

America's Forgotten Victory!

KOREA VETERANS

The Graybeards

Official Publication of

THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

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

We Honor Founder William T. Norris

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See detailed list of committees at
WWW.KWVA.ORG



From the President

Larry Kinard

Here it is early March and winter is still with us. Everyone I talk with is more than ready for winter to be over and for the sun to shine and melt all the snow that has fallen this year. I think everyone will feel better when spring actually gets here.

Even though it has been very cold and snowy, our business continues. That is a good thing. I have several things to mention this time that have been both personal and interesting to me.

As I write this I am in Houston visiting with ROK (Ret) Rear Admiral Chong Dae Kim, who is an Elder in the Sae Eden Presbyterian Church in Seoul, Korea. Since 2007 this church has been holding annual events in Korea and the United States for Korean War veterans to show their appreciation and thanks for what we did for them.

I spoke to a large group of Indiana and Illinois veterans last year in Chicago at their excellent program there. This year they have invited ten Korean War veterans and their spouses from Texas to visit Korea. I plan to make this trip in June along with the others who have been invited. In June, 2016 they are planning for another large event in the United States, this time in Houston. This is another large group of very appreciative Koreans doing their best to make sure we know how much they care.

In early February, Tom McHugh, our Fund Raising Chairman, received an email from a Korean telling us he wanted to donate \$5,000 to the KWVA. Since it was not connected with anyone we knew, we didn't know whether it was real or not. But, at the end of February, we received a check from Mr. Kim Neochang that was indeed a valid document.

The note with it explained that it was from a Korean gentleman whose mother carried him as a baby on her back in July 1951 while fleeing from the Chinese. He had been hoping to find a way to thank the Americans, and had just found out about our organization. He thought this was a good way to do it. He has a home in Seoul, Korea and another in California, so he is apparently doing quite well these days. Needless to say, I wrote him a very nice thank you letter.

Here are two other good things that have happened. General Shin and LTC Hong hosted a dinner for ten Korean War veterans in Dallas on January 28 because they were in the area to pay a call on Lockheed Martin. It was a great opportunity for us to get to know them better and for them to see what Texas veterans are like close up.

Also, Bob McCubbins, of the Raymond G. Davis Chapter #19 in Atlanta, told me recently that he had been invited to a dinner at the General Counsel's residence, where he met the Ambassador to the U. S., Ahn Ho Young, and U. S. Ambassador to Korea, Mr. Sung Y. Kim. Later, the new Consul General, Seong-jin Kim, and MPVA Minister Soon-Choon Park, from Seoul, surprised them by asking them to attend their chapter's Christmas party. Not only did they attend, but they paid for the party and presented Freedom medals to those who had not received one previously.

Big things will be happening in New York City on June 25 this year at Carnegie Hall. We have been informed that Junghoon Kim,

...Tom McHugh, our Fund Raising Chairman, received an email from a Korean telling us he wanted to donate \$5,000 to the KWVA...He had been hoping to find a way to thank the Americans, and had just found out about our organization.

Chairman of the American Veterans of Korea Foundation, is planning a major event there for the Korean veterans in the New York area. National Director and New York State Commander Sal Scarlato has been appointed to a committee that will help with the planning and publicity and provide bus transportation for veterans in the surrounding area who wish to attend. I am told this is the first of several annual events to be held around the country to recognize Korean veterans.

Two more items of importance in this issue of the magazine I hope you will note. There is additional information on the July 22-27 Annual Meeting in Washington D.C. This will be an exciting event, with the recognition of the 20th anniversary of the Korean War Memorial and a special name reading ceremony of those who were KIA that will be conducted by Col. Bill Weber's Wall of Remembrance Foundation.

Dr. Jongwoo Han will once again have a large group of Korean veterans' descendants from around the world and several high school teachers there to continue promoting the legacy of the Korean War. We will have a good chance to interface with many of these young people to help build the understanding of what we did.

I again remind everyone of the Board of Director's election taking place at this time. We need your vote for 4 of the 7 candidates listed on the ballot in the previous issue of *The Graybeards* magazine. PLEASE VOTE, AND ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO VOTE ALSO.

In this letter I have tried to show just a few examples of how the Korean government and the Korean people are trying to show their continuing and long lasting gratitude for what we did many years ago. I hope you have had a chance to be a part of one of their programs. I believe they sincerely want those who served there to know of their appreciation.

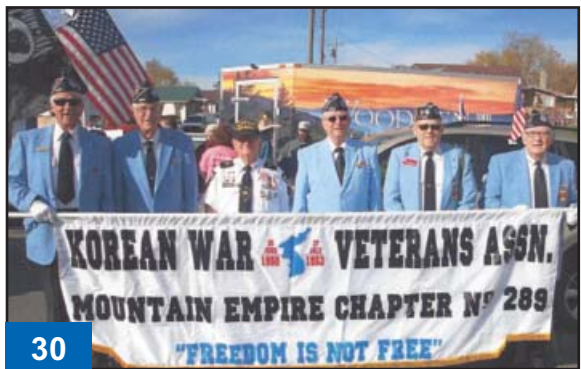
Larry Kinard, President

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

COVER: Team Osan Observes POW/MIA Remembrance Week
Staff Sgt. Joseph Goddard, a Team Osan honorguardsman, stands by before a Prisoners of War/Missing in Action remembrance ceremony Sept. 25, 2014, at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea. The ceremony was in remembrance of the hundred thousands of POW/MIAs and served to acknowledge their sacrifices. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jake Barreiro/Released)



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"Freedom Is Not Free"



KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION INC.

Annual fundraiser winners to be drawn on Veterans Day 2015.

Donation \$20 per ticket. To enter this exciting fundraiser, complete the attached form. Winners will be announced at www.KWVA.org and in the Graybeards.

Deadline for ticket donations is Oct. 15, 2015



1950-1954



1954-Present

Super Cash Prizes!

1st Prize

\$2,500

2nd Prize

\$1,000

3rd Prize

\$1,000

4th Prize

\$1,000



FOUR ALL CASH PRIZES FOUR HAPPY MEMBERS

This (ALL CASH RAFFLE) will allow the winners to go on vacation. Buy an M1 Rifle. Fix a car. Get an Item of your choice.

Most importantly, SUPPORT THE KWVA

For more tickets, copy or go to www.KWVA.org For applications click "HOW TO JOIN" link

KWVA INC. Korea War and Korea Service Veterans

Contact: Thomas Mc Hugh, Director Chairman Fundraiser Committee, tmmchugh@msn.com for info.

Make check payable to: KWVA

Don't Rip Your GrayBeards – Copy Page To Send Tickets

OR Pay by Credit Card:

Mail to: KWVA Membership Office, P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407

[] Visa [] Master Card Card # _____ Exp. Date ____ / ____ V-Code _____

Return this ticket with donation of \$20

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, ZIP: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Membership No: _____

Return this ticket with donation of \$20

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Phone: _____
Email: _____
Membership No: _____

KWVA Annual Fundraiser

Donation: \$20 Per Ticket

Support The KWVA By Participating In The Drawing And Signing Up A Friend As A Member

The reason this message is printed on the reverse of the 2015 Raffle tickets is because many members requested that we not have *The Graybeards* ticket removal cause an article to be cut out of the magazine. We work very hard to make *The Graybeards* the best. I hope this will eliminate the problem.

As the new Fund Raiser Chairman, I thank all the members who participated in the previous fundraiser raffles. Your donations have helped tremendously towards the growing publication costs. The 2014 Chairman, Art Griffith, raised over \$50,000. My hope is that together we raise more than that to support the KWVA.

The 2015 winners will be drawn on Veterans Day, after the ceremonies and wreath laying at Arlington National Cemetery. We will ask Major General, Shin, Kyoung Soo, ROK Army, Defense Attaché, Korean Embassy, to draw the winners again. The announcement of the winners will be posted on our website, www.kwva.org, and in

The Graybeards.

This year we have "ALL CASH" prizes. That will allow the winners to purchase the prizes of their choice. Hopefully, in the future a member might donate another weapon. If one is donated, we will gladly utilize it as a prize.

To be eligible for the drawing, tickets must arrive by October 15, 2015. We wish all participants "Good Luck."

The 2014 prize winners were Charles Kalb, Creve Coeur, IL (\$2,500.00), Harold Pitts, Girard, OH (a 1903 Rifle donated by Charlie Price), and Anthony Lori, Whippany, NJ (\$1,500.00). Congratulations to all 2014 winners.

I offer my personal "Thank You" to all members for your past and present support. If you have any questions, suggestions, or problems, please contact me.

Always Remember: "Freedom Is Not Free."

*Thomas M McHugh, Director, Chairman, Fundraiser Committee,
908-852-1964, tmmchugh@msn.com*

Reunion Calendar: 2015

Mail your info to Reunion Editor, The Graybeards, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067, or email it to sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net. Include Unit, Date(s), Place, and Contact's name, address, phone #, email address. Entries are posted "first come, first served." The Graybeards is not responsible for the accuracy of the information published. NOTE: Submissions may be edited for space considerations.

2015

The Fire Brigade, 1st Provisional Marine Brigade (Korea-1950). 65th Anniversary reunion in planning. Col Warren Wiedhahn, USMC (Ret), 4.2 Mortars, 5th Marines, Military Historical Tours, 13198 Centerpointe Way, #202, Woodbridge VA 22193, 703-590-1295, JWiedhahn@aol.com

MAY

Korean War Buddies/Military Police, 40th Inf. Div/Eighth Army, 12-15 May, St. Augustine/Vilano Beach, FL, Hampton Inn. Chuck Walther, 636 527-4624, clwstl@aol.com

JUNE

1st, 2nd, & 3rd AmTracs, USMC. 24-26 June, Biloxi, MS, Rivage Resort & Casino. For more info, call 941-496-8119.

JULY

91st Military Police Bn., Pusan, Korea 1952-1954. 58th, 289th, 560th, 563rd MP Cos, 54th Trans Co. 28-30 July, Midland, MI. Manuel Sanchez - 989-793-4277

AUGUST

Item Co., 3-1, 1st Mar Div (Korea, 1950-55). 19-23 Aug., Branson, MO. Suzie Woodward, 860-262-1334, Suzi11111@aol.com

98th Bomb Grp/Wing Veterans Assn. 24-28 Aug., Dayton, OH, Crowne Plaza Hotel 937-224-0800. Dennis Posey, 770-509-7734, dennis_posey@att.net or Suzanne Mioduszewski, 734- 678-3838, suzannes@me.com

SEPTEMBER

772 MP Bn., Date not listed. Boston, MA. Gene Michaels, 740-824-4774, gecabin@gmail.com

USS Hornet (CV-8, CV, CVA, CVS-12). All Ship's Company, Officers, Air Groups, Crew, Marines and their Families Welcomed. 9-13 Sept., Lexington, KY. Carl &

Sandy Burket, PO Box 108, Roaring Spring, PA 16673-9817, 814-224-5063, hornetcva@aol.com or <http://www.usshornetassn.com/>

51st FIW Assn., 10-12 Sept., Omaha, NE, Embassy Suites. Gene & Shirley Zenk, 712-263-5051, 712-269-1800, hesszenk@frontiernet.net. All 51st squadron members and support groups are invited to attend, including those stationed in Okinawa & Japan before and after the Korean War.

USS Charles P. Cecil (DD/DDR-835), 13-19 Sept., Portland/Bath, ME. Greg Wells, 6034 NW Expressway Apt A, Oklahoma City, OK 73132, 405-365-1926, glw513@yahoo.com

84th & 62nd Engineers (Korea). 14-17 Sept., Warwick, RI. Carol Nelson, 39 Myrtle Ave., Warwick, RI 02886, 401-738-0693, cen21255@verizon.net

USS Colonial (LSD-18), 14-19 Sept. Norfolk, VA, Virginia Holiday Inn Airport. Loren Kerby, 3013 Emerald Ct., Platte City, MO 64079, 816-858-3158, kerbyplatte@aol.com

24th Inf. Div. Assn., 17-21 Sept., Columbus, GA, Hilton Gardens Inn. Donald Bruner, 580-233-4228, donbruner@suddenink.net

25th Infantry Division Assn., 28 Sept.-3 Oct., Springfield, IL. Sarah S. Krause, 215-248-2572, TropicLtn@aol.com or 25th ida.org. (This will be a historic reunion, as it is being held jointly with the 4th Infantry Division Assn.)

Veterans Of The Korean War, 29 Sept.-1 Oct., Virginia Beach, VA. Floyd Newkirk, 757-340-9801 or Richard Stacy, 757-490-8022, p2vradio@verizon.net

OCTOBER

USS Yorktown (CV-10, CVA-10, CVS-10), anyone serving onboard 1943 to 1970, Crew, Air Groups/Squadrons or Marines. 1-3 Oct., Mt. Pleasant, SC, aboard the ship at Patriot's Point. P O Box 1021, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29456, 843-849-1928, yorktowncv10association@gmail.com

USS Ingersoll (DD-652/990). 8-11 Oct., Tucson, AZ. Neal Overman, 575-574-7921, sw.nm.horseman@gmail.com



From the Secretary

Need To Know Information About The Association's Bylaws And Standard Procedures Manual (SPM)

The bylaws and SPM, and approved changes thereto, are currently available on the home page of the Association's website, www.kwva.org. There are no hard copies unless you download the information that is on the website.

When I realized that many of you do not use computers, I decided that there was an action item on the agenda for the Board Meeting on March 27, 2015 that you need to know about. It has to do with the SPM, more specifically, Section 8.1. Chapters requesting IRS 501 (c) 19 status under the KWVA Group Exemption:

A. Chapters may be included in the Korean War Veterans Association Inc. (KWVA) Group Exemption Letter which was approved by IRS on August 29, 2014. Any Chapter requesting to be included in the Group Exemption may do so by submitting the following to the KWVA Treasurer: Affirmation from the Chapter governing body that the Chapter requests to be included in the Korean War Veterans Association Inc. (KWVA) Group Exemption.

- 1. Affirmation from the Chapter Commander that the Chapter is under the general supervision of Korean War Veterans Association whose headquarters is in Charleston, IL.*
- 2. Provide the Chapter IRS EIN, Chapter identification number (CID) and Chapter address.*
- 3. Affirmation that the Chapter's accounting year end is December 31st.*
- 4. Affirmation that all members have paid their KWVA National dues in accordance with the KWVA bylaws.*
- 5. Affirmation that the Chapter is not a private foundation.*
- 6. Affirmation that the Chapter was organized on or before September 12, 2012 or that it is newly organized.*
- 8. Provide a detailed description of the purpose of the Chapter, its revenue sources and the nature of its expenditures.*
- 9. Affirmation that the Chapter Commander will notify the KWVA Treasurer when the membership of the Chapter falls below 75 percent of its members being past or present members of the Armed Forces of the United States, as defined in IRS Code section 501 (C) (19).*

Include a copy of the Chapter's approved organizational documents in the State where it is organized, (i.e. Articles of Incorporation).

B. Generally a Chapter which already received tax exemption status from IRS would not desire to be included in the KWVA.

John Wants To Know

I recently received this email from John: "Why is it that this organization has no frame-suitable membership certificate as does the VFW and American Legion? And second, since your

membership is also opened to Korea defense veterans as I, why are there never any articles whatsoever in your magazine about our service during the Cold War, let alone about those who have service there during the period of time when no NDSM was authorized?"

From me to John:

I cannot really answer your questions, but here is my take on them anyway. In my eight years as Secretary, no one has ever asked about a certificate. However, I think one could be easily made up. As for articles on service veterans, the editor of the magazine publishes pretty much what he receives. Obviously, he has not received anything from the service veterans.

Ambassador For Peace Medal

I hope all of you have finally received the Peace medal. Initially it was only awarded to the Korean veterans who had boots on the ground in Korea during 1950-1953. Then the Koreans started giving it out to any veteran who made the revisit trip. Lastly, they decided to give it to all Korean veterans, and medals started to appear from everywhere, except to my Chapter.

I submitted my roster to the Consulate General in Atlanta over a year ago. It was lost and I resubmitted it about three months ago. Still no medals. Prior to our last Chapter meeting I was pleasantly surprised by accepting two associate members into our Chapter, HooJung Jones Kennedy, and her husband, Don Kennedy. They are both from Canada and both are strongly involved with the Korean War veterans.

HooJung has been awarding the Peace Medals all over Florida. She said she would get them for our Chapter members. Well, one has to accept this as a coincidence or faith, but at my door the next morning was a box from Korea with my Chapter's Peace Medals.

HooJung awarded several of them at the February meeting. Some of the remaining medals were awarded at an appreciation luncheon at the Lake Wales VFW on March 28, 2015. Several dignitaries and several different Chapters have been invited to that meeting. The problem is that HooJung insists that the veteran must be there to accept the medal. That is not going to happen.

In fact, we have already lost one of the members who was scheduled to get the medal. Some others have moved out of the state. It remains to be seen what will happen to any medals left over.



Frank Cohee

All Chapter and/or Department news for publication in *The Graybeards* should be mailed to Art Sharp, Editor, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or emailed to:
Sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net

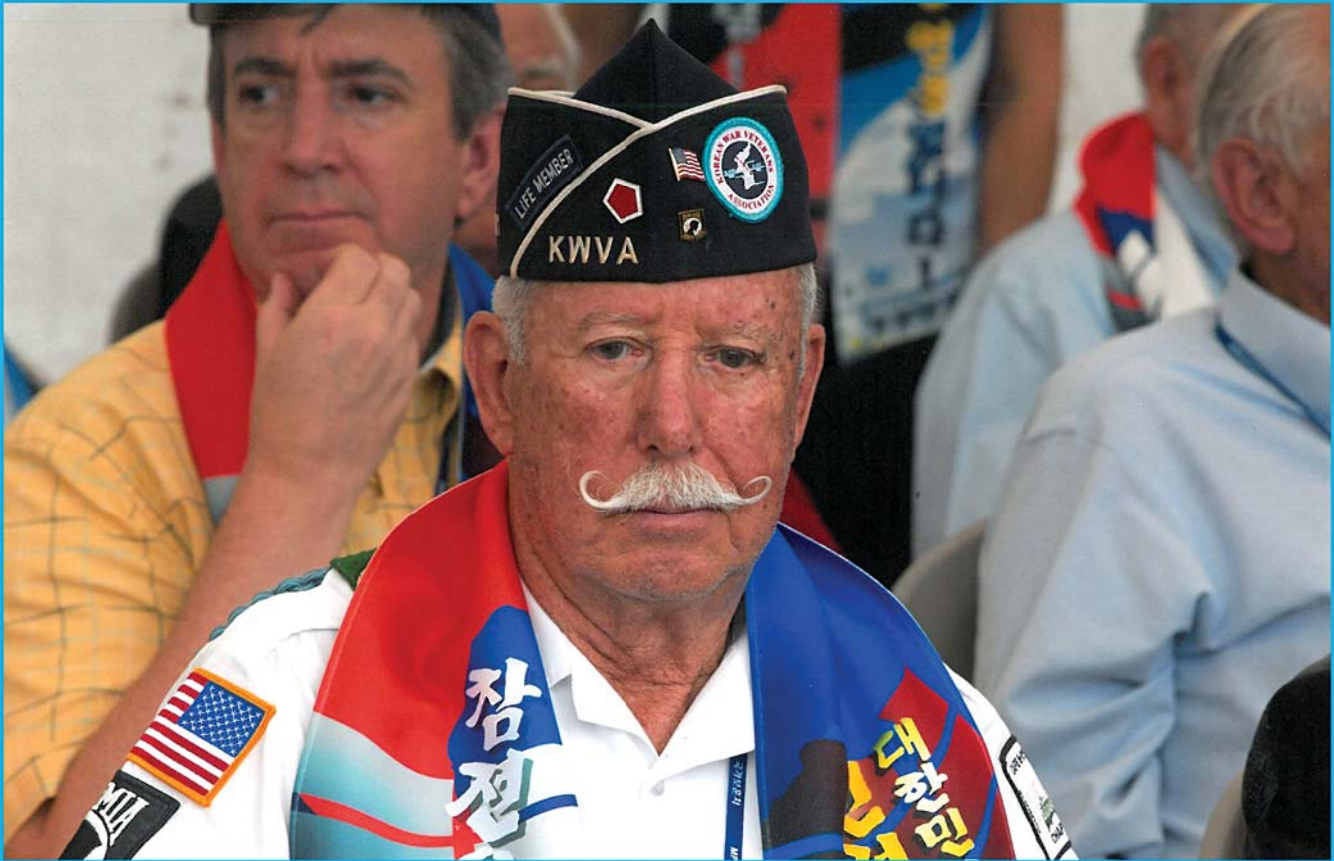


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Is That A Teardrop On This Page?[©]

Dying is hard work. So is watching someone die, especially if you have loved that someone for half a century, as I did Betsy, my wife of 48+ years. She passed away on March 21st, after a long battle with Huntington's disease. Betsy died the way she lived: bravely and peacefully.

I will miss her. I have had plenty of practice. Huntington's, one of the most deadly diseases people can contract, and which is incurable, wears the victims down mentally and physically until they are but mere shells of themselves. It has been over two years since the real Betsy inhabited Earth. But, her spirit has always remained with us—and will continue to do so.

Some of you had the chance to interact with her over the years. She was my ebullient, behind-the-scenes "right hand woman." She helped edit *The Graybeards*, answered your phone calls, steered you to the right people, etc. She always did so with a smile that you could not see over the phone or through the computer, but could no doubt sense.

Many callers told me that they felt a lot better after talking to her than they did before they called the editor with a problem. (That was their subtle way of saying they were happy to talk to her instead of me.) She had a special place in her heart for Korean veterans—all veterans, in fact.

She never forgot one episode at the Tomb of the Unknowns a few years back when we attended a "Gathering." After the ceremony concluded she was standing alone, minding her own business, and watching solemn veterans engrossed in silent memories of their experiences in Korea. Then, a group of South Koreans walked up to Betsy and thanked her profusely for what she had done to help their country gain their freedom.

She was mystified for a moment, until she realized that they were thanking everyone, not just the veterans who had actually fought in Korea, but also the people who supported them. It was a happy

We all go through life knowing that death is the one constant in our lives. But that does not make it any easier to accept when it shatters the routines of our lives.

moment for her, even though she didn't have the heart to tell the South Korean veterans that she was only seven years old when the war began.

Similarly, when we were in Reno at the KWVA reunion in 2007, she was comfortable mingling with veterans and their guests who she had never met. While I attended meetings she was making friends, as she did so easily. Anyone who knew her well might have thought the A in Elizabeth A. Sharp stood for "Affable." That described her in the proverbial nutshell. (The A actually stood for Alice, which not even her closest friends ever knew.)

As the membership meeting ended, I walked out into the lobby. There she was in the middle of a group of veterans and guests, laughing and spreading warmth. That is how I will always remember her best: living, loving, and making other people happy.



The last photo of Betsy and Art

But, even then Huntington's was beginning to make its presence known. We had to make a side trip to a hospital in Reno because she was experiencing some discomfort. The staff treated her and alleviated the symptoms. That was not her last trip to a hospital for treatment for the disease. She stoically underwent the increasing hardships associated with the disease with each visit, and continued to do so until the end.

It is never easy for us to accept death, whether we are close to the deceased person or not. How many veterans have recoiled at the deaths of their comrades, in or out of combat? Deaths are a part of military life—and life in general, for that matter. We all go through life knowing that death is the one constant in our lives. But that does not make it any easier to accept when it shatters the routines of our lives.

For me, life will go on. I will continue to edit *The Graybeards* and live according to the same ideals and principles that I—we—did while Betsy was alive. That is all she asked of me while she was by my side.

Oh, maybe there will be a few more errors in *The Graybeards* because she is no longer around to help me with the editing. And, perhaps more members will be disappointed because they have to deal with me instead of her when they have a question or problem. But, that cannot be helped.

Betsy has moved on to a more advanced editorial office somewhere. No doubt she will be smiling down at those of us she left behind. We can smile back, even though this time she may not see our smiles. The world is a darker place without her, but the memories she left will brighten it forever.

Her hard work is over. Now mine begins: living with memories of our great life together. That is hard work indeed.

Hospitals In Japan And The Korean War Casualties

By Tom Moore

The Korean War meant a drastic change for the Tokyo and Osaka U.S. Army hospitals, where life revolved around work, quarters, and recreation. To some extent self-contained communities, both hospitals provided movies, clubs, sports teams, and published newsletters, "The Host" at Osaka and "The Tower" at Tokyo. Such routine hardly prepared the hospital staffs for the events that followed 25 June 1950.

At that time the Tokyo Army Hospital had only 11 doctors for its 1,000-bed facility, and the Osaka Army Hospital had 1 medical officer to 90 seriously injured patients. Built for a peaceful operation, the hospitals of Japan at first were swamped by the demands of war.

At the war's opening, there were 13 Army hospitals operating in Japan, with a normal capacity of about 3,500 beds, and an emergency capability of over 5,300 beds. By August 1950, the patient number had risen to over 6,700. In September 1950, they were up to over 8,000, and in December 1950, the number of casualties from Korea was over 11,000.

At the end of 1950, American civilians, 18 doctors, 155 nurses, 308 clinical workers, 102 attendants, and thousands of Japanese who had worked for the U.S. Army Medical Service during the peaceful years arrived. That was a huge help in the medical build-up, until trained medical help could arrive from America.

The Tokyo and Osaka hospitals provided the most sophisticated care available in the Far East Command. The Tokyo U.S. Army Hospital stood near the center of the capital, with an annex located about a mile away. A seven-story concrete building constructed by Christian missionaries, the main hospital was marked by a tower topped by a cross.

The Osaka U.S. Army Hospital was a former Japanese Red Cross installation, located in the metropolis of southern Honshu. Covering more than 14 acres, its compound held about 15 structures. The main plant consisted of three connected five-story buildings. The tall stacks of the power plant and the low peaked roofs of satellite buildings were visible behind its

The Korean, Turkish and Filipino soldiers were full of parasites and the long roundworms called ascarides, which worked their way through suture lines in the intestines and migrated through abdominal incisions, spreading infection and creating fistulas.

tree-shaded wall. Almost all the serious head and chest surgery cases went to Tokyo. Osaka, which received most of the major frostbite cases, was the site of evacuation to the zone of interior.

The 155th Station Hospital in downtown Yokohama was a former department store, The Matsuya, converted into wards and clinics; it was a handsome brick and stone structure, with some 70 satellite buildings.

The 118th Station Hospital, in Fukuoka, the main entry and triage point early in the war, was the typical solid reinforced-concrete structure, most appropriate to earthquake-prone Japan. Seventy-one buildings surrounded the main hospital.

The 376th Station Hospital at an air base west of Tokyo represented the pavilion-type hospital, with low wards in separate buildings connected by covered walkways. It was very functional.

On the Sumida River, a few miles from central Tokyo, stood the 361st Station Hospital, a prewar Japanese establishment taken over by the U.S. Army.

To control patient loads, the less serious cases, after surgery, were transferred to convalescent centers at the 128th

Station Hospital and Camp King. The Tokyo U.S. Army Hospital treated over 800 U.N. casualties, including Turks, Frenchmen, Britons, Indians, Canadian, Australians, Swedes, Thais, Dutch, Filipinos, and South Koreans.

The U.S. Army surgeons encountered conditions they were not prepared for. The Korean, Turkish and Filipino soldiers were full of parasites and the long roundworms called ascarides, which worked their way through suture lines in the intestines and migrated through abdominal incisions, spreading infection and creating fistulas.

The hospitals in Japan relied upon the 406th Medical General Laboratory for an array of technical services, e.g., tests, pathological studies, and research on viral and bacterial agents.

With the back-up of the medical services in Japan, the U.N. had some of the best military medical service ever up to that time in history.

Reach Tom Moore at tm103ps@yahoo.com

QUESTION: Why were only the Korean, Turkish, and Filipino soldiers affected by parasites and ascarides? Was it a dietary thing, a hygienic problem...?

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Announcing the KWVA Illinois State Convention June 26 & 27, 2015

Join us for a great weekend of camaraderie and good fun for the Korean War and Service Veterans Association's Illinois State Convention to be held June 26 and 27, 2015 at the Route 66 Hotel in Springfield, IL. We expect to share many fun adventures and renew acquaintances.

Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau suggests choosing from among these and other sites to visit: 1) Military Museum at Camp Lincoln; 2) Air Combat Museum at Abraham Lincoln Capitol Airport; 3) Korean War Museum; 4) Abraham Lincoln Museum; 5) Old State Capitol; 6) War Memorials at Oak Ridge Cemetery

Additional information about sites and tours is available from Springfield 2015 Visitors Guide and from www.visitspringfield-illinois.com. Click on Group Tours, drop down, and click on SCVB Scheduled Sites for suggested tours with recommended times and prices. Please indicate your interest on the registration form below.

We need to increase membership in KWVA by educating those who served in Korea of their eligibility.

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: Said service was within Korea, including territorial waters and air-space at any time, September 3, 1945 to present, or said service was outside Korea, June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955.

Membership forms are available for downloading at www.kwva.org.

Everyone needs to get a new member who was in Korean Service February 1, 1955 to present or a war veteran.

Make your reservation with Route 66 Hotel and complete the registration form below and return it to Bill Hanes at 2631 Candlewood Place, Decatur IL 62521. Reach him at (217) 422-9508 or william0251@hotmail.com or George Michael at (217) 414-2955 or gmichael15@hotmail.com.

Korean War & Service Veterans 2015 Illinois State Convention

Registration Form

June 26 and 27, 2015

**ROUTE 66 HOTEL,
625 E. ST. JOSEPH STREET
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703**

PHONE 217-529-6626 FAX 217-529-4666

ROOMS \$64.90 per night, single or double

Be sure to tell them you are with KWVA Convention!

June 26 & 27: Registration: # attending @ \$5/person = \$ _____

June 26, Friday: Hospitality Room: 1 PM to 10 PM
5 PM Social Hour
6PM Special Hors d'oeuvres & Music
w/ Angel Brown, Piano & Vocals
Program will be Brian "Fox" Ellis telling about
William Herndon Lincoln's Law Partner

June 27 Saturday: Hospitality Room: 9 AM to 10 PM
Tours, morning and afternoon
5 PM Social Hour
6 PM Dinner: #people @\$25 per person = \$ _____
Choice of: Sliced Roast Beef # _____
Broasted Chicken # _____

Special Diet? _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Please complete this registration form, enclose check and return to:

Bill Hanes, 2631 Candlewood Place, Decatur, IL. 62521

Make checks payable to "Korean War Veterans Convention"

PLEASE REGISTER BY MAY 31, 2015

Name: _____

Address: _____

Spouse or Guest: _____

Chapter: _____

Phone: () _____ E-Mail: _____

Are you interested in Saturday morning tour bus? ☐ Yes ☐ No and /or afternoon
tour bus? ☐ Yes ☐ No. How many on tour _____?

It Takes A ‘Villages’

If new members do not come to you, then take your Chapter to them!

By Tom J. Thiel

Although consistently the No. 1 or No. 2 chapter in Florida (we alternate with CID 175 in Lutz), chapter 169 found itself rapidly declining from a high of near 90 members in December 2012 to the upper 70s in late 2013. The decline was due to an accelerating rate of member mortality, even more to members deciding not to renew, presumably for deteriorating health reasons. The chapter's Board examined the issue and came up with a plan. If we cannot get members to come to us, then we'll take the chapter to potential new members.

KWVA of Lake County Florida Chapter 169, Inc., is very fortunate; it has a community of nearly 100,000 retired people on its northern and western range, known as The Villages. It has brought a tremendous influx of permanent and seasonal new residents to our area; a significant number of them are veterans.

Nearly a third of our existing members are from The Villages, but we were unable to grow much beyond that because The Villages has hundreds of clubs and activities, including veterans.

Two of our Villages members had been holding a monthly veterans meetings. We approached them to allow us to hold dual chapter meetings in the room they had reserved at the Eisenhower Center, a building reserved for use by Villages organizations. So, we embarked on a program of holding two bona fide Chapter 169 meetings each month; the third Saturday of the month at the Eisenhower Center in The Villages, and the fourth Wednesday of the month at the Leesburg Senior Center, the location we have been using since our inception. These are roughly 10.5 miles or less than 20 minutes apart.

At the new Eisenhower Center meetings, we post the Colors, do our POW/MIA presentation, and supply a speaker, just like we do at our regular meetings. And, we explain what the chapter is and what it does, and encourage them to join us and attend the

meeting place(s) that most suits them.

At least for the present, all chapter official business is conducted at the regular fourth Wednesday Senior Center sessions, and the second Wednesday Board Meetings. (I can foresee this possibly changing, though.)

We have held four Eisenhower Center meetings, which started on 15 November 2014. Results have exceeded our wildest expectations!

- In December we installed two new members at the Eisenhower Center!
- In February we installed four new members at the Eisenhower Center.
- And we installed three at our Senior Center meeting a week and a half later. Two of these were from the Eisenhower Center!
- There are two yet to be installed, giving us a total of eleven new Chapter 169 members in four months!

And, we know of guests at the last meeting who have said they will join at our March meeting! We are not sure where this will go, but it seems to me it will only continue upward.

So, we are gaining members, and with it the clear leadership in members among Florida's KWVA chapters.

These new members have brought skill sets that are badly needed in our chapter; it behooves us to learn how to adequately employ them.

Okay, those are the advantages; what were the costs?

Of course, it is double effort, but with continued growth, I believe this extra effort will gradually be absorbed by our new members, who incidentally are trending a bit younger and more able to address the management concerns associated with two programs and rapid growth.

There are some other concerns too; we have, for example,



Three new members of Ch 169 being sworn in at Senior Center normal meeting site on 25 February 2015: Levenda J. "Joy" Selph, Don "Moose" Leitstein, and Francis G. Furrie (L-R). Ms. Selph and Mr. Leitstein were recruited at The Villages. (Photo by Becker)



Art Iversen, Ch 169 President, and a prime mover in our expansion to The Villages effort (right) installs our first two new members, Carl E. McClellan (L) and Harold Little. Witnessing the ceremony is Harold Sievers (rear right) who, along with Art Canale, participates with us in the effort by obtaining the room. (Photo by Tom Thiel)



Art Iversen (L) swearing in four new members of Ch 169 at the February 2015 Eisenhower Center meeting: Dick Miller, Bob Waterfield, Bill Creekmur, and Ed Moran (L-R). (Photo by Tom Thiel)



Gary Kadow, of Project S.O.S., Save Our Soldiers, speaks to Ch 169 meeting on 21 February 2015 at the Eisenhower Center Meeting. (Photo by Tom Thiel)

heard that some are worried about potentially losing the chapter as we have known it. I suppose that could happen, but it shouldn't, if we build a relationship between the two programs. Based on recent results this appears to be the case, as the Eisenhower Center members are joining in on our activities, such as the chapter picnic and the Tell America and Color Guard programs!

Hey, if we do not get new members, we will lose the chapter soon anyway. Many of the rest of the KWVA chapters are dwindling away.

The Villages offers us a potential source of new members that probably no other Florida chapter, or any other chapter in the U.S., likely has. Why not take advantage of it? And, we have done this with very little publicity effort to date.

So, if you are not getting new members in your chapter, look around and see if you have a "Villages" opportunity in your backyard. If members will not come to you, then you go where the members are!

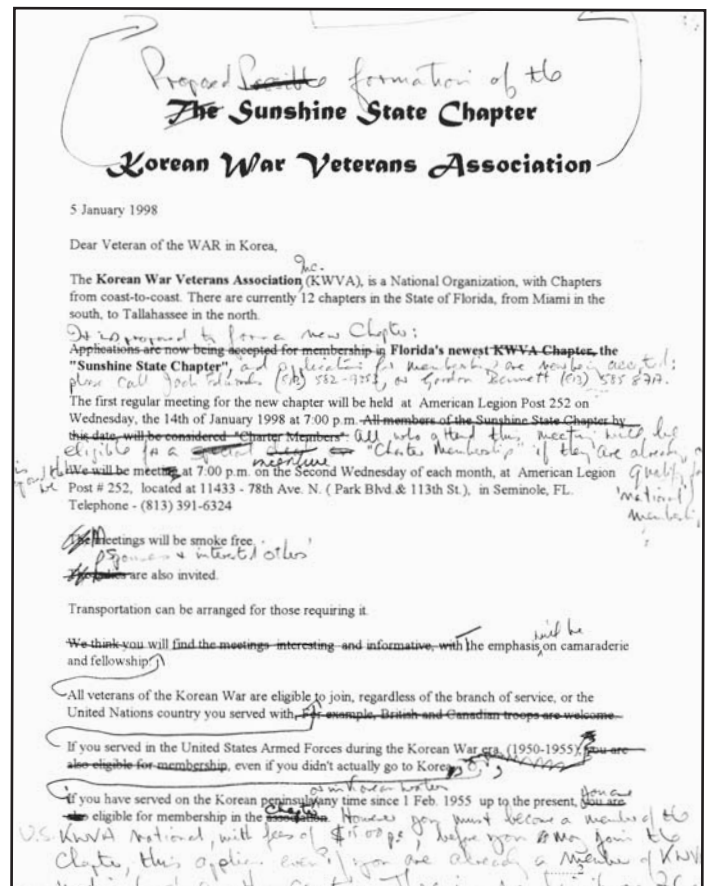
Tom J. Thiel is Ch 169's Secretary, Editor, and Webmaster. Reach him at kwvathiel@gmail.com

Remember When We Did Not Use Computers?

This is the draft that we prepared and sent out (in a much tidier format) when we formed CID 159. I discovered this when going through a pile of old papers.

You have to remember that back then we did not have email nor computers. So, it was a typewriter and snail mail!

Peter Palmer, palmersp@verizon.net



Draft of Peter Palmer's recruiting letter (email)

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

Visit the Korean War Veterans Association
Website: www.KWVA.org

Korean War Veterans Annual Membership Meeting

July 22 – 27, 2015 ♦ ♦ ♦ DoubleTree by Hilton, Washington, D.C.

Registration

Please print your name as you want it on your badge.

FIRST _____ LAST _____ NICKNAME _____

KWVA MEMBER # _____ CHAPTER # _____

SPOUSE/GUEST NAME(S) _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY, ST, ZIP _____

PH. # _____ EMAIL _____

Disability/Dietary Restrictions: _____

Fee Schedule

	Activity	Fee/Person	# People =	Total
Wed. 22 July:	Registration (All Attendees Must Pay Registration Fee)	\$30.00	X _____ = ..\$ _____	
Wed. 22 July:	U.S. Army Twilight Tattoo – Fort Myer, VA	\$25.00 (Bus Fee)	X _____ = ..\$ _____	
Thur. 23 July:	The White House Tour	\$25.00 (Bus Fee)	X _____ = ..\$ _____	
Thur. 23 July:	Washington's Mount Vernon Tour	\$50.00	X _____ = ..\$ _____	
Fri 24 July:	Botanical Gardens Tour, Washington, DC	\$25.00 (Bus Fee)	X _____ = ..\$ _____	
Fri 24 July:	U.S. Marines 8th and I Sunset Parade	\$25.00 (Bus Fee)	X _____ = ..\$ _____	
Sat. 25 July:	Memorial Event – Korean War Veterans Memorial	\$25.00 (Bus Fee)	X _____ = ..\$ _____	
Sat. 25 July:	MVPA Banquet	\$35.00 (Chicken)	X _____ = ..\$ _____	
		\$35.00 (Beef)	X _____ = ..\$ _____	
Sun. 26 July:	Memorial Service/Buffer Brunch	\$18.00	X _____ = ..\$ _____	
Sun. 26 July:	Arlington National Cemetery (Wreath Laying)	\$25.00 (Bus Fee)	X _____ = ..\$ _____	
Mon. 27 July:	Korean War Veterans Memorial (Conclude Reading of the Names) ..	\$25.00 (Bus Fee)	X _____ = ..\$ _____	

TOTAL FEES

Print this registration form, fill in and mail it with your check or Money Order made payable to KWVA, Inc. to: **The Korean War Veterans Assn., Inc., P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407.** Questions? Call Sheila at the KWVA Membership Office: 217-345-4414

Note: To secure your place at the annual meeting, mail-in registration is due by July 8, 2015. Any Registrations mailed after July 8 might not be received in time. Walk-in Registrations will be accepted during the convention, but we cannot guarantee availability at Events, Tours or Banquet if capacity is reached. Note: Mailing deadline if you are going on the White House Tour: June 15, 2015.

For those registering to go on the White House Tour, you MUST provide the following information to us when registering. We have to give this information to the Secret Service for screening at least 30 days prior to the Convention.

Last Name	First Name	MI	Date of Birth	SSN	Citizen	Country
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

There will be a \$25 charge for returned checks. (Note: Hotel reservations or cancellations are to be made direct with the hotel.)

Korean War Veterans Annual Membership Meeting

July 22 – 27, 2015 ♦ ♦ ♦ DoubleTree by Hilton, Washington, D.C.

Event Schedule

Wednesday, 22 July	12:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Registration/Information Desk
	12:00 pm – 10:00 pm	Hospitality Room
	7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	U.S. Army Twilight Tattoo , Fort Myer, VA (Bus Leaves 6:30 pm and Returns 8:30 pm)
Thursday, 23 July	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Board of Directors Meeting
	9:00 am – 5:00 pm	Registration/Information Desk
	9:00 am – 11:00 am	The White House Tour (Bus Leaves 8:30 am and Returns 11:30 pm) Note: Must register by June 15 due to Secret Service Screening
	1:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Washington's Mount Vernon Tour (Bus Leaves 12:30 pm and Returns 4:00 pm)
	10:00 am – 8:00 pm	Hospitality Room
Friday, 24 July	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Annual Membership Meeting
	9:00 am – 5:00 pm	Registration/Information Desk
	9:00 am – 11:00 am	Crystal City Shopping (Hotel Shuttle Bus runs every 30 minutes... or you can walk...)
	9:00 am – 11:00 am	Botanical Gardens Tour, Washington, DC (Bus Leaves 8:30 am and Returns 11:30 am)
	5:30 pm – 9:00 pm	U.S. Marines 8th and I (Eye) Sunset Parade (Bus Leaves 5:00 pm and Returns 9:30 pm)
	1:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Hospitality Room
Saturday, 25 July	9:00 am – 4:00 pm	Registration/Information Desk
	9:00 am – 11:30 am	Memorial Event – Korean War Veterans Memorial (KWVM) (Bus Leaves 8:30 am and Returns 12:00 Noon)
	12:00 pm – ...	"Reading the Names of the Fallen" – Korean War Veterans Memorial (KWVM)
	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Documentary Film Presentation
	6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	MVPA Reception – Lobby/Ballroom
	7:00 pm – 11:00 pm	MVPA Banquet – Hotel Ballroom
	12:30 pm – 5:00 pm	Hospitality Room; Free time
Sunday, 26 July	8:00 am – ...	"Reading of the Names" continues – Korean War Veterans Memorial (KWVM)
	8:30 am – 9:30 am	Memorial Service/Buffer Brunch – Hotel (Note: Need not purchase Brunch to attend Memorial Service)
	11:00 am – 1:00 pm	Arlington National Cemetery – Wreath Laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns Visit the Korean War Memorial Bench - Present Flowers (Bus leaves 10:30 am and Returns 1:30 pm)
Monday, 27 July	8:00 am – ...	"Reading of the Names" continues – Korean War Veterans Memorial (KWVM)
	11:00 am	Conclusion Reading of the Names – Korean War Veterans Memorial (KWVM)
	11:10 am	Wreath Presentation Ceremony at the Korean War Veterans Memorial (Bus leaves 7:30 am and Returns 11:45 am)

Welcome to
WASHINGTON



Korean War Veterans Association Annual Meeting

DoubleTree by Hilton, Washington DC- Crystal City

300 Army Navy Dr., Arlington, VA 22202

Room rate \$105.00 a night plus tax

Hotel Registration website: <https://aws.passkey.com/g/44778122>

You can also call 1-800-HILTONS and mention group code ANN to make a reservation



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Make your reservations Now!!!

Another Way to Locate Veteran Marines

The Separations and Retirement Branch (MMSR-6) assists individuals wishing to locate veteran or retired Marines. To request assistance with locating a veteran or retired Marine there is a three-step process.

Step 1. Write a letter to the person you wish to contact. Seal the letter in a return labeled and stamped envelope. Write the name of the Marine on the letter but leave the address portion blank.

Step 2. Write another letter in which you state that you would like to have the enclosed letter forwarded to the Marine who you are trying to locate. Include as much information about the person as possible, i.e., full name, last known rank, year of retirement or separation, and units in which they may have served.

Step 3. Package the letter and your return addressed, stamped letter in another envelope. Address the envelope to:

Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps Manpower and Reserve Affairs (MMSR-6) 3280 Russell Rd., Quantico, VA 22134-5103.

Please do not send correspondence via Certified or Registered Mail because it will delay processing.

The Separations and Retirement Branch will use Defense Finance and Accounting Service records and other military data bases to attempt to locate an address to forward your letter.

Once the letter is forwarded, it will be up to the individual you are looking for to decide if he or she wishes to respond. There is no guarantee that the Separations and Retirement Branch will be able to honor your request or that the address available will be correct. It is important that you provide adequate information about the individual you are looking for to ensure that in cases of Marines with common names, the letter is forwarded to the right person.

For more information, contact MMSR-6 at (703) 784-9310/ 1/2 or (800) 336-4649, Option#O.

Source: Leatherneck Magazine, January 2015, p. 71

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

In 2014 nine Korean War service members were awarded the Medal of Honor belatedly. Here is the sixth citation in that series. This time we feature Miguel A. Vera.

The President of the United States
in the name of The Congress
takes Pride in presenting the

Medal of Honor

(Posthumously)

to

VERA, MIGUEL A.

Rank and organization: Private, U.S. Army, Company F, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2d Infantry Division. Place and date: Chorwon, Korea, 21 September 1952. Entered service at: Adjuntas, Puerto Rico. Born: 3 May 1932, Adjuntas, Puerto Rico.

Citation:

For acts of gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty while serving as an automatic rifleman with Company F, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2d Infantry Division in Chorwon, Korea, on 21 September 1952. That morning, despite suffering from wounds inflicted in a previous battle, Private Vera voluntarily left the aid station to join his comrades in an attack against well-fortified enemy positions on a hill of great importance. When the assaulting elements had

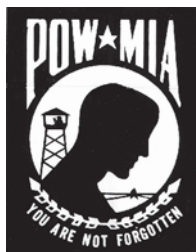
MOH Citations



moved within twenty yards of the enemy positions, they were suddenly trapped by a heavy volume of mortar, artillery and small-arms fire. The company prepared to make a limited withdrawal, but Private Vera volunteered to remain behind to provide covering fire. As his companions moved to safety, Private Vera remained steadfast in his position, directing accurate fire against the hostile positions despite the intense volume of fire which the enemy was concentrating upon him. Later in the morning, when the friendly force returned, they discovered Private Vera in the same position, facing the enemy. Private Vera's noble intrepidity and self-sacrifice saved many of his comrades' lives. Private Vera's extraordinary heroism and selflessness at the cost of his own life, above and beyond the call of duty, are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Pvt. Vera was buried originally in Puerto Rico. His ashes were transferred to Arlington National Cemetery, where he was buried on 20 November 2014 with full military honors. Read the complete story of his burial at <http://www.stripes.com/news/us/62-years-after-death-medal-of-honor-recipient-vera-is-laid-to-rest-at-arlington-1.315321>

Soldiers Missing From Korean War Accounted For



The Department of Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced recently that the remains of several U.S. servicemen missing from the Korean War have been identified and returned for burial with full military honors.

Between 1991 and 1994, North Korea turned over to the U.S. 208 boxes of human remains believed to contain more than 400 U.S. servicemen who fought during the war.

From 1990 - 2005, U.S. teams excavated sites in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (D.P.R.K.), where U.S. servicemen were believed to have been lost during the Korean War. In July 2000, a U.S. team excavated a burial site near Unsan, North Korea, recovering commingled human remains.

• **Sgt. Arnold V. Andring**, U.S. Army, Company L, 3rd Bn., 9th Inf. Regt., 8th Army, was reported missing on 2/4/1951 in North Korea. He was identified on 1/28/2015.

• **Army Cpl. C. G. Bolden**, 23, of Shirley, Ark., was buried Feb. 21, 2015 in Clinton, Ark. In January 1951, Bolden was assigned to Company C, 1st Bn., 38th Inf. Regt., 2nd Inf. Div. His unit engaged enemy forces near Hoengsong, South Korea, when they were attacked by Chinese forces, which forced a withdrawal south to a more defensible position. Bolden was reported as missing in action Jan. 5, 1951.



In late 1953, during a prisoner of war exchange, known as Operation Big Switch, a returning U.S. service member told U.S. debriefers that Bolden was captured by Chinese forces and had died from malnutrition in April 1951 while in enemy control. His remains were not among those returned by communist forces during Operation Glory in 1954.

• **Cpl. Robert Higgins**, U.S. Army, Battery C, 15th Field Artillery Bn., 2nd Inf. Div., was reported missing on February 13, 1951 in South Korea. He was identified on 1/6/2015.

• **Army Sgt. Floyd J.R. Jackson**, 20, of Warrensburg, Mo., was buried March 7, in Littleton, Colo. In late November 1950, Jackson was assigned to Headquarters Company, 3rd Bn., 31st Inf. Regt., 7th Inf. Div., which



made up part of the 31st Regimental Combat Team (RCT). The 31st RCT was deployed east of the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea, when it was attacked by overwhelming numbers of Chinese forces. On Nov. 29, 1950, remnants of the 31st RCT, known historically as Task Force Faith, began a fighting withdrawal to more defensible positions near Hagaru-ri, south of the reservoir. On Dec. 12, 1950, Jackson was reported as missing in action.

• **Army Pfc. Lotchie J.R. Jones**, 18, of Jasper, Tenn., was buried March 6, in Chattanooga, Tenn. In November 1950, Jones was a member of Company B, 1st Bn., 8th Cavalry Regt., 1st Cavalry Div.



• **Cpl. Lindsey Lockett**, U.S. Army, Medical Detachment, Headquarters Battery, 503rd Field Artillery Bn., 2nd Inf. Div., was reported missing on 12/1/1950 in North Korea. He was identified on 1/26/2015.

• **Sgt. Joseph M. Snock, Jr.**, U.S. Army, Heavy Mortar Co., 31st Inf. Regt., was reported missing on 11/30/1950 in North Korea. He was identified on 1/5/2015.

• **Sgt. 1st Class Donald R. Strum**, U.S. Army, Co. C, 19th Inf. Regt., 24th Inf. Div., was reported missing on 11/4/1950. He was identified on 1/13/2015.

In 1953, reports from returning prisoners of war (POW) indicated that Jones was captured by enemy forces Nov. 2, 1950, and died in a prisoner of war camp, known as Camp 5, Feb. 28, 1951.

Today, 7,855 Americans remain unaccounted for from the Korean War. Using modern technology, identifications continue to be made from remains that were previously turned over by North Korean officials or recovered by American teams.

For additional information on the Defense Department's mission to account for Americans who went missing while serving our country, visit the DPAA website at www.dpaa.mil or call (703) 699-1420.

DKWF 2015 Korean War History Project 'Korean War Women Who Served'

We need to start identifying all women who served in the Korean War and Korean Defense Veterans for membership.

Jim Fisher, Executive Director

Women Who Served

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 1, 2015

DKWF 2015 Korean War History Project "Korean War Women Who Served"

The Descendants of the Korean War Foundation (DKWF) is proud to announce a new Korean War History Project focused on collecting stories about the women who served in Korea from 1950 to 1953. These historically significant stories will be collected and shared through our partnership with the Library of Congress Veterans History Project.

The 'Korean War Women Who Served' research project will focus on women who answered the call to serve their country during a time of history when women were not allowed to fight on a battlefield, served in a wide variety of support roles, and who had courage to face unknown peril.

Recent history has confirmed that South Korea has transformed itself into the 12th largest economy in the world. As a result of the ties between South Korea and America following the war, Korean children have made outstanding contributions

in the areas of education, science, medicine, sports, theater, film, the social sciences, and local business communities. Women, in large part, have been instrumental in this social transformation.

The DKWF is dedicated to building the historical collection of eyewitness accounts and biographies of these patriots before they are lost. Capturing the true stories of those who served in Korea will add depth and richness to the growing collection of authentic voices who were there, never to be forgotten.

DKWF, a 501(c)3 non-profit and fully volunteer-run organization, is dedicated to recognizing, remembering and honoring the U.S. men and women who fought for freedom and democracy during the Korean War, often referred to as the Forgotten War. DKWF offers scholarship and internship opportunities to descendants of U.S. veterans who served in the Korean War.

DKWF is currently accepting personal Korean War stories from veterans and their families to be posted on the DKWF website and Facebook page. Please send stories with up to three photos to our website. More information about DKWF projects can be obtained via our website, www.DescendantsOfKoreanWar.org.

Contact: *Dr. Ruth Starr,*
VP for Communications,
202-297-3011

Thanks for Supporting *The Graybeards*

Members are invited to help underwrite the publication 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.

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History & Social Studies Teachers Conference

(as part of the KWV Youth Corps 2015 Convention)

When: July 24-27, 2015
Where: Washington, D.C.
Host: Korean War Legacy

Foundation (KWLF), Inc. (www.kwvdm.org). An organization that supports our veterans and houses 500 KWV in-depth interviews and 6,000 artifacts (KWV Digital Memorial).

How to become eligible:

- You must be a history or social studies teacher with a valid school address
- You must participate in an activity with the KWLF during the school year
 - Have your students complete an activity using the digital archive
 - Help the organization create transcripts for the current interviews in KWVDM
 - Set up interviews of veterans in your media center
 - Complete an analysis of the Korean War coverage in your history textbook
 - Toolkits for all activities are available to help you get started.

Goals for the Conference:

- Korean War in Textbooks
 - Descendants from 21 countries will analyze coverage of the Korean War in their own textbooks.
 - Teachers will collaborate on how to get better representation of the Korean War in our schools.
 - & Presenting the history book analysis on the Korean War
 - Work with College Board and prominent history textbook authors to expand coverage of the Korean War in textbooks
- The Digital Memorial
 - History & social studies teachers will present their use of KWV Digital Memorial interviews and artifacts (www.kwvdm.org) in their classrooms.
 - Washington D.C. Excursions
 - Attend the Armistice event at Arlington National Cemetery

- Day and evening tour of Korean War Memorial and National Mall
- Pentagon tour

Costs:

- If chosen, the KWL Foundation will reimburse teachers for round-trip airfare and cover the cost for all programs, meals, and lodging during convention.
- There is a registration fee for teachers who are chosen
 - \$50 for those who apply by March 1st, 2015

Benefits for Educators:

- Foundation will offer scholarships to schools based on the quality of presentations
- Internship opportunities for your students
- Certificate of participation to put towards PLU credits and certification

Questions? Contact Us:

- Chair, Samantha Fraser (samantha.fraser@cherokee.k12.ga.us)
- KWLF President, Jongwoo Han (jonghan@syr.edu, 315-480-9427)
- KWVA Tell America Program Chair, Roy Aldridge (royaldridge@sbcglobal.net, 915-494-0411)

Need Extra Copies Of A Past Or Current Issue Of The Graybeards?

Postage for old GB issues is \$2.45 for one and \$5.05 for 5-6. Sheila at the KWVA Membership Office can help you. We have copies of many old issues dating back to 2004.

Single copies are \$2.00 each plus \$2.45 for first class postage. USP Priority Mail is the generally cheaper. Call Sheila for a quote.

Email or call Sheila for more information on what is available or to order: Email: membership@kwva.org; Phone: 217-345-4414

Don't forget, PDF copies of ALL back issues of *The Graybeards* are available on the KWVA Website, www.kwva.org

Application for Admission to the History & Social Studies Teachers Conference

When: July 24-27, 2015

Where: Washington, D.C.

Host: Korean War Legacy Foundation (KWLF), Inc. (www.kwvdm.org). An organization that supports our Veterans and houses 500 KWV in-depth interviews and 6,000 artifacts (KWV Digital Memorial)

■ Application and Registration using PayPal

- Application due by April 30
- Accepted participants will be notified in writing with a link to Paypal account by May 5
- Early-bird registration of \$50 is due before May 15
- Regular registration of \$75 is due by May 31
- Late registration of \$100 is due by June 15

You must be a current Social Studies teacher or Media Center Specialist with a valid school address

Home School teachers must provide teaching certificate

PERSONAL INFORMATION

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Country _____

Primary Phone # _____ Alternate Phone # _____

Are you a descendent of a Korean War Veteran? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please give full name _____ Years of service _____

SCHOOL INFORMATION

School Email: _____ School Phone # _____

School Name _____ County/District _____

School Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Country _____

School Supervisor Name _____

School Supervisor Email: _____ School Supervisor Phone# _____

By signing below, you give permission to contact supervisor, verifying the above school information.

Subjects Taught: _____ Years Taught: _____

Level of Education: ☐ Bachelor's ☐ Master's ☐ Specialist ☐ Doctorate ☐ Other _____

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

To be eligible for this workshop, you engage with the oral histories found at www.kwvdm.org and be prepared to present your work at the workshop in July. You can choose to work on any of the following:

- Craft and execute an activity for your students using the digital archive
- Help the organization create transcripts for the current interviews in the KWVDM
- Complete an analysis of the Korean War coverage in your history textbook
- Set up an interview day at your school for veterans

***Toolkits for all activities are available to help you get started ***

In 500 words or less, please provide a proposal of your activity or activities between now and July. Explain how you will use the digital archive in the classroom, contribute to the archive, or add to the history textbook project in a meaningful way. Include what tangible results you plan to have available at the July conference, and why you believe this activity is important. Note: you do not need to have completed the activity by the application deadline.

Please email completed applications to kathryn.ricker@cherokee.k12.ga.us

Questions? Please direct them to:

Kathryn Ricker: Kathryn.Ricker@cherokee.k12.ga.us

Members in the



Paul Frykberg...the vice president of Ch 84, Iron Triangle [OR] was featured in the 12 January 2015 "Forward This" section of the Statesman Journal (Salem, OR). Capi Lynn wrote: "The mission may not be critical, but Paul Frykberg sure would like to complete it. He has spent the past year organizing the delivery of commemorative books to Korean War veterans in the Mid-Willamette Valley — around 2,600 of them — and he's down to the final few boxes." (She added that the distribution has been completed.)

(In a follow-up article, "Many respond to free commemorative books," Lynn noted that "he had more than 60 of the coffee table books." It's not clear if that was of the original 2,600 or 60 is the correct number to begin with.)

Jim Leiper, Secretary of Ch 84, said that Frykberg "visits the local VA and gets veterans pins, pens, and other veteran-related items, and gives them to veterans all over the state."

Lynn observed that "Frykberg, now the last man standing, has appreciated the chance to meet and get to know fellow Korean War veterans beyond Salem-Keizer that he otherwise would not have. He has delivered books to veterans in just about every community in Marion and Polk Counties and beyond, traveling multiple times to the Oregon coast and as far east as Baker City."

Frykberg was a sergeant in the Air Force from 1952 to 1960. He served as an electronic intercept specialist on a B-29 Superfortress that flew combat missions out of Guam. He was there for 22 months. But, as Frykberg told Lynn, "Personally, I never set foot in Korea."

Reach Paul Frykberg at 1575 Garwood Way N, Keizer, OR 97303, 503-390-1575, HyJeanx58@q.com

Read the entire article at <http://www.statesmanjournal.com/story/opinion/columnists/capi-lynn/2015/01/06/special-delivery-keizer-korean-war-veteran/21365269/>

Just as a follow-up: Leiper noted that Frykberg received over 100 calls after the article appeared. He finally ran out of books, except for a few that he saved for himself and other people.

One of the interesting things that Lynn wrote in the article was the story of one veteran and a \$100.00 bill signed by "Benny," a mystery philanthropist who leaves \$100.00 bills in area stores. The veteran, Wally Gutzler, handed the bill to Frykberg, who did not want to accept it. However, Gutzler, a WWII and Korean War veteran who served with the USMC, insisted that he take it.

According to Lynn, Gutzler had found the \$100.00 bill a couple weeks earlier in a roll of paper towels he had purchased at a local store. He waited for the chance to pay forward the favor—which was inspired by "Benny's" generosity. Frykberg accepted the money, which he donated to the Iron Triangle chapter.

"The hundred-dollar-bill part of this is very interesting," Leiper said. "This guy has been putting \$100.00 bills in stores for over a year. They are popping up all over town."

"As an aside," he added, "[Frykberg] has been giving out KWVA meeting cards to appropriate book receivers, so I imagine we will see some new faces at our next meeting."

Jim Leiper, 4446 46th Ave., NE, Salem, OR 97305, leiperjim64

John Moore...was profiled in the 18 March 2014 edition of The Evening Sun [Hanover, PA]. The article, written by Shane Dunlap, pointed out that the Pennsylvania House of Representatives honored Moore at Representative William Tallman's office.



Rep. William Tallman (L) presents certificate to John Moore (C) as unidentified U.S. Navy officer holds copy of Korea Reborn



The proclamation presented to John Moore

Moore was deployed to Korea in September 1950. He and four of his comrades were captured by North Korean troops three months later. He was held captive for 18 days, after which he escaped. A British patrol picked him up. Moore returned to active duty in January 1951. He earned the Combat Infantryman Badge, Bronze Star, and Purple Heart.

As Dunlap wrote, 1st Sgt. Moore (USA, ret) "served in such places as Seoul and the Yalu River during the Korean War. He even had a chance to meet Marilyn Monroe... "She rode in the back of my jeep," Moore said with a grin.

The *Gettysburg Times* [PA] also featured Moore in an article by staff writer Jarrad Hedes. He noted that Moore had spent two tours in Korea, “the first being much more peaceful than the latter. He first was deployed in 1946 and stayed until 1948.” Hedes added that “Moore still visits local Korean churches and enjoys speaking to children about how he fought to save many of their ancestors.”

As Moore told the reporter, “The children bring me the most joy because they don’t know the stories or what happened...To see their reaction when we visit them is wonderful. I was extremely proud and honored to help those men and women survive over there and I tell them that.”

Moore is a member of CID 178, York County [PA]. Reach him at John L Moore, 561 Old Mill Rd., New Oxford, PA 17350, 717-624-8190

Ralph Yelton of Ch 289, Mountain Empire [TN], who passed away on 8 February 2105, was the focus of a 10 February 2015 article in the Kingsport, TN Times News. The reporter, Hank Hayes, praised Yelton for his service in WWII and the Korean War, and for his 14-year stint as a member of the Tennessee General Assembly.

Yelton served with the U.S. Army’s 9th Division in WWI and with its 2nd Infantry Division in Korea. He sustained severe wounds in Korea when he was shot in the spine and paralyzed in 1951.

As Arlen Pease, a veterans service officer based in Kingsport, and a member of Ch 289, explained it, “Yelton’s wounding...occurred 1,000 yards above the 38th Parallel, where he lay on the ground for a long time exposed to enemy fire. They thought he was dead. Then he laid (sic) on a gurney for five days.”

Yelton was instrumental in establishing a Korean War memorial in Nashville, TN, served in civic clubs, and was past treasurer of the Sullivan County Democratic Party. As one of his colleagues, Tennessee state senator Rusty Crowe, said, “He was a great American who endured terrible combat wounds, but never complained or let his physical wounds slow him down...He will be missed by all.”

That includes his colleagues in the KWVA.

C. Monika Stoy Awarded ROK Prime Minister’s Medal

By Tim Stoy

On 25 February 2015, Major General Shin, Kyoung Soo, ROK Defense Attaché in Washington, DC, presented C. Monika Stoy, (U.S. Army, ret) the ROK Prime Minister’s Medal in a ceremony held at Fort Belvoir, VA. With a magnificent view of the frozen Potomac River providing the backdrop, MG Shin pinned on the medal on behalf of former Prime Minister Chung, Hong-won. The medal was awarded for Monika’s efforts on behalf of the ROK-US Alliance and for organizing the Korean government’s 27 July Thank You banquets for U.S. Korean War veterans in 2012 and 2013, the 59th and 60th anniversaries of the signing of the Korean War Armistice, in Arlington, VA.

The 2012 banquet was the largest organized in the history of the Thank You banquets in conjunction with 27 July commemorations in the Washington, D.C. area, with 500 guests. Not only did Monika coordinate the venues and DOD support for the banquets, she also generated the invitation lists, mailed the invitations, and took the RSVPs from hundreds of Korean War veterans and their families.

In 2012 she also coordinated visits to the Veterans Administration

Medical Center in Washington, D.C.; to the Armed Forces Retirement Home; and to Arlington Cemetery for ROK government officials in conjunction with the 27 July events. Monika also served as the Mistress of Ceremonies for the 2012 banquet. She was nominated for the award by the ROK Minister of Defense.



ABOVE:

Attendees at 25 February Award Ceremony for Monika Stoy

RIGHT: MG Shin, Kyoung Soo, ROK Defense Attaché, presents Prime Minister’s Award to Monika Stoy



Guests included Chaplain, BG (ret), Parker Thompson, who served with the 3rd Infantry Division’s 7th Infantry Regiment and 10th Engineer Battalion in 1952 and 1953 in Korea; COL (ret) John Insani, who served in the 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division from November 1950 to November 1951, with his wife Inga; BG (ret) Creighton Abrams, Executive Director of the Army Historical Foundation; COL (ret) David Fabian, Chief of Staff of the Army Historical Foundation; COL (ret) and Senior Executive Service (ret) Addison D. Davis, IV; LTC (ret) William C. Lee Yarborough and his wife Ellen; COL (ret) Mark Loring and his daughter Elizabeth; COL Boldbat Khasbazar, Defense Attaché of Mongolia, and his wife, Tuul; COL Abdourahim Kebe, Defense Attaché of Senegal; COL (P) Jacques Aragones, Army Attaché from France; Mr. Jeff Geraci, whose father, COL John Geraci, served with the 7th Infantry Regiment in the Korean War as a Lieutenant and junior Captain; Mr. Mike Golden; Mr. David Navarre; Dr. Roger Cirillo from the Association of the United States Army; COL (ret) Fred Barrett and his wife Gladys, LTC (ret) Chuck Rey; Monika’s mother, Mrs. Haesook Choi; Monika’s uncle, Mr. Park, Soo Li; Mr. Michael Yarborough; Mrs. Miyoung Yu, MG Shin’s wife; LTC Hong, Korean Marine Corps Attaché; and Ms. Taeun Kwon, MG Shin’s Executive Assistant.

In his short remarks, MG Shin complimented Monika’s efforts to honor Korean War veterans for their service and sacrifice while passing on their stories to the younger generations to ensure they are not forgotten.

The Legacy Fight!

Jongwoo Han

President, Korean War Legacy Foundation, Inc.

Now, the world has witnessed the GOOD that came out of your honorable services and sacrifices, especially those who gave their precious lives and are still missing in the Korean War. That is, the Republic of Korea that accomplished simultaneous achievement of the unprecedentedly fast economic development and the most substantive democracy form the Korea you vividly remember in the 1950s.

It is time to think about what's ahead in your legacy. Who will remember your legacy and how we can continue on this great cause? I don't have any doubt that it should be starting from your own descendants and in our classrooms for our youth. The Korean War Legacy Foundation has initiated this next step by launching the Korean War Veterans Youth Corps (KWVYC) and offering an annual convention in Washington D.C. This year's convention will be special because KWVYC will be together with KWVs in the same hotel during KWVA's annual reunion.

The foundation takes another step to make your legacy alive in the most effective way: working with history teachers in our high schools through letting both teachers and students use interviews and artifacts that Korean War Legacy Foundation has accumulated. Led by Samantha Fraser (a granddaughter of a KWV, Harold L. Maples, 1952-54) and Kathryn Ricker (grandniece of a KWV Kimball Brown, 1952-53), both history teachers in River Ridge High School in GA, students in their history classes are listening and transcribing your interviews. My foundation will host the first "History Teachers Conference" on the Korean War when we all meet in the Washington D.C. from July 24 to 27. "Tell America Program" Chair Roy Aldridge is closely working with us on this program.

Your president Larry Kinard and I strongly believe that activating both KWV Youth Corps of your own descendants and history teachers will be the best way to complete your legacy. So, I earnestly plead you all to recruit your descendants and history teachers for this fight: "KWV Legacy Fight." Please talk to history teachers in your local high schools and ask them to contact us.

Do you remember battles in Busan Perimeter, Incheon Landing, Seoul Recovery, Pyeongyang and Changjin Battle, Hamheung Evacuation, a long and winding trench lines and many other places? Now, it is our last battle to fight for better things to come out of your legacy, and that is to activate the future generations through your own family members and our history teachers. Supported by the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs and President Park of the Pantech C&I, the foundation will be pleased to fund this last battle for your legacy. Please help us win this legacy fight.

Looking forward to seeing many of you with your descendants and history teachers from your regions in Washington D.C., please refer to details below on KWVYC Convention and history teachers conference.

Sincerely yours,
Jongwoo Han

Saturday, July 29, 1953

An Urgent Message From Western Union

Yokota Air Base Japan, 98 Bomb Wing

We had a full dress turnout, parade and all. A major nuisance, in my opinion. But, if my memory doesn't fail me, it was to welcome a new base commander.

Being July in that climate, it was hot—mighty hot. That wool dress uniform didn't add to the comfort or protect me from the heat. Things were about to get underway when our Squadron Commander showed up and told me that there was a telegram for me at the Western Union office.

I wasn't in a panic, but running the possibilities through my head had me in a total quandary. What could have happened?

The good captain, being concerned about the telegram, excused me from the Saturday parade and loaned me his bicycle, as the Western Union office was about three miles across the base. The bicycle was the

best he could do. The pecking order of the Air Force at the time did not allow for a command car with an escort for a captain.

Away I peddled, in the heat of the day, over 100 degrees, still in my hot wool uniform, with nothing but a general description of where the office was located. Three miles in that heat and worry about the news in the telegram had me weak at the knees. What had happened? Was it mother, dad, or my sisters or brother?

I wasn't in a panic, but running the possibilities through my head had me in a total quandary. What could have happened? On I rode until I reached the place where I thought the office should have been—but it wasn't. I began a search process up and down between warehouses, where the heat was stifling and not a breath of air stirred.

There was no one around to ask directions of, as they were all turned out to the dress parade. Finally, I hailed a Japanese gentleman going by on his bike. He was an older guy I referred to as Papa San. We got down to the business of trying to understand each other.

This back-and-forth went on for a long time with my limited knowledge of Japanese without much success until finally I told him, "Western Union." He replied in perfect English, "Just around the corner." With that he drew me a picture in the dust. Off I went to gather my telegram.

The telegram in hand, I went out into the street to read the thing, not trusting my reaction to whatever was in it. When I opened the envelope, it was from my sister, Dorothea. She worked for Western Union in Portland, OR. With a flood of relief I read HAPPY BIRTHDAY BROTHER.

How had I forgotten it was my birthday? And how was I to explain the "emergency" to the guys when I got back to the barracks? My hope was that they would see the humor. They did.

Al Kreymer, P.O. Box 391, Newport, WA 99156,
allen.kreymer@gmail.com

A Friendship That Never Ended

By Therese Park

At the Korean War Memorial in Washington, D.C. on October 7, 2014, I made an unexpected connection with a Korean War veteran, Daniel Lopez, 82, and his daughter Patricia Ehler, a retired army nurse. It was the day I flew to the capital as part of Heartland Honor Flight with 92 veterans from both World War II and the Korean War and 80 volunteers.

After the photo session of Heartland Honor Flight ended, we had a few minutes of free time, and I studied the tall statues of soldiers in a marching formation. As one who had seen many American soldiers during the war as a child—on the streets or in our parish church on Sundays or in the crowded U.S. military hospital where we school kids showered them with songs and dances, the statues didn't look friendly at all; in fact, they were too large and were expressionless. In my memory, American soldiers were always kind, handing us hard candy of Hershey Bars.

As I was leaving the site, I almost stumbled onto a man sitting in a wheelchair and clutching a large framed photo to his bosom. Up close, he was a Korean War veteran from El Paso, Texas who wore a yellow jacket and a baseball hat with Honor Flight insignia. "Who's the young man in the photo he was holding?" I wondered.

I said hello and introduced myself:



Daniel Lopez and
Therese Park at Korean
War Memorial



Daniel Lopez displays photo of Isaac DelToro at Korean War Memorial

that I was nine-years-old when the first American troops landed in my hometown of Pusan in early July, 1950, and that he might have seen me if he were among them.

He smiled.

Encouraged, I continued: "We saw a long line of American army trucks passing us, each with an American flag flying on the hoods. We had been expecting the worst; our family had already packed our suitcases and backpacks to move to Cheju Island, because the communists were moving down on us with Russian tanks and 95,000 well-trained soldiers. Then, one day, there you were, on those military

trucks."

Unsteadily, the veteran stood and thrust his hand toward me. "Daniel Lopez," he said. We shook hands.

For some reason, the veteran's eyes filled. "Thank you," he said in a congested voice. "No one ever told me what you've just said."

"It's true, Mr. Lopez," I said. "Without you Americans, we'd have merged with North Korea then and we'd be starving like most of the North Koreans. We're forever grateful to you for saving us from the Communists."

A woman in her mid-50s rushed over and took photos of us. Afterwards, she introduced herself as the man's daughter.

"Glad to meet you!" she said. She must have heard my conversation with her father, because she said that it was wonderful for him to hear from someone who lived through the war and witnessed American troops' sacrifices during their youth.

"Who is in the picture, sir?" I asked the veteran.

Please turn to **PARK** on page 57

The Where, When, and Why of the Korean War

Tell America

OREGON

The annual Living History Day at McNary High School in Keizer, OR, happened on 14 November 2014. The school enrollment exceeds 2,000 students.

The morning began at "0 dark hundred" with a continental breakfast prior to the first class, which started at 0730. An assembly is held between the first and second period, and it gets better every year.

The veterans are seated as honored guests as the students enter the gymnasium. The Junior AFROTC posted the colors with a piper in tow. The music department played the National Anthem, joined by the choir's singing.

Veterans stood and were honored as their service songs were played. Classes (which are 45 minutes long) resumed after

the assembly.

Some of the veterans spoke to 7 classes throughout the day. It was a great experience.

This year's Community Service Chairperson was Jedidiah Hunter. He and students of the Leadership class coordinated the entire day from the breakfast, lunch, music, to contacting the faculty who wanted speakers.

Junior AFROTC members acted as our guides, making sure we did not get lost and that we arrived on time to the classes.

Incidentally, the nearby photos were supplied by Chuck Ponder.

Bob ("Doc") Wickman, 720 Memlo Dr. N, Keizer, OR 97303, 503-390-2940, Rcwickman@aol.com, USN/USMC, Korea '53-'54



Most of the speakers at the Keizer, OR presentation, some of whom were WWII veterans. The Lady Marine in the back row is Golda Fabian, 91, who was the most senior veteran in attendance



Two of the Junior AFROTC guides at McNary High School on the flanks, Dontaë McNeil, Jim Leiper, Chuck Ponder, of Ch 84, USMC, Korea and Ciera Dungia (L-R)



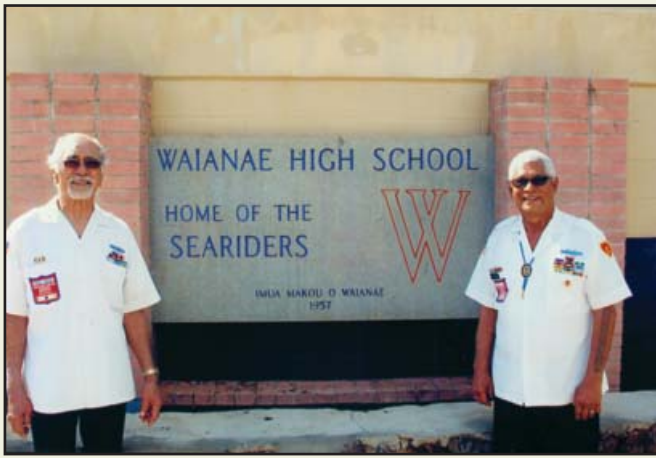
Jim Leiper, USN, Korea, of Ch 84 at McNary High School

20 - HAWAII #1 [HI]

We gave a presentation at the Wai'Anae High School for all the JROTC students. We did a one-hour presentation for each of the four classes.

The students were very responsive.

James R. Kaleohano, 87-102 Kaleiwohi St., Waianae, HI 96792, 808-277-3633, james.kaleohano@gmail.com



Moke Pakaki (L) and "Ace" Kaleohano at Wai'Anae High School



LEFT: "Ace" Kaleohano, Buddy Rego, and Maj. Alvarado (L-R) speak to ROTC class at Wai'Anae High School

BELOW: ROTC students at Wai'Anae High School pay close attention to Ch 20 presenters



A gentle reminder for Wai'Anae High School students—and their counterparts everywhere

Commemoration Of The 64th Anniversary Of The Korean War

At the 64th anniversary of the start of the Korean War commemoration in Wheeling, IL last year, several veterans, many of whom are not members of chapters, received their Ambassador for Peace Medals. They included Edmund Lelito, John Palla, Eliseo Casteneda, Dean Sangelis, Wally Bracich, and KWVA National Director Tine Martin.

Wally Bracich, 8811 Northcote Ave.
Munster, IN 46321, 219-972-2354



KVVA National Director Tine Martin (L) and Wally Bracich display their Ambassador for Peace medals



Wally Bracich, Edmund Lelito, John Palla (L-R) wear their Ambassador for Peace medals proudly



Wally Bracich, Dean Sangelis, Eliseo Casteneda (L-R) with Ambassador For Peace medals received at Wheeling, IL event

1st Field Artillery Observation Battalion Association

October 9-12, 2014: The membership of the 1st Field Artillery Observation Battalion Association met in Des Moines, IA to celebrate the 34th annual reunion of the men who served in the battalion during WWII throughout Europe and during the Korean War. The men, who served as forward observers, were Flash, Sound, Radar, and Survey Specialists—the eyes and ears of the artillery.

The battalion's batteries, "A," "B," "C," and "HQ," were spread across the Korean Peninsula, from the west coast almost to the east coast, along the DMZ. The battalion left its footprints throughout Korea. It went north, almost to the Yalu River, before UN Forces were driven back and the battalion ended up just south of Seoul. Then, it went back north to the DMZ, where trench and artillery warfare became a stalemate.

The members and guests visited the Iowa Historical Museum, The War Memorial Park, the State Capital Building, and Fort Dodge/Gold Star Museum. Chaplain Titus Ward conducted a very moving memorial service for the members and spouses who have passed away since our last reunion.

While everyone had a good time meeting and greeting one another again during our visits and sharing stories during a delicious dinner, there was a feeling of uneasiness among the group. Unfortunately, we are at the point where travel, for whatever reason, be it health or distance, is getting more difficult. Subsequently, attendance at our reunions has dwindled to a "precious few."

During the Executive Board meeting it was decided that due to the lack of attendance and lack of response to invitations it was time to bring the association to a close.

The battalion was deactivated in Korea in 1958. It remains on the rolls of the U.S. Army, however. It was never disbanded. The association was not only deactivated, but it was disbanded by vote of the membership as of 31 December 2014.

It is important to thank so many members who originally initiated the association and those who continued to keep it active and viable for the 34 years of our existence. Without going back through history, we mention and thank Ralph Mueller, Secretary/Historian, John Palla, Treasurer, and the late Warren Rehfeldt, newsletter edi-



Ralph Mueller, Larrie Goetz, Glenn Fox, George Hyslop, John Palla, William Breene, Don Dust, Wally Bracich, Lavern Hueske, Roger Meier, Darrel Wehling, Titus Ward, Dallas Collings, and Jim Fidler (L-R) at 1st FA Artillery Observation Bn. Association



1st FA Artillery Observation Bn. Assn. members with spouses and guests (Men, L-R) Jim Fidler, Ralph Mueller, Darrel Wehling, John Palla, Glenn Fox, George Hyslop, Don Oust, Titus Ward, Wally Bracich, William Breene, Roger Meier, Dallas Collings, Lavern Hueske, Larrie Goetz (Ladies, L-R)) Sandra Fidler, Rose Wehling, Nancy Palla, Una Fox, Marlene Hyslop, Carol Dust, Lottie Ward, Angie Bracich, Patricia Breene, Jean Meier, Sharon Collings

The battalion's batteries, "A," "B," "C," and "HQ," were spread across the Korean Peninsula, from the west coast almost to the east coast, along the DMZ. The battalion left its footprints throughout Korea.

tor, for their longtime service and dedication to the association.

It is extremely difficult to write an obituary. Unfortunately, all chapters must come to a close — "the hands of time — keep ticking — and wait for no man."

It is with a heavy heart that we, "The

Fabulous First," 1st Field Artillery Observation Battalion Association, bid a bittersweet farewell.

Nathan Hale signing off!!

*Wally Bacich, 8811 Northcote Ave.,
Munster, IN 46321, 219-972-2354*

Bids A Sad Farewell



Members of 1st FA Artillery Observation Bn. Assn. at Korean War Memorial in Des Moines, IA: Darrel Wehling, John Palla, Norman Schaum, Don Dust, Larrie Goetz, Roger Meier, Titus Ward, Jim Fidler, William Breene, Dallas Collings, George Hyslop, Paul Jones, Wally Bracich, and Ralph Mueller (L-R)



Chaplain Titus Ward of 1st FA Artillery Observation Bn. Assn. (L) conducts a Memorial Service with Wally Bracich, Past Pres. (C), as Glenn Fox, oldest member in attendance, places a rose in memory of a fallen member



WWII veteran and member of 1st FA Artillery Observation Bn. Assn. Glenn Fox and his wife Una at recent reunion



A familiar sight in the background at the Ft. Dodge & Gold Star Museum in Des Moines, IA for William Breene, Wally Bracich, Don Dust, and Titus Ward (L-R) of the 1st FA Artillery Observation Bn. Assn: Korean valley and hills with artillery canon



The 1st FA Artillery Observation Bn. Assn. "Brain Trust" is a round table discussion at their recent gathering (L-R) Larrie Goetz, Darrel Wehling, Jeff Goetz, John Palla, George Hyslop (in back) Wally Bracich, Marlene Hyslop



Titus Ward, William Breene, Larrie Goetz, George Hyslop (L-R) of 1st FA Artillery Observation Bn. Assn. on Iowa State Capitol visit

Chapter & Department News

Because of limited space in the Jan/Feb issue, all of the Chapter and Department News was not included and is continued below.

289 MOUNTAIN EMPIRE [TN]

September

We had a busy fall in 2014. Members attended a POW/MIA ceremony at the Kingsport Veterans Memorial on September 19th. Vice-Commander Fred Himelwright spoke on behalf of our chapter. We were also represented at the dedication of Mt. Carmel's Veterans Memorial on September 16th.

October

In October we held our second rainy Fund Raiser of the year. We also held our annual Pumpkin Pie Party at the Johnson City VA CLC Ward on the 30th. This year we also served ice cream cups with the pie.

November

We marched/rode in the Bristol (TN/VA) Veterans Day Parade on November 8th. This year we measured the mileage. We marched 1.15 miles. Not bad for us 80+ year old marchers.



Ch 289 members at the Bristol (TN/VA) Veterans Day Parade: Fred Himelwright, Joe Cody, Dewey Harless, Bob Jenkins, Arlen Hensley and Bob Shelton (L-R) In attendance, but not shown, was Ralph Yelton

Some of our members attended the Veterans Day programs at the VA on the 10th and the Veterans Memorial in Kingsport on the 12th. Again, our Sr. Vice-Commander Himelwright gave a short speech.

The Boys and Girls Club held their annual "Honor to Veterans dinner." This year two of our members, Arlen Hensley and Fred Himelwright, were among the honored guests.

We donated 400 signed Christmas cards to be put in the veterans' Christmas backpacks. We also donated 80 2015 calendars for the veterans to hang in their rooms.

We finally received a bulk mailing from the Republic of Korea containing their "Ambassador for Peace Medal and Medallion." Thirteen of the medals were presented to members at our meeting.



At the presentation of "Ambassador for Peace Medallions" for Ch 289 (Back, L-R) Fred Himelwright, Fred Harrell, Gale Carpenter, Earl Christian, Arles Hensley and Bob Shelton (Front, L-R) William Porter, Robert Jenkins, Dewey Harless, Billy Hayden, Emmett Harrison and Bobby Boughers

December

In December we helped with a Christmas party at the VA. We then presented the "Ambassador for Peace Medallion" to member Ralph Yelton, who is in the Johnson City VA Hospital.



After Ch 289's Christmas party and medal presentation (Back) Robert Jenkins and Fred Himelwright (Front) Bob Shelton and Arlen Hensley

We closed out the year with our annual Christmas party on December 18th, and the presentation of our "Chapter Member of the Year" plaque to Arlen Hensley by Sr. Vice-Commander Fred Himelwright. Three more "Ambassador for Peace Medallions" were presented to members.

Carol Shelton, cshelton37663@yahoo.com



Sr. Vice-Commander Fred Himelwright of Ch 289 presents "Chapter Member of the Year" plaque to Arlen Hensley



Attendees at Ch 289's Christmas Party (Back, L-R) Billy Hayden, Bill Reed, Bill and Bobby McCoy, Fred Himelwright, Arlen Hensley, Gale Carpenter, Bob Jenkins, Joe Cody and Bob Shelton (Front, L-R) Walter Pierce, Mary Anne Himelwright, Judy Reed, Wilma Jenkins and Carol Shelton

312 ANTIETAM [MD]

We were approached by the city of Hagerstown, MD to do a video about our monument, which was dedicated in June, 2013. The video was to be part of the city's Veterans Day celebration. We produced a video with the city's tech support; they showed it on the city TV channel all day – every hour on the hour. In fact, they have continued to show it periodically on the same channel.

The video is only 6–7 minutes long, but they did a good job in making us guys look good. Access it at WWW.youtube.com/watch?V=NQqCR0Aex-g.

Les Bishop, 240-420-3755, lbishop@myactv.net

313 SHENANDOAH VALLEY [VA]

Moorefield, WV Readiness Center Dedicated

On November 20, 2014 the new state-of-the-art, \$18 million

dollar, 57,000-square-foot Moorefield Readiness Center, located in Moorefield, WV, was dedicated to two local war veterans, Edmund Leon Reel and William Herman Denney, Jr.

Ed Reel is a veteran of the Korean War. He spent 34 months as a Prisoner of War in the hands of North Korean and/or Chinese forces. Following the war, Ed remained in the U.S. Army and retired in 1975 as a Command Sergeant Major with 27 years of service to our country. Captain William Denney served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam, where he was killed in action.

The Moorefield Readiness Center is an excellent example of how state and local governments can combine their financial resources to erect a multi-purpose facility that serves varying entities in a community. It will provide a location for both professional and community organizations to hold major events, serve as a local headquarters and training center for the West Virginia National Guard, and house the Hardy County Emergency Operations Center.

Having these two agencies housed in the same building will facilitate easy coordination between the National Guard and the Hardy County Emergency Operations Center in responding to a major emergency in the area.

Ed Reel is a Charter Member of the chapter, which is located in Winchester, VA. We are extremely proud of Ed and what he has accomplished, and we extend our sincere congratulations to him upon his receiving this well deserved recognition.

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

319 LAWTON [OK]

On December 8, 2014, we attended the Korean Night in Oklahoma. The invitation was extended to all Korean veterans.

The Honorable Consul General from South Korea, Mr. Sukbum Park, presented peace medals to several chapter members, including D. Pope, B. Arenz, A. Boone, D. Burton, G. Houghton, E. Mayfield, R. Meyer, J. Blair, K. Metcalf, L. Campbell, and R. Guerrero. The medals were from the Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs and the Chairman of Korean



Ed Reel stands next to the plaque which will be mounted on the front of the Moorefield, WV Readiness Center. The inscription reads "The Moorefield Armed Forces Center Is Dedicated To CSM Edmund Reel In Recognition Of His Service During The Korean War."



Invitees from Ch 319 and ladies from the First Light United Church preparing to board the bus to Oklahoma City for Korean Night event

Veterans Association, the Republic of Korea.

Attendees had the pleasure of exchanging information and gratitude about what the Korean War and defense veterans mean for the sacrifice of what they did for South Korea.

Cecil "Bud" Arenz, 2807 NW Lynn Cir.,



Consul General Sukbum Park at Ch 319 event



Director G. Houghton and Past President B. Arenz of Ch 319 with Mr. and Mrs. Park

Lawton, OK 73507, 580-512-7282, opastien@fidnet.com

FLORIDA

Korean Church in Ocala, FL Honors Korean Vets

Several Florida chapters, KWVA, and Department of Florida members attended a ceremony at the Ocala, FL Korean Baptist Church to honor Korean War veterans. Chapters represented included 169 (Lake County), 16 (COL Alice Gritsavage), 188 (South Lake County), and 267 (GEN James A. Van Fleet).

Our Korean-American friends honored some 35 of us Korean

veterans and guests from KWVA of Lake County, Chapter 169, and surrounding area, with an "Adieu 2014 Luncheon Party" on December 6, 2014 at the church.



Rev. Park conducts church service honoring Florida veterans

Ocala, FL Korean Baptist Church choir in Korean dress



Florida veterans attack the chow line at Ocala church ceremony

Church Pastor and National Guard Chaplain Chang Soon Park rendered a service welcoming and thanking us; this included the Korean Church Choir performing in full colorful native dress. We, in turn, expressed our appreciation, and were then warmly escorted to an ample array of foods, including of course, kimchee!

We were very pleased that Maxine Parker of Ch 188 and DoFL and Jake Feaster of CIDs 16 and 267 and the KWVA were there with us. While the invitation came through Chapter 169, the



Church members and guests at Ocala, FL church gathering

church wishes to acknowledge all Korean veterans in its area.

Our Korean-American friends first invited us in April 2012, and then again this December 2014. Ch 169, on behalf of all Korean veterans, warmly accepts the friendship and appreciation offered to us by Rev. Park and the members of the Ocala Korean Church!

Tom Thiel, 19147 Park Place Blvd, Eustis, FL 32736,
352-408-6612, kwvathiel@gmail.com
www.cid169.kwva.org www.24thida.com

TEXAS

The Department of Texas held its annual state convention 14-16 November 2014 at the Historic Menger Hotel in San Antonio. The event was hosted by CID 298, Alamo.

Guest speakers were Ambassador Suk-bum Park from the Houston Korean Consulate and General Robin Rand, Commander of the Air Education and Training Command at Randolph AFB Texas.

Thomas Cacy, pastorcacy8@gmail.com



Larry Kinard (R) with Ambassador and Mrs. Park at Department of Texas convention



Youth Drum Team from the Korean All Nations Church entertains guests at Department of Texas convention



General Rand and Mrs. Cacy, wife of Ch 298 President

General Rand addresses the veterans on the Korean War Veterans legacy at Department of Texas event



19 GEN RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

The featured speaker at our recent luncheon was Mr. Sam Olens, Georgia Attorney General. He spoke extensively about the programs his office is involved in and the future of Georgia politics. The Q&A was extensive.



Sam Olens, Georgia Attorney General, speaks to Ch 19



Members of Ch 19 and guests assemble after medal and shawl presentation

Park Sung Choon, Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs, Republic of South Korea, presented Ambassador for Peace Medals and ceremonial shawls.

Jim Conway, conatlanta@comcast.net

55 NASSAU COUNTY #1 [NY]

On 11 January Buddy Epstein visited the Long Island State Veterans Home in Stony Brook, NY. He took with him a string orchestra consisting of 26 Korean-American children ages 7 to 16. They performed for 125 resident veterans and their families.

Buddy also brought sixteen handmade wool lap blankets made and donated by the Meadowbrook Women's Initiative Group. The blankets were distributed to resident veterans.

Robert O'Brien, 408 5th Ave., Cedarhurst, NY 11516

Buddy Epstein of Ch 55 introduces Ms. Kim to audience at Long Island State Veterans Home



Veteran at Long Island Veterans Home receives blanket from Ch 55 member Buddy Epstein



Buddy Epstein of Ch 55 meets with an unidentified veteran and his wife during his Long Island visit. Note the new blanket on the veteran's lap.

67 FINGER LAKES #1 [NY]

Richard Bump, Louis Rizzuri, Jim Lewis, Anthony Marconi, Anthony Calabrese, and Chester Kuplinski recently toured Washington D.C. They made a special stop at the Korean War Memorial. WWII veteran Gino Cologgi accompanied them.

Anthony Calabrese, 100 Catherine St.
Lyons, NY 14489

142 COL WILLIAM E. WEBER [MD]

Damascus Legion Honors Korean War-era Veterans

Twenty-four local veterans of the Korean War were honored by Damascus [MD] American Legion Post 171 on Presidents Day, Feb. 16, at the post home. Many of the honorees' wives and families and several members of the post and Auxiliary Unit attended. Nearly half the honorees were members of Chapter 142 of the Korean War Veterans of America, headquartered in Frederick.



Among the 24 Korean War-era veterans honored by the Damascus American Legion Post 171 were six members of the post. From left are veterans and post members Glenn Toms, Bob Ray, Ed Williams, Jack Talamo, Bill Raab and Bob Bellison. Photo by Lou Popowsky

Damascus Legion honors Korean War-era veterans

FOR THE FREDERICK NEWS-POST

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Veterans of America, headquartered in Frederick.

Past Post Commander Bernie Moxley Sr. chaired the event and served as master of ceremonies. Post chaplain Shawn Gill gave the invocation and a lunch was prepared by the Moxley family. The attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance and sang the national anthem, and Post Commander

Kevin Mook welcomed everyone. Moxley then introduced local dancing artist Itsi Mitchell, who performed a belly dance. Jim Lichtinger, a benefits specialist from the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs, then spoke briefly, offering help and assistance to all the veterans attending.

The 24 honorees then took center stage in an oval seating arrangement, and they were in-

troduced one by one and provided opportunity to talk about their experiences during the Korean War era. They described the general feeling of the American people about the Korean War, how they were perceived and received upon return, and some of their combat experiences. Some of their stories were entertaining, some were serious, and some included descriptions of how

much South Korea has changed since the war ended in 1953. Past Post Commander George Bolling and Bernie Moxley Jr. facilitated this part of the program.

At the end of the day, the honored veterans were treated to a standing ovation, and, to a man, they expressed their gratitude to the post for sponsoring this event.

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Linda Crilly, CID142Webmaster@gmail.com, or Glenn Wienhoff, Chapter 142 Secretary/Treasurer at cid142kwva@gmail.com

Among the 24 Korean War-era veterans honored by the Damascus American Legion Post 171 were six members of the post. From left are veterans and post members Glenn Toms, Bob Ray, Ed Williams, Jack Talamo, Bill Raab and Bob Bellison. (Photo by Lou Popowsky)

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All Chapter and/or Department news for publication in *The Graybeards* should be mailed to Art Sharp, Editor, 152 Sky View Drive., Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or emailed to:

Sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net

158 WILLIAM R. CHARETTE (MOH) [FL]

We have new officers for the calendar year 2015: Commander Frank Cohee, First Vice President William McCraney, and Secretary/Treasurer James Bradford. They were sworn in by Past President Charles Appenzeller.

Frank Cohee, kwvasec@gmail.com



New officers of Ch 158 being sworn in by Past President Charles Appenzeller (Far Right): Frank Cohee, William McCraney, and James Bradford (L-R)

170 TAEJON [NJ]

Members and guests of the Taejon and M*A*S*H* 4099 (216) chapters were honored at a Veterans Day dinner sponsored by the Roman Catholic Church of the Korean Martyrs in Saddle Brook, NJ on 5 November 2014. A large turnout of Korean War veterans and their family members attended.

The program began with a cocktail time at 4:30 p.m. and the Posting of Colors at 5 p.m. The South Korean and U.S. national anthems were sung, followed by a moment of silence to honor those who died during the Korean War and other wars.

Church pastor Father Don Bosco Park welcomed everyone and talked about the honor of having Korean War veterans at the service. He thanked them for what they did for South Korea during and after the war.

Church member Regina Yang acted as emcee for the event. She called upon Commanders Kenneth Green (Taejon) and Albert Gonzales (M*A*S*H* 4099) to deliver some remarks. National Director George Bruzgis, a member of Ch 170, was present with them. Both Commanders thanked Father Park for this special event honoring Veterans Day.

In turn, Father Park said a prayer before the meal and invited everyone to enjoy the Korean-American buffet, which lasted until 6:30 p.m. That was followed by entertainment that concluded around 8 p.m.

Ch 170 Commander Kenneth Green speaks at the Saddle Brook, NJ Veterans Day event



Kenneth Green of Ch 170, Father Park, George Bruzgis, and Albert Gonzales of Ch 216 (L-R) at Veterans Day dinner



Finance Officer Edward Frye of Ch 170, Korean church member, and Ch 170 Color Guard Commander Alexander Atheras at Korean church



Priest of Church of the Korean Martyrs, Sr. Vice Commander Robert O'Toole of Ch 170, his wife Young-Ok, and Father Park (L-R) at New Jersey Veterans Day commemoration

Ms. Yang introduced the performers. It was a very relaxing and joyful evening for all. There was great fellowship in evidence between the veterans and the Koreans, who could not do

enough to show their appreciation for what we did in the war days.

Around 8:30 p.m. Father Park gave his closing remarks and blessing. We are hoping for a bigger turnout next year.

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



Thomas Boyle of Ch 170 with Korean church members



M*A*S*H* 4099 Commander Albert Gonzales and chapter member Gerry Van Brunt (L) at Veterans Day event



Impressive crowd of Ch 170 and Ch 216 members at The Church of Korean Martyrs

183 NEBRASKA #1 [NE]

We welcomed 2015 with a party hosted by our Korean friends living in the Omaha area. They furnished both Korean and American foods, including dessert, for the approximately 100 attendees at the function held January 11th at the Ralston, NE Senior Center.

Chapter Secretary John Fifer provided his traditional chili for the devotees' pleasure.



Bill Johnson, President of Ch 183, looks on as Catharina Yoo welcomes the assemblage at 11 January get-together in Ralston, NE



Many of the participants at the thank-you gathering in Ralston, NE, including many veterans and members of the Eastern Nebraska Korean community



Treasurer Bill Christensen, President Bill Johnson, Bill Williams, head of Patriotic Productions, and Secretary John Fifer (L-R). All but Williams are members of Ch 183.

Bill Williams, head of Patriotic Productions, organized the Nebraska Korean War Honor flights to visit the war memorials in our nation's capital. The March 2014 flight included 462 Nebraska and Iowa Korean War veterans, who filled three planes. That was one of the largest Honor Flights so far.

Prior to that flight, Williams and his wife Evonne sponsored flights which carried 1,500 Nebraska WWII veterans to visit the memorials in Washington D.C.

Bill Christensen, 23520 Cheyenne Cir.
Gretna, NE 68028, 402-332-4841, chriwl@msn.com

187 WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS [MA]

Paul Mei Sr. received the Korean Peace Medal several years ago.

James K. Stathis, 42 Pine Grove Dr., South Hadley,
MA 01075, 413-535-1384, chefmaries@verizon.net

Paul Mei Sr. of Ch 187 displays
Korean Peace Medal



Commander Butler of Ch 192 presents a check to the Commander of the Nature Coast Young Marines



Rita Butler, Commander Hank Butler, and Vice Commander Col. Bob Crawford (R) at Ch 192 event

192 CITRUS [FL]

On Feb. 14, we displayed the Battle Cross at the 10th Annual Purple Heart Ceremony in Inverness, FL.

Hank Butler, hankrita@tampabay.rr.com



Director Pete Marquis, Judge Advocate Ray Michael, and Commander Hank Butler pose in front of the Battle Cross Display at the 10th Annual Purple Heart ceremony in Inverness, FL attended by Ch 192 members.

216 M*A*S*H* 4099 [NJ]

(See Ch 170 coverage)

245 SOUTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN [WI]

We have new officers: President Frederick J. Sage; VP Bill Sprout; Secretary/Treasurer Don Koch; Chaplain Lucille Ramsey; Rich Staley, Membership; Wayne Pickarts, Parliamentarian; Gordon Faust, Public Relations/Training; Cliff Bordens, National Liaison

Frederick J. Sage, 5241 W Netherwood Dr.
Oregon, WI 53575, fgsage1@charter.net

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



New officers of Ch 245: Lucille Ramsey, Bill Sprout, Gordon Faust, Fred Sage, Wayne Pickarts, Don Koch, Cliff Bordens, Rich Staley (L-R)

250 CHARLES B. THACKER

Once again Commander Kenny Fannon, with the help of our Quartermaster, Joe Bishop, put on a great Veterans Day program and dinner. Over 200 veterans and guests attended and enjoyed the program and the delicious meal prepared and served by four wonderful ladies.



Commander Kenny Fannon (L) and Quartermaster Joe Bishop of Ch 250



The four fabulous cooks at Ch 250's Veterans Day event

The Color Guard added to the festivities by being dressed in uniform.

These activities made the Veterans Day commemoration very pleasant and enjoyable.

Jack Bentley, P. O. Box 114, Pound, VA 24279



Ch 250's Honor Guard at Veterans Day event



Members of Ch 250 at Veterans Day commemoration

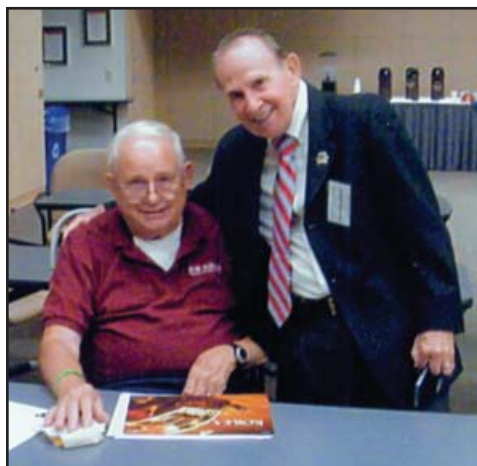


Patriotically decorated table at Ch 250's Veterans Day ceremony

264 MT. DIABLO [CA]

We made a few key changes at our monthly meeting at the John Muir Hospital, Concord, CA. Our president, Dave McDonald, resigned for personal reasons. The current lineup of officers comprises President Robert Hooker; VP Will Flaherty;

Secretary Ron Craven; Liaison Stan Grogan; Membership Lyle Deck; POW/MIA Robert Hooker.



Dave McDonald and Bob Witbeck of Ch 264 at April 2014 meeting

Our follow-up meeting was a luncheon get-together at the Black Bear Diner in the Country Wood Shopping Center in Walnut Creek, CA.

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

270 SAM JOHNSON [TX]

Chapter 270 Logs 4,693 Volunteer Hours in 2014; Lauds All Volunteers, Awards Plaques to Volunteers With 100 or More Hours in 2014

Once again, during the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, our generous members logged more VA volunteer hours than any other KWVA Chapter. These volunteers repaired and placed new wheelchairs and walkers in-service, staffed the help desk, greeted patients as they arrived, and performed duties in wards 5b and 5c, which we “adopted.”

During the February Chapter meeting, we applauded all VA volunteers and awarded plaques to those in attendance who had logged 100 or more hours during the fiscal year ending



Chapter members with over 100 hours of volunteer service (L-R) J.D. Randolph, George Kraus, Morris Chambers, Dick Bové, Jimmie McGee, Ken Borchers, Joe Seiling, Dick Lethe, and Donald (“Ski”) Wojciechowski (Photo by Charles Buckley)

September 30, 2014. It is noteworthy that Chapter President J. D. Randolph, the National KWVA VAVS Director, led by example with 589 volunteer hours.

Chapter members receiving plaques at the February meeting (with hours in parentheses) were J. D. Randolph (589), George Kraus (280) Morris Chambers (275), Dick Bové (226), Jimmie McGee (217), Ken Borchers (173), Joe Seiling (136), Dick Lethe (131), and Donald (Ski) Wojciechowski (113).

Plaque recipients not attending the meeting were Carolyn Bolds (1,131), James Cawyer (325), Patricia Jetton (243), and Jim McCrary (109). Chapter members with fewer than 100 hours were Paul Pfrommer (96), Grace Borchers (77), Homer Mundy (72), Bill Carman (59), Ernie Bousquet (51), Richard Sanchez (49), Pat Haug (21), Jim Cline (19) Bill Lovas (16), John Forse (15), Tilford Jones (deceased) (14), Beatriz Wojciechowski (4), and David Bentley (2).

Glen Thompson, gthomp32@suddenlink.net

272 GREATER ROCKFORD [IL]

We have a very active Color Guard. In fact, it has participated in a half dozen events in the past year. We do not charge for our participation in any event, but we accept donations. In fact, we received over \$1,000.00 in 2014.



Ch 272's Color Guard at Sept. 11, 2014 service in Roscoe, IL



Color Guard from Ch 272 at 2014 Memorial Day service

Our chapter holds a Christmas party each December at the Hoffman House in Rockford. The event is always well attended, with over seventy members and guests in attendance.

Warren M. Ramsey, 211 S. Pecatonica St.
Winnebago, IL 61088



Members and guests at Ch 272's 20 December 2014 Christmas party

Peter Straub, Mario Gambaccini, Jack Murphy, Monty Pepperell, Emil Zenk, and Bob Gruber prepared the new flag for installation.

Richard W. Malsack, 146 Anglewood Dr., Crossville,
TN 38558 (Photos by Thomas Whitehurst)



Peter Straub, Mario Gambaccini, Jack Murphy, Monty Pepperell, Emil Zenk, and Bob Gruber of Ch 297 prepare new flag for installation at Food City store

297 PLATEAU [TN]

In mid-January we were honored to retire the old and install the new American flag at the Food City store in Fairfield Glade. Commander Bob Johnston, Ted Hirabayashi, Bob Gruber, and Carl Ellis formed the Color Guard for the changing of the flag.



The old, torn, tattered flag at Food City



Bob Johnston, Ted Hirabayashi, Bob Gruber, and Carl Ellis, Ch 297's Color Guard, at Food City event

The new American flag makes its debut at Food City store in Fairfield Glade, TN



320 NEW HAMPSHIRE [NH]

We enjoyed a "Salute to Korean War Veterans" last summer. The ceremony was held at the State Capitol in Concord. Among the guests were Ohm Song-Jun, South Korean Consulate General



U.S. Senator Kelly Ayotte, Paul Sweeney, and Alan Heidenreich (L-R) at New Hampshire State Capitol

of Boston MA and his wife, Paul Sweeney, American Legion Post 2 Commander, and U.S. Senator Kelly Ayotte (R-NH).

Alan E. Heidenreich, 53 Lincoln St., Manchester, NH 03103, 603-623-8960, AlanHeidenreich@aol.com



Ohm Song-Jun, Paul Sweeney, Mrs. Alan Heidenreich, and wife of Ohm Song-Jun (L-R) at New Hampshire ceremony

327 GEN. JOHN H. MICHAELIS [PA]

We are a newly formed chapter of KWVA, Inc. As we wait for the issuance of our charter, we thought it a wise move to seek information and advice from an established chapter.

Specifically, we were hoping to learn of the programs, activities, and events that were found to be successful as well as those things deemed not so popular. In other words, we were hoping to steepen our learning curve by using the experiences of more established chapters. To this end, we invited an officer from our neighboring York County (PA) chapter (178) to share with us some of their experiences.

At our February 4th meeting, Mr. Ralph Ashton, 1st Vice Commander of Ch 178, addressed our members on the above mentioned topics. Ralph gave us a comprehensive overview of the programs they found successful over the years, and imparted a few caveats as to what should be avoided. We

National KWVA Fund Raiser

Flower Rose of Sharon

The Rose of Sharon is the National KWVA fund raising flower. The Rose of Sharon is sold by the dozen.

- ☐ Sample order is 4 doz. @ \$12 plus \$6.35 S/H.
- ☐ Minimum order is 20 doz. @ \$60 plus \$12.35 S/H.
- ☐ Orders for 21 to 100 doz. @ \$3/doz. plus \$16.45 S/H
- ☐ Order for 400 doz. or more qualify for a special discount

Write or call: Earl House, 1870 Yakona Rd.,
Baltimore, MD 21234
Phone 410-661-8950.
Make Checks payable to:
KWVA Maryland Chapter 33



asked Ralph to wear the typical garb of KWVA members and explain the protocols to be observed for its use. A question and answer period followed.

Ralph's presentation was extremely well received by our members. Ensuing comments reinforced those sentiments.

Paul H. Cunningham, 1841 Pool Forge
Lancaster, PA 17601, 717-299-1990

OREGON

U.S. Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) attended a Town Hall meeting held on January 17, 2015 in Grants Pass.

Dean Bosche, deanbosche@charter.net



Dean Bosche, Sen. Wyden, and Neil McCain at town meeting

VA Streamlines Claims Process

As of March 24, 2015, VA has streamlined the claims process to make it easier for Veterans and Survivors to apply for benefits.

Veterans and Survivors can now use online application tools, standard forms, and a new "Intent to File" process to quickly and easily state which benefits they're seeking. This means faster processing times, more accurate claim decisions, and easier access to benefits. These new tools also allow Veterans and Survivors to submit the necessary information to begin processing a claim or appeal right away, with no more hassle or guess-work.

Make sure you're up to speed on VA's new standard form policies and "Intent to File" process!

Need a quick reference on the upcoming changes? Check out the VA Standard Forms one-page handout and poster that gives you everything you need to know when talking to Veterans and Survivors about the new ways to file claims.

Go to http://benefits.va.gov/benefits/infographics/standard_forms_handout.pdf for a one-page handout or http://benefits.va.gov/benefits/infographics/standard_forms_poster.pdf for a poster explaining the process.

Ed Bielucke Takes License



On April 12th, 2014, Ed Bielucke III displayed his set of 16 military state-issued vanity license plates at the ALPCA (American License Plate Collectors Association) Southern California Region Meet held in The Mechanized Museum at the Camp Pendleton Marine Base in Oceanside, CA.

Of the various military (and nonmilitary) plates/collections on display and in the competition, he won second place in the "People's Choice" category, as voted on by the membership, not by the club's officers and staff.

Ed Bielucke
 III 216 S. Citrus St., #303
 West Covina, CA 91791
 626-419-4789



Ed Bielucke, III



ABOVE: Ed Bielucke stands with license plate collection



License plates on display at Camp Pendleton Museum

Chapter 56 Unveils 125 Names



A statue of General George Patton at the General Patton Memorial Museum



The names on the Korean War Memorial Wall are unveiled

Several members of Ch 56, Ventura County [CA], attended a 21 February 2015 ceremony at the General Patton Memorial Museum in Chiriaco Summit, CA. Chapter Commander David Lopez offered a few remarks to the large crowd at the gathering:

"We, the Korean War veterans of Chapter 56, and the Korean War veterans of America, say thank you very much for these tiles with our names on them that we put here at the General George Patton Museum Remembrance Wall. The names

will remain here for years to come, and people will see them and say 'These men fought for the freedom of the South Korean people during the Korean War, 1950-53.'

"Here it is 62 years later and the freedom has held together all these years. And why is that? It's because freedom is too precious for the people of South Korea. They will continue to fight for it the rest of their lives.

"The people of South Korea will never forget the American G.I. for his services

and sacrifices in getting them this freedom."

Other speakers included U.S. and Korea Alliance Assn. head Chuck Rheem and Commander Parks of the Korean War Veterans, Western and Los Angeles.

The George Patton Memorial Museum is located 30 miles east of Indio on the I-10 Freeway. Exit at the Chiriaco Summit (exit 173). Established in 1988 to honor the memory of General George Patton, the museum is located at the heart of the Desert Training Center from World War II.



The names of Ch 56 members on the Patton Museum Wall

Commander David Lopez of Ch 56 speaks at General Patton Memorial Museum



On Memorial Wall



U.S. and Korea Alliance Assn. head Chuck Rheem addresses audience at Korean War Memorial Wall ceremony



Commander Parks of Korean War Veterans Western and Los Angeles speaks at General Patton Memorial Museum



Members of Ch 56 at Korean War Memorial Wall dedication (R-L) Gilberto Cabrera, George Silva, Gregory Garcia Jr., Henry Marin, Manuel Adame, Benjamin Espinoza, Commander David Lopez

The large majority of the artifacts on display and in storage have been donated by veterans or the family of veterans over the years. The museum also includes a large tank yard with tanks ranging from World II through the Vietnam War.
Read more about the museum at <http://generalpattonmuseum.com/>



Part of the crowd at the Korean War Memorial Wall dedication



U.S. and South Korean Korean War veterans mingle at Patton Museum

Chapter 19 Enjoys Visit From Residents Of Sister

By Rego Barnett

The bonds between South Koreans and their American friends remain strong, even though the cease fire ostensibly ending the Korean War was signed 61 years ago. That was made clear recently when fourteen Korean dignitaries from Seongdong Gu, including its mayor, Chong Won O, visited their sister city of Atlanta for a week of sightseeing and celebrating the relationship between people of two countries.

The visitors and members of CID 19, Gen Raymond G. Davis, based in Atlanta, spent time together at various functions, including a visit to the Georgia Medal of Honor Wall and a dinner. Mayor Chong Won O placed a wreath at the monument to the 740 service members from Atlanta who died during the Korean War.

The visitors helped remove any doubts that the UN troops in general and the U.S. troops in particular in South Korea did more than win a largely "Forgotten War" at the mid-point of the 20th century. They also established an enduring relationship between the people

of South Korea and the U.S. that grows stronger as the years pass and generations succeed one another.

Ironically, Henry David Thoreau wrote in his classic book *Walden* that "One generation abandons the enterprises of another like stranded vessels." That may be true in a lot of cases. But, it is not true in the case of post-Korean War relations between ensuing generations, particularly from the South Korean standpoint.

The newer generations of South Koreans still remember what the UN did to save their country six+ decades ago. Visits like those from the people of Seongdong Gu are a testimony to that. Hopefully, the people of South Korea and the United States will keep that spirit alive—and show the rest of the world that mutual cooperation can be the key to successful relationships between and among countries.

What better example exists than the relationship between South Koreans and Americans? (Thanks to Jim Conway of CID 19 for bringing the visit to our attention. He can be reached at conatlanta@comcast.net.)



Visitors from Korea admire the Georgia Medal of Honor wall in the Veterans Building

Ch 19 hosts at dinner with visiting Koreans from Seongdong Gu



Musicians provide entertainment at Ch 19 dinner



Wreath placed in Atlanta by Mayor Chong Won O of Seongdong Gu



Mayor Chong Won O with wreath at monument





Coffee break and group with Ch 19 hosts



Tim Lee, representing Cobb County and Kennesaw City, speaks at Ch 19 event



Robert McCubbins, Ch 19 President, accepts gift from Seongdong Gu dignitaries



James Conway, Ch 19 Secretary/Treasurer, receives gift from Sister City visitors

The newer generations of South Koreans still remember what the UN did to save their country six+ decades ago.



RIGHT: Scenes of Seongdong Gu shown at Ch 19 dinner

LEFT: Atlanta businessman Sunny Park addresses visitors at the monument to the 740 "Atlantans" who died during the Korean War



The Origin Of Chaplains

Back in the fourth century, a French soldier by the name of Martin (born in Hungary in 316 AD) met a beggar shivering on a bitterly cold winter night in Amiens. Martin had no money, so he drew his sword, and with it, divided his heavy cloak, giving one half to the beggar. Martin soon devoted himself to the church, and in time became the patron saint of France.

The preserved cloak of Saint Martin of Tours was regarded as a sacred banner by the Kings of France, and was carried onto the battlefield. Between wars, the cloak was referred to as a "cappelle," or short cloak. The person placed in charge of the sacred relic was called a "chapelain." Later, the title "chaplain" went to any cleric charged with the custody of relics or of a chapel.

Chaplains accompanied most of the exploring expeditions sent to the new world. When Sir Francis Drake sailed around the world in his galleon Golden Hind (1577-1580), Chaplain Francis Fletcher (1555-1619), a clergyman of the Church of England, was on board. It is said that Chaplain Fletcher conducted the first Protestant service in the English language, in what is now the continental United States, June 1579, on a beach on Drake's Bay, Marin County, CA.

British Queen Elizabeth appointed chaplains to serve on the larger vessels of the British Navy. British King Charles I (1625-1649) appointed a "man of God" to the ships of his English fleet. The chaplains, like doctors, were paid by the ship's crew, the chaplains receiving four pence a month from each seaman. The title of chaplain, of ancient background, has come down through the years, to be conferred upon the clergymen of today's armed forces.

Tom Moore, tm103ps@yahoo.com

Sumner's Trip A

The nearby photos were taken by my father-in-law, the late Storekeeper 1st Class Benedict (Ben) Caccia, who served aboard the destroyer USS Allen M. Sumner (DD 692) during its around-the-world Korean War cruise in 1953.

Ben took color slides all along the trip. Sumner left Norfolk, VA., crossed the Atlantic, passed the Rock of Gibraltar into the Mediterranean, stopped in Greece, transited the Suez Canal, stopped at Colombo, Ceylon in the Indian Ocean, crossed the equator (with the requisite crossing ordeal/ceremony), stopped in Japan, served off the coast of Korea, then went back to Pearl Harbor, through the Panama Canal, and returned to Norfolk.

According to the Dictionary of American Navy Fighting Ships (DANFS), "On 24 April 1953, the destroyer stood out of Norfolk, bound for her only assignment in the war zone during the Korean conflict. Steaming by way of the Mediterranean Sea, the Suez Canal, and Indian Ocean, Allen M. Sumner arrived in Yokosuka, Japan, early in June. After 10 days in port, she joined Task Force (TF) 77 in the Sea of Japan and began two months of duty as a plane guard and antisubmarine screening ship for the fast carriers while they sent their aircraft against targets in North Korea.

While she was assigned those tasks, the armistice of 27 July ended the Korean hostilities. Following a tour of duty with TF 95 patrolling the southern coast of Korea and a brief stop at Yokosuka, the warship headed back to the United States via the Pacific, the west coast, and the Panama Canal. She arrived back in Norfolk on 27 October."

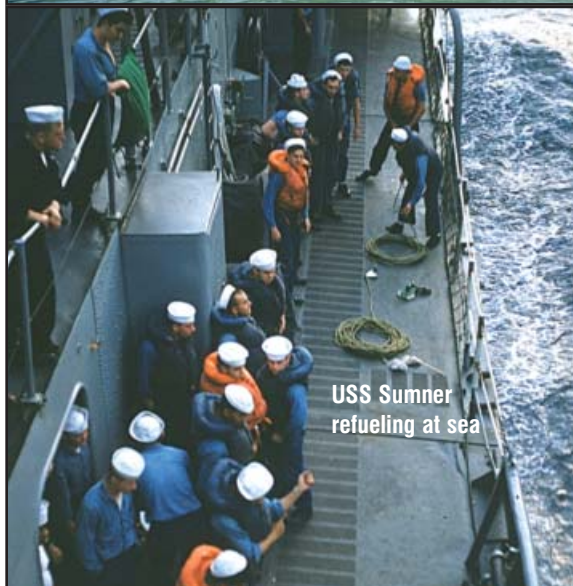
(http://www.history.navy.mil/danfs/a6/allen_m_sumner.htm)

Any old shipmates are encouraged to contact Ben Caccia's son, Ed Caccia (my brother-in-law), by email at ewc58@optonline.net.

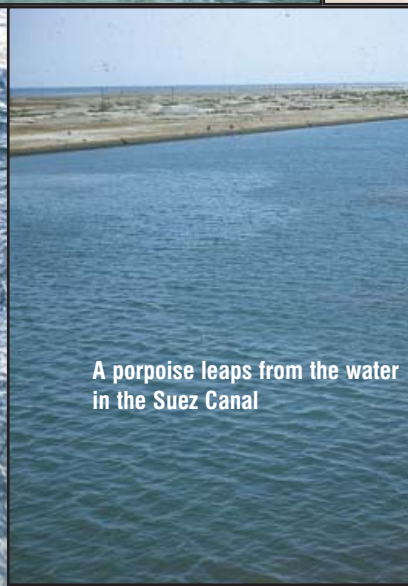
Bob Dial, JDIAL@nycap.rr.ny



USS Sumner leaving Norfolk



USS Sumner refueling at sea



A porpoise leaps from the water in the Suez Canal

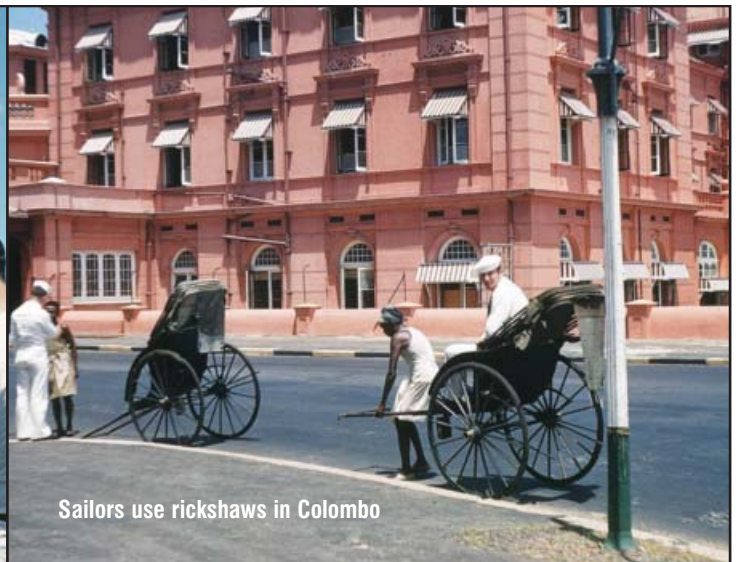


Ben Caccia at the Acropolis in Greece

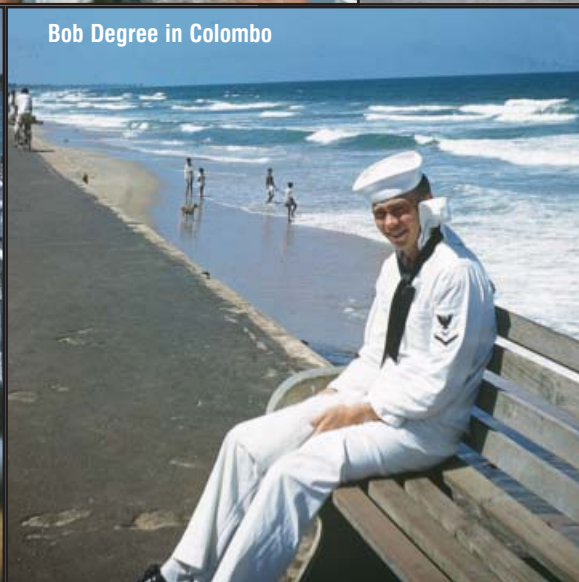
Around The World



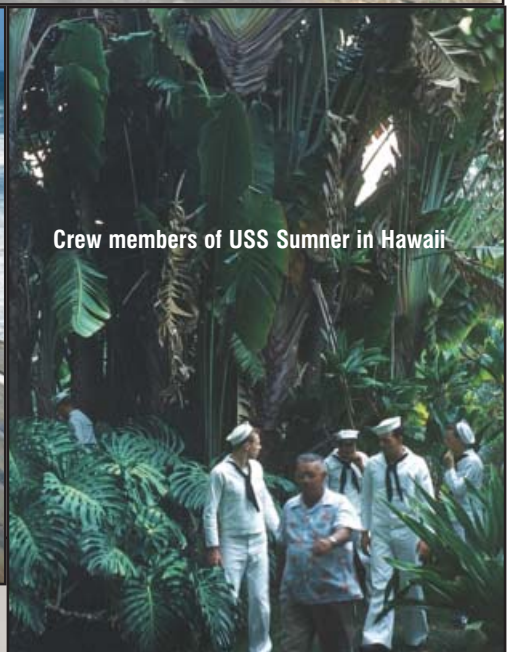
Mass at Sea



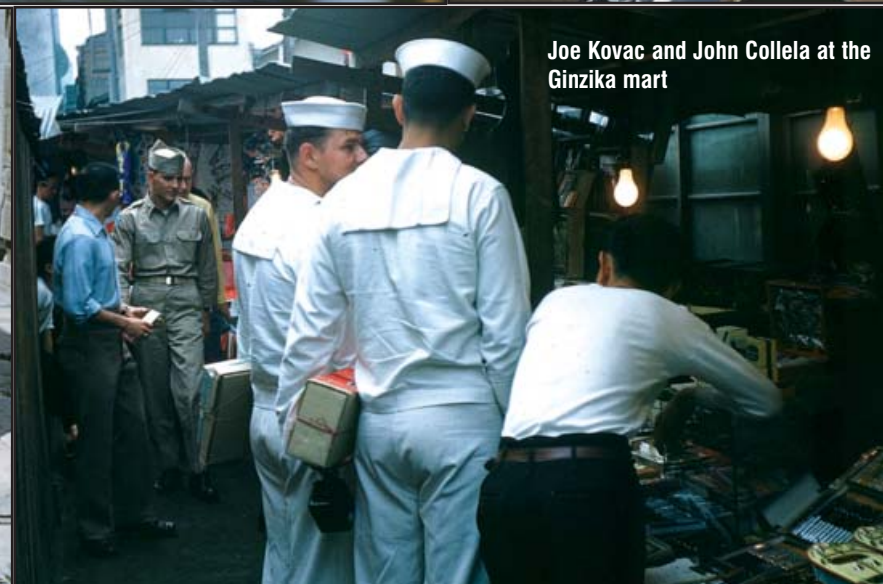
Sailors use rickshaws in Colombo



Bob Degree in Colombo



Crew members of USS Sumner in Hawaii



Joe Kovac and John Collela at the Ginzika mart



Ben Caccia (L)
aboard USS Sumner

Korean War Veterans' Mini-Reunions

25th Inf. Div. ("Tropic Lightning Div.")

We held our 15th annual reunion in Fresno, CA. Former Master Sergeant & Section Leader Douglas Cairns and his wonderful wife Mary Catherine hosted the gathering.

We, as members of the 25th Div. Signal Corps Photo Section (1952-54), had a wonderful time. Because of health restraints only eight people attended. "Missing in action" were regular attendees Jay & Tooter Brown, Roy & Pat Penzke, Howard & Pat Backer, and Rollie Berens.

Some of the activities included Yosemite Valley and veterans museum tours and a dinner play.

We hope to hold our reunions as long as possible.

Rollie Berens
18400 Brookfield Lake Dr. Unit 42
Brookfield, WI 53045



Richard Wawrzyniak, Steve Uyehara, Doug Cairns, Carlton Sauder, and Bob Eifert (L-R) at 25th Inf. Div. gathering



Ladies at 25th Inf. Div. reunion include Marge Farrel, Annie Gratton, Mary Catherine Cairns, Dianne Teske, and Joanne Stauder (L-R)



TOP: Bob Eifert, Dianne Testke, and Dick Wawrzyniak (L-R) view "El Capitan," "Glacier Peak," and "Half Dome" in Yosemite Park as part of 25th Inf. Div. reunion.

BOTTOM: Steve Uyehara, Dianne Testke, and Dick Wawrzyniak (L-R) on Yosemite Park tour

772nd Military Police Bn

Korean War veterans held their 19th reunion in Arlington, VA in September 2014. At the welcome reception, Col. Dan McElroy, Deputy Provost Marshal General, presented the veterans with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Provost Marshal General, David Quantock.

The next day they visited the Korean War Memorial in Washington, D.C. A prayer was said, names of those lost since the last reunion were read by Wayne Shireman, and Paul Rich played Taps. The veterans then visited the remaining memorials and rode a boat up the Potomac River to Georgetown and back with more views of Washington.

On Saturday, veterans and family members gathered outside on the hotel pavilion in Arlington. "The Old Guard" marched from behind the hotel, stopped in front of the group, and presented the Colors. The color bearers and guards then joined the group for dinner.

Next year's reunion will be in the Boston area in the second week of September.

Gene Michaels, 2851 1 TR 1233
Warsaw, OH 43844-9633, 740-824-4774, gccabin@gmail.com

40th Div. Korean War Veterans Association

The 40th Div. Korean War Veterans Association met at Arizona Charlie's Decatur Hotel Casino in Las Vegas, Oct. 9-11, 2014 for their annual reunion. About 200 veterans, wives, and sons and daughters attended. MajGen Lawrence Haskins, current 40th Div. commander, was the guest speaker for the welcoming party.

On Friday, the veterans held a memorial service and wreath laying ceremony at Lloyd Yanab Park on the outskirts of Las Vegas. The guest speaker for that event was Ambassador Hyun-myung Kim, the Consul General for the Republic of Korea in Los Angeles. After the ceremony, buses were available to take interested attendees to "The Strip."

That night there was a party for sons and daughters. They have become a very active group, which will carry on the work and tradition of the organization when the veterans are no longer able to.

The Saturday night banquet featured another address by Consul General Kim and a beautiful performance by Korean dancers in native costumes.

The next reunion will be held in the fall of 2015 in Houston, TX.

David A. Mays, 114 Kathy St., Florence, AL 35633, docmays1@att.net



One of the entertainers at the 40th Div. Korean War Veterans Assn. banquet



Consul General Kim, former 40th Div. Korean War Veterans Assn. President Chet Caine, Chairman Brent Jett, and two members of the Korean community at the organization's banquet (L-R)



ABOVE: 772 MP Bn. group stands in silence at the Korean War Memorial in Washington D.C.

RIGHT: Ft. Meyers, VA Color Guard presents Colors for 772 MP Bn. reunion attendees



51st Fighter Interceptor Wing

The 51st Fighter Interceptor Wing held its 25th annual reunion at the Landmark Resort, Myrtle Beach, SC, September 11-13, 2014.

*Richard E. Ehrick, 86 Franklin Ct.
La Porte, IN 46350*

Attendees at the 51st Fighter Interceptor Wing reunion in Myrtle Beach, SC



Honor Flight



Honor Flight group from Havana, IL
(Left group) Guy Stanbaugh, Deane Behrends, Delbert Hackman, Scott Lynn (Middle group) Eldon Yetter, John Roat, Dorland Smith, Dale Turner (Right group) Jim Marshall, Jack Boggs, Cecil Gilson

Relations Restored Between Havana And Washington D.C.—Havana, IL, That Is

Seven Korean War and WWII veterans from the little town of Havana, IL (pop. 3,577) went on an Honor Flight to Washington D.C. When they returned, they marched in the annual Octoberfest Parade on Broadway Street.

Most of the parade vehicles were antique cars, tractors, and wagons. The veterans rode in three jeeps, including a 1942 Army model restored by Deane Behrends.

*Deane Behrends, 526 Plum St.
Havana, IL 62644, 309-357-1243*

I & R Platoon, H.Q. & H.Q. Co., 31st inf. Regt., 7th Division.

I & R Platoon, H.Q. & H.Q. Co., 31st inf. Regt., 7th Division held their 10th mini-reunion 19-20 September 2014 in Clare-Coleman, Michigan. Teresa (Cameron) Bovee hosted the gathering in honor of her late father, Kenneth Cameron. These veterans have been getting together every 2 years for the last 20 years.

This year the reunion was held at the Doherty Hotel in Clare, MI. Seven men of the group attended, along with some of the wives and some of their children. Activities included a trip to the beautiful Veterans Memorial in Coleman, MI, featuring five statues representing and honoring soldiers who served from the Gulf War, Vietnam War, World War I and World War II, along with a soldier from the Korean War.

A speech to honor these veterans was given by Jacquob LittleJohn, a high school senior from Bay City Western School, who is the grandson of the late Kenneth Cameron, a Korean War veteran from Coleman, MI. After the speech, the veterans were presented a Brick of Honor to place in the inner walkway of the Memorial. These bricks are personalized with the veteran's information on it.

Lewis Stewart and Kenneth Cameron Jr., son of the late Kenneth Cameron, were honored with the placing of the brick. Stewart was the veteran who started these reunions 20 years ago.

Teresa (Cameron) Bovee, teresabovee@aol.com



Members of I & R Platoon, H.Q. & H.Q. Co., 31st inf. Regt., 7th Division in front of the Veterans Memorial (L-R) Lewis Stewart of Randolph, NY, Donald Zierk of Palm Coast, FL, Gerald Hersh of Greendale, WI, David Bant of Terril, IA, Frank Seinwandtner of Long Grove, IL, Duane Zimmerman of Urbandale, IA, Andrew Sullivan of West Roxbury, MA



Jacquob LittleJohn addresses I & R Platoon, H.Q. & H.Q. Co., 31st inf. Regt., 7th Division group



Members of I & R Platoon, H.Q. & H.Q. Co., 31st inf. Regt., 7th Division and their guests at Coleman, MI reunion



The brick placed at the Veterans Memorial in Coleman, MI in honor of I & R Platoon, H.Q. & H.Q. Co., 31st inf. Regt., 7th Division and Kenneth Cameron

865th AAA AW Bn.

The 865th AAA AW Bn. met at Branson, MO, 24-26 April, 2014. Tine Martin reports that, "Our ranks are dwindling. In 1982 we had 43 members plus ladies in attendance. This year we had only twelve. We hope we can continue a few more wonderful years together. It really hurts to lose so many of our 'brothers.'"

*Tine Martin, 8 Jackson Ct.,
Brownsburg, IN 46112*



Members of the 865th AAA AW Bn pose at their Branson, MO gathering

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

73rd Tankers Assn.

Members and guests had a great reunion in Las Vegas, NV, 22-26 April. Thanks to our host, Lois Pardy, we spent a lot of time enjoying Las Vegas and all there is to see and do. A couple people may even have left Las Vegas with more money than they had when they arrived.

We spent a lot of time in our hospitality room and at our annual banquet just visiting with one another. We seem to do more and more of that each year.

Our 2015 reunion is scheduled for historic Independence, MO. Bob and Todd Jones will be the hosts. Contact Bob Jones at the contact points below for more information.

See you next year in Independence.

Robert R. Jones
13975 E 35th St., Apt 428
Independence, MO 64055
816-836-0969 (H)

bobjones73rdtkbn@yahoo.com



Attendees at 73rd Tankers reunion



Members and guest relax at 73rd Tankers banquet

6th Helicopter and 150th Maintenance Companies

The 2014 Annual reunion (our 22nd) of the 6th Helicopter Company and the 150th Maintenance Company was held in early September in Germantown, TN, a suburb of Memphis.

The years since the war are beginning to take a toll on the members of our companies, as death and medical problems are adversely affecting the attendance. But, those of us who are able to still get together enjoy the fellowship and good times.

While in Tennessee, we toured the Memphis area with stops at the Memphis Metal Museum, the Pink Palace Museum, and some of Memphis's favorite restaurants, where we enjoyed, among other things, the famous Memphis Barbeque.

The 6th Helicopter Company was one of two (the 13th Helicopter Company was the other) U.S. Army Helicopter Companies assigned to the 45th Transportation Battalion, 8th Army, and was located at Chunchon, Korea, east of Seoul and just south of the 38th Parallel.

Both companies were equipped with 21 Sikorsky H-19 helicopters and flew resupply and medical evacuation missions to support our front-line troops. We also took part in Operation Little Switch and Operation Big Switch, when our Prisoners of War were released by their North Korean/Chinese captors in the spring of 1953 and following the signing of the cease fire on July 27th.

The 150th Maintenance Company provided heavy field maintenance support to the 6th Helicopter Company.

We hold our reunions at different locations, primarily in the mid-west, each year in early September. We want to encourage anyone who served in, or knows of someone who served in, either of these companies to contact us for information regarding future reunions.

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



Attendees at 6th Helicopter and 150th Maintenance Companies reunion (Front, L-R) Charlie Pech, Bill Leamon, Jack Ryan, Bill Smith and Bill Graumann (Back, L-R) Lew Ewing, Al Longarini, Kerm Strohm, Valta Ross

Kansas City Area Organizations Appreciate Their Local Veterans All Year Round

By Rego Barnett ©

Churches and local organizations in the Kansas City area thank their veterans on a regular basis. They don't always wait for Veterans Day to do so. Here are a few examples.

Mid-Continent Library

The annual Mid-Continent Public Library 2014 Veterans Salute was held on October 18, 2014 at the Platte City, Missouri branch. This year the library staff commemorated the 70th anniversary of D-Day.

On the grounds outside the building visitors could view vintage military vehicles, a Vietnam-era helicopter, and a WWII reenactment. Inside were the usual great displays by local veterans, including one presented by Chapter 43 (Kansas City #1), based in Overland Park, KS. The chapter's P.R. man, Tom Walsh, and his wife Joann were there to host the display.



Veterans' displays at Mid-Continent Library



An unidentified student examines Bob Jones' Tiger Tank display at Mid-Continent Library

Ch 43 PR rep Tom Walsh and wife Joann tend display at Mid-Continent Library event



The presentation at the event that attracted the most interest was sponsored by Kenny O'Dell, a veteran of the Iraq war, who was a flight instructor. He was sponsoring a display for the first time, assisted by his son Blade. The younger crowd and most of the children seemed to enjoy the exhibit. That could be because they were able to relate more to that war than the others depicted in displays.

O'Dell's participation was a bit unusual. Younger veterans do not have a penchant for getting involved in such events, which their counterparts from earlier wars would like to see change. As Bob Jones, a member of Ch 43, noted, "It would be great if we could get more of the younger veterans to participate in the veterans salute."



Kenny O'Dell and son Blade by their Iraqi War display

Regardless of the war, and thanks to the hard work of the Mid-Continent Public Library staff, the "Salute" was a success again this year.

Colonial Presbyterian Church

The Colonial Presbyterian church in Kansas City, MO sponsored a Day of Honor for veterans on November 11, 2014. Church members have been honoring veterans for several years. Chapter 43 was well represented again this year.

The members started the Veterans Appreciation Day with a hot breakfast and entertainment. This year they included all veterans, current active military personnel, and their families. They



Aundria Nitz, Grace Nitz, and Cameron Burda (L-R) at Colonial Presbyterian Church

want the veterans' children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren to know about the debt of gratitude owed to U.S. veterans.

The 2014 event featured a special tribute to Vietnam War veterans to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the start of the United States' participation in the war, in 1964. The keynote speaker was Don Ballard, recipient of the Medal of Honor for his heroism in Vietnam as a Navy hospital corpsman. Jones noted that it was "Indeed an honor to hear a true American hero speak."



Lou Ramsey (L) and Mike Katzman of Ch 43 chat at Colonial Presbyterian Church gathering

Kansas Mission Church

The Kansas Mission Church honored Kansas City-based chapters 181 (Kansas City #1, based in Lenexa, KS) and 43 again in 2014 at a Thanksgiving Festival on November 23, 2014. The event, held at the church, was the fifth annual gathering.

Bob Jones noted that, "Just like the past four years, the fifth festival was great. They provided great food and entertainment and sent us home with plenty of leftovers for another meal. And, as usual, they had a gift for each of us."

Church members introduced something new to the program at the 2014 festival. They added an Interview and Recollection session for the Korean War veterans. Two of them, Joe Hamilton



Chung-Hoon (L) and LTC Kwangsoo Kim entertains people at Kansas Mission Church

from Ch 181 and David Tanquary from Ch 43, each shared one recollection of their experiences in the Korean War. Jones reported that "This was a great addition and I hope they leave it in again next year."



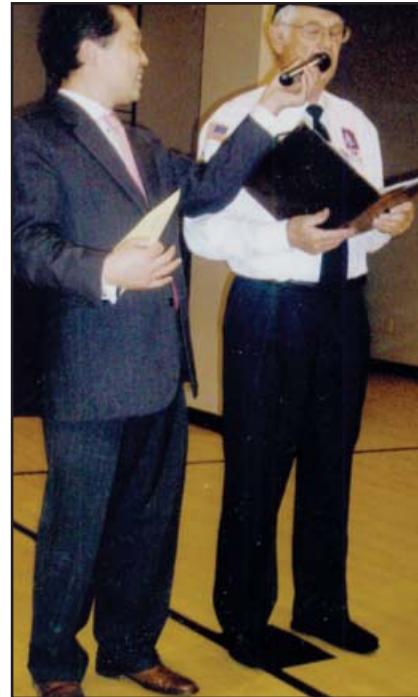
LEFT: David Tanquary tells story to Kansas Mission Church crowd

BELOW: Joe Hamilton speaks to audience at Kansas Mission Church

The attendees received a pleasant surprise at the event: a saxophone "concert" by LTC Kwangsoo Kim, the Korean Liaison Officer from Ft. Leavenworth, KS. LTC Kim, who is well known and liked by members from both area chapters, attends the Kansas Mission Church.

"When you get him out of uniform and into his civilian clothes, he plays a mean sax," Jones exclaimed." He concluded, "We enjoyed the great entertainment from LTC Kim and everyone else who performed in the program. We are all looking forward to next year's event."

Next year? It seems like next year cannot come too soon for the organizations and churches in and around Kansas City, KS. They take honoring their veterans seriously—and not just on Veterans Day, which is as it should be.



"My friend Isaac DelToro," he said. "I lost him in Korea."

I said I'm sorry, the worthless two words people say too often. This old soldier, who fought for our country's freedom six decades ago, was still grieving for his best friend lost in war. But all I could say to him was, "I'm sorry!"

Our group leaders urged us to board the bus, so I gave Patricia my name card and left them. The following week, Patricia wrote, "This Honor Flight experience has been such a blessing for my father...It gave him some sense of closure..."

She revealed that her father had a severe sense of guilt for the fact that he survived the battle that killed his best buddy. The two young men had been childhood friends in a small Texas town where most of the residents were first generation Mexicans. One of the reasons the two young men joined the Marines together at age nineteen was that they wanted to make enough money to buy homes for their parents, who struggled to feed their families.

And they were young and fearless. Beside the fact that they were born 12 days apart in November 1933, they had big goals to save the world. And while they were in Korea, their companies were closely located, only about two city blocks apart.

The day Isaac died, October 3, 1952, his outfit, Company I, Third Battalion, Seventh Marines, was sent out to charge the Chinese troops who had been terrorizing the local civil-

Private First Class DelToro, by his daring initiative, outstanding courage and zealous devotion to duty, inspired all who observed him and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

ians, and the rest were to follow. But by the time Daniel's company got there, the battle had ended and Isaac had died.

Isaac's Silver Star Citation reads: "First Class Isaac DelToro, armed with only a rifle and hand grenades, unhesitatingly charged the objective. Although painfully wounded by the heavy enemy fire, he continued to advance until he silenced the hostile emplacement, remaining with the assault forces until he fell to the ground unable to continue. Mortally wounded by enemy fire while being evacuated, Private First Class DelToro, by his daring initiative, outstanding courage and zealous devotion to duty, inspired all who observed him and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country."

Nine months later, on July 27, 1953, the war ended with the cease fire, which was signed by the U.S. Military delegates and Chinese leaders, and the prisoners were exchanged at the Bridge of No Return.

Daniel wasn't at all glad that he was going home without his friend. He didn't feel right about being alive when his childhood friend was buried in an

unmarked grave in the Korean soil. How could he face his friend's parents and his siblings? What would the townspeople say about him coming back alive without his best buddy? He didn't know then that he was suffering Post Trauma Syndrome, typically, the Survivors' Guilt.

An unexpected connection between Daniel and Isaac's younger sister, "Eva," was made last spring, six decades after the two friends were separated. It was last spring, after Daniel applied to visit Washington with the El Paso Honor Flight, which included his short bio and a photo of himself. It appeared on the Facebook page named as "Honor Flight Spotlight" hosted by Congressman Beto O'Rourke, and Eva read it and posted a note, saying that she would like to meet with Daniel. The meeting took place within days.

Eva, who was only 4 years old at the time of her brother's death, cleared the dark clouds that had been hanging over Daniel for more than a half century. She told him that her parents had thought that the two boys had been killed at the same time and that they mourned for them; that even if they had known that Daniel came back alive, they'd have never blamed him for their son's death, but would have been glad for him. And the greatest news of all for Daniel was that Isaac was the recipient of the Silver Star!

"It was another electrifying moment for Dad," Patricia wrote. "As I read Isaac's Silver Star citation to Dad he wept in a way I had never seen him before. It was a reunion of the two friends—one in heaven and the other on earth."

Reach Therese Park at tspark63@yahoo.com

Did you know...

Robert Fuller, who played the role of Dr. Kelly Brackett on the old TV program Emergency, was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1953 and did a tour in Korea. Likewise, character actor Ron Avery spent a year-and-a-half as a lieutenant in the USMC during the war after graduating from Stanford University with a degree in foreign relations. Avery excelled in a 19 January 1970 episode of Gunsmoke entitled "The Judas Gun."

Dan Blocker, Steve Inhat, Robert Fuller, Ron Avery...how many other actors spent time in Korea as members of the military during or after the war?

The Road Not Taken

By Robert V. Echelbarger

It began June 18, 1951 when I was a hill climber in Fox Company, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment in Korea. The 1st Battalion was beaten back when they tried to take the rim of the Punchbowl. Then the ridge was bombed and strafed, which broke up the North Koreans' attack.

The 2nd Battalion was able to climb up with no opposition. As we hiked along the rim I saw the body of an old Korean man lying face down on the trail. He looked like a harmless old man, but he must have posed a threat to the retreating North Koreans. His hands were tied behind his back with barbed wire. There were no bullet holes or blood showing, so he must have been facing his killers.

It was getting dark, so we set up a perimeter and started digging foxholes. Our artillery support began registering in for the night. After the familiar call of "Heads up, artillery registering" came down the line, I ducked down in my fox-hole and waited for the shells to pass over. Suddenly, the whispering of the shells turned into a loud whooshing.

They were aimed to clear the ridge. Apparently, the spotters forgot about the tall trees growing on the ridge. The shells hit the trees. After mind boggling explosions, shrapnel slammed into the ridge around my hole and tree limbs rained down. When my ears stopped ringing, I heard the shouts of "Corpsman! Corpsman!" The shells had dropped in on the 1st Platoon and Easy Company.

There were 3 wounded in our 1st Platoon, 2 in Easy Company, and 2 Forward Observers hit. Two were in bad shape and had to be carried out because it was too dark for the helicopters, known affectionately as "One Way Willie's," to land. I was one of the men detailed to carry the men back to Battalion Aid.

Now, most of the time I was in Korea I never knew or cared where I was. I left that problem to the officers. So, with men on point, 2 behind, and 4 carrying the stretchers, we moved out towards what I assumed was the direction of Battalion Aid.

It was a clear, cloudless night and the

stars were bright. We followed a trail that led down off the ridge. The trails in Korea were just large enough to allow a thin cow to walk, but steep enough to cause a mountain goat trouble at times. The point moved out and I took the first turn on a stretcher.

We went a block, ten blocks, a half mile. The stretcher became almost unbearably heavy. My legs became rubbery and my arms seemed to stretch enough to drag on the ground. They turned numb and I staggered as we crossed ditches and fought our way through the brush. On top of all that, there was a nagging thought: "Are we going in the right direction?"

The point suddenly stopped. A wall-like shadow loomed ahead on the narrow path. The wall changed into a tree that had been blasted by high explosives and was blocking the trail. It was too steep on the left and dropped off sharply on the right. The only solution was to go through it, so we started hacking at the limbs with our bayonets.

I thought, "This is a natural setup for an ambush. Did the enemy booby trap this tree?" It was too dark to check, so someone said, "What the hell, keep chopping."

The point climbed over and through the branches and set up out front to provide security in case the enemy had the trail covered. Every time I hacked at a limb, I thought, "After this swing, will I get kissed with a booby trap?"

My luck held again. We lost about twenty minutes cutting away enough limbs to permit passage of the stretchers. Grunting and groaning we passed the stretchers through, and with tired arms and rubber legs we resumed our journey.

It was time for a relief, so another Marine took my place. I moved up to the point. The faint trail ahead divided. We had to choose the correct one or we might head into enemy lines. The darkness, relieved only by starlight, heightened my fear of ambush or mines in the path.

My senses became numbed by weariness. Trails divided and a growing fear increased in me as we pushed on. I came to the junction of two trails and called a halt. I walked back to check on the

wounded. Both of them were in "Happy Land" because of the morphine shots. Their neck pulses felt good and there was no evidence of fever. It was too dark to check the bandages, but I pulled back a wet hand after checking one. I knew he was still bleeding a little.

I tried to keep track of the number of left and right turns we had taken, but this junction posed a problem. Logic told me to take the left one, because it appeared to be heading south. I felt like a little lost boy in a train station as I tried to decide which trail to take. Finally, I chose to turn right.

A string of swearing floated up to me as a stretcher bearer stepped on a rock, which threw him off balance. I heard the swearing of frustrated Marines off and on all night. The rest stops were brief. A man would take the rifle of his relief and move out on point. My hands became blistered, my knees turned to jelly, and I always experienced the fear of stumbling into the enemy.

We were busting our butts trying to get the men to the aid station, because we were worried they might die if we moved too slow. Then, I heard running water. I thought, "Hell! Now we're going to get our butts wet crossing the doggone stream."

There was a turn in the trail, and we came to the stream. It was too deep to wade. Fortunately, there was a foot bridge of sorts. The bridge was made of single eighteen-inch planks held up by spindly poles. Where one plank ended another one was set off to the side in a staggered position.

There was nothing else we could do but try the bridge. It was my turn on the stretcher, so I picked it up and stepped onto the first plank. One misstep would put us into the water. Balancing the stretcher in weak arms and with rubbery legs, we started across and began a tight rope act.

Midway across, as I was changing from one plank to another, my blistered hand slipped. Miraculously, the stretcher stayed upright. I took a step here, a step there. Finally we were across. We had to rest, so we all flopped on the ground to catch our breath. After a brief rest, I picked up my end of the stretcher and the point moved

The stretcher became almost unbearably heavy. My legs became rubbery and my arms seemed to stretch enough to drag on the ground. They turned numb and I staggered as we crossed ditches and fought our way through the brush.

out--until the silence was blasted by an Oriental's voice. It sounded like he was barking out a challenge of some kind. I thought, "Aw hell, we've had it."

My reflexes took over and I hit the ground. I didn't understand the words, but I knew the crap had hit the fan. I thought, "We must have taken the wrong damn turn back there. The war is over for me. Why in the hell aren't they shooting? Who are they?"

Suddenly, grinning faces emerged out of the dark and ROK (Republic of Korea) troops moved in to look at the wounded. I found myself reading a card by the light of a flashlight. It was handed to me by an Oriental, and showed they were South Korean troops.

I felt stupid standing there reading the card. I thought, "This is ridiculous," as I read it again to be sure. Had they been North Koreans we would have been dead, because they usually didn't take prisoners, especially Marines. I wondered, "Why in the hell didn't the ROKs shoot us as we approached their line?"

The ROKs were usually trigger happy. The answer was simple. It had been a quiet

night and they heard us swearing and moaning, as only Marines do, while we tried to cross the bridge. It can be said, because we were "bitching Marines" we saved our lives. We also learned we had taken a wide swing into "No man's land" and lucked out by making that right turn towards our own lines.

We talked the ROK troops into carrying the stretchers and we moved out with a guide. I felt 50 pounds lighter and 10 years younger.

We had lucked out again. The path became wider and ended at a road. As we walked down the road, I marveled at how easy it was to walk on level ground. We stopped a truck and climbed on the back. My butt was dragging, but when I looked at my wounded buddies I knew the trip was worth the effort. It gave me a good feeling to know that if I got shot my buddies would get me out, too.

My arms began to regain strength, my legs relaxed, and my fear subsided: we made it. We stopped briefly at a medical aid station and they took the wounded Marines. The first thing they did was pump blood into them. After the medic checked

them over and changed their bandages, he assured us they would make it. Our long walk had ended. We never did get to our Battalion Aid station.

It was about 5:30 a.m. and dawn was breaking. It was time to try and get something to eat and find our way back to our platoon. I was so hungry I could have eaten the rear end of a skunk and smiled in the process.

We went in search of a mess hall to ask for a handout. Because we were "linemen," we were filthy dirty, had scruffy whiskers, and hadn't had a bath in a long time. Our faces were dirty and hands black on the backside. We wore the same clothes day in and day out, and at most only took off our shoes at night--if the line activity was light. There we were, hungry derelicts looking like death warmed over, in search of a meal.

We were turned down by a couple of Army outfits. It disgusted me that those rear echelon people wouldn't give us a meal. They knew we were linemen. Finally, we were fed by an artillery battalion. I thought the only reason the artillery men fed us was because it was their way of apologizing for dropping short rounds in our hip pockets every once in a while.

I hoped the hot chow wouldn't give me diarrhea this time. After we ate, we hooked up with a supply train and returned to our outfit. We thought Fox Company would be moving out soon and advancing towards the day's objective. We discovered instead that we were sitting for a while and digging in.

As I was sitting around a fire that afternoon, I thought about that decision I had made on the trail. It was the unsettling feeling of being lost I could not forget. It was a simple left or right decision, but the lives of we Marines hung in the balance.

After 60+ years questions still lurk in my mind. "Why weren't we shot as we approached the ROK lines? Why did I choose right rather than left? Why didn't I dump that stretcher on the bridge? Why did I read that card by the flashlight on the front line to prove they were on our side?"

Questions aside, I sure am glad Marines are known for their "swearing" in times of stress. Strange things do happen in a war.

Robert V. Echelbarger, 16231 245th St., Mason City, IA 50401

WHOLESALE BLOOD



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Recon Missions

Is There A Connection Between The Korean War And Civil Rights?

I am a volunteer at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. I'm investigating a possible link between the integration of the U.S. armed forces in the late 1940s and the modern U.S. civil rights movement.

It appears to me that those who served in the military in the 1950s (particularly in the Korean War) and 1960s saw that racial integration could work and may have become activists in the civil rights movement. James Meredith, who integrated the University of Mississippi in 1962, for instance, was an Air Force veteran.

If you became active in the civil rights movement evidenced by participating in marches or demonstrations, voting registration campaigns, or just speaking to others, and feel that your military service helped form or reinforce your conviction, please let me know by email or mail.

I would like to know when you served. I will not use or share your name or any other personal information without your permission.

Ron Rothberg, 8517 Sugarbush Ct.,
Annandale, VA 22003 or
ibyeke@gmail.com

Btry. D., 21st Bn., AAA AW., SP., 25th Inf. Div.

I served with the above unit. Dan Phelan was our medic. As young children we lived near each other in Maspeth, Queens, New York. We didn't know each other then, and my family moved to upstate New York in 1940. I met Dan for the first time in Korea.



The nearby photo was taken when we were off line in reserve for a week, somewhere in Korea. That gave us a chance to clean ourselves and our half-tracks and weapons.

If anyone from our unit remembers us, I would like to hear from you.

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

Jim Low (L) and Dan Phelan
dressed up with no place to
go

Roger Peter Miller

I'm a recently discharged U.S. Army Sergeant, serving most recently with the 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment. I'm hoping to get some help from any Korean War veteran who might have served with my grandfather, Roger Peter Miller.

I don't know much about his service, other than the fact that he was in the Army. He never spoke about it to my father. Unfortunately, he passed away before I was old enough to learn about it.

Ever since I enlisted in 2005, I've respected and honored the traditions and history of the Army, and I would greatly appreciate any help in learning more. Thank you.

Joseph Miller,
joseph.miller.1986@yahoo.com

Chaplains In Korea

Chaplains from fifteen U.N. nations served in the Korean War. At the beginning of the Korean War, Major General Roy H. Parker was the Far East Command Chaplain and Chief of Chaplains, under the command of General Douglas MacArthur, and Major General Ivan Bennett served as U.N. Command Chaplain. Two U.S. Roman Catholic chaplains established a Chaplain Corps in April 1951 to minister to Republic of Korea (ROK) troops. Their salaries were paid by U.S. churches.

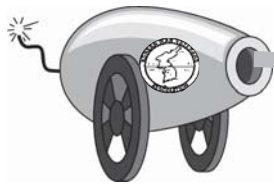
Korean Christian chaplains ministered to Christian ROK military personnel. Although South Korea was traditionally a Buddhist country, more than one million South Koreans identified themselves as Christians.

About 1,600 U.S. chaplains served during the Korean War, with about 300 the maximum strength in country at any one time. Chaplains were hardly immune to the hazards of war. North Koreans singled chaplains out as "enemies of the people." Thirteen chaplains were KIA, 26 were WIA, and 4 U.S. chaplains, none of whom survived the camps, were POWs. Twenty-two U.S. chaplains were awarded the Silver Star Medal. An undetermined number of chaplains remained in Korea in a civilian capacity after the war to minister to the needs of a war-battered people and aid in the reconstruction of their country.

Tom Moore, tm103ps@yahoo.com

Ignoring The Evidence

"When we moved up to the Chosin Reservoir in November [1950], we had the feeling [the Chinese] would come into the war. General Smith said, 'Holcomb, go talk to MacArthur's staff. See if they know anything.' But in Tokyo they wouldn't tell me anything. I never got to see MacArthur. Willoughby, the G-2 [the intelligence officer], said they certainly would let us know if they got any firm indication that the Chinese would come into the war." (Brig. Gen. Bankston Holcomb, Intelligence officer of the 1st Marine Division)



Misfires

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.

The U.S. Army 27th Division Was Not At Changjin

On p. 20 of the Jan/Feb edition, in the article "Changjin Reservoir Battle Monument," there was a reference to the U.S. Army 27th Infantry Division. That was a typo, as pointed out initially by Mr. William King. He noted that there were no U.S. Army 27th Division units at Changjin—or in Korea for that matter. The writer no doubt meant the 7th Division.

A Few Gaffes

This is to request that you correct some of contents on the article on page 42, "Chapter & Department News," Jan/Feb 2015 edition.

It should read Central Long Island Chapter of KWVA (NY). The Christmas Dinner was sponsored by Korean War Veterans Central

Long Island Chapter on December 12, 2014. President of the Chapter is Salvatore Scarlato.

In the 3rd paragraph, Deputy Consul General of Republic of Korea, Hon. Hyung-gil Kim, presented funds to the chapter president Salvatore Scarlato. I am terribly sorry that this happened.

With my apology,

Hubert H. Lee, Chapter 202, Orange County [NY]

Wrong Email Address

On p. 62 of the Jan/Feb 2015 edition there was an article by Joel Davis entitled "Who Was That General?" The email included with that letter was wrong. It should be jcdavis1@wcnet.org. Mr. Davis would still like to hear from people so he can find out who the general was.

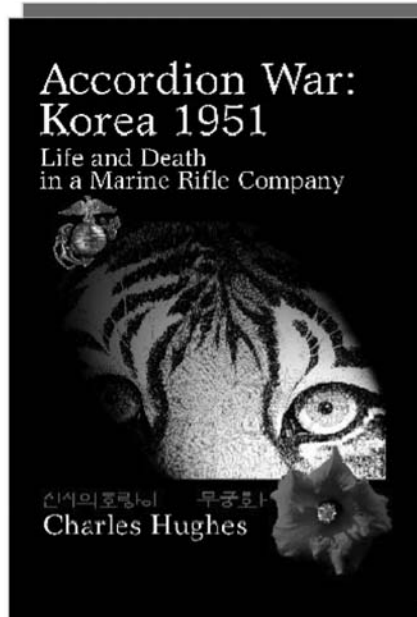
CIB, Not CIC

The header in "CIC Recipients Should Be Awarded The Bronze Star Medal," Feedback, p. 63, Jan/Feb 2015 should read CIB Recipients. There is no reason to award the CIC the Bronze Star.

Evered, Not Nevered

The name Alan Nevered in the article "A Solemn Tribute to the Fallen" on p. 76 of the Jan/Feb 2015 edition should be Evered. As Peter Palmer of Ch 169 notes, "Nevered is a typo. Alan Evered is our Chapter's Australian contact, and we send him a copy of each of your magazines."

Accordion War: Korea 1951- Life and Death in a Marine Rifle Company



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At a time when North Korea has dramatically burst into the news once more as a belligerent nuclear power, Charles Hughes has published a historical memoir of his experiences as a hospital corpsman in a Marine rifle company during its most violent "blitzkrieg" phase, the first third of the three-year Korean War. While the descriptions of battles are up close and graphic, the conflict is also viewed from the perspective of the 21st century, from a keen awareness of the wars since - Vietnam, Afghanistan, Iraq and the war on terror.

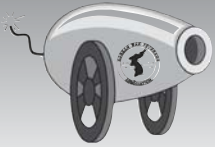
"Hughes. . . is a gifted writer. . . . This book is hard to put down. The writing is terrific. . . . Well done, Doc." GySgt John Boring, USMC (Ret.) *Leatherneck, Magazine of the Marines, Sept 2007*

"I always knew that one day an FMF Corpsman would grow up, learn to write and tell their (our) unique story. *Flags of Our Fathers* came close but you nailed it." Maxwell Baker FMF Corpsman, Vietnam/Korean War vet. HMCM USN (Ret)

"*Accordion War* is a quality read. Your descriptions of that era are like paintings without the sounds, however, your recounting of the artillery barrages was deafening." Bob "Doc" Wickman, Korean War vet

"This is a gripping work and a must reading. . . .the present day overview/perspective ties the decades together and makes sense of the cost of war as well as the 'why's' of warfare. . . ." *Korean War Project Newsletter*

"This is one of the rare books that begs to be read in one reading. . . .the reader can smell both the gunpowder and the kimchi. . . .Well done, Doc." Prof. Andrew Lubin, Lead Reviewer, Military Writers Society of America



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.

Do We Have Current Access To MIAs?

I have some questions/observations relative to the article "Soldiers Missing From Korean War Accounted For" (see *Soldiers Missing From Korean War Accounted For*, p. 4, Jan/Feb, 2015). Are the heroes that are listed those whose remains have taken several years to identify? Or have their remains been recently discovered?

It is my understanding the U.S. government will not allow us to search in North Korea because of the nuclear talks.

I have written three letters asking this question of Senators Mark Rubio and Bill Nelson and Congressman Vern Buchanan, all of Florida. I have not received a single reply.

All I want to know is if we are actively seeking the MIAs in North Korea and, if not, WHY NOT!

Ted Morford, USAR (ret), 637 Honeyflower Loop
Bradenton, FL 34212, 941-251-9912
tedmorford@gmail.com

EDITOR'S NOTE: It is my understanding that the MIAs currently being accounted for were turned over to U.S. authorities years ago. Here is the history according to the DoD website, <http://www.dpaa.mil/OurMissing/KoreanWar.aspx>

History

During Operation Glory in 1954, North Korea returned the remains of more than 3,000 Americans. Concurrently, U.S. Graves Registration teams recovered remains from South Korean battlefields. The U.S. identified thousands of these remains. In 1956, a total of 848 that could not be identified were buried in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, known as the Punchbowl. Others were added later as unknowns. One of the unknowns was interred in the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C.

The Army Graves Registrations teams searched the battlefields in the Republic of Korea (ROK) from 1951 to 1956. Today, DoD investigates losses in South Korea with the assistance of U.S. forces in Korea and the ROK government.

From 1990 to 1994, North Korea exhumed and returned 208 boxes of remains. However, DoD scientists estimate that as many as 400 individuals could be represented in these 208 boxes.

Between July 1996, and May 2005, the Central Identification Laboratory Hawaii (CILHI) and JPAC, which is now part of Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, conducted 33 Joint Field Activities (JFAs) in North Korea, which recovered more than 220 sets of remains, which are currently being processed for identification at JPAC in Hawaii. On May 25, 2005, the U.S. temporarily suspended JFAs in North Korea due to security concerns. <End History>

As for responses to requests, that is a common failing of our government representatives, in my experience at least. They all too often do not respond to communications from their constituents. Or, if they do, the responses have no bearing on the original question.

If any of you have stories to tell about your attempts to get responses from your representatives on matters great or small, please send them to Response Editor, *The Graybeards*, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067. Who knows? Maybe we can do a special issue.

An All Too Common Problem

I just finished reading the Jan/Feb. 2015 "Graybeards." As usual, I found it interesting and informative. I especially enjoyed The Editor's Desk —"The Things You Learn Through Research." I can sympathize and/or empathize with you. I, too, have the penchant to look up or research "trivia" that seemingly no one else cares about. In the olden days I spent a great deal of time in libraries —today it's much easier with computers.

I do have one very serious and disappointing point to make regarding the latest issue of "Graybeards." Once again you failed to publish the photos and article of the 1st Field Artillery Observation Battalion Association we sent for inclusion in the Oct/Nov 2014 issue. You said on January 6, 2015 that our news would be scheduled for the Jan/Feb 2015 issue. Unfortunately, once again, the material was not included. Needless to say, we are most disappointed that the 1st Field Artillery Observation Battalion Association reunion news has been relegated to the trash bin.

We naturally are very disappointed, especially since that was a record of the final reunion of the First Field Artillery Observation Battalion Association.

Possibly next issue??

Walter Bracich, waljang@gmail.com

Editor's Response (to all submitters):

Wally:

I truly apologize for the omission. Once again we had a late influx of "business" material that supersedes all other submissions. And, we ran out of color pages due to an extraordinary amount of chapter news.

I am not making excuses. I feel bad when material submitted for inclusion gets bumped—but I am sure I don't feel as bad as the people who get bumped. Tentatively, our "Mini Reunions" section has a top priority for the March/April issue. Let's hope...

Folks, this is a problem that crops up occasionally in The Graybeards. I have referenced it more than once. We simply run out of pages and have to defer some submissions. It's a good problem for the editorial staff, but a pain for the people waiting to see their material in print.

We make every effort to print everything that crosses our transom, with a reasonable rate of success. That may not be apparent to everybody, but we strive to include whatever is printable. All we can do is ask people to be patient.

KWVA Name Change

I believe we all are in agreement that membership retention and recruitment is our most important mission for the survival of the Association. The problem faced is the mortality rate exceeding the recruitment from a finite number of veterans we know as "war" veterans. We all believe the solution is the recruitment from among an infinite number of peace time veterans we know as "defense" veterans. But, we must make a name change to incite comradeship of all Korean veterans into a collective group to perpetuate the Association's legacy.

It's easy enough to say "change the name," but the doing takes on some heavy editing of our Association's website, bylaws, and other business documents. Most important will be amending State of New York Incorporation documents and ensuring the name change reaches the Internal Revenue Service.

Mike Glazzy, mglazzy@sbcglobal.net

I can only speak for myself

Mr. Lawhon states that newcomers object somewhat to the "WAR" in the name KWVA. Thousands of military members were nowhere near the war and did not see combat, myself included. We qualify for the Korean Medal mostly because of the times included.

I spent three tours in Korea and I also qualify for the new Korean Defense Medal. Probably, since I have no say in the matter, I would not object to having something like a Korean War & Korean Veterans Association Of America. I don't actually see the designation as a big problem.

Lee Parks, geoleeparks@yahoo.com

Korean Veterans: Pre-War & Post Association

The name above is my suggestion. I arrived in Korea in December 1952.

I do not want to see the word "WAR" left out. Not when over 33,000 troops were KIA.

Randy Masterson, 3109 89th St. E, Palmetto, FL 34221

KVAA Is Much More Inclusive

I have just finished reading the January-February 2015 issue of "The Greybeards" and I thank you for your article. The article was interesting and straight to the point, and I found myself one of those you are referring to.

I joined the KWVA after picking up a copy of the magazine at Masonic Lodge 143 in Melbourne, FL several years ago. I have been a member of Chapter 210 for several years but have never really felt like I belonged because of the word "war" in the name of our association. Because of that, I have been reluctant to participate in any of their activities, even though I served a total of 40-months in the Republic of Korea from 1970-1977, and I am a retired army veteran.

I support your recommendation and hope you are successful in getting the name changed from KWVA to KVAA, because it is much more inclusive. Since membership requirements do not require service in Korea during the Korean War, it is only right for the name to be changed. And, in order to survive, an organization such as the KWVA, with so many "greybeards," needs a steady influx of new members, and each one of them must feel as if he or she belongs.

If changing the name to KVAA causes consternation among the membership, perhaps we could accommodate the war veterans by changing the name to "KWVA/KVAA." Thank you for your service to our country and the KWVA.

Douglas A. Schlumbohm, Indialantic, FL
lacrosselma@yahoo.com

New Name, Bad Outcome

I am writing this letter in strong opposition to Mr. Lawhon's article in the Jan/Feb 2015 issue of *The Graybeards* suggesting that our name be changed to KVAA. His support for this action indicates that the use of the word "War" makes it harder to recruit new members.

I served in the Army from 1952 to 1954. When I completed the basic training at Fort Knox, I was placed on orders to go with my unit to Korea. When it was discovered that I was a telegraph operator on the railroad in civilian life, I was pulled from those and spent the entire two years teaching code at Fort Knox.

When it became possible to join the KWVA, I immediately did so and have been a life member ever since. I have a great deal of respect for our members who served in country, but we all served in the military and obeyed orders. I lost a best friend in Korea and Mr. Lawhon's description of KVAA that says we must have served "in, over, or around Korea" tells me that I am no longer eligible to be a member.

I am extremely proud of my service during the Korean Conflict. If this name change is adopted, I will return my card to your offices.

William K. Balser, 1323 Hillview Cir E
Newark, OH 43055

We Need Ideas, A Plan Of Action...

Our organization will die if we do not get it into gear soon. We need ideas, good, bad and mine. We need a plan of action to attract new members. I favor keeping the name KWVA, but while pound-

ing the drum that the war is not over and won't be over until North Korea agrees to a peace treaty.

Once again *The Graybeards* has a letter on earned but not awarded recognition. I know of nothing that gets a person's attention more than recognizing their efforts. Failing to do so also rings bells. I wrote a series of articles on awards and decorations and submitted them to our editor. One has been published. They all have something that both War and Defense vets will ask "Why didn't I get 'it'?" "It" may be a Bronze Star based on award of the Combat Infantry Badge or many other awards.

Curious? Ask Mr. Sharp for a copy if you are. I asked him not to publish them until the KWVA got its act together regarding recruiting because they could serve as a recruiting tool. We have a great magazine. Yes, it needs more defense articles—but we need more defense vets to write them...chicken and egg problem. (See the entry below.)

Hand out the magazine or an extract of one of the articles to a prospective candidate and tell them we need them to go beyond getting the ROK War Service medal. We need to decide what is worth fighting for and get legislators interested in sponsoring bills that will force DOD to make it happen. That's another "chicken and egg" situation, since we don't know what prospective defense members may value most.

Candidates for the board...you don't have to be on the board to serve. Weigh in with your ideas now. For years the problem of needing more defense members has been recognized. We need to solve the charter problem or lose our tax exemption. The hold-up is going to kill the KWVA.

I realize that many members would rather the KWVA go away before defense veterans are allowed to "take it over." I would cite *The Graybeards* again. The Korea War is unmentioned on a regular basis. Without the KWVA, it will become the totally forgotten war.

If you have made plans to revive our organization, say so in a very loud voice. IF NOT, as it was said in the old days, it is time to do so or get off the pot!

John Gavel, TheGavel@aol.com

Face It: Facebook Is A Good Source

I served In Korea from February 1967 to April 1968 with 1/73 Armor Bn., 7th Inf. Div., Fort Beavers, Korea. After reading a story by George Lawhon in the Jan/Feb 2014 *Graybeards* (see "It's Time For A Name Change," p. 11,) I am a little confused.

The KWVA is obviously looking for new members as our associ-



One of the B Co., 1/73 Armor Bn. tanks that hit a mine near the DMZ in April 1967. Photo at right shows tread damage



2nd. Plt., B Co. members of 1/73 Armor Bn. at Camp (Fort) Beavers, Korea

ation's demise is imminent. Why is it, then, that you do not publish stories or pictures of Cold War veterans who held the line known as the DMZ that our heroic predecessors turned over to us?

There are countless Facebook pages dedicated to Korean DMZ service. All one has to do is look.

Vincent J. Scali, 845-361-5056

jimscali901@gmail.com

Editor's Response:

Mr. Scali:

Thanks for your feedback. I would be happy to print some of the stories on Facebook and other sites re Cold War service in Korea. However, I am loath to do so without the "owners'" permission.

A second factor is that my "staff" would have to divert its resources to identifying such sources as you suggest. Unfortunately, the "staff" is me. I would be happy to do the research, time permitting.

As it stands now, *The Graybeards* includes for the most part material that is submitted by KWVA members. My time and resources are limited. I would be a very happy editor if more post-1953 veterans would submit material regarding their service.

Your feedback is a start—and thanks for your service.

Cordially,

Art Sharp

I Shot An Arrow Into The Air...

This happened during the winter of 1951-'52 when I was on the *USS Essex* serving as a lowly plane-pusher.

Early in the Korean War some of the pilots who flew propeller planes in VF-53 and VF-54 returned to the ship with splashes of mud and bits of river rock splattered on the tails of their aircraft. Suspecting that some of those pilots were being too eager and too bold, the Air Group command issued an order for the pilots to keep a safe altitude when attacking targets on the ground.

Many of the planes



The arrow that penetrated the AD Skyraider's wing

also returned from sorties with .30 caliber bullet holes through their wings and fuselage, giving some of the aircraft maintenance crew members an opportunity to have a little fun with a pilot. They made an arrowhead from some scrap metal, a shaft for the arrow from some steel tubing, obtained feathers from an old pillow, and quickly made an arrow.

They didn't have to wait very long for a plane to land with a bullet hole near its right wing tip. The crewmen quickly slid the arrow through the hole and attached the arrowhead before the pilot could taxi up the deck to be parked. They said that the pilot's expression when he folded the wings and saw the arrow was worth all the trouble!

A photographer took the picture of the arrow in the wing and we heard that the photo had been sent to a Navy PIO office in the states, where it was stopped. Someone doubted that an arrow could penetrate an AD Skyraider's wing—unless it found a .30 caliber hole!

Loren Mitchell, 11940 SW King James Pl.
King City, OR 97224, (503) 670-382
mitchellloren30@Frontier.com

Eating Crow—Literally

I remember seeing pheasants when we were in the eastern high hill sector, April-June 1953. One day my Katusas on the rear side of the hill and our trench had a small straw fire over which they had a spit turning what appeared the breast of a pheasant. They tore off a small strip and handed it to me with the signal by their arms of a flying bird and saying "number 1 Chop Chop."

I tasted the small piece and it was good—especially since I had eaten only C rations for over two months. A few days later a big crow flew by. My Katusa pointed and said, "Chop Chop." I knew then that I had really eaten crow!

When I returned to Korea in 2000 on a Battlefield Tour along the DMZ, we saw pheasants, wild boar, and small deer. We were told that the DMZ was like a wildlife refuge 1-1/2 miles wide and the width of Korea. But, it was too dangerous to enter because of all the land mines.

Much wild life is killed by the land mines, especially the wild boar when they are digging looking for grubs.

Wayne Pelkey, wppelkey@charter.net

Whatever Happened To The Korean War Museum?

I note talk of the Korean War Museum being moved to New York. Is it being moved there from Illinois? We don't know.

I've stated before that I object to moving the museum in Springfield, IL out to the east coast. I cannot see most people having to travel hundreds or thousands of miles to see it—and having to spend thousands of dollars in the process in a huge metropolitan area.

As I've said, we signed a quit claim for items donated. And, like others, I expected the museum to be centrally located in the United States.

If necessary, I would have to consider initiating legal action to get the many items that I donated returned to me. I'm even hoping someday to put them in a more central location.

Lee Parks, geoleeparks@yahoo.com

Feedback Is Good

I am receiving calls from old veterans and families telling me how much they appreciate the story you printed in the Graybeards Magazine about Carl Burgess, POW. (See "Bad Day At Hoengsong," Jan/Feb 2015, p. 68.) He was a great unselfish individual and he loved God, his fellow man, and his country.

I received a call from a Darryl L. Wallace, from Kansas City, about the article—and I live in Florence, AL. He was six months old when his lieutenant/dad was captured as a prisoner in Korea. He said that his dad, who is dead, was in the same division as Carl. He is interested in all aspects about his dad, who died in prison.

I just sent him information to help him get his dad's medals. I am also trying to find him a copy of the book "Korea Reborn—A Grateful Nation" to send to him for his family records.

My current goal is to get some extra copies of The Graybeards to send to Dickson, TN, Carl's home town, for their public library and some of Carl's immediate family.

Paul E. Riley, Life Member KWVA, (7th Infantry Div.),
2117 Covington Dr., Florence, AL, 35630
256-767-0673, perch2117@comcast.net

Editor's Note: Mr. Riley's request directed to me for extra copies is not uncommon. I do not have extra copies of the magazine. All requests for extra copies should be directed to the Membership office in Charleston, IL, (217) 345-4414 or Membership@kwva.org. Sheila Fritts and Jim Doppelhammer handle all administrative tasks of that type.

Dick Contino Was Not Everyone's Favorite Person

I was drafted in March 1951 and assigned to Fort Ord, CA for basic training. I was in the first platoon of E Co., 63rd Regiment, 6th Infantry Division. We had no idea of who Dick Contino was; we had never heard of him. (See "Basic Training At Camp Breckenridge," p. 65, Jan/Feb 2015.)

Dick Contino was in another platoon of the company. While there, he apparently went AWOL and was picked up at his home in Fresno, CA.

Until reading the story in *The Graybeards* I was not aware that he had ignored his draft notice before. When they announced that he was AWOL, the entire company went on someone's fecal roster. We were given extra duty every day, and no one could leave the post for several weeks.

We were sent out on the parade ground at 0400 to police it when the fog was so thick you couldn't see anything, which didn't make our cadre happy. Plus, we were given extra night time marches out to the east garrison.

I never met the guy, but you can believe that he was not anyone's favorite person.

Robert Hanna, La Habra, CA; bobjoy34@msn.com

Dick, The Piper, And Horace

Reading about Dick Contino and the Horace Heidt Orchestra reminded me of a performance I saw by the orchestra when it performed in Korea. I don't recall if Contino was traveling with Horace Heidt at the show I saw.

At another show set up behind the lines, Piper Laurie was featured with other performers, but I can't recall any other names on that show.

While I was Motor Officer (1st Lt.) in Service Battery, 48th FABN, 32nd Reg., 7th ID, my extra duties with no additional pay of allowances were Battalion PX Officer and Battalion Class Six (beer, wine and alcohol) Officer.

I enjoy the personal stories and pictures from fellow Korean War veterans that appear in The Graybeards magazine.

Dwight L. Thomas, Marlin, TX
dwightfwk@sbcglobal.net

'Dick the Dodger'

You were asking if anyone remembered Dick Contino? Yes, I remember him. He came to our company area and put on a show for the 304th Soldiers who were off work that afternoon. I was in the audience watching his show.

During the show many troops were around me talking about him and calling him a "draft dodger." Later on I found out the reason for it.

I wasn't crazy about his music to start with, but the show was someplace to go that afternoon before work time. I worked in Crypto in the 8th Army Headquarters.

I really enjoy the *Graybeards* magazine, especially articles that the GIs have written.

Jake Huffaker, 3370 Coffman Dr., Knoxville, TN 37920

Knitting Needles For A Tight Weave

Ref: Magazine "The Graybeards," Jan-Feb 2015, "Members in the News," p. 24

Yesterday morning I had a call from a 3rd Div. Korean War vet from Troy, VT who said he had just read an article in the magazine about me receiving a "Recognition Award for Community Volunteerism." That was a mystery to me, as I had not yet received my copy. The same afternoon my copy arrived, and I saw the article and photos that he had referred to.

Now, the mystery is clearer. I suspect my niece Kathy and Perry (her husband and Vietnam vet). Who else would know that my wife Rene and I were married 55 years and Perry was busy with his camera at the awards dinner?

Interesting, as John Cararra, who called me, was also "a low notch on the proverbial totem pole infantryman" who served at Outpost Harry with the 3rd Div and knew what trench warfare was like. We will get together soon for lunch to share my two photo albums taken in 1953 during the war and my return battlefield trip of 2000.

Also on page 35 of that same edition is a photo of Ray Kalil, another "Christmas Hill Brother" and stalwart member of CID 86, Nashville [TN], manning their display at the Tennessee State Fair to remind people that "the Korean War should be remembered as a real—not a forgotten—war."

In summary: Korean War vets are a closely knit group and "The Graybeards Magazine" is the knitting needles for a tight weave.

Wayne Pelkey, ("The Mud Dog from Vermont")
wppelkey@charter.net

More About The C.I.B.

I just finished reading the article pertaining to the Bronze Star being awarded in conjunction with the award of the C.I.B. (See "CIC (sic) Recipients Should Be Awarded The Bronze Star Medal," Feedback, p. 63, Jan/Feb 2015.) This was done only during and only

for World War II.

The CIB was created for the Army infantry units that were doing most of the fighting and dying. An officer had to be a Colonel or below to be awarded a C.I.B.

The Bronze Star was added to the C.I.B award to help those infantry soldiers who had not earned enough points during the war to be sent home. The added points of the Bronze Star would be of some help for rotation.

Lt. General Lesley McNair was involved in creating the C.I.B. On 27 October 1943, by a War Department circular, the addition was made. (The badge was designed by sculptor Yrygve Rovelstad.)

Now move to the Korean War, 1950 to 1953, during which the C.I.B. was awarded for being in combat, but the Bronze Star medal was not awarded in conjunction with the C.I.B. The Bronze Star went back to being a separate award during the Korean War.

Many years after the end of the Korean War, I learned about the C.I.B and the Bronze Star having been awarded together during World War II. A few of us former veteran holders of the C.I.B., started a campaign to restore the Bronze Star and the C.I.B. to be awarded to the Korean War veterans as was done in WWII. We were denied the request, in spite of the letters being sent to military brass.

A WAC Colonel was the individual given the authority to deny every request she received. She said it was a one-time award during WWII, end of story.

I have copies of an Army tank unit that was awarded the C.I.B during the Korean War. I also remember an order awarding some Army clerks the C.I.B. after they had been to my unit, just behind the lines, correcting our records. One of the clerks told me that it was because they were more than three days in a combat zone. Yet it took me three months to be awarded mine, on 7 March 1951.

Believe or not, I was awarded the C.I.B. again on 7 May of 1951. I can only think that was because of the "over run" by the CCF on 22 April 1951. We lost a lot of records during that battle to regain what we lost in territory.

John W. Sonley, 490 W. Cherrywood Dr.
Chandler, AZ 85248

Sandbagging, And No CIB

Why are CIB recipients so hell bent on getting a Meritorious Service Bronze Star Medal? Why not the guys who supplied the CIC holders with water, or did they dig their own wells, too? What about food, ammo, fuel?

I suggest that each service member in Korea was just doing their duty, as they were trained to do. Definitely, Chosin Reservoir personnel should be awarded one, and so should Pusan Perimeter veterans. The others? No.

I do not have a CIB or a Bronze Star, and I do not want one. But, I was filling sandbags for bunkers right next to the infantry troops doing nothing but sitting and watching us engineers.

Raymond Herrington, 8009 Bon Air Dr.
Austin, TX 78757, Rayh.h@austin.rr.com

Just doing my job

First of all, although I served in Korea in 1953, I saw no combat. No CIB, no CMB, no Bronze Star. I was one who served in a support group, sometimes referred to as a combination of letters

that I won't mention here.

I was drafted into the Army at the age of 24 in February 1952. My draft was deferred because I was supporting our large family. I took basic training at Camp Pickett, VA, both infantry basic and combat medic basic. I was not a CO and my MO was more suited to the infantry or artillery, since I had a shooting sports background. However, the Army thought otherwise.

After basic training, I was sent to Ft. Sam Houston, TX to complete training as an X-ray technician. I never could understand why the Army spent time and money on me, a draftee, since it appeared to me that my U.S. army serial number wasn't thought of as well as an RA number.

In January of 1953 I sailed aboard the General Ballou troopship, leaving Seattle for Yokohama, Japan. I spent 36 hours at Camp Drake in Japan, and then boarded the same troopship for Pusan (Busan), Korea.

After a long train and truck ride, I ended up in the second platoon of the 618 Medical Clearing Company stationed near YonChon, two miles north of the 38th Parallel. Even though it was a platoon, it was company strength, at around 75 men. We were located next to a railroad siding.

The 618th's duty was to accept the wounded from MASH hospitals and Battalion Aid stations, keep them overnight, and then send them by hospital train to the 121st Evacuation hospital in Yong Dong Po, from where they were flown to Japan. The 618th was fully staffed with doctors, techs, cooks, and a motor pool to suit the needs of the wounded.

I was assigned to the motor pool and ended up driving a deuce-and-a-half truck to Seoul, Korea every day on mail and miscellaneous runs, with ration runs, shower runs, and water runs in between. It was a good duty and broke the routine, although the dirt roads almost broke me because of their condition. Still, I wasn't shot at!! Obviously my X-ray training wasn't being used.

I won't go into details of my experience as it would seem hum to most. Sufficient to say, I slept in an eight-man squad, floored tent, heated by fuel oil stoves. I ate well when we didn't have wounded and not so well when we did. Rations were for the wounded, and that was the right priority!

However, there was one thing that I never understood. As a medical company (platoon) we were not allowed to have weapons (this was during the war and in a combat zone—I think). Over a few months we managed to accumulate 1911s for all of us taken off the wounded officers. Shortly after that, we were ordered to turn them all in under threat of court martial. As a result, we were again without weapons except for seven M2 carbines for guard duty (what a joke!). Of course the officers had 1911s, so RHIP's.

It was a standing joke that our Geneva medic cards with the big Red Cross imprint would make a great target for the Chinese and North Koreans who didn't respect medics but, in fact, shot them.

Just before the cease fire was signed, Syngman Rhee didn't like the terms of the truce and said that he was going to advance north. Unfortunately, we were between him, with his ROK army, and the North Koreans. We had no means to defend ourselves. Fortunately, that didn't happen. What did happen is that we became swamped with ROK wounded as the North Koreans pushed south against them. We were unloading wounded from trucks, jeeps, ¾ ton

ambulances, and helicopters. I saw no combat but I did see the results.

After the cease fire, my company (platoon) provided sick call for 42 different outfits. I was asked to become a "Ch***** mechanic," but I declined and continued to drive the officers around in my jeep and kept my lowly rank of corporal.

I came back to the U.S. on another troopship to 'Frisco and Camp Stoneman, went by train to Chicago, and was separated in February of 1954.

I'm a life member of the KWVA and I felt proud serving my country. It was a life changing experience. Even though I was drafted, I went where the Army wanted me to go, and I did what they wanted me to do

However, as I look back from my 87 years, although I am slated to be on an Honor flight to Washington this year, sometimes I wonder if I deserve it, having served in a support group.

Wayne A. Doenges, New Haven, IN, 260-749-2657
denjussolo1@frontier.com

Why We Landed At Night

Dale Cardinal mentioned in an earlier edition of *The Graybeards* that he had made a nighttime landing at Inchon in January 1953 when he arrived in Korea. One member questioned why he and his comrades came ashore at night.

Cardinal explains: "The reasons we climbed down cargo nets at night to come ashore were based on the ship commander's request and the water level at the time. I remember this as if it was yesterday."

Dale Cardinal, 2711 Peachtree Terr.
Vincennes, IN 47591

This And That

I am touching on several subjects that still concern your readers. I don't claim to be a perfectionist but it irritates me when I see rumors and speculation paraded as facts. And memory is seldom infallible. I would like to add a comment or two regarding a couple other controversial statements.

When I received the Sept-Oct. 2014 edition of *The Graybeards*, I encountered a few misstatements and feel obligated to correct them. We are told in Don Kegovitz's interesting and amusing account that MacArthur sent our forces across the Yalu, but Gen. Ridgway in "The Korean War" writes: "The 27th R.C.T. under Col. H. B. Powell reached the Yalu; on November 21 (1950), the only U.S. troops to reach that stream in the Korean War." So it is unlikely that there was "a massacre on the frozen waters of the Yalu River." A few ROK units also reached the river but they quickly withdrew.

In the "Feedback/Return Fire" section Mike Morra implies that President-elect Eisenhower, "under the protection of the 82nd Airborne" made a secret trip to Korea and "faced down" the North Korean generals, threatening them with the use of the atom bomb. I can't find a scintilla of evidence that such a meeting took place. (See the letter below.) Both the Truman and Ike's administrations dropped hints that it was under consideration, however.

Ike would have had to deal with the Chinese anyhow, because they were our principal adversaries. His mission was more secret than the usual presidential trip, but he had announced that he planned

to go to Korea. Incidentally, T.R. Fehrenbach in his book "This Kind of War" says, "...an hour after Ike completed his mission and left for home on Dec. 5 (well after the election), eleven communist fighter planes attacked the Seoul airport." Coincidence?

Ike's election, no doubt, encouraged the communists to return to the bargaining table, but other developments were probably just as influential. The death of Stalin in March 1952 is considered important by several writers. Others think that the intentional leaking of information about the development of a 280 mm cannon capable of firing a tactical atomic projectile could have played a key role in the psychological game.

But the suggestion that the threat of deploying the 25th division, an "elite combat unit based in Hawaii," would intimidate the communists, who ate ROK divisions for breakfast, is both naive and ludicrous. Besides, according to Wikipedia, it was already on the MLR at the time of Ike's visit.

A writer in the previous edition of this publication says the 1st Marine division and the Army's 3rd and 7th divisions evacuated Hungnam with their dead and wounded. I don't know about the Army divisions, but I know that the Marines were forced to bury around 100 frozen corpses at Koto-ri and I believe some were also buried at Yudam-ni. The remains were returned later during a mutual exchange.

It has been established that there were gravestones in Korea. But, according to Wikipedia, temperatures at Yudam-ni never reached below -35 F. No doubt with the wind chill it would have felt like 60 below.

Bob Hall, 3827 Fraser St., Bellingham, WA 98229
360-671-5516, rdhall1925@yahoo.com

I Stand By My Original Statement Re "Ike's" Role

This letter is in reply to J. E. Phinazee of Buford, GA, who inquired about President Eisenhower's role in ending the Korean War, as published in The Graybeards issue of Jan/Feb 2015. There is a 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 were not wounded.

During the first few months of the year 1953, the newly elected President of the USA, 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, later in the year 1953, all combat ceased. General Eisenhower's astonishing leadership abilities developed in WWII ended the shooting war in Korea. However if North Korea reneged, as military assurance the 25th Division, an elite combat unit stationed at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, was combat-ready to be thrown into battle within 24 hours notice.

As confirmation, I recommend that the Korean War Veteran Association assemble a delegation to contact or visit the scholars of the Eisenhower Library in Abilene, Kansas.

Mike Morra, 8625 W. 84th St.
Overland Park, KS 66212, 913-341-1902.

Editor's Note: I would be the first to volunteer for such a mission.

'Massacre Valley' – Korea -February 11-13, 1951

On February 11, 1951, units of the 2nd Infantry Division were ordered to withdraw from the area of Changbong-ni and Saemal, Korea, in the face of a Chinese attack. As the affected units did so, they became trapped in a valley two miles northwest of Hoengsong, Korea and there suffered a terrible defeat which became known as the "Hoengsong Massacre" and/or "Massacre Valley."

In addition to losing numerous vehicles, equipment, and artillery pieces, we lost 413 Killed in Action, 18 Died of Wounds, 392 Died while POW, 104 Died while Missing in Action, and 690 were wounded in action. 268 other men were captured and later returned to our military control. A total of 1,895 casualties were suffered during the period of February 11-13, 1951 at this site.

Reporters were ordered not to report or take photographs of what they saw and this incident has gone unreported or written about after all of these years. In fact, evidence reflects that great attempts were made to even cover it up at the time it took place.

In early March 1951, I was a young Marine and one of the first to reenter the area of that ambush. I saw the wreckage and the bodies left behind. In fact, I participated in the rescue of some of our wounded soldiers who had been left behind by the Chinese because they could not walk with the other prisoners taken north.

Now, I am working with Korean War historian and accomplished author Merry Helm, trying to gather all possible information about what took place at that time in a hope that we can put the complete story in writing for everyone to read. We are seeking to locate any survivors of that battle in hopes of including their personal accounts in our report. Anyone interested in sharing may contact me at the above address or phone number.

Jack M. Witter 3629 U.S.23, Oscoda, MI 48750, (989) 739-5494,
jmdl54@charter.net

Editor's Request: If you have stories about the "Hoengsong Massacre" to send to Mr. Witter; please send a copy to The Graybeards Editor, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or via email at sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net

Duck!!!

The prior issue included an article about hunting in Korea. (See "Were The Tigers Hunting The Hunters," p. 79, Jan/Feb 2015.) I served in Korea with the First Marine Division in 1954 and 1955. I returned stateside with the division.

My mother saved some articles on Korea that were printed in the Des Moines Register while I was there. I recalled one in particular headlined "Iowa-Tagged Duck Shot Far From Home—Korea."

Here is the caption under the photo that complemented the story: FAR EAST—Marine M/Sgt Les Mayer (right) of Oconto Falls, Wisc., and Eddie Bennett, of Greenville, N.C., display an afternoon's bag of ducks while hunting in South Korea. One of the ducks bore a tag inscribed "Whelp, Iowa-'54." Mayer and Bennett, serving with the "Pantherjet" Squadron, MAG-33, are wondering if the duck flew all the way from the Corn State or if it hitchhiked a ride on a plane."

Darrell E. Jensen, 1111 Broadway St.
Audubon, IA 50025

Editor's Note: The story was printed in the July/Aug 2007 edition of The Graybeards, p. 21.

There Is More Than One American Legion Cemetery

In the July/August 2014 issue, p. 37, there was a claim that there is only one American Legion post with a standalone cemetery, i.e., Post 5 in Tampa. There is at least one more. It is located in Mitchell SD, the home of the "Corn Palace." (See the write-up below.)

Thanks to Darwin E. Buus of Ch 194, MG Lloyd R. Moses, for bringing that cemetery to our attention. Reach him at 517 W 2nd Ave., Mitchell, SD 57301.

INTRODUCTION

The Servicemen's Memorial Cemetery is a free burial site to any Veteran who is or who at any time has been a resident of Davison County, South Dakota, and who has honorably served as a member of the Armed Services of the United States, or who is the wife or husband of such Veteran.

PAST HISTORY

In 1971 at the ending of the Vietnam War, The Servicemen's Memorial Cemetery Association Inc. (A501 c tax deductible entity) was formed and the City of Mitchell designated a portion of the cemetery to The Servicemen's.

Gift-Graceland Lots to American Legion
Page 226
Regular Meeting, April 5, 1926

Alderman Barnard moved adoption of the following resolution, which was seconded by Alderman Beckwith: be it resolved that park lots "A" and "B" of Graceland Cemetery are hereby dedicated for burial purposes of coarser post No. 18, American Legion, for Veterans of the World War, and a conveyance to coarser post No. 18 American Legion by free grant shall be and is hereby made of said parks "A" and "B", the latter to be used immediately and lot "A" for later burials.

Roll call: Beckwith - Yes, Greene - Yes, Phillips - Yes, Harmon - Yes, Barnard - Yes, Shandorf, Yes, Eastcott - Yes, and Peterson - Yes. Motion Carried.

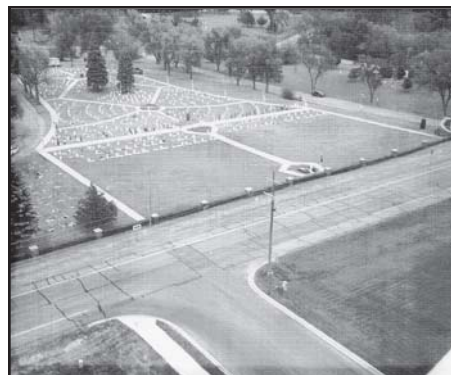
The history of Post 18's cemetery

The first two sections of the original four sections were opened with 1176 burial sites with a dedication on November 11, 1972. Since this time, the Board of Director's goal has been to continue to develop and maintain a respectful resting place honoring the brave people who have served our country. The Board is continually planning for and making improvements as donations and memorial gifts are received. We feel great pride with what is now at this location.

PAST TWO YEARS OF NEEDED IMPROVEMENTS

After 40 years of providing free burial sites for all eligible Veterans and their spouses, the first two sections opened will reach 100% capacity in 2014. The current Board of Directors is responding to this obvious need and is undertaking the opening of the unimproved remaining two sections.

In the past two years, much of the site preparation of grading,



LEFT: The bell-shaped cemetery in Mitchell, SD



BELOW: A view of the cemetery with flagpole at Post 18's cemetery

leveling, adding top soil, seeding grass and planting trees have been completed as well as; paving of perimeter roads with engineered drainage and cement walkways.

In 2011 a new above-ground columbarium was purchased and made available with room for 40 single and 80 double final resting spots for Veterans and their spouses that choose to be cremated.

In 2013 five new statue bases and four new statues were placed in the new sections. The first three were a "Sailor in Pea Coat", an "Iraqi Freedom Fighter" and a "Female Soldier in Combat Gear". A fourth statue, "Fallen Comrade" was added to acknowledge donations and memorials. It consists of a soldier's helmet on a rifle with boots at the base and areas for acknowledging donations. Four granite meditation benches were also added in 2013. To top it off a beautiful, large, brass Bald Eagle was placed on top of the Columbarium.

A fifth statue is nearing completion and is expected to be in place before Veterans Day 2014. It is unique in that it was commissioned by the Servicemen's Cemetery Board. It is a statue of one Soldier carrying a wounded comrade. Two Soldiers from the local National Guard Unit posed for the photos used to make the statue.

CURRENT HELP NEEDED

The Servicemen's Cemetery Board is prompting any individual or supporting group to help us complete the newly opened expansion sections. There is always a need of funds for ongoing flag placements and our expansion project is continuing. Our next big goal is to install a complete sprinkler system in the Servicemen's Cemetery.

If you wish to help in any way or have questions, please contact Dean V. Strand - Vice Chairman and Expansion Coordinator @ 605-70-4676 or Board Advisor Kevin Thurman @ 605-995-8461 or any Board Member listed on the back.

IN HONOR TO ALL WHO HAVE SERVED



Welcome Aboard!

New Members of the Korean War Veterans Association

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R046457 ROGER K. BAER
R046490 CARL J. 'CHUCK' BASSO
R046487 ARTHUR H. KUCHEL
R046489 MCLAUGHLIN W. ROBERT
R046498 WARREN E. ROBINSON
R046464 JAMES R. WILLIG
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R046412 PATRICIA R. NEWELL
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R046502 JAMES W. ROONEY

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R046411 LEONARD C. HULTMAN

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R046461 MICHAEL LOSURDO

NEW MEXICO

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R046497 MAYHON HUCKABA
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LR46481 JAMES L. MILLER

WISCONSIN

R046479 ELLIOTT D. BLODGETT

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

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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

Page 2 of 2

Gold Bars In The Moonlight

While I was reading a recent issue of the *Graybeards*, my mind went back to a very unusual experience in Korea. There are few who had such an experience.

I landed in Inchon, South Korea on October 8, 1951. From there I was assigned to the 7th U.S. Cavalry Regiment as a rifleman. I went in after the bloody push which started on October 3. According to my First Cavalry Division book, after 3 days fighting, only 60 able bodied troopers were left, but they were ordered to take Hill 418, which they did.

Around the middle of November rumors were floating around (what else was new in the Army?) that the Division was headed stateside in December! But, when the advanced party of the 45th Thunderbird Division from Oklahoma arrived, we got suspicious. When some of the youngest of our group were told they were being transferred to the incom-

ing division, we really started paying attention.

On December 18th we set sail for a place unknown. Not until we hit the Sea of Japan did I realize we were out of "The Land Of The Morning Calm." Four days later, we arrived at Camp Crawford, Japan. There we had heated brick barracks, clean sheets and hot chow three times daily! We took extensive winter training, walking on snow shoes or skis any time we were off the traveled roads. While I knew I had a long time to go for my ETS (expected time of service), it was almost like going home!

In the middle of March 1952, a dear pal named Robert Evans, from Runnels, Iowa, came into the office and asked me if I could type. I told him I had two years typing in high school, but had flunked the test at the induction center in Ft. Jackson, SC. He set me up with an appointment with M/Sergeant Head for a typist position in the personnel section.

I typed a letter and gave it to Evans. He asked if I had made any mistakes. I said, "Yes." He told me to type a perfect letter, because the position open was finance clerk, which required accuracy. Afterward, Sgt Head shook my hand and said, "I am cutting your transfer, hillbilly, so get yourself back here to work tomorrow!" Wow. how lucky can one get?

Fast forward to December 12, 1952, This date we set sail for Pusan, South Korea. While there we were safe, but we had to pull some guard duty at night. I will never forget a 2nd Lt. approaching me on guard at full moon. As he approached, he asked who was there. I said, "Rogers."

He shouted, "Why didn't you challenge me?" and asked if I wanted to leave Korea alive! I told him that I could see his gold bars at twenty paces--and that I had already left Korea alive once!

Leroy Rogers

leroyrogersusa@hotmail.com

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- 2 – 12 Jul WWII Russia “Eastern Front” Moscow-Stalingrad
- 18 - 28 Jul WWII Guam-Saipan-Tinian “Marianas 1944”
- 31 Jul – 11 Aug WWII 70th Anniv 1945 Japan Atomic Bombs
- 2 – 13 Aug WWII Guadalcanal & “Up the Slot”
- ★ 8 – 19 Aug VN 50th Anniversary VN War-1965 Op Starlite
- 7 – 18 Sep WWII 70th Anniv of the Liberation of Italy
- 12-25 Oct WWII 70th Anniv “Navy & Marines” in China 1945
- Beijing – Tientsin – Xian – Tsingtao – Shanghai
- In Planning Nov WWII 70th Anniv Burma—Thailand
- ★ 1 – 9 Dec Israel—Military & Cultural History of the Holy Land “From B.C. to Present”
- 3 – 13 Dec VN 50th Anniv CAV 1965
- 29 Jan – 8 Feb ‘16 WWII in the Philippines “Bataan & Corregidor”
- 27 Feb – 11 Mar ‘16 VN Tet & Hue
- 14 – 21 Mar ‘16 WWII Iwo Jima
- Reunion of Honor (Don’t miss it again!)
- Korea Veterans Revisit Program







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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.

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WILFORD PARKER BASS

ARIZONA

JAMES A. PHILLIPS

CALIFORNIA

ELOY EVERETT BACA
DONALD G. CLANCY
YLARIO 'LARRY' DELGADILLO
ERNEST G. DEMARZI
SAMUEL DIAZ
DOUGLAS GARDNER
RUTH JUSTUS MCCARDIE
DENNIS E. 'PETE' PETERSEN

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DANNIE D. WATTS

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VERMONT

DAVID ERKSON
JAMES E. HUNT

VIRGINIA

BO-HIE HERZER
JOHN R. PERRY

WISCONSIN

MARVIN J. LANDSINGER

WYOMING

MERL C GRAHAM
RALPH MAYER

Visit the Korean War
Veterans Association Website:

www.KWVA.org

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 _____

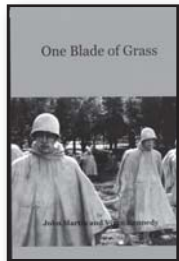
Relationship to deceased _____

Send to: **Membership, P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407**

Books By KWVA Members

NOTE: These are not reviews. They are notices that books produced by KWVA members are available. The write-ups are in most cases supplied by the authors. The inclusions are not KWVA endorsements for the books. As the first Roman editor of *The Graybeards* used to say, "*caveat emptor.*"

Martin, John and Vince Kennedy. One Blade Of Grass - The Korean War and Its Aftermath for One American Soldier. Blurb, ©2012, 213 pages. ISBN 978-0-9878896-3-8 ail)



This is the story of John Martin, an under-aged American recruit who gets thrown into the war in Korean in 1950. Martin survives his first battle, at Hadong, still the second worst ever US unit action, and three nights later is captured in an overrun blocking position.

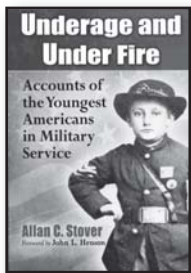
He turns 18 in a North Korean POW camp in Seoul, then is force-marched north after Inchon and is one of only 21 survivors of the more than 300 American prisoners who start the march, which ends at the Suncheon Tunnel Massacre. Martin survives again, but until 1967 he is without VA medical coverage, and until 1976 is ruled by the demons of post traumatic stress.

When he finally gets medical and psychiatric help, he has been an alcoholic for 25 years, dishonorably discharged from the army, divorced from his wife and almost lost his children.

John's story is a story for anyone who wants to experience the human facts about stress disorder and the deep impact it can have on life. His survival and liberation from PTSD is a classic and uplifting tale.

Available at <http://www.blurb.ca/b/523867> 4-one-blade-of-grass.

Stover, Allan C. Underage and Under Fire. Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Co., Inc., 190 pp. ISBN 978-0-7864-7453-0



This work tells the personal stories of boys and girls who left home and enlisted in the U.S. military at ages 11 to 16. Many had difficult home lives, some wanted adventure or a better future, but all wanted to serve their country. They missed high school proms, adolescent years with family and friends, homecoming parades, and graduation ceremonies. They served aboard ships and submarines, on airplanes, and at faraway bases and battlefields. Some became prisoners of war. Many performed above and beyond.

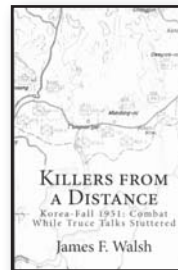
Jack Lucas earned the Medal of Honor at Iwo Jima six days past his 17th birthday. Calvin Graham enlisted at age 12 and was wounded at Guadalcanal aboard the USS South Dakota. His story was made into a movie starring Rick Schroder. A 13-year-old girl enlisted but was later discovered and sent home from Europe. General Eisenhower told her, "Go home and grow up, little girl, we need more soldiers like you." "One underage veteran became a senator, another a governor, still another a Chief of Naval

Operations. This book reveals why and how they got in, and what happened to them when they were there.

Allan C. Stover used a forged birth certificate to enlist in the U.S. Coast Guard at age 14 during the Korean War. After an honorable discharge at age 18, he served on a Great Lakes ore carrier. Despite never having earned a high school diploma, he earned two college degrees and is a registered professional engineer. He is the founder of the Veterans of Underage Military Service and is a member of American Legion Post 347 and Korean War Veterans Post 169. He lives in The Villages, Florida.

On the cover: Sgt. Johnny Clem (1851-1937) serving in Co. C, 22nd Michigan Infantry Regiment from May 1, 1863 to September 19, 1864 (Schwing & Rudd, Army of the Cumberland/Library of Congress)

Walsh, James F. Killers From A Distance: Korea Fall 1951: Combat While Truce Talks Stuttered (A novel). Rita Stradling. 454pp., 2014. ISBN-10: 0988728982 (



Soldiers in combat dug for their lives. It was ironic that all foreigners on Korea's hills were modifying nature by digging pits for war, but down over the centuries the Korean's had left nature on the hills mostly alone. Men at war built. Men at peace farmed. Men at war destroyed. Men at peace rebuilt. The gunner's hands drove the tripod's jamming handles free, the heavy machine gun and cradle dropping to a low profile. He jammed tight the handles once more, then pulled the gun and tripod to new cover, taking to the earth down in the soil like a mole. He sighted, fired a burst and followed the tracer line. He adjusted by tracer. The medic worked wounded on an outpost of the dead. A mortal silence had fallen. Bone and sinew were divided in two, bodies bleeding beneath the grim dust of battle that shaded gristly remains from the burning sun. How many crushed and torn enemy were severed forever from their five senses? He felt it was madness to fight for choice humpty backs to shoot from to kill one another. There was no end. Across the next valley rose a chain of other peaks clear through North Korea and into Manchuria. Was the well being of the Eight Army more assured on any one high peak as opposed to another? What madness must occupy the minds of those who talk a truce resting on one peak as opposed to another! The power of infantrymen was based on human rather than planner's power. Front line men had learned to fight down fright, although they always had fear. Their confidence in themselves depended upon their skills with their weapons, faith in their squad leaders, trust in their squad members, assured each would back the other. Squad discipline didn't imply an unthinking obedience; it implied initiative and skill relentlessly preserved for the squad's objective. It meant over ruling instinct, and minimizing reflection on the stalled truce talks. In late November the freeze was moving from west to east, with winds from the northwest at twenty-five knots per hour with gusts up to forty knots. It would freeze the river that the Eight Army or Chinese Communist forces might walk on water.



운명의 1도 출판기념회

in



Former Ambassador and Lieutenant General (Ret) Edward L. Rowny Honored

By Monika Stoy

On 28 July 2014 the Minister of Defense for the Republic of Korea, Minister Han, Min Koo hosted a publication event at the War Memorial of Korea for the Korean translation of LTG Edward L. Rowny's self-published memoir, Korean War, An American Soldier's Saga of the Korean War. The Korean edition is published by WHOIAM Publishers, whose Chairman, Mr. Cha, Kil Jin, was the prime mover behind the event and the Korean translation of this important historical addition to the story of the Korean War.

Then LTC Rowny served as X Corps plans officer and helped to plan the

Incheon Landing. He subsequently served as X Corps Engineer and was responsible for building the Han River Bridge at Seoul for the reentry into the city of the Korean government in September 1950. He was responsible for the aerial delivery of the bridge material which enabled the 1st Marine Division to egress from the Changjin Reservoir across the Koto-Ri chasm in December 1950, and he was also responsible for the evacuation and demolition of the Port of Hungnam later that month. He went on to serve as X Corps G-4 and then 38th Infantry Regimental Commander.

At age 97 LTG Rowny is the senior surviving officer of the Korean War and

the insights included in his book add significantly to the historical record. Mr. Cha met LTG General Rowny on a visit to the United States in February 2014 and was immediately impressed with the General's book. He felt strongly the book needed to be published in Korea and achieve wide readership there.

Mr. Cha's father, Police Superintendent General Cha, Il Hyuk, played a major role in counter-guerrilla operations during the Korean War and is a Korean national hero. For this reason, Mr. Cha is completely dedicated to preserving history and passing on history's lessons to future generations. Through his dedication the book was translated, printed, and published

Gen Paik and LtGen Rowny with dignitaries; to the right of Gen Rowny are Minister of Defense Han, Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs Park, Sung Choon

within a span of six months.

LTG Rowny was accompanied to Korea by his son, Paul, and was escorted by Captain C. Monika Stoy and Lieutenant Colonel Timothy R. Stoy, both retired from the U.S. Army. The Stoy's assisted LTG Rowny, Mr. Cha, and MPVA Minister Park, Sung Choon in arrangements for the book's translation and coordinating LTG Rowny's trip to and visit in Korea. Ms. Chung, Soo Young, translated LTG Rowny's book into Korean.

The event began with LTG Rowny entering the great rotunda of the War Memorial and meeting former

Ambassador and General Paik, Sun Yup, the Republic of Korea's most revered Korean War hero. The two generals shook hands and placed their hands in a clay mold to preserve this great moment for posterity. Defense Minister Han delivered welcoming comments, followed by National Defense Committee Chairman Hwang, Jin Ha and Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs Park, Sung Choon, who delivered congratulatory remarks.

LTG Rowny delivered short comments thanking Mr. Cha and the assembled dignitaries for their support in his book's publication in Korea. After a musical performance by the National Military Symphony Orchestra, the dignitaries conducted a cake cutting, and General Paik and the U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Korea delivered toasts in honor of the long-standing ROK-U.S. alliance. The evening concluded with a gala dinner and

a fitting closing ceremony.

The numerous dignitaries present included General Curtis Scaparrotti, Commanding General of United Nations Command, R.O.K.-U.S. Combined Forces Command and U.S. Forces Korea; numerous former Chiefs of Defense of the ROK Armed Force; several retired ROK Army generals who had served with LTG Rowny when he commanded the 1st U.S.-ROK Corps 1970-1971; and, poignantly, the widow and son of MG Jae, Jon Lee, who had served as LTG Rowny's Deputy Corps Commander.

Prior to the publication event, LTG Rowny was interviewed by Korean Military Television. During his interview LTG Rowny expanded on portions of his book, and emphasized the importance of a strong U.S.-ROK alliance and continued vigilance towards the Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea.

LtGen Rowny enters Memorial Hall accompanied by ROK soldiers in period costumes, the Stoy's, and his son Paul



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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I authorize **Military Historical Tours** by my signature above to charge my Visa, Master Card or Amex
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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.

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.

This unique military history book (50 nonfiction short stories plus photos) is available in softcover at bookstores or online via Amazon and other online retailers. Priced at \$17 (ISBN: 978-0-9886-7891-2) and at \$9.98 for your Kindle, Nook, or Apple reader through Amazon and iTunes.

For an autographed softcover copy at \$24 (price includes tax and Priority Mail delivery within 3 days), contact the author at arthurhaarmeyer@gmail.com. Mail payment (with your check drawn to Arthur Haarmeyer) to UPS Store, 3308 El Camino Avenue, Suite 300, Box 118, Sacramento, CA 95821, or use PayPal via the author's website at www.arthurhaarmeyer.com.

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

IN HONOR OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED THE CALL

KOREAN WAR

1950 • 1953

GREETINGS:

"The Blue Star family thanks you for your service. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve you and your fellow Korean War Veterans Association members."

Robert O. Wray, Jr.
Rear Admiral, USN (ret)
CEO, Blue Star Veterans Network

FREE OFFER:

We're offering KWVA members a FREE 8x10" museum quality print of the Korean War Memorial in Washington DC, a favorite of visitors to the National Mall. We'll also cover shipping and handling. You will also receive a very special offer for KWVA members on our products that are helping veterans like you maintain their freedom and independence while living at home.

Call us toll free at (844) KOREAN WAR (844-567-3269) to claim your free print.



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