

America's Forgotten Victory!

# KOREA VETERANS

## The Graybeards



Official Publication of  
**THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION**  
January - February 2016 Vol. 30, No. 1



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Jacksonville, FL  
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**Election Issue! Election Issue!**  
**Vote! Vote! Vote!**  
Ballot Inside



# The Graybeards

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



The Graybeards is the official publication of the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA). It is published six times a year for members and private distribution. Subscriptions available for \$30.00/year (see address below).

**MAILING ADDRESS FOR CHANGE OF ADDRESS:**  
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**We Honor Founder William T. Norris**

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### National Ceremonies Committee

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### Annual Membership Meeting Committee

Warren Wiedhahn, Chairman (See 1st VP)

See detailed list of committees at [WWW.KWVA.ORG](http://WWW.KWVA.ORG)



# From the President

Larry Kinard

er year.

As President of the KWVA, I am hoping we can continue in all phases of our goal of making sure our organization grows and that the preservation of our legacy is stronger than ever. We have some good things going in both these areas that I am very pleased with.

Right now we need to be concentrating again on electing several new leaders who will take us into the next 2-3 years. You will see in this issue resumes of Korean veterans who are seeking office in the top jobs of the KWVA. In June of this year we will have elected a new President, 2 Vice Presidents and 4 new Directors. I am excited about the number of candidates we have running this year. It is good to see some very qualified people willing to take part in the leadership of the KWVA.

As I have said every year about this time, we need to GET OUT THE VOTE. It is actually a little embarrassing when we have so few members take part in voting for the new leaders every year. Last year I think we only had about 25% of our members who voted.

Some have said they don't know those who are running and therefore don't know who to vote for. I ask you to call the candidates and talk with them about the organization and why they want to be elected or find someone at the national level who might know them and can provide you with a recommendation. Most of all, encourage your fellow chapter members to do the same thing. Let's have a really good turnout this year. Call me or Jim Fisher if you want to; we will be glad to help you out.

I have felt for a long time we have not placed enough emphasis on those who were Missing in Action or Killed in Action in the Korean War. Col. Bill Weber and his foundation are making some good progress with legislation to permit a Wall of Remembrance with the names of those who were killed to be added to the Korean War Memorial. In my view, this will be a good thing, and we hope to have Congressional approval before the end of this year.

Our government has been very slow in recovering the remains of those who are still listed as missing. Unfortunately, there are many valid reasons for this, since we cannot get into North Korea, where so many were killed. KWVA is making strong overtures to General (ret) Michael Linnington, the new head of the DPAA, to offer any help we can provide and make sure he knows of our strong interest in what they are doing.

We are also receiving word from organizations in South Korea that want to do more for the MIA and KIA families. MPVA is planning a Revisit trip in May just for these families, and the Sae Eden Presbyterian Church is planning such a trip in June. Both organizations are looking to the KWVA to help locate living members of these families to offer an opportunity for a trip to South Korea.

Military Historical Tours will be managing the May MPVA tour. Several Sae Eden Church representatives around the country are

As I have said every year about this time, we need to GET OUT THE VOTE. It is actually a little embarrassing when we have so few members take part in voting for the new leaders every year.

helping the church locate participants. If you know members of these families who might be interested, please contact Warren Wiedhahn, the KWVA Revisit Coordinator at Military Historical Tours for the May Families tour, or Jim Fisher, our Executive Director, for the church trip.

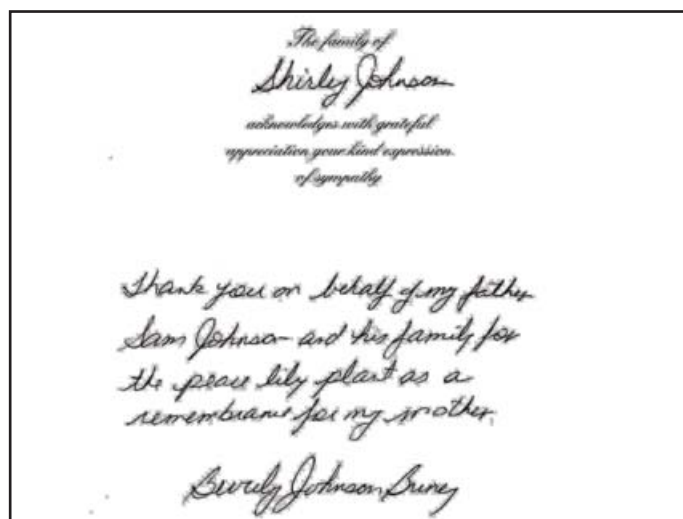
Many of you may know that Congressman Sam Johnson's wife, Shirley, passed away last December 3. Besides being a Korean War veteran and a member of the KWVA, Congressman Johnson has been, and is still, a huge supporter of our organization. The family lives in Plano, TX, just north of Dallas. Several Korean veterans from the Dallas/Ft Worth area attended the funeral at the First Methodist church in Plano on December 7. I felt it appropriate to send flowers from the KWVA to the family, and have just received a nice thank you note, which is shown below.

ALERT—We have tried several times over the last year to negotiate with the IRS about the possibility of amending the rule pertaining to the issue of no more than 10% membership of non-war veterans. This has not been successful. Now we need to proceed with trying to get it changed through Congressional legislation.

We expect Congressman's Johnson's staff to be submitting a new bill in Congress in the very near future. We will again need every member of KWVA to help get it passed. More on this later.

PLEASE REVIEW RESUMES IN THIS ISSUE AND CAST YOUR VOTE!!!

Larry Kinard, President



'Thank You' note from the Johnson family.



**COVER:** The 2015 Seoul International Aerospace and Defense Exhibition opened to the public with a colorful display of cultural history combined with regimented military drill at the Seoul Airport, Republic of Korea, Oct. 24th, 2015. Combining the past and the present in an intricate dance of tradition and strength, the people of the Republic of Korea showcased their honored legacies to the delight of the gathered crowds. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Amber Grimm)



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**"HONOR FLIGHT"**  
MAY 19, 2015 - WASHINGTON D.C.

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# Who To Contact And What To Contact Them For

*The Graybeards* team does not have a centralized office for its various processes. That is not surprising, since the team does not include any full-time employees. The membership staff, which handles the bulk of the administrative tasks, is located in Charleston, IL. The editor is housed in Sun City Center, FL. (That is a recent change.) The publisher/advertising manager is based in Beaufort, SC.

The Secretary, i.e., the producer of "From the Secretary," is located in Winchester, VA. The President, who should not be receiving any mail intended for *The Graybeards*, is in Texas.

Therefore, mail sent to the wrong address may not be forwarded to the proper offices immediately—if at all. The various staff members who work hard to produce *The Graybeards* coordinate their efforts, but some material gets delayed in processing or lost (which is rare, but does happen). Nevertheless, it is imperative that submitters send their material to the proper location, lest it get delayed or lost in the bureaucratic shuffle.

Your cooperation in making sure that you are sending your material to the right person/address is appreciated. (Their addresses and contact information are located on p.2 of each edition of *The Graybeards* and on the association's website, [www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org).)

Here is a general guideline for submissions.

## MEMBERSHIP OFFICE

**Didn't get your *Graybeards*? Moved? Membership questions? Make a donation? Contact the KWVA Membership Office, not the editor or publisher, for any Member Information Requests/Changes**

- Didn't get your *Graybeards*?
- Make a donation to KWVA, *The Graybeards*, or In Memory Of (strongly encouraged)
- Change of Address
- "Snowbird" fall and spring move dates/address changes
- Phone Number Change/Update
- Email Address Changes/Additions
- Death Notices (including date of death or a copy of or link to an obituary if possible))
- New Member Applications
- Dues Renewal Payments by Credit Card
- Phone: 217-345-4414 (Office Hours 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Central Mon-Fri)
- Email to: [membership@kwva.org](mailto:membership@kwva.org)
- "Snail" Mail to: KWVA Membership Office, PO Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407

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The editor is the "gatekeeper" in the publication process. Everything that appears in *The Graybeards* with the exception of advertising is funneled through the editor via the Membership office staff, the president, the secretary, the recruiting chairman, and individual members.

All editorial material++ sent via "snail mail" should be mailed to:

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Emailed material should be sent to [sharp\\_arthur\\_g@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net). Be sure to include the underscores after sharp and arthur. Also, many senders substitute com for net, which means that the emails get lost in cyberspace. Remember, it's [sbcglobal.net](http://sbcglobal.net).

++Editorial material includes, but is not limited to: memoirs, feedback (letters to the editor), chapter and department news, Tell America items, photos, corrections, stories of interest, recruiting items, reunion notices, mini-reunion news, recon requests (searches for information), books for review, accounts of individual achievements...

Reaching the editor by phone: the editor's phone number is 860-202-3088.

**NOTE:** The editorial office is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. eastern time. **It is not open on weekends or at night.**

Caveat: Editing *The Graybeards* is not a full-time job for Mr. Sharp. Therefore, not all mail is opened upon arrival nor are phone calls returned immediately. Generally, mail is opened and phone calls are sometimes returned via "batch processing," which means the editor holds submissions aside until he allocates time to process a large batch of them simultaneously. That can be days—or even weeks—after submissions are received. Consequently, he asks that submitters and callers exercise patience when awaiting responses if requested.

**Notification Of Receipt:** Due to the volume of material received by the editor, he cannot acknowledge each submission individually.

**Return Of Submitted Material:** Submitters' material is returned only upon request. SASEs (self-addressed, stamped envelopes) will expedite the process somewhat. But, all returns fall under the "batch processing" umbrella.

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No submissions for *The Graybeards* should be sent to Dr. Wadley. All material printed in *The Graybeards* is sent directly from the editor to the publisher. The publisher's sole responsibilities in the process include laying out the magazine and handling advertising requests.

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## THERE YOU HAVE IT

That concludes our "Where To Send It" guideline. We hope it helps.



# From the Secretary

I hope all of you had a joyful and Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year celebration. But, the holidays are now behind us and it is time to look forward to another exciting and eventful year for our association.

We recognize that 2016 will be a critical year for us, filled with new challenges and opportunities as we continue with the advancements in national recognition the KWVA is beginning to enjoy under the outstanding leadership of President Larry Kinard.

## Election

As you know, it is election time again for our association. The election this year is extremely important. In addition to electing four Directors, we also will be electing a new President, 1st Vice President, and 2nd Vice President. Except for the position of President, all of the open positions are contested, with two candidates for 1st Vice President and 2nd Vice President respectively and eight candidates for Director.

While it is an honor to be elected to serve on the Leadership Team for our association, it is not an honorary position. Serving on the Board of Directors (BOD) requires a willingness to make a significant commitment of time and effort that is required of every member (officer or director) to continue the outstanding performance demonstrated by our BOD in recent years.

I encourage you to read carefully all of the candidates' resumes included on pp. 12-19 before you cast your vote, and talk to each of them personally to determine whose views most closely mirror your own. Ask them if they are willing to commit the time required to perform the duties of the position they are seeking should they be elected.

The most important thing is that you VOTE. I can't stress that point too strongly. Unfortunately, in recent elections, usually less than 20% of our members take the time to examine the candidates and cast their vote. Not voting is a poor reflection on our members.

## Scholarships

Thanks to the generosity of Rep. Kim Jung Hoon, the founder and Chairman of the American Veterans of Korea Foundation, we are pleased to announce that he has agreed to renew their scholarship program again for the academic year 2016-2017. This will be the third year that Rep. Kim has made this program available to our college age descendants. We extend our sincere appreciation to Rep. Kim for all that he is doing for our Korean War veterans.

Virtually all of us have a child, grandchild or great-grandchild who is currently attending college or about to enter their first year of college this coming fall. I encourage each of you to review the Information Sheet and the Application Form (see pp. 20 & 21) and give your descendant the opportunity to submit an application and the required documents to the address shown to be received no later than April 15, 2016. The scholarship information is also available on our KWVA website.

Please remember that this scholarship program is made available through the American Veterans of Korea Foundation. The KWVA's role is to administer the program for Rep. Kim, who fully

funds it with no financial contribution by the KWVA.

Rep. Kim established his foundation as a way to honor and thank our Korean War veterans for their sacrifices as they fought and died to help save his country from domination by the communist North Koreans when they invaded the Republic of Korea on June 25, 1950.

This Scholarship Program is the first of many programs he is considering to honor our veterans through his foundation. At a time when college tuition continues to increase each year, don't delay. Make your descendants aware of this program and give them the opportunity to apply for one of the scholarships.

## Membership

Our declining membership continues to be a concern for your Leadership Team. Despite the fact that we are working diligently to attract new members, especially Korean Defense Veterans, our numbers continue to decline. This is largely due to the number of members who are passing away at an alarmingly rapid pace. In addition to signing new members, who are sometimes hard to find, there is another pool of veterans that is much easier to identify. They are the men and women who have been registered members of the KWVA but have been dropped from the active rolls due to non-payment of their dues.

I have addressed this issue in the past two editions of *The Graybeards*. There are some chapters that show more INACTIVE members on their rosters than ACTIVE members. That is hard to believe!

As I have said before, management of each Chapter Membership Roster is the responsibility of the Chapter President/Commander. PRESIDENTS, PLEASE DO YOUR JOBS! You cannot expect Jake Feaster or anyone in the Membership Office to monitor your roster for you; you know your members' personal status – we don't.

Some of our chapters do an outstanding job of keeping their information up to date; others are a disaster. Each of you knows the condition of your chapter. Jake Feaster spends an inordinate amount of his time working with our Membership Files, but he can't do his job without your help.

If you are a President who can't access your chapter information on our KWVA website because you have forgotten your password, or if you simply need some guidance in how to access the website, contact Ms. Sheila Fritts on our Membership Office by phone at 217-345-4414 or by email at [Membership@kwva.org](mailto:Membership@kwva.org). She will be happy to assist you.

Presidents, please do your part and help Jake and our Membership Office personnel get our Chapter Membership Rosters current and help keep them current.

A final reminder – Don't Forget to VOTE!

Thank you.

Lew Ewing, Secretary



Lew Ewing





# **65TH ANNIVERSARIES KOREAN WAR REVISIT KOREA TOURS**



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## Meet My Mother, Georgette Washington<sup>®</sup>

John Sonley's story on page 68 about inactive reservists conjured up memories of a similar incident at the end of my military "career." It involved one of the few times in my life I got aggravated with my departed sainted Irish Catholic mother.

I was discharged from active duty on 14 August 1962, after four years of faithful service to the U.S. Marine Corps. You would think the Corps had had enough of me by then, but noooo...

I was assigned after my release from active duty as an inactive reservist to an outfit on Garden City, Long Island. I was sure the good folks on Long Island did not need the services of a USMC 0341 (81 mm mortar) fire direction control specialist. After all, Long Island hadn't been in danger of attack since WWII, when German U-boats ranged with impunity up and down the eastern coast of the U.S. So, I pursued my civilian life, which involved a considerable amount of cultural exchange endeavors at the adult beverage dispensing emporium where I conducted my affairs.

I was sitting there one fine Saturday in early October 1962 engaged in, as I remember, a pedantic discussion with my fellow adult beverage consumers about the relative efficaciousness of the boll weevil as a health benefactor to the Rhode Island desert, when the emporium's social director (aka the bartender) handed me the phone.

I had no idea who would call me there. Perhaps it was Brook Benton, the singer of the "Boll Weevil Song," which reached #2 on the pop charts in 1962, President Kennedy, or the King of Denmark, neither of whom I suspected knew much about boll weevils. It was none of them.

"Good afternoon, corporal," the caller said.

"Corporal?" That perked me up. I was unaware that Boll Weevil conversationalists held military ranks or ratings—or that I was a corporal.

"This is captain....." I didn't catch the

**I forgave my mother for her willingness to send me off to war, which was the first time she did that, but not the last. She watched two of my brothers leave for Vietnam,...**

name, but I heard his message.

"We have been placed on standby for possible call up," he explained. "You have 48 hours to report to Garden City. We expect to see you here."

That part did not register with me immediately. My question was, "How did you know where to find me?"

"Your mother told me," he said

Why would my mother tell him where I was? Did she want me to go off to war? I know I didn't. And, apparently, neither did Nicki Khrushchev.

I reviewed the situation that was leading to the end of my hard-earned status as an inactive, i.e., one who was not active and therefore should not be reactivated, U.S. Marine. I knew the U.S. was on the verge of engaging in some unpleasantness with the USSR over some religious issue involving missals in a Cuban church—or was it missiles in Cuba? So my favorite president at the time, JFK, told his USSR counterpart, Nicki Khrushchev, to take his missals, or missiles—I wasn't clear on that—out of Cuba, lest he face the wrath of Art.

Apparently, when Nicki heard that I was about to return to Cuba (I had patrolled the fences around Guantanamo for a while in the early 1960s), he conferred with his Russian Orthodox priests (if it was missals) or military leaders (if it was missiles)—I wasn't clear on that—and decided to get out of Dodge. Good choice. But that didn't relieve my mother of her role in the Cuban Missile (or Missal) Crisis.

"Mom," I asked first chance I got, "why did you tell Captain Whatever His Name Was where I was?"

Now, if you hark back a few para-

graphs, you will note that I mentioned that my mother was an Irish Catholic. The Catholic part accounts for her George Washingtonesque answer.

"I cannot tell a lie," she answered, as if her obedience to truth was infallible.

"Even if it means sending your first-born son off to war and possibly a hero's death?" I responded.

She hesitated—and said "Yes."

That was when I vowed to ask the owner of the adult beverage dispensing facility to change his phone number. I had no idea of how many military disputes lay in America's future, or how many times I might be recalled, even if I were allegedly inactive, and to whom Mom might reveal my whereabouts. If she didn't have the correct phone number, she couldn't tell inquiring USMC captains where I was.

Luckily, the issue never came up again. As I said, Nicki heard I was coming and capitulated. The captain called me back the next day and told me to stand down, which I did gladly—as if I wanted to stand up. The Marine Corps never again solicited my help to resolve an international crisis.

I forgave my mother for her willingness to send me off to war, which was the first time she did that, but not the last. She watched two of my brothers leave for Vietnam, where both served tours as members of the U.S. Army. (Both returned safely.) And I admired her devotion to telling the truth, which is a fairly uncommon trait among citizens today. But, I still wonder why the military cannot at times discern the difference between an active and an inactive reservist.

I still worry about that every time the phone rings.

# Subsidized Revisit Korea Tours Expanded

By Warren Wiedhahn, Chairman, KWVA Revisit Committee

The Republic of Korea (ROK) subsidized "Revisit Korea Tours" will be expanded in 2016. In addition, "Korea Defense Veterans" will be eligible to submit applications. "War" veterans will still have the first priority. However, as the war veterans age, "Defense Veterans," those classified as having served in Korea from Oct 16, 1954 to the present, will be eligible to participate.

In view of this major change, we are lowering the required tour deposit from \$450.00 to a non-refundable sum of \$50.00 per person. This will permit us to build up a larger inventory of veterans desiring to "Return."

When the monthly quotas are received from the ROK Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MPVA), usually in February, we will notify "those registered" of the options, by month. If the "War" veterans' slots cannot be filled, we will then offer them to the "Defense" veterans who have pre-registered. This will be done on a "First come" basis. At that time, the balance of \$400.00 per person for administration, logistics, and insurance will be due, and the veteran(s) will be billed.

Important, please read carefully: all other eligibility requirements regarding health insurance, service "In, over, or around" Korea, etc., will remain applicable and can be read

on the NEW Revisit Korea registration form in *The Graybeards* magazine, or at [www.KWVA.org](http://www.KWVA.org) or [www.mil-tours.com](http://www.mil-tours.com).

**NOTE:** Veterans who have previously registered with a \$450.00 deposit will have the first priority.

## Reunion Calendar: 2016

Mail your info to Reunion Editor, The Graybeards, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573-7141 or email it to [sharp\\_arthur\\_g@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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.

### APRIL

**U.S. Army, 73rd Tank Bn.**, 5-8 Apr., Columbus, GA, Holiday Inn, 706-324-0231. Thomas Ruffo, 727-544-2811

### MAY

**73rd Heavy Tank Bn.** (Korea 50-57), 1-5 May, Pigeon Forge, TN. Vic Caproni, 5035 Dellers Glen, Cincinnati, OH, 513-662-4949, [vscaproni@yahoo.com](mailto:vscaproni@yahoo.com)

**67th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing** (All Units), U.S. Air Force, 9-13 May, Charleston, SC. Marion Edwards, 126 Willow Ave., Greenfield Twp, PA 18407, 570-222-4307, [jeeme@nep.com](mailto:jeeme@nep.com)

### SEPTEMBER

**USS Hornet** (CV-8/CV/CVA/CVS-12). All ship's company, officers, Air Groups, crew, Marines and families welcomed. 13-18 Sept., Portland, OR, Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel. Sandy Burket, P.O. Box 108, Roaring Spring, PA 16673-9817, (814) 224-5063, [hornetcva@aol.com](mailto:hornetcva@aol.com), <http://www.usshornetassn.com/>

**44th Engineer Bn. Assn.** (Brokenheart), 14-16 Sept., St. Joseph, MO, Drury Inn & Suites. Ken Jobe, 757-428-0328, [kejo425@aol.com](mailto:kejo425@aol.com), Rex Hurd, 816-688-7470, [rhurd55@yahoo.com](mailto:rhurd55@yahoo.com), or Joe Sopher, 740-465-5015, [Jelesopher@aol.com](mailto:Jelesopher@aol.com). Welcome to all Korean War alumni.

**USS Colonial** (LSD18), 14-18 Sept., Albuquerque, NM, MCM Elegante Hotel. Ron Wingo, 2316 Haynes Dr, Midland, TX 79705, 432 684 8545, [ronald.wingo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ronald.wingo@sbcglobal.net)

### OCTOBER

**25th Infantry Division Assn.**, 3-8 Oct., Honolulu, HI. Sarah S. Krause, 215-248-2572, [TropicLtn@aol.com](mailto:TropicLtn@aol.com) or [25thida.org](http://25thida.org)

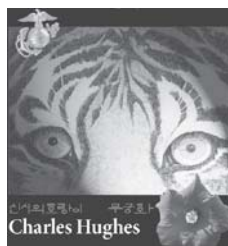
## Accordion War: Korea 1951 Life and Death in a Marine Rifle Company



A personal narrative of combat by Charles "Doc" Hughes. *"Flags of Our Fathers" came close but you nailed it.* Maxwell Baker FMF Corpsman, Vietnam/Korean War vet.

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Leatherneck, Magazine of the Marines



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## CID 325, Central Arkansas, Remembers

There stands in Little Rock, Arkansas a Korean War Memorial that reminds citizens of the rigors of that war. It was featured in a 24 May 2009 article in the Pine Bluff Commercial featuring a Memorial Day commemoration. Here is a brief excerpt from that article furnished by chapter members. Unfortunately, we could not reprint it clearly due to technological considerations.

"Recent preparations for Memorial Day and for those who served in the Korean War era, Gerald Andrews, AARP Hub 5 leader for Southeast Arkansas,...along with members of the Arkansas Korean War Memorial Foundation Board, who established and constructed the memorial in McArthur Park, met recently with the consulate general of the Republic of Korea, Consul General Yun-Soo Cho, who was here on a mission to the government of Arkansas. The consul general was given a tour of the Arkansas Korean War Memorial, dedicated in 2007.

"Over \$400,000 was contributed via the Korean government, expressing thanks to Americans who sacrificed their lives.

"The memorial is full of symbolism. The statues of two soldiers represent the 22 United Nations forces that fought and died for the freedom of the Korean people. Of the two, one is African American, symbolizing the end of racial segregation in the U.S. military forces. The other is a medfo (sic) in tribute to the Army combat medics and Navy corpsmen who labored under hostile fire and risked their lives to save the lives of others.

"The medic is reaching out to two Korean children, which symbolizes the humanitarian efforts that took place to aid the Korean people in their time of desperation. The statues are surrounded by black marble memorial panels with the names of the [461] Arkansans who gave their lives during the Korean War...."

*Submitted by John C. Winningham, 501-724-0782, RonaldPaul@sbcglobal.net*

## Our Korean 'Swimming Hole'

*By Dave Newman*

While looking at some old pictures that a Korean buddy of mine, Cpl. Gene Rogers, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, sent me a few years ago, I was reminded of the following event.

After our unit had been on line for two months, we were finally relieved and moved to a place the U.S. Army named "Camp Casey," which was very near Panmunjom, where the peace talks were taking place. We had swapped areas with the unit on line and some of our guys had "borrowed" some of their sandbags in the exchange. One of the many small streams that flowed down the Korean hills that surrounded us wound close by our company area.

Since the closest shower point was miles away, over some very rough, dusty roads, some of our guys got the idea of damming the stream with sandbags to provide a convenient place where we not only could take a bath, but also wash clothes. (Note in the nearby picture how the ground around the pond slopes in every direction.) As users left the pond site, they became involved in a hike that developed into a 45-degree rise that surrounded the pond on three sides.

From our viewpoint, while we were bathing, the source of the stream was so far away it was undetectable. Close to the top, again, hundreds of feet up, there was an outcropping of huge boulders with overhangs that looked as if they could tumble down on us at any time. I had been to the pond a few times. On one occasion, while getting ready to go in, we had only 'G.I.' swimsuits, i.e., shorts and tee shirts. I took the time to study these massive rock formations.

During my visits before, I thought about the damage an enemy machine gun located in those rocks could do to those of us relaxing in the hot sun and in the cool water of our swimming hole. I knew we were supposed to be in a secure location but, because of infiltrators and guerrilla activity, we were still

required to carry our M-1, ammo harness, and steel pot.

As I studied the rock formations closer, I spotted what looked like a slit or fighting aperture you would expect to see in a fortified bunker. As I looked, my curiosity got the better of me and I made the trek up that steep hill to find out for sure what I was seeing.

Two other guys could also make out the openings I pointed out, so they climbed with me. Picture this: three young troopers (I was an old 21 at the time) in their shorts and tee shirts with combat boots half laced and carrying guns and ammo up this steep, unforgiving hill!

As we grew closer to the rock formation where the "slit" was, it suddenly dawned on us that if someone were in the enclosure, we were so bunched up they could take us out with one burst from a "Burp" gun or hand grenade out the opening.

With that in mind, one trooper went left, another right, and I took the center. By this time the climb was getting the best of us. We approached the bunker very slowly. We called into the hollow opening. After several attempts with no reply, we had to see what was inside. At the time I was 6'1" and weighed about 130 lbs. I was slimmest trooper of the three. After a very undemocratic vote, I was nominated to go into the small opening.

With considerable effort, my buddies pushed me through the opening. Once inside, I could almost stand straight up. Having just gone from bright sunshine outside into this pitch black tomb, I was totally blinded! As my eyesight finally adjusted, I could see a

Please turn to **SWIMMING** on page 25



The "Old swimming hole"

DO YOUR DUTY...  
**WOTE!**

DO YOUR DUTY...  
**WOTE!**

DO YOUR DUTY...  
**WOTE!**

## ALL MEMBERS

The following candidates have been certified to seek the positions indicated for the KWVA's 2016 Election. Effective upon the closing date of December 15, 2015, the members of the Election Committee have reviewed all letters, documents, etc. received from each candidate for office. It is our opinion that all of the requirements have been met as listed in the Association's By-Laws, Procedure Manual and as published in The Graybeards.

The names have been submitted to the Secretary, the Webmaster, and the editor of The Graybeards for the printing of

the ballots. The Committee has submitted the names in alphabetical order for each position.

Please pass the word to all members to VOTE, as it will help in getting more members to submit their ballots this year.

Applicants' resumes and pictures are listed below.

Respectfully Submitted,

KWVA Elections Committee

Albert McCarthy, Chairman

Tine Martin Sr.

W. Bradford Chase Jr.

Vartkess Tarbassian

## CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT

- Thomas W. Stevens

## CANDIDATES FOR 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

- George S. Covell
- Warren Wiedhahn

## CANDIDATES FOR 2ND VICE PRESIDENT

- Jeffrey Brodeur
- Stanley J. Grogan

**You cannot vote for more than four of the Directors listed below**

## CANDIDATES FOR DIRECTORS

- William L. Bishop
- George Bruzgis
- Narce Caliva
- David J. Clark

- Paul Cunningham
- Luther W. Dappen
- Bruce R. Harder
- Wilfred E. Lack

The letters submitted by the candidates have been edited slightly to fit the format of The Graybeards. The contents of the letters were not affected by the editing process.

## PRESIDENT

### THOMAS W. STEVENS



My decision to become a candidate for the office of, President of the Korean War Veterans Association is based on my interest in furthering KWVA's growth in membership and National influence as a Congressionally Chartered Veteran Service Organization. My qualifications for this office, for your consideration are, two consecutive three year terms as a National Director, which will be completed in 2016 . As a National Director I

served as Membership Chairman for several years and more recently as National Bylaws Chairman . While serving KWVA in these two capacities, I gained an appreciation for the importance of the contin-

uation of the Korean War legacy. In this regard I hold in high esteem, Professor Jongwoo Han's annual gathering of Korean War Veteran 's grand and great grandchildren along with current H.S. History teachers and the ongoing KWVA "Tell America Program". Two of my grandchildren participated in his conference in 2013 . It was an "eye opening" experience for them.

On a local level, I was a founder of KS Chapter # 181 in the year, 2000 and served as its first Sec/Treasurer. I was instrumental in obtaining a Chapter 501c3, obtaining funding, planning and helping to oversee construction of the Korean War Memorial in Overland Park, KS. For the last five years I have served as the Chapter President, planning and coordinating all Chapter activities as well as coordinating and performing MC duties at numerous Veterans Day and Memorial Day ceremonies conducted at our Memorial.

I was in the USAF, July, 1951-April, 1955, having enlisted upon graduating from Ozark, MO High School. I was Honorably discharged as a Staff Sergeant. As a tail gunner on a B-29, I flew 27



combat missions from Kadena Air Base, Okinawa to various targets in N. Korea as well as front line support missions. Upon my return to the States, I was trained and assigned as a right waist gunner on a B-50 crew. Initially I was stationed at Biggs AFB, El Paso, TX I was later reassigned to, Walker AFB, Roswell, NM, still as a right gunner on B-50s. I was Honorably discharged in April, 1955, from Walker AFB.

I am a 1959 graduate of Drury University, Springfield, MO with an AB. Economics/Psychology. I attended college with the assistance of the GI Bill of Rights & part-time employment.

My business career consists of 32 yrs. 7 mos. in the management of Southwestern Bell Telephone Co.

Wife, Barbara and I have been married 57 yrs. We have four adult "children" and seven grandchildren.

My date of birth, Feb. 23, 1933.

My current mailing address: 5301 W. 122nd Terrace, Overland Park, KS 66209 Telephone: (913) 696-0447, cell (913) 449-7990

Email, [stevenst@swbell.net](mailto:stevenst@swbell.net)

If elected I will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and understand that (2) unexcused absences could be used for removal from office.

I hereby release this application for verification by the Election Committee. I am a Life Member of KWVA My Life Member number is LR25716 Your vote would be very much appreciated.

## 1st VICE-PRESIDENT

### GEORGE S. COVEL



I, George S. Covell, hereby state my intention to run for the office of 1st Vice-President of the Korean War Veterans Association. I am a Life Member of the association with dues paid through the upcoming term of office and beyond. I promise to attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors during my term of office. I understand that two (2) unexcused absences from such meetings may be cause for my removal from office.

I am currently a Life Member of the Northeast Chapter 59, KWVA and an active member of Adirondack Chapter 60, KWVA. I have been Chairman of the Memorial Service for the Department of New York's annual convention. I first joined the KWVA at its beginning, but due to poor communication during those early days, I became inactive until rejoining in the late '90s, when I joined the Northeast Chapter. I am currently finishing a term as Director of the KWVA, and a Past Director/Trustee of the Department of New York, Korean War Veterans Association. During my term as Director, I have served on the By-Laws Committee, under Past Chairman Lewis Ewing and our current Chairman, Tom Stevens.

During the Korean War I enlisted in 1952 to serve in the First Army Band, but, as is usual with the Army and its penchant for snafu, I was sent to Camp Gordon, GA to learn to be a high-speed radio operator. After finishing training, I was assigned to the First Army Band until I

came up on a levy for FECOM. I served from 1952 through 1954 (six years after I had polio), 1953-54 as a Sergeant (E-5), Tuba Section Leader, 8th Army Band, which was the ceremonial band for the United Nations Command Honor Guard. During red alerts, Bed-Check Charlie and ground alerts, I handled the .50 caliber machine gun on a tower in our compound.

Following my discharge, I served in the NY National Guard as a Court Reporter in the JAG section, 42nd Inf. Div., where I rose to the rank of MSGT (E-7) until 1960, when I received a COG Honorable Discharge which was necessitated by my employment at the United Nations as an English language verbatim reporter of debates. Seems the UN was considered a foreign government and it would be a conflict of interest for me to be in the National Guard and work at the UN at the same time.

My desire to serve my fellow veterans of the Korean War is prompted by a wish to see our membership rolls grow as a result of the hard work done by Sonny Edwards, Past Membership/Recruiting Committee Chairman, and his successor Director Bob Fitts, to enlarge our membership. I want to work to get the word out about Korean veterans and what we did and how we do not want to see our efforts or the memories of our fallen comrades forgotten. We have been The Forgotten War too long; we must continue doing something about it, and that's why I want to serve you. I also want to see our organization continue on a sound financial basis.

My education and prior employment, plus my long history of service to my colleagues in my profession, fellow union members and fraternal brothers gives me the experience to serve as First Vice-President of this great organization of ours. I attended Hofstra College (now Hofstra University), Juilliard School of Music, and have attended Skidmore College as an audit student for the past several years. I worked for 45 years as a court reporter, working in the NYS Supreme Court, NYS Court of Claims, the United Nations, and, as a free-lance reporter in New York, New Jersey and Washington, DC, where I had the opportunity to work at The White House. For 25 years, I was the official reporter for the Grand Lodge conventions of the BPO Elks Lodge. Serving the youth of my area, I skated as a USA Hockey Referee until age 70.

My association experience includes being a Past Exalted Ruler of an Elks Lodge, Vice-President of a labor union local and a board member of two other labor union locals. I am a Past President of my professional organization, with ten years as its Legislative Committee Chairman.

I am married to the former Joan Borowiec of Lowville, NY, for the past 63 years. We are the parents of five children, have nine grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Joan has been very supportive of me in all of my service to the organizations of which I have been a part.

All information contained in this letter and the copy of the Membership Application Form is hereby released to the Elections Committee for verification.

George S. Covell, Life Member #LR7212  
850 County Route 61  
Shushan, NY 12873  
(518) 854-3128  
[georgecovell@yahoo.com](mailto:georgecovell@yahoo.com)

## WARREN WIEDHAHN



I am proud to announce my candidacy for 1st Vice President of the KWVA

I entered the Marine Corps in 1948, after graduating from High School. After two years in Tsingtao, China, I returned home to await separation, and then on to college. This dream went away in June, 1950 when the Korean War broke out. I served in Korea from August to December 1950 in the Pusan Perimeter, Inchon Landing Seoul and the Chosin Reservoir. For the

next thirty years, I served in various posts and stations around the world and retired honorably in 1982. In 1968-69 I served in Vietnam.

I am a Life Member of the KWVA and President of Northern Virginia Chapter #100. I previously served on the KWVA Board of Directors and one term as 1st Vice President. I have been appointed as the KWVA National liaison and Revisit Korea Coordinator. I consider the next two years to be those of "Transitioning" from the Korean War Veterans to the Korea Defense Veterans and would like to remain a part of this process. We have a vast wealth of experience with those who have served in Korea in peace time. I feel very strongly that they will carry on our Legacy well into the future.

I hereby certify that I will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and that I understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for my removal from office. I also release my application form for verification by the Election Committee.

Warren H. Wiedhahn, Life Member # LR 06555, 8361 Queen Elizabeth Blvd., Annandale, VA 22003, 703-978-5458 (H), 703-307-8959 ©, JWeidhahn@aol.com

Respectfully submitted,  
Warren Wiedhahn

## 2nd VICE PRESIDENT

## JEFFREY BRODEUR



This letter is to announce my candidacy for KWVA 2nd Vice President to serve from June 25, 2016 - June 25, 2018. I am a Life Member (# LR35528) so therefore my dues are paid to present date. If elected, I promise to attend all called meetings and understand that two unexcused absences could result in my removal from office. I am releasing the KWVA application form for verification of eligible service years.

I joined the US Army in 1982 and was honorably discharged in 1989 as a Corporal. I was a team and squad leader as an Infantryman, Indirect Fire Infantryman and Infantry Scout with the 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barracks Hawaii, 2nd Infantry Division at Camp Garry Owens Korea, and 26th Infantry Division, Massachusetts National Guard and deployed to Australia, Japan, the PTA Big Island of Hawaii. I did my Infantry and AIT Training at Fort Benning Georgia and worked with sol-

diers from Korea, Japan. Australia, New Zealand and the Gurkhas out of Hong Kong throughout my Army career. I am a recipient of the Korean Defense Service Medal and also a Life Member and member of the VFW, AmVets, American Legion, AUSA, 25th ID Assn and 200 ID Assn.

After the military, I worked for the United States Postal Service in Boston and attended the University of Massachusetts-Boston where I graduated in 2005 and obtained my Associates Degree in American Studies. Bachelors Degree in Sociology and Criminal Justice, Master's Degree in Applied Sociology and Certificate in Advanced Graduate Studies (C.A.G.S.) in Forensics Services.

In 1999, I became involved with the Korea Defense Veterans of America. The organization spearheaded the bill for the Korea Defense Service Medal. I brought in a dozen co-sponsors for the bill which was signed into law on Dec 2, 2002. After the bill was passed. I became a national officer and I founded our own chapter in the New England area. In 2004, we brought 335 members into the KWVA and became Korean War Veterans Association. Korea Veterans of America, Chapter # 299.

In 2005, I was elected KWVA National Director for 2 three years terms from 2005-2011. In those 6 years, I was the KWVA National Membership Chairman. Under my leadership as Membership Chairman with little or no budget we brought in over 7,000 members. At every annual meeting, we gave out decals, flyers, and posters to the chapters who were in attendance. I helped pass many legislative bills for both our Korea War and Korea Defense Service Veterans and helped the KWVA obtain our federal charter, signed into law on June 28, 2008. The KWVA chapter I founded, started the KWVA Color Guard duties at Arlington National Cemetery, Korean War Memorial and our National Convention in 2004 and my Past Chapter Commander, who I recruited, became KWVA Fundraising Chairman bringing in over \$500,000 for the KWVA. I am presently KWVA National Chairman for the Korea Defense Service Memorial and on the KWVA National Recruiting Committee.

I am happily married to my wife Maura who served in the US Navy and we have 2 children, Colleen, and Vincent who served in Iraq with the 82nd Airborne Division and was severely wounded. He was in a coma for a year and has had 43 operations. We have 3 grandchildren, Austin, Fiona and Jack.

I will bring to the forefront with the VA the medical ailments incurred by our Korea War Veterans and especially the Agent Orange issue which many of our Korea Defense Service Veterans have been exposed to. This issue has been swept under the rug by the VA. Our Korean War Veterans are aging and we need to get younger Korea Defense Service Veterans involved in the KWVA. I have a lot of experience in the KWVA and have been loyal and dedicated to the KWVA for over a decade.

I need the support of every member that wants the KWVA to continue to honor our history. Please fill out the Ballot now & send it in. Make your vote count. I truly thank you for your consideration and support.

Jeffrey J. Brodeur, M.A. / C.A.G.S. (LR35528),  
48 Square Rigger Lane, Hyannis, Ma 02601  
kvamane@aol.com / 617-997-3148



## STANLEY J. GROGAN



I intend to run for the Office of Second Vice President.

I have extensive experience in public affairs and have been awarded two USAF Commendation Medals in Japan and in Germany for effective PR activities. In civilian life my publications have appeared annually in brochures circulated throughout South Asia. Also I have an earned M.A. in Mass Communications.

This year I received an award for my many years as Vice Chairman of the International Institute of Security and Safety Management. I also hold an advanced degree in management and am a Distinguished Graduate of the Allied Officer Course at Maxwell AFB, AL, Class 62-6.

My current mailing address: 2585 Moraga Drive, Pinole, CA 94564-1236. KWVA membership #LR12180 (Life). Tel: (510) 758-7534. No email.

Alternative mailing: P.O. Box 241, Rodeo, CA 94572. No alternate phone.

I will attend all meetings of the board of Directors and understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for removal from office.

I release the application form for verification by the Election Committee.

I am a Life member. No check required.

Stanley J. Grogan  
2585 Moraga Drive  
Pinole, California 94564

## DIRECTORS

### WILLIAM L. BISHOP



I am proud to submit my name as a candidate for the Korean War Veterans Association Board of Directors for the years 2016-2019.

I joined the U.S. Army in January, 1955 directly from college and was assigned to the Army Security Agency. After being trained as a cryptanalyst and graduating near the top of my class, I was assigned to the newly formed National Security Agency for the remainder of my Army

tour. Because of sensitive security requirements, I cannot spell out details of that assignment.

Following my Army tour, I returned to college and got a BA degree from Lamar University in Texas. My civilian employment thereafter includes another 35 years with the National Security Agency as an analyst, Senior Staff Officer and Administrator. Again, specific details of my work are classified.

For most of my adult life I have worked with veterans organizations and veterans issues through various non-profit groups. I am a PUFL

member of the American Legion as well as a Life member of the KWVA. I am a founding member of Antietam Chapter 312 of the KWVA in Hagerstown, MD. I have served as an officer of that chapter every year but one including the Secretary during the early years, the Commander during the Goth Anniversary and 1st Vice-Commander presently. I have also been the Membership Chairman, Newsletter editor, Tell America coordinator and I currently handle Public Relations for the chapter as well as Monument Chairman. At the National KWVA level, I have served on the AVKF Scholarship Committee for two years. In 2013, I was selected Veteran of the Year by our local Joint Veterans Council.

Over the years, I have been part of numerous community non-profits such as the Boys & Girls Clubs and local Recreation Council in leadership positions. I am a member of the Elks and have served in leadership positions at the local, state and national levels. Through all these activities, I continued my education at the University of Maryland where I got an MA degree and where I taught International Relations courses for 8 years. I believe these experiences have given me great insight to address organizational issues before the Board of Directors.

As a life member, my dues are paid and I will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors. I understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used to remove me from office. I approve release of this letter to the Election Comm.

William L. (Les) Bishop, LR39517, 11822 Oriole Drive, Hagerstown, MD 21742, e-mail: lbishop@myactv.net, 240-420-3755- Home, 240-382-0289 - cell.

## GEORGE BRUZGIS



I am announcing my candidacy for the office of Director of the Korean War Veterans Association for the years 2016 thru 2019.

### Military Experience

I entered the army in January 1953 and completed basic training in Fort Knox Armored Center, Kentucky. After training I was attached to the 7th Infantry Division, 73'd Tank Battalion, Able Company, Third Platoon as a loader on a 32 tank. We were stationed on the front lines (Iron Triangle) until the Armistice was signed on July 27th, 1953, at which point we were moved further south. I served in Korea for 15 months before returning to Aberdeen Proving Ground as a Corporal, was promoted to Staff Sergeant, and honorably discharged in March of 1957, after serving two enlistments.

Included among my military decorations are the Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Medal, the Korean Service Medal with 1 Bronze Star, United Nations Service Medal, Korean Campaign Medal and Ambassador of Peace Medal from the Korean Government.

### Civilian Life

I worked in NYC as an Operating Engineer for the Galbreath Corporation, retiring in 1995 as an assistant chief engineer for the Goldman Sachs building. In 1965 my wife and I moved to New Jersey with our two children, where we still reside.

## Organizations

- National Director for the KWVA - completed 2011-2012 vacancy, 2013-2016
- KWVA Taejon Chapter 170 - member since 1998, National member since 1999
- Quartermaster, Junior Vice Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Commander, KWVA Department of New Jersey
- 3rd Vice Commander 2001-2003, 1st Vice Commander 2003-2007, NJ State Commander 2007-2012

As NJ State Chairman, I organized and was master of Ceremonies on July 27th for the anniversary of Korean War Armistice ceremony in Atlantic City, NJ for 2007 through 2010.

Attended several KWVA national conventions, and attended all KWVA meetings

Represented the KWVA at many Korean functions within the NY/NJ area

Attended by invitation the Korea Ceremony at the UN with Director McHugh

Work with both the New Jersey Republican and Democratic parties on Veterans Affairs Work with several local schools on the "Tell America" program

I am a life member of the KWVA, VFW, and the DAV.

I have attended several ceremonies in Washington DC and proudly presented the Wreath at the Korean War Memorial and Arlington Cemetery

I have signed the Code of Conduct

If elected I will attend all called meetings and understand the 2 unexcused absences could be used for removal from office .

I request your support to allow me the opportunity to continue to represent all Korean Veterans. I will do my utmost to represent the KWVA.

Always remember "FREEDOM IS NOT FREE"

George Bruzgis LR25454  
230 Legion Place  
Haledon NJ 07508  
973-956-8672 <gbruzgis@aol.com>

## NARCE CALIVA



My name is Narce Caliva and this letter announces my candidacy to fill a KWVA Director position for the years of 2016—2019.

As a Life Member, my dues will remain current through the term of office. My DD214 and KWVA membership application forms are submitted and may be released for verification by the Election Committee. I will attend all called meetings of the Board of

Directors and understand that two unexcused absences may be cause for removal from office.

## Background and Qualifications

Native Californian, enlisted in the U.S. Army at 19, became an NCO in the Military Police, then an OCS graduate, 2nd Lt, Transportation Corps. Arrived Korea July 1951, promoted to 1st Lt in December, served 20+ months, at Wonju and Pusan, in units of the 52nd and 296th Truck Battalions. Released to Reserves in 1953 and returned to college.

Earned three business degrees, including from Sacramento State College and the American Institute of Foreign Trade (now Thunderbird School of Global Management).

**Employment:** 30 years, American Red Cross (ARC), 1959-1989, primarily in two major Services, progressing in both from field to senior management positions:

**Service to the Armed Forces & Veterans:** Field Director staff at USA, USAF, USN and USMC bases in U.S., Spain & Germany. Regional supervisor in the U.S., Vietnam, Japan & Korea. Manager of Service to the Armed Forces, Western U.S. Area 1978 to 1981.

**Service to Divisions & Chapters:** From field representative, helping local chapters in five states, to manager, 1974-78, supervising the 12 division managers responsible for guiding and assisting the 1,200 chapters then existing in the Western U.S. and Pacific.

**General Management:** For 7 Years, 1981-88, Was Managing Director, Arc European Area Hq, Stuttgart, Germany, In Charge Of All Arc Activities. Provided Services To The Military At 80 Locations, Aided By 7,000+ Volunteers. After Retiring From Nhq In 1989, I Spent 10 Years As The Volunteer State Field Service Chairman Assisting 70+ Va Chapters.

**KWVA:** Have Participated In Virtually All Shenandoah Valley Chapter #313 Activities, Including Building Our Korean War Memorial, And Attending State, Regional And National Events, Including The Last Two National Conventions, And A Number Of Korean Embassy Functions. Have Served Two Terms As 1st Vice Commander And Two Terms As Commander, Was An Elected Dept. Of Virginia Director, And A Vice President. I'm Also Currently A Member Of The Kwva National Scholarship Committee For The Second Year.

**Recognition:** Recipient Of: The Tiffany Award For "Excellence In Management," Presented Personally By The Arc National Chairman; The Clara Barton Honor Award For "Meritorious Volunteer Leadership"; And, Most Recently, Presented At A Wh Ceremony In Washington, Dc, On October 2, 2015, The "President's Lifetime Achievement Award."

### What I'll Bring To The Board

The Very Existence Of Our Organization Is Threatened, If For No Other Reason Than The Thinning Of Our Ranks. However, We Are Dedicated To Continuing The Pursuit Of Our Goals, To Which I Am Firmly Committed, And I Would Like To Have A Part In Helping Lead Our Efforts.

Kwva Will Need Directors With Records Of Demonstrated Leadership And Management Ability. As We Expand Membership, We Should Become More Inclusive And See More Diversity Everywhere. Also, I Believe We Should Provide More Assistance To Our Chapters, As May Be Requested Or Required. I Understand The Situation And Think My Experience Well Qualifies Me To Make A Significant,



## Positive Contribution To The Board's Work.

Please Give Me This Opportunity To Be Of Further Service. I Respectfully Ask For And Will Appreciate Every Vote Cast For Me To Be Elected One Of The Next Four Directors.

Narce Caliva, LR 42769,  
102 Killaney Court,  
Winchester, VA 22602-6796. Phone:  
(H) 540-545-8403. E-Mail: ncaliva29@ gmail.com. 2013 Oral  
History at kwva.org.

## DAVID J. CLARK



I am writing the Elections Committee to announce my intent to run for National Director of the KWVA.

My military qualifications and background include over 30 years of active commissioned service in the United States Army as a field artilleryman and military intelligence officer. I am a Korean Service Veteran who has served three two-year tours of duty in the Republic of Korea; the first from 1997-

1999 in the 501st Military Intelligence Brigade; the second from 2001-2003 as the Commander of the 524th Military Intelligence Battalion; and finally, from 2006-2008 in the USFK J-2 as the Director, All-Source Analysis Division. Further, I am a Veteran of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, where I served as the Director, Analysis & Production, CJ - 2, Multinational Force - Iraq from 2008-2009.

I served my final tour of active duty at the Pentagon as the Director for the Department of Defense's 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee (KW60), a three-year long effort to commemorate the key events of the Korean War, honor the service and sacrifice of Korean War Veterans and educate the American public on the continued significance of the Korean War. This worldwide program was very successful in raising the consciousness of the American and Allied public to the sacrifices made during the Korean War. On 27

July 2013, the program culminated with the Secretary of Defense hosting a ceremony on the National Mall in Washington, DC, commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the Signing of the Armistice featuring the President of the United States as the guest of honor.

The experience I gained in leadership positions throughout my 30-year military career coupled with the strong bonds and cooperative relationships forged with the KWVA leadership while serving as Director, KW60 are my most compelling credentials for serving as National Director. I would consider it a great honor and privilege to be elected to this important post within KWVA as it would provide yet another opportunity for me to serve Korean War and Korean Service Veterans and their families.

If elected to this position, I will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and recognize that two unexcused absences could be grounds for removal from office.

My KWVA membership number is as follows: LR45123. My dues are current.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

David J. Clark, Colonel [Retired], U.S. Army  
Chairman, KWVA Elections Committee  
15 Farnum Street  
Worcester, MA 01602-2101  
(508) 277-7300; mccarthy.albert@live.com

## PAUL CUNNINGHAM



I deem it both a privilege and a pleasure to submit my name as a candidate for the position of Director for a three year term commencing on June 25, 2016.

My military service began in 1948 when, given a guarantee of a tech school of my choice, I enlisted in the Air Force. Following basic training at Lackland AFB, I completed Radar Repairman School at Keesler AFB, in Biloxi, MS. My first duty assignment was with the 606th Aircraft &

Warning Sqdn. then based at Shaw AFB, SC. Within days after the outbreak of the Korean War, we received orders to ship to Korea. We arrived in Korea in September, 1950.

Duty stations included Pusan, Ulsan, Pyongtaek and Kimpo. After seventeen months, I was finally rotated stateside. I attained the rank of Staff Sergeant while in Korea. MY discharge in August, 1952, enabled me to matriculate in college that fall.

My career in education began as a high school history teacher. After seven years, I moved into school administration. I served in all capacities at both the school building level as well as central office positions including that of County Superintendent of Schools. While working for my doctors degree, I spent two years as Administrative Assistant to the Dean of the College of Education at Temple University.

I believe the people skills developed during the course of my career would serve me well in the position as a KWVA Director. In a more immediate sense, my role as one of the founders and prime movers in establishing the Gen. John H. Michaelis Ch. 327 of KWVA, Inc., is a practical application of leadership skills. As of this writing, our KWVA roster lists us with 88 members in good standing. Our charter was presented on April 1, 2015. I am proud to serve as this organizations first president.

As a life member of KWVA my dues are current. If elected as a Director, I pledge that I will attend all called meetings of the Board and fully understand that two missed meetings could be grounds for removal from office. I hereby grant to the Elections Committee permission to release the Application Form for verification purposes. Copies of the completed KWVA membership application form and separation paper Form 00214 are enclosed herewith.

Paul H. Cunningham, Ed.D LR 46220  
1841 Pool forge  
Lancaster, PA 17601  
pcunningham1841@verizon.net  
Home: (717)-299-1990;  
Cell: (410)-490-7652

**LUTHER W. DAPPEN**

This letter is to announce my candidacy for the office of National Director of the Korean War Veterans Association for the years 2016 and 2019. My membership number is LR 27827. I am a life member, so my dues are paid through 2019. Enclosed please find my DD214 and my membership application form.

I was born on a farm in South Dakota in 1930. I joined the army shortly after I graduated from High School. I served in Korea from November 1950 to September 1951. I was a member of the 25th Recon Company of the 25th Infantry Division. My rank while in Korea was Corporal. Our Company had so many casualties during this period of time, I feel fortunate to have survived.

When I returned from Korea, under the GI bill I attended Northern State University, and received a degree in Teaching. Later, I received my Masters degree in Education from the University of Wyoming. I taught in the public schools in Iowa and South Dakota for 10 years. In 1965, I joined the Job Corps in Tamarac, Minnesota. My duties were counseling, motivating and evaluating all Corpsmen. Four years later, President Nixon decided to close most of the Job Corps Centers, so I was transferred to the Flandreau Indian School in South Dakota. This school is an off reservation boarding school serving Native American Indian students grade 9-12. I was a guidance Counselor at this school until my retirement in 1992.

In the summer of 2000, I returned to Korea on the revisit program. Seoul, Korea was a big surprise to me, with all the modern sky scrapers. My thoughts were: Those P51's could not make it down the streets in their strafing runs like they did during the first week of January, 1951. These planes would do a belly roll, and head back to Japan. Ten years later, 2010 I took my 2nd revisit to Korea. This revisit program is a must for our Korean War Veteran. All Korean War Veteran should take advantage of this terrific program.

In the year 2000, our KWVA Chapter 194 (South Dakota) was organized. The 1st two years I was elected as Vice President. From 2002-2004, I was elected and held the position of President.

I have served two previous terms as a National Director, 2009-2012 and 2012-2015. During my term, I served as Chairman of the Resolutions Committee. I would like to work toward increasing membership at our National Convention, especially I would like to see more Chapter Presidents in attendance.

I am a life member of the DAV, VFW, and American Legion, and past commander. I am still active on the Color Guard squad for local veteran funerals giving them their Military Honors. I am the Buddy Poppy chairman for our VFW.

I am willing to do the best job as a Director for the good of the KWVA. I have signed the code of conduct. I am proud to be a Korean War Veteran and if I am elected, I will attend all meetings of the Board of Directors. I understand that two unexcused absence could be used for my removal from office.

Luther Dappen  
510 W. Pipestone Ave.

Flandreau, SD 57028  
(605-997-2847 cell 605-864-8042)  
Lutherwdappen@yahoo.com

**BRUCE R. HARDER**

I hereby release this information for verification by the election committee.

I am proud to announce my candidacy for member of the Board of Directors of the KWVA.

In May 1969, I was commissioned a second lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps. I served two tours of duty in Vietnam. From 1969-70, I served a one-year tour in Vietnam, as an infantry platoon commander with the First Marine Division. From 1972-73 I was the intelligence officer for a Marine Fighter/Attack Squadron deployed aboard the aircraft carrier America. Subsequent tours of duty took me to a variety of locations at home and abroad where I held command and staff positions and took part in planning and executing joint and combined military exercises and operations. I was assigned to III Marine Expeditionary Force on Okinawa for 6 years. During this time, I deployed many times to the ROK to participate in planning and executing amphibious field exercises and command post exercises for the defense of the ROK. I was promoted to colonel in 1990, and retired from active duty on December 31, 1997, with 27 years of active duty.

From October 1997 until August 2002, I was the Director, National Security and Foreign Affairs for the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. While working for the VFW, I traveled to Southeast Asia, Northeast Asia, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, the Middle East, and Russia, and worked on National Security and POW/MIA issues.

I joined the staff of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) in August 2002 and was initially appointed to the position of Policy Advisor, Personnel Accounting Directorate, DPMO. From August 2002 to July 2013, I was the senior policy & strategic planning analyst responsible for developing policy positions for the Director, Defense DPMO, and team leader of the Northeast Asia personnel accounting policy team. I retired from federal civil service on July 31, 2015.

I am a Life Member of KWVA and member of the Northern Virginia Chapter # 100. On August 1, 2015, KWVA President Larry Kinard, appointed me as the POW/MIA Coordinator for the KWVA. I consider the next four years to be a critical period of transition of the organization from Korean War Veterans to Korean Defense Veterans. While working at DPMO, I visited the Korean Peninsula many times including two visits to North Korea (2002 and 2005) when DoD was conducting Korean War remains recovery operations in North Korea. I am a Korean Defense Veteran and would like to participate in this process of transition. In the KWVA we have a vast wealth of experience including those who have served in Korea in wartime and in peacetime. I feel very strongly that we must work together to carry on the legacy of the Korean War veterans who served with honor and distinction during the Korean War.

I hereby certify that I will attend all called meeting of the Board of Directors and that I understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for my removal from office.



Respectfully submitted,

Bruce R. Harder, Life Member# LR 46746,  
1047 Portugal Drive  
Stafford, VA 22554  
540-659-0252 (H), 540-729-2377 (C), harderbr@aol.com

## WILFRED E. LACK



Today I am announcing my intent to run for a director position in the KWVA. I served on active duty in the US Army from January 1951 until March 1957. My service in Korea was from April, 1953 until April, 1954. I was in several different areas of Korea during that time. First, I was assigned to G-2 section, Headquarters, Prisoner of War Command. While there, I traveled to and inspected all of our POW camps in Korea. When the cease fire was signed, I was sent to Inchon, where I helped coordinate the swap of North Korean and Chinese prisoners for returning Americans. From there, I was assigned to the 523rd Military Intelligence Company.

We were attached to Headquarters IX Corps and worked with their G-2 section. In April, 1954, I was transferred to Headquarters 500th Military Intelligence Group in North Camp Drake, Japan. I was NCOIC of the production section, supervising both military and civilian personnel. In Dec. 1954, I was moved again. This time to Special Projects Branch, J-2 Division, Headquarters, United Nations, Far East Command at Pershing Heights in Tokyo, Japan. I worked with the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and several other government agencies in gathering and analyzing intelligence from the entire Pacific Rim. I remained in that position until March, 1957, when I was sent to Oakland, California for discharge. My rank at time of discharge was

M/Sgt. At this point, I went to college, got a job and started my civilian life.

I worked for Sears and Western Auto for 31 years opening new stores and managing stores in MS, AL, NC, AR, FL, MO and TX. In 1988, I took an early retirement and went to Egypt, where I ran the PX system for Multinational Force and Observers (MFO). The MFO monitored the Egyptian/Israeli peace treaty. I lived in Egypt, but traveled to Israel every week. I also traveled

to other countries as needed. I was there during the Gulf War and was awarded a Civilian Commendation Medal for my 5 years of service there. I am now retired again but still am very active in my community. I have served on several boards and commissions at the city, county, and state level.

At the present time I'm Chairman of the Asheville ABC Board in Asheville. We control all aspects of liquor sales. We operate 10 stores that sell more than 30 million dollars a year. We also are involved in issuing licenses to restaurants, hotels, etc. and training their employees and investigating any irregularities. We also do law enforcement. My other job right now is the one I enjoy the most. I am Commander of WNC Chapter 314, KWVA. We need more chapters in North Carolina and that is why I would like to be a Director. I know that I can make a difference because I've been working with people my entire adult life.

If elected, I will attend all called meetings. I understand that two unexcused absences could be used as a reason for my removal from office. I also release my application form for verification by the Election Committee.

Wilfred E. Lack, LR433700  
319 Sulphur Springs Rd.  
Asheville, NC 28806  
Tel: 828-253-5709  
Bill.Lack@charter.net

## 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](mailto: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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# AMERICAN VETERANS OF KOREA FOUNDATION

Honorable KIM, Jung Hoon, Chairman

## Korea Veterans Scholarship Program

The Korea Veterans Scholarship Program is an outreach of the American Veterans of Korea Foundation (AVKF), a foundation created by the Honorable Representative Kim, Jung Hoon, member of the Republic of Korea National Assembly. The AVKF's mission is to provide support to American Veterans of Korea and their families in appreciation for the selfless sacrifices of United States veterans for Korea's peace and freedom during the Korean War and to honor their legacy.

### Scholarship Program

This Scholarship Program consists of multiple \$2,000 non-renewable scholarships. The funds may be used for any term during the next academic school year following receipt of the scholarship. Although this scholarship is not renewable, the applicants may reapply for the scholarship in subsequent years.

### Qualifications

The applicant **MUST** be a descendant (child, grandchild, or great-grandchild) of a veteran of Korea who is a Regular Member, currently in good standing, of the Korean War Veterans Association. Descendants of deceased veterans are eligible to apply with proof of veterans service.

The applicant must be a citizen of the United States.

First year students must have a Letter of Acceptance as a full-time student from the applicant's university or college.

- The applicant must be pursuing an Associate, Bachelor, or Advanced Degree in any discipline.
- The applicant must have a minimum 3.5 on a 4.0 scale. The GPA stated on the application must be verifiable from a transcript. High school and college transcripts must be submitted and must have a school name printed on it.
- For high school students entering college, this is a cumulative GPA for grades 9-11 and the first semester of the 12th grade.
- For students currently at a freshman level in college it is a cumulative GPA for grades 9-12 and the first semester of college.
- For college students who are sophomores or higher, it is their college transcript for all semesters completed.
- The applicant must submit a 200-400 word personal essay entitled, **"My future goals and aspirations and how I can use my college education to help achieve them."**

NOTE: Descendants of current Korean War Veterans Association officers and board members and descendants of members of the Scholarship Selection Committee are not eligible.

### Deadlines

All scholarship applications and requested materials must be submitted via U.S. Postal Service and RECEIVED by April 15, 2016.

The Scholarship Selection Committee will not acknowledge receipt of applications. For verification that it was received, send the application via U.S. Postal Service Certified Mail.

Faxes or emails will not be accepted.

### Notification to Recipients

All scholarship recipients will be notified by June 1, 2016. Only recipients will be notified. Checks will be delivered to the Financial Aid Officer at the recipient's college or university to be credited to the student's account.

No notification means the student did not receive the scholarship.

All decisions made by the Scholarship Selection Committee will be final.

Scholarship recipients will be recognized at a banquet to be held either in the Washington, D.C. area in July 2016 or at the KWVA Annual Meeting Banquet that will be held in October 2016 in Las Vegas, NV. Scholarship recipients will be notified of the date and location of the recognition banquet at a later date.

Although attendance at the banquet is not mandatory, scholarship recipients are encouraged to attend. Underage recipients are encouraged to travel with an accompanying adult.

### Required Materials

The following items are required to complete the application process. **These items must be submitted in a single envelope in the order listed.** All items received separately will not be considered.

- Application – must be on the original form, printed legibly or typed and signed
- Essay – must be typed (double spaced) and consist of 200-400 words
- GPA – submit all applicable high school and college transcripts
- First year student's Letter of Acceptance
- Proof of service for applicant's deceased Korea Veteran ancestor

### Mailing Address

American Veterans of Korea Foundation  
Scholarship Selection Committee  
310 Clay Hill Drive  
Winchester, VA 22602



# AMERICAN VETERANS OF KOREA FOUNDATION

## Korea Veterans Scholarship Program

### Application Form for Academic Year 2016-17

#### Student Information

Applicant's Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Applicant's Korea Veteran Ancestor \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Relationship to Veteran \_\_\_\_\_ KWVA Member # \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** If Applicant's Ancestor is deceased, applicant must provide proof of service.

#### College or University Information

School the student will be attending or is currently attending on a full-time basis leading to an Associate, Bachelor or Advanced degree.

In the 2016 Fall Semester I will enroll as a: ☐ Freshman ☐ Sophomore ☐ Junior ☐ Senior ☐ Advanced Degree

School \_\_\_\_\_ Degree Sought \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Financial Aid Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

#### Current Information

Cumulative GPA (as described on information sheet ) \_\_\_\_\_/4.0 scale.

In the space provided in each of the following categories, list your activities, leadership positions held and honors/awards received.

Scholastic Activities \_\_\_\_\_

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In-School Extracurricular Activities \_\_\_\_\_

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Community Activities \_\_\_\_\_

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Employment History, including Military Experience \_\_\_\_\_

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By my signature, I certify that all information and documents included in my application for this scholarship are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Further, my signature certifies I understand that if the terms of the scholarship are violated, the scholarship will be withdrawn. (Terms: I understand that I must be officially accepted for enrollment in 2016 classes at the school stated.)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Korean War MIAs Recently Identified

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

**Army Pfc. David S. Burke**, 18, of Akron, Ohio, was buried Jan. 15, in Rittman, Ohio. On Nov. 25, 1950, Burke was assigned to Company C, 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, when his unit was attacked by the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces (CPVF), near the border between China and North Korea. Under pressure, outnumbered and surrounded by CPVF roadblocks, they were unable to escape. After suffering heavy casualties, the unit was forced to surrender to the CPVF, and four officers and 136 enlisted soldiers were taken prisoner, including Burke. Following the attack, the U.S. Army declared Burke missing in action.

In September 1953, as part of a prisoner of war exchange known as "Operation Big Switch," returning American soldiers who had been held as prisoners of war reported that Burke had died between March and May 1951 from malnutrition. A military review board later amended his status to deceased.

Between 1990 and 1994, North Korea returned to the United States 208 boxes of commingled human remains, which when combined with remains recovered during joint recovery operations in North Korea, account for the remains of at least 600 U.S. servicemen who fought during the war. North Korean documents included in the repatriation indicated that some of the remains were recovered from the area where Burke and other members of his unit were held at POW Camp 5. Among those same remains were Chaney and Ivey (see below).

**Army Sgt. 1st Class Dean D. Chaney**, 21, of Bloomville, Ohio, was buried Nov. 13 in his hometown. In late November, 1950, Chaney was assigned to Company K, 3rd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, which established defensive positions near Yongsan-dong, North Pyongan Province, Democratic People's Republic of Korea (D.P.R.K.), about ten

miles north of the Ch'ongch'on River. About 100 soldiers from the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces set up a roadblock behind the unit and cut off their withdrawal routes. These enemy forces quickly attacked the regiment. It was during this fight that Chaney went missing in action.

In 1953, during the prisoner of war exchanges historically known as "Operation Little Switch" and "Operation Big Switch," repatriated U.S. soldiers who had been held as prisoners of war reported that Chaney had died from mal-

nutrition at POW Camp 5 in April 1951. A military review board later amended Chaney's status to deceased.

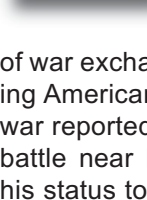


**Army Sgt. Robert C. Dakin**, 22, of Waltham, Mass., was buried Dec. 12 in his hometown. On Dec. 12, 1950, Dakin was assigned to Company L, 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division, and was declared missing in action when his unit was attacked by enemy forces near the Chosin Reservoir during a heated battle. A military board later amended his status to deceased when no information was available pertaining to his loss.

Between 1990 and 1994, North Korea returned to the United States 208 boxes of commingled human remains, which we now believe contain the remains of at least 600 U.S. servicemen who fought during the war. North Korean documents included in the repatriation indicated that some of the remains were recovered from the area where Dakin was believed to have died.

In June 1999 and July 2001, remains were recovered in Kujang County, North Korea, and in October 2000, additional remains and personal effects were recovered along the Kuryong River, North Korea.

**Army Cpl. Charles E. Ivey**, 21, of Henderson, N.C., will be buried Nov. 29 in his hometown. On Nov. 29, 1950, Ivey was assigned to Company K, 3rd Battalion, 187th Airborne Infantry Regiment, when his unit was attacked by enemy forces near Hajoyang, North Korea. During this battle, Ivey was declared missing in action.



In September 1953, as part of a prisoner of war exchange known as "Operation Big Switch," returning American soldiers who had been held as prisoners of war reported that Ivey had died Nov. 29, 1950, during the battle near Hajoyang. A military review board amended his status to deceased in March 1953.

**Army Cpl. Kenneth R. Stuck**, Co. L, 3rd Bn., 8th Cav. Regt., 1st Cav. Div., 11/2/1950, Accounted for 1/8/2016.

Today, more than 7,800 Americans remain unaccounted for from the Korean War. Using modern technology, identifications continue to be made from remains that were previously returned by North Korean officials or recovered from North Korea by American recovery 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](http://www.dpaa.mil) or call (703) 699-1420.

Source: <http://www.dpaa.mil/OurMissing/RecentlyAccountedFor/2015.aspx>



# 2003 50th Anniversary Korean Truce Remembered

By Norm Spring

(From our continuing series on where members were on 27 July 1953. The series can only continue if members submit their stories—which can include their whereabouts anywhere on that date, even outside Korea.)

Norm Spring is a retired teacher from the Grand Haven, MI school system who enjoys hunting, fishing and his family. But on July 27, 1953, he was huddled on the back side of a hill in Korea waiting an agonizing twelve hours for the truce to go into effect so the shelling would stop. Here is his story:

"I'd been on the front line in Korea since January 1, 1953. On July 27, we heard from the company commander that a truce had been signed that morning at 10 a.m.

"I was in the 31st Infantry Regiment of the 7th Division, called the Bayonet Division, and we were repairing trenches in an area adjacent to Old Baldy and Pork Chop Hill in the Iron Triangle area.

"Our commander warned us that the next twelve hours would probably be dangerous, since the North Koreans might throw their remaining ammunition at us before the truce went into effect. He told us this had happened in the last hours of World War II.

"Our division moved back to a blocking position approximately a quarter of a mile from the front line trenches. We sat on the back side of a steep hill.

"As predicted, shelling went on all day. Someone sitting right next to me got shrapnel in his leg from a cannon shell. No one in our company fired back. We just sat waiting.

"Finally, at 10 p.m. that night, the firing stopped, as if someone had turned off a water tap. Then we saw lights coming on both sides of the front line - truck lights, flashlights, candles and lanterns. It was a strange experience, because we had worked in the dark for so many months.

"Then some of us were surprised when we looked at the North Koreans; we hadn't known the size of their army until we saw all those lights come on. It was big.

"North Korean loudspeakers invited our soldiers to cross the line and join in a party. A few of our men did go over. They came back, but were court-martialed afterward for fraternizing with the enemy.

"I thought we'd be sent home right away, so I gave away my air mattress. It was an unlucky choice; it was not until the end of



Norm Spring at the 2013 Memorial Day parade in Grand Haven, MI

August that I was able to leave. The loss of men just three days prior to the 27th had been so heavy there was a shortage of manpower.

"However, I was happy to celebrate my 21st birthday in the United States. Now, over fifty years later, a statement I made to my hometown newspaper, the Ann Arbor News, after my return to the states seems in a way prophetic.

"A reporter had asked me why there wasn't more rejoicing after the truce was signed. I told him that the settlement had been expected for a long time and, besides, we feared that the fighting in Korea was not over yet.

"For many, it didn't seem as if the war had ended."

Norm Spring, 1416 Lake Ave.  
Grand Haven, MI 49417

**QUESTION:** Does anybody know of any specific court-martials conducted to punish friendly service members who visited with enemy Soldiers once the cease fire went into effect? If so, what were the outcomes, their punishments, etc? Please let the GB Editor know, at 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center FL 33573-7141. Thanks.

## Did you know?...

### Veterans Have 30 Days To Prove They Are Not Dead

According to a new VA policy, if the agency erroneously declares veterans dead, they and their beneficiaries will now have thirty days to prove they are not dead before they lose their military entitlements. The VA estimates that it mistakenly declares dead an average of twelve people a month nationwide. (Source: *Tampa Tribune*, 23 December 2015, p. 1.)

### 'Bad Papers'

In 2014, 4,143 service members received other-than-honorable discharges. [Of them], 637 received bad conduct discharges and 157 were dishonorably discharged. [Source: U.S. Defense Department, in "Some military discharges mean no benefits after service ends," by Jim Salter, Associated Press, *Tampa Tribune*, 12/25/15, p. 9]

### 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

### Photo Submission Guideline

When you submit photos, please provide the names of the subjects whenever possible and tell us whether they are left to right (L-R), right to left (R-L), etc.

# The Ultimate Catch-22

By Rego Barnett

Some of you may have read Joseph Heller's 1961 novel, *Catch-22*. (A "catch-22" is a situation in which a desired outcome or solution is impossible to attain because of a set of inherently contradictory rules or conditions.) Albert G. Holmes finds himself in a similar situation—and he is no doubt not alone.

Holmes wrote a letter to *The Graybeards* editor to explain his predicament and ask for help. He said, "I read your editor's comments in the January/February 2015 edition, and something jumped out at me. You said that one of your strongpoints is research. Well, maybe you can use your skills to help me get a Purple Heart that I earned in Korea."

Well, the editor did write that. And, he notes, "When it comes to research, it doesn't matter what you know. What matters is that you know where to go to get the information you need." He might have added, using VA logic, "If it exists." So, he is asking members of the KWVA who might have had—or are still having—a similar problem trying to get information or medals they might have earned but never received due to missing paperwork, lack of witnesses, fires at record centers...

Holmes was wounded in Korea in September 1952. He has never received a Purple Heart for his injury, despite years of trying to obtain one. His story is the typical *Catch-22* situation. Let him tell it.

I served in the Army from 1951-53 with Co. H, 27th Regt., 25th Inf. Div, 1951 to 1953 in Korea. I'm sure I have a Purple Heart coming. I have been trying for years to find out, but to no avail. I try; nothing happens. I've tried about 7-8 times so far.

I was on Heartbreak Hill when I first got to Korea, which is where I received my Combat Infantry Badge. After a while we went to a rear rest area. Then, we returned to Punchbowl for a while. My MOS was 1812, Heavy Weapons. I was in a machine gun unit.

It was on September 5th or 6th when I incurred a wounded foot. I was on Hill 1052 (I think). I had just relieved the troops in a bunker on the side of me. I was coming back from chow. As I reached the bottom of a hill, mortar rounds started dropping in. Just as I

reached my bunker, a round hit behind me. The repercussion threw me down the hill. When I tried to get up, I could not stand.

I crawled to my bunker and stayed there for a week or so. (I don't remember the exact time.) Other GIs brought me some of their food. After a while a company medic came and carried me down to the command post. From there I went to a MASH facility, where I stayed for a couple days.

The orderly in charge was pretty mad at me, so he gave me a hard time. I hobbled out to get something to eat, when I met a sergeant with two rockers. He said that there was an empty bunk next to his, so I left my assigned bunk and went to another tent that was nearer to the kitchen. I stayed there until I could stand on my foot again. Then I hitchhiked back to my outfit—where I belonged.

Since I wasn't getting any mail, I limped to my command post. The officer there (he could have been a lieutenant or a captain) asked, "Where have you been? You are listed as AWOL."

When I told my story, he said, "You can't stay here. If there is a push you wouldn't be able to get out of the way." So he assigned me a job as a jeep driver, which I had until I rotated.

I got tired of asking for my Purple Heart. I just grew frustrated, so I stopped asking for a while. A few years later I tried again. I consulted a VFW officer in Boston who looked up my name on a computer list including Purple Heart awards. My name was not on it.

"Check company records," he advised. "Maybe your name is on them."

Nope.

There has to be a record somewhere of my injury. I got in touch with the records center in St. Louis. They did not have any record of my service. They told me that it had most likely been destroyed in the 1973 fire.

And so I turn to *The Graybeards*.

Okay, let's address the *Catch-22* aspect of this situation. (Remember the old WWII term SNAFU, i.e., situation normal: all fouled up? It applies here.)

Holmes received a letter from the Department of Veterans Affairs dated March 15, 2015 regarding a claim (see the excerpt below). Note the "Issue/Contention" section

in the "What We Decided" section: "left foot injury." Then, read the "Explanation:" "Service connection for left foot injury is denied since this condition neither occurred in nor was caused by service."

We made a decision regarding your entitlement to VA benefits.

This letter tells you what we decided. It gives the evidence used and reasons for our decision. We have also included information about what to do if you disagree with our decision and who to contact if you have questions or need assistance.

## What We Decided

We made the following decision(s) regarding your claimed issue(s):

### Issue/Contention

Left foot injury

### Explanation

- Service connection for left foot injury is denied since this condition neither occurred in nor was caused by service.
- We were unable to obtain your service treatment records. The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) reported that the records may have been destroyed in a fire at the Records Center in 1973. If you can provide additional information about your records, please complete NA Form 13055, Request for Information Needed to Reconstruct Medical Data, which can be found at <http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel/na-13055-info-2-reconstruct-medical-data.pdf>. NPRC could not confirm the existence of such records; only the fact that if they had been stored at the Records Center, they would have been stored in an area damaged by the fire. If these records are located at a later date, we will reconsider this decision. The evidence does not show an event, disease or injury in service.

Read the next line: "We were unable to obtain your service treatment records. The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) reported that the records may have been destroyed in a fire...*If you can provide additional information...*" (emphasis added).



What a Catch-22! “We are denying your claim because your records may have been destroyed...” May have been? Nobody knows. If they weren’t, where are they? Is it up to the veteran to prove that his/her records were destroyed?

But, the VA decision implies, it is up to you to go and find your records—which may or may not exist. If you can, give us a shout. If you can’t, it’s your problem.

“If these records are located a later date...” What are the odds of that? It has been 43 years since the St. Louis fire occurred. The ashes have probably cooled by now. Someone should be able to sift through them to see whose names and records might pop up.

Finally, the report concludes, “The evidence does not show an event, disease, or injury in service.” What evidence? Again, it may or may not have been destroyed in the fire.

No wonder Mr. Holmes and other veterans in his position cannot get a Purple Heart or benefits. SNAFU? Catch-22?

Does anyone have any advice for Mr. Holmes? If so, contact him at 33 Lake Shore Drive, Holliston, MA 01746-2331, 508-740-8348.

## Memories of 27 July 1953

*Here is another installment in our continuing series about service members’ whereabouts on 27 July 1953, the day the Korean War cease fire went into effect. Readers are invited to submit their stories. Send them via email to [sharp\\_arthur\\_g@sbcbglobal.net](mailto:sharp_arthur_g@sbcbglobal.net) or snail mail to Arthur G. Sharp, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573-7141.*

### “Good Night, Irene”

The day the Korean War ended I was serving as the Collecting Station Admissions Clerk with the 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Division. (A Collecting Station took care of the men whose wounds were too serious for the Battalion Aid Stations to care for. From the Collecting Aid Station the very seriously wounded were sent on to MASH.)

We were very busy from July 6 to July 11 as our men from the 31st were defending Pork Chop Hill. I can’t count the wounded who passed through our station during that battle. It was a sad, depressing moment and remained so until we got the word that an armistice agreement was signed agreeing to end the fighting at 2200 on July 27, 1953.

Words cannot describe the joy and happiness of knowing we would be going home to be with our families again. Beer and liquor were not available for us, but the cooks made sure we had beverages of some kind and lots of food as we stayed up all night telling war stories and doing a lot of singing.

Instead of singing “On top of Old Smokey,” which was popular at that time, we sang “On top of Old Baldy,” as most of us were Aid Men with Rifle Platoons in the battle for Old Baldy (March, 1953). You can imagine the lyrics to that song!!!

We ended the early morning hours with the song “Good Night Irene.” It was a wonderful way to end my year in Korea. I returned home in September 1953.

*Fred Serraino, 325 Arthur Ave.  
Cocoa Beach, FL 32931*



Fred Serraino in Korea

## SWIMMING from page 11

clear area extending around the contour of the rock formation, some 6’ to 8’ out of sight toward the back of the bunker.

As I took a couple steps to follow the cleared-out section, I realized I didn’t have even a pocket knife with me. I panicked and started shouting to my buddies, who were safely outside, to shove my weapon through the opening. My vision had improved; I could see my surroundings more clearly inside the cave. I could see the little fortress had been occupied by a number of people. I saw dried rice straw stacked in about three places that had been used to sleep on. One or two empty containers of food and a small bowl or two, along with grains of uncooked rice, were scattered around.

Near the opening I had slid through, there were empty shell casings and live rounds of machine gun cartridges—still engaged in the chain-belt that guided them into the gun’s chamber. Then I spotted two hen eggs that the enemy soldiers had no doubt stolen from local farmers. The eggs were rotten and broken open; the yellows were still in the shells.

I realized quickly that I was in the wrong place, and without a flashlight I was not going to investigate any farther. The Chinese were famous for setting booby traps for young, dumb GIs like me to stumble into. Besides, who knew if there were hand grenades or mines wired up in there? My curiosity had been fully satisfied; I made a hasty skin-scraping exit from the bunker.

From the little entrance, as I looked down the hill, I could clearly see the ‘Old Swimming Hole.’

We would have all been dead ducks if the enemy had been there. There was an outstanding view of this long, steep hill to the valley beyond the watering hole where many of our company tents were being set up. I wondered how many young men had lost their lives taking this “pile of rocks” in the recent past. The terrain here was so rough there were no mines or barbed wire to protect the approach to the summit. We never thought of anything like that.

We finally got back to the pond. Before we could catch our breaths, the other curios-

ity seekers were asking questions so fast we had to slow them down a bit. We didn’t want them to know how dumb we felt by walking that far to an empty hole in the ground with two rotten eggs! We knew we were into something that we would never hear the end of if they saw inside, so we made it as exciting as we could while discouraging everyone from going up there.

Camp Casey today is a permanent facility very close to what is called the Demilitarized Zone. We were still calling it the “MLR” (Main Line of Resistance) when I left some 63 years ago. I am told there are modern offices, barracks, and training facilities there today. Who knows? Our old swimming hole may be a modern swimming pool with clean water and no mud around today.

The picture reminded me of this incident. I’ll bet there are some other ‘Grunts’ who did some things just as reckless.

*Dave Newman, 25th Inf. Div. (Cacti), 324 Cathy Dr., Danville, VA 24540, 434-793-5828, [flomo22@verizon.net](mailto:flomo22@verizon.net)*

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

# Tell America

## 20 – HAWAII #1 [HI]

### “Second Chance”

Giving Hawaii's youth a second chance! Learn life skills and be part of a team dedicated to your success while earning your diploma. These are highlights of the Youth Challenge Academy in Hawaii.

We gave a lecture, including questions and answers, at the Youth Challenge Academy in Kapolei on the island of Oahu. This program, which was established in 1994, is nationally recognized. Its mission is to develop and help troubled youth as they try to reclaim their futures.

Ace Kaleohano, Moses Pakaki, and Lucio Sanico were our pre-

senters. They started with a short 15-20 minute video about the Korean War. That was followed by the Q&A session. The entire program lasted about three hours.

The students were very enthusiastic and participated with great excitement. Even some of their instructors asked questions about the war.

We displayed some military items that were used during the war. Among them were helmets, ammo, C-rations, etc. We also had an A-frame, which drew a lot of attention.

*James (Ace) Kaleohano, 87-102 Kaleiwohi St., Waianae, HI 96792, 808-277-3633*



Moses Pakaki, Lucio Sanico, and Ace Kaleohano (L-R) with students at Hawaii presentation

## 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

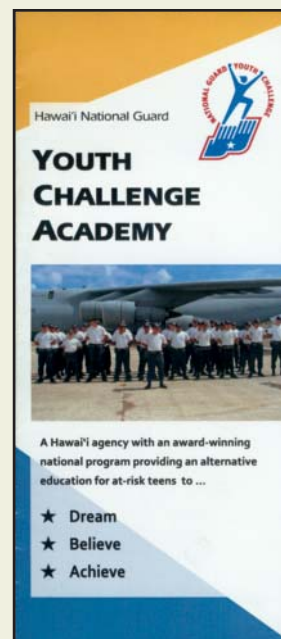
**Write or call:** Earl House, 1870 Yakona Rd.,  
Baltimore, MD 21234  
Phone 410-661-8950.  
Make Checks payable to:  
**KWVA Maryland Chapter 33**



An A-frame on display at Youth Challenge Academy



Some of the military items on display at Youth Challenge Academy



Youth Challenge Academy brochure front page

## 24 – CHARLES PARLIER [IL]

We gave a Tell America presentation at Clinton High School, Clinton, IL, on 11 November 2015. Members were Orval Mechling (Lead), Floyd Cooper, Frank Delgado and Wayne Semple.

*William Hanes, 2631 Candlewood Pl., Decatur, IL, 217-422-9508, williamhanes@att.net*





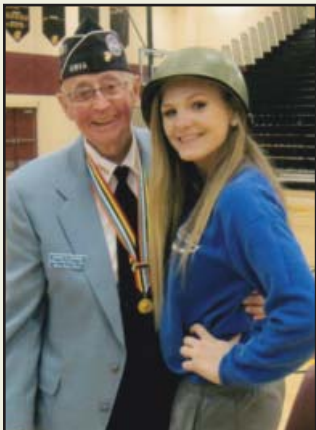
**Frank Delgado of Ch 24 speaks to Clinton High School assembly**

**Orval Mechling of Ch 24 presents info at Clinton High School Tell America session**



**Ch 24 member Wayne Semple speaks at Clinton High School**

**Floyd Cooper of Ch 24 with other veterans at Clinton High School**



**Floyd Cooper of Ch 24 with a student at Clinton High School**



### 30 – INDIANA #1 [IN]

We were very busy around Veterans Day. A group of members were at Shawnee Middle School in their uniforms. Veterans of every recent war were represented that day. Veterans

from all branches past and those home on leave for the holiday were there. What a wonderful day for our veterans.

Another group of members was at Snider High School on Veterans

Day. The students asked many questions. All were in uniforms that day, but not when the nearby picture was taken.

*Mary Anna Roemke, Publicity Director, 5516 Newland Pl. Fort Wayne IN 46835*



**Charles Comstock, William Hambrock, Lynn Shady, Bud Mendenhall, Walter Scare, Bernard Huesing, Jim Winnie, and Garry Sink (L-R) of Ch 30 at Shawnee Middle School**



**The large assembly at Shawnee Middle School [IN] on Veterans Day**



**Presenters from Ch 30 at Snider High School: (Seated in front, L-R) Bernard Wisniewski, Charles Comstock, Garry Sink, and Dale Parish (Standing in back, L-R) Lynn Shady, Walter Scare, Bud Mendenhall, Cletus Rumschlag, and Jack Hannigan**



## 43 – KANSAS CITY MISSOURI # 2 [MO]

Paul Wolfgeher and I felt like it would be appropriate to give our favorite history teacher, Kelsey Boswell, a Veterans Day Appreciation gift. For the last three years he would call and tell me he would be covering the Korean War to his students on a certain day and he would like us to be there. We made sure that we were.

In the years that we did the Tell America Program, Mr. Boswell was the most enthusiastic and caring history teacher we ever had the pleasure of working with. He cared for his students and had a deep appreciation for our veterans.

On the front inside cover the certificate reads:

*Present to: Lawson High School  
History Teacher Kelsey Boswell  
On this date November 4, 2015  
From the Korean Veterans  
Associations National Tell  
America Program*

*Presented by Korean War  
Veterans Cpl. Paul Wolfgeher,  
US Army, 1st Loudspeaker and  
Leaflet Co.*

And

*S.F.C. Robert R. Jones 73rd  
Tank Battalion*

### On Another Note...

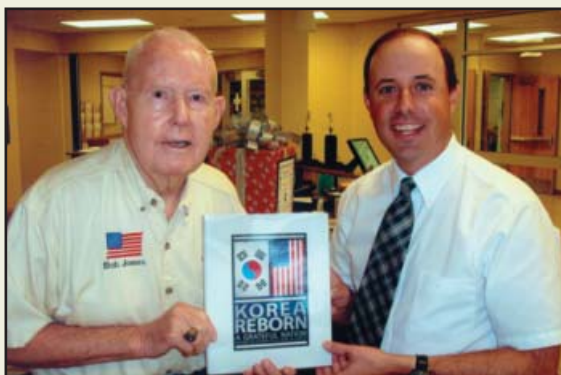
I made a Veterans Day presentation where I live at Olde Oak Tree Apartments in Independence, MO. I love speaking to the people here because they are in my age group and a lot of them had relatives in the Korean War.

They like listening to me and what I did in the war. They enjoy my fold-out display—and they ask lots of questions.

To my surprise, the day after my presentation I heard a knock at my door. There was one of the ladies who had attended the presentation. She presented me with a floral arrangement and a thank-you card that read “We appreciate that you fought for our freedom.”

I feel blessed to live here. This is a great place with great people.

*Robert R. (Bob) Jones, 13975 E.  
35th St., Apt. 428, Independence,  
MO 64055, 816-836-0969 (H),  
816-809-0123 (C), bobjones  
73rdtkbn@yahoo.com*



Bob Jones (L) of Ch 43 presents gift to Lawson High School teacher Kelsey Boswell

BELOW: Bob Jones of Ch 43 speaks to audience at Olde Oak Apartments



Announcing Bob Jones' talk

Bob Jones answers guests' questions after presentation



Ch 43 member Bob Jones holds floral arrangement presented as a thank you

## 55 – NASSAU COUNTY #1 [NY]

Buddy Epstein spent a day at the Oceanside Middle School in Oceanside, NY. He gave the students a brief history of how and why our country entered the Korean War and a firsthand picture of what it was like to be in combat.

*Robert P. O'Brien, P. O. Box 1591,  
Massapequa, NY 11758*

Buddy Epstein of Ch 55 addresses students at Oceanside Middle School





## 60 – ADIRONDACK [NY]

We recently presented a “Tell America” program to the junior students at Lake George High School. The program was well received and the students asked several questions.

Carol Waldron,  
CWALD36709@aol.com



Commander Roger Calkins, Gene Slavin, Ed Bushey and Paul Nolan of Ch 60 at Lake George [NY] High School

Earl Keeler and Bill Reid of Ch 60 share a lighter moment at TA presentation



## 142 – COL WILLIAM E. WEBER [MD]

### Urbana Middle School Veterans Day Program

Commander Bob Mount and Chip Chipley were greeted warmly on November 12, 2015 at Urbana Middle School, Urbana, MD. They participated in the

School's Veterans Day Program with in-classroom appearances.

Linda Crilly, CID142 Webmaster @gmail.com, or Glenn Wienhoff, Secretary/Treasurer, cid142kwva@gmail.com



Chip Chipley (R) and Bob Mount of Ch 142 at Urbana Middle School presentation

## 172 – HANCOCK COUNTY [OH]

On November 5, 2015, eleven of our members participated in the Hancock County Historical Museum's Lecture Series. Rollie Bibler, Jack Cannon, Jake Cogley,

Buddy Murray, Bob Perkins, Cliff Peterson, Jim Salisbury, Elmer Welch, Ron Myers, Ken Wynkoop, and Mel Cole each told their personal stories to ensure the legacy

of the Korean War veteran remains alive.

The museum's director noted “it was one the largest crowds we've had.”

Larry Monday, 18861 State Route 568, Findlay, OH 45840, 419-387-7532/419-306-4954 (C), Monday19@aol.com

### Speakers at Ch 172's presentation



Jake Cogley



Jim Salisbury



Elmer Welch



Jim McDaniel



Ron Myers



Buddy Murray



Bob Perkins



Mel Cole



Ken Wynkoop



Cliff Peterson

## 186 – MISSOURI #6 [MO]

We presented “Tell America” and “You Are Our Heroes” DVDs to a St. Charles, MO Kiwanis Club. The presentation was well received, especially by two Korean veterans who were in

the audience. They thanked us for the presentation, and the ROK President for his personal welcome.

On Veterans Day 2015, for a third year, we were guests at Ft.

Zumwalt East High School's celebration. We had a full day's activity, showing the Tell America and the "You Are Our Heroes" DVDs.

Members Bob Peitz, Chris Christifulli, and Joe Brown had a session for history students in the morning, followed by an afternoon student-attended audi-

torium session with Bob Peitz, Joe Brown, and active service Sgt. Aaron Landis, a Marine recruiter, for a "Question and Answer" period.

*Chris Christifulli, 923 Annabrook Park Dr., O'Fallon, MO 63366, schristifulli@charter.net*



Mike Webb of the St. Charles, MO Kiwanis Club and Bob Peitz, Chris Christifulli, and Elmer Austermann of CID 186 (L-R)



Chris Christifulli, Sgt. Aaron Landis, and Bob Peitz (L-R) at Ch 186's Ft. Zumwalt East High School

## 267 - GENERAL JAMES A. VAN FLEET [FL]

Members went to Bucholz High School Junior Air Force ROTC Cadets Boot Camp on November 10, 2015 to do a Tell America presentation. The cadets were camping out all night at the school to raise money for the North Florida Honor Flight, taking veterans of WWII and the Korean War to Washington D.C. to view their monuments.

Colonel James Roberts, USAF (ret), and C/MSgt. Ricky Price, who are in charge of the cadets, invited us to come and speak at this program on the evening before Veterans Day. We estimate there were around 60 cadets and

parent chaperones present.

We did our presentation at 8 p.m. in the school auditorium. We had five members there: Colonel Jake Feaster, combat veteran, U.S. Army Artillery; Sgt. First Class Terry Fitzpatrick, combat veteran, U.S. Infantry; Cpl., Bob Gasche, USMC, combat veteran of Iwo Jima, WWII and Korea; Pvt. Ron Carbaugh, U.S. Army Engineers, and S/Sgt. Don Sherry, USAF, Proc. Spec., who was with Hq. USAFE in Germany.

Each man told about his experiences during the Korean War, most in combat. Bob Gasche added his experience in WWII as a

survivor of the battle of Iwo Jima. We had many handouts with data on the Korean War. The audience members took lots of them.

The program lasted one hour. There were an additional 45 minutes allotted for the students' questions. We felt that this opportunity was very well received.

Molly Brennan, who chaired the event, wrote us a very nice letter saying, "You started our boot camp off on the right note and were by far everyone's favorite part of the night."

*Don Sherry, 9511 SW 56th Pl., Gainesville, FL 32608, dpskw-va@vahoo.com*



Jake Feaster of Ch 267 addresses cadets



Bob Gasche, WWII and Korean War vet, describes experiences at Ch 267 session



Presenters from Ch 267: Don Sherry, Jake Feaster, Bob Gasche, Terry Fitzpatrick, Ron Carbaugh (L-R) at Bucholz High School





Cadets at Bucholz High School event featuring Ch 267 members



Ron Carbaugh of Ch 267 answers cadets' questions

## OREGON

November 12th was another outstanding and memorable day at McNary High School in Keizer, OR. They have been hosting Living History Day events for more than fifteen years, and each year is more exciting.

Their Living History Day includes veterans from all wars and conflicts, since and including WWII. A number of the Korean War veterans spoke in the classrooms of their experiences, how their lives were changed, and how they progressed since their service.

Classes began at 0730. At about 0900 we were escorted to the gymnasium by AFJROTC cadets and students from the Leadership class for a superb assembly. The school principal, Erik Jespersen, delivered the greeting and introduced two vet-

erans from WWII, Golda Fabian, USMC, and Gene Hayden, USA.

The choir (at least 100+) sang the national anthem, accompanied by the equally large band. A small ensemble played the service songs, followed by the band playing John Phillip Sousa's "Stars and Stripes Forever," featuring three young ladies playing the piccolo.

Two AFJROTC cadets performed a superb "Silent Drill," which was followed by another young lady singing Lee Greenwood's "God Bless the USA." More music ensued as the band and choir performed "America the Beautiful."

The assembly closed with the playing of "Echo Taps."

Classes resumed before and after a delicious lunch prepared by the cooking class.

At the risk of forgetting someone, I want to mention a few of the folks who made this day possible. In addition to Mr. Jespersen, we thank faculty advisor Dan Borresen, Leadership Student, Kinsey McNaught, who

organized and assured that the day ran smoothly, and Major Robert Garcia and Master Sgt. Robbie Ellis, advisors to the AFJROTC.

*Bob "Doc" Wickman, Korea '53-'54, CID 84 and CID 72*



Participants in McNary High School (OR) Living History Day (Photo by Dan Borresen)

## Freedom is valued—but never free

Bless all our veterans, alive and dead  
When things looked hopeless they forged ahead  
They never failed to do their part  
Some came home, some did not.  
Some traded a limb for a Purple Heart.

Fellow veterans from coast to coast  
Enjoy the freedom you love most.  
But remember the ones who deserve your toast  
Those veterans whose spirits remain at their post.

In the final agreement we have to agree  
Though freedom is valued—it never is free.

Peter De Gaetano  
31 Tynan St.  
Staten Island, NY 10312

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

Visit the Korean War Veterans  
Association Website:  
[www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org)

# Chapter & Department News

**WELCOME:** We welcome CID 320 to our "Chapter" pages. This is their first submission. We hope to see many more—and from other chapters as well.

## 320 NEW HAMPSHIRE [NH]

On 3 December 2015, chapter officers participated in the 125th anniversary ceremony of the establishment of the New Hampshire Veterans Home in Tilton, NH. We presented an assortment of Korean War information and mementos alongside displays by other military organizations representing American wars dating back to the Civil War.

Among those speaking at the program was our state's governor, Margaret Hassan.

Richard Zoerb, 72 Hawkstead Hollow, Nashua, NH 03063, 603-886-8665, [mazoerb@gmail.com](mailto:mazoerb@gmail.com)



Part of the audience of veterans assembled for the 125th anniversary ceremony at the New Hampshire Veterans Home



Ch 320's display of Korean War information and mementos at New Hampshire Veterans Home



Officers of Ch 320: Richard Zoerb, Senior Vice-Commander; William McCabe; Robert Desmond, Jr. Vice and Past Commander; Richard Mousegian, Commander; Conrad Perreault, Secy/Treas., Past Commander; Robert Courtemanche, Director (L-R)



Some of Ch 320's officers with New Hampshire governor Margaret Hassan

## 9 DUTCH NELSEN [CO]

### Member Celebrates 100th Birthday

On 19 December 2015 we honored one of our founding members, Robert (Bob) Davis, who celebrated his 100th birthday on 20 January 2016. Bob lives at a retirement residence. A party was held for him by his grandson on that date at the facility.

Bob has been a very active member of our chapter since its founding, and is respected and admired by all of our members. We wish him well on his 100th Birthday!

Bob's background:

- 1939: 136 Med Bn., 34 Div.
- 1940: Iowa State Guard
- 1944-45: 88th Division, 34th Division: Po Valley, Northern Italy (WWII)
- 1945-48: Iowa State Guard • 1948: 38 FA Bn, 2nd Div.





Bob Davis admiring the plaque that he received from Chapter President Cliff Bowlin

Bob Davis' birthday cake

**BELOW:** The Honorable James McGibney and his wife, Nina McGibney (Standing). Bob Davis, his granddaughter, and great granddaughter at Ch 9 birthday party



Members of Ch 19 with Bob Nelsen on his 100th birthday. Mrs. Margo Nelsen, widow of chapter founder Dutch Nelsen (Standing, far left, front row; James McGibney, Honorary Consul, for the Republic of Korea, Denver, CO (Standing, rear, far left)

- 1950: promoted to SSG, Ft. Carson • Korea: 1SG, 300th FA, 1951-52
- Korea: 1963, 8th Army Aviation section
- Dec 1965: promoted to MSG
- Korea 1967. 2-38th Inf., 2ID
- Sept 1968: retired MSG/E8
- Civil Service, USAFA. 1969-79

Joe Annello, [joeannello@centurylink.net](mailto:joeannello@centurylink.net)

## 13 BILL CARR CHAPTER 1 [DE]

### Chapter Donates \$45,000 to Wounded Soldier and Family Organizations

We recently made nine separate \$5,000 donations from the Wounded Warrior Fund to recovering wounded soldiers and their family organizations in the mid-Atlantic area. The money was distributed before the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.



Representatives of the Dover AFB Good Shepherd Fund, MSgt Larry Miller (L) and SMSgt Steve Ousley (R), John Weidenhof (far right) and LtCol (ret) David Miller, treasurer of the Wounded Warrior Fund and the local Chapter at Ch 13 presentation

The recipient organizations included the:

- Fisher Houses at Ft. Belvoir, VA and the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (NMMC) at Bethesda, MD
  - USO Warrior Family Centers at Ft. Belvoir, VA and Bethesda, MD
  - Soldier & Family Assistance Centers (SFAC) at Ft. Belvoir, VA, Ft. Knox, KY, and the Walter Reed Medical Center (NMMC) at Bethesda, MD
  - Walter Reed Society at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (NMMC) at Bethesda, MD
  - Good Shepherd Fund at Dover Air Force Base, Dover, DE
- John Weidenhof, Chief (ret), Director of the Wounded Warrior Fund, commented that the chapter was very fortunate to be the recipient of estate distributions and donations, both large and

small, from individuals during the past year. "We incur no expense other than postage, so 100% of these monies we receive are distributed to our wounded warriors and their families," he noted.

Jack McGinley, 302-945-0698, [jomcginl@aol.com](mailto:jomcginl@aol.com)

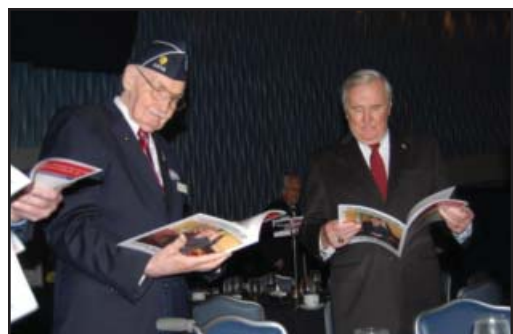
## 17 LT. RICHARD E. CRONAN [FL]

We held a very special luncheon at Cararabba's Restaurant in Boynton Beach, FL to give special honors and recognition to thirteen women who had served in the U.S. military at various times. Each was given a special certificate for her service. Nine of the 13 women who attended the luncheon and were recognized by Ch 17 were Jean Mahoney (U.S. Navy, WWII); Carolyn Virgil (U.S. Air Force, Korean War); Loretta Young (U.S. Air Force); Marina Perez (U.S. Army); Maxine Bodman (U.S. Navy, WWII); Marian Young (U.S. Army); Chapter VPs George Pearlman and Barry Tutin; Kathleen Tucker Levine (U.S. Army); former Chapter Commander Joe Green; Melva Harris Rozier (U.S. Army); Board Member Frank Pickett; Commander Stanley Gavlick; Silvana Toapanta (U.S. Marine Corps).

Brook Michael (Mike) Paschkes, Secretary,  
[bmpaschkes@comcast.net](mailto:bmpaschkes@comcast.net)

## 19 GEN RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

Members had a great time at the Freedom Ball after the Veterans Day Parade in Atlanta.



Bob McCubbins (L) and Jack Robinson of Ch 19 reading the program at Freedom Ball

Rodney Rector (L) and Henry Taylor of Ch 19 discuss the Atlanta Veterans Day parade



Guest speakers included Kevin Miller, President of the Georgia Veterans Day Parade association and MajGen James T. Jackson, USA (ret), Director of the United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration.

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



Sunny Park (L) and Frank Petraglia discuss time in Korea

Sunny Park (L) and Gordon Sherman of Ch 19 at Freedom Ball



BELOW: Enjoying the dinner (L-R) are Bob Hendershott, Jack Robinson, Henry Taylor and Tom Harris of Ch 19



## 20 HAWAII #1 [HI]

On 6 December 2015, we held our annual banquet honoring the newly elected officers. About 175 veterans, spouses, dignitaries and friends attended.



Ron Han (OVS Director), Terry Han, Ernestine Young, Retired Brig. General Irwin Cockett, and Korean Consulate General Walter K. Paik at Ch 20 banquet



We were the recent recipient of a \$72,000 check from the trust of Mr. Maurice Smith, who died from a terminal ailment. The generous check was presented by Mr. Mike Lucek, executor of Mr. Smith's estate.

Mr. Smith's father was a Korean War veteran and desired his assets be divided among his grandchildren and several chapters of the KWVA.

Stan Jones, [stan\\_fujii@hotmail.com](mailto:stan_fujii@hotmail.com)



Gale and Walter Ozawa, Nina and retired Col. Gene Castagmetti, Sus Agena enjoy Ch 20's banquet



Ch 20 officers President Harry Fanning, VP Ace Kaleohano, Secretary Ken Tashiro, Treasurer Stan Fujii, Sgt.-at-Arms Marshall Ritchey and Chaplain Earl Kalani Simerson. Administering oath is retired municipal judge Herbert Shimabukuro.



Walter Ozawa and Tommy Tahara present thank you plaque to outgoing Chapter 20 president Herbert Schreiner



Mike Lucek is honored at a recent Ch 20 banquet emceed by Walter Ozawa and coordinated by Tommy Tahara

## 30 INDIANA #1 [IN]

We held a Thanksgiving dinner with our Korean Community, with whom we have a great relationship.

Mary Anna Roemke, Publicity Director,  
5516 Newland Pl., Fort Wayne IN 46835



Attendees at Ch 30's Thanksgiving Dinner (Front, L-R) Unknown, Charlie Comstock, Clem Rumschlag, Bud Mendenhall, Garry Sink, Jim Leslie, unknown (Back, L-R) Carl Fowler, Walter Scare, Dale Parish

## 40 MINNESOTA #1

No snow, but 20 degree temperatures, didn't deter my mates and me from handing out 89 Christmas cards to veterans at the Minneapolis, MN hospital on 19 December 2015.

We met in the cafeteria, as we always do, before our monthly visitations.

Three of our usual crew were not able to make it this time: Andy Urness, Mel Behnen, and Ray Brandes.

Blair C. Rumble, 969 Lombard Ave.  
Saint Paul, MN 55105, 651-224-8338





Members of Ch 40 at Minnesota hospital (L-R) Don Goethals, Mike Jansen, Cal Buck, Bob Nehotte, Gary Goethals (visiting family from Rockford, IL), Charley Lundgren. (Photo by Blair C. Rumble)

## 43 KANSAS CITY MISSOURI # 2 [MO]

Lou Ramsey and Bob Jones spent a fun evening helping the Kansas City Bettys ([www.kcbettys.org](http://www.kcbettys.org) or [kcbettys@yahoo.com](mailto:kcbettys@yahoo.com)) raise funds for the Heartland Honor Flight to Washington D.C. for our veterans. Some funds were donated as a result of Cars under the Stars and as many as a dozen Applications for Heartland Honor Flight were connected to this event.



Aundira Burdy, Bob Jones, Jeanette Kramer, Lou Ramsey, and Vicki Saffo (L-R) at fundraiser (Jones and Ramsey are members of Ch 43. The ladies are members of the "Kansas City Bettys.")

The Long Branch Saloon and Restaurant helped host. We used their front porch for this event. They also served a free dinner to the veterans who were helping at the show.

Lou Ramsey and I consider it an honor to do what we can to help more veterans get to Washington D.C. to see their Memorials.

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



Michael Day (L) interviews Bob Jones of Ch 43 at fundraiser

**BELOW:** DeeJay Michael Day and the Kansas City Bettys at Ch 43 fundraiser, Vicki Saffo, Amil McGuire, Jeanette Kramer, Aundira Burdy, and Maggie Waggoner (R-L)



## 56 VENTURA COUNTY [CA]

Members participated in a Christmas Parade and attended a buffet dinner on 28 December in Santa Paula, CA.

David Lopez, 3850 W 180th Pl., Torrance, CA 90504, 310-323-8481, [LopezPitts9@aol.com](mailto:LopezPitts9@aol.com)



Henry Marin, Commander David Lopez, and Rudy Garcia of Ch 56 (L-R) at Christmas parade





Henry Marin (R) and Henry Marin Jr. enjoy meal after Santa Paula, CA Christmas parade



Members and guests of Ch 56 enjoy post-Christmas parade dinner (right side of table, front to back) Lydia Mercado, Robert Escamilla, Lupe Ramirez, David Garcia (left side of table, front to back) Margie and Commander David Lopez, Ann Campos, John Campos

## 58 MONROE COUNTY [NY]

On 27 September 2015 some members of the chapter and the Korean community took part in welcoming home a group of Honor Flight participants. The event took place at the Rochester [NY] Airport.

The experience was emotional, to say the least.

Roger Hill, 21 Mapleton Dr., North Chili NY 14514



Ch 58 members and Koreans welcome home Honor Flight participants

## 60 ADIRONDACK [NY]

We recently celebrated 25 years as a local chapter. The chapter was founded by Gene Slavin of Queensbury, who was presented with a plaque and a cake thanking him for his hard work and service.

Carol Waldron

CWALD36709@aol.com



Gene Slavin, Commander Roger Calkins, Myong Steenburgh, Vice President of the Korean Association of Albany, NY, and Gene's wife, Patti Slavin (L-R) display cake at Ch 60's birthday party



Gene Slavin of Ch 60 displays plaque



Members of Ch 60 gather to celebrate 25th birthday



## 66 CORPORAL ALLAN F. KIVLEHAN [NY]

On 14 December 2015 we held our annual Christmas party at the Staaten. Over 150 members, wives, and guests attended.



Korean folk dance group performs at Ch 66's Christmas party



Korean drummers entertain Ch 66 Christmas party attendees



Charles Yoo, Rev. Kisung Kang, Joseph R. Bonamo, George E. Parsons, Richard Noggle, Frank Zielinski, Norma Suh, Joseph Calabria (standing L-R) at Ch 66's Christmas soiree with eleven members of the New York Missionary Dancers

The New York Pilgrim Missionary Group, led by President Yoon Ja Choi, entertained with traditional South Korean Folk Dance.

We were honored to have as our guest Consul Song, Gangil, representing the Korean Consul General of the Republic of South Korea.

George E. Parsons, 56 Boyce Ave.  
Staten Island, NY 10306

## 126 TRI-STATE [OH]

As a Tri-State Chapter we had our picnic/meetings in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia this summer. They were well attended.

We rode in two parades in Midland, PA this summer: Memorial Day and the 4th of July. We posted Colors at the high school in Wellsville, OH on Veterans Day. We received an award for helping them present the Colors for eighteen years.

Don Brown of Ch 126 received an award for his many years of leading the Wellsville Memorial Council. He was dedicated and did a great job.

They do a great job on Veterans Day. The gym is full and it's open to the public.

Our Christmas party finished out our year.

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



Chow line at Ch 126's August 2015 picnic at Shippingport, PA: Gelendo Malignani, Toni Vassallo, Carl Sebrell, Mike Kilcoyne, George Germusa, and Bill Green (L-R)



Don Brown of Ch 126 displays his award





Gelendo Malignani, Ed Peters, Don Brown (holding award), George Piggott, and Dan Gallagher of Ch 126 at award ceremony at Wellsville [OH] High School on Veterans Day 2015

## 137 MAHONING VALLEY [OH]

Several members visited the Ohio Veterans Home in Sandusky. They presented a check to finance rooms with TVs and were treated to a tour of the facility and its military museum.

Bob Bakalik, 2841 S. Schenley Ave.  
Youngstown, OH 44511



Visitors from Ch 137 at Ohio Veterans Home: Wanda Thompson, Alice Brienik, Lloyd Edwards, Chick Giovanni, John Klamut, Ray Ornelas, Dwayn (?) of the Veterans Home staff, Beverly Pariza, Bob Bakalik (L-R)



Beverly Pariza, Alice Brienik, Chick Giovanni, Lloyd Edwards, Ray Ornelas, and Wanda Thompson of Ch 137 (L-R) visit Ohio Veterans Home

## 138 KOREAN WAR VETERANS [OH]

Members Carl Thornton and Bill Neibhur took an Honor Flight to Washington D.C. This was one of the greatest experiences of my life. I am a humbled Korean War veteran.

Carl Thornton, [carlthornton972@gmail.com](mailto:carlthornton972@gmail.com)



Bill Neibhur (R) and Carl Thornton of Ch 138 at Korean War Memorial



Carl Thornton of Ch 138 at monuments in Washington D.C.



The Iwo Jima Memorial in Arlington, VA, one of the sights visited by Carl Thornton and Bill Neibhur of Ch 138 on their Honor Flight



## 155 SOUTHWEST FLORIDA [FL]

### Chapter Sustains Scholarship Pledge to FSW Veteran Students

Members of Ch 155 presented the Florida SouthWestern State College (FSW) Foundation with a generous contribution to their scholarship endowment benefiting veterans.

In September 2014, the chapter established a scholarship endowment worth \$15,050 to support veterans returning to school for a degree or to obtain skills. After two consecutive years of contributions, including last week's gift of \$3,600, the endowment is now valued at \$21,150.



Dale Riggs, Ch 155 President Elect; Sierra Burton, FSW student and veteran; Bob Kent, Ch 155 Treasurer; Ian McCallister, FSW student and veteran; Frank Rooney; and John "Mouse" Kloeker, President, at scholarship presentation (L-R) (Photograph courtesy of FSW)

"Returning veterans are interested in finding work in this market. Taking classes at FSW helps them supplement skills they learned during their service," said Bob Kent, chapter treasurer. "With the scholarships we provide, FSW is a perfect fit for them."

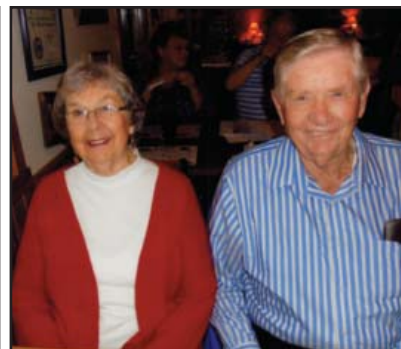
"We are finding that veterans are choosing FSW because our programs are workforce based," said Dr. Lou Traina, Vice President of Institutional Advancement. "After two years they leave with an associate degree to find a local job or stay with us to earn a bachelor's in nursing, teaching, or business administration. Thank you, KWVA, for supporting our veterans."

An average of 400 veterans receive benefits at FSW each year. In late 2015 the college was the first in Southwest Florida to install special veterans' parking spaces.

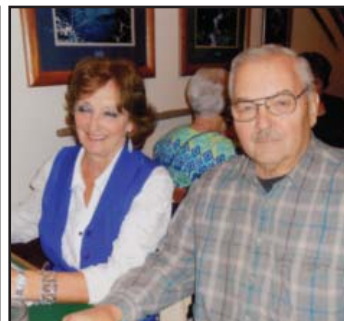
## 164 DALE H. WILLIAMS POST #1996

We held our annual Christmas dinner in October. We have it in October before the majority of our members leave for the warmer winter in the south.

Kenneth A. Amlotte, P. O. Box 378  
Tustin, MI 49677, 231-829-3185



LEFT: President Ken Amlotte of Ch 164 holds short meeting before annual Christmas dinner in October. RIGHT: Winfred Lovelace and his wife at Ch 164 dinner.



LEFT: Bruce Little and his wife at Ch 164 dinner. They were guests in recognition of their help with our Rose of Sharon sale. RIGHT: Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Scott enjoy Ch 164's dinner.

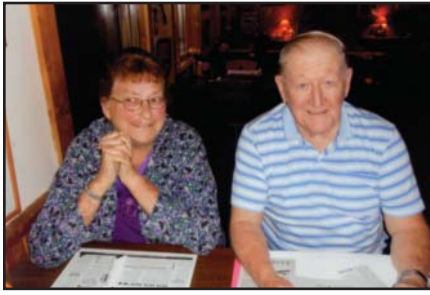


LEFT: Three-war veteran Clinton Corpe and his wife at Ch 164 dinner. RIGHT: Betty Nelson, husband of Ch 164 founder Kenneth Nelson, shares camaraderie with members



LEFT: Nick Herringa and his girlfriend in attendance at Ch 164 dinner. RIGHT: Kendall Andrews and his wife at Ch 164 dinner





Mr. & Mrs. Keith Cooper are all smiles at Ch 164's Christmas even



Commander Kenneth Green of Ch 170 welcomes Cathy Pagano to Christmas party

## 170 TAEJON [NJ]

### Kenneth Green Re-elected As President

We held our Christmas party and installation of new officers for the years 2016-17 at the Fairlawn Athletic Club in Fairlawn, NJ on 17 December 2015. The chapter, formed in 1994, re-elected Kenneth Green for a second term.

KWVA National Director George Bruzgis administered the oath of officers for their two-year terms. They are Sr. Vice Commander Robert O'Toole; Jr. Vice Commander Henry Ferrarini; Adjutant Perry Georgison; Finance Officer Edward Frye; Chaplain Henry Leonhard; Membership Chairman John DiLonardo; Sgt.-at-Arms Frank Uvenio; Surgeon Thomas Boyle; Activities Director William Burns; Taejon Post editor Camille Georgison; Advertising Chairman Jack O'Neil; Hospitality Chairman Walter Amos; Historian Louis Quagliero—the longest serving continuous officer, who has been the chapter's historian for 21 years.



Officers of Ch 170 at installation ceremony: Louis Quagliero, Thomas Boyle, William Burns, John DiLonardo, Edward Frye, Perry Georgison, Henry Ferrarini, Kenneth Green, and Henry Leonhard (L-R)

After he installed the officers, Bruzgis explained the significance of the symbols on the MIA-POW table.

Commander Green introduced Mrs. Cathy Pagano, a history teacher from Passaic County Technical High School. She has been a great friend of Korean War veterans and our chapter and the primary organizer of three events at the school to honor veterans—with the student body filling the auditorium at each of them.

Louis Quagliero (L) and Color Guard member Alexander Atheras of Ch 170 enjoy camaraderie



Thomas Boyle, Cathy Pagano, Camille Georgison, Kenneth Green, and George Bruzgis prepare to slice Christmas cake at Ch 170 function (Note the Korean War hat next to the cake)

Many veterans attend these events, which include Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Pearl Harbor Day. Students from the culinary class prepare a great variety of foods for the veterans to enjoy. We recognize Mrs. Pagano as a true patriot.

We also honored associate member Camille Georgison at our party/installation. She has edited our monthly newsletter for her outstanding contribution in publishing our "Taejon Post."

Commander Green concluded the event with an invitation to everyone to indulge in the great food awaiting us. Wine, beer, and soda complemented the food. Everyone enjoyed the festive meal and the complementary music provided by a DJ.

The event, which ran from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., was a time of great fellowship and inspiration for all of us patriotic Americans.

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

## 172 HANCOCK COUNTY [OH]

Five members took part in the Veterans Day parade held in Findlay, OH. Ken Wynkoop and Mr. and Mrs. Glen Hennings provided the vehicles for our members.

We held our annual Christmas banquet on December 3, 2015, with 125 members and guests in attendance. President Ron Dutton presided over the banquet. Nationally acclaimed author, motivational speaker, columnist and media personality Bruce Boguski was our speaker.

Larry Monday, 18861 State Route 568, Findlay, OH 45840, 419-387-7532/419-306-4954 (C),  
*Monday19@aol.com*



LEFT: President Ron Dutton of Ch 172 presides over Christmas banquet.  
RIGHT: Bruce Boguski speaks to Ch 172 members and guests



LEFT: Glen and Mona Hennings of Ch 172 ride in style in Findlay, OH parade. RIGHT: Ken Wynkoop of Ch 172 chauffeurs Bob Perkins, Jack Mock, and Jack Veit in Veterans Day parade

## 177 EASTERN OKLAHOMA [OK]

Members participated in the Veterans Day Parade in Muskogee, OK on 7 November 2015. Bill Webster, charter mem-

ber, served as the Grand Marshal—the first Korean War veteran so honored.

Bob Thomason, a WWII and Korean War veteran, was honored on his 90th birthday.

Jerry L. Faught, 700 Southwest Fifth St., Checotah, OK 74426, *jfaught@windstream.net*



Bill Webster of Ch 177 and wife Judy before Muskogee, OK parade

Group of Ch 177 veterans at Oklahoma parade (Front L-R) Darrell Parks, Carl Threlkeld, Dan Carroll (Rear L-R) Bill Pollock, Bob Thomason, Tom Cotton



Bob Thomason (R) and Bill Webster of Ch 177 celebrate Thomason's 90th birthday



## 181 KANSAS CITY #1 [KS]

We celebrated the memory of all U.S. veterans at our annual Veterans Day ceremony at our memorial site in Overland Park, KS. Retired US Navy Rear Admiral J. Stanton Thompson was the



speaker; his message was greatly appreciated and roundly applauded by the attendees. U.S. Army veteran Steve Goslin played “Amazing Grace” on his bagpipes. He also commemorated the recent passing of a friend, who had served in the USMC as a young man.



Ch 181 commander Tom Stevens reviews the past year's events



Members of Ch 181 and guests as they arrive at the Marriott Hotel



U.S. Army veteran Steve Goslin plays “Amazing Grace”

There are only a few things which can evoke the melancholy of the bagpipes, but long time chapter friend, Clyde Miller did just that with his bugle and the playing of “Taps” at the close of the ceremony.

We enjoyed yet another festive holiday season, starting with the annual Christmas party at the VFW post in Lenexa.

Commander Tom Stevens reviewed the past year's events and outlined plans for the coming year.



Father Jerry Waris delivers the benediction to Ch 181 members and guests at Veterans Day ceremony

Sad to say, we lost more members during the year. But, we have started a program to inscribe each passing member's name on granite slabs at the Memorial site in Overland Park, KS.

We host an annual luncheon at the Marriott Hotel in Overland Park. Chapter 181 extends good wishes to all our old comrades for the coming year.

Don Dyer, [ddyer15@everestkc.net](mailto:ddyer15@everestkc.net)

## 186 MISSOURI #6 [MO]

We held our annual Christmas luncheon, at which we were joined by widows of members who have passed away. It was held in a private room at a Golden Corral Restaurant.

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



Clarence Schlueter, Chris Christifulli, and Homer Scott (L-R) at Ch 186's Christmas luncheon





Dick Saip, Tom Stephenson, Tom Koulán, Bob Cumiskey, Don Baur, and Art Minor (L-R) enjoy Ch 186's Christmas gathering



Madelene Peitz, Joe Brown, and Bob Peitz (L-R) share cheer at Ch 186 Christmas get together

## 203 WAR DOGS [CA]

Some of our members, along with those of other veterans organizations, assisted the city of Turlock as it rededicated the Korean War-era cannon in Central Park on 11 November 2015.



The sign explaining the cannon in Turlock, CA



Members of Ch 203 gather near the rededicated cannon in Turlock, CA



The Turlock, CA cannon



Pitman High School Band performs at Turlock, CA rededication

The 100-member Pitman High School band provided patriotic music for a crowd of approximately 200 people. Turlock mayor Gary Soiseth presided at the ceremony and asked the crowd to remember what American veterans do for us each day.

VFW Commander Mike Seward spoke. Veteran and Congressman Jeff Denham recognized the families of local veterans. He stated farther that America stands as a beacon of hope and freedom in our world today.

Donald E. Strand, 2160 EL Camino Dr.  
Turlock, CA 95380, 209-634-9498



## 215 GEN. WALTON H. WALKER [TX]

We are grateful for the interaction and support of the North Texas Korean community. Recently, members of the Fort Worth Tarrant County Korean Women's Association set up a booth in front of one of the largest Asian markets in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. These persuasive women collected over 300 signatures on a petition to submit to our local congressmen for support of H.R. 1475, the bill to establish a Wall of Remembrance in the Korean War Memorial. These were added to the almost 500 signatures they have collected elsewhere.

Several chapter members assisted them, and were rewarded with lunch at a nearby Korean restaurant.



Kim Chongsuk, Jack Cooper, Chae Eunjoo, Bill Mac Swain, Joyce Hwang, Dave Moore, Chong Eunshil, and A. J. Key (L-R) gather signatures for Ch 215 petition



LEFT: Kay Lee Cochran sings national anthem at Ch 215's meeting. RIGHT: Choir Director Kim Kibum at Ch 215 meeting



The Korean Central United Methodist Church of Dallas provided lunch for our November meeting. Following the delicious meal, Kay Lee Cochran entertained us with a moving rendition of our national anthem. In addition to a powerful solo, Choir Director Kim Kibum led the group in singing several traditional Korean songs.

Several members were among those honored at a December 11th luncheon and presentation of Ambassador for Peace medals to Dallas area Korean War veterans. Mr. Dong Chan Kim, Head



A.J. Key, In Su Key, Larry Kinard, and Dong Chan Kim (L-R) at Ch 215 luncheon

of Mission at the Republic of Korea Dallas Consular Office, Mr. Ted Kim of the Korean Society of Dallas, and KWVA National President Larry Kinard made thoughtful and moving remarks prior to the medal presentation ceremony.

Dave Moore, [davewp2g@yahoo.com](mailto:davewp2g@yahoo.com)

## 222 DON C. FAITH (MOH) [TX]

We note that in the Nov/Dec 2015 edition of The Graybeards there were two misfires: Pete Taylor was listed as a LtCol. He was a LtGen. And, Paul Pfrommer is not the Department of Texas president. That would be Eddie L. Bell Sr.



Homer Garcia, Jesus Perez, and Eddie L. Bell Sr. (L-R) of Ch 222 display new Department of Texas state flag

Homer Garza, Silver Star and Purple Heart recipient, Korea and Vietnam, and president of Ch 222 (L) and Eddie L. Bell Sr. hold new Department of Texas flag in front of the Texas state flag





Incidentally, the Department of Texas has a new state flag. One of the key designers was longtime chapter member Jesus Perez.

Eddie L. Bell Sr., 1105 Craig St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522, 254-661-4673, [eddiebell858@yahoo.com](mailto:eddiebell858@yahoo.com)

## 227 SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN [WI]

We have participated in the Milwaukee Veterans Day Parade for the past ten years. Last year's was the 52nd annual Veterans Day Parade.

Jim Becker, Apt. 3, 3709 Candle Ct., Racine, WI 53402, [jbecker625@wi.rr.com](mailto:jbecker625@wi.rr.com)



Bill DeBock, Jim Becker, Smokey Scholzen, and John Kamperschroer (L-R) of Ch 227 at Milwaukee Veterans Day Parade

## 249 COL. JOSEPH C. RODRIGUEZ MOH [TX]

### North San Francisco Bay Division Dedicates New Memorial

Veteran Paul Lewis (I-Corps) found his high school classmates KIA in Korea were being forgotten in their burial site at the community cemetery. He led the way for a memorial to



Paul Lewis of Ch 249 and the memorial he created

Korean War veterans that was dedicated at Walnut Park in Petaluma, CA on Veterans Day 2015. The memorial especially honors these three Petaluma veterans.

The dedication ceremony included presentations by local and national representatives and the Deputy Korean Consul General from San Francisco, General Lee, who also presented their Ambassador for Peace medal to five veterans who had been active in preparing the memorial for dedication.



The wording on Ch 249's memorial



Relatives of the veterans honored at Ch 249's ceremony with wreaths to place at the memorial



Deputy Consul General Lee and Congressman Jared Huffman with veterans Medvigy, Choi, Davis, Parriera and Lewis (seated) with their Ambassador for Peace medals



Bugler John Nelson, who played “Taps,” was the same person who played “Taps” at the internment of these veterans as their bodies came back home from Korea in the 1950s.

Photo credits include Charles Earthman and Elise Bauer.

Marshall Davis, 915-479-4812, texmarsh1@gmail.com

## 250 CHARLES B. THACKER [VA]

Once again Commander Kenny Fannon and Quartermaster Jerry Bishop provided us with an excellent Veterans Day dinner and celebration. Close to 200 local veterans attended.

The program included some comedy, along with an excellent flag presentation and ceremony by our local Vietnam Honor Guard, to whom we give our thanks.

Everything was topped off by the fine meal and service provided by three nice ladies, Sherry Burton, Janica Heron, and Aprille Grizzel. Their efforts were really appreciated.



Keith Fannon (L) and Jerry Bishop at Ch 250 dinner

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



The Vietnam Honor Guard at Ch 250's dinner



Sherry Burton, Janica Heron, and Aprille Grizzel, who served Ch 250's guests



Keith Fannon (L) and Jerry Bishop at Ch 250 dinner

## 251 SAGINAW-FRANKENMUTH [MI]

Laura Ruhl, of the Alzheimer's Association, was the guest speaker at our November 2015 meeting. She gave an excellent talk on Alzheimer's, which is a growing epidemic affecting 5.3 million Americans, including 180,000 in Michigan.

Members contributed their time to the 2015 Rose of Sharon fund drive for Veterans Day at Walmart's/Sam's Club in Saginaw.

We participated in a wreath laying ceremony at the Veterans Memorial Plaza on Veterans Day 2015. (Photos by Richard Carpenter)

Richard Carpenter, 4915 N. River Rd. Freeland, MI 48623



Roy Mossner (L) and Dick Ruyts of Ch 251 raise funds at Walmart's



Tom Keller of Ch 251 at Rose of Sharon fundraiser





Fred Bauer and Rich Rosa of Ch 251 at fundraiser



Officers of Ch 251 with speaker Laura Ruhl: Gorman Wolf, Richard Suchodolski, Ralph Gaunt, Robert Hubbard, Lydia Davis, Robert Wodarak, Richard Haney (L-R)

## 256 NORVILLE FINNEY [MI]

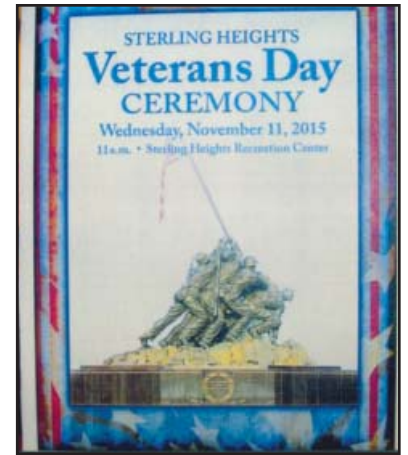
On 11 November 2015 members attended the City of Sterling Heights' annual Veterans Day ceremony. This year there was a presentation of the Purple Heart by Congressman Sander Levin and the French Legion Honor Medal by the French Honorary Consul Pascal Goachet to a World War 2 veteran. This was a very moving experience.

James E. McCarthy, 2159 Parliament Dr.  
Sterling Heights, MI 48310, 586-264-4223  
[jimsshop@comcastnet](mailto:jimsshop@comcastnet)



KWVA wreath presented by Ch 256 at Sterling Heights, MI Veterans Day commemoration

The poster at Sterling Heights, MI event



Members of Ch 256 with Congressman Sander Levin (D-MI) at Veterans Day ceremony



## 264 MT. DIABLO [CA]

Members attended a luncheon at the United Irish Cultural Center in San Francisco to hear a detailed presentation by FBI Special Agent Stonie Carlson. The topic was the relationship between the FBI and the U.S. Marshall's Fugitive Task Force. Agent Carlson outlined their efforts to locate and arrest fugitives in the northern California Bay area. We learned several valuable facts.



Stanley Grogan of Ch 264 (2nd from left), Jerry Rubin (2nd from right), local citizen of Pinole, CA (L) and unidentified Boy Scout leader at flag retirement ceremony



The U.S. Marshall's task force is the only fugitive task force in the Bay area. It includes approximately 22 full-time personnel and incorporates several local, state, and federal law enforcement operations.

Each law enforcement organization draws specific skill sets, bringing tactical, technical, and intelligence resources under one mission. The task force affects over 800 arrests regionally, using a variety of techniques.

Sam Brown, a third generation San Franciscan, was a guest of Stanley Grogan. Brown is a well-known investigator in the Bay area.

The Pinole Historical Society and the city of Pinole conducted the 8th annual flag retirement ceremony in Fernandez Park. Stanley Grogan, former KWVA national Director, presented a flag to the city.

Stanley J. Grogan, 2585 Moraga Dr.  
Pinole, CA 94564, 510-758-7534  
[SJGent@hotmail.com](mailto:SJGent@hotmail.com)

## 289 MOUNTAIN EMPIRE [TN]

We had a very busy time in the fall of 2015, starting on October 22nd, with our Annual Pumpkin Pie and Ice Cream Party at the VA Community Living Center, which four members attended. The wife of one of our members is Korean; she made it a point to greet every veteran of the Korean War we visited.

We participated in the Veterans Parade in Bristol, TN on November 7th. Fred Himelwright and Bob Shelton carried our banner. Five other members rode in three cars.



Fred Himelwright, Mack Dunford, Arlen Hensley, Bob Jenkins, Bill Reed and Bob Shelton of Ch 289 at the Bristol, TN Veterans Parade. Bill Porter is missing from the photo

Two members attended the November 9th Veterans Day ceremony at the VA hospital.

One member attended the November 11th Colonial Heights Middle School Veteran Program and Breakfast. Two others attended a like program at the Jackson Elementary School in Kingsport.

Six members attended the 11 a.m. Memorial Service at the Kingsport Veterans Memorial. The program included a ribbon

cutting ceremony for a new section of the Memorial.

On November 13th the Sullivan South Air Force JROTC had its biannual ceremony honoring veterans, which four members attended.



Fred Rountree of Ch 289 participates in Wreaths Across America ceremony



Arlen Hensley and Bob Shelton present "Honorary Member of the Year" plaque to Carol Shelton at Ch 289's Christmas Party



Bob Shelton, Arlen Hensley, Fred Himelwright, Gale Carpenter, and Mack Dunford (Back, L-R) and Billy Hayden, Carol Shelton, Mary Ann Himelwright, Fred Rountree and Bernie Dunford (Front, L-R) at Ch 289's 2015 Christmas Party

Next was the November 14th "Honoring Our Heroes" dinner at the Boys and Girls Club. Three members, Gale Carpenter, Joe Cody, and Bill Reed, were among those honored.

December was just as busy. On the 6th several members attended a Pearl Harbor Ceremony at the VA Mountain Home Museum.



Four days later, at the VSO office at the VA, members helped distribute gifts at the hospital's ICU/PCU wards. Our chapter signed Christmas cards for all the patients (400) at the VA hospital. We also provided 160 2016 calendars for the vets to hang on their bedroom walls.

On December 12th two members joined with other volunteers at the VA cemetery in Johnson City to place over 800 wreaths on grave markers as they took part in honoring our military through the Wreaths Across America campaign.

Finally, we held our Christmas party on December 17th, with a review of our year and the awarding of the "Honorary Member of the Year" plaque.

Carol Shelton, [cshelton37663@yahoo.com](mailto:cshelton37663@yahoo.com)

## 297 PLATEAU [TN]

### Chapter Holds Service For Deceased Commander

Chapter Commander Robert (Bob) Johnston died in October 2015. Members gathered at the Methodist church in Fairfield Glade for a memorial service.



Bob Johnston of Ch 297 (C) with fellow members



Ch 297 members at memorial service for former Commander Bob Johnston

We held a meeting in 2015 at the Fairfield Glade Community Center at which the Honorable Cumberland County Mayor Kenneth Carey was the principal speaker. The event, which was well attended, included a vigorous question and answer session,



Members of Ch 297 participate in memorial service for Bob Johnston

during which Mayor Carey answered questions to everyone's satisfaction.

*(Photos by P. Stone)*

Dick Malsack, 146 Anglewood Dr., Crossville, TN 38558, 931-707-7292, [kaslam2001@yahoo.com](mailto:kaslam2001@yahoo.com)

## 301 FOOTHILLS [SC]

### Peace Medal Ceremony

At our meeting on January 14, 2016, eleven members received the "Korean Ambassador for Peace Medal." The medals were presented by staff members of the South Carolina Military Museum, Steve Jeffcoat Sr., Steve Jeffcoat Jr., and Ewell "Buddy" Sturgis, who were responsible for acquiring the medals.

Members who received the medals were Clarence Compton, Carrol Farmer, William Gains, Paul Karns, Harold Lipscomb, Jerry Lunsford, Bill Spears, Ron Stephens, Robert Timmerman, Frank Tooley, and Glenn Walls. Several others received their medals in a ceremony at the Military Museum, Columbia, SC on October 31, 2015.

Additional medals will be awarded to other members once their verification (DD214) is approved by the Korean Consulate. Any member who has not received the Peace Medal should contact Past President Ed Wooten, 864-244-8036.

Guest speaker was Ms. Katie Gayle Womble, Curator of Oral History, for the Upcountry History Museum-Furman University,



Jerry Lunsford of Ch 301 (L) receives the Ambassador for Peace Medal from members of the Military Museum staff



Greenville, SC. Ms. Womble was seeking Korean War veterans, men and women of the upcountry, willing to share their firsthand experiences while in the service during the Korean War to honor our veterans and guarantee that they will be preserved for, and shared with, future generations. Each story of individual service and sacrifice is extremely important for family members and descendants.

We meet on the second Thursday each month, except July, at the Golden Corral, 3240 N Pleasantburg Dr., Greenville, SC.

Lew Perry, [lewerry@aol.com](mailto:lewerry@aol.com)

## 309 LAWTON [OK]

We keep busy.

We set up an information table for retirees on Ft. Sill. Two days are set aside in recognition of the retirees. Questions are answered on the benefits available in joining the Korean War and defense veterans. Items are distributed to encourage joining our chapter.

In September of each year Ft. Sill opens the post for every military organization and members of the community to thank the retirees and offer small gifts and aid.



President Aaron Boone and Past President Bud Arenz at the KWVA at te informaation table on Ft. Sill, OK



MajGen John Rossi thanks President Boone and Ed Mayfield of Ch 309 for their past service and in having a table at the Ft. Sill retirees open house

On Veterans Day, members Don Burton and Jerry Houghton placed a wreath on the Veterans Memorial at Sunset Memorial Gardens in remembrance of our fallen comrades.



Don Burton and Jerry Houghton of Ch 309 place a wreath on the Veterans Memorial at Sunset Memorial Gardens



Members of Ch 309 enjoy Christmas gathering



Korean ladies entertain Ch 309 Christmas dinner audience

We held our annual Christmas dinner on 16 December 2015 at the United Methodist Korean Church. Several of our members are in the early 90s and welcomed a chance to enjoy a day out.

The Korean ladies who catered the lunch also entertained the veterans with songs of Christmas cheer. Over 50 chapter members enjoyed the meal and the songs. At the end, gifts were handed out; each attendee received one.

C. D. (Bud) Arenz, 2807 NW Lynn Cir  
Lawton, OK 73507

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# Return to Korea

By Fred Lash

## History of the “Revisit Korea” Program

In 1975, the 25th anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War, the Republic of Korea’s (ROK) government began the “Revisit Korea” program as a means to say thank you to all UN veterans of the Korean War and their family members. Each year since then, this year being the 40th anniversary of the program, the ROK government appropriates a given amount of money for this special program, and the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MPVA) in Seoul administers it.

Korean War veterans selected for the “Revisit Korea” program are required to make their own airline reservations (assisted by the staff of Military Historical Tours) and pay the airfares. Following the completion of the trip, veterans are reimbursed for 50% of the airfare. Any companion making the trip with the veteran is reimbursed for 30% of the airfare. The remainder of the trip is fully covered by the ROK/Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MPVA), including transportation within Korea, lodging, and all meals.

**NOTE:** The eligibility criteria for the “Revisit Korea” program now includes those who are categorized as “Korea Defense Service” veterans who have served in Korea from 1953 to the present time. Those individuals are also now eligible to join the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA).

According to the MPVA, those who served during the war (1950-1953) still have priority when registering for the program. However, several Defense Service veterans have made the trip and are helping to bridge the gap between the war veterans’ experiences from 1950 to 1953 and current international issues and foreign policy matters currently involving the Republic of Korea.

Working closely with Korean tourism groups, the MPVA shows America’s war veterans and veterans of other allied nations who participated in the Korean War the end result of the bloody conflict that took place in Korea between 1950 and 1953. South Korea’s rapid emergence from the ashes of the 1950s and its economic, social, and



**Korean War veterans, along with members of their families and Korean Defense Service veterans, at an observation post along the demilitarized zone between North and South Korea during a DMZ tour arranged by Military Historical Tours in November 2015**

diplomatic development have been a great source of pride for foreign war veterans, who fought for the south under the United Nations banner.

“This program is intended to express our gratitude to the war veterans,” stated the Honorable Sung Choon Park, Minister of

Patriots and Veterans Affairs. “We also hope that the veterans would feel that their sacrifices were not in vain after looking at South Korea’s development.”

Once they arrive, veterans visit a series of war-related venues, including the War Memorial of Korea; major military bases; the



**Korean War veterans and members of their families and Korean Defense Service veterans visit the Goseokjeong Pavilion, south of the White Horse Hill battlefield**



Joint Security Area in the Demilitarized Zone (Panmunjom); and an observation post near the inter-Korean border, not far from the "Bridge of No Return."

## **"Turn toward Busan" (November 11, 2015)**

Hundreds of Korean War veterans around the world offered a moment of silence on November 11, 2015, turning to face the direction of Busan, where many of the fallen United Nations (UN) soldiers killed during the war are buried.

In the South Korean port city, 40 veterans from 11 countries, including the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, and Turkey, attended the Veterans Day ceremony at the United Nations Memorial Cemetery Korea (UNMCK).

The "Turn toward Busan" ceremony, arranged by the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MPVA), was simultaneously observed in the United States, Canada, New Zealand, and the Philippines. The ceremony was held in some 40 cities of the 21 nations that fought together to safeguard freedom decades ago.

The cemetery is the only place in the world where fallen UN servicemen are buried. According to the ministry, 40,670 servicemen of the 21 UN allied nations were killed during the conflict, with 104,280 wounded and 4,116 missing in action. A total of 23,000 UN servicemen were laid to rest at the UNMCK.

## **KWVA Member Larry Cole's Address at the Awards Luncheon A Korean War Veteran's Perspective—At Busan on Veterans Day**

"Good afternoon. I trust you are having a memorable Remembrance/Veterans Day.

An-nyung-ha-se-yo, Bo-hun-cho-jang-nim.

Greetings, Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs, The Honorable Park, Sung-Choon; Turkish Ambassador Okcal; Diplomats; Military Attaches; staff of the Ministry; staff of Military Historical Tours (MHT); fellow veterans; ladies and gentlemen.

I have been asked to make some brief remarks as a Korean War veteran. I do not presume to speak for all of you. My experience in Korea is not in the same league as those who served in three wars, or two wars, or who received a Purple Heart or a Bronze

Star. However, I hope to say some things you will mostly agree with.

For the record, my name is Larry Cole, and I'm Secretary of the Cape & Islands Chapter of the KWVA; that is Cape Cod, Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard, which you may have heard of.

I joined the 5th Regimental Combat Team (RCT) in March 1953, just as it was being detached from the 45th Infantry Division (ID) in the Punchbowl and attached to either the 2nd or 3rd ID farther west. An RCT is analogous to today's Brigade Combat Teams being deployed in Afghanistan and Iraq. The polite term is "fireplug" outfit.

In my first 16 weeks in Korea we moved from east to west 14 times, ending up back with the 45th ID on Christmas Hill. We replaced one of its regiments that got badly chewed up, and we were on line for the last two weeks of the war.

On the night of the cease fire, both sides expended lots of artillery, mortar and flat trajectory ammo on each other's positions, rather than carry it out of the DMZ afterward. Thus, the last U.S. soldier killed in the war was a sergeant from Kansas in K Company, 5th RCT.

Following the war, I served in a company of the 74th RCT at Camp Devens, MA, commanded by 1st Lt. Earle Denton, a hero of Pork Chop Hill, who is cited in the MHT booklet used in the pre-tour, and in S. L. A. Marshall's book, which was the basis for the movie starring Gregory Peck.

Denton went on to do multiple tours in Vietnam. He retired as a LTC (lieutenant colonel) in Florida, and became active in veterans affairs there. Some of you here today from Florida may have met him before his untimely death last year.

I make a couple points about David Halberstam's book, *The Coldest Winter*. His last chapter makes the most compelling case I know of to justify U.S./UN involvement in Korea. Obviously, it is because what Korea has become since the war: all the achievements cited in the Korea Today video we saw yesterday: amazing strides in education, health care, economic development and democratic governance, as described by Ambassador Okcal at the UN Cemetery this morning.

We used to describe West Germany's post-WWII recovery as an "economic miracle,"

but pre-war Germany was already a modern industrial nation and got huge Marshall Plan aid. South Korea was an agricultural region that, with much less aid, set an example for emerging economies all over the world. By the way, my civilian occupation was economist, and I'm here to tell you there are no miracles. There are only hard work, best practices, and intelligent development strategy.

The second Halberstam point relates to a successful businessman member of our Cape Cod chapter who was instrumental in getting the author, who had a home on Nantucket, to meet another of our members, LTC Fillmor W. McAbee, a decorated and wounded veteran of the Italian Campaign in WWII, who was S-3 of that battalion of the 1st Cavalry Division cut off by the Chinese at Unsan in November, 1950, and unable to be rescued by other 1st Cavalry units.

As a result, perhaps, Halberstam's first chapter is titled "Warning at Unsan." It features McAbee's actions: getting wounded and captured, along with Chaplain Emil Kapaun, the recent posthumous Medal of Honor recipient, and numerous wounded 5th Cav troops. Generals MacArthur and Almond and their Tokyo intelligence staff didn't get the message the Chinese were sending, and that had enormous consequences for the rest of the war.

Before wrapping up, I have one personal story that applies to all of you. I was running the 2012 Marine Corps Marathon in Washington, and early in the race a young Korean male passed me, as did nearly everybody else, and noticed that my shirt identified me as a Korean War veteran. With no prompting from me he said, "If you had not been there, I might not be here." That "you" is all who served, most particularly the thousands of dead, wounded, and missing UN troops.

"Thank you for your service" has become a common expression in the U.S. I'm sure the sentiment is genuine, but it's only words. The Ministry's Thank You is real, substantial, exceedingly generous, moving and touching. We very much appreciate all that you do for us, and in my KWVA chapter we use every opportunity to inform the local public about it.

So, thank you, and good luck with self-government, further economic progress, and eventually a peaceful democratic reunification of all Koreans.

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# Members in the NEWS

**Don Dust** had the privilege last May of being a member of Honor Flight 21, given by the Honor Flight of West Central Florida. It was a wonderful trip to Washington D.C. To see all the memorials there is something I will never forget.

The Honor Flight program is great, and credit is due to all the volunteers who travel with each veteran. They give of their time and their travel expense.

Upon our return flight to the St. Petersburg-Clearwater Airport, each veteran was given an envelope, sort of a packet. Inside the packet were letters from senators and congressmen, a letter of thanks from Brigadier General Christopher M. Burns, U S Army, Assistant Commander, MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, and letters and drawings from schoolchildren in the area.

Something else that was included was a special thanks from Dean Young, the man who creates the "Blondie" comic strip in the newspaper each day. He listed it as a thank you from our country and the "Bumsteads." (See the copy below.)



The drawing presented to Don Dust

I was impressed that he would take the time to do this, and I sent a thank you note to him. In return he sent information about "The Blondie Story," explaining how his father, Chic Young, started the comic back in 1930. It is so great to know that so many people appreciate our service and will take the time to tell us.

Don Dust, 2655 Nebraska Ave., Apt. 440  
Palm Harbor FL. 34684, 727-464-1440

♦ ♦ ♦

**Paul Garland** and thirty other Korean War veterans had the honor of receiving a medal commemorating the 65th anniversary of the Inchon landing. Gen Choi, a retired Korean general, did the presenting.

The lady in one of the pictures is Sunny Lippold, who was six years old in Seoul at the time. She is very active with the Korean veterans in Buffalo, NY.

Paul Garland, paulgarland83@yahoo.com

Paul Garland and Sunny Lippold at medal presentation



Medal recipients and guests gather at ceremony



**LEFT:** Gen Choi presents medal commemorating 65th anniversary of the Inchon landing



**BELOW:** Gen Choi and medal recipient display medal and complementary certificate





**William Hanes**, president of CID 24, Charles Parlier, was featured in an article in the 31 August 2015 Decatur [IL] Herald & Review. (His picture was included as well.) The article, "Link to history: Killed in action, WWII pilot's bracelet finds way back," recounted Hanes' role in learning about a local pilot, 1st Lt. Robert L. Hawkins, who had been shot down in Germany in WWII. A local citizen where Hawkins' plane crashed found a bracelet identifying Hawkins, which he returned to folks in Decatur. That set off a search for background information about Hawkins, in which Hanes participated.

As columnist Tony Reid wrote, "Hawkins' life had ended long before the Korean War, but Hanes, for his part, was intrigued and touched by the story of the young flier and wanted to find the details of his military service.

"I didn't want this to be a case of, 'Oh, he went down over there, and nobody cared,'" says Hanes, 76. "We care."

Thanks to Thomas G. Williamson of Decatur, IL, also a member of Ch 24, for bringing our attention of this story, which is available at [http://herald-review.com/news/local/world-war-ii-pilot-s-bracelet-finds-way-back/article\\_a1797040-ec73-530a-a0e7-503c5ea42b7b.html](http://herald-review.com/news/local/world-war-ii-pilot-s-bracelet-finds-way-back/article_a1797040-ec73-530a-a0e7-503c5ea42b7b.html)

◆ ◆ ◆  
**Conrad L. Hlavacek** was the second prize winner in the 2015 KWVA Fundraiser. He served in Korea in 1951 as a 57 Recoiless Rifle gunner with the 7th Cav. Regt., 1st Cav. Div.



Conrad Hlavacek

◆ ◆ ◆  
**Marvin E. Morris** ...My name is Jackie Morris. I am the daughter of Korean War veteran Marvin E. Morris of Ch 323, PO2 Taylor Morris [IA]. Last fall I had the honor and privilege of accompanying my dad on the Korean War Veterans Revisit Tour hosted by MHT. We were genuinely impressed with the entire trip; the accommodations, food, events, and entertainment were all world class.



A portion of our group with welcome banner upon arrival at the Incheon Airport near Seoul, South Korea. Marvin Morris is on far right with daughter Jackie Morris in front to his left.

Dad just couldn't believe how grateful a nation South Korea is for his sacrifice during the war. Everyone was so welcoming, young and old alike. We were treated like royalty. The Revisit Tour was such a tremendous opportunity and truly a once in a lifetime experience!



Marvin Morris sharing handshakes and smiles with Korean veterans attending the 64th Anniversary of the Recapture of Seoul Celebration at Seoul Plaza



**LEFT:** Marvin Morris at the War Memorial of Korea, locating the name of a close family friend's brother on the wall of fallen soldiers from Iowa

**BELOW:** Jackie Morris and Marvin Morris with young performers at the Thank You banquet during which Marvin was presented with the Ambassador for Peace Medal that is around his neck. The Morrises shared gifts of Disney books and Drummer Boy quarters with their new friends



Incidentally, Dad enjoys *The Graybeards* so much he shares it with anyone who shows an interest in it. Dad was a United States Army Staff Sergeant with the 7th Division, 31st Infantry Regiment, and served in Korea during 1954 and 1955.

Jackie J. Morris, 651-894-4158  
[jackiejomo415@gmail.com](mailto:jackiejomo415@gmail.com)



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Finally, the best thing about this tour is meeting all of you. What a wonderful surprise to have veterans here from so many UN countries. Thank you, Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs of the government of the Republic of Korea.

Gam-sa-ham-ni-da"

### How Jim Holt Got to Korea

Jim Holt, a Korean War veteran and member of the KWVA, was born in Kennett, Missouri in 1928, but now resides in Shafter, California. Jim was on an Honor Flight (found out about the Honor Flight Program on television) to Washington, D.C. from Kern County, CA on November 11, 2014. After the flight to the nation's capital, Jim heard about the "Revisit Korea" program from the Kern County Honor Flight coordinator. Jim wanted to take part in the trip to Korea; however, his income was not sufficient to allow him to make flight arrangements for the journey.

After he mentioned this to his friends at the Red Wagon restaurant in Shafter, a wait-



Military Historical Tours staff member P.J. Dermer stands alongside Bernard Zaretsky, together with J. McRay Munson and his father Dick Munson (L-R), as they look toward White Horse Hill, where the veterans had seen action during the Korean War



Korean War veterans from several nations attended Veterans Day ceremonies at the United Nations Memorial Cemetery in Busan, Korea on November 11



ress and friend suggested that he record a phone message indicating that he wanted to go on the "Revisit Korea" trip but did not have enough money to go. The friends at the Red Wagon helped Jim produce a video that appeared on Facebook. His granddaughter in North Carolina then put the same message on other social media platforms.

Before he knew it, Jim had nearly \$2,000 as a result of his granddaughter's efforts and more than \$1,200 from his Red Wagon friends. Since he needed \$3,100.00 to cover all of his expenses, the donated amount was just the right amount, and the Honor Flight coordinator registered him for the "Revisit Korea" program in November 2015.

## Observations

While we were at the various combat outposts and observation sites along the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), the veterans in our group were constantly and diligently searching the mountain ranges and valleys to determine where their units had served during the war.

Those who had ever been in either Seoul or Busan (then Pusan) during the war were astonished at how much both cities had expanded and modernized. It seemed nearly impossible for them to realize how much the cities had come back from nearly total desolation and had become thriving cities and centers of international trade and commerce. When discussing these changes, it became even more obvious to them how much their efforts and sacrifices had made a difference and why the Korean government wants to show its appreciation and gratitude to them.

During our many hours on the bus all along the DMZ, from the Iron Triangle to the Punchbowl, many veterans who have rarely shared their experiences in Korea during the war appeared to be more than anxious to discuss them with fellow veterans.

"I always wanted to come back," said KWVA member Jack Naastad, from Bemidji, Minnesota, who brought his wife Rosemary. "My friends back home in the U.S. weren't at all surprised when they heard that I was finally making a trip back to Korea."

Jack added, "I have always been proud of my service and my family and friends have

known it and been proud of me. I always imagined that I'd come back because I wanted to see how things have changed. And, boy, have they really changed in a big way!"

## Students Meet Veterans Program

The bus I was on virtually hummed with dialogue between the veterans and students on our journey from Seoul to Panmunjom and the DMZ. Speaking excellent English, the students (part of the "Students Meet Veterans" program) related their understanding and knowledge of the Korean War (or sometimes, the lack thereof) and the veterans seemed more than anxious to describe their own wartime experiences to the young students.

On some (if not most) of the long bus journeys we had previously taken throughout Korea, there had been almost nothing but silence. On this particular journey toward North Korea, it was just the opposite, as everyone seemed to be speaking at once! It was certainly one of the highlights of the entire trip and, based on the exchanges of contact information I saw going on, the veterans and students may very well have more conversations in the future!

As the former commander of the United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, and U.S. Forces Korea, General Walter Sharp, now retired, pointed out, "There is a strong need for our youth of today to understand the sacrifices of those who fought in the Korean War and how Korea has been able to develop into a strong, democratic, giving, and prosperous country because of those sacrifices. This holds true for both U.S. and Korean youth."

General Sharp added, "While I was the UNC/CFC/USFK commander, I was able to link students in Korea with Korean War veterans who were on the "Revisit Korea" program. It was almost instantly a hit with both the students and the veterans. I heard from many veterans as to how wonderful it was to talk to the students about the Korean War and to get a better understanding of Korea today from the students' perspectives."

In a briefing about the program, given to us by long-time USFK staff member Steve Tharp, he noted that the program actually began in 2008 when he was asked by General Sharp to put together a plan for its

implementation. It has been an integral part of the "Revisit Korea" program ever since.

Summing up the interview, General Sharp emphasized that, "It made both the veterans and students proud of their sacrifices and the accomplishments of Korea."

## The Bottom Line—Why the Veterans Were There

While in Korea, we became very aware of the liberty, freedom, and democracy now fully exercised in that country as a result of the numerous sacrifices and hardships that befell these war veterans who were on this trip, sort of a 'pilgrimage,' to Korea.

The Korean War often reminds us that when our country sends troops into battle, they deserve the support and gratitude of not only the American people, but also the people of the lands that are being fought for and protected. It is also essential to remember that we must never stop working to fulfill our obligations to fallen heroes and their families.

In a speech at the UN Cemetery in Busan, we heard that more than 7,800 Americans are still missing from the Korean War. We all know that the United States cannot rest until we give the families a full accounting of their loved ones.

As we looked around us in the cities and country areas during our stay, we saw evidence of growth and prosperity nearly everywhere. Today, the Republic of Korea enjoys a thriving democracy and a bustling economy, and the legacy of our Korean War veterans continues in the 50 million South Koreans who live with liberty and opportunity.

Being there, it was so very evident why the United States is so proud to stand with our partner in Asian security and stability, and our commitment to our friend and ally never wavers. This is a promise embodied by our servicemen and women who fought from the Chosin Reservoir to Heartbreak Ridge and Pork Chop Hill, and by every American since who has stood sentinel on freedom's frontier.

Fred C. Lash is a retired Marine Corps officer and director of communication for the Korean War Veterans Association. He accompanied the veterans who participated in the "Revisit Korea" program during November.

# Maher's Memories: An American In The Canadian Army

## Part II

By Pell Johnson

### The RSM Promises To Kick Some Ass

July 1951: Our Canadian forces were moving rapidly north towards the 38th parallel. The brigade survey section was establishing survey control for the area the gun batteries were to occupy. My survey party came upon about ten enemy mules left unattended. The enemy must have "bugged out" and left the mules behind.

Several of the mules were badly wounded; others were dead. I assume that our artillery fire had caught them in the confusion of pushing back the enemy. We watched them for a short while, but lost sight of them while continuing our survey. Then we left the area.

When we finished our work we returned to the proposed headquarters area. Shortly after we had settled down some of the artillery troops found the mules and roped one. They covered its sides with whitewash and in black spray paint letters about eight inches high on each side they wrote '2 RCHA' (2nd Royal Canadian Horse Artillery — our unit).

They tethered the decorated mule to a stake in the middle of the area where the HQ tents would be located—where the RSM (Regimental Sergeant Major) and Regimental Commander would see it. The news went around the battalion like wildfire. Peals of laughter erupted everywhere.

When the 'powers' arrived on the site, they were very angry, especially the RSM. He was nearly insane with rage. Luckily for us, he knew it was not our survey unit that did the deed. Unfortunately, we incurred the brunt of his anger when he demanded that we identify the culprits. Everyone knew who did it, but everyone had a very short memory.

During the commotion someone from the battery forces found the dead and wounded mules. Those that were alive but beyond redemption were put down. As I said, it was in the heat of summer and they



Bill Maher

soon became a rotting, bloated mess and began to stink.

The stench was unbearable! We had to bury the mules. It was the only time I know of during the entire time I was in Korea that battery members got shovels and picks to dig holes without orders. Granted, they dug the holes as shallow as possible, but sufficiently deep to provide a cover of earth over those rotting corpses to eliminate the stench. Burying the mules was not an easy task, because of their size and long legs.

And the "decorated" mule? It wandered away. Despite our efforts to locate the beast, it was never seen again. The RSM's rage did not ebb for several days, and no one was identified as the perpetrator of the deed. It was the laugh of the battalion for a long time

### Arms Lost To Arms

There are some things about Korea that are hard to forget or talk about. One occurred in late July or early August in 1952, a few weeks after I arrived on line. Joe Keeper and I were in my jeep trying to keep up with the rapidly retreating Chinese and North Koreans. We had driven north ahead of the advancing infantry on a gravel road on the north side of the Han River. Since the river was flowing very slowly, the banks were sand beaches.

We had stopped the vehicle about 100 feet from the riverbank. We noted what looked like hundreds of logs floating down with the current; some were washed up on the sand. Our curiosity got the better of us, and we walked to the river's edge. We discovered that the logs were bodies floating face down.

We wondered what about the corpses' nationality. Joe thought most were Americans and others Chinese and Koreans. I grabbed an arm of one body to turn it over; the arm came off in my hand. I was horrified and abruptly dropped the appendage. We returned to the jeep in silence. I looked back and saw more bodies coming, floating quietly to the sea. We didn't talk much for quite awhile.

You know that moment never goes away, that arm coming off in my hand from that rotting corpse. I don't know what nationality it was. There must have been an incredible battle somewhere upstream.

### Collecting Data Instead Of Bodies

We returned quickly to our duties of collecting, processing, and utilizing data. When we received data from each control point team at our base of operations, we collated and coordinated it. The mathematical calculations were done at the base using a mechanical calculator. Once completed, the information was placed upon maps that were distributed to the firing batteries.

The artillery batteries had their own technicians who used our points for internal control. They ran survey lines from the points we set to their respective batteries and lay in their guns to coordinate targets.

**Author's Note:** Each artillery piece had a set of aiming stakes down the axis of the gun barrel at a determined azimuth for a reference line. They adjusted the aiming of each weapon left or right, barrel up or down from their baseline dependent upon the forward observer's (FO's) request for fire on a target. The elevation of the barrel, the number and size of explosive charges, and type of fuse were determined by the Fire Direction Center (FDC).

When the batteries were ready, we would be notified and would coordinate ranging in the battery. The base battery-control cannon fired an initial round which had a proximity fuse at a specific coordinate point. This was a fuse that



would explode at a set distance above the ground over selected target.

That first round was rarely on-target, so adjustments had to be made. Two of our survey teams recorded the elevation and horizontal position of the burst, then contacted the FDC and told them what to do to adjust their fire to be on target. Once that was done, all the other field pieces in the battery would adjust the orientation of their individual guns to comply. With the guns ready for firing, the battery FO would call the target data to the FDC with the amount of firepower needed. This was done every time the batteries moved and set up at a new location.

## The Bombs Bursting In Air Came From Where?

We found that accuracy was a bit shaky. All too often a round would wander off for no apparent reason. Short rounds would fall on our own forces, which was not good. Eventually we were told that the army didn't have sufficient ammunition for the guns when the war started and was using material from a strange source.

It seems that there was a cargo ship filled with artillery ammunition that was sunk in the Hong Kong harbor when the Japanese captured Hong Kong in 1941. The ship was scuttled and sank into the mud of the harbor. It stayed there for quite some time and then was salvaged following the war, presumably to make the harbor safe for shipping.

The ammunition was sent back to Canada and stored. When Korea came along, that's all they had for artillery ammunition. No wonder the stuff didn't work.

## Line Jamestown

Eventually the Chinese were able to set up a defensive line and the UN forces did the same. The final line, called Line Jamestown, was somewhat fluid. It was somewhat stabilized when the peace talks began in July 1951 at Kaesong. There was no major movement beyond the line and we took up a more permanent position. There were horrendous, sporadic, intense firefights up and down the line, but the strategic plans had changed. Now it was body counts that mattered rather than territorial gains for both sides. A lot of killing took place.

**We heated the place with a jury-rigged system consisting of a jerry can of gas located just outside the bunker. The gas was fed into the bunker by segments of radio antennae and dripped onto the sand contained in a bucket just inside the door. Why it never blew up, I don't know.**

Sometime after arriving at the front east of the Sami-chon River, we heard that truce talks were underway. We began setting permanent positions along what was to become the Demarcation Zone (DMZ).

Lt. Dalke found a spot for a living quarters bunker that had room for the truck for the base survey-control center and would provide for the establishment of three outposts or spotting posts. It was located as far as possible from the regimental command center. We liked our privacy.

We dug a living-quarters bunker into the reverse side of the hill, out of sight of the enemy. It was sufficient to house twelve men and supplies and equipment. It was about 15x20. The storage space was rather large to accommodate our C-rations, water and substantial, spirit stimulants that were readily available to us.

## As The Pirates Said, Shiver Me Timbers

We had to go a long way back from the line to get timber to cover the bunker. The timber was propped along the sides to support walls and the roof that was covered with earth and sand bags to resist damage to the bunker from enemy fire.

The bunker had a door of sorts. The floor, on which we slept, was earth. We heated the place with a jury-rigged system consisting of a jerry can of gas located just outside the bunker. The gas was fed into the bunker by segments of radio antennae and dripped onto the sand contained in a bucket just inside the door. Why it never blew up, I don't know.

The place leaked sufficient air to prevent carbon monoxide from building up in the bunker. On the other hand, the gas generated by twelve guys who didn't have a shower or change of clothes for months on end was more formidable and maybe

more explosive.

Let's face it, on line sleeping is near impossible. Dirt and filth are everywhere, and common standards of sanitation and cleanliness don't exist. Then too, it can be a very dangerous place.

## Back To Work

Once we built our home and established our base line and integrated with the theater grid, we learned that our role for conducting field control surveys changed. However, we would still do our surveys for others as needed.

Our main job was to set observation points (Ops) for counter fire bombardments, conduct weather readings, fix coordinates for defensive fire, and coordinate data necessary for firing artillery. The defensive locations of all infantry units in our frontal sector had expanded to include the location of the hills and ridges across the frontal sector of our assigned infantry units.

In addition, we located and established the coordinates of firing points that were chosen as possible approaching routes if the Chinese were to attack. These points were named because the position was fixed.

When the enemy approached these points, all we had to do was call the name of the firing point. All the artillery had to do was dial in the coordinates and begin firing. Since we were on the theatre grid, if it was necessary, division artillery and/or air strikes could be called in using these same coordinates.

## Whatever Happened To That Bunker?

In 2004 my wife Barbara and I visited Korea. While there, I had hopes of visiting the site of our bunker on hill 187. Lo and behold, the Koreans had built an asphalt

road to the top of the hill where it had been located. They had also constructed an all-weather, concrete observation point complete with glass windows. I was amazed.

I had brought along my map that showed the locations and names of all of the defensive firing points and other related survey points. As I was looking at my map, I was approached by two Korean officers who had seen my map. They asked where I had gotten the map, as it was classified as TOP SECRET. I advised the officer that I had set those points and this was my original map. He was astounded.

They were using the same map with the same descriptions for these points that I had described, such as Point Bill. Later on we visited the Freedom Bridge since there were a few veterans in our group who had been repatriated across that bridge.

## Not Andy Griffith's OP

Three OPs were located at selected sites about a mile between each point. They were selected because we could see for several miles across the front and deep into the enemy's territory. These were carefully surveyed. We had nearly absolute data on their relative location. The lines between OPs were our base line of reference.

We dug the OP holes into the ground down the front side of the hill below the crest of the hill. With the hill rising up behind us, we wouldn't be silhouetted on the horizon. We carried the survey equipment, a sleeping bag, C-rations, water and radio up the hill to the OP. Most of the time we occupied the OPs every night unless there was some action. Then we were on-site for sure.

The hole was about 6x6 and 3.5 feet deep. A ledge, made to be level, was preserved just below the top of the hole. A stout board, cut to a length that fit, was laid onto the ledge and stabilized in place by driving a number of spikes through the board and into the earth. This provided a base to set the surveyor's transit. I jury-rigged a mount for the transit that allowed me to remove the transit when I came off the hill. When I returned the next day, I could remount the transit and it would be oriented. All I had to do was level and sight the instrument on a base point and I was in business. The radio and C-rats were

stored along the side the hole.

The post was occupied during the nighttime hours when we began flash spotting. Our teams were attached to the infantry. The purpose of the OP was to provide a site for an observer to establish the location of the flashes of active enemy artillery, machine guns firing tracer bullets, and the movement of trucks. Two men to each OP were the observers.

We had three-hour watch periods looking for enemy action. Once a flash was observed, we used the surveyor's transit to record the horizontal location by angular measurement. Then a radio transmission was made to a data control center located in a truck near the living-storage bunker. The observation data would be transmitted to a second observer in an adjacent OP so a cross reading could be made to fix the location of the target. The data was then sent up the chain of command to the battalion Fire Direction Center (FDC), and a fire mission was authorized. In some instances we were able to see up to 20 miles inside enemy lines.

We could see a long way at night. I remember seeing the flash of the 16-inch guns of the battleship Missouri off the coast of Korea a very long distance away. It looked like what we used to call "heat lightning."

We occupied the OP at night. Daytime was our off-duty time so we could attempt to catch up on sleep. Actually, most of the fighting was done at night.

It was tough duty looking for muzzle flashes and sitting in a fixed position for three hours at a shift. The hours dragged on and on night after night, day after day, as we strained to see a muzzle flash somewhere in the darkness. It was a physically and mentally draining single-task job.

The mind was totally locked into the process. It required absolute concentration. Every other thought was eliminated. We sat there virtually immobile the whole three hours. At night, when asleep, I would dream of muzzle flashes and wake up in a sweat. It was nerve racking; I couldn't shake images from my mind.

## A Foxhole As Our Den

We dug a second hole, commonly called a "foxhole," not too distant from the OP. It was a shallow trench sufficiently

long and deep to provide the off-duty watch a place for a sleeping bag and maybe sleep. The conditions were such that frequently sleep would not come.

All too often, when winter came, it was cold and tedious work sitting for three hours in one immobile position for the on-duty watch. In the winter the temperature was often a -35 F and wind chills were -50 to a -55 F. When we arrived at the site in the late afternoon, the holes would frequently be filled with snow that had to be removed before we could make observations.

When we dug our holes we put a small berm (mound of earth) on the uphill side to keep rainwater runoff from filling them up. It was hard to bail water out of those holes. And sitting in mud was not the most pleasant experience. In the summer it was hot and humid. Thankfully, the nights were reasonably cool—or at least less hot.

## When We Weren't Doing Anything...

In our spare time we had to range in the guns. We couldn't shoot the vertical angle with the transit in the OP hole. We had to set up our transits out of the OP holes and use tripods. We were measuring the vertical and horizontal position of the air burst from the base cannon, which we did almost every morning.

Because we were in a stable position and not moving, we stopped these ranging exercises when we had completed gathering the locations for firing points along the routes the enemy used to attack our positions. This created a problem for the infantry set up in trenches along the hill we were on. The enemy would see us and begin firing at us with their mortars. Fortunately, we would be gone when those rounds came in. The poor guys in the trenches took a beating.

But, it wasn't just our troops we worked with. I was assigned to provide data to a Thailand Heavy Mortar unit and we provided assistance to other units in our sector. Our job was stressful, so we had to make sure we could maintain our mental health. One was to ensure that we had sufficient "medicinal" booze. We carried out that mission with spectacular results. A member of our group had a relative who was a local power in the NAAFI



stores and controlled the distribution of these spirits. (A NAAFI store is a sort of PX with a large variety of goods.)

## Too Many High Spirits?

I had been on a scrounging mission to get some beer, a task at which I was quite successful. When I returned to our base, I got out of my jeep and carefully put five quarts of Japanese beer under my jacket and buttoned it up. I must have looked as if I was 200 pounds.

Normally, no one bothered me when I came into camp. This time it was different. I left the jeep and started to head towards our bunker up the mountainside. The sergeant major called me over to discuss the extreme quantities of booze that were flowing into the camp.

He told me he had been watching me. He thought I did a good job and that I might be a candidate for lance corporal, stating that this was the first step to higher ranks. He went on for a bit and then told me about the booze problem.

The sergeant major asked me if I would look around to find out where all that booze was coming from. I indicated that I would think about it and get back to him. All this time I was afraid that one of those bottles would slide out from under my jacket and break, slopping beer all over the place. He was so concerned about his offer he never noticed I was bloated with beer bottles. I couldn't believe my luck. Oh yes, I didn't take his bribe.

## Trying To Keep Warm And Eat Well

As I mentioned earlier, it was cold in Korea at times. Fortunately for us, the Canadian army provided excellent cold weather parkas, although the boots left much to be desired. The gear was the typical Brit boot that had hob-nails that sucked the cold into the foot, making it difficult to keep our feet free of frostbite.

I wrote to my mother and asked her to send me a pair of sheepskin flying boots. It was a happy day when they arrived. They solved my problem, but everyone wanted to wear them when on station.

Food wise, we had good "rats" and bad "rats." (C-rations, of course.) My favorite was hamburgers and gravy. There were 3 or 4 patties in a can in thick brown gravy.

**The sergeant major asked me if I would look around to find out where all that booze was coming from. I indicated that I would think about it and get back to him. All this time I was afraid that one of those bottles would slide out from under my jacket and break, slopping beer all over the place.**

It contained a lot of grease. We ate them cold. If it was possible we could heat the can on the engine block of a jeep.

The worst of the lot was ham and lima beans. Many times we would save certain items in the rations and bargain or swap for others that we preferred. You couldn't give ham and lima beans away.

## Not Always By The Bartender's Book

Not all of our activities were addressed in the field manuals. For instance, we wanted to assure our supply of medicinal spirits. We used jerry cans for the basic container for mixing and fermenting the mixture consisting of canned peaches, apricots, raisins, or other suitable fruits. Sugar was not a problem. One of the crew (Gillis) was familiar with the fermenting process. Somehow he found a source for yeast. We mixed the ingredients and began to make a still. Unfortunately, we never completed the task.

When Communist China captured Shanghai, Eddy O., a member of our crew, was in the city working in his family bank. Eddy fled before the Chinese communists took the city. He moved to Canada, joined the army, and was assigned to the 2nd RCHA. Eddy liked his booze and, unknown to us, he regularly sampled the concoction we had mixed.

When Gillis thought everything should be ready to go, lo and behold there was no mix to use. Eddy was sick for a week from the green mix. We had to haul Gillis off Eddy before he did too much damage to the 'green' Eddy. Gillis straightened up, thought for a minute, took off to see his brother in the NAAFI store, and returned with a case of cognac.

We had in our section a Canadian who was in the British Army in WWII as an

artillery surveyor. He was at least 50 years old, probably older. We called him Father O'Donnal, even though his first name was Ed.

Ed liked his booze. When we were in action, a tradition in the Canadian army was a rum ration for each soldier. We tried several times to improve the army's method to insure that we got our fair share. For our section we tried to collect all the rum rations for ten people and let two or three guys really get a load on. It worked once. The results were not well received by our regimental sergeant major (RSM).

Somehow, Ed got a non-diluted 80 oz. bottle of rum colored red; this was considered medicinal booze, and had a much stronger alcohol content than the normal issue. Ed downed as much as he could and passed out. Upon reviving, he was sick. Ed barfed the whole works all over himself before passing out again.

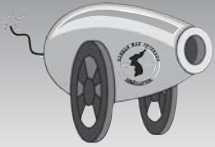
We were concerned and got a medic to take a look at him. The medic thought Ed had a massive hemorrhage and called the lead medic to take a look. He called for an ambulance and told us we would never see Ed again. Off went Ed in the back of the ambulance to a MASH unit in the rear area.

On the way to the hospital Ed woke up, pounded on the ambulance wall, and asked where he was and what they were doing to him. The medics were dumbfounded. They gave him an injection to quiet him down and went on their way. By the time they got him to the MASH unit he was back to being almost normal. He waited a couple of days and came back to our unit.

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..to be continued

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# 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 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573-7141; 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.

## Enough Is Enough

Please no more, and/or not so much "Chapter" news. It's the same old, same old. Enough is enough! May as well call it the "KWVA-Graybeards Chapter & Department News."

A couple years ago I wrote in a story of my late husband's Chosin Reservoir campaign. You never published it. No wonder they call it the "Forgotten War."

So what happened to my story? Who knows? Needed the space for more chapter and department news?

Now I do enjoy reading your comments: I truly do. I'm not the only one complaining here. I do talk to KW vets, and they talk to me. They send in stories and never get them published. Lost? Who knows? I don't.

So maybe you will find my story and publish it. Miracles do happen.

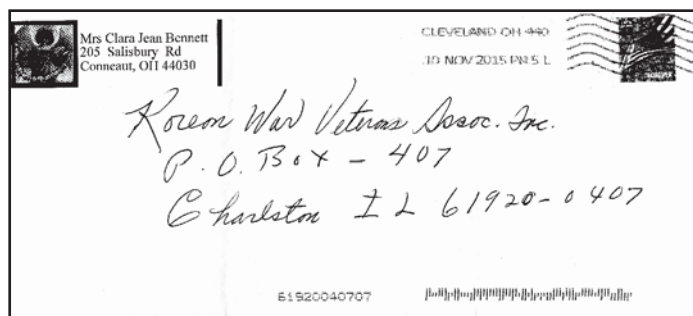
Oh, of course, I make errors. But good editing can be of help as long as the story remains the same!!! My story! Well, here's hoping.

Mrs. Clara Jean Bennett, 205 Salisbury Rd.  
Conneaut, OH 44030

**Editor's Reply:** *I will make a deal with Mrs. Bennett. If she will provide me with the names and addresses of the people with whom she has discussed their missing stories, I will make a concerted effort to find their missives, along with hers.*

*This is a good opportunity to remind members to send their material to the editor; not anywhere else. As I have noted before, everything that gets published in The Graybeards goes through the editor. Anything sent to the Membership Office, the publisher, the president, the custodian...the staff horticulturist...anyone...is rerouted to me for processing. That is if they are kind enough to forward it.*

*And here is the ultimate irony with Mrs. Bennett's letter: she mailed it to the wrong address! (See the copy of the envelope below.) And we wonder how some material gets lost!*



## VOTE: What A Terrific Four-Letter Word

As a dues paying member of the KWVA, you have the right to influence the direction of the organization every year. Through your VOTE you join in a process that defines and redefines who we are, what we stand for, and where we want the organization to go in order to meet the needs of the entire membership.

Candidates want your VOTE so they can advance an agenda they feel will benefit or enhance the organization. Each VOTE cumulatively adds weight to the candidate's vision or, conversely, weighs in favor of other propositions brought forward by other candidates. But if members don't VOTE, nothing changes, the organization doesn't advance, and we live in the past, atrophy as an organization, and ultimately become irrelevant as the world moves on. Not a pretty picture!

Prepare yourself to VOTE by reading the candidates' bios and what they bring to the KWVA. Then cast your VOTE for those who will represent you on the Board by filling out the enclosed ballot and mailing it before the deadline.

Now it's up to you. Will you VOTE for the candidate who best represents your vision of the KWVA's future? Or will you not vote and thereby squander the opportunity to make a difference?

By now the answer should be obvious: VOTE...it's your right, it's your duty, and it's our organization.

Respectfully submitted,

Albert McCarthy, Chairman KWVA Election Committee

## Vote!!!

Last year a mere handful of votes cast separated those who won national director seats on the KWVA Board of Directors from those who didn't. Considering that many thousands of KWVA members are eligible to vote, voter participation was really very low. So, I join those who urge all of us to carefully study the candidates and then vote. It's easy: just mail in your ballot, which is in *The Graybeards* magazine.

Every national director candidate is listing his best qualifications to serve as a board member. All should be capable of doing a good job of addressing the important issues that exist and handling the leadership assignments and other work to be done.

Every vote is supremely important. Every candidate will need every single one he can get. Thank you!



Narce Caliva, 102 Killaney Ct., Winchester, VA  
22602, 540-545-8403, ncaliva29@gmail.com

**NOTE:** Narce Caliva is a candidate for the KWVA Board of Directors.

## Questions About The Museum Never Get Old

I am writing this letter concerning the proposed Korean War Veterans Museum. When this project was first announced, I, along with many other veterans, jumped aboard and submitted annual dues for membership for the museum. I donated some stories written by my granddaughter when requests were made to have these items on display in the museum.

I would like to hear from your office as to what is going on with this project. Most of us are now in our 80s and would certainly like to see the museum during our lifetimes.

I wrote to our president a few years ago and received a very vague and unsatisfactory response. I would appreciate a response regarding this matter.

Seymour Weiss, 129 Boynton Ave. #104 Westfield, NJ  
07090

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Some of you may be familiar with the song "The Arbiter" from the 1986 musical Chess. In it, the arbiter sings, "Oh, I'm the Arbiter, I know the score." Then, he and soloists continue, "From square one, I'll be watching all 64." Well, since this is the first issue of 2016, it seems like a good time to tell our readers that I am not the arbiter, and, as much as it pains me to admit it, I don't know the score.

No doubt a lot of KWVA members would like an update on the Korean War Veterans Museum. Questions about its operations, finances, location, existence, etc. have surfaced periodically over the years, and we have dutifully provided information—such as it is—in *The Graybeards*. But, we print information from other sources, not from the editor's knowledge.

My job is to edit *The Graybeards*. I am not a part of the KWVA's administration. Although there is an underlying tendency among members to "Ask the Editor" questions about virtually every aspect of KWVA operations, I am not usually the person to ask about museums, how to get medals, where to find KWVA hats and pins, who to consult to train a pet aardvark, etc.

The people who can answer administrative questions are listed on p.2 of the magazine. I can answer editorial related questions, because editing is my job. Museums? Medals? Hats? Aardvarks? Not!

Mr. Weiss has a legitimate question. I am sure someone in the administration has a legitimate answer. That someone is not me. All I can do is pass the question on to the proper administrator(s). And where do I find him/her/them? I look through the list on page 2. My "office" handles the editing of the magazine. That is it.

While I am at it, please read the article on page 6 concerning where/who to go for help concerning various KWVA issues. You can save yourselves a lot of time by going directly to the proper department.

I am simply a conduit if you contact me. Going through me might get you some action, but on a "when I am through editing *The Graybeards*" basis. Go right to the proper person(s) and you

will accomplish your mission more quickly.

Remember, I am not the arbiter.

## Can Fox News Channel Help Us?

One member, Wilfred (Bill) Lack, is trying to get Fox News interested in the KWVA's mission to erect the Wall of Remembrance in Washington D.C. He told the editor of *The Graybeards*, "I thought that you might like to know that we actually read what you write. And some of us even try to act on it." As proof, he submitted a request he sent to Greta Van Susteren, who hosts a nightly show on the Fox News Channel at 7 p.m. eastern standard time.

To: Greta@foxnews.com  
Subject: Korean War Veterans??  
Sent: Mon, 18 Jan 2016 18:58:37 -0700

As you know, the Vietnam War Memorial has a wall of remembrance with the names of everyone killed in that war. As you probably don't know, the Korean War memorial is supposed to have a wall of remembrance also, but the Park Service will not allow it to be built. Is there any way that you can help us put pressure on the House of Representatives and the Senate to pass the bills to allow this wall to be built? HR1475 and S1982 are the two bills.

The money has been donated, so there is no cost to the government.

The Korean Government has a Revisit Korea program where Korean veterans can visit South Korea at no cost to the veteran. I made that trip in October and had a wonderful time. We were treated like royalty.

One of the places we visited was the Korean War Museum. The first thing you see there is a wall of names of every American who was killed in the war—and the ones who are missing in action (MIA). I was very pleased with how they honor our dead and ashamed of how our own country ignores us.

The Korean War Veterans Association has a bi-monthly magazine called "The Graybeards." The editor, Art Sharp, wrote an outstanding editorial about this problem. You can go to KWVA.com and click on *Graybeards* to read it.

I know that I have rambled a lot in this message, but if you can help us, it would make a lot of 80, 90 and even 100 years olds happy. Thank you.

Wilfred Lack, Commander, CID 314, Western North Carolina Chapter, KWVA, (828) 253-5709, bill.lack@charter.net

## A Korean Defense Veteran's Story

My military career started on 3 February 1953 and ended on 1 October 1964. I consider myself a Cold War veteran due to my assignment to Army Security Agency, National Security Agency and Embassy duty for the State Department. I also am a Korean War Era and Vietnam Era veteran.

I served a tour in Korea from November 1957 to December 1958. I was assigned to the 8th Army, 508th USASA Group, Yong Dong Po. I was sent TDY to the 177th USASA Company in Seoul, and then transferred to a permanent assignment at Camp Red Cloud, I Corps, Headquarters Company 32nd USASA

BN in Uijongbu. My duty was to maintain communication between battalion companies and DMZ sites. I was a cryptologic maintenance and operator for secure communications.

During my tour there were two alerts. The first was in November 1957, when North Korean agents hijacked a Korean air plane in South Korea and flew it to North Korea. There were American pilots training South Koreans how to navigate a commercial airline. The Americans were eventually returned. However, the South Korean passenger and the plane were never returned by North Korea. This showed me how unsettled the Korean peninsula was in 1957, but the cease fire seemed to be holding.

The second alert was for training purposes, to prepare for any aggression of the North Korean military and for the defense of South Korea by United Nations troops.

During the summer of 1958, the United States Army moved in the Nike Missile Battalion just north of Uijongbu. Once the missiles were installed, the North-South Korean situation seemed to become more settled.

While in Korea, I had the opportunity to visit Panmunjom and see the physical layout of this meeting place between North Korea and the United Nations. The North Korean buildings were permanent and larger than the United Nations' Quonset huts. Security guards were visible on both sides of the 38th Parallel. Also visible was Freedom Bridge [the POW exchange bridge], with security guards stationed at each end in the event of an intrusion.

The situation remained the same until I left in December 1958. My South Korea military tour taught me what it was like to serve in a potential war zone and what I might have been required to deal with if an intrusion of the 38th parallel occurred once more.

More than 65 years ago, the North Korean military crossed the 38th parallel and invaded South Korea. Today, the situation has not changed and the cease fire still seems to be holding. However, the 21st century escalation by North Korea could change the situation on the peninsula.

John D. Hannigan, 5523 Sable Ct., Fort Wayne, IN  
46835-4912, 260-579-7471, [naginnahi@yahoo.com](mailto:naginnahi@yahoo.com)

## There Are Twelve, Not Four, Belgian Veterans Still With Us

Louis P. De Cleen, who is a resident of Belgium and is a lifetime member of KWVA, noticed in the Nov/Dec 2015 edition of "The Graybeards," on page 15, an article about surviving Korean War veterans from the country of Luxembourg. He is the First Vice President of the Belgian Veterans of Korean War Organization (KVVKK), and he immediately phoned to his friend, the President of the KVVKK, Monsieur Raymond Behr.

Monsieur Behr replied that the daily listing shows that 87 soldiers (officers and enlisted) were sent to Korea by Luxembourg and that, actually, 12 members are still alive.

The Luxembourg platoon was included in the Belgian Battalion (Belgian United Nations Command) (BUNC).

Betty McAfee, [bmcafee12002@yahoo.com](mailto:bmcafee12002@yahoo.com)

## Response to Leroy Rogers

**NOTE:** Leroy Rogers' story, "You can't fire one round with a BAR—Fortunately," p. 65, Nov/Dec 2015, set off an interesting exchange among readers, including the one below with Bob Hall. Hey, maybe you can fire just one round with a BAR (Browning Automatic Rifle)—or a machine gun.



As for the editor, the only thing he remembers about the BAR is the instruction, "Pull, push, tap, aim, attempt to fire" after each time the BAR malfunctioned—which was often. (Or was it Push, pull...?) For a history of the BAR, go to [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M1918\\_Browning\\_Automatic\\_Rifle](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M1918_Browning_Automatic_Rifle)

## Rogers To Hall—And Back

Hi, Leroy,

I just received my copy of the latest "Graybeards" and read your letter about a near catastrophe. I was with the 1st Marine Division in Korea most of 1951. By the way, I can understand your reaction when the situation cleared up. You didn't say how far Brown was from you, but if a Marine had fired that shot I'm quite sure he would not have survived.

I don't know whether your company CO issued a proper order, but he was clearly negligent in not supporting you for carrying out his order and your platoon sgt. was out of order. It would seem Brown was saved by your poor shooting, not by Sanders' failing to use his BAR.

I have no idea what LOD means. We had no such term.

Bob Hall, former Sgt. in Ammo Co, 1st Ord Bn, 1st  
Mar Div., Bellingham, WA, [rdhall1925@yahoo.com](mailto:rdhall1925@yahoo.com)

*Leroy Rogers responded:*

Bob:

Good to hear from you, Bob. I think the Good Lord was with Brown and me. He was about 20 yards away. All I could see was an image of something.

My CO did not know about the Sgt. jumping on me. No way would I tell him.

LOD means Line Of Duty.

Here's a copy of the final report on the incident:

Company G 7th Cavalry Regiment APO 201 SUBJECT; Informal report investigation To: Commanding Officer 2nd Battalion 7th Cavalry Regiment APO 201

1. an investigation of the shooting of PFC James A Brown, US52102219, submitted by the undersigned disclosed the following facts.

a. on or about 20 October 1951 at approximately 2130 hours, Pvt. Melbourne L. Rogers, US53049870 and Pvt. Robert L. Rogers, RA133848433 were in their position on the MLR and heard noises to their front. Enemy activity had been reported and spotted that night. The weather was foggy and raining and visibility was limited to approximately 20 yards maximum. Pvt. Melbourne L Rogers and Robert L. Rogers thought they observed movement to their front and then heard rocks rolling, so Pvt. Melbourne L. Rogers fired at what



he thought to be a body supposedly an enemy soldier as the area in which the noise was coming from should not have been normally used by our troops during the hours of darkness.

b. The round fired by Melbourne L. Rogers hit James Brown in the chin.

c. An immediate investigation revealed Pvt. James Brown was the runner for the first platoon of Company G and was running an errand at the time of the incident. He had become lost due to the very limited visibility and knew the path he was on would lead him back to his platoon CP.

2. Subject EM was present for duty with this organization when the incident occurred.

3. Recommend LOD-Yes.

JOHN K. MUNSON                      1st Lt. Infantry  
Commanding.

One more fact for you to think about: during my interview Lt. Munson told me had I killed Brown, I would have been assigned to another unit, which means I may have never survived many more months in Korea. After all, the 7h Cav. left Korea on Dec. 18 for a one-year stay in Japan.

Yep, the older I get the more thankful I am to have dodged so many bullets—so to speak.

Robert, this is the end of the story. I hope you have a better understanding of this incident. Like I said before, this is something that I cannot believe to this day, unless the Good Lord was with us.

Leroy

*Back to Bob:*

You were only following orders and I would think that your CO would have borne equal responsibility and been subject to transfer as well. What a conundrum.

Thanks, Leroy. I'm sorry this is the end of the story. It raises new questions for me. You never mentioned hitting Brown before. I presume LOD just means going back on the line, etc. Was there a court martial as the letter would suggest?

Bob Hall

## You Can Fire One Round With A BAR

I have to disagree with Leroy Rogers. In the summer of 1953, just before the battle for Boomerang, the fellow on the extreme right of the nearby picture almost killed me!!!

He, I, and two other men were in a bunker; it was raining like hell. I was on the top bunk of two bunks, made of steel beams on each side with telephone wire stretched across the beams for our air mattresses. I was eating a can of C-Rations.

Howard, who was from Kentucky, was just below me. He was cleaning his Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR). I jumped off my bunk to get another can of rations from the niche in one side of our bunker where we had put our C-Rations. Howard had just stood his BAR against the bunker wall where the rations were.

At about the same time I reached for a can, Howard pulled the trigger on his BAR to close the bolt. Blam!! The BAR fired right by the left side of my head! Howard had left one round in the chamber!

We were all momentarily in shock, me no doubt the worst. When I recovered my thoughts I said to Howard, "You crazy son of a bitch!" Howard was as white as a ghost. After a couple minutes someone laughed. Then, we all laughed! Out of nervousness? Who knows, but I was almost killed out of carelessness.

So many crazy things happened on the front lines, not just war.

Bob Barfield, [rnj187@yahoo.com](mailto:rnj187@yahoo.com)

## You Got Away With One There!!!

I was in 3/5 of the 1st MarDiv with a machine gunner named John Gumpert, who not only could fire one round with his machine gun, but one round with a borrowed BAR from a Marine in George Company!

His nickname was "One-Shot Gump." He had to demonstrate his skill many times and was always asked, "How do you DO that?" To which he answered slyly, "Years of practice with a delicate touch – on the right spot!"

I don't think anyone missed what he meant by the "right spot."

You're right. Some memories do remain fresh after all these years!

Birney Dibble,  
[jbirneydibble5@gmail.com](mailto:jbirneydibble5@gmail.com)

The soldier who fired one round from a BAR (far right)



## Shaking My Head

The Nov/Dec 2015 issue of *The Graybeards* is one of your best, if not the best. It had to take a lot of work on your part. I will keep this issue for showing students if I have the occasion to give another talk about the Korean War. It has everything, including the fact that we are "fading away," to sort of quote General Douglas MacArthur.

I was shaking my head regarding some of the comments that you receive, despite your effort as editor. Ribbons on chest in the wrong order, mailing label covering USCG, even comments about English usage, which I'll grant is important, especially words that sound alike and words with different subtle meanings. Unfortunately, the English language is not understood by many.

Again, thank you for your special effort in making *The Graybeards* what it is. I appreciate it very much.

I am enclosing a picture taken in January 1954 in Pusan (Busan) harbor. I had just gotten aboard the troop ship that was going to take us back to San Francisco. Pictured are more troops arriving for passage. The trucks pictured transported the troops to this, a thankful destination.

Wayne A. Doenges, New Haven, IN,  
[denjussolo1@frontier.com](mailto:denjussolo1@frontier.com)

EDITOR'S NOTE: It is part of my job as editor to handle "incoming" of all types. I cannot please everyone all the time, but I do try—and will continue to try. And, I encourage feedback regarding the contents of *The Graybeards*. Most of it is positive and helpful as we strive to produce the best magazine we can for the members of the KWVA and anyone else who might be reading it. So, readers, keep the critiques and comments coming. They do help us improve our presentations, which is always a positive thing for our members.



Pusan Harbor, January 1954

## Invitation To Staffordshire

Dear Sir or Madam, At 1300 hours on Saturday 2nd April 2016 we will be unveiling a plaque and dedicating a tree in honour of the United Nations Partisan Forces Korea in association with the Escape Lines Memorial Society. This is an open event and everyone is welcome.

The dedication will take place in the Allied Special Forces Memorial Grove, which is an integral part of the National Memorial Arboretum, Alrewas, Staffordshire DE13 7AR UK. This event will follow the dedication of a memorial to Gabrielle Petit (see below) who was executed on the 1st April 1916 in Belgium. Hope that this is of interest.

Mike Colton, Secretary, Allied Special Forces Association, [mikecolton@hotmail.com](mailto:mikecolton@hotmail.com),  
[www.memorialgrove.org.uk](http://www.memorialgrove.org.uk)

## Who Was Gabrielle Petit?

Gabrielle Petit (1893-1916) was executed by the German army in Belgium on suspicion of spying on behalf of the British government. Petit, a former saleswoman from Tournai, was in the pay of the British, passing on details of German troop movements to the former.

Petit was one of only eleven women executed by the Germans in WWI. She was shot on 1 April 1916 following imprisonment at St Gilles Prison in Brussels. Her death went practically unnoticed during the war.

When WWI ended, Petit's name became more famous, and she became a symbol of the bravery of Belgian resistance to the brutal German domination of Belgium.

Source: <http://www.firstworldwar.com/bio/petit.htm>

## Why Not A Combat Artillery Badge?

From the end of December, 1951 until early October 1952, I served in combat in Korea, initially as a Second Lieutenant and forward observer. Later I served as a First Lieutenant and the bat-

talion reconnaissance and survey officer of the 160th Field Artillery Battalion of the 45th Infantry Division.

In doing my job, I sometimes became involved in battalion-size skirmishes against the Chinese, particularly on T-Bone Hill, west of Chorwon, during the early winter of 1952. The infantrymen (both officers and enlisted men) were all awarded combat infantry badges, but because I was a field artillery officer, I was not eligible for one of them.

In *The Graybeards*, volume 29, #5, September -October 2015, p. 63 in an interesting letter. Robert L. Porvaznik, of White Hall, Pennsylvania, points out that there should be a combat tanker badge authorized by Congress. Apparently, although he was a tank driver, then a gunner, and finally a tank commander, he was awarded the combat infantry badge. He expressed concern that there should have been a combat tanker badge.

While I am in full agreement with him, I would argue that there should be a combat artillery badge. The Japanese made one up. It looks like a combat infantry badge, but has crossed cannons instead of a musket on it and is in scarlet rather than blue.

Since this was never authorized, when I wear my uniform to march in the Veterans and Memorial Day Parades as a First Lieutenant (made in 1948 in my junior year in college), which still fits me. I never wear it.

Inasmuch as those of us who were forward observers, serving with infantry companies to call for artillery support in their attacks, etc., I believe the Army should authorize and retroactively award a combat artillery badge to those of us who so served.

Frank S. Berall, Retired First Lieutenant  
U.S. Army, [coppberall.com](http://coppberall.com)

## Hungnam, Dunkirk, And The Current Refugee Crisis

**Editor's Note:** Warren Wiedhahn is responding in the below letter to an op-ed written by Ned Forney that appeared in the 21 December 2015 edition of the *Korea Herald*. Somehow, the *Huengnam* operation never gets likened to the British evacuation operation at Dunkirk in 1940 or the current refugee crisis brought on by the internecine wars in the Middle East. The "Forgotten War," indeed!

Memo for Ned Forney, The attached article in the "Korea Herald" is excellent, Ned! I was one of those Marines in "sub-zero temperatures and knee-deep snow" in December 1950 to whom you refer.

When we got to Heungnam, our camp was immediately adjacent to these North Korean refugees, who were obviously suffering from the cold, just like we were. A buddy and I walked over to the assembled group and we gave the children what we had, mostly candy. A gentleman thanked us in perfect English!

He said his name was "Pastor Kim," that this was his small flock, and he was an American schooled Presbyterian Minister who had been working with the North Koreans for many years. We talked for over an hour, until it began to get dark and we had to go back to our camp. We told him we would be back in the morning with more food.

Unfortunately, we packed up early the next day to board ship, and I never saw them again. I have a picture of that meeting that



I've kept over all these years. 65, to be exact! Thus it was with great personal satisfaction that I read of the "Christmas Miracle" and their evacuation to safety on ships like the "Meredith Victory"!

I often wonder, especially at Christmas, what ever happened to "Pastor Kim and his Flock"!

Merry Christmas,

Warren Wiedhahn, Former PFC  
5th Marines, Korea, 1950, [JWiedhan@aol.com](mailto:JWiedhan@aol.com)

## I'll Never Forget That LST Crew

Re "A Happy Hungnam Christmas," p. 22, Nov/Dec 2015

Every year for 65 years I have enjoyed a solitary moment to remember that eventful day 65 years ago! I had been called early off graduation leave (USMA '50) to join my first unit assignment after graduation with the 3rd Infantry Division at Ft Benning, GA. Little did any of us know that assignment would be combat!

Immediately, I was platoon commander of one of A Battery's two platoons of Self Propelled Automatic Weapons (3rd AAA AW BN SP). Each platoon had four M24 Light Tanks mounted with Twin 40MM Bofers, four Halftracks mounted with Quad 50cal machine guns, and one command vehicle (a full-treaded carrier with one 50cal machine gun). That amounted to murderous fire power. The infantry loved us!

We traveled by train from Benning to California, then to southern Japan by troop transport (where we tried to amalgamate ROKs into our under-strength units), and continued via LSTs to Korea. Up the Korean peninsula we went, past the 38th Parallel, toward a place called Chosin, where some Marines were to be relieved and pulled back through the 3rd Division to the port of Hungnam. We had the temerity to help the Marines!!

The 3rd Infantry was responsible for the holding action until all other units were evacuated. Then its own units were evacuated as the Navy razed the port. My platoon got on our LST on December 24 1950. I must say that was as nice a Christmas present as I've ever had. Not only did we feel safe (the battleship Missouri was firing continuously yards away}, but the LST crew treated us to all the hot water showers we wanted and fed us their Christmas dinner that they were to have the next day. Each year I raise my glass for a toast to that crew!

Now for "the rest of the story" and two comments. Our LST got in the line of ships that Tom Moore mentioned and back to Pusan we went—right back up to the 38th Parallel again. But, we stopped this time. I was fortunate that someone saw me do something with the infantry and I got a Bronze Star with V at Singdong-Myon in February 1951.

The integration of the ROKs into the under-strength units never really worked. A lot of young men were lost by sending them to troops with no branch school. So far as I know, it was never done again.

Bill Pogue, USMA 1950, 3750 East Fairway Dr., Mt.  
Brook, AL, 35213, [wap3750@mac.com](mailto:wap3750@mac.com)

## Pins For Everybody?

In the Sept-Oct 2015 Board of Directors Meeting notes, Executive Director James Fisher suggested giving pins to Board

members, KWVA members, and possibly Honor Flight participants.

When I returned from my Honor Flight Austin in October, each vet was presented with a Challenge Coin of our flight. Mine stated on one side, "Honor Flight Austin, Korean Service, In Gratitude." The other side read "Never Forgotten" and "Korean War Veteran," with a North and South Korea map.

Giving every member of the KWVA a pin seems like an excessive cost.

Dwight L. Thomas, Marlin, TX,  
[dwightfwk@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dwrightfwk@sbcglobal.net)

## Wrong Date For The Big Fall Push

On page 28 of the Nov/Dec 2015, in the article titled "The Big Fall Push," the date of October 13, 1950 is incorrect. The correct date is October 13, 1951. I was there; my company, "L," 19th Regt., jumped off at 6:30 a.m. on the 13th.

My company's CO is still living in Georgia. I was seriously wounded from mortar fire on the 14th, with one KIA and seven seriously wounded.

Howard W. Camp, [camp119@aol.com](mailto:camp119@aol.com)

## My Analysis Of The Korean War

My summary of the Korean War is formed from lots of reading and about 2 1/2 months, May to July 1953, driving trucks in the 27th infantry Regiment. (I served a full term in Korea, May to December 1953.)

The problem even we Korean War veterans miss is the quickness of that war and the intensity in a very small confined space. Almost everything that occurred in Vietnam and WWII was duplicated in Korea, but most of it in Korea took place in the early part of the war, covering a period of a little over one year, not the years and years of following wars. The war then settled into a line war similar to other wars. Wars since Korea have never reached a line war stage.

Some of my remembrances include the inability to tell friend from foe...the fact that a bullet was cheaper than a prisoner...the lack of people on your side and equipment necessary to adequately deal with their numbers of people and equipment on their side...no room to wiggle...weather was certainly a factor, a different type, but still weather.

While we used mostly refurbished WWII equipment and tactics, there were constant changes and developments as new ideas were tried, usually with Korea being the testing grounds. Supplies, transportation, and equipment changed drastically from Korea to Vietnam, and even more than later wars.

The most amazing thing for me was that even without the speed of communication and the organization of the computer, our ability to keep the necessary organizational material where and when it was needed was more than adequate; at least it worked. One has to wonder sometimes if our gains from those innovations didn't at times become problems.

So the WWII vets came home heroes, Korean vets came home unknown, and Vietnam vets were angry at the lack of respect. The vets from later wars suffered mental illness from constant repetitive returns to duty.

## Would You Consider A Book Review...?



Would you consider a review of Yeon Mi Park's new book, "In Order To Live: A North Korean Girl's Journey to Freedom?" It is a startling account of the continued horrors of North Korea.

Jim Patterson

*EDITOR'S NOTE: I receive this question in various forms frequently. The short answer is yes. I will always "consider" doing a book review. All I require is a copy of the book, which I will turn over to our staff reviewer for consideration.*

Generally, I read the book first. There is never any guarantee that a book will be reviewed, and there is a general priority list: 1) memoirs written by KWVA members 2) nonfiction books written by nonmembers 3) novels 4) poetry. In all cases, book reviews are published in *The Graybeards* on a space available basis.

## The Mistake That Came Close To Getting Me Killed

I just read that the idea of membership pins has come up again, as well as a discharge pin, such as was done in WWII with the "duck" for that war. When I was discharged at Camp Carson in November of 1951, I inquired about a so-called "Discharge Pin" for the Korean War. I was told to buy a pin from WWII if I wanted a "Discharge" emblem to wear. I headed for the airport and went home on Thanksgiving Day of 1951 to a welcome home party thrown by my family.

I never again thought about a discharge pin for Korean War service until years later, when I picked up a book showing a Concord Minuteman soldier from the Revolutionary War, which turned on a light on in my head.

I designed letterheads for my use when writing to the 5th RCT magazine and the KWVA. To this day nothing has come of it, even when I made an offer to have some samples made. Still, no reply, which I took to mean no one on either board was interested. Thus ended my idea.

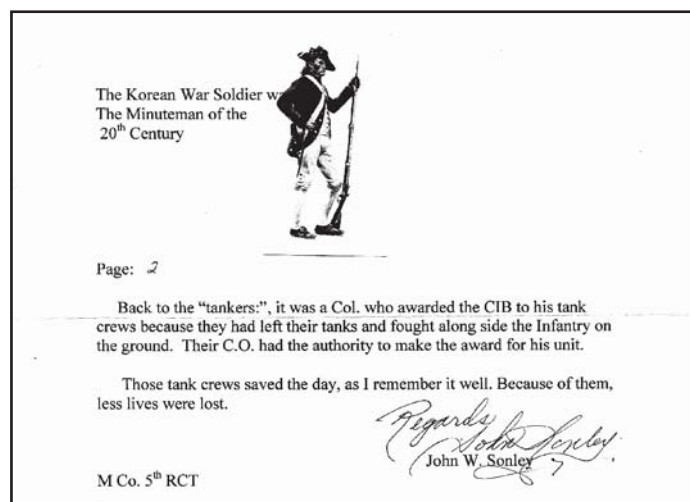
On another subject, here is some information I remember reading in a Chicago paper years ago. A mother wrote her congressman wanting to know "why" her son was recalled from the "inactive reserves" and sent to Korea, where he was K.I.A. She said she had wondered for almost forty years as to the reason, when the Active Reserves, who are paid, had not been called until after the death of her son.

I was one of the Inactive Reservists when recalled in September 1951, after being discharged in February of 1951, then sent home in November of 1951. I was given a full discharge in May or so in 1952. I will never forgive Congress for that "mistake" that came close to getting me killed.

After being home for a while, I met as many Korean vets who, as I label it, were illegally called back.

The aforementioned letter writer received a reply from

Congress saying it was "a mistake" to recall the inactive reservists. I am sure that made her feel better.



John Sonley's suggested logo

Re the tankers who were awarded the CIB: it was a colonel who awarded the CIB to his tank crews because they had left their tanks and fought alongside the infantry on the ground. Their C.O. had the authority to make the award for his unit.

Those tank crews saved the day, as I remember it well. Because of them, fewer lives were lost.

John W. Sonley, 490 W. Cherrywood Dr.  
Sun Lakes, AZ 85248

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Does anyone remember the battle and/or circumstances under which the tankers dismounted and fought alongside the infantry? Or, any other such incidents? Please let me know.*

## Walking Into Walker

I noted in the Chapters report that we have a CID 215 – General Walton H. Walker. The name caught my eye.

I shipped out of Oakland, CA in 1950 for Korea aboard the MSTS General Simon B. Buckner. I knew we had some high-ranking officer aboard, but I didn't know exactly who he was. One day I was going through a passageway. An officer moving quickly approached me from the other end. I couldn't avoid him, so I stood at attention in the hope that he would just pass by. No such luck.

The officer stopped and asked me, "Where are you going, soldier?"

I wasn't sure whether he meant down the passageway or my ultimate destination.

"Korea, sir," I said.

That was the extent of our conversation. He turned and disappeared. I learned later that officer was General Walker, who was also heading to Korea—to take command of the 8th Army.

Just before we landed in Korea the army changed our orders and sent us north to Yokohama, Japan, where I remained until 1951. However, many of the troops in my outfit were sent to Korea in 1950 to support "Operation K," as





LtGen Walton H. Walker

they called it then. We sent supplies and equipment of various natures. No matter how much we sent it wasn't enough in the early stages of the war.

Sadly, General Walker was killed later in Korea. (He died in a jeep accident on 23 December 1950.) Some of our men suffered the same fate, albeit not in jeep accidents. Others came back to Japan for R&R. Some came back severely wounded for treatment at the 155th Station Hospital in Yokohama.

Their wounds spoke without words about what they went through in Korea. Most did not come back at all.

It will never be a forgotten war for us.

Incidentally, thanks for publishing the sign erected by the Town of Wallkill, NY to promote veterans organizations in the community. (See p. 20 in the Sept/Oct 2015 edition.) Just for the record, we are a township that gets its mail from a city next door. It has a zip code that covers parts of Wallkill.

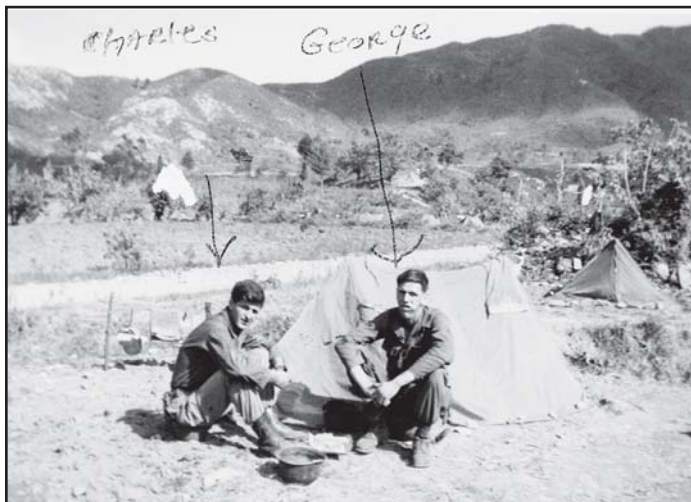
We are trying to establish our own identity. The *Graybeards* coverage helped us, sort of like helping each other.

Al Crawford, 135 High Barney Rd.  
Middletown, NY 10940

## Twin Soldiers In Korea

My twin brother George and I were drafted together in March 1951, and spent all our time in the service together. In Japan we found out twins could stay together if we wanted to.

We arrived in Korea in August of 1951, and were assigned to the 3rd Inf. Div., 4th Regt., HQ Co. Wire Section.



George and Charles Dittus (L) in Korea. Note the towel rack and mess rack in the Reserve area—and no mosquito netting on the tent

All of our tour was spent together in the Iron Triangle area. We left Korea in June 1952 and were discharged in December 1952.

Charles J. Dittus Jr., 34 Newman Ave.  
Bayonne, NJ 07002

## No Way To Kill Rats—Or Snakes

Korea, 1951-52: As many Korean War vets know, rats were everywhere in Korea. Sergeant Jamison and I had a strange dream: tomorrow we will smoke out rats. Jamison would light the fire and I would kill them as they ran away. Well, that didn't work.

Two came out at once, then more behind them. I hit at them, but didn't touch any. Jamison said, "You smoke them out. I'll kill them." He did a lot better than I did. He killed eight rats. What fun for a day!

On another fine day in Korea we had a bunch of ROKs and Korean workers cleaning up a new area for us. Sergeant Jamison told me to go over to see what was going on. They were all raising hell instead of working.

When I got there, it looked like two workers were trying to kill one another. As I passed the ditch in which they were working, one of the workers pulled out a 3-4 foot long snake. I took off and told the sergeant to see for himself what was going on.

He watched as the worker bit the head off the snake, skinned the critter, and started to eat it raw. Jamison was still throwing up when he came back.

Fortunately, he did forgive me for the trick I played on him. Eventually I went to a hospital and he left on rotation. I did miss him—and our adventures together.

Harry E. Starkey, 36 Sherwood Forest Way # 4, Hartly, DE 19953,  
302-492-0134

## KWVA Contributors Are Not Journalism

### School Grads

In the Nov/Dec *Graybeards*, under Feedback/Return Fire, "Compose vs. Comprise," p. 65, and "Correction To A Correction," pp. 66-67, you received tendentious remarks accusing some of the authors of articles in *The Graybeards* as being pseudo-journalists.

Most members who read *The Graybeards* understand that the authors of articles in the publication are neither professionals from journalism school nor writers. Rather, they are ex-fighters, telling it like it is.

Tom Moore

## Another Plug For The KWVA

I had pretty much forgotten about Korea until I joined the KWVA and started receiving *The Graybeards*. The articles are pretty interesting—but so is the whole magazine.

I was in Korea from Aug. 1951 to July 1952 as a forward observer radioman, 4.2 mortars, 1st Marines.

Lloyd Buechel, 891 S. Irish Rd., Apt 4  
Chilton, WI 53014

## Should We Change The Blue & Whites For Our Original Uniforms?

I have nothing against the colors of blue & white. Plus, I can respect the Green Berets. I remember the German tankers wearing black berets in WWII. Face it, you'd have to be stupid to wear a 'steel pot' inside a tank. Other than that, those berets are useless. (Still, you never see one of our leather tanker 'helmets' on sale anywhere.)

The only times we saw blue in Asia was in the 8th Army Hdq. units and on the UN flag. Yes, I own a blue jacket, white shirt, dark

tie and trousers. I've even worn them! However, like me, most of you entered the military with an eight-year overall obligation. We had ODs—and we even had occasion to wear them. The only person that Ike jacket fit was Eisenhower.

We tested a desert uniform like the Brits wore out in the Mojave, but ended up still wearing khakis—also as a dress uniform.

In Korea, where we were sent, not deployed, we wore fatigues. They were dolled up sometimes in later years, but they were still the grubby old greens. And, we also tested an OG uniform out there in the desert, which we adopted later. Blues for the Army were on the far horizon.

I volunteered—and extended to do it—and went back to Korea two more times—still wearing fatigues, which we should be proud of! We should wear them, just like the Marines and those Indochinese (known later as the Viets) did.

Let the kids see what we really looked like. Wear the KWVA caps and such so you can't be accused or prosecuted for pretending to still be a soldier. Remind folks what we really looked like. Wear the uniform we wore years ago, a bit modified, maybe, but you earned the right.

Lee Parks, [geoleeparks@yahoo.com](mailto:geoleeparks@yahoo.com)

## There Is Some Precedent For Blue And White

Having just been relieved by *the beautiful blue and white stripe 3rd Infantry Division* (emphasis added to correlate to Lee Parks' letter above) troopers in North Korea, overlooking the Chorwon Valley, we headed south.

For the next few weeks, all I can remember are so many rumors about our next move. Finally, on 18 December 1951, we boarded ship at Inchon, South Korea. We set sail on the Yellow Sea, then came the Sea of Japan, I think.

Four days later we landed in the port of Muroan. There we boarded buses and finally came to the great brick barracks in Hokkaido, Japan, where we would live a civilized life again! I stayed there till December 12, '52, then went back to Korea, Pusan this time, where there was no danger. I will go to my grave wondering why we went back, but knowing the army, there does not have to be a reason.

Looking back, no one could have been luckier than I.

Melbourne (Leroy) Rogers, Maryville, TN  
[leroyrogersusa@hotmail.com](mailto:leroyrogersusa@hotmail.com)

## Why Didn't That Happen?

My name is Janice Chaney Stokes. For 65 years I have waited for my POW husband (Sgt First Class Dean Chaney) to be identified. That finally happened in October and I attended the full military honors funeral.

I had always checked *Graybeards* for any information. Of course, that did not happen. Now that that has finally happened, and while his name appeared, there was no picture or any information. That was not what I expected. It was much more important than reunion pictures.

There was plenty of information and a picture available. Some articles and a picture were in several newspapers. Why not in your publication?

Janice Chaney Stokes, [slstokes@hotmail.com](mailto:slstokes@hotmail.com)

EDITOR'S NOTE: The answer to "Why not in your publication?" is simple. There were no photos or additional information available at the time I checked the DOD website a couple months ago. Therefore, I printed what information was available. (See, for example, the entry re Cpl. Kenneth R. Stuck, on p.22. That is all the information printed on the website.) The website now has more information and a photo of Dean Chaney, which appear on p. 22 of this edition.

I check the website, <http://www.dpaa.mil/OurMissing/RecentlyAccountedFor/2015.aspx>, frequently. There is a time lag in reporting the news about identified MIAs in *The Graybeards*, since we publish only six editions per year. We do check and publish the news on a regular basis, however.

As for the comment, "It was much more important than reunion pictures..." To some people, maybe, but not to the people who attended the reunions and submitted the photos and stories.

All the information published in *The Graybeards* is important to someone. If it weren't, we wouldn't print it, and people wouldn't read it.

## The Show Created Tears

Re "Eulogy for Ekberg (Anita, that is)," p. 54, May/June 2015:

I recall one incident with shows in Korea—and it wasn't happy. I was the new recruit on the half-track. So, I was on guard duty while everyone else hiked about a mile to the show. I could hear the music, and could even see the show when I used my binoculars.

Now, I had only been in Korea for about six months, and I was a bit nostalgic. We were following the "Nomad" offensive. I was so homesick that I cried throughout the whole show as I listened to the music No more shows for me!

It worked out, though. We were never again anywhere near a show. That one show as the only one I was near during my eighteen-month deployment—thankfully.

Marvin Reed, 2900 Right Hand Canyon Rd.  
Reno, NV 89510

## Those Mysterious Mystery Photos

I am commenting on Therese Park's article on p. 16 of the Nov/Dec 2015 edition, "Reflecting On Veterans Day, A Heart Swells With Gratitude." I was stationed in Korea during my first assignment, 1968-69, at A Co., 335 Maintenance. We were between Inchon and Seoul, beside Ascom City.

I was assigned to operate a TO-24 bulldozer. (The TO-24 was an International Co.-made piece of equipment, not a Caterpillar.) I remember going on alert because of the capture of USS Pueblo.

I worked on two Hawk Missile sites, making pads for them. I also widened the road going up to the radio post on the island in Inchon.

On p. 56 of the same issue, "Mystery Photos," the village pictured looks like the one outside my company's location. But, almost all the villages looked alike. The temple pictured was just a roadside temple where people could stop and pray.

Bill Haase, 1241 Pearl Hill Rd.  
Fitchburg, MA 01420

Pease turn to **FEEDBACK** on page 74



## 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.

1. **Service in the United States Armed Forces.** Any person who has seen honorable service in any of the Armed Forces of the United States, defined as Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard, is eligible for membership if:  
a. Said service was within Korea including territorial waters and airspace at any time, September 3, 1945 to Present, or  
b. Said service was outside of Korea, June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955.
2. **Medal of Honor.** Any KWVA Member, who is a Medal of Honor recipient, is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.
3. **Prisoner of War.** Any person held as a prisoner of war by the North Koreans, Chinese, or Russian forces during and after the period of hostilities from June 25, 1950 forward is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

#### B. Associate Members.

1. Must not be eligible for Regular membership.
2. Any person with a legitimate interest in the affairs of this Association and who wishes to support its aims, and not being eligible for Regular Membership; and who agrees to accept the terms and conditions set forth in the KWVA Charter and its Bylaws and Standard Procedure Manual, shall be eligible for Associate Membership in the Association. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

**C. 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](http://www.kwva.org)

Adopted 10/26/2009, R5 Approved 7/26/2013



# Does Any Chapter Need A Jeep And Trailer?

I am a proud son of a Korean War veteran, T. Dale Snyder. He served in Korea from 1952-1953 in the U.S. Army's 40th Division.

For the last 10-15 years he has been a member of CID 71, Western Ohio, of the KWVA, where he has served as the treasurer. During this time, he purchased a Dodge M-37 Army vehicle and a trailer to put in local and surrounding communities' parades. The trailer he pulls acts as a float of sorts, allowing all the members and their spouses to ride along.

He has a speaker system set up to a CD player that plays "Proud To Be An American" during the parade route. He has won many awards for the representation and spirit of this vehicle's display.

As time has gone by, so have some of the members who have helped him with the care of this vehicle. It's very sad, but it has become too much for him to take care of the vehicle by himself at 84 years old. So, he is trying to sell this vehicle with the trailer.

We have tried at the local level around the Dayton, Ohio area but no one seems interested. I'd like to help him get it out there so maybe another chapter can use it in their parades. It is in excellent shape.

Chris Snyder, indianalum84@msn.com



ABOVE: T. Dale Snyder's shiny vehicle

BELOW: Flags galore fly on T. Dale Snyder's vehicle



LEFT: Guests take advantage of ride in T. Dale Snyder's trailer

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4–14 Apr WWII Philippines "Bataan & Hellships"

9 – 21 Apr VN 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vietnam War "Search & Destroy" Ops in I-Corps 1966

19 - 27 Apr Turkey WWI - Gallipoli, Istanbul & Troy

7 – 20 May VN War 50th Anniv 1966 "Delta to the DMZ"

★ 21 May–1 Jun WWI France 1916 & AEF Battlefields

1 – 9 Jun WWII D-Day: Normandy to Paris

30 Jun – 10 Jul WWII Russia Moscow, Kursk & Stalingrad Post Tour: St. Petersburg

15 – 27 Jul VN I Corps Return "Chu Lai to the DMZ"

18 – 28 Jul WWII Liberations of Guam & Tinian

20 Aug – 1 Sep VN 50th Anniv Op Prairie & I Corps

20 Aug – 2 Sep VN I, II, III & IV Corps "Delta to the DMZ"

10 – 21 Sep 100th Anniversary WWI 1916 & WWII Battle of the Bulge

★ 29 Sep – 11 Oct Ireland—The Entire Emerald Isle plus WWII Army, Navy & Marine Sites in Northern Ireland

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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.

## ALABAMA

JAY ARNOLD  
KENNETH R. GANT  
WILLIAM P. IRONS  
EDWARD R. REYNOLDS

## ARIZONA

GLENN L. PAYNE

## ARKANSAS

JAMES BRANTLEY  
ROBERT J. SLADEK

## CALIFORNIA

DONALD J. BROSNAHAN  
ALBERT E. DUTTON  
JOSEPH I. HESS  
ROBERT C. KETTLER  
RICHARD D. KITTELSON  
WILLIAM F. O'DONNELL  
PAUL T. O'DOWD  
SAMUEL LEONARD SALAZAR  
JACK L. STAHL  
LESTER L. TERRY

## CONNECTICUT

CHARLES CHARAMUT

ALBERT CHARRETTE  
RICHARD T. KIRBY

## DELAWARE

JOE R. GORDON  
EDWIN J. PICKHAVER

## FLORIDA

MARVIN G. ADKISSON  
RUSSELL O. ALDERMAN  
DONALD A. BLACK  
BILLY J. FORD  
FRANCIS E. 'FRANK' GIBBONS  
ARTHUR GREENBERG  
EDWARD J. HANRAHAN JR.  
MERLIN R. JAMES  
JAMES F. KIDD  
DWIGHT E. MARTIN  
GILBERT MURDOCK  
RICHARD J. PECHA  
ELZA PONDER  
JACK E. RUSSELL  
ROGER W. TIMMS  
PETER A. TORINO

## GEORGIA

ARTHUR J. CALDERON  
HAROLD A. DYE  
RICHARD D. WINTERBOER

## HAWAII

LAWRENCE K. YOSHIMOTO

## ILLINOIS

VERNON BOWIE  
DALE I. CRAWFORD  
ROBERT L. EPMEIER  
JOHN E. EWING  
ROBERT L. FOWLER  
PAUL GUERRERO  
EDWARD M. JANTOS  
VINCENT W. JOHNSON  
KEITH W. KRAMER  
JOHN S. NAGY  
CLARENCE P. SCHANZ JR.  
MALVIN W. SMITH

## INDIANA

PAUL E. CLEMENTS  
RAYMOND A. 'AL' KERNER JR.  
RAYMOND E. KRIDER

ROBERT E. ROSE  
PAUL W. STRIETELMEIER  
CHARLES E. THAYER  
EARL EUGENE WEIR

## IOWA

JOHN K. CLARK  
W. DEAN WISHMEYER

## KANSAS

ROBERT R. BRUCE  
LEE R. DENNIS  
PHILIP A. FRANCHETT

## MAINE

ROBERT A. 'BOB' BEAN

## MARYLAND

FREDERICK E. KUHN SR.

## MASSACHUSETTS

NORMAN R. CASE  
GEORGE W. CRAWFORD JR.  
ALFRED A. FOUNTAIN  
PAUL B. JOHNSON

## MICHIGAN

MILES C. GERBERDING  
WARD N. MARIANOS  
DOUGLAS F. MERCHANT  
VINCENT J. NAPOLETANO SR.  
GORDON R. WEBER

## MISSOURI

WENDELL ALLEN FETTERS  
DONALD J. GRALIKE  
JOE T. JENNINGS  
THEODORE C. 'THEO' LAVENTURE  
LEROY G. RIECHERS  
MERRILL E. SCHELICH  
WALTER W. SCHOENKE  
ROBERT E. SMITH  
JENNINGS D. WOOLDRIDGE

## NEVADA

RUDOLPH D. 'DON' KING

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

ALPHONSE ROMANO

## NEW JERSEY

RAYMOND COHEN  
JOHN FALLON  
WILLIAM T. FITZPATRICK  
FRANK J. MOTTA  
RUSSELL J. STREET  
JOSEPH M. WYSO

## NEW MEXICO

COLVIN RANDALL FUTRELL  
GILBERT JARAMILLO

## NEW YORK

ALBERT J. CAHOON  
GEORGE F. EVERETT  
JOHN FIERMONTE  
MICHAEL GILBRIDE  
WILLIAM A. HOOK  
THOMAS WM. KELLY  
JOHN W. LAUDER  
LLOYD D. LUNDQUIST  
GEORGE A. MCKENNA  
FRANK MORDIGLIA  
JOSEPH E. MULCAHY  
JOHN P. MURPHY

JAMES O'MEARA  
REGINA O'ROURKE  
SAMUEL L. OSBORNE  
ANTHONY 'TONY' PETERS  
JOHN J. RAMPACEK  
JAMES V. SANDS  
DONALD W. SCHULENBERG  
JOSEPH W. SORCE

## OHIO

ROBERT A. ALBERTY  
RUSSELL A. BERCHAK  
HENRY M. FERGUSON  
BRANSON E. FUGITT  
ELDON E. 'BUCK' HEATH  
JOSEPH C. KARTMAN  
SHIRLEY A. LINEBAUGH  
LEWIS E. PAGE

## OKLAHOMA

RODIVICO L. GUERRERO  
JERRY G. NYE

## OREGON

WALTER H. ANDERSON

## PENNSYLVANIA

ROBERT L. GAUGLER  
JOSEPH R. MARSDEN  
RICHARD A. SINGER  
WILLIAM H. SMITH  
ANDY VISCUSO

## RHODE ISLAND

ROBERT E. CUSHING  
ALCIDE J. L'HEUREUX  
GEORGE T. MACAULEY

## SOUTH CAROLINA

NEWELL D. 'MITCH' MITCHELL

## TENNESSEE

RALPH D. GRUBB  
ROBERT W. 'BOB' JOHNSTON

## TEXAS

GEORGE B. ALDEN  
JOSEPH E. ARNOSKY  
THOMAS E. BOWER  
ALBERT D. FARR  
WILLIAM E. HOYLE  
ALBERT L. HUNDLEY  
WILLIAM E. LEONARD  
EDWIN K. 'ED' MAUNAKEA JR.  
DENNIS M. MCCARTY  
CLAUDE STARNES  
TOMMY L. VICKERY

## VIRGINIA

JUNIOR E. CHISOM

## WASHINGTON

HARRY K. BOYER  
ALMANZA H. ROGERS

## WEST VIRGINIA

WILLIAM L. DITTO  
DOUGLAS C. FARGO  
HERMAN E. JACOBS

## WISCONSIN

GEORGE T. FROHMADER  
RICHARD M. KELLNER

## WYOMING

THOMAS G. GLATTER

## 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**

## FEEDACK from page 70

### The Author Requested Anonymity

The July/August 2015 issue of the article titled, "It's only a Blue and Silver Badge," p. 14, featured Bud Hardy and Love Company.

For 36 years of reading many articles in most veterans magazines, this is the most outstanding, Thank you! The writer has a great talent for communicating true experiences and camaraderie between soldiers in combat.

I did not find the name of the writer, but his work here was incredible. Please pass this along. Thank you again!

Swan Soderlind, Co C, 1st Bn., 31st R.C.T., 7th Div., Korea 1952,  
10391 Mauretania Cir.  
Huntington Beach, CA 92646

NOTE: From time to time authors request that their names not be included with their articles. Their reasons vary. Whenever possible, we honor their requests. This was one of those cases.





# Welcome Aboard!

## New Members of the Korean War Veterans Association

### ALABAMA

R047076 JAMES K. THOMPSON

### ARIZONA

R047062 HENRY J. BERNAT  
R047044 JOHN E. CROW  
R047150 PAUL K. PENNING

### ARKANSAS

R047082 CRAIG P. STRAIGHT

### CALIFORNIA

LR47112 ROBERT C. BRADSHAW  
A047095 JI UK CHANG  
R047036 ROBERT M. GARDNER  
R047147 RALPH F. 'ED' HATTON  
A047090 UNG YONG JANG  
A047098 KWANG J. KIM  
A047096 YOUNG IK KWON  
A047097 TAE CHUN LEE  
R047146 PAUL A. LEWIS  
R047070 JAMES L. NEWBY  
A047094 RAMON L. REYES  
LR47080 JAMES E. SALLEY  
A047093 KIM SANG KYU  
LR47063 ROBERTO M. SOTO  
R047086 EDWARD J. VEGA

### COLORADO

R047052 BONIFACIO P. DURAN

### DELAWARE

A047092 PATSY A. NEWNOM

### FLORIDA

R047130 PAUL BERCHTOLD  
R047084 CAROL J. BRUSH  
R047053 SALVATORE CEFFALIA  
R047103 RICHARD D. CHAPPLE  
LP47126 ILER D. DENMARK  
R047069 RAY T. DUNN  
R047087 ROBERT FRASCA  
R047073 RICHARD A. GILLING  
R047122 ROBERT P. GOLIGHTLEY  
R047131 ROBERT H. HALFMANN  
R047057 ROBERT W. HALL  
R047142 LEONARD R. HEINLEIN  
R047077 WILLIAM L. HOLLAND  
R047030 BERNARD B. KAVANAGH  
LR47085 JAMES MAGNESS  
R047149 THOMAS H. MOORE  
R047078 PETER A. PROSPER  
R047067 HYLAND D. RAMBO  
R047035 EDWIN E. REIGLE  
R047029 EDWARD L. SCHEUERMAN  
R047113 RON SINGER  
R047083 JOHN S. SIRIGNANO  
R047079 FRANK H. STORY JR.  
R047148 JAMES A. UTECHT  
R047106 THOMAS WINKEL

### GEORGIA

R047066 HENRY L. WARREN

### HAWAII

LR47064 GEORGE T. OKAMOTO

### ILLINOIS

A047072 CHARLES A. BEHNKE  
A047128 MARK A. BRADLEY  
R047058 RUPERT R. CAMPOS  
A047139 BILL J. CARMICHAEL  
R047038 LARRY D. CARSON  
A047133 DANIEL P. COOVERT  
R047114 ELMER L. DAVIS  
A047117 GARY W. GRANBERG  
R047105 AUGUST E. KERRAS  
A047129 DONALD W. KISSEL  
R047039 MICHAEL E. LAKE  
A047137 KURT W. MEIDEL  
R047116 RICK R. SCHOMER  
A047071 PATRICK K. SLOAN  
R047054 RICHARD G. STAUSS  
R047138 ROBERT J. TAPPRICH

### INDIANA

A047107 RON SPURLOCK

### IOWA

R047040 NORMAN H. BOUSSELOT  
A047115 JOSEPH M. PHEIFER

### KANSAS

R047109 JOHN M. SNODELL

### KENTUCKY

R047043 JOHN J. LOCKLIN JR.

### LOUISIANA

R047034 CHARLES E. ADAMS

### MARYLAND

R047031 HARRY G. DAVIS  
R047099 CLYDE J. TATE

### MASSACHUSETTS

R047065 JOHN D. DEVEUVE  
R047025 KENNETH R. MCGILVRAY  
R047089 JACK F. PROVERB

### MICHIGAN

A047047 AMY J. CORNMANN  
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R047075 DUANE E. LONG

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R047051 BURTON H. ARNOLD  
R047068 SCOTT M. GRANGE  
R047050 GERALD JEZORSKI  
R047100 FRED W. REICHMAN

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

R047061 WILLIAM F. O'CONNOR

### NEW JERSEY

A047121 CAMILLE C. GEORGISON  
R047037 DANIEL A. MOYNIHAN

R047151 ARTHUR A. REDA

### NEW YORK

R047143 RICHARD S. BABIARZ  
A047145 MARIANNE M. BENDER  
R047027 JAMES H. BUCK  
LR47041 ALFONSO A. RICHARDSON  
A047144 KATHYRN M. SILVERMAN

### OHIO

R047120 RAPHAEL J. BRICKNER  
A047102 PAUL W. HUNTSMAN

### OKLAHOMA

LR47048 MICHAEL R. PRESTIANNI

### PENNSYLVANIA

R047108 JOHN E. FOUST  
R047140 LOUIS JOHNSON JR.  
LR47123 THOMAS E. MAUGER  
R047136 JOHN T. ROSENBERGER  
LR47056 DONALD R. SHAUB

### RHODE ISLAND

A047055 J. R. ST LOUIS

### SOUTH CAROLINA

A047028 NORA L. FISKE  
R047091 ARTHUR L. GREER  
A047033 LOIS S. LUNSFORD

### SOUTH DAKOTA

R047042 CLIFFORD L. PEDERSON

### TENNESSEE

LR47101 RONALD W. LIKENS  
R047074 ROY R. WOODARD

### TEXAS

R047135 UN-KYONG S. 'SUZIE' ARCHER  
R047111 JOHN T. BOOKOUT  
R047104 RICHARD E. BOYD  
A047125 CARL A. HALLADA  
R047046 DONALD W. LEE  
R047127 LEONARDO W. SANCHEZ  
A047141 LEE S. SHAW  
R047134 MAURICE J. STANGLIN  
LR47045 DONALD L. STEPHENS  
R047110 GEORGE E. TERRY  
LR47059 CARLOS A. VELA

### VERMONT

A047132 CINDY B. GOODENOW

### VIRGINIA

R047060 NORRIS P. MORELAND  
R047026 JOHN W. SHENK

### WASHINGTON

R047088 JOHN M. LANDAHL  
LR47118 ROLAND E. MUELLER  
R047049 GORDON A. TIPP

### WEST VIRGINIA

R047124 EDGAR A. THOMURE



### Robert Arentzen

I am seeking information regarding my father, Robert Arentzen, and his time in Korea during the war. He was in the 6th Tank Bn., 24th Division, serving just short of two years.

As records from that time were destroyed by fire in the 1970s, all I was able to get was his discharge papers. He was discharged as Sergeant (T).

If you could put a request for any information about my dad's service life from anyone who might remember him, or has pictures...I would be grateful.

Dana Arentzen, 7430 276th St NW #220, Stanwood  
WA 98292, 425-244-3219, [nordicstar54@gmail.com](mailto:nordicstar54@gmail.com)

### Shoulder Patch

I am looking for a WWII shoulder patch from the 8th Air Force for "Russian shuttle missions." I will buy one or trade for a very early Silver Star, medal number on point of star.

Jerry Keohane, 457 Woodgate Rd.,  
Tonawanda, NY 14150, 716-424-1478

## 312 ANTIETAM [MD]

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### Chapter Hosts Korean Delegation at their Monument

On 5 November 2015, we met with a Korean business delegation visiting Washington County (MD). The delegation from Jang Heung Province was led by Gov. Kim Sung. They were visiting Maryland to explore possible business activities with local leaders.

A trip to the local Korean War Veterans Monument was suggested. The Koreans eagerly agreed. Approximately a half-dozen local leaders and thirteen KWVA members met with the 19-member delegation as part of their tour of Washington County.



Members of Ch 312 and Korean delegation meet at Korean War Veterans Monument

Commander Jim Mobley explained the meanings of the various tablets at the monument. The Koreans took a few moments of silent prayer for the 32 local veterans who lost their lives during the Korean War. Although it was a relatively short stop on their tour, the Koreans seemed sincerely impressed with the monument and the meeting with the Korean War veterans who greeted them.

Les Bishop, [lbishop@myacttv.com](mailto:lbishop@myacttv.com)

## 313 SHENANDOAH VALLEY [VA]

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We are extremely proud of and congratulate our Commander, Narce Caliva, and his wife, Leslie. They were honored in a White House ceremony on 2 October 2015 at which they each received the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award, the highest level presidential recognition granted to United States citizens who have given at least 4,000 hours of certified volunteer service to the American Red Cross.

After serving as an Army lieutenant in Korea from 1951 to 1953, Narce completed his education under the G.I. Bill and joined the American Red Cross staff in 1959. He retired after a thirty-year career, spent mainly in the service of the armed forces and to chapter branches. His last assignment was managing

director, European Area.

Narce has continued to serve as a volunteer in the Red Cross and other organizations for the past 26 years, during which he amassed far more than the minimum number of hours, which made him eligible to be considered for the honor.

The Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award was presented by Mr. Ryan Robinson, Director of Veteran Engagement, The White House. It consists of a certificate signed by the President, official letters from President and Mrs. Obama, and a distinctive pin heralding "The President's Call to Service," which Narce has added to his KWVA uniform.



Narce Caliva of Ch 313 (L) accepts award from Ryan Robinson

Leslie was also honored with the Presidential Award for her 46 years of Red Cross all volunteer service. Together, they have a total of 102 years of Red Cross service.

In the afternoon, Narce laid a wreath at the Vietnam Memorial at the national headquarters for the American Red Cross, commemorating the loss of five Red Cross workers who died during the Vietnam War. The first two, who were killed in action with the Marines and the Army, were field directors who had worked for Narce.

The guest speaker for the ceremony was retired General Barry McCaffrey, who was the youngest 4-star Army general when appointed and the most decorated soldier of the Vietnam War.

Narce Caliva is completing his second term as the commander of the chapter. He plans to submit his application to be a candidate to fill one of the four open KWVA Director positions in the 2016 election.

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

## 315 SOUTHERN OREGON [OR]

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House Bill 2036, which designated all of Interstate 5 in Oregon as a Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway, passed last year. As a result, the Oregon Department of Transportation installed the sign in the nearby photo on Interstate 5 northbound at exit 58 in Grants Pass, OR on January 7, 2016. The signs were funded through donations by different veterans groups. It was the first stretch of Interstate 5 dedicated to the "Forgotten War" veterans.

The sign project was started by former KWVA State Commander Neil McCain, who was also the commander of Chapter 315. The project continued under the leadership of our



present commander, Henry Nussbaum.

We raised over \$5,000 to pay for about half of the 11 signs designated for Interstate 5, including the one that went up just north of exit 58. The route has also been designated the Purple Heart Trail, part of a program began in 1992 to cite the medal awarded those killed or wounded in war.

Another sign went up south of Medford, while others are planned for Salem, Albany, Roseburg and Eugene, with two each in those locations. HB2036 also designated U.S. Highway 395, which stretches from Lakeview north through Pendleton, as the world war one Veterans Memorial Hwy., and named the coastal U.S. Highway 101 the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan and Iraq Veterans Memorial Hwy.

U.S. Highway 97 and Interstate 84 already honor World War II and Vietnam War veterans. State Sen. Herman Baertschiger of Grants Pass was one of 19 lawmakers who sponsored the bill.

Dean Bosche, [deanbosche@charter.net](mailto:deanbosche@charter.net)



Dean Bosche, Al Pule, and Bruce Pence (L-R) of Ch 315 stand in front of the sign designating Interstate 5 as Korean War Memorial Highway



Members and guest enjoy festivities at Ch 317 Christmas gathering

## 323 PO2 TAYLOR MORRIS [IA]

We had a well-attended productive meeting in November.

Bill Hartsock, 5180 Stone Creek Dr.  
Pleasant Hill, IA 50327, 515-494-6106,  
[Hartsock3478@msn.com](mailto:Hartsock3478@msn.com)



Bill Hartsock (L) and John Rossi of Ch 323 at meeting

## 317 SGT. BILLY FREEMAN [GA]

We held our Christmas Supper, on 17 December 2015. Our speaker for the meeting was Steve Rood of the Georgia Department of Veterans Services.

Charles W. Patterson, 545 N. Avery Rd., NW  
Rome, GA 30165, 706-234-8424



Commander Charles Patterson of Ch 317, Steve Rood, and LtGen Billy Brown, U.S. Chaplain Corps and Ch 317 Adjutant (L-R), at Christmas dinner

Ch 323 members at November meeting



Group of Ch 323 members hard at work at November meeting

# APPLICATION FOR KOREA REVISIT & PCFY TOURS

(UPDATE 01/05/16)

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 nonrefundable \$50.00 deposit per person (check, money order or Credit Card) to Military Historical Tours. Payment of the remaining \$400 service fee is required for participants once a tour departure date is selected and submitted. The remaining \$400 service fee will be nonrefundable but a continuation into the following year is allowed if an emergency precludes the participants from attending the revisit that they have selected and been scheduled for.*

## Credit Card Authorization

I authorize **Military Historical Tours** by my signature above to charge my Visa, Discover, Master Card or Amex a **\$50.00 Deposit Per Person**,

The nonrefundable amount of **\$50.00 Per Person Credit Card #** \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ please include the 3-Digit code on back of card \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on the Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_

*Korea Revisit related material please send to:*

**KWVA Revisit Korea Program  
C/O MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS  
13198 CENTERPOINTE WAY STE #202  
WOODBIDGE, VA 22193-5285**

**Phone: 703-590-1295 or 800-722-9501  
Fax: 703-590-1292  
e-mail: mhtours@miltours.com  
Website: 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." Korea Defense Veterans (1945 – Jun 24, 1950 and Oct 16, 1954 – present) are eligible to go when Korean War Veterans are not available.

## Expanded Eligibility

1. For the 65th anniversaries (2015-19) there will be more quotas available. In addition, those who have been on a Revisit prior to 2011 can apply to return again. (Call MHT for more details)
2. Widows and family members of deceased veterans or those unable to travel are also eligible for the Revisit as Veteran Representatives.
3. Korea Defense Veterans who served in Korea during these periods (1945 – Jun 24, 1950 and Oct 16, 1954 – present) are eligible to return on a space available basis TBD by the MPVA and the ROK criteria.

## Benefits & Schedule

1. 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.
2. Accommodations are based on (2) persons per room, if you want a single hotel room you may at your own expense. All of the above items need to be requested in writing.
3. Tours of Seoul and its vicinity, banquet hosted by the MPVA and KVA with presentation of the "Ambassador for Peace" medal, tours of the DMZ, Pan-Mun-Jom, War Memorial Museum, and National Cemetery.

## Typical Korea Revisit Itinerary

Day 1: Fly to Korea.

Day 2: Arrival day Incheon Airport, ROK check into Seoul Hotel.

Day 3 - Tribute Ceremony at the "Korean National Cemetery", visit to the Korean War Memorial.

Day 4 - Visit Panmunjom, DMZ, Joint Security Area, Camp Bonifas & wreath laying.

Day 5 - Ceremony for Korean War Veterans & Display/Show.

Day 6 - Visit tour of "Korean Folk Village" and shopping opportunity. Banquet hosted by MPVA and KVA.

Day 7 - Depart Korea or begin post-tour extensions.

## Sundry Tour Requirements

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. Medical and Evacuation 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. Roundtrip transportation costs to Korea are not included and will be borne by each person who participates in the program. The participants must purchase roundtrip airfare, the ROK government will subsidize air costs (approximately 50% Veterans and 30% Companions.) The refunded airfare reimbursement will be calculated by the ROK after all the revisits. The reimbursement will be sent in a lump sum to be distributed by MHT for the entire year's groups.
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 nonrefundable service fee of \$450.00 per person is still required for the insurance, tour leaders and administration costs.
8. The initial \$50 per person registration fee that is required for postage, printing, phone charges, file maintenance and personnel staffing to manage the Korea Revisit Programs is not refundable. The remainder of the nonrefundable Service Fee (\$400) will not be charged until the participant has selected his Korea Revisit (KR) dates on the KR Preference Sheet that will be mailed in March-April as part of the KR Handbook.

## Check Your Mailing Label

**Membership Number**  
First two characters reflect membership type

**Membership Dues Expiration Date.** The example shows a dues expiration date of November 1st, 2015

\*\*\*\*\*5 Digit  
R012345 11/1/2016  
JOHN J. JOHN  
12345 MAIN ST  
SMILEY NY 01234-5678  
**DELIVERY POINT BARCODE**

**Check your name and address** ( Apt./Bldg/Lot No.). Notify the Membership Administrative Assistant at [membership@kwva.org](mailto:membership@kwva.org) if you find an error. **If your zip code does not contain 9 digits (zip+4)**, your address is not correct according to the USPS. Contact your local Post Office for proper format.

**Important:** If barcode does not extend across the full label, then your zip code does not have 9 digits and your address is not complete according to the USPS. Contact your local Post Office for proper format.

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