean War at a June 14th dinner in Wheeling, IL. Attendees came from Illinois, Wisconsin, and Michigan. Among them were Gordy Schultz, Dwaine Loest, and George Kaprelian.

*George Kaprelian
W6900 Shadybrook Cir.
Fond du Lac, WI 54937
920-922-1853 (H)
561-642-4054 (C)
grkaprelian@att.net*

South Korean high school students entertain guests at Ft. Campbell event



Carroll Reusch, Ted Hirabayashi, Emil Zenk, and Bob Gruber of Ch 297 (L-R) at Ft. Campbell, KY



MajGen Choi of South Korea



Bob Johnston of Ch 297 displays certificate presented by Mayor Kim McMillan (R). Clarksville City Clerk Sylvia Skinner is at left

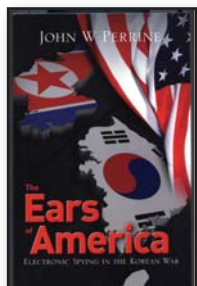


Gordy Schultz, Dwaine Loest, and George Kaprelian of VFW Post 1904 at Wheeling, IL dinner

Books Written By KWVA Members

We receive large numbers of books written by KWVA members about the Korean War. We receive so many, in fact, that we cannot review them all. So, we will list as many as possible, with brief synopses of the books. For the most part, the books listed are available through amazon.com or other commercial sites. The descriptions are those presented at amazon.com, and the prices are those listed at the time of this writing.

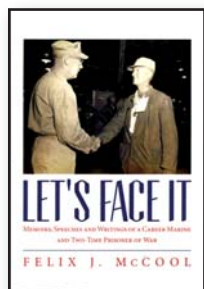
As usual, we do not endorse the books. They are caveat emptor, i.e., "buyer beware."



John W. Perrine, The Ears of America, 2011, 147pp., ISBN: 1466243546, paperback, \$8.78

The Ears of America is the personal story of a young man's journey from a small New Jersey town to the Cold War conflict of Korea. More than merely a battle of geography, Korea became a clash of two opposing ideologies: democracy and communism. This book provides a firsthand look into the daily operations of the Army Security Agency and the soldiers charged with intercepting enemy transmissions in order to stay one step ahead of their foes. The book tells of the important role played by South Korean and UN forces; the critical services provided by the air force, artillery, engineers, and many other supporting units; and of the psychological warfare that was being waged by both sides. The conflict in Korea transitioned the world into a new era. The Ears of America details the bravery of those involved in this war; a war that has yet to officially end.

NOTE: Perrine says "Incentive to write of my combat experiences in Korea was the result of a visiting historian at a VFW meeting who noted the need for more personalized military history, and to the insistence of several friends and relatives to record my personal war time experiences."



Felix J. McCool, Let's Face It: Memoirs, Speeches And Writings Of A Career Marine And Two-Time Prisoner Of War. 2014. 334pp. ISBN 978-149-365-4796, \$11.32, Kindle, \$4.99.

Surviving as a prisoner of war takes courage. While no longer in combat, POWs are at the mercy of their captors, who try to control prisoners through intimidation, physical harm, or simply crushing their

spirits.

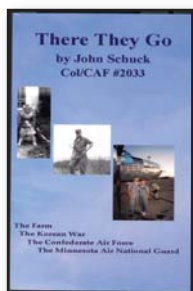
Career Marine Chief Warrant Officer Felix McCool understood the challenges facing POWs better than most. First captured by the Japanese in World War II, McCool was also a POW during the Korean War.

The Chinese captured McCool at Chosin, and took him to a Communist POW camp. His captors attempted to indoctrinate prisoners and turn them against the United States.

McCool's letters home, poems, and speeches describe the

pressures applied to prisoners, their hardships, struggles, and how the men managed to remain dedicated and loyal to their country.

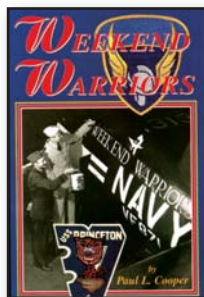
Reach Perrine at 75 Shore Road, Lake Hopatcong NJ 07849, jwperrine@optonline.net



John Schuck, Col/CAF #2033, There They Go, 2013, 128pp., ISBN 13-978-1481921022, \$10.80, Kindle \$3.99

John Schuck's "life up in the air" began when a Piper Cub landed in the community pasture near his home. Within seven years he'd become a Civil Air Patrol Cadet; in two more years he joined the United States Air Force. In this very personal story Schuck recounts his life-long passion for planes through his service in the Korean War and later as a Colonel in the Confederate Air Force.

Reach John Schuck at 1471 Gantt St., The Villages, FL 32162

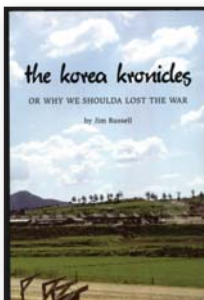


Paul L. Cooper, Weekend Warriors, Rosedog Books, Pittsburgh, PA, 2013, 190pp., ISBN 978-1-4349-3491-8. \$23.95, Kindle, \$9.99.

Winston Churchill called them "twice a citizen" — the military Reservists. This account of their contribution in the Korean War is written from a citizen/sailor viewpoint. Reserve fighter squadron VF-871 from Naval Air Station Oakland, California, is followed from the author's call to active duty in July 1950 and his preparation and service in Korea aboard the aircraft carrier Princeton to his release to inactive duty in September 1951. Cooper candidly evaluates the squadron's performance based on the quality and depth of training and notes the continuing drama surrounding the 38th Parallel.

"A formal peace treaty has never been signed and the two sides remain technically at war. The beat goes on."

Edited by McCool's grand-nephew Scott Marckmann and Marckmann's mother, Let's Face It is an inspiring collection of thoughts on war and freedom by a true patriot.



Jim Russell, the korea kronicles. OR WHY WE SHOULDA LOST THE WAR. 2014, 143pp. Order through blurb.com. Hardcover \$39.95; Softcover \$9.13.

Sgt. James S. Russell served in the U.S. Army from 1951-53, including a stint in Korea. He served in the Corps of Engineers, armed with a truck, a government-issue typewriter, and a good sense of humor. When fifty years later the Library of Congress asked veterans to write and provide memories of their military experiences, Russell's eight-page summary grew into this book — an entertaining, at times poignant, history of one young man's wartime service.

Hundreds Gather At Reflecting Pool To Honor Korean War Veterans And Hope For Peace

By Hannah Kim

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Hundreds gathered at the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool to honor veterans and participate in a vigil held on the eve of National Korean War Veterans Cease Fire Day (July 27th), marking the fateful day the ceasefire agreement was signed on July 27, 1953.

Renowned spiritual leader Sister Jenna and artist Shizumi Shigeto Manale joined humanitarians Elizabeth and Dennis Kucinich in calling for peace on the Korean Peninsula, in the Gaza, Ukraine, and elsewhere conflict persists.

Hosted by Remember727, with the support of Korean Cultural Center and the Korean War Legacy Foundation, the 7th Annual Cease Fire Day Commemoration & Peace Vigil brought together people of all ages, colors and creed, who shared in its simple mission of



Participants at Washington D.C. event show unity

“Remembrance. Recognition. Reconciliation.”

Following a performance by Korean Traditional Music Pansori Institute, David Tauler, a multi-instrumentalist and five-time winner of Amateur Night at the Apollo Theater, kicked off the event with Psy’s sensational Korean pop-song “Gangnam Style,” before playing the national anthem on his saxophone as the program officially began.

“Standing tonight in this

extraordinary place in our nation’s capital, we all certainly feel blessed to be Americans enjoying the freedom that so many have died to protect,” said the mistress of ceremony, Sery Kim, ABC/NBC/FOX contributor and former counsel to Rep. Darrell Issa, as she introduced the evening’s honorees, the Korean War veterans.

Speaking on the importance of remembering the “Forgotten War” were President Larry Kinard of the Korean War

Veterans Association and Colonel William Weber, one of the nineteen soldiers memorialized in a statue at the National Korean War Memorial. Standing next to her grandfather, Dwayne Weber, a representative of the Korean War Veterans Youth Corps, reiterated the significance of recognizing their sacrifices and continuing their legacy.

The reminder that “Freedom is not free” was conveyed by Yera Anna Kim, award-winning concert pianist from South Korea, who performed America The Beautiful on a grand piano against the magnificent backdrop of the Washington Monument and the United States Capitol.

“This Cease Fire Day reminds us that though 61 years ago a war was brought to a halt, the work of reconciliation must continue. There is no more appropriate site to convey that message than the Lincoln Memorial. President Lincoln moved mightily to heal the divisions of civil war and to



Dennis Kucinich and Hannah Kim in Washington D.C.



David Tauler plays national anthem on sax at Armistice commemoration

unify America,” said former Congressman Dennis Kucinich. “History calls forth the healing spirit of Lincoln in every nation, so that the spirit of the world may ascend from the ashes of war.”

Eunsu Kim, founder of Washington Sorichung, then articulated the pain and tragedy of war in her solo performance of Pansori, a Korean traditional genre of musical story-telling.

As it neared 7:27 p.m., humanitarian Elizabeth Kucinich led the audience into the vigil to encourage “bringing the light and hope for global Cease Fire and end of all wars, expanding its notion and significance for humanity.” Then, exactly at 7:27pm, the crowd held their candles in silence to observe a moment of prayer for peace in the world.

Breaking the silence softly came the beautiful rendition of Michael Jackson’s Heal The World by DC Kollaboration champion Dave Yoon and his band.

To usher in the spirit of rec-

onciliation and healing, Sister Jenna, founder for Meditation Museum and a globally-recognized voice of consciousness, gently urged the attendees into removing all thoughts of self, such as race, nationality, political beliefs, gender, religion and other characteristics that divide mankind, to allow awareness of what unites us: Shizumi Shigeto Manale, clad in a kimono, recounted her experience of growing up in Japan after the bombing of Hiroshima and her ongoing efforts to promote healing through various art forms as film-maker, dancer, and author, such as in her recently published book *Running with Cosmos Flowers: The Children of Hiroshima*.

Their inspiring remarks were followed immediately by Yera Anna Kim’s grand piano performance of a Chopin Étude. Sally Kaplan, Student Peace Alliance National Coordinator, then pressed the urgent need for young people to advocate for legislation and policy that will help reduce violence, as

Chic Dambach, former President and CEO of Alliance for Peacebuilding, provided examples on ways people can coalesce to resolve conflicts and search for common solutions.

“Our goal has always been simply to promote reconciliation through remembrance and recognition,” said Hannah Kim, the founder of Remember727 and organizer of the annual event. “I’m grateful to see so many gather to reflect on the significance of Cease Fire Day, especially in the context of the escalating violence in many parts of our world.”

“I truly believe we can build the change we want to see if we put our differences aside to join hands in calling for peace together,” Hannah Kim added, as she encouraged the audience to hold hands while singing “Arirang.” The quintessential Korean folk song not only became popular among U.S. soldiers during the Korean War, but it was also performed by the New York Philharmonic

during its historical trip to North Korea in 2008.

The official program ended with Yera Anna Kim’s encore performance of Heal The World. In all, audience and tourists alike were moved by the meaningful musical performances and speeches that were weaved throughout the commemoration, bringing the crowd to both laughter and prayer.

Special features included a wreath-laying ceremony at the Korean War Memorial, led by the Korean War veterans, along with an outdoor exhibition of The Spirit of Peace and Healing: Out of the Trauma of the 6/25 War, by contemporary artist Eunsook Lee, who gained widespread international acclaim for her displays of illuminated installation artwork in front of Berlin’s Brandenburg Gate and along the Korea’s DMZ.

NOTES: The Korean War was not just a war between Koreans. From 1950-1953, 1.8 million American men



Col Bill Weber salutes at D.C. event



Guests honor 7/27 cease fire on D.C. Mall



Sister Jenna, Hannah Kim, and Sery Kim (L-R) at Washington D.C. get-together

and women served in the Korean War, including 600,000 African-Americans, 25,000 Japanese-Americans, 20,000 Chinese-Americans, and 148,000 Hispanic-Americans. The U.S. suffered 54,246 casualties and 8,176+ plus POW/MIAs. Source:

[https://ci6.googleusercontent.com/proxy/RnNZfQn2o2xpggJQqefCOervMbPlci5mujDPJnvl43kv6Rtxjyh5gHN_JKVzeU-aaGz3pePFgxfoAAAtZJZNx8mveVTc-11j98EfuAJVcumUenA=s0-d-e1-ft#https://ssl.gstatic.com/ui/v1/icons/mail/images/](https://ci6.googleusercontent.com/proxy/RnNZfQn2o2xpggJQqefCOervMbPlci5mujDPJnvl43kv6Rtxjyh5gHN_JKVzeU-aaGz3pePFgxfoAAAtZJZNx8mveVTc-11j98EfuAJVcumUenA=s0-d-e1-ft#https://ssl.gstatic.com/ui/v1/icons/mail/images/cleardot.gif)

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In total, the Korean War involved 26 nations: UN Allied (23) -Republic of Korea, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines, South Africa, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Naval Support/Service: Japan, Medical: Denmark, Italy, Norway, India, Sweden; Communist Forces (3)- Democratic People's Republic of Korea, People's



Larry Kinard, Sal Scarlato, and an unidentified veteran show solidarity at annual Armistice gathering.

Republic of China, Soviet Union.

The Korean War claimed the lives of more than 2.5 million Koreans and separated more than 10 million Korean families, including 100,000 Korean Americans who have yet to meet their families in the North.

The 3-mile wide buffer

zone between the two Koreas, known as the DMZ, is the most heavily armed border in the world. Today, the two Koreas remain the only divided nation in the world that is technically at war.

Reach Hannah Kim at hkim@remember727.org



Elizabeth Kunich (L) and Shizumi Shigeto Manale at Reflecting Pool on D.C. Mall



Members of Korean Traditional Music Pansori Institute perform at D.C. commemoration

Korean War Cease Fire Commemoration

A ceremony to remember and commemorate the 61st Anniversary of the signing of the cease fire that ended the fighting in Korea in 1953 was held on July 26, 2014 at Arlington National Cemetery.

The ceremony, sponsored by

Chinese armies, whose intent was to take control of the government of South Korea and to unite the entire Korean Peninsula under communist rule.

Prior to the ceremony in the Amphitheater, KWVA

Kinard, ROK Vice-Minister of the Ministry of Patriot and Veterans Affairs, Minister Choi Wan Keun, the United States Postmaster General, the Honorable Patrick R. Donahoe, ROK Ambassador to the United States, the

we are gathered at the place where 25 Korean War Medal of Honor recipients are laid to rest. With these stamps we salute them and all Medal of Honor recipients, who so bravely fought for our nation.”

Following the ceremony at the amphitheater, we all traveled to the nearby Pentagon



President Kinard (L) and Ambassador Ahn speak at the Cease Fire ceremony



Ambassador Ahn (L) and Postmaster General Donahoe unveil the Korean War Medal of Honor stamp



President Kind recognizes LtCol Kang Moon-Ho, aka "Tiger," (L) as honorary member of the KWVA

the Korean War Veterans Association, the Embassy of the Republic of Korea, the Korea Veterans Memorial Foundation, and the United States Postal Service, was held to salute and honor our men and women whose sacrifices enabled our South Korean friends and comrades to survive the onslaught of the North Korean and

President, Larry Kinard and the Republic of Korea Ambassador to the United States, the Honorable Ahn Ho-Young, placed a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns in the Arlington National Cemetery.

The Master of Ceremonies for the day was Colonel David J. Clark, United States Army

(Ret). Colonel Clark is well known by all Korean War veterans for his service as the Director for the three-year program where we commemorated the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War.

Colonel Clark introduced the members of the Official Party: KWVA President Larry

Honorable Ahn, Ho-Young and Chaplain Colonel Jeffery Zusk. Each of the speakers made remarks that were appropriate for the occasion.

The highlight of the day's program was a ceremony and unveiling of a new forever stamp dedicated to pay tribute to the 145 American veterans who received the nation's highest military honor for personal acts of valor above and beyond the call of duty during the Korean War. Joining the Postmaster in the unveiling was Ambassador Ahn, along with one of the living Korean War Medal of Honor recipients, Mr. Thomas Jerome Hudner, Jr. of Concord, MA.

In his remarks Postmaster General Donahoe said, "Today we are here, in this peaceful setting, to remember a war and those who fought it so valiantly. It's very fitting that

Sheraton Hotel where we were treated to a delicious luncheon hosted by our friends at the Republic of Korea Embassy. At the luncheon, President Kinard conferred a KWVA Honorary Membership on ROK Marine Corps Lt. Col. Kang Moon Ho, the Assistant Defense and Naval Attaché with the Republic of Korea Embassy in Washington, D. C.

Lt. Col. Kang, better known as "Tiger," has returned to Korea where he will assume the Command of a Marine Corps unit in his homeland. Tiger has been a true friend to all of us who have had the opportunity to meet him and we wish him well in his new assignment.

*Lew Ewing, 310 Clay Hill Dr., Winchester, VA 22602
540-539-8705,
lewewing@gmail.com*

56 - Ventura County [CA] Ceremony

We held our 61st Commemorative ceremony to the end of the Korean War on July 26, 2014 at the Santa Paula Veterans Park. The ceremony was a huge success, thanks to a very supportive community, dedicated veterans throughout the area, and the excellent support provided by the City of Santa Paula Community Services Director Ed Mount and his staff members, particularly Luis Salazar and Ed Ramos. We sincerely appreciate all those attending and assisting.

We thank Yamaguchi Flowers for the excellent floral wreaths and the Santa Paula Times for the outstanding coverage of our

event.

The ceremony was well attended by many American and the Republic of Korea Korean War veterans from throughout the Southern California area. They included Steve Cho (U.S. Army, ret), Korean War Veterans Liaison Officer; President Hong Ki Park of the Korean War Veterans Los Angeles and members; President James Lee, Korean War Veterans Orange County and members; First Marine Division Association member Martin Vasquez (U.S. Marines, ret); 40th Infantry Division, 224 Infantry Mr. David Pressey, who also served as Chaplain for our event, and



The crowd at the Santa Paula, CA commemoration



David Lopez, Ch 56 Commander, KVA President James Lee, Orange County President Hong Ki Park, Advisor Mung Sung Kim, and Col Seo among guests at Santa Paula, CA commemoration, where 42 wreaths were placed

For All Veterans, Mr. Robert Rabago. The public was invited to participate in the wreath laying ceremony; 36 families participated.

A veteran's military funeral ceremony was demonstrated, and the American flag was fold-

170 - Taejon [NJ] Ceremony

Twenty Korean War veterans participated in a commemoration of the 61st anniversary of the July 27, 1953 cease fire signing. The event, which was sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and KWVA Chapter 234, took place on July 28th at the New Jersey Korean War Veterans Memorial in Atlantic City. Commander Bill Coulter of Ch 234, KWVA of Atlantic County, NJ, acted as emcee.



Thomas Boyle of Ch 170 stands next to 12'-high bronze statue of Korean War GI at New Jersey Korean War Veterans Memorial

Commander Coulter called the program to order at 11:30 a.m. The opening was followed by the Presentation of Colors by Ken Kirby, Officer of the Day for Chapters 234 and 148 (Central Jersey). Next came the

ed, with the twelve steps explained.

The Rifle Squad, commanded by David Garcia, provided the three volleys fired. The ceremony ended with Taps, played by Rudy Arellano.

David Lopez, 3850 W. 180th Pl., Torrance, CA 90504



Bill Coulter speaks at New Jersey commemoration

national anthem and an invocation by National Director and Chaplain of the Department of New Jersey, Tom McHugh.

After many state dignitaries were introduced, State Assemblyman Vincent Mazzio, who represents Legislative District #2, delivered the keynote speech.

One of the main events at the ceremony was the presentations of the New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal, State Korean War Service Medal, and Meritorious Service Medal. Ninety percent of our chapter members in attendance received medals.

After this segment of the program ended everyone sang "God Bless America." There followed a wreath laying ceremony at the Memorial Wall on which is inscribed the names of

Korean War veterans stand in front of New Jersey "Wall of Honor"

George Bruzgis, Kenneth Green, and Tom McHugh at New Jersey cease fire observation

888 New Jersey military personnel killed in action.

One special note that was included in the programs bears mentioning: "The United States involvement in the Korean conflict resulted in 33,742 Americans dead and 92,134 Americans wounded. It is fitting and proper for the State to recognize and honor its residents who served and those who died in that conflict."

After the event ended, Korean War veterans, family members and friends headed to the casinos to try their luck.

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



317 - Sgt. Billy Freeman [GA] Ceremony

Koreans Honor Korean War Veterans

The American-Korean Friendship Society honored Korean War veterans from Georgia who served in Korea beginning June 25, 1950 until the cease fire was signed on July 27, 1953. The commemoration was held at the

Georgia State Capitol on July 25, 2014.

Mr. Sunny K. Park spearheaded this event to honor the veterans and to show his appreciation of the South Korean people for helping to make South Korea a free nation.

*Charles W. Patterson
545 N Avery Rd. NW
Rome, GA 30165*

Members of Ch 317 at American-Korean Friendship Society event (L-R) Buck Huckaby, Raynell Waters, Charles W. Patterson, Lt. General Billy Brown, Sunny K. Park, Jim Mehaffey



Freedom's 'Seeds' Planted Over 60 Years Ago

By Tom J. Thiel, Bob McGuire, Chuck Husbands, Jim Prior, and Phil Chinnery

Sixty years ago, more or less, we all planted freedom seeds in Korea; in August 2014 we all experienced firsthand some of the “the fruits of those labors.” From August 5-10, five games between teams from the South Korean University Baseball Federation (KUBF) and the Florida Collegiate Summer League (CFL) were played in Sanford, Deland, and Leesburg, Florida.

The baseball alone was great. But, it also gave Korean vets a first-hand glimpse of what they had preserved so long ago: freedom for South Korea—and freedom to play the U.S. pastime of baseball!

Chapter 169 (KWVA of Lake County) and the Department of Florida (DoF) used this special opportunity to welcome the South Korean team to the U.S. This was significant for baseball in the U.S., especially for Central Florida baseball. The South Koreans chose this exchange with CFL Summer wood-bat baseball, a singular recognition of the quality of play in that league.

All involvement by KWVA in this unique cultural exchange can be attributed to Chapter 169's special Honorary Associate Member, Bob Peters, an AF Veteran of the Vietnam War, who is also the moderator for LakeFrontTV's outstanding “Salute (to veterans) program.” When Bob became aware that the South Korean team was coming to Leesburg, he crystalized groups to plan and carry out a program to welcome the KUBF team.

The participants included Leesburg lawyer Chuck Johnson, who is a baseball fanatic and a Director and P.A. announcer for the Leesburg Lightning; Jennifer Magavero, Asst. Dir. of Public Works for the City of Leesburg; Rob Sitz, President of the Florida Baseball League; Joseph Ryu, from the local Korean-American community; Don Rixie of Veterans Carpets, Leesburg; and Bob Peters and Tom Thiel, representing CID169. Without the vision and active support of this group, KWVA would not have been involved!

When Tom Thiel learned that games were to be played in Deland and Sanford, he invited Chuck Husbands of Chapter 189 (Central Florida East Coast) and Chuck Travers of Chapter 173 (Mid-Florida) to work with Rob Sitz for the games in their areas, which they did. Now “Let's go to the videotape!”

Combined South Korean – U.S. teams together after the last game, exchanging hugs, handshakes and jerseys; it made us feel really proud to have had played just a small role in enabling this grand event! (Phil Chinnery)



Tom Thiel presents Chapter 169 lapel pins to members of the South Korean team; Bill Shumaker did the same for the Central Florida team. (Photo by Bob Peters)

Bob Peters, Congressman Daniel Webster, Bill Shumaker and DJ Lynch (L-R) prior to Friday's Leesburg game (Photo by Bob Peters)



Deland, FL: Stetson University's Melching Field, August 6, Chapters 189 and 153 (Central Florida)

By Bob McGuire and Chuck Husbands, Chapter 189 and DoF

The three generation and cultural chasm between the American Korean veterans who saved Korea from annihilation and the grandsons of the saved generation met this week for an emotional “Meet and Greet.” Here, for the first time, Korean veterans and their families were able to sit down with the grandchildren of those they were defending more than 61 years ago. The Reverend Pyoung Ok Hur, President of the Korean-American Ministries Association of Central Florida, and part of his congregation also attended the celebration, where there were a few tears, hugs, and thumbs up signs given by both groups.

Mark VanDeventer, VFW 3282 Commander, and Chuck Husbands, a Past President of Ch 189, were given a signed baseball as a token of remembrance. A memorial plaque was presented to the Korean baseball team's coach. Some of the Florida Central Baseball team members were also present and duly recognized.

Bob McGuire, the KWVA Commander for the State of Florida,

introduced many of the players to the traditional baseball game food we call “hot dogs.” He symbolically slathered his hot dog with a Korean staple, “kimchi.” The athletes followed suit. They all had “kimchi dogs” for the first time.

As Commander McGuire wished the guests goodbye, many of the Koreans requested personal photos.

Bear Fruit

One young man, having heard the stories told by many of the veterans, asked Bob for a photo and said in broken English, “You have touched me” and pointed to his heart. Then he bowed and said, “I will remember you.” Have you ever seen a grown man cry?

Deb VanDeventer sang the nation anthem at the ballgame at Stetson Stadium that evening and Reverend Hur sang the Korean national anthem. The competitive game that followed concluded the day-long occasion on a happy note. The memories will be cherished.

Sanford’s Memorial Stadium, August 5 and August 9 (from Jim Prior, Ch 173)

We sponsored a lunch for the two teams and participated in two games with the Color and Honor Guards. I carried the Korean flag for the first game and was questioned about my cheering for the KUBF team. They lost that game, but it’s the series that counts. However, if the Sanford River Rats had won the Florida League series, I would have been conflicted about cheering for both teams.

(For a great summary of the series, go to www.floridaleague.com. Under League News, click on two news items: Korean Series: More Than Just Baseball, and Korea Wins International Series Finale. Jim Prior)

Selected quotes by Phil Chinnery Director of Central Florida League Operations from the floridaleague.com.

After the last game: “As the two teams met on the field, swapping jerseys, hats and handshakes, it would be hard to tell that a team had just lost a baseball game. The KUBF team had just wrapped up a five-game set with the Florida League, winning the final three games to take the series 3-2. But in the moments following the game, it was easy to see that this series was about more than just baseball.”

“To overcome the language barrier, most communication was delivered through hand gestures and translator apps on mobile phones. Despite the lack of a common tongue, it was easy to see that the two teams were enjoying themselves and finding many things in common with each other besides baseball.”

“The Florida League would like to extend a special thank you to all of the veterans groups who hosted the teams for meals and supplied color guards for each game. ...And of course, we would like to thank the Korean United Baseball Federation for traveling to our beautiful state for a week of fun that we will certainly never forget.”

Leesburg’s Historic Pat Thomas Stadium, August 8 and 10, by Tom Thiel, Chapter 169

We got to the ballpark around 3:30 p.m. Friday, August 8, in sweltering heat. Our Color Guard, Bob Peters, and some of the LakeFrontTV film crew, Gloria and Jim Corbet with the Chapter’s Tell America table-top display at the entrance to the stadium, and other members—all were there. Thank goodness for the stadium roof that protected us from the direct sun’s rays.

With batting practice underway, and some thunderclaps in the south as well, Bob videoed a short segment with CID169 members that appeared on Inside Leesburg. (You may view it at <http://youtu.be/-2Ra0jloz8>.) All of this was recorded just a few short

hours before the start of Friday’s game, with most field shots actually of the pre-game events as well as the game itself.

A few moments before the 6 p.m. starting time, with the thunder now silent as the storms had moved on east, the coaches of both teams exchanged signed home plates at home plate. Our Color Guard had taken positions midway between home plate and the pitcher’s mound. So did Bill Shumaker and I. Bill was on the 1st base side; I was on the 3rd base side.

Next, the players were introduced. They aligned themselves on their respective base lines, KUBF on the 3rd and the CF on the 1st. As they were introduced, Bill and I distributed the very nice CID169 lapel pins to all players and coaches of both teams. For me, this was one of the most emotional events, as each team member expressed great appreciation, bowed, and shook my hand firmly. Bill Shumaker said most of the CF team thanked him for his service.

The Color Guard presented colors, and Ms. Kyoung Park gave a thrilling rendition of the national anthems, Korean first and Star Spangled Banner second. Colors were retired. Then, Congressman Daniel Webster tossed the ceremonial first pitch. The game began at the scheduled 6 p.m. start.

We returned to the seats Chuck Johnson had roped off for us; I had never been seated where I could “see” curve balls! KUBF won 3 to 1!

Sunday August 10

Our “Meet and Greet” was held three hours before the second game in the beautiful Leesburg Club’s Boat House on Lake Harris, just a bit over 100 yards from the ball park. As the players entered the building, each one was presented with an orchid corsage from the Korean American Ministers Association of Central Florida.

They each sought out all Korean vets there and warmly exchanged bows and handshakes. We were all emotionally impacted when we met the KUBF and CF Team members up close.

MC Chuck Johnson held each speaker to just a few minutes

Wally Jones, CID 169 President, introduced Maxine Parker, DoF 1st VP and CID188 member, and Hank Butler, Ch 172 Commander. (We thank them for being there). He warmly welcomed the teams, and conjectured that without the service of the U.S. veterans, there quite likely would not have been a Meet and Greet or game today. Wally’s and everyone’s remarks were translated by Mr. Kim.

Reverend Hur spoke a few words in both English and Korean about the significance each played in the affair.

Leesburg Mayor John Christian extended a “Leesburg welcome,” and closed by saying “Freedom is not free.” He then presented the KUBF team with the first edition of the Leesburg City Flag plaque.

The KUBF team responded by presenting autographed baseballs to the Korean veterans in attendance. What a treasure! Mine was signed by and given to me by #16, Ji-kyu Park, shortstop, from Sungkyun-kwan University! I hope he makes it to the U.S. major leagues!

Next came the light baseball lunch—hot dogs, sausages, hamburgers, chips and soft drinks provided by the Leesburg High School

Continued on page 73

Aircraft Carrier Operations Off Korea

By Harley Wedel and Loren Mitchell

Participating in the launch and recovery of carrier-based airplanes always brought forth a feeling of pride and satisfaction for me. Being involved with aircraft had been my desire since I first knew what those big birds with flapless wings truly were. Other than being a pilot, an assignment to a carrier flight deck was certainly a great and most exciting way to make a young man's dreams a reality.

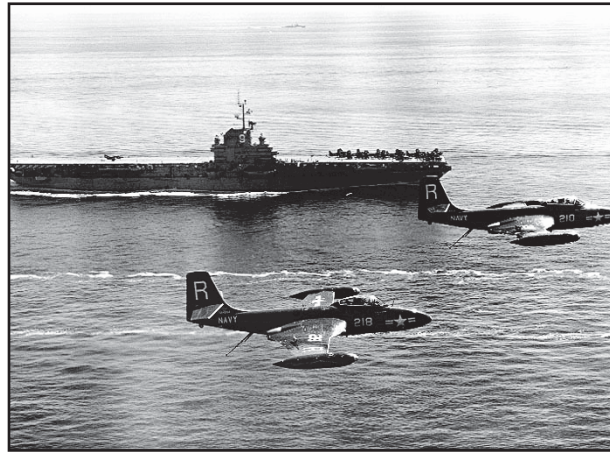
Dangerous as work on the flight deck was, it was exciting. However, there was a job to be done, and it usually demanded the most from the participants. We seldom had to dodge bullets, and when we did it was usually because of accidental discharges from our own guns due to airplane crashes, pilots failing to safety their guns prior to landing, planes landing with frozen guns (it was so cold that gun lubricants would freeze in the aircraft), or similar situations. Still, dead is dead.

It was hard work rushing around the flight deck taking care of "big-bird" problems, and making sure you didn't take a wrong step into 60 feet of thin air ending in the drink (we didn't wear life preservers and life lines and railings were marginal). Even worse, if you weren't careful you could find yourself face down on an aircraft elevator thirty feet below at the hangar deck level, when moments before you were walking on the flight deck! This scenario was unlikely, though, because there is a loud horn that sounds with any elevator movement, which is likely to alert you—unless you are close to a loud jet engine or a prop plane warming up!

The Colors Of A Carrier

An Essex Class aircraft carrier's flight deck always seemed to be busy with men wearing shirts in varying colors moving purposefully from place to place and plane to plane. As might be imagined, men in red shirts handled the "hot stuff." These ordinance men took care of the bombs, rockets, 20mm guns and ammo, and other things that are designed to go "Boom."

The men wearing green shirts (mechanics) were charged with keeping the planes ready to fly. Other colors were blue for



USS Essex (CVA-9) underway during its first Korean War deployment, circa August 1951-March 1952. Two F2H-2 "Banshees" of Fighter Squadron 172 (VF-172) are flying by in the foreground, preparing to land. Nearest plane is Bureau # 124954. The other is probably Bu # 124969. Official U.S. Navy Photograph, from the collections of the Naval Historical Center

radiomen and electronics technicians, purple for fuel handlers, yellow for the plane directors and launch officers, and white with red crosses for medics, corpsmen, and the flight surgeon.

The plane captains (the men who were assigned to the plane while it was on the ground) had brown shirts and matching cloth helmets. Finally, several men wearing silver-colored asbestos suits, i.e., the firefighters, always stood by during air operations in case of emergencies. They could make their way into a flaming crash and rescue pilots and air crewmen. When the crew was out on the flight deck, they made a rainbow of color against the gray deck.

Playing Chicken With The Russians

There were days when launching aircraft began well before dawn, even before the smallest hint of daylight was visible on the eastern horizon. Recoveries of the aircraft in late day sorties ended after dark.

After the last daytime flight came back we parked as many planes as we could on the hangar deck so the flight deck could be used for nighttime sorties against military targets and night operations of our radar-equipped ASW (anti-submarine warfare) AD-4 Skyraiders that orbited the fleet all night scouting for spying submarines.

It was rumored that no matter how many subs they may have spotted, pilots were not allowed to attack. This was due to some sort of cold war game of "chicken." Russian subs would follow Task Force 77's maneuvers and try to penetrate the fleet's formation to get between the carri-

ers and their protective ring of destroyers. Orders given to the fleet allowed the submarines to get in lots of practice. It also allowed them to take the first shot, or so it was rumored.

Those Daring Young Men In The Skyraiders

Men who worked on the flight deck at night often wore dark, red tinted goggles in lighted rooms to keep their eyes adjusted to the dark. But, the night-flying Skyraider pilots were a cool bunch with cat-quality eyes. They could take off and land on the pitching deck of an aircraft carrier in the extreme black of night with just a few shaded deck edge lights to indicate the borders of the flight deck. The LSO (Landing Signal Officer), the guy who stood on the back corner of the deck and guided the planes that were landing, used dim, lighted wands in each hand and stretched out from his sides to guide the planes in.

After thumping down on the flight deck and being yanked to a stop when the tail hook caught the cross-deck arresting cable, the pilot could finally breathe a sigh of relief. There were far more successful carrier landings (or "traps," as they are called now) than mishaps. Once in a while a plane would miss the arresting cables and get stopped in a cable or nylon strap barrier.

In the Korean War, we used World War II equipment, which meant that we had no angled decks. If we had, the pilot could simply gun the engine, take off and go around again, but we had straight decks and every landing was a commitment. Of course, with so much activity and so many

high performance planes on board the straight deck carriers, there were “fender benders” and there were crashes.

Clear The Decks

Planes would return from strikes with battle damage that caused hydraulic or electrical failure on the plane and flaps would fail to deploy, or wheels would not come down. There might be holes in a wing or the fuselage. Or the pilot may have been injured. Whatever the case, a crash of some kind might result and the flight deck crew would find cover in the deck edge catwalks and gun tubs.

A flurry of excitement would follow during which crew members rescued the pilot and any air crew and extinguished the flames. If the wrecked plane could be repaired, it would be taken down to the hangar deck. If not, it was pushed overboard.

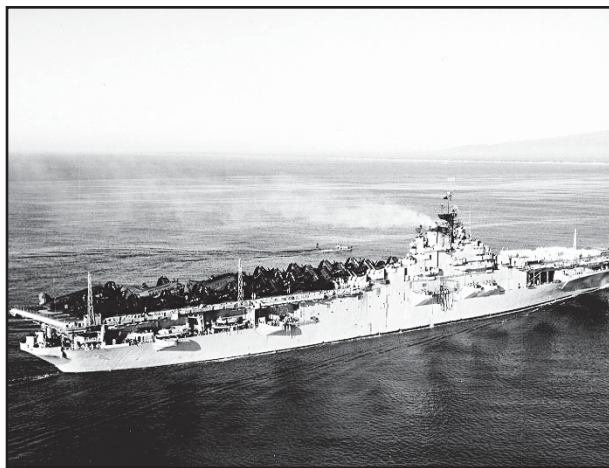
Pushing a plane overboard was too much of a task for the crew to deal with, so they would bring out the semi-articulated tractor/crane that was referred to as “Tillie.” Tillie could lift the wreckage and dump it overboard without a problem.

Find Us If You Can: We'll Be Headed Into The Wind

There were several uncontrollable variables that were a fact of life with aircraft carriers. One was that any aircraft operations had to be done with the ships heading into the wind. Aircraft were launched into the wind, off the bow of the carrier, and recovery of aircraft was done on the stern of the carrier—with the ship sailing into the wind. The faster the ship was going, and the more wind it was sailing into, the less wear and tear of the aircraft occurred and the pilot could effectively reduce the speed he needed to fly.

Aircraft carriers have to be pretty fast ships because of the air operations. Their usual speed for our air operations was 30 to 35 knots. When aircraft were launched, the pilots were given the estimated position of the ship when they returned. If the aircraft was on a strike mission, their estimated return could be several hours, during which time the ship and the task force could experience any number of things that would alter their anticipated Point Option (their position for returning aircraft).

Weather, enemy interference, and other



USS Bon Homme Richard (CVA-31) arrives off Pearl Harbor, returning from a Korean War combat tour, 31 December 1952. Aircraft on her flight deck include three R4D transport planes in addition to F4U fighters and AD attack planes of her air group. Official U.S. Navy Photograph, from the collections of the Naval Historical Center.

emergencies are examples. For this reason, the ships broadcast a coded signal that the returning aircraft could home in on once they were within about 30 miles. As large as an aircraft carrier is, it can be almost impossible to see from the air on the open water.

While aircraft were out on a mission, the deck crews usually took advantage of the down time by respotting the aircraft remaining on the flight deck to make room for the returning planes. After that they found warm, dry places that were out of the way, but still close to the flight deck, and caught some much-needed rest. Running up and down the flight deck and dodging propellers, jet blasts, and jet intakes was exhausting!

The down time between sorties wasn't always “down time.” This was usually the time when we had drills. There were fire drills, man overboard drills, and general quarters drills. General quarters was the big one, because every member of the ship's crew had a general quarters station. It was usually where you worked, but some men had to man guns or life raft stations. It was a call to man “Battle Stations.”

No Checks Or Credit Cards, Please: COD Only

The Navy built 24 Essex Class aircraft carriers in WWII. In the Korean War, the Navy used about half that many Essex carriers and rotated them among the West Coast ports in the United States, one or two ports in Japan, and combat duty in the Sea of Japan. (According to one source, the Navy flew over 167,000 sorties from these aircraft carriers during the Korean War.) The planned rotation was six months on

land and six months at sea. The reality was more like six months on land and eight or nine months at sea.

The ships would start with a new air group of four squadrons and some detachments when they left the States, sail to Yokosuka, Japan via Hawaii, then join Task Force 77 in the Sea of Japan. The task force usually had three carriers on the line, and one or two in Yokosuka for crew liberty and supplies. The ships would try to return to Yokosuka on Tokyo Bay about every four weeks. A new ship arriving from the States meant that someone could return home.

The Navy had some Grumman Avenger torpedo bombers left over from WWII which had become obsolete. The Navy added a couple of seats, converted them into COD aircraft (Carrier Onboard Delivery), and used them extensively as a kind of package delivery service to the carriers at sea.

COD aircraft delivered anything they could carry that the ship needed urgently, including the ship's mail and important personnel. On at least one occasion, the CODs flew in high-ranking South Korean officers to meet with the task force admiral. Lesser ranking persons were not flown out. They were transferred at sea to a smaller ship—usually a destroyer-by a high line. This was rigged between ships sailing side by side, and the experience was unforgettable!

On the “plus side,” the flight deck crew did have a warm place to sleep and warm meals.

Loren Mitchell, 11940 SW King James Place, King City, OR 97224, 503-670-1382, Lmitchell30@NetZero.com. Harley Wedel's telephone number is 503-754-3312.



Recon Missions

Wanted: Info Re Basic Training At Camp Breckenridge

(See the story on p. 67)

We are seeking men and women who completed basic training at Camp Breckenridge, Kentucky or who staffed Camp Breckenridge from its activation in 1942 to its closure in 1962. Our goal is to reunite the men and women through the stories and photos we collect for posterity.



101st Airborne Division, 516th Infantry Regiment, "George" Company men met for lunch September 2012 in Livonia, MI. (Back, L-R) Aurel Schryer, Detroit, Ken Klinger, Dearborn, and John "Jack" McNamara, Dearborn. (Front, L-R) Joseph Dobransky, Detroit, Mario Manarino, Dearborn, Joseph Grole, Detroit. (Cities identify where the veterans lived at time of induction.)



Aurel Schryer



Eugene 'Ted' Spring

Families of veterans and staff, history buffs and any persons wishing to contribute to this era are welcome.

I am seeking copies or scanned images of photos, memoirs, maps, yearbooks, instruction manuals, postcards, certificates, quarterly publications of Life at Camp Breckenridge, digital interviews, newspapers, company graduation photos, etc.



William G. Anderson, Charlotte Court House, VA

Please post memories on Facebook at John Tubinis with 101st Airborne at Camp Breckenridge, email vic.and.anne@gmail.com, or phone 734-467-2205.

Anne Tubinis Audette, Westland, MI
a proud daughter of a deceased veteran.

Larry E. Bognar

My father-in-law, Lieutenant Larry E. Bognar, U.S. Army ROTC (Carnegie Institute of Technology – "Carnegie Tech", Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania), served in Korea from 1951 until approximately 1953 (?). I do not know what unit he served with, although I understand that he was in charge of showing slide shows and training films to recruits.

I only recently learned that he had been awarded a Bronze Star for his service in Korea, when his unit came under an enemy artillery barrage. (This detail was related to me at the time of his death in September 2012. He was buried with full military honors.)

If anyone served with or remembers Lieutenant Bognar, please contact me.

Gary Cargill, Esq., 7739 E. Broadway Blvd.
PMB 288, Tucson, AZ 85710, 520-360-1937
or (520) 288-4042 9 (cell), garycargill@cox.net

Thomas Brown...is looking for any of the seven USMC 1st Lieutenants named here to furnish validation for his Combat Action Ribbon (CAR): Robert L. Brown, Charles Bruggen, Francis A. Crowley, Theodore G. Jenkins, and Lester A. Kessler. They and Thomas Brown were listed in the October 1951 Monthly Personnel



Lt. Larry E. Bognar in uniform



Thomas Brown in Korea



Thomas Brown ready for action in Korea in 1951

Roster for "C" Co., 1st Engineer Bn., 1st Marine Division. Two other 1st Lieutenants who might be able to help were William R. Naughton and Franklin Blasé.

Brown's request for the CAR was turned down by the Department of the Navy on 2 April 2013. The letter stated: "To be entitled to the Combat Action Ribbon, it is necessary to have actively participated in a bona fide ground or surface fire fight. There is no evidence by assignment that you actively engaged in ground combat action...."

Brown maintains that he was in combat with the 1st Marine Division on the Kansas Objective Line Hays. According to the U.S. Marine Operations in Korea, that is where the 1st Division was starting on 30 August 1951 and continuing into September.

If any of the officers—or anyone else—listed above can help Brown establish that he did earn the CAR, they are asked to contact him at 12 Mildred Ave., Cortland, NY 13045, 607-299-4932, tombrown3@gmail.com

George Leo Tanner

I am helping a friend learn more about his father's service in the Korean War. His father is no longer with us. The man's name was George Leo Tanner. According to his DD-214 and my friend, he was a Private in B Company, 8th Cav. Regiment (in the 1st Cav., I think). He was wounded in a battle at Kun Jang Jang Ri. I am not certain about the first word as we couldn't read it on his DD-214. He only served for two years and then served in the National Guard in St. Louis, MO.

When my friend contacted the Personnel Records office in St Louis, he was told his father's records were destroyed in the 1973 fire. Is there any other place or office we should contact that will be helpful?

So, anything you could find on his father will be helpful and certainly appreciated. We are looking for any assistance on who else to contact and any info about George Tanner we can find (location where he and or his unit served in Korea, awards and decorations, action the unit saw, etc.)

Curt Loop, 13714 SW Hillshire Drive, Tigard, OR 97223,
(Cell) 503 313-1878, curt.loop@icloud.com

USAF 30th Weather Squadron

I am looking for anyone from the USAF 30th Weather Squadron that I might know. I was stationed at K-46 Wanju and K-13 Suwon from 1954-55. My C.O. at K-46 was Captain Crawford and my C.O.s at Suwon were Captain Brown and Lt. Selery.

Five people whose full names I remember are Malcolm Parsley, Raymond Rexroad, John Flanagan, John Drake, and Neal Kempt. I also remember only the last names for Harwood, Anderson, Hyatt and Sgt. Longstregth.

I would appreciate a contact from anyone who might remember me.

Robert Kenneth, 300 Lancelot Dr., Greenville, NC, timberwolf@innova.net

Items Wanted

If any members can provide or give me a source for the following items I would greatly appreciate it.

- OD cap with Signal Corps braid, size 7 5/8 or 7 3/4. My uniform is complete except for this item.
- DVD (I have a VCR) of the Korean War movie "Sgt. Ryker," starring Lee Marvin and Vera Miles. There were very few good movies made about the Korean War, but this is one of them.
- For my Airborne wings collection, a set of 11th AB metal Paraglider wings. These were unauthorized but were around in the late 1940s.

K. W. Race, 906 Liberty Ct., Cupertino, CA 95014, 408 996-0878

Dan Blocker In The Korean War

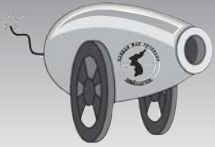
Many of you may remember Dan Blocker, who played Hoss on the old TV show Bonanza. But, do any of you remember him as a combatant in the Korean War? According to his biography, Blocker was drafted into the U.S. Army and completed basic training at Ft. Polk, LA.

Eventually, Blocker attained the rank of sergeant, and served with F Co., 2nd Battalion, 179th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division. He was in Korea from December 1951 to August 1952. According to reports, he earned a Purple Heart for wounds sustained in combat.

A history of his exploits in Korea include "Blocker was stationed at Sapporo for about nine months. He served with F Company, 2nd Battalion, 179th Infantry Regiment, 45th Division, in Korea from December 1951 to August 1952. His unit was involved in heavy fighting ten miles west of Chorwon at Outpost Eerie and at Hill 200, where it lost six KIA and 21 WIA, but killed 132 Chinese soldiers.

His unit also participated in battles at Eerie, Old Baldy and Pork Chop in June 1952. It was withdrawn from combat in July 1952 after 209 days on the line and went into reserve at Yanggu. Blocker came back to the U.S. in August 1952. Some reports suggest that he saved many lives in Korea. When and how?

Does anyone remember Blocker or his activities in Korea? If so, please let the editor know. Send any info you have to Blocker Editor, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.



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 Sky View Dr., 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.

To Kim And The Porcelain Doll

NOTE: Mr. Cheek wrote this letter to Mr. Echelbarger in response to the latter's article, "Mariah: A Legacy of War," that appeared on p. 76 of the May-June 2014 edition of The Graybeards. Incidentally, Mr. Cheek was recognized by Leatherneck Magazine for his "Letter of the Month" that appeared on p. 2 of its September 2014 issue.

I was rereading my May/June 2014 *Graybeards* magazine, and your story caught my attention. While in Korea, I served with 4 .5 (Charlie) Rockets, 11th Marines, 1stMarDiv from July 6, 1952 - July 26, 1953. At that time I did not know how long we had at the 38th Parallel, but the timing of your story is pretty close.

There were no Civilians north of the Imjum River, and South Korea was beginning to stabilize in safety and normal activities. At Ascom City from 7/26/53 until I left in the fall, "Bedcheck Charlie" was pretty active most nights. 1st 4.5 Rockets was located just south of the MSR, behind Reno, Vegas, Carson, Berlin, East Berlin, and other outposts.

I am sure that you remember a 4.5 Rocket Ripple of 1 44 Rockets in about 12 seconds was awesome, but drew counter/battery fire, so we were out of there ASAP. After 12 months with 4.5 Rockets I extended for three months. On 7/26/53, the day before the cease fire was signed, I left for Ascom City. The reason for my extension was to be back in the States in time for my brother, who was in the Air Force, to take our aging father deer hunting.

The Gunnery Sergeant I replaced was taking care of a six-year-old girl, Kim, at the local orphanage. He asked me to take care of her. I gave him my word, and visited the orphanage in my time off.

I took several pictures of the children and the facilities. The

orphanage was well run. It had a children's choir, that was real-lygood. The time frame in which we are connected brought a better life for the refugees, citizens, and missionaries who provided for the orphans.

As I read your article, my emotions showed through empathy for us and the girls. My mind was drawn to an album of pictures from Ascom City and the orphanage, so I pulled it out and took some pictures to CVS to have 4X6 copies made for you. It is possible that your little "Porcelain Doll" may be among the girls, or in some other orphanage.



Kim, the young lady Arthur Cheek cared for, and the headmaster of the orphanage at Ascom City Korea, August 1953



A group of young Koreans at the Ascom City Orphanage

Robert, be encouraged, as we stopped the flow of Communism in South Eastern Asia, and made a better life for that little girl that passed you that day. My hope is that this letter with pictures will give you some closure, as I have that my little Kim was in good hands after I left Korea. Keep in mind the love and affection that our troops showered on the people, especially the children.

Thank you for putting your story in The Graybeards, as it gave me an opportunity to go back in time to take another look at Kim. You are 85 now, and I was 84 in April, but we are still proud Marines.

Arthur M. Cheek, 1501 85th Ave. N.
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702

Chinese In The Graveyard?

Regarding the question on p. 61 of the May-June edition, "Did Chinese and North Korean soldiers camouflage themselves as tombstones?"

Any veteran who was in Korea knows that Koreans generally do not use headstones. As a member of "B" Co., 1st Tank Bn., 1st MarDiv I traveled across the country by tank, more miles than any tank battalion in the history of the Marine Corps. I don't remember ever seeing a headstone for natives.

The Koreans honored their dead by bringing a bucket of dirt. The higher the dirt mound the more popular the person was. The only tombstones that I saw were on a hilltop just above Wolmi-do at Inchon. They were in a German cemetery that got whacked pretty good during the September 15, 1950 landing.

John Mixon, P.O. Box 80984, Bakersfield, CA 93380

Remembering Inchon

We just mentioned the September 15, 1950 landing at Inchon. And where were Generals MacArthur, and Almond and RAdm Doyle, who was responsible for the execution of the amphibious phase of the operation? Aboard *USS McKinley* (AGC-7).

Photo submitted by James Harlan
1905 Spring Cir., Carrollton, TX 75006



Doyle, MacArthur and Almond aboard *USS McKinley* during Inchon landings.

Memories of July 27th

On this day in history (July 27th), the Korean War ended, but not until 33,000 had lost their lives in combat, another 20,000 in non-combat, 103,000 wounded in action and another 8,177 missing.

At first it was called a police action, then The Forgotten War, but to those of us who went, it sure was a war—we call it The Forgotten Victory! I had several close calls, but thank goodness no wounds. I am one of the lucky ones and very thankful. I am so happy the City of Maryville [TN] renamed the Cusick St. Bridge The Korean War Memorial Bridge in memory of sixteen troopers from Blount County who did not make it home. At the ceremony on September 19, 2004 2 TV channels and 3 newspapers covered this special event. This proud 84-year-old trooper still gets cold chills, especially when strangers thank me for my service!

Our 7th Cavalry slogan was "Garry Owen!"

Leroy Rogers, leroyrogersusa@hotmail.com

Hemorrhagic Fever

I was in Korea from March 1952 to January 1953 with the 45th Recon Co., 45th Inf. Div., Mechanic Motor Pool. In June or July of 1952, Korea was hot and humid. During that time mosquitoes were really bad, and hemorrhagic fever was beginning to break out.

The army thought that the mosquitoes were the cause of the fever. Every night planes would fly over us spraying for the mosquitoes. We also had to dip our clothes in a solution every day. Then the experts decided that the rats, not the mosquitoes, were causing the fever—but planes kept flying every night. This time, though, it was "Bedcheck Charley," which was worse than the mosquitoes.

Davy L. Winans, 605 Portland St., Celina, OH 45822

Pilots Flying High

The F-94B was the U.S. Air Force's first all-weather fighter. It was operational with the 68th FIS in Japan. Some of the pilots in the photo below got together in Reno, NV after the war.

Stanley Grogan, 2585 Moraga Dr., Pinole, CA 94564



F-94B pilots and radar operators in Reno, NV in unspecified year (L-R) Stan Grogan, Hugo Schott, Al Farnsworth, J. Meyers, Gus Hipp, 68th CO Ralph Harou, and Ralph Knode

Did Mr. BLPHT Live In Busan Or Pusan

This is the letter I sent to Skip Hannon, who asked why Pusan is now Busan. I thought you might be interested.

Don't be surprised if you're confused by 'b' and 'p.' Even the Koreans are! I went to one source: A 'p' at the beginning of a word is pronounced as 'b.' At the end of a word it is 'p.' This is the simplest explanation for me, because the Japanese did in fact read the city name spelled "Busan" and called it "Pusan."

But, according to another source, if a word begins with a 'p,' it must be pronounced as 'bp.' (Try that! It reminds me of the "Li'l Abner" cartoon of my youth, where one of the characters, "Mr. BLPHT," carried an umbrella everywhere he went because there was always a rain cloud over his head. You'll probably remember that, too.)

Still another source: "B" in Korean is "ㅍ", while "P" in Korean is "ㅍ". So why are you confused? (Missed the point

entirely!) There! You are no longer confused! (But I still am!)

I ran across a somewhat similar situation when I was learning Arabic. (I lived there for two years). There is no 'p' in Arabic. So, when my Egyptian surgical resident had a cartouche made for my daughter-in-law Peggy, it was written "Beggy." It was interesting to me that two such different languages would have the same "problem."

Still another similar situation occurs in Tamil (southern India and Sri Lanka), which I spoke for the first years of my life: they have trouble with 'f' and 'p' when they try to speak English: 'fig' comes out 'pig' until they master the pronunciation.

There must be many other examples in other languages that I know nothing about. Oh, yes, I can think of one other. I tutored a Nigerian man for twelve years and found that he could not pronounce correctly any word that contained the 'ee-u' sound. So 'computer' came out 'com-pooter,' 'few' was 'foo,' beautiful' was 'bootiful,' etc.

Birney Dibble, jbirneydibble5@gmail.com

I'm Still Waiting, Senator Lugar

A few years back there was an article in an Indianapolis newspaper stating that in 1948 then President Harry Truman signed a proclamation that any veteran who received the Combat Infantry Badge (CIB) would receive a Bronze Star for meritorious service. Twenty eight WW2 men hadn't received the medal. Then Senator Richard Lugar went to bat for them and they were awarded the medal.

I wrote to the Senator and asked if he planned to help the Korean veterans who earned the CIB. He answered that the CIB was such a high honor the government didn't want to issue another medal that diminished the prestige of the CIB.

I wrote back and asked if the Korean CIB held a higher honor than the WW2 CIB. Senator Lugar never answered that question.

I served in I Co., 35th Regt., 25th Inf. Div. in 1952 and early 1953 as a BAR man. I spent 3 months on Heartbreak Ridge, 3 months on Porkchop Hill, and 2-1/2 months on Bunker Hill as a Plt. Sgt. All my men earned the CIB, but I don't recall that any received the Bronze Star.

Any man who stands face to face with the enemy in combat and many nights on ambush patrol out in "No-man's Land" is doing meritorious service. All who earned the CIB should be proud because you went all the way.

Ken Pearl, ken1700@gmail.com

NOTE: Richard Lugar served as a United States Senator; representing Indiana from 1977 to 2013.

Just Doing Your Duty Is Not Meritorious Achievement

Re the Feedback entry in the July-August 2014 edition, "Should We Have A Bronze Medal For Meritorious Achievement?", p. 68: No! Just doing your duty is not meritorious achievement. You do what you are trained for. Just being present is not meritorious achievement.

Giving a Bronze Medal for meritorious achievement would cheapen the medal.

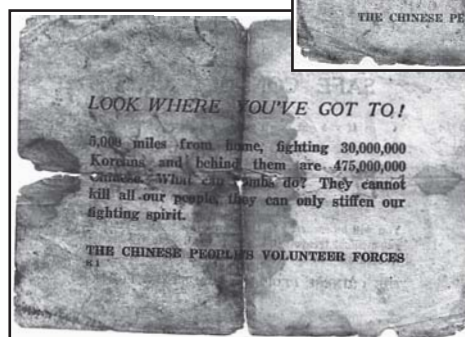
Raymond H. Herrington, 8009 Bon Air Dr.
Austin, TX 78757

Bombs? Hurt Us? Hah!

The article on page 63 of the July-August 2014 edition, "This Way To Freedom," reminded me of a piece of memorabilia I'd put away and forgotten. It is the nearby "Safe Conduct Pass" that was being distributed by the Chinese that I picked up in the spring/summer of 1951 in Korea while I was on an FO team of Fox Btry. 2/11 traveling with Baker Co., 1/1, USMC.

It is beat up from my carrying it in my wallet for several years, but it's still readable.

Vince McCormick
1 Lillian Dr.
Binghamton, NY 13903



Vince McCormick's
Safe Conduct Pass

Negotiate A Price, Perhaps?

I'm with William Russell and his note about the cost of the Harris Directory (Feedback, July-August, p. 63). When you're retired you can do a lot with \$118 other than purchase an overpriced directory.

I was going to order one before I called and got the price. I think maybe someone should have negotiated the cost before signing the deal. I would love to have one, but not at \$118.

thomannjd@aol.com

Two MOH Recipients Visit Maryville, TN

MOH recipients Sammy Davis and Gordon Roberts were on a helicopter that landed on Maryville High School grounds-while the MHS Band played and the large crowd cheered! [Both Davis and Gordon earned their MOHs in Vietnam.]

Cold chills and tears were there. I was fortunate enough to have my picture taken by our local paper with Sammy. I addressed him as "Forrest Gump" because I had seen him on TV. He said if one wanted to see him as a stand in for Forrest, just Google Forrest Gump.

Then the large group, including a state Senator and state Representative, along with other city and county officials, gathered inside in front of the 1,400+ student body, which was very respectful, as they always are.

We watched a video, then band director Dr. Ken Hawkins led the chorus in singing Lee Greenwood's famous song, "God Bless the USA."

Both troopers made short talks and challenged the students to aim high in life. They were received by a long, standing applause and left with the same, showing appreciation.

Another day in my life I won't forget. I don't have a clue how many hands I shook thanking me for my service.

Leroy Rogers, leroyrogersusa@hotmail.com

EDITOR'S NOTE: The reference to Sammy Davis as Forrest Gump is accurate. In the movie Forrest Gump, the ceremony during which Gump received his Medal of Honor from then President Richard M. Nixon was actually the one at which Davis received his. The moviemaker simply substituted Tom Hanks, who played Forrest Gump, for Davis. What they can do with special effects nowadays!

The Irish In Korea

I was very interested in John Leahy's article on Irishmen fighting with the UN in Korea. (See p. 18, July-Aug 2014) However, I feel that his estimate of 28 fatalities is extremely low.

In the Commonwealth Division alone we had two "nominally" Irish units – the Royal Ulster Rifles and the 8th King's Royal Irish Hussars (an armoured regiment – English spelling). Although the R.U.R. was recruited in Ireland, the battalion was augmented by recalled reservists to make up numbers for Korea; these came from all parts of the United Kingdom. The Hussars, too, included troopers from Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales. On the other hand, most if not all of the British, Canadian, Australian and New Zealand units had sons of Erin among their numbers.

The Rifles first major engagement was in January 1951 at Chaegunghyon, where 230 unit members were killed, wounded or missing. They participated in the battle on the Imjin in April that year, together with their 29 Infantry Brigade comrades from the Gloucestershire Regiment and the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers. At one stage the R.U.R. formed a task force together with the 8th Hussars.

In all, 186 Royal Ulster Rifles and 18 Hussars gave their lives in Korea.

Les Peate, 1505 Baseline Road, Ottawa, Ontario K2C 3L4, Canada. 613-225-0443. jlpeate@rogers.com

Who Were The "Red Devils?"

This letter is in response to the question in the magazine as to who the "Red Devils" were. The M-14 "mobile" at times were attached to the 3rd Battalion, of the 5th RCT, or so it seemed in May of 1951, as they showed up all over the place.

I believe they were the 96th AFA, or so I was told when I saw a 1/2-track at a military show with the "smiling Red Devil" painted on the door and that it was from the 96th. I remember some visitors arguing as to who they really were. I also seem to remember they traveled with a "bulldozer," which was used to dig in to the side of a hill to make a ledge so that the muzzle of the barrel was just about resting on the dirt for a better trajectory when fired.

I wish we had about a 100 of them at the time on the MLR, as they were just about at the top of the MLR when they dug in where possible. You could not want better artillery back up than to have them with you.

John W. Sonley, 490 W. Cherrywood Dr.
Sun Lakes, AZ 85248

A Daring Trip By "Ike"

There is part a of history that Korean War veterans ought to know. It has to do with why many Korean War veterans today are

still alive or escaped being wounded.

During the first few months of 1953, President Dwight Eisenhower flew secretly to North Korea, under the protection of the 82nd Airborne. He faced down the arrogant North Korean generals and warned them: "This war is over or I'm going to nuke you."

Within a few months all combat ceased. General Eisenhower's incredible leadership ended the shooting war. However, if North Korea had reneged, as military assurance the 25th Division, an elite combat unit stationed at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii, was combat ready to be thrown into battle within 24 hours notice.

In gratitude, I recommend that Korean War veterans visit the Eisenhower Library in Abilene, Kansas when they have the chance.

Mike Morra, 8625 W. 84th St.
Overland Park, KS 66212, 913-341-1902

More Proof That *The Graybeards* Is Better Than A Dating Service

I just received this amazing email from one of my dad's old shipmates:

"Bob:

"Sorry to hear that your dad passed away. How did it happen? Your dad & I attended DK School together in 1951 Class 4- C 27 April 1951. I have our graduation picture before me.

"I guess he first went on the Valley Forge after graduation, I went on the *USS Thompson DMS-38*. Later on, when I left the hospital the Navy transferred me to the Valley Forge. Lo and behold there was your Dad!

"We were great friends on the Valley and every time I went through Newton, Kansas I must have missed him. We both made DK2 at the same time. Anyway I'd like to hear from you.

Sincerely,

Your dad's friend, Milton, miltontrujillo@aol.com"

Thanks so much again for publishing his old photos in *The Graybeards*. It's really had an incredible response. This is the first old shipmate who actually knew my father.

Bob Dial, jdial@nycap.rr.com

Getting Rid Of Old Rifles

This is in response to the appeal "What Do We Do With Old Rifles?", p. 30, which appeared in the May-June 2014 issue of *The Graybeards*. Members of the North Kingstown (Rhode Island) Veterans Day and Memorial Day Parades Committee welcome the opportunity to take possession of the ceremonial weapons for proper use and storage.

The North Kingstown Town Council appoints members to the committee who serve three-year staggered terms. In addition to conducting the two parades, committee members have taken on the task of marking Patriot Day, September 11 with a flag-raising ceremony.

A phone call inquiry with the town police chief informs me that there is sufficient room in the armory of the town's public safety building. Furthermore, we are both familiar with the

vagaries of all the documentation required by the U.S. Government which is meant to attest such articles are held in full compliance with federal statutes. Plus, a local retired Army officer who had served at Ft. Myer, Virginia in the "Old Guard" is willing to take on the job of teaching volunteers in all the necessary ceremonials.

The use of the Springfield rifles in the parades would certainly add a special element which would be unique to this area.

William Pennoyer, Parades Coordinator, 95 Huling Road #8, North Kingstown, RI 02852

Friendly Fire? Hah!

The article in the July-Aug 2014 issue about the B-26 ("My Life With The 452nd Bomb Wing," p.75) brought back memories of an incident that happened in my company in the 1st Cav. Div. It might have taken place around April 1951.

I sat on the edge of my foxhole on an outpost eating C-rations when a low-flying B-26 passed in front of us. It circled around the hill, came back, and started firing at us. Of course, I dove into my foxhole.

The plane circled around again, came back again, and fired at us some more. Then it left.

Nobody was hit. I am curious if anyone else had an experience like that.

James Haw, 11065 Colton Dr., Reno, NV 89521



Occasionally, we make mistakes in *The Graybeards*. We try to be as accurate as possible, and we apologize for any errors that slip through. We do not have the funds for a fact checker, so we miss a fact or two now and then. Here are a couple clarifications. Incidentally, we rely on readers to inform us of any "misfires" that need correcting. We will print corrections in the next available edition.

Our geographically challenged computer relocated several new members from New York to New Mexico a couple months ago. It listed seven new members from New Mexico. Only one of them, Clarence W. York, is from New Mexico. (Confusing, huh? The "new" York is actually from New Mexico and the ones listed from New Mexico are really from New York. And people say that computers do not have a sense of humor.)

So, we are moving the other six new members back to New York. They are:

R045947 Robert Foley
R045938 Richard C. Grad
R046008 John F Kinlen
R045981 Bernard Nierenberg
R045946 Lyle R. Schultz
R045918 Francis P. Turkett

For 'a man in a wheelchair,' the trauma remains

You may have seen him in the park on a sunny spring day. Perhaps you saw him while visiting a friend or relative in a nursing home.

You stepped into the lobby, stomped your feet, and brushed the snow from your coat. You looked and there he was.

A man in a wheelchair.

He may greet you with a nod, or a weak smile or a friendly word. To some he appears as a helpless old man, a residual of his youth. How can passersby know about the now recondite life of a man in a wheelchair?

It should be difficult to visualize him as the innocent youth of many years ago. A young man who may have dedicated his precious prime years for our country.

We may often see a disabled person struggling to walk, but never feel the pain.

How much more painful is it for the man in the wheelchair?

The weak smile with which he greeted you may conceal the pains which are more than physical. He may know the psychological anguish that accompanied the traumas of war.

But we can't tell by looking at him. How can this dying ember now be associated with the flame of youth?

He may have been a young man who was introduced to the fear of death. No young soldier ever forgets those anticipatory minutes that transpired as he drew closer to the combat zone. The realization of never seeing you loved one again.

Many started to shake. It made no difference if you lay on the frozen ground of North Korea or in the hot jungles of Vietnam.

There was trepidation. After the first day you were no longer green. You had steel shrapnel challenging your existence and bullets laughing at your mortality.

Some call it Baptism of Fire; the kid is now a seasoned veteran.

Those who survived had the indelible experiences seared into their brains. How can any human being who lay in the mud with his wounded and dying buddies around him ever forget their cries, "Mama, I wanna come home!"

You may never know what went through the mind of the man in the wheelchair.

As you are leaving the nursing home, you see the man in the wheelchair. He may have been a young soldier who had stood tall and proud in his uniform, who performed the manual of arms with his M-1 rifle, who marched to the music of John Phillip Sousa—his left boot striking the ground at the precise moment the drummer struck the beat.

As you are about to leave, you see medical personnel leaning over the man in a wheelchair. He still has a smile on his face.

He may be thinking "I am proud of the USA just the way it is, and I'm proud that I have done my part."

When a stethoscope is placed to his heart, the beat is gone.

Peter J. DeGaetano, 31 Tynan St., Staten Island, NY 10312

NOTE: This story appeared originally in "The Reader's Forum" section of the Staten Island [NY] Advance. It is reprinted here with the editor's permission

Basic Training at Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky

By Anne Tubinis Audette

In August 2011 I spent time looking through my father's Army photo album. As I looked at sixty-year-old photographs, I wondered where the photos were taken, what Dad had accomplished, and who the men with him were. His Honorable Discharge showed he was inducted into the army on April 3, 1951.

A few months later I visited the Detroit Public Library. I found his name and the names of 85 other Wayne County men listed in the Detroit News' Wednesday, April 4, 1951 edition. Training began at Fort Custer, MI that day. I was stunned. I hadn't expected to find anything.

Using the internet, I began searching for the men. This particular group of men lived in southwest Detroit and east Dearborn. Many now live in the Metro Detroit area, others out of state. I still chuckle over stories the men shared; I found others sobering.

The Ukulele

Several members of the 101st Airborne Div., 516th Inf. Regt., "George" Co. gathered for lunch in Livonia, MI in September 2012. During lunch, one of the attendees, Aurel Schryer, showed me his Army days address book. My father's name and address were penciled in, as were as names from Illinois, Virginia, and Missouri. Several Michigan men, residing outside of Wayne County, were listed, too.

I copied down the information, determined to find unidentified men in my father's photos. Once again, I returned to the internet. I located a widow of one of the men in my father's photos. I continued to search.

I considered shelving "Eugene Spring, Pontiac, MI." Where was he? Finally, hours of searching led me to "Ted" Spring, South Carolina. "Ted" was derived from "Teddy," a nickname used by Mr. Spring's mother.

Before Mr. Spring left Camp Breckinridge, he entrusted his ukulele to a Michigan man to return to his parents. Mr. Spring enrolled in jump school at Fort Benning and didn't want to take it with him. His parents had purchased the ukulele in Hawaii especially for him. The ukulele never made it back to his parents' home. For the life of him, he could not remember who he trusted the instrument to. I thought, "I'd better

alert Mr. Schryer right away!"

When Mr. Schryer moved out of his parents' home in 1956 to begin a new life with his bride, the ukulele moved with him. He remembered someone gave it to him, but not who or why. He kept the ukulele in a box for over sixty years, never even showing it to any of his five children. The ukulele is now in the hands of its rightful owner.

The Virginian

A few of the men brought the 101st Airborne Division, 516th Infantry Regiment, Company G graduation photo to lunch. Quite a few faces were recognized in the photos. None were identified. That was not surprising after sixty years. Mr. Schryer remarked, "Someone has to have a roster of these men." I gave that some thought.

After hiring a professional researcher, I had a company roster in my hands in early January 2013. I returned to the internet, located more men, and asked them to identify themselves in the company photo.

On May 21, 2013, I left a voice mail at Mr. William G. Anderson's home. Mrs. Anderson left two voice mails with great excitement. She confirmed I had the right

Mr. Anderson. She and Mr. Anderson were dating as he trained at Camp Breckinridge. She explained Mr. Anderson had recently been in and out of the local VA hospital. He currently was in rehab on dialysis with an inoperable aneurism. Mrs. Anderson thought seeing the photos would lift Mr. Anderson's spirits.

A few days after the photos were sent, one of the Andersons' daughters called to thank me. The photos were new to the family. At that time, June identified Mr. Anderson as the flag bearer. I recently learned Mr. Anderson passed away less than two weeks after seeing the photos. It was a great privilege to reconnect him and his family to his past.

No doubt there are more Camp Breckinridge men, women, and families wishing to reconnect with their past. Will you join me in this campaign?

Anne Tubinis Audette, Westland, MI, a proud daughter of a deceased veteran.

(Please post memories on Facebook at John Tubinis with 101st Airborne at Camp Breckinridge, email vic.and.anne@gmail.com, or phone 734-467-2205.)

Command Reports

From time to time we feature Command Reports from Korean operations. Here is an excerpt from the August 1951 2nd Chemical Mortar Bn. Report.

"On 25 Aug, one platoon of Co C was further attached in support of the 2nd Bn, 17th Inf Rgmt, on a limited objective attack. Due to the rugged terrain, it was necessary to hand carry mortars and ammunition approximately 1000 yds to reach a position from which the platoon could provide the required support. The Korean CTC personnel were used to accomplish this move.

"Numerous missions were fired from this position. The unit received credit for neutralizing enemy strong points along the axis of attack, and also received commendation from the CO of the supported regiment for the close support and accurate fire provided.

"For this operation, the remaining platoons of Co C were in support of the 1st Bn, 17th Inf Rgmt. The CO of this regiment commended the two platoons for their support.

"On 30 Aug, it was necessary to move one platoon of Co B to the crest of Hill 1073 in order to support the 31st Inf. The move was accomplished by using CTC personnel as well as men from the remainder of the company.

"Throughout this attack, stiff resistance was encountered as the friendly units continued their push for the commanding terrain in the area. The enemy also counter-attacked to regain terrain lost during this assault.

"On 31 Aug, Co C fired a total of 3324 HE and 25 WP rounds in preparation and supporting fires during this limited objective attack, a new record for the Battalion.

August mission summary: 13,213 HE and 487 WP rounds were fired.

Behind The Trucks...Forward To The Front



Don Keglovitz and some of his buddies

By Don Keglovitz

I read every edition of *The Graybeards* hoping that I will read about somebody I served with in Korea, 1950-52. Since that hasn't happened, I might as well recall some days of my time in Korea. Hopefully, any of the men I served with might read this and contact me.

I joined the U.S. Army in 1949, while living in Muskegon Heights, Michigan. Muskegon was a very industrial town that converted all of its factories into the making of wartime equipment for WWII. As of 1949 it hadn't converted them back to peacetime work. So I joined the Army, because it had a program under which I could serve for 1 year on active duty and 4 years in the Army Reserve. That sounded good to me, but a friend who went with me to the recruiting office wanted to join the Navy. Unfortunately, the Navy recruiting office was closed that day. So, rather than waste a trip I signed up for the Army. Then I went home and told my folks about my decision.

At the time I was only nineteen years old. Even though I was old enough to join without anyone's permission, I wasn't ready to hear the bad news from my parents about my decision. Surprisingly, they took it very well. After taking care of personal matters, I left for Chicago in January 1949. I served my year of active duty at Fort Breckinridge, Kentucky, after which I went back home to serve my reserve time.

In early 1950 I was very interested in the United States' involvement with actions being taken by the North Koreans in a country I had never heard of: Korea! It seems that after WWII the U.S. was named as one of the allied countries that would be the "Guardians" of South Korea, which was split down the middle.

North Korea was placed under the "guidance" of the Russians. In less than four years the North Koreans decided that their share of Korea was not enough. So, they invaded South Korea, which was under the protection of the U.S. That's how I got involved.

The U.S. government called me back into service. Eventually, I arrived in South Korea about the same time that General MacArthur sent our forces across the Yalu River in pursuit of the fleeing North Korean Army. Big mistake!

Our soldiers were sitting ducks for the North Koreans, who now had the support of the Chinese Army. I was on a ship heading for South Korea when we heard of this massacre on the frozen waters of the Yalu River. Needless to say, my heart was in my stomach, knowing that's where I was headed!

When we reached South Korea we were all placed within a fenced-in field. Someone using a microphone was calling out our names and telling us where we were to be going. I was initially assigned to the 24th Division, U.S. Army. After hours of calling off Soldiers' names and the outfits they were assigned, the micro-

I tried to open my sleeping bag, as the others were doing, only to find that my scarf got caught in the zipper! I could not open it! Everybody in the outfit was ready for whatever was to happen—except me.

phone users stopped all their reading and announced, “Everybody disregard what you have been told. Everybody is going to the 2nd Division!”

Soldiers clambered on to trucks until they were full. In true Army style, there weren’t enough trucks to accommodate everyone. Those of us who were unlucky enough to miss out on getting aboard walked behind. I walked behind—and forward to the front.

On that walk to the front I met a classmate with whom I had graduated. He was returning from the front. I talked to him as long as I could, but I had to catch up with my group, which was quite a bit ahead of me. I found out when I returned home from Korea that my classmate had been killed after returning to the front.)

We walked for miles. It was getting dark, so our leaders had us enter a school house that had been bombed. I don’t know how many floors were on the original building, but when we entered there were just the ground and second floors. Oddly, the building was missing its roof, but the second floor still remained intact.

At this point our leader began to tell us that there was nothing to worry about. He said that we were still miles from where we were headed. We busied ourselves preparing for our first overnight stay. This might sound silly, but the temperature in Korea at this time of year (mid-December) was about 30 degrees below zero! It was a beautiful night. As we looked through the opening where the roof should have been, we saw an abundance of stars shining brightly. That was comforting, but it didn’t make us any warmer.

We wondered how we were going to sleep on that cold, cold night. Troops unloaded blankets from some of the trucks. They gave each of us an army blanket, and our leader told us how to prepare our blanket properly in our sleeping bag and place our weapons. What a process!

We folded our blankets into a size small enough to fit into our sleeping bags. Then we were instructed to lay our weapons next to our sleeping bags and crawl into the pockets we each had made in our sleeping bags. It took us quite a while for all of us to complete this ungodly task—and we still weren’t done.

Our leaders told us to take our scarves and wrap them around our heads until all that we had sticking out were our noses. That, they told us, was for breathing purposes. After all this we had to somehow wriggle one hand free to zip up the outer zipper, so that only our noses were really in the open.

After the Sergeant checked us all out, we were ready to go to sleep. All that we had to do was wait until sunrise to continue our march. Until then we would remain all bundled up like raccoons in this beautiful Korean winter. Hah!

About an hour after we settled in there were two rifle

shots...bang, bang!! All I could hear from that point on was the unzipping of sleeping bags and the sound of rifles being taken off safety. At this point the smell of my sleeping bag was different than it had been when I entered it!

I tried to open my sleeping bag, as the others were doing, only to find that my scarf got caught in the zipper! I could not open it! Everybody in the outfit was ready for whatever was to happen—except me.

Within a few minutes our Sergeant was yelling, “Put your weapons down. Put your safeties on and lay your weapons back down.” One of the guards on duty had fired his weapon by mistake.

“Everything is all right, so put the safeties back on your weapons,” the Sergeant bellowed. I heard the weapons being put back on safety. At this point I called to the Sergeant in charge and asked him to please release me from my ‘Death Trap’!!

The next day we continued to our destination. We found the 2nd Division, and I connected with the group to which I was assigned. My initial meeting was rather cold, but I understand that I was replacing somebody who had established a great deal of camaraderie with his group, and vice versa.

Fortunately, we were off the line and I had the opportunity to get really acquainted with my new comrades. I believe that trust is the most important thing that you think of in a combat situation. Anyway, I had connected with my group, for better or worse.

After we finally had the manpower and the equipment, we went on our next—and my first—challenge. We were fully equipped to do our job with a group of guys that I really connected with. More importantly, I believed that they all felt the same in their trust with me. They turned out to be a greater bunch of guys than I could have ever asked for!

The nearby picture was taken during our trip back to the rear for our first “R&R”—for which we had saved all our beer. We had voted before we went on line as to whether we wanted our daily beer ration given to us whenever they could or just save it all until we were off line. We all decided that it would be better if we saved it all for one great blast when we were off line.

When that day arrived we had the 3/4 ton-truck driver back into the cold water until we felt all of the beer was covered! That was probably the happiest time of my tour of duty in Korea.

I’m very proud to know that I did my part in the preservation of South Korea from North Korea and their friends from China and Russia.

Incidentally, if you want to visit with people who love their country, take a trip to Korea. I guarantee you that you will be treated to more kindness and love than you’ve ever had in all of your travels. I’ve made the trip twice since 1952. The first time was on the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War, with my wife. Ten years later I made the trip with my youngest daughter, Kelly.

I highly recommend a trip to this great country, but keep in mind this country was flattened during the war and these great people have returned their country to a true palace!

Don Keglitz, 14661 Helmer Rd. S., Apt. 11, Battle Creek, MI 49015, 269-491-0383 (h), 269-223-7732 (c)



Welcome Aboard!

New Members of the Korean War Veterans Association

ARIZONA

R046028 RICHARD L. EVERITT
LR46120 WESLEY JOST
A046107 JANE SHANAHORN
R046023 WALTER E. WARREN

CALIFORNIA

R046048 JOE AVILES
R046043 ELDON G. 'DON' BURKETT
A046134 JOSEPH CHUNG
R046040 ELIZABETH R. COSCA
R046126 LYLE G. DECK
R046072 JOHN H. FRIES
R046045 LOUIS F. GEORGE
A046071 CAROL G. GREEN
R046136 JESSE G. HARMON
A046141 JACK K. JHIN
R046076 JOSEPH C. JORDAN
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A046135 MYUNG SOO KIM
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R046029 WILLIAM J. MCKENDRICK
R046139 WILLIAM R. MORRISON
R046039 DENNIS W. MOSER
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LR46058 GERALD T. RICHARDS (HALL)
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A046022 MYONG C. SEO
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R046020 GERALD BARSON
R046147 RODNEY BOYD
A046131 HEATHER M. CORACE
R046073 AMOS DENHAM
R046094 GARY FORBERG
LR46035 HAROLD K. 'KURT' HAMEL
R046061 WILLIAM M. KERBER
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R046149 MELVIN M. SUSSMAN

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R046025 ALLAN A. MUSACK

Now Hear This:

All comments concerning, or contributions for publication in The Graybeards should be sent to:

Art Sharp, Editor

152 Sky View Dr.

Rocky Hill, CT. 06067

or emailed to: sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net

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 _____

Apt. or Unit # (if Any) _____ 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

Dates of service:

Division _____ ☐ **Army**

WithIN Korea were: *(See criteria below)*

Regiment _____ ☐ **Air Force**

From _____ To _____

Battalion _____ ☐ **Navy**

WithOUT Korea were: *(See criteria below)*

Company _____ ☐ **Marines**

From _____ To _____

Other _____ ☐ **Coast Guard**

"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" listed below, complete the "Certification of Eligibility for KWVA Membership" Form on page 2.]

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Note: If this is a GIFT Membership – please sign here to certify, under penalty of law, that to the best of your knowledge, ALL of the information you have provided about the Applicant is true and correct. [Note: If applicable, you must also complete and sign the Eligibility Form on page 2.]

Signature: _____ Relationship to Applicant: _____

Make checks payable to: KWVA – Mail to: **Korean War Veterans Association Inc., P. O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407** (

(Or you may pay by Credit Card)

Credit Card # _____ ☐ **VISA** ☐ **MASTER CARD (only)**

Expiration Date _____ V-Code _____ Your Signature _____

Adopted 10/27/2012

CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR KWVA MEMBERSHIP

In addition to completing the KWVA Membership Application Form on page 1, persons applying for, and qualifying for, membership under one of the categories listed below, are also required to fill in the appropriate blanks, and sign in the space provided below.

Check Only One Category:

- ☐ **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 by the North Koreans, Chinese, or Russian forces 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 during the Korean 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. I do not qualify to be a Regular member.
- ☐ **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."

Applicant 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.

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

B. Associate Members.

- Must not be eligible for Regular membership.
- 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. Gold Star Parents. Any person whose son/daughter was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war while serving within Korea including territorial waters around and airspace above during the Korean War (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.

D. Gold Star Spouses. Any person whose spouse was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war while serving within Korea including territorial waters around and airspace above during the Korean War (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.

E. 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.

F. 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.

WEB SITE: www.kwva.org

Adopted 10/26/2009, R5 Approved 7/26/2013

BASEBALL from page 57

Chuck Johnson, who orchestrated the entire concept of Korean veterans and this baseball series (Photo by Bob Peters)

Boosters Club. The teams left to get dressed, but pre-game practice was more limited as the field had received a typical Central Florida summer thunderstorm around 1 p.m. Korean vets visited for a while. Then they went to the ball park, some riding in golf carts that had been arranged for those with limited mobility.

Jim and Gloria Corbet gave members of each team special U.S.—South Korea crossed flags lapel pins at their respective dugouts.

Our Ch 169 Color Guard again presented the Colors, and Ms. Park again gave bone-tingling renditions of the national anthems. Ch169 Member Frank Keaser threw out the first pitch, saying that he did it for all the “old guys in 169 who made him feel so at home in the Chapter.”

Chuck Johnson paid special tribute to Korean War and Service veterans and to all veterans who have given so much to keep freedom alive. And, to the delight of many in the stands, he played most of the 35 1950-era tunes I had downloaded from Amazon.com specifically for that event, e.g., “Dear John,” “Cold, Cold Heart,” “C’mon A My House,” “Song of Arirang (aka Ah de dung),” etc.

The game was great, but the KUBF team won this one with the same score of Friday’s, 3 to 1! After losing the first two games, the SKBU team won the series, 3 to 2! Well, maybe next year.

Yes, next year as the South Korean have invited the Central Florida League to come to South Korea then. Rob says the league is definitely interested and is exploring its financial options. Maybe us Korean vets can arrange a Revisit Korea tour simultaneously!

Sunday’s was the final game in the series, and the sight of the U.S. and South Korean teams mingling after the game, exchanging hugs, handshakes and jerseys made me feel really proud to have had played just a small role in enabling this grand event during my tour 63 years ago!



Chuck Husbands presents a plaque honoring the Korean team at the Chapter 189/153 luncheon award ceremony: (L-R) Young-wan Kim, translator, Yoon-Soo Lee, Korean National Collegiate Team Manager, Chuck Husbands, Mark VanDeventer, and Rob Sitz (Photo by Chuck Husbands)



Chapter 169 Color Guard, with South Korean and U.S. teams along the 3rd and 1st base lines, respectively, during the singing of the national anthems prior to the August 8 game in Leesburg, FL (Photo by Bob Peters)

I had a tremendously enjoyable time, not only at the events, but also at the four planning group meetings. Jenn Magavero, Chuck Johnson, Bob Peters, Joe Ryu, Rob Sitz, Bob Peters, Don Rixie—all are terrific human beings. Yes, it was more than just baseball!

NOTE: The above article is a combined submission from Chapters 169, 189, 153, 173 and the DoF. Tom J. Thiel is a member of CID169, Bob McGuire and Chuck Husbands are members of CID189 and the DoF. Jim Prior is with CID173, and Phil Chinnery is the Director of Central Florida League Operations.



Chapters 189 and 153 combined Color Guard presenting the colors in Deland on August 6th (Photo by Chuck Husbands)

Kyoung Park sings the South Korean and the U.S. national anthems (Photo by Bob Peters)





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.

ALABAMA

JOHN H. ANDERSON
DONALD E. BRAZILE
JANICE F. BRITTON
BOBBY W. BURBANK
DAVID W. COKER
EDWARD F. DEES SR.
CARL F. GUSTAFSSON
BOBBIE J. HEMPFLING
REGINALD C. NEIGHBORS
EDGAR D. POE
ROBERT W. SOTO
WESLEY E. STRAULEY
ROY E. WILKERSON

ALASKA

MARVIN E. BARINGTON
RICHARD L. ROOD
ED W. SCHENDERLINE
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ARKANSAS

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FRED A. ACUTANZA
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STANLEY EARL AULT
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JAMES F. BEESON
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DR. RAYMOND ALTON BESSEMER
RICHARD A. BETOURNE
CLAIR J. BISHOP
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MANUEL A. CISNEROS
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GARTH P. OLIVER
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MAYNARD A. WOLFE

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ARTHUR B. WILLIAMS

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THOMAS D. LEAHY
SIR ANTHONY D. LONARDELLI SR.
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LEWIS M. TUTTLE

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JOHN A. CROCKETT

JOHN G. LIKAKIS
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DAVID W. PIPPIN
JOSEPH P. VACCARO

HAWAII

SHOJI KURODA

ILLINOIS

DONALD E. ADAMS
SHELDON H. AUERBACH
HAROLD W. AUSTIN
ALFRED F. AYDT
GEORGE P. BABCOCK
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WILLIAM H. BAHNKS
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LAVERNE BAXTER
HARRY M. BESSER
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WILLIAM W. BLAIR
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CHESTER C. BOGGS
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CHARLES R. BOYD
DANIEL E. BRAUCHER
PHILLIP R. BRISCOE
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JAMES R. BURNSIDE
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Death Notice of a Member of KWVA

The following notice is submitted for publication:

Name of deceased _____

Date of death _____ Year of Birth _____

Member # _____ Chapter _____

Address _____

☐ Army ☐ Navy ☐ Marine Corps ☐ Air Force ☐ Coast Guard

Primary Unit of service during Korean War _____

Submitted by _____

Relationship to deceased _____

Send to: **Membership, P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407**

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JOHN T. RANDALL

In Honor Of Veterans Day[©]

Here is a Veterans Day poem I wrote a few years ago, which is still appropriate..

During the savage mortar attack
the young corporal gazed into the eyes of his squad,
before this battle would be over, he knew
some here could look upon the face of God.

The two greatest words, faith and love,
fit our veterans of air, land and sea.
As He died to make men Holy,
they have served that men might be free.

Jesus proclaimed of a centurion,
as that soldier returned to his post,
"...a greater faith I have never seen,
...he has shown the very most."

Then He spoke of an act of love
of service with a noble touch,
that one would be willing to lay down his life,
a sacrifice that would demand so much.

Many veterans of all our wars,
have given their last full measure,
performing a selfless duty,
for this country we so treasure.

As we pause to remember this Veteran's day
we're reminded that "Freedom's not Free".
It never was, it is not now,
nor will it ever be.

Dick Jenkins, 9153 Yarrow St. #1203,
Westminster, CO 80021, 303-403-2917, kjenks@amnix.com

Korean War MOH Recipients Awarded Korean



Medal Presentation Ceremony with Hiroshi Miyamura (L), GEN Thurman, Mr. Cha (standing next to LTG Rowny), Ji Won Su Nim, Ron Rosser and LTG Rowny

By Monika Stoy

On 27 July 2014, in a large ceremony commemorating the 61st anniversary of the signing of the Korean War cease fire in the COEX in Seoul, Korea, three U.S. Army Korean War Medal of Honor Recipients were decorated with the ROK equivalent, the Medal of Military Merit, Taeguk.

Society Member Hiroshi Miyamura, 7th Infantry Regiment in the war, was joined by SFC Ron Rosser, USA (ret), of the 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, and Mary and James Ingman, representing their father, Einar Ingman, of the 17th Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. LTG Edward L. Rowny, USA

(ret) also received the Medal of Military Merit, Taeguk, for his outstanding combat record with the Xth Corps and 38th Infantry Regiment in the war. The medals were presented by ROK Prime Minister Chung, Hong-won.

Among the many luminaries present were General Curtis Scaparrotti, Commanding General of U.S. Forces, Korea and United Nations Command and his immediate predecessor, General J.D. Thurman, USMC (ret).

Tim and Monika Stoy assisted the Korean Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs in identifying the still-living U.S. Medal of Honor recipients from the Korean War, in processing award packets,

and in facilitating the recipients' travel to and from Korea. They also escorted LTG Rowny, who is blind and in a wheelchair, from Washington, D.C., along with LTG Rowny's son, Paul.

The program of events during the group's 3-12-day visit to Korea included a 26 July visit to Sooam Biotech in Seoul, which specializes in cloning and stem cell research. The facility is run by Dr. Hwang, Woo Suk, who was the first person in the world to successfully clone a dog, Snuppy, an Afghan Hound, in 2004. It was a fascinating visit for the entire group.

Dr. Hwang is currently working to clone a mammoth using biological matter found in the permafrost of Siberia. After

Medal of Honor



Monika Stoy, Hiroshi Miyamura, MajGen Vandal, and Marine veteran of Iraq (L-R) at Korea medal presentation

our visit to the research facility, Dr. Hwang hosted the group for dinner at a restaurant.

On the morning of 27 July, the MPVA conducted a press conference for the recipients and family members representing recipients. That evening the Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MPVA), Minister Park, Sung Choon, hosted a Thank You dinner for the large group of United Nations forces veterans who were participating in an MPVA-sponsored revisit program. The dinner was held in the Shilla Hotel.

Hiroshi and Monika met with MG Vandal, CG of the 2nd Infantry Division and a Marine veteran of Iraq who was in attendance. The highlight of the evening was a wonderful performance by the Little Angels, a traditional Korean song and dance troupe. At the end of their performance, LTG Rowny played Arirang on his harmonica with the Little Angels singing along.

On 28 July the group visited Jogyesa Temple and the headquarters of the Jogye Order of Korean Buddhism, where they were received by the Venerable Ji Won Su Nim, the number two man in the order. The Stoys met later with MPVA Minister Park,



Mike and Hiroshi Miyamura with Ji Won Su Nim and Monika Stoy

Sung Choon for lunch to discuss Outpost International's activities supporting future Korean War commemorations and further historical projects in Korea and the United States.

The conclusion of the visit came late in the afternoon when the three recipients, the Ingmans, and the Stoys attended a high-power publication dinner hosted by the National War Memorial and the Korean Ministry of Defense to mark the publication of the Korean version of LTG Rowny's Korean War memoir, A Soldier's Saga. Korea's most famous war hero, General Paik, Sun Yup, shared the limelight with LTG Rowny to open the event. Among dignitaries present were the Minister of Defense, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Scaparrotti, and several previous Ministers of Defense and Chiefs of Staff in the Korean Armed Forces. Mr. Cha, Kil Jin, the publisher of LTG Rowny's book in Korea, also supported the event.

The award of the Medal of Military Merit, Taeguk, to Miyamura, Rosser, Ingman, and Rowny, as well as to a Turkish veteran, is the first time this medal has been awarded since the end of the Korean War.



Visit to Sooam Biotech, Dr. Hwang, Woo Suk is in lab coat



Attendees at the Taeguk Recipient Press Conference

APPLICATION FOR KOREA REVISIT TOURS

(UPDATE 03/07/13)

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

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.

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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**

Background

The Korea Revisit program was begun by the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MPVA/Seoul) in 1975 for the 25th 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

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). 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, National Cemetery.

Typical Korea Revisit Itinerary:

Day 1: Fly to Korea

Day 2: Arrival day Incheon Airport, Korea check into Seoul Hotel.

Day 3: Wreath Laying at United Nations Monuments.

Day 4: Korean War Commemoration Ceremonies.

Day 5: Panmunjom, DMZ Thank You Banquet in the evening.

Day 6: War Memorial Museum tour, Korean culture show.

Day 7: Departure

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 whatever nature during the Revisit tours.
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 and 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 group administered by MHT.
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.

Grey Dawn

By Joseph B. Chambers

The mist hangs like a dirty drape.

Formless shapes struggle to escape.

Stands of water swirl like tidal pool.

Life teaming in a little world.

My boots are wet, my feet are cold.

What am I doing here?

Am I to grow old?

Thunder in the sky, planes flying by.

Can't see the clouds hung out to dry.

Can't sleep much, waiting for the dawn, waiting for the sun.

This is an odd place - everyone with the same face.

Can't drink the water - rations are poor.

Bed down at night, the earth for a floor.

Got a hole in my belly, a gun in my hand - sitting in this sand.

Complain?

Can't do that. My Choice - I enlisted.

Could have listened as my friends insisted.

I thought that I would be forever young, but within a week that thought was done.

We are the sons of prey - our minds buried in this grey.

Blackness penetrates my soul.

Vengeance will take its toll.

We have spilled our blood, and lost our youth.

Are they going to take all our tomorrows too?

I would like to say good-bye, but they are half a world away.

Maybe I should pray for just one more day.

Everything is so grey.

(Signed by) J. Chambers

Joe Chambers enlisted in the army at age seventeen. He was assigned to the 24th ID in Japan. He was among the first 400+ men sent to engage the North Korean forces at Osan. He was wounded and sent to a hospital in Japan for recovery. When he became fit for duty, he was reassigned to the 25th ID, 27th Wolfhound Regt., which was then defending the Pusan perimeter. Wounded a second time, he was sent back to a hospital for recovery from his wounds. His third assignment back to Korea was to the 194th Engineer Combat Bn. Joe passed away in September 2013.

According to his two sons, Joe wrote this poem when he was seventeen years old.

Submitted by Charles Havey, 715 W. St Moritz Dr., Payson, AZ 85541

Korean War Veterans Association
Membership Administrative Assistant
P.O. Box 407
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Republic of Korea Ambassador Ahn Ho-young and KWVA President Larry Kinard lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns . Story on page 53.