

Call for Elections

The membership is hereby notified that elections will be held in the spring of 2016 for the following National Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. [KWVA] positions:

President, First Vice President, and Second Vice President to serve from June 25, 2016 - June 25, 2018; and four (4) Directors to serve from June 25, 2016 - June 25, 2019.

All applications and documents must be received **no later than December 15, 2015**. Any regular members in good standing of the KWVA seeking to run for the aforementioned offices shall make their intentions known to the Chairman of the Elections Committee, Albert H. McCarthy, in writing, using the following format:

Requirements:

Applicants must:

A. Present proof of service by submitting a separate signed Official KWVA Membership Application Form (found on the KWVA website or in *The Graybeards Magazine*), showing eligible service years. The applicant must also submit a copy of his/her Form DD214 for verification by the Election Committee. The copy of the form DD214 may be redacted selectively by blackout/whiteout to remove information not related to the information required by the KWVA.

To apply for a Form DD214, go to the National Archives website, <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>.

B. Present a current photograph, suitable for publication in *The Graybeards*, in which the candidate is clearly the focus of the picture.

C. Submit a letter, signed and dated, limited to approximately one (1) page, including the following:

1) Your intent to run for an office and the office sought.

2) A summary of your qualifications for this office, stating any experience that will be of benefit to the Association.

3) Your current mailing address, telephone number, KWVA membership number, and email address if available.

4) Alternate email address and alternate phone number, if available.

5) A statement that you will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and that you understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for your removal from office.

6) A statement releasing the Application Form for verification by the Election Committee.

D. You must sign a statement that your dues are current through the complete term of the office you are seeking.

Note: Payment of delinquent dues shall not be retroactive for purposes of establishing eligibility to run for office within the Association.

E. Send the above items by "USPS Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested," or "USPS Express Mail, Return Receipt Requested," to the Election Committee Chairman, to arrive not later than December 15, 2015. Scanned documents sent via email are not an acceptable alternative, and will be automatically deleted.

F. Address application packages to: Albert H. McCarthy, Elections Committee Chairman, 15 Farnum Street, Worcester, MA 01502-2101.

G. Address any questions you may have to the Election Committee Chairman at (508) 277-7300 or email, mccarthy.albert@live.com.

Time to Step Up

How many times have you heard someone say, "I am a veteran and my oath has no expiration date?" And, because you are a veteran, you know exactly what he means. Now, ask yourself this: does that oath of service extend to your brothers and sisters in the KWVA? Is it time for you to step up and serve as an officer or director of the organization, or will you sit back and let someone else do the heavy lifting?

The spring election will give us a

new President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, and four Directors. Are you up for running for one of these positions? Do you have what it takes? You won't have to figure things out, because you have thirteen returning Directors who will be working alongside you, guiding you as you learn the ropes.

And, former officers and Directors haven't gone away; they're still here for you as you take the reins of the organization and help lead it forward.

What's that you say? "I'm a Defense Veteran and these folks are war veterans, so I won't fit in." If that's true, then what happened to, "I am a veteran and my oath has no expiration date?"

The truth is that the KWVA embraces all who answered freedom's call and stood ready to give whatever was asked of them, up to and including their lives. Some served from 1945-1950, while Korea regained its nationhood; some fought long and hard against extraordinary and sometimes impossible odds from 1950-1953 to ensure Korea's survival.

And, for the last 62 years, over 3,000,000 U.S. military personnel have served in Korea to protect and defend South Korea from domination by a tyrannical dictatorship in North Korea during the so-called armistice. Each group from each of these epochs has earned the right to be part of our band of brothers.

So, it comes down to this: young veteran...old veteran...war veteran...service veteran...DMZ veteran.... Did you mean it when you said that your oath has no expiration date? If you did, then step up and take your place among the leadership of the KWVA.

The December 15, 2015 filing date is just around the corner.

Yours in brotherhood,

*Albert H. McCarthy
National Director/
Election Committee Chairman
USAF, Osan, Korea, 1970-1971*