

# MEMORIAL DAY 2016

## KWVA

KWVA officials participated in a wreath laying ceremony and the National Memorial Day Parade.



Larry Kinard (L) and MG Kyoung Soo SHIN place wreath



Korean ladies at the National Memorial Day Parade



Don Loudner (L) and Larry Kinard salute

## 27 – SANGAMON COUNTY [IL]

We placed a wreath at the Korean War Memorial in Springfield, IL on Memorial Day.

*Rex K. Berry, 33 Abbot Rd., Springfield, IL, 62704  
217-787-1927, r.berry1212@sbcglobal.net*



Members of Ch 27 prepare to place wreath at Illinois Korean War Memorial: Past Commander Fred Still, Director Wendell Koke, 2nd Vice Cmdr. Ken Crotchett, Commander Rex K. Berry, Director Richard Zanetello, and State Director Ivan Maras (R-L)

## 30 – INDIANA #1 [IN]

We had a large contingent of members participate in our local parade.

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



Members of Ch 30 circle the wagon at the Memorial Day Parade. Standing are Walter Scare, Garry Sink, Mary Anna Roemke, Carl Fowler, and Jean Mendenhall (L-R)

## 19 – GEN. RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]



Urban Rump of Ch 19 explains the field radio at Atlanta History Center

The Atlanta History Center had a Memorial Day event honoring the military. We participated with a collection of military hardware.

*James Conway,  
conatlanta@comcast.net*



Guest tries on helmet at Ch 19 presentation



Bob Moore of Ch 19 shows the correct technique for throwing a hand grenade at Atlanta event

## 40 – MINNESOTA #1 [MN]

Members attended a ceremony at Lakewood Cemetery in Minneapolis. Robert Nehotte, who served at the Pusan Perimeter in Korea from 1950-52, was pictured in the May 31, 2016 *Star Tribune*. According to the article, the event included gospel singing, a performance by the Minneapolis Police Band, the release of 27 white doves, the playing of "Taps," and an honor guard.

*Robert C. Nehotte, 4846 Lyndale Ave. S  
Minneapolis, MN 55409, 612-823-8346*

*NOTE: Mr. Nehotte submitted a copy of the newspaper and asked to have the photo printed in The Graybeards. We cannot reproduce articles or photos from newspapers, magazines, journals, etc. without the publication's express permission. To do otherwise would violate copyright laws and place the KWVA in danger of a lawsuit—which has happened.*

## 137 – MAHONING VALLEY [OH]

We participated in the Poland, OH Memorial Day Parade.

Bob Bakalik, 2841 S. Schenley Ave., Youngstown, OH 44511, 330-792-3110, RBAKALIK@att.net

Charles Stepan of Ch 137 points out C-130 flyover to social member Adele Antonelli at Poland, OH Memorial Day Parade



Parade participants from Ch 170 prepare to move out

patriotic day. The presentation of the wreaths ensued. The first one was placed at the monument by chapter member George Rothfritz. Next came William Scharf of VFW Post 3484, Robert Paterson of American Legion Post 415, Saddle Brook Council member Joseph Camilleri, and Elder Kyu Ho Park of the Korean Methodist Church of Paramus.



The Saddle Brook Police Department Color Guard fired a rifle salute, after which Anthony Halko Jr. played "Taps" on the bugle. Commander Green concluded the ceremony by thanking everyone for coming and participating.

Adjutant Georgison gave the order to retire the Colors and the long parade began. Following the parade we enjoyed refreshments at the VFW, which has sponsored the parade for many years. (We have been with them since 1994.)

Patriotism was the word of the day.

Louis Quagliero, 142 Illinois Ave., Paterson, NJ 07403

## 170 – TAEJON [NJ]

Led by Commander Kenneth Green, a sizable contingent marched in the annual Saddle Brook Memorial Day Parade and ceremony, which took place in front of the Korean War Monument erected in 2000.

National KWVA Director George Bruzgis stands near Ch 170's Korean War Monument, which he helped erect in 2000

Commander Green welcomed the crowd to the ceremony that honored military men and women who gave their lives in defense of our country. The Sunday weather was warm and beautiful—and it highlighted the honor bestowed on our country's heroes.

The ceremony began at 12:30 p.m., when Adjutant



Perry Georgison gave the command to post the Colors. That was followed by a salute as Erwin Burkert lowered the U.S. flag to half-mast. Chaplain Thomas Boyle said the opening prayer, followed by a moment of silence, the singing of "God Bless America" by Katie Kooistra of Saddle Brook, and a short speech by Commander Green.



Ch 170's Color Guard prepares to march in Memorial Day Parade

Special guest was Saddle Brook Mayor Robert White. He praised the chapter for its patriotism and delivered a few words on the sacrifices of our military and the real heroes who gave their lives for our country in all wars.

Other dignitaries were introduced, including National Director George Bruzgis, who presented his view of the meaning of the

## 172 – HANCOCK COUNTY [OH]

We participated in the Memorial Day Parade in Findlay, Ohio. Larry Monday, 18861 State Route 568, Findlay, OH 45840 419-387-7532/419-306-4954 (C), Monday19@aol.com



Parade participants from Ch 172 include driver Ken Wynkoop, front seat passenger Jack Mock, and back seat passengers Don VanRenterghem, Don Kramp, and Bob Zellers (L-R). President Ron Dutton is standing by the car



Driver Glen Hennings, front seat passenger Mona Hennings, and back seat passengers Jack Veit (L) and Bob Perkins represent Ch 172 at Findlay, OH parade

Continued ➤

## 210 – BREVARD COUNTY [FL]

Members, along with WWII veterans, were honored guests at a ceremony on Merritt Island. During the ceremony we dedicated our memorial bench as “Taps” was played.

The bench honors all members of our chapter who have passed away.



**Chapter 210's Memorial bench, dedicated on Memorial Day 2016**



**Bob Brown, George Rosenfeld, Commander Bob Estes, John Howard, Jack Kuehne, and Sam Stapleton (L-R) of Ch 210 present the Memorial bench at Merritt Island**

**George Rosenfeld of Ch 210 (C) was honored on Memorial Day for his service as a combat engineer in WWII and Korea**



*Robert J. Estes, 1525 Tuna St. Merritt Island, FL 32952, 321-208-7468, REstes5@cfl.rr.com*

## 251 – SAGINAW-FRANKENMUTH [MI]

Members marched in the Saginaw, MI Memorial Day Parade.  
*Richard Carpenter, 4915 N. River Rd., Freeland, MI 48623*



**Units pass by in Saginaw, MI parade**

## BARRE, VT

### Veterans may age, but the parade goes on

*By Wayne Pelkey*

I arrived early at the auditorium to join with an old friend who was to drive the marked car of Korean War vets, only to find that he was not there, as he had a stroke two weeks earlier. So, looking around, I found Burt Wheeler, a WW2 vet who had marched at my side three years earlier. I asked him if he wanted to ride in a “Veterans House van.” He said no. His daughter and granddaughter were there to see him in the parade and ceremony.

He asked me if I would march by his side again. I reluctantly said, “Okay. If you are up to it, so am I.” It was 82 degrees with a hot sun shining, so my patriotism and pride got ahead of my good thoughts.

The parade went well. We marched down the steep auditorium hill and turned to level Main Street. We were in the first line right behind the color guard. Half way up Main Street I noted that Burt was slowing down and having difficulty, so I moved to my left and supported him under his arm and asked another vet in our line to support him on left.

We guided him to the sidewalk and shade, where a lady offered her chair and a bottle of cold water. The parade behind the color guard stopped. The veterans’ van stopped right behind us, so we helped Burt to a seat in the van. He was embarrassed and eager to get to the park ceremony for his daughter to take some photos.

I continued my march with only two vets from our original five in line. And I was pleased that the van stopped right at the “Youth Triumphant” statue, where two vets helped Burt sit beside me at the honorary seating. At the roll call of wars, there were two WW2 vets, aged 91 and 92, and one Korean War vet (me), age 84. So goes the sad decline of WW2 and Korea vets.

Burt told me he would be back for the Nov. 11 Veterans Day Parade and ceremony and he hoped I would be with him riding in the van. I sure plan to help celebrate my 85th birthday of Nov. 6. Just think: 64 years earlier, at age 21, I was bused past this same spot as a draftee, along with five of my friends.

It gives me sadness and realization to see the decreasing number of WW2 and Korea vets each year. During my first Veterans Parade in 1955, we still had one WW1 vet in attendance. I hope that at this coming November 11 Veterans Day Parade/ceremony I will be able to continue my 61st year tradition as a Korean War veteran of paying respect to the veterans of all wars.

During Taps, I looked through misty eyes at the inscription on the circular granite wall of the granite statue ‘Youth Triumphant’ and the meaning became clear: “Time will not dim the glory of their deeds”!

*Wayne Pelkey (Fox 180 45th Infantry Div.)*



**Burt Wheeler (L), in his heavy OD shirt and tie, and Wayne Pelkey at Barre, VT parade**